# Quick Intro: Attention Heads and Transformer Layers

Paul Rodriguez PhD 2023



### Outline

- Basic word prediction task and motivating the attention strategy
- A basic Attention Head network
- Transformers
- Exercise: Working with BERT pretrained transformer model



## Dependences of Language

Consider this sequence:

The Law will never be perfect, but it's application should be just - this is what we are missing, in my opinion <End of Sequence>

What does 'it' refer to that can have an 'application'?



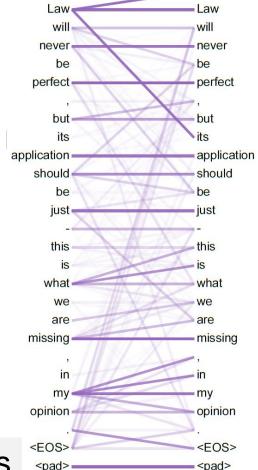
# Dependences of Language

Consider this sequence:

The Law will never be perfect, but it's application should be just - this is what we are missing, in my opinion <End of Sequence>

What does 'it' refer to that can have an 'application'?

e.g 'it' refers back to 'Law', which is part of 'the Law' noun phrase, which is the entity that will 'never be perfect', and so on ...



The



many dependencies and interactions

## A toy problem to get some intuition

Let's use the following list of 5 tokens:

<start>, the, man, chicken, ordered

Let's use this sequence of 6 tokens as our only:

<start> the man ordered the chicken

- If we use token ids 1 to 5 it is the sequence of 6 numbers [1,2,3,5,2,4]
- Now let's try to predict the next word by 'attention' idea



## The toy task: predict next word

The data: 5 tokens (V=5),

1 sequence (length=T=6): <Start> the man ordered the chicken

A basic solution is bigram matrix

eg a sequence of tokens (rows) and current word predictions (cols)

X= Sequence-to-Word is TxV

Pos	Word	<strt></strt>	The	Man	Chikn	Order
0	<start></start>		1.0			
1	The			0.5	0.5	
2	Man					1.0
3	Orde.r		1.0			
4	The			0.5	0.5	
5	Chick.	1.0				



## The toy task: predict next word

The data: 5 tokens (V=5),

1 sequence (length=T=6): <Start> the man ordered the chicken

A basic solution is bigram matrix

eg a sequence of tokens (rows) and current word predictions (cols)

X= Sequence-to-Word is TxV

Challenge, can we learn predictions ( >) that depend on context of other tokens and/or position

After  $\langle Start \rangle$  the  $\rightarrow$  man = 1.0

After 'Ordered' the  $\rightarrow$  chicken = 1.0

Pos	Word	<strt></strt>	The	Man	Chikn	Order
0	<start></start>		1.0	1		
1	The			0.5	0.5	
2	Man					1.0
3	Orde.r		1.0			
4	The			0.5	0.5	
5	Chick.	1.0				



## The attention idea

Let's get all tokens to 'pass information' about dependencies

E.G. for X a TxV matrix, we want W a TxT matrix – aka 'attention' weights so that  $W^*X=TxV$  has contextual predictive information

W dependencies is TxT X= Sequence-to-Word is TxV

$$\begin{pmatrix} w_{11} & \cdots & w_{1T} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ w_{T1} & \cdots & w_{TT} \end{pmatrix} * \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 1.0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

### The attention idea

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E.G. for  $X \ a \ TxV$  matrix, we want  $W \ a \ TxT$  matrix – aka 'attention' weights - so that  $W^*X=TxV$  has contextual predictive information

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W will be learned and should depend on transformations of X

# Making predictions causal

(ie only depends on previous tokens)

First build a TxT mask so that sequence position t only uses columns 1:t 
$$Mask = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then, multiply it by *W\_dep* matrix

Finally, apply Softmax to each row to make it like probability weights

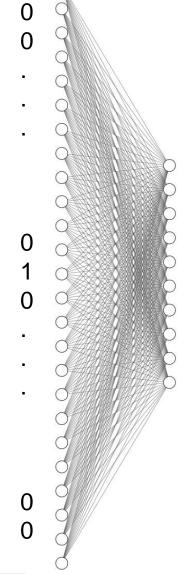
Now multiply masked dependency elementwise to  $W_{\bullet}$ 

$$W_{dep} \odot Mask = \begin{pmatrix} w_{11} & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\ w_{21} & w_{22} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ w_{T1} & w_{T2} & w_{T3} & \cdots & w_{TT} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Transformation as Embedding Layer/Table

Let X be given as a 'one-hot vector input' – where one of the 25 input nodes is 1, the rest are 0.

Use linear activation so that Y = W \* X



X is 25x1



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Let X be given as a 'one-hot vector input' – where one of the 25 input nodes is 1, the rest are 0.

Use linear activation so that Y = W \* X

If j-th node is 1, then for W a 10x25 matrix

$$Y = W * X$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} | & | & \cdot & | & \cdot & \cdot \\ w_1 & w_2 & \cdot & w_j & \cdot & \cdot \\ | & | & \cdot & | & \cdot & \cdot \end{pmatrix} * \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \cdot \\ 1 \\ \cdot \end{pmatrix} =?$$

X is 25x1



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$$Y = W * X = W_j = \begin{pmatrix} | \\ w_j \end{pmatrix}$$

So just let X be sequence of token ids and treat W like a table

X is 25x1

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University of San Diego\*

## An Attention Head construction

### 1. Let X =sequence of token ids

For embedding dimension E, map:

For positions 1...T map:

Take as new input:

$$X_{T \times 1} \rightarrow X_{T \times E}$$
 $P \rightarrow Y_{T \times E}$ 

$$\Pr_{T\times 1} \to \underset{T\times E}{Xpos}$$

$$X = Xemb + Xpos$$

2. For dimension H, get Q,K,V matrices: 
$$X \to Query X \to Key X \to Value T \times E \to T \times H$$

3. Get Attention Weights and Output:

$$Q_{T\times H} * K'_{H\times T} \to W_{dep}$$

$$Output = softmax(W_{dep} \odot Mask) * V$$

All mappings are linear transformations

### An Attention Head code

#### Hyperparameters:

E is for embedding dimension,

H is for "head size" (dimension) of transformations (we could let E = H)

11 Layers/Functions

```
#Now build model to learn transformation for Q,K,V matrices
              = tf.keras.layers.Input(shape=(T,V)) #the batch size is left unspecified
Xsequence
              = tf.keras.layers.Input(shape=(T)) #just the t=1...T integer
Pos Input
              = tf.keras.layers.Embedding(T,V, input length=T,name='PosEmbed')(Pos Input) #input wi
Pos Embed
Xinputs
              = tf.keras.layers.Add()([Xsequence, Pos Embed])
#now feed to Q,K,V transformations
           = tf.keras.layers.Dense(H,activation='linear',use bias=False,name='Qmat')(Xinputs) #so f
Qmat
           = tf.keras.layers.Dense(H,activation='linear',use bias=False,name='Kmat')(Xinputs)
Kmat
           = tf.keras.layers.Dense(H,activation='linear',use bias=False,name='Vmat')(Xinputs)
Vmat
#now apply QtoK take softmax, scale it, apply to V
            = tf.keras.layers.Dot(axes=(2))([Qmat,Kmat]) #it will treat each Batch item separately
QK
OKscaled
            = tf.keras.layers.Lambda(lambda x: x * scale constant)(QK)
                                                                          #for each x in OK mult by
Attn Wts
             = tf.keras.layers.Softmax(axis=2,name='AttnWts')(QKscaled, mask=Msk)
                                                                                         #apply mas
           = tf.keras.layers.Dot(axes=1,name='Voutput')([Attn Wts,Vmat])
Vout
my_attn_model
                = tf.keras.Model(inputs = [Xsequence,Pos Input], outputs=Vout)
```



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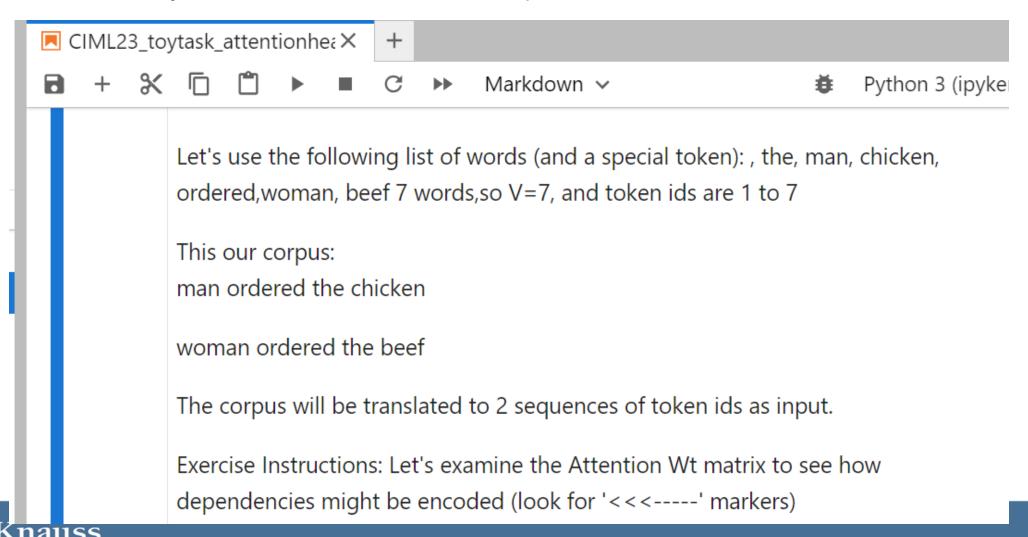
Also a scaling by H

```
\operatorname{softmax}(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}})V
```

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```

# An example of attention head with a toy task: (in the CIML23\_toytask\_attention notebook)

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### Output TxV predictions:

# Notice that the→ [chicken or beef] predictions change

```
This is the output predictions use Head size 20
        <ST>
                           chkn ordrd woman
                     man
                                             beef
0 <ST>
                   0.988
                         0.202
                                0.193
       0.596
             0.037
                                      0.988
                                            0.077
       0.062 0.579 0.575 0.243 0.996 0.184
                                            0.802
1 man
2 ordrd 0.092 0.991 0.122 0.612 0.319
                                      0.050
                                            0 403
                   0.016 0.996 0.008
       0.225
             0.705
                                      0.018 0.837
3 the
             0.103 0.365 0.679 0.104 0.634
4 chkn
       0.994
This is the output predictions use Head size 20
        <ST>
                           chkn ordrd
               the
                     man
                                      woman
                                             beef
0 <ST>
       0.596
             0.037
                   0.988
                         0.202 0.193 0.988
                                            0.077
       0.037
             0.578
                   0.189
                         0.061 0.999
                                      0.051
1 woman
                    0.049
                         0.626 0.153
2 ordrd
      0.129
             0.994
                                      0.034
       0.028
             0.686
                   0.163 (0.727) 0.786
                                      0.034 0.992
3 the
       0.994
             0.107 0.369
                         0.679 0.099
4 beef
```



### Output TxV predictions:

# Notice that the → [chicken or beef] predictions change

```
1/1 [======= ] - 0s 106ms/step
This is the output predictions use Head size 20
         <ST>
                             chkn ordrd
                                                  beef
                                          woman
                        man
                            0.202
                                                 0.077
                                   0.193
                                          0.988
0 <ST>
        0.596
               0.037
                      0.988
        0.062
               0.579
                      0.575
                            0.243
                                   0.996
                                          0.184
                                                 0.802
1 man
       0.092
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2 ordrd
                                          0.050
                                                 0 403
        0.225
               0.705
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         <ST>
                 the
                             chkn ordrd
                                                  beef
                                          woman
                        man
        0.596
               0.037
                      0.988
                            0.202 0.193
0 <ST>
                                          0.988
                                                 0.077
        0.037
               0.578
                      0.189
                            0.061
                                   0.999
                                          0.051
1 woman
                            0.626 0.153
2 ordrd
        0.129
               0.994
                      0.049
                                          0.034
                           0.727
        0.028
               0.686
                      0.163
                                   0.786
                                         0.034 0.992
3 the
        0.994
               0.107
                     0.369
                            0.6/9
                                   0.099
                                          0.633
4 beef
```

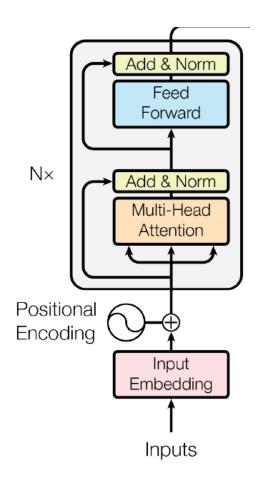


#### TxT Attn Wts:

# Notice that the ← wts are from [ordered or man]

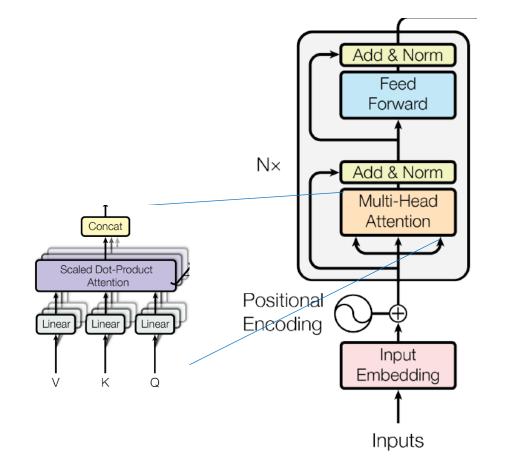
```
These are the output at layer
for i-th input: 0
                1 man 2 ordrd 3 the
                                        4 chkn
0 <ST>
          1.000
                 0.000
                          0.000
                                 0.000
                                         0.000
          0.093
                0.907
                          0.000
                                 0.000
                                         0.000
1 man
2 ordrd
                          0 375
                                 0.000
                                         0.000
          0.064
                 0.561
                0.213
                         0.759
                                 0.025
3 the
          0.003
                                         0.000
4 chkn
          0.258
                          0.160
                                 0.523
                                         0.056
The head size H was: 20
for i-th input: 1 These are the output at layer
         0 (ST> 1 woman 2 ordrd
                                  3 the
                                         4 beef
0 <ST>
          1.000
                   0.000
                            0.000
                                   0.000
                                           0.000
                   0.921
                                           0.000
1 woman
          0.079
                            0.000
                                   0.000
2 ordrd
          0.091
                            0.535
                                   0.000
                                           0.000
                   0.769
                            0.223
3 the
          0.001
                                   0.007
                                           0.000
                   0.001
                                   0.526
4 beef
          0.252
                                           0.059
The head size H was:
```

Include skip-add connections
Include Layer Normalization or DropOut layers



Include skip-add connections
Include Layer Normalization or DropOut layers

Multi-Head – for N heads produce Tx(H/N) each

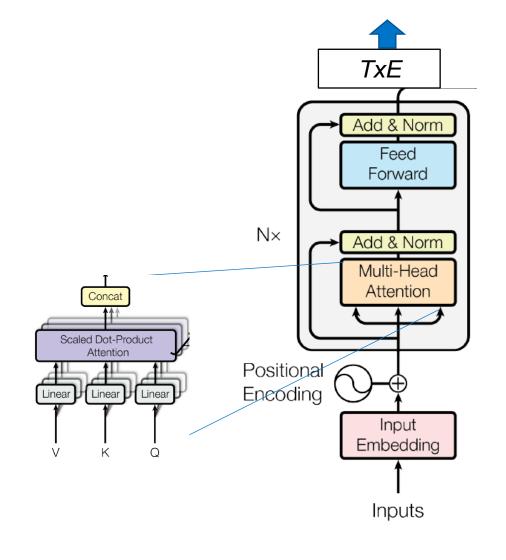


Include skip-add connections
Include Layer Normalization or DropOut layers

Multi-Head – for N heads produce Tx(H/N) each

Add MLP layers on top – output another *TxE* matrix

stackable!



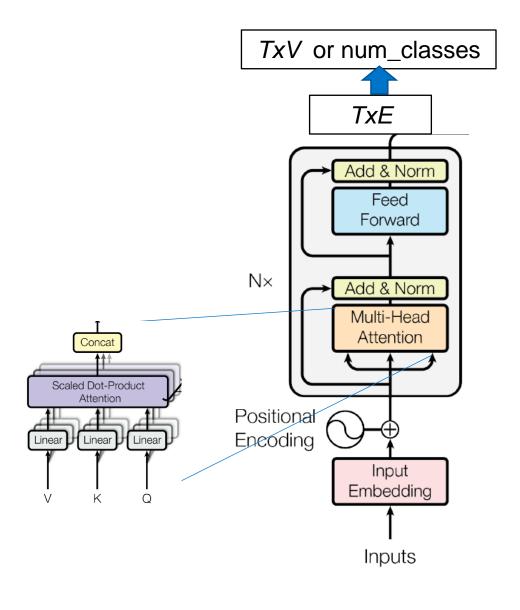


Include skip-add connections
Include Layer Normalization or DropOut layers

Multi-Head – for N heads produce Tx(H/N) each

Add MLP layers on top –
output another *TxE* matrix
or output final probabilities

stackable!





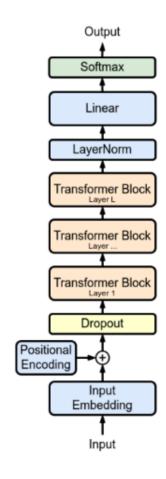
# 2 kinds of training strategies

GPT – predict next word only look back at prior context (which could be a whole document)

Put mask on attention weights so that predictions only depend on previous tokens

BERT – *No attention mask* so all token dependencies can influence all other tokens predictions

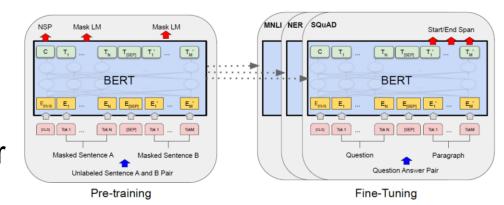
Special tokens help create a variety of tasks



BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers)

Goal: Train a model to develop general token-level AND sentence-level encoding

- 1 Pretrain on:
- fill-in-the-blank
- binary classification if 2 sentences go together

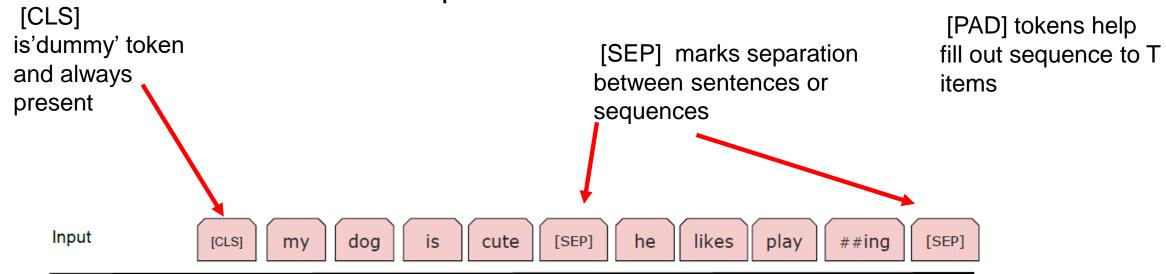


Devlin, etal, 2019

2 Fine tune on variety of tasks

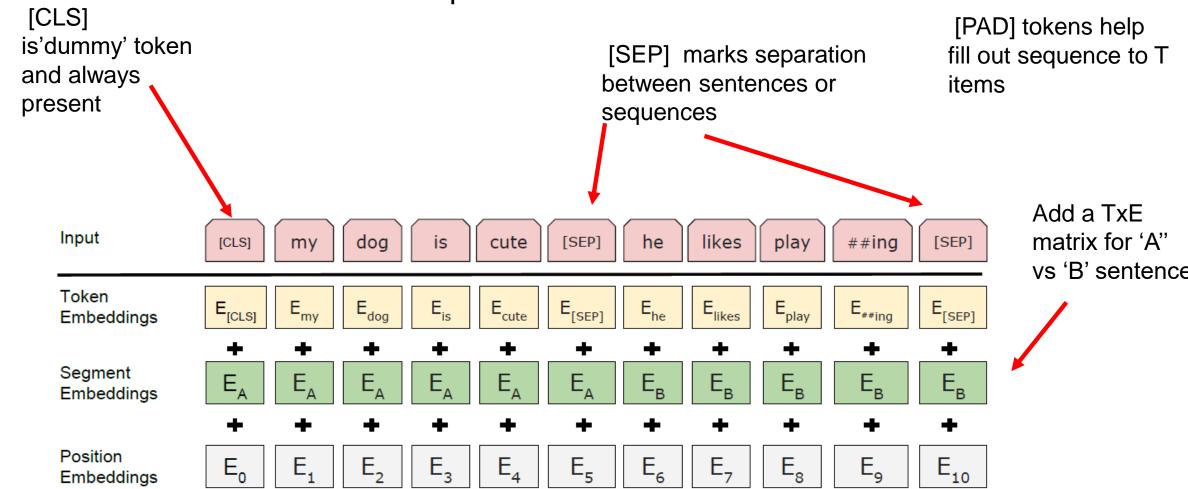


### BERT Input: 2 sentences



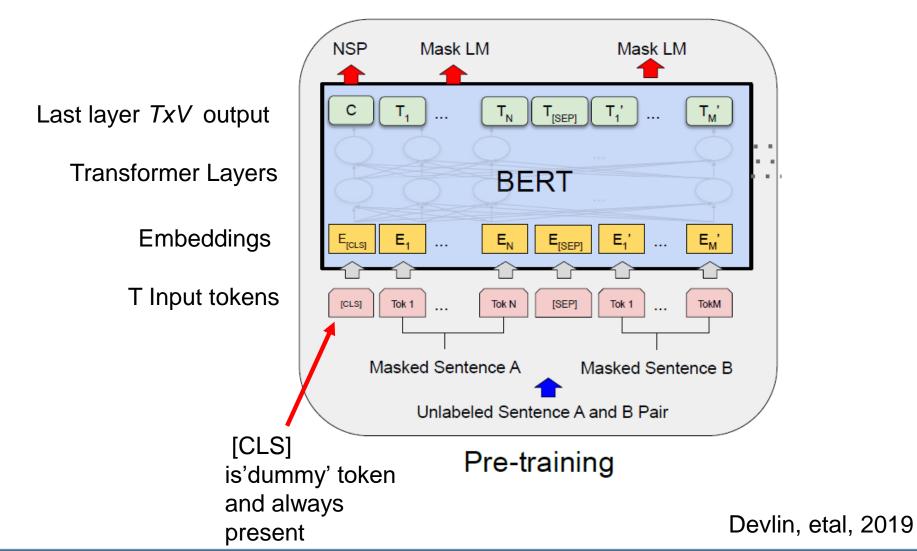


#### BERT Input: 2 sentences





BERT -



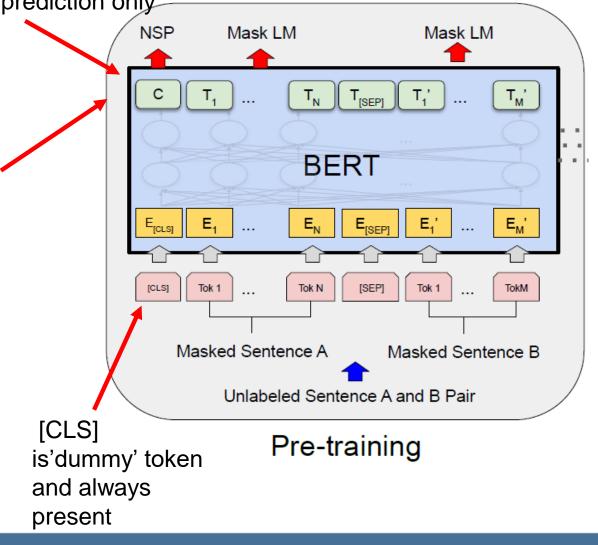


Train a classification task on this [CLS] token prediction only

#### BERT -

For classification over paired sentences or any text, train C row vector (in the last layer *TxV* output matrix)

"NSP": classify if next sentence follows first sentence





### KerasNLP

KerasNLP is an extension to Keras

 KerasNLP has several pre-trained LLMs (large language models). Each model comes with related modules, for example:

GPT2Backbone the model without task specific output layers

- GPT2CausalLM the model with output predictions
- GPT2CausalLMPreprocessor the preprocessor that feeds model.fit



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  - GPT2Backbone the model without task specific output layers
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We will use pre-trained BERT and compare different BERT versions



Keras NLP package is not in the tensorflow container, so we can do:

- 1. Rebuild Container check
- 2. Set up conda environment
- 3. Run 'pip install' commands

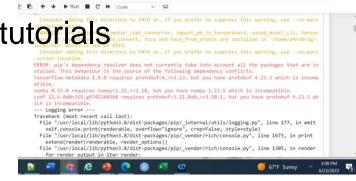


Option 3 is quick and a bit dirtier, but often useful and part of tutorials

On Expanse you might get warnings or logging errors.

But it should show the package as installed

Note, 'pip install' will put packages in .local directory which is on PythonPath. So there's a potential to clash with other notebooks – you may have move/manage your .local directories



Summary: Industry-strength Natural Language Processing extensions for Keras

Location: /home/p4rodrig/.local/lib/python3.8/site-packages Requires: absl-py, numpy, packaging, tensorflow-text

Author-email: keras-nlp@google.com License: Apache License 2.0



# Notebook exercise using KerasNLP

- In a terminal window start the notebook session for keras-nlp
  - ...]\$ cd 4.6\_deep\_learning\_special\_connections
  - ...]\$ jupyter-compute-keras-nlp

```
[train138@login02 4.6_deep_learning_special_connections]$
[train138@login02 4.6_deep_learning_special_connections]$ jupyter-compute-keras-nlp
```

 Open the URL and look for the CIML23\_BERT\_FineTune\_v3.ipynb notebook



# Keras NLP package has several BERT versions

So let's start with 'bert-small' (28M parameters)

For reference:

BERTBASE (L=12, H=768, Attn=12, Total Parameters=110M)
BERTLARGE (L=24, H=1024, Attn=16, Total Parameters=340M).

dels/		,	G 🖻 ☆		
bert_tiny_en_uncased	BERT	4M	2-layer BERT model where all input is lowercased. Trained on English Wikipedia + BooksCorpus.		
bert_small_en_uncased	BERT	28M	4-layer BERT model where all input is lowercased. Trained on English Wikipedia + BooksCorpus.		
bert_medium_en_uncased	BERT	41M	8-layer BERT model where all input is lowercased. Trained on English Wikipedia + BooksCorpus.		
bert_base_en_uncased	BERT	109M	12-layer BERT model where all input is lowercased. Trained on English Wikipedia + BooksCorpus.		
bert_base_en	BERT	108M	12-layer BERT model where case is maintained Trained on English Wikipedia + BooksCorpus.		
bert_base_zh	BERT	102M	12-layer BERT model. Trained on Chinese Wikipedia.		
bert_base_multi	BERT	177M	12-layer BERT model where case is maintained Trained on trained on Wikipedias of 104 languages		



#### END

