

BERT-Base Transformer Forward Pass

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Initialize:

$W_T \in \mathbb{R}^{\text{vocab size} \times d} = \mathbb{R}^{\text{vocab size} \times 768}$... token embeddings

$W_P \in \mathbb{R}^{\text{max input length} \times d} = \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 768}$... positional embeddings

$h \in \{1, \dots, n_{\text{heads}}\}, n_{\text{heads}} = 12$

$l \in \{1, \dots, n_{\text{layers}}\}, n_{\text{layers}} = 12$

$W_{h,l}^Q \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d_q} = \mathbb{R}^{768 \times 64}$... query *weight* matrices

$W_{h,l}^K \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d_k} = \mathbb{R}^{768 \times 64}$... key *weight* matrices

$W_{h,l}^V \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d_q} = \mathbb{R}^{768 \times 64}$... value *weight* matrices

$W_l^{ffnn} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d_{ffnn}} = \mathbb{R}^{768 \times 3072}$... feedforward layer's weight matrix

$b_l^{ffnn} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d_{ffnn}} = \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 3072}$... feedforward layer's bias vector

$W_l^{out} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{ffnn} \times d} = \mathbb{R}^{3072 \times 768}$... output layer's weight matrix

$b_l^{out} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d} = \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 768}$... output layer's bias vector

$W^{final} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} = \mathbb{R}^{768 \times 768}$... final layer's weight matrix

$I = (i_1, \dots, i_{512}) \in \mathbb{N}_0^{1 \times \text{max input length}} = \mathbb{N}_0^{1 \times 512}$... input vocab indices

$T = \text{lookup}(W_T, I) \in \mathbb{R}^{\text{max input length} \times d} = \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 768}$... input token embeddings

$X = T + W_P \in \mathbb{R}^{\text{max input length} \times d} = \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 768}$... input embeddings

$Z_0 = X$

Forward algorithm:

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for (  $l = 1; l \leq n_{layers} = 12; l++$  ) {
  for (  $h = 1; h \leq n_{heads} = 12; h++$  ) {
     $Q_{h,l} = Z_{l-1}W_{h,l}^Q \in \mathbb{R}^{\max \text{ input len} \times d_q} = \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 64}$  ... query matrix
     $K_{h,l} = Z_{l-1}W_{h,l}^K \in \mathbb{R}^{\max \text{ input len} \times d_k} = \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 64}$  ... key matrix
     $V_{h,l} = Z_{l-1}W_{h,l}^V \in \mathbb{R}^{\max \text{ input len} \times d_v} = \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 64}$  ... value matrix
     $A_{h,l} = \text{Softmax}(\frac{Q_{h,l}K_{h,l}^T}{\sqrt{d_k}}) \in \mathbb{R}^{\max \text{ input len} \times \max \text{ input len}} = \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 512}$ 
     $Z_{h,l} = A_{h,l}V_{h,l} \in \mathbb{R}^{\max \text{ input len} \times d_v} = \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 64}$ 
  }
   $\tilde{Z}_l = \text{concat}(Z_{1,l}, \dots, Z_{n_{heads},l}) \in \mathbb{R}^{\max \text{ input len} \times (d_v \cdot n_{heads})} = \mathbb{R}^{512 \times (64 \cdot 12)} = \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 768}$ 
   $\bar{Z}_l = \text{LayerNorm}(Z_{l-1} + \tilde{Z}_l) \in \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 768}$ 
   $Z_l^{fnn} = \max(0, \bar{Z}_l W_l^{fnn} + b_l^{fnn}) \in \mathbb{R}^{\max \text{ input len} \times d_{fnn}} = \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 3072}$ 
   $Z_l^{out} = Z_l^{fnn} W_l^{out} + b_l^{out} \in \mathbb{R}^{\max \text{ input len} \times d} = \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 768}$ 
   $Z_l = \text{LayerNorm}(\bar{Z}_l + Z_l^{out}) \in \mathbb{R}^{512 \times 768}$ 
}

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Pass $\tanh(W^{final} Z_{n_{layers}}[0,:])$ to the final **Softmax** that predicts the class, where $Z_{n_{layers}}[0,:]$ is the hidden state corresponding to the first token.