

Self-Attention For Generative Models

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Joint work with: Noam Shazeer, Niki Parmar, Lukasz Kaiser, Illia Polosukhin, Llion Jones, Justin Gilmer, David Bieber, Jonathan Frankle, Jakob Uszkoreit, and others.

Learning Representations of Variable Length Data

Basic building block of sequence-to-sequence learning

Neural machine translation, summarization, QA, ...

Recurrent Neural Networks

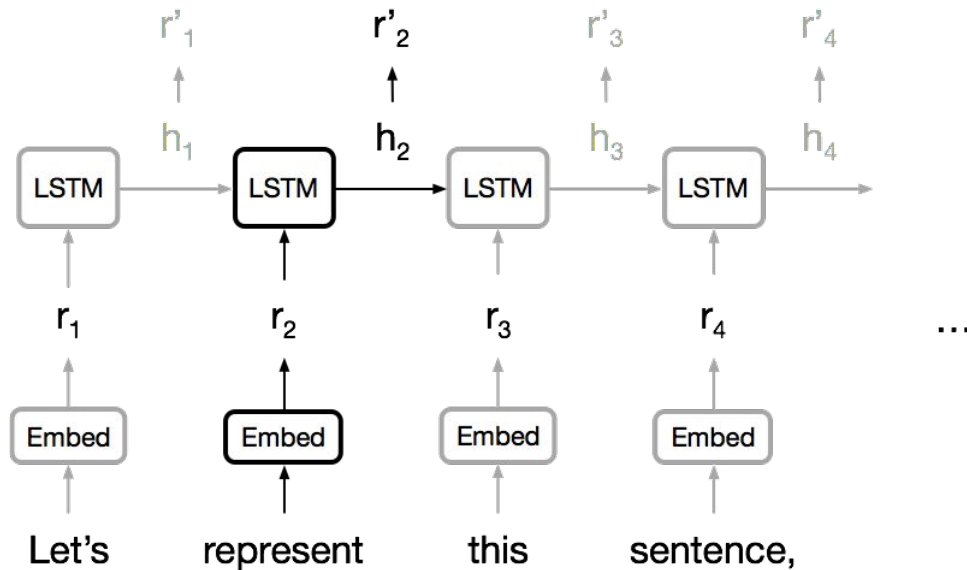
Model of choice for learning variable-length representations.

Natural fit for sentences and sequences of pixels.

LSTMs, GRUs and variants dominate recurrent models.

Recurrent Neural Networks

RNN	가?
RNN	representation
	가?



But...

recurrent modeling .

Sequential computation inhibits parallelization.

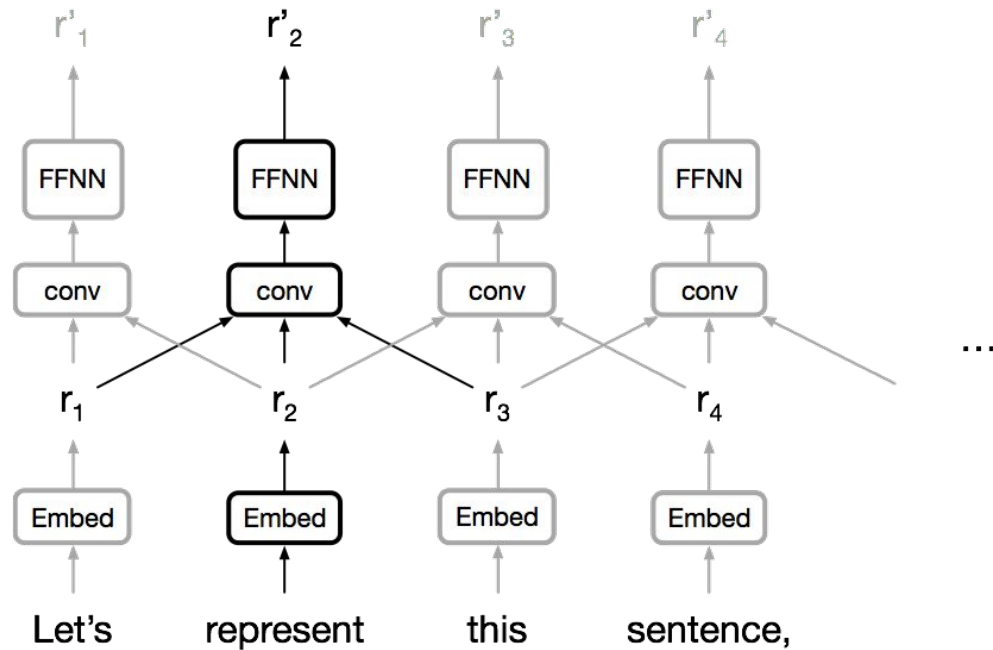
No explicit modeling of long and short range dependencies.

We want to model hierarchy.

hierarchy modeling .

RNNs (w/ sequence-aligned states) seem wasteful!

Convolutional Neural Networks?



Convolutional Neural Networks?

Trivial to parallelize (per layer).

Exploits local dependencies

‘Interaction distance’ between positions linear or logarithmic.

Convolutional modeling .

Long-distance dependencies require many layers.

Attention

Attention between encoder and decoder is crucial in NMT.

Why not use attention for representations?

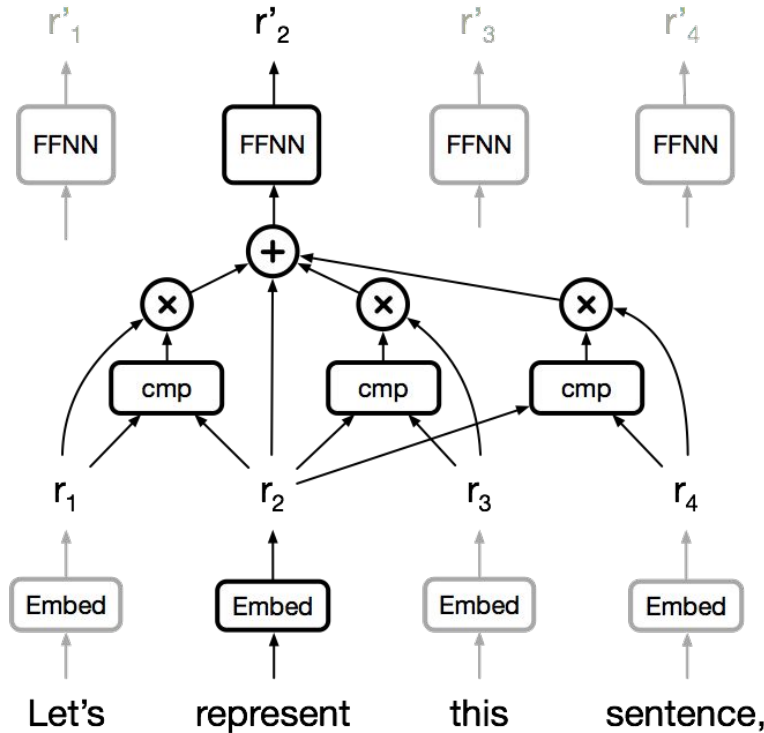
Self-Attention

comparison (cmp)

..

produce
weighted
combination of
your entire
neighborhood.

based on the
weighted
combination, you
summarize all
taht information



just like, re -
expressing
yourself in a
weighted
combination of
your entire
neighborhood.

Text generation

self - attention text generation

.

what inductive biases are actually
useful.? (= representation modeling
 ?)

and we empirically showed that indeed
they move the needle in text generation.

Self-Attention

Constant 'path length' between any two positions.

Gating/multiplicative interactions.

Trivial to parallelize (per layer).

Can replace sequential computation entirely?

Previous work

Classification & regression with self-attention:

Parikh et al. (2016), Lin et al. (2016)

Self-attention with RNNs:

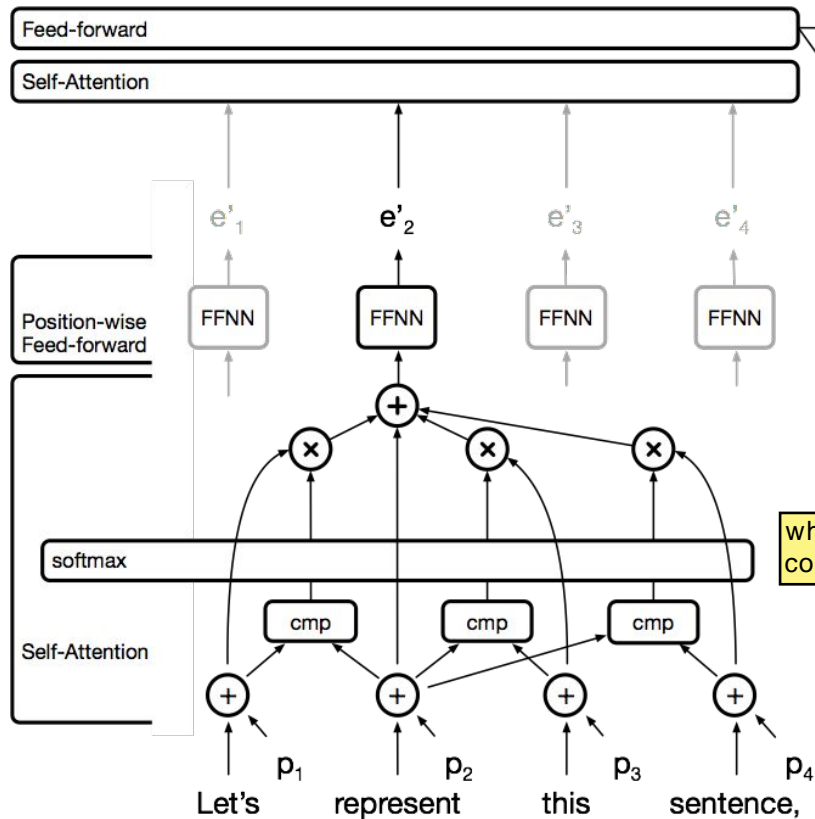
Long et al. (2016), Shao, Gows et al. (2017)

Recurrent attention:

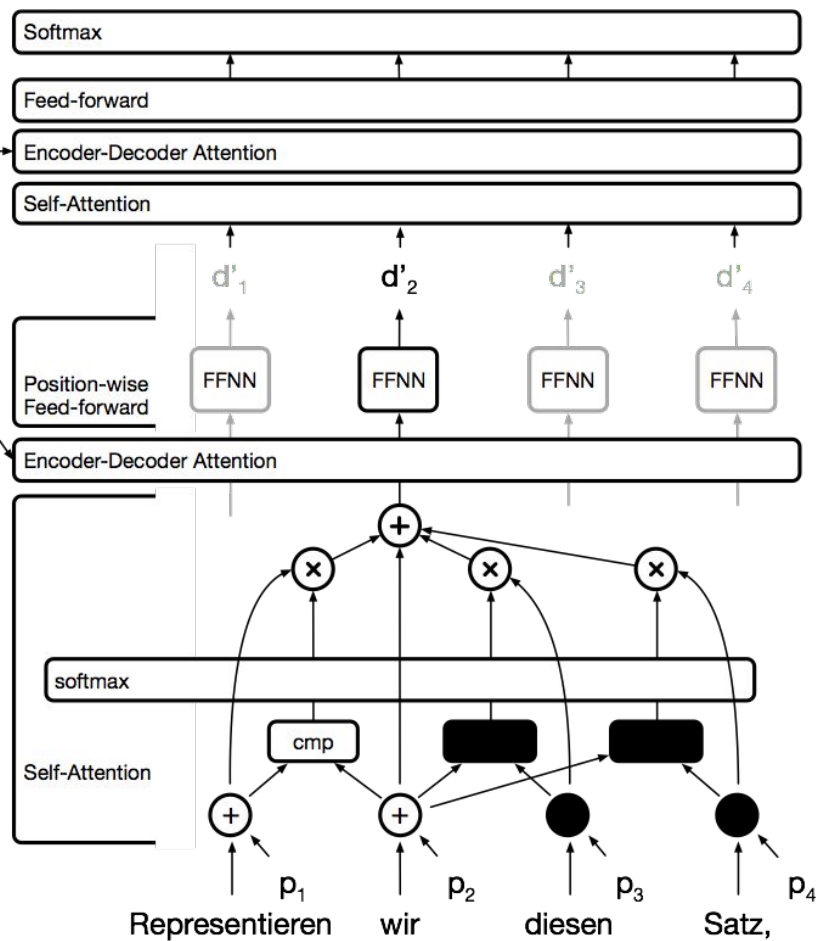
Sukhbaatar et al. (2015)

The Transformer

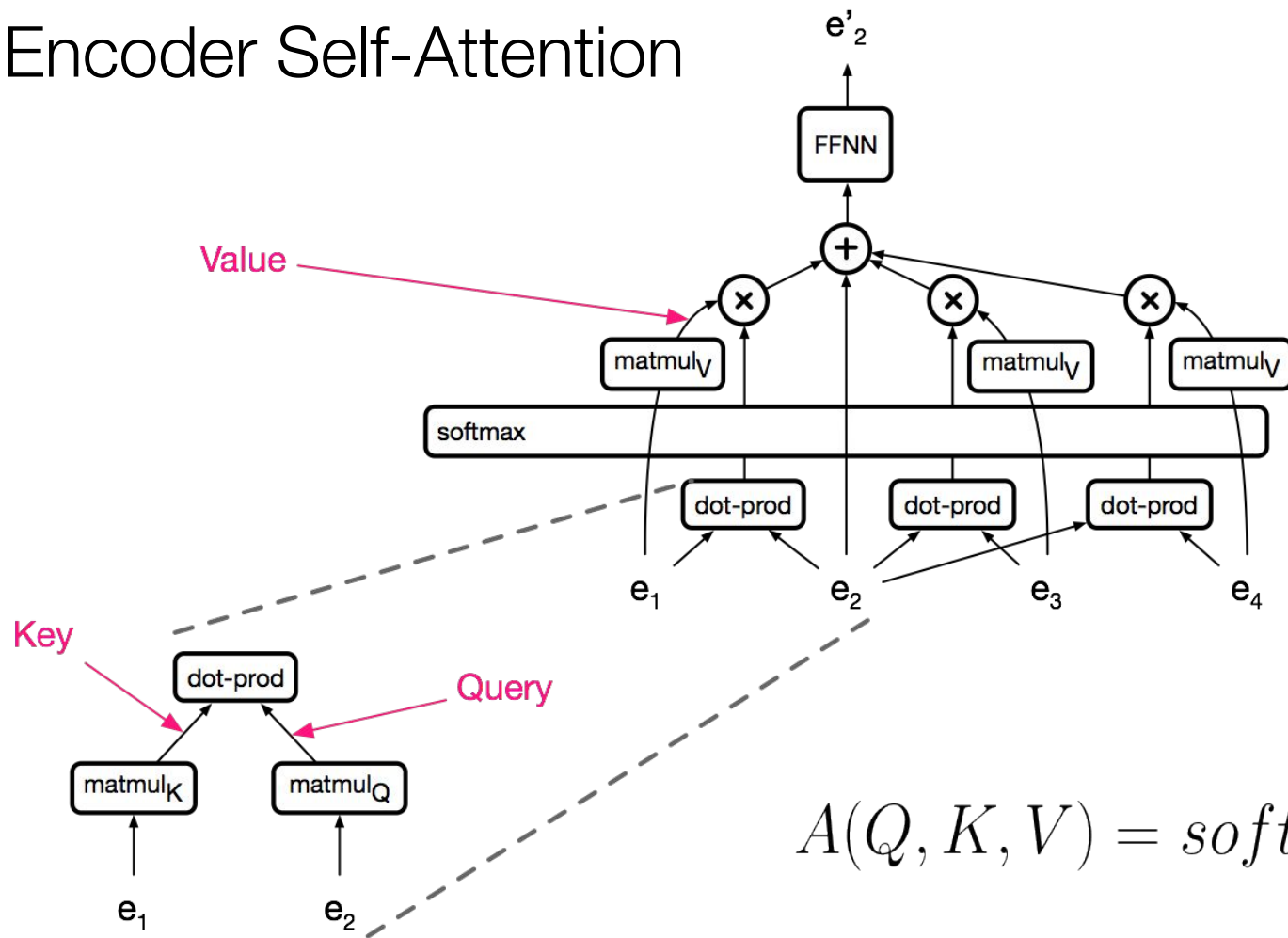
add the position
informations at the input
(not at every layer) to
the model.



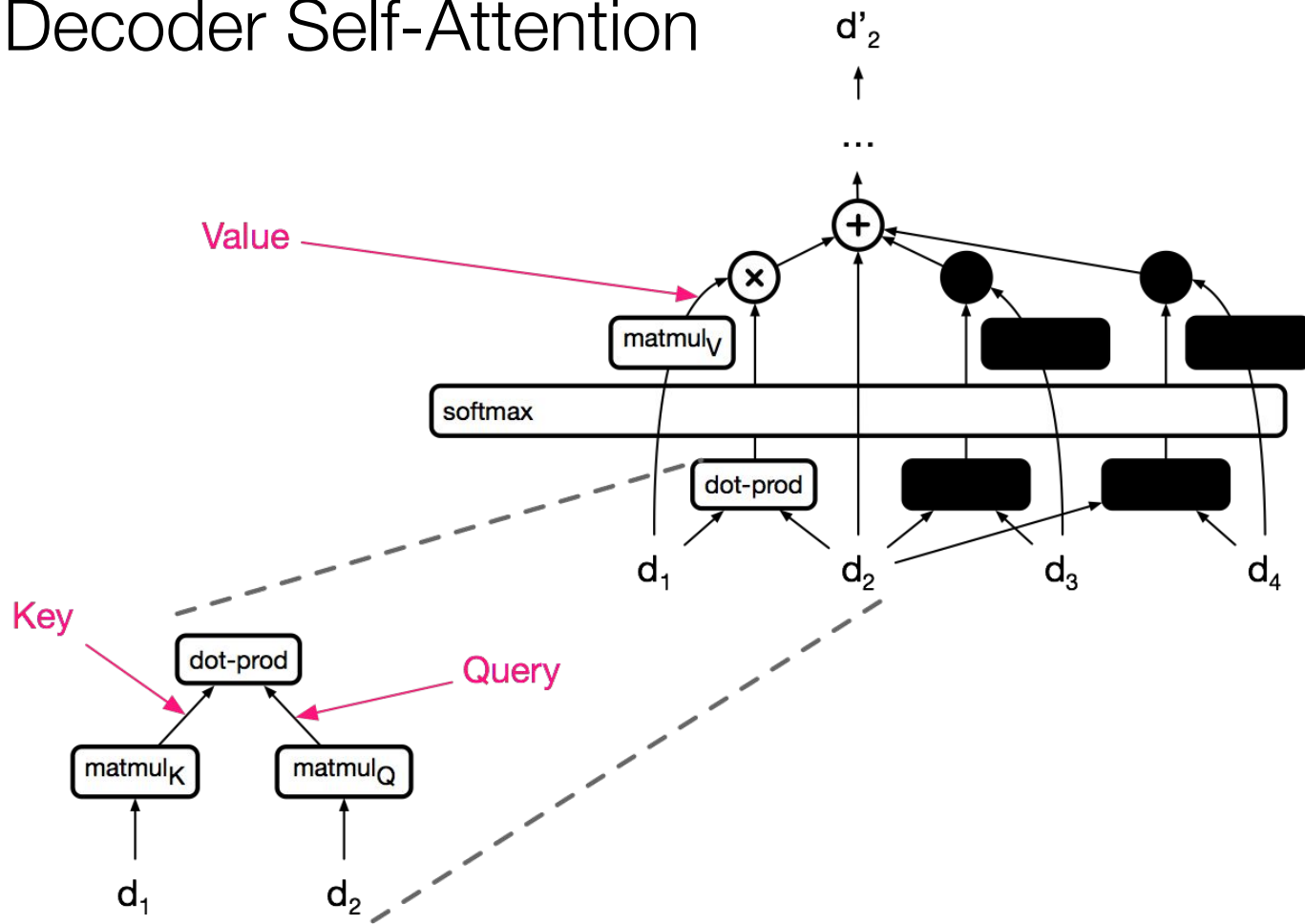
where residual
connections?



Encoder Self-Attention



Decoder Self-Attention



Attention is Cheap!

FLOPs

Self-Attention	$O(\text{length}^2 \cdot \text{dim})$
RNN (LSTM)	$O(\text{length} \cdot \text{dim}^2)$
Convolution	$O(\text{length} \cdot \text{dim}^2 \cdot \text{kernel_width})$

Attention is Cheap!

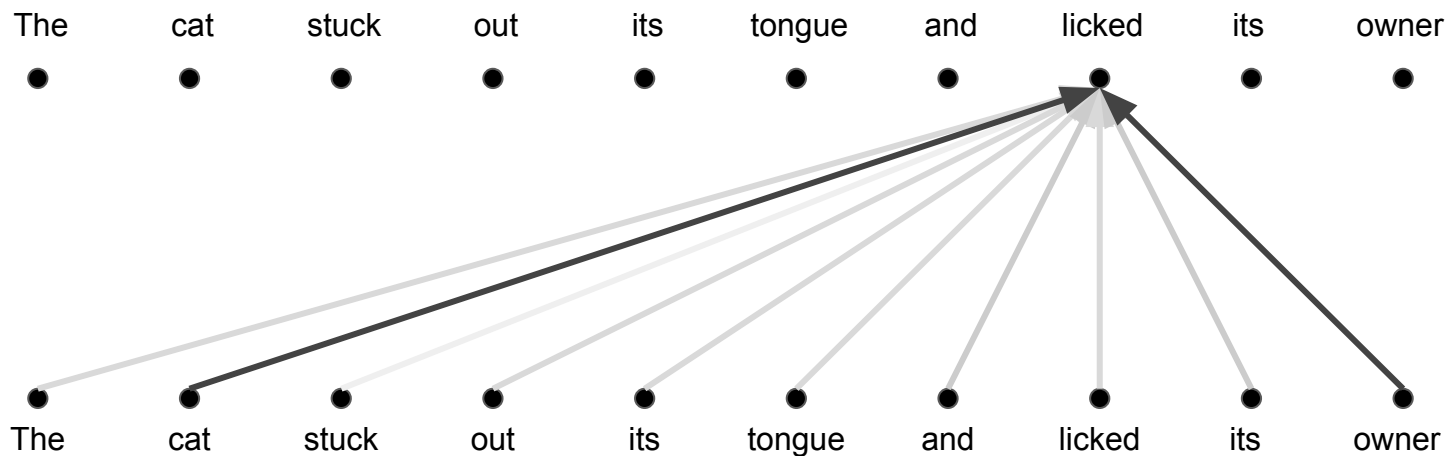
FLOPs

Self-Attention	$O(\text{length}^2 \cdot \text{dim})$	$= 4 \cdot 10^9$
RNN (LSTM)	$O(\text{length} \cdot \text{dim}^2)$	$= 16 \cdot 10^9$
Convolution	$O(\text{length} \cdot \text{dim}^2 \cdot \text{kernel_width})$	$= 6 \cdot 10^9$

length=1000 dim=1000 kernel_width=3

dim length
more attractive .
, short sequence
self - attention .

Attention: a weighted average

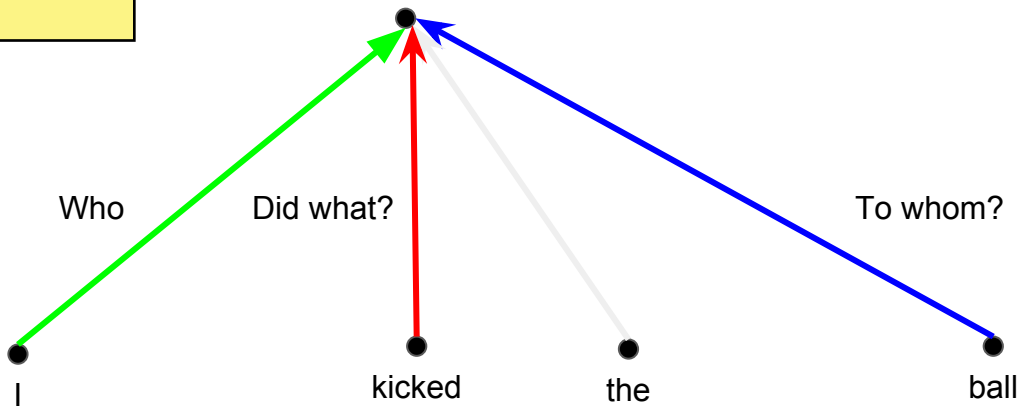


(single)
self - attention 가 가 .

Who / Did
what? / To whom?
.

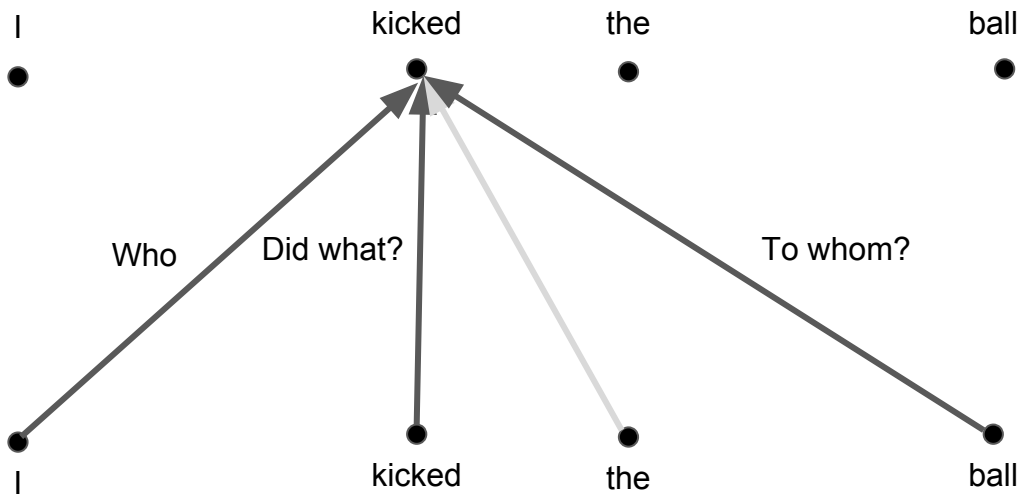
convolution filter
relative distance
 . ()

Convolutions



single attention layer ...
relative distance
you can't pick out different pieces of information from different places.

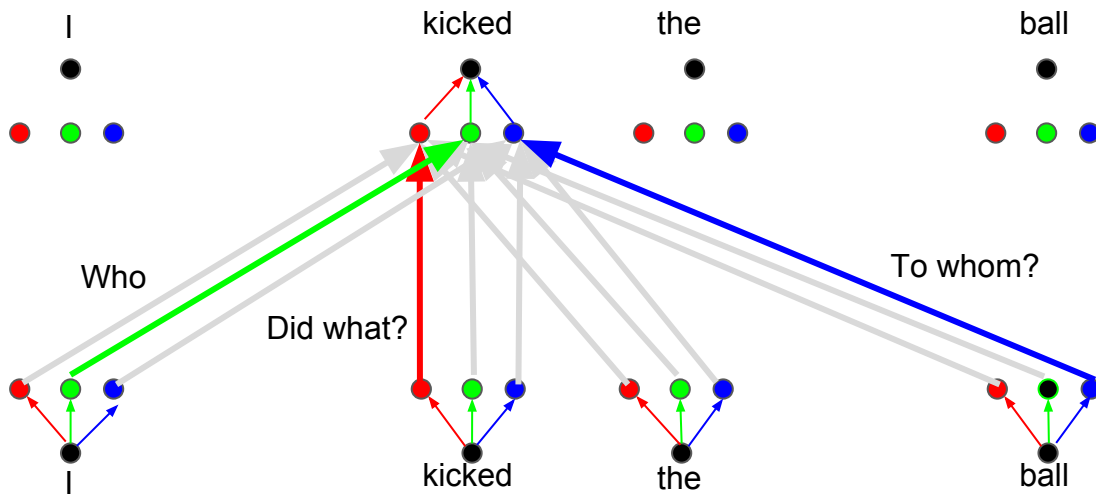
Self-Attention



Who,
Did what?
To whom?

attention layer
?

Parallel attention heads

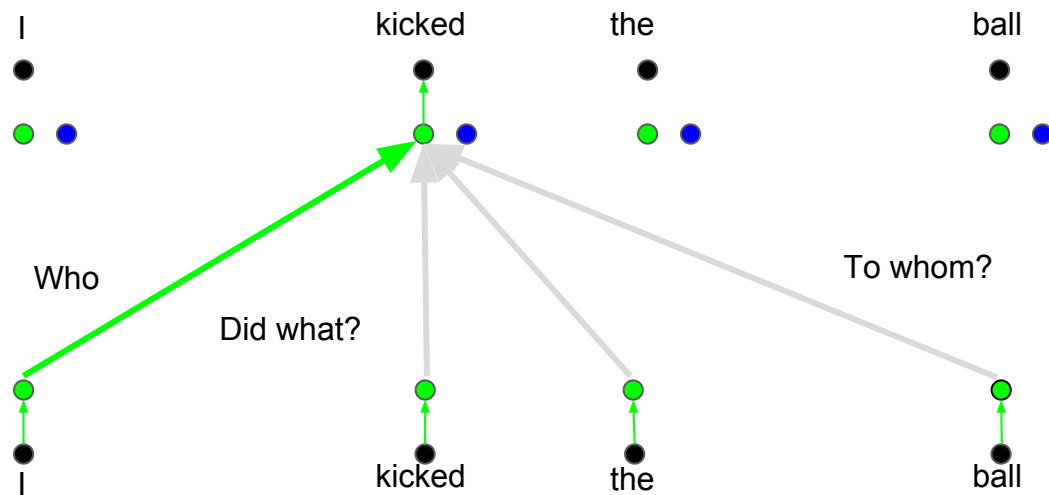


parallel attention
heads
convolution

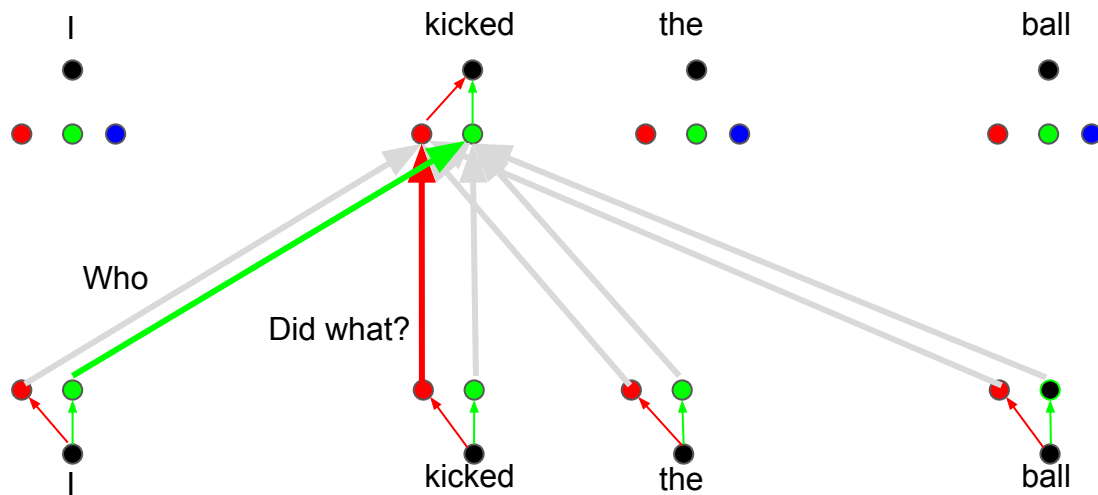
if you had more heads,
(heads are a function of positions) you could
probably just simulate a convolution although
with more parameters.

softmax 가 , FLOPs
dim .

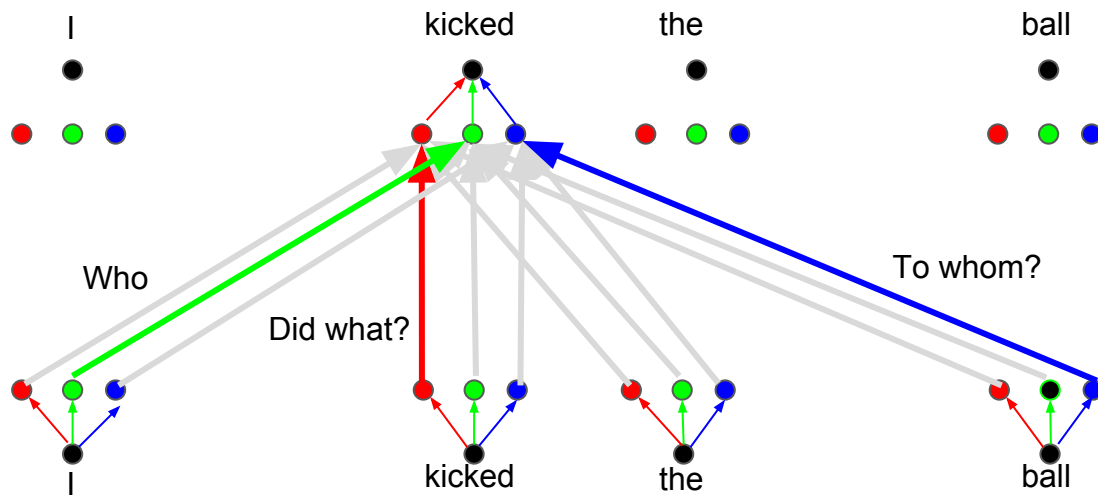
Attention head: Who



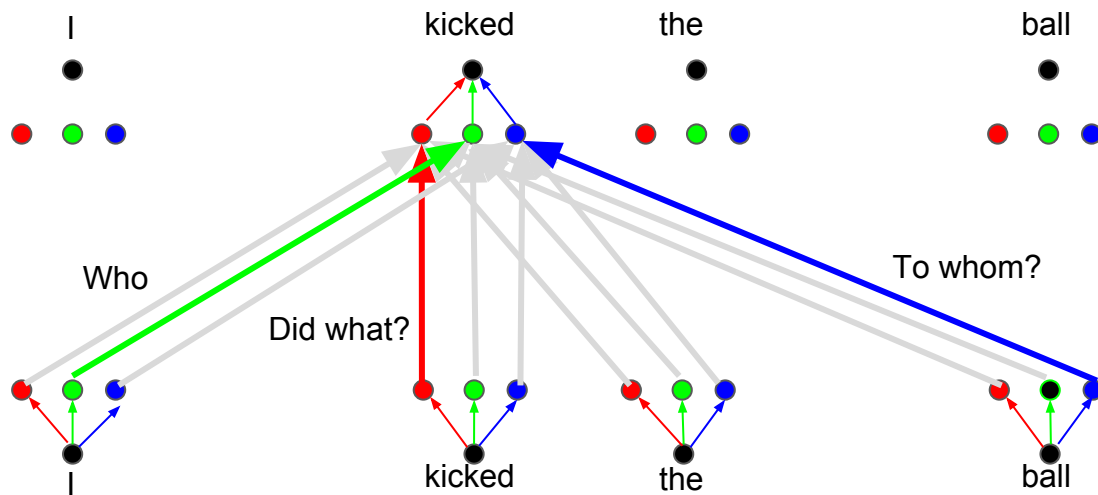
Parallel attention heads



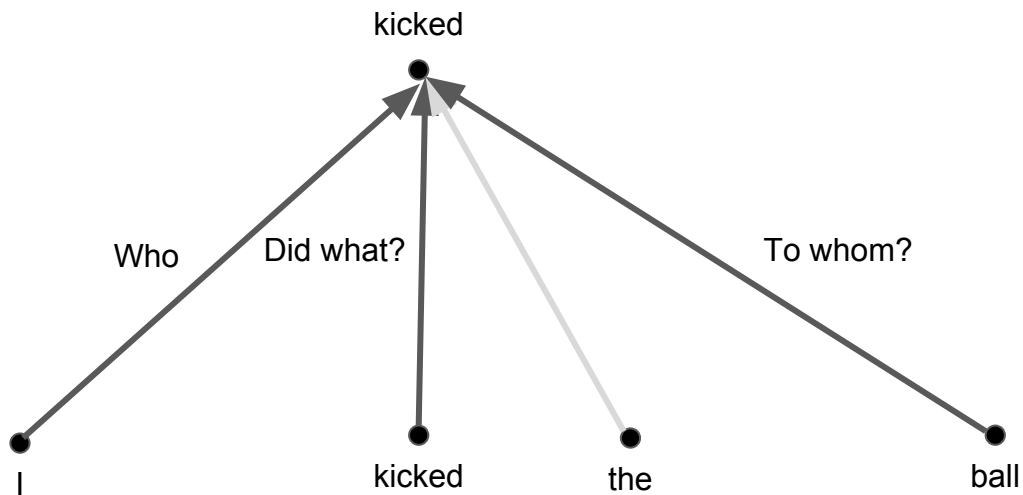
Parallel attention heads



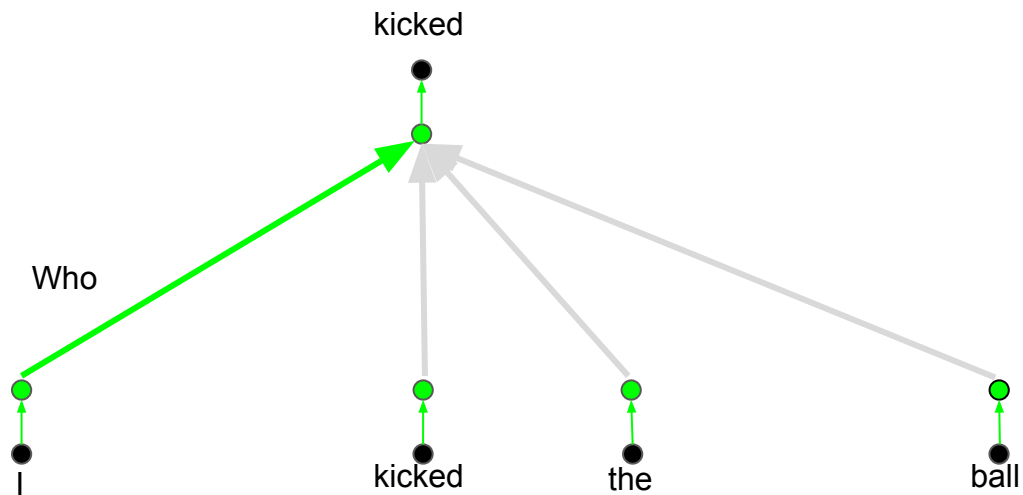
Parallel attention heads



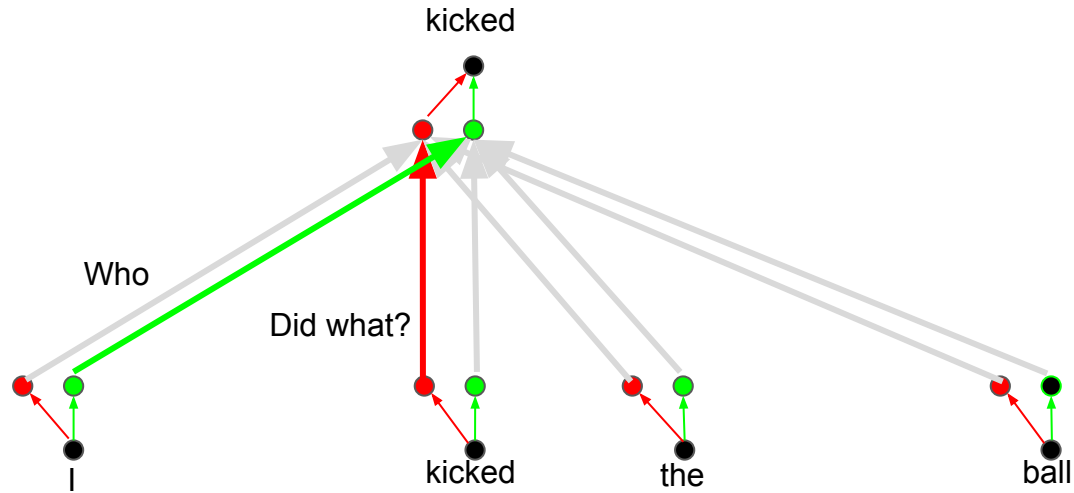
Self-Attention: Averaging



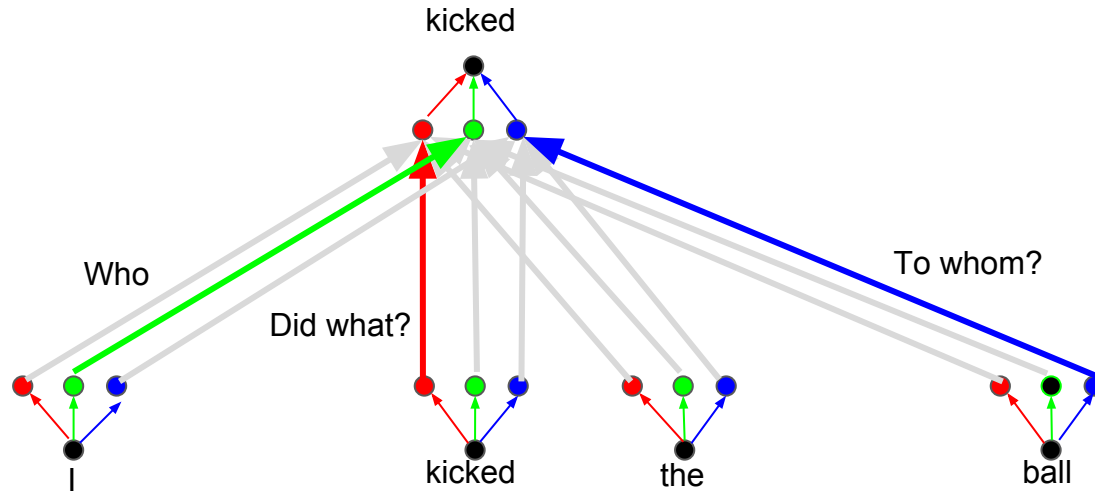
Attention head: Who



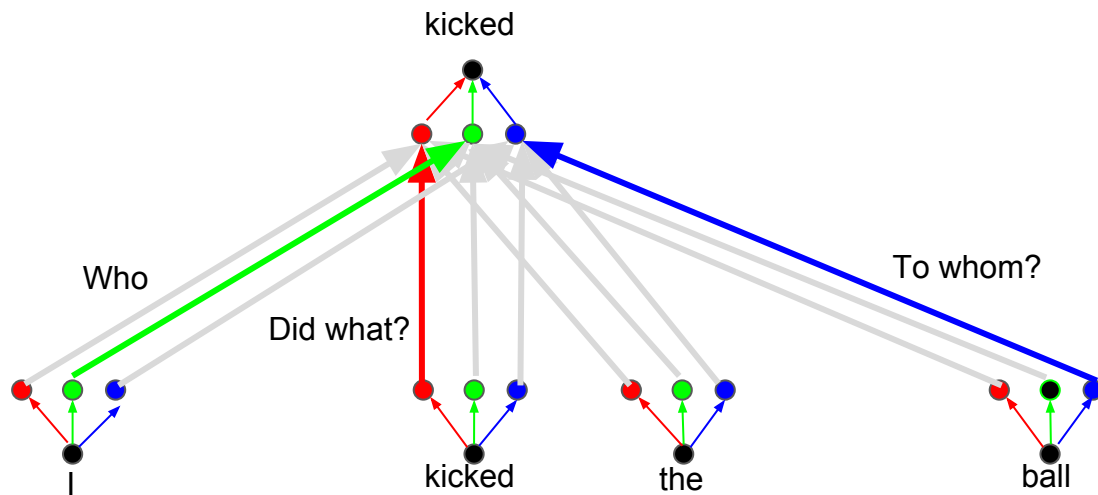
Attention head: Did What?



Attention head: To Whom?

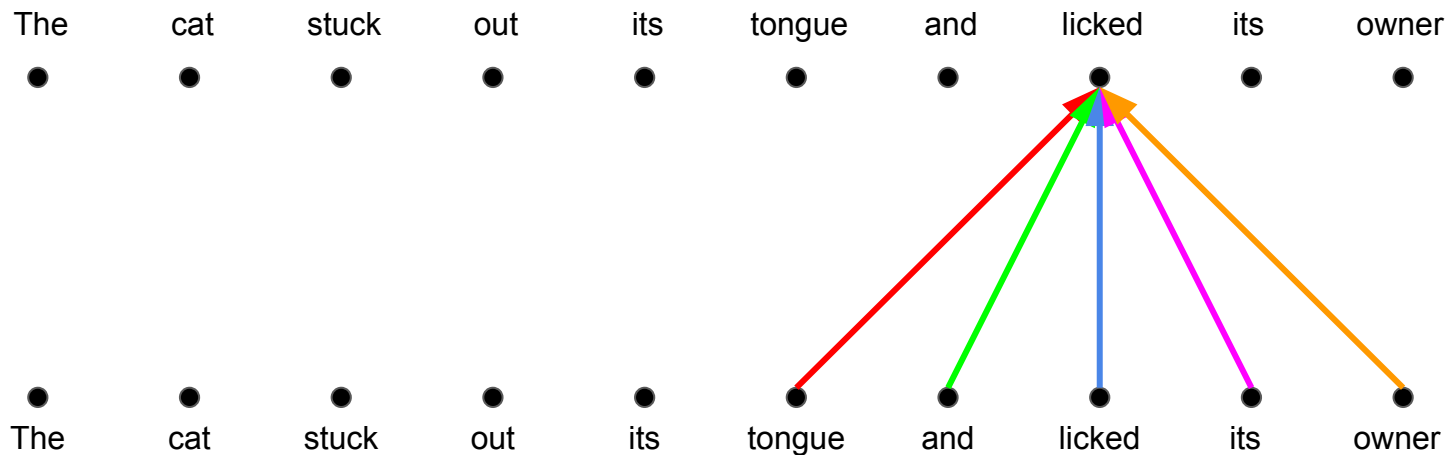


Multihead Attention

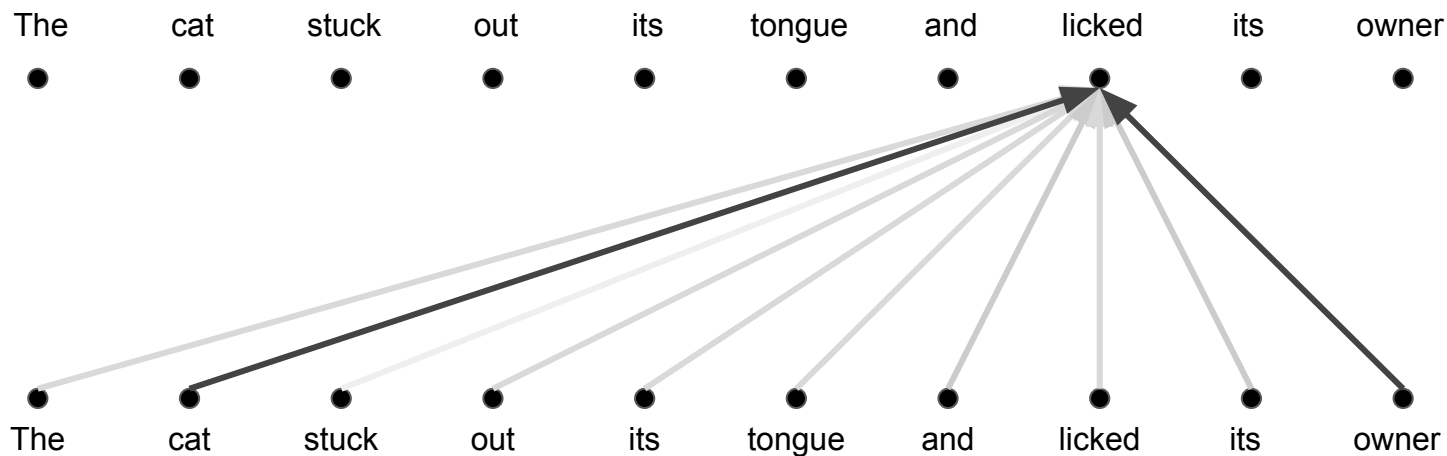


Convolution:

Different linear transformations by relative position.

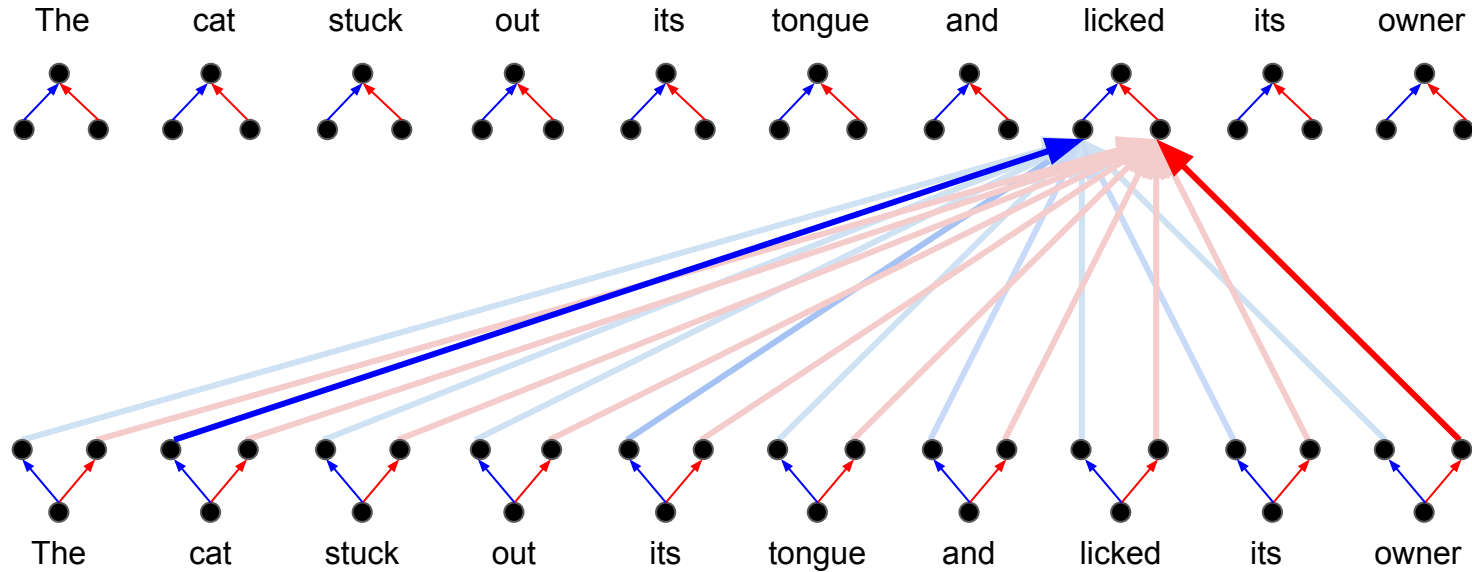


Attention: a weighted average



Multi-head Attention

Parallel attention layers with different linear transformations on input and output.



LSTM

SGD

because the gradient dynamics and attention are very simple.
and attentions are just a linear combination.

explicitly model all pairwise connection
very clear relationship

Results

Machine Translation: WMT-2014 BLEU

	EN-DE	EN-FR
GNMT (orig)	24.6	39.9
ConvSeq2Seq	25.2	40.5
Transformer*	28.4	41.8

*Transformer models trained **>3x faster** than the others.

Attention is All You Need (NeurIPS 2017) Vaswani*, Shazeer*, Parmar*, Uszkoreit*, Jones*, Kaiser*, Gomez*, Polosukhin*

Frameworks:

[tensor2tensor](#)

[Sockeye](#)

Importance of residuals

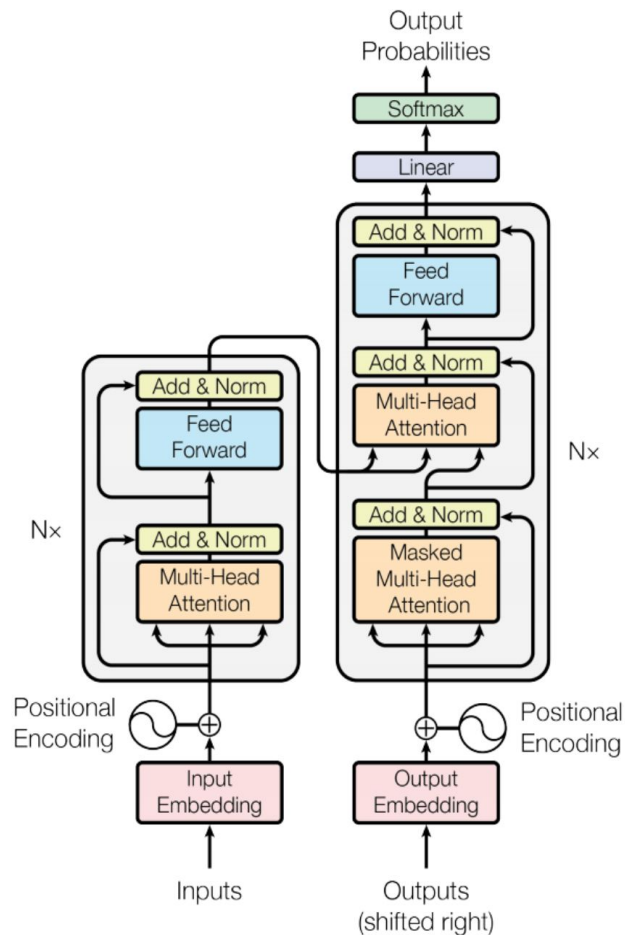
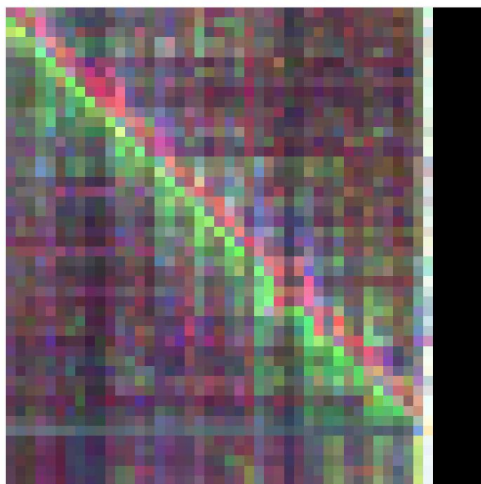


Figure 1: The Transformer - model architecture.

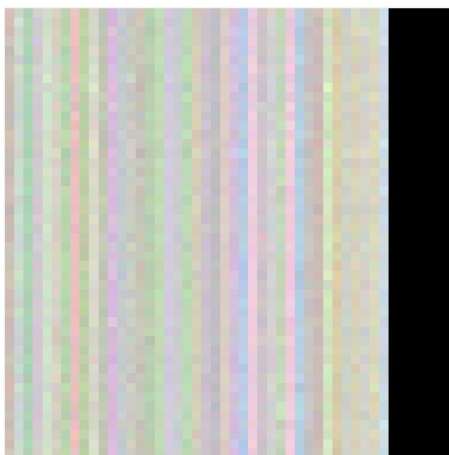
Importance of Residuals

residual	positional
layer	.

Residuals carry positional information to higher layers, among other information.

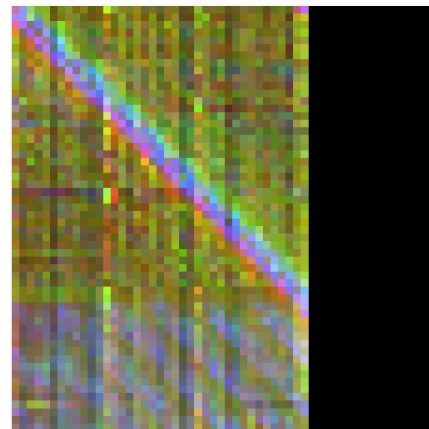


With residuals



Without residuals

step 206104 (Thu Jul 13 2017 04:35:54 GMT-0700 (PDT))



Without residuals,
with timing signals

Training Details

ADAM optimizer with a learning rate warmup (warmup + exponential decay)

Dropout during training at every layer just before adding residual

Layer-norm

Attention dropout (for some experiments)

Checkpoint-averaging

Label smoothing

Auto-regressive decoding with beam search and length biasing

...

What Matters?

Result

	N	d_{model}	d_{ff}	h	d_k	d_v	P_{drop}	ϵ_{ls}	train steps	PPL (dev)	BLEU (dev)	params $\times 10^6$		
base	6	512	2048	8	64	64	0.1	0.1	100K	4.92	25.8	65		
(A)					1	512	512				5.29	24.9		
					4	128	128				5.00	25.5		
					16	32	32				4.91	25.8		
					32	16	16				5.01	25.4		
(B)					16					5.16	25.1	58		
					32					5.01	25.4	60		
(C)	2									6.11	23.7	36		
	4									5.19	25.3	50		
	8									4.88	25.5	80		
		256					32	32			5.75	24.5	28	
		1024					128	128			4.66	26.0	168	
			1024									5.12	25.4	53
			4096									4.75	26.2	90
(D)							0.0				5.77	24.6		
							0.2				4.95	25.5		
								0.0			4.67	25.3		
								0.2			5.47	25.7		
(E)	positional embedding instead of sinusoids									4.92	25.7			
big	6	1024	4096	16					0.3	300K	4.33	26.4	213	

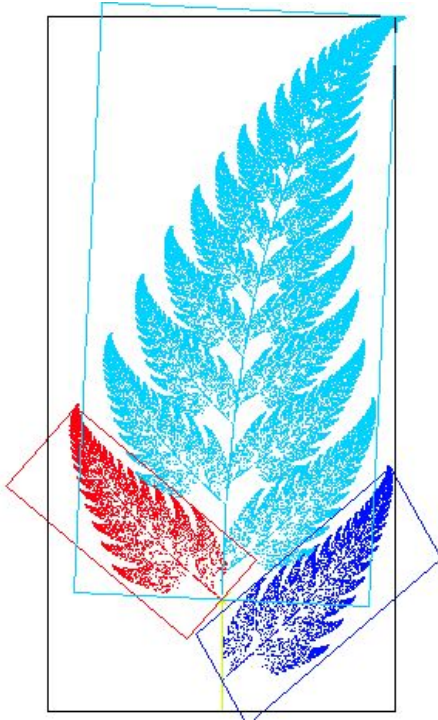
Generating Wikipedia by Summarizing Long Sequences

msaleh@ et al. submission to ICLR'18

	ROUGE
seq2seq-attention	12.7
Transformer-ED (L=500)	34.2
Transformer-DMCA (L=1 1000)	36.2

Self-Similarity, Image and Music Generation

Self-similarity in images



inductive biases
representations

inductive biases가
?

. () 가

Self-Similarity in Images

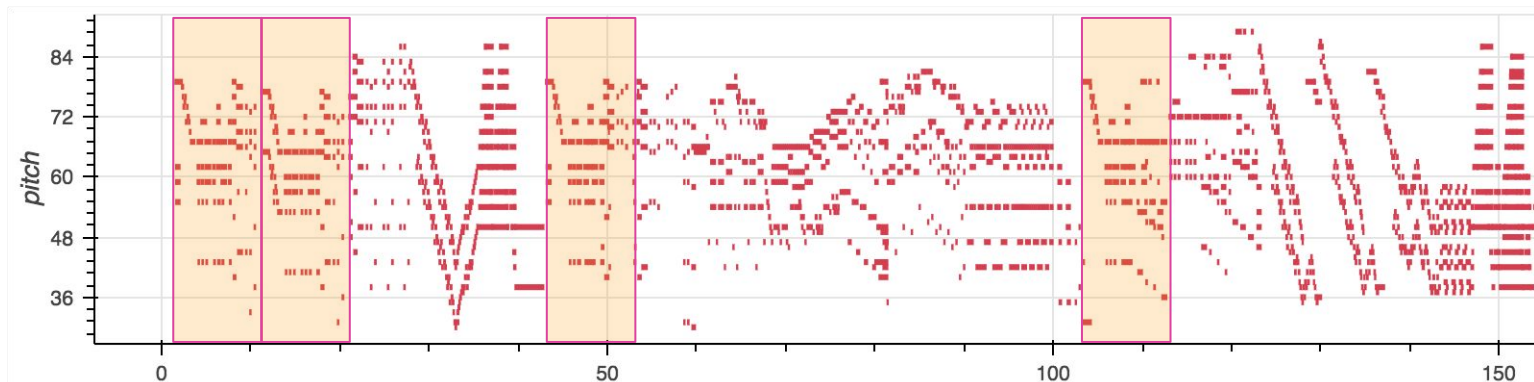
These images are different pieces of the image. They are very similar to each other. But, they might have different scales.



Starry Night (Van Gogh, June 1889)

Self-similarity in music

Motifs **repeat**, immediately and also at a distance



Probabilistic Image Generation

Model the joint distribution of pixels

Turning it into a sequence modeling problem

Assigning probabilities allows measuring generalization

Can self - attention help us in modeling other objects like images?

Probabilistic Image Generation

RNNs and CNNs are state-of-the-art (PixelRNN, PixelCNN)

CNNs incorporating gating now match RNNs in quality

CNNs are much faster due to parallelization

A Oord et al. (2016), Salimans et al. (2017), Kalchbrenner et al. (2016)

Probabilistic Image Generation

Long-range dependencies matter for images (e.g. symmetry)

Likely increasingly important with increasing image size

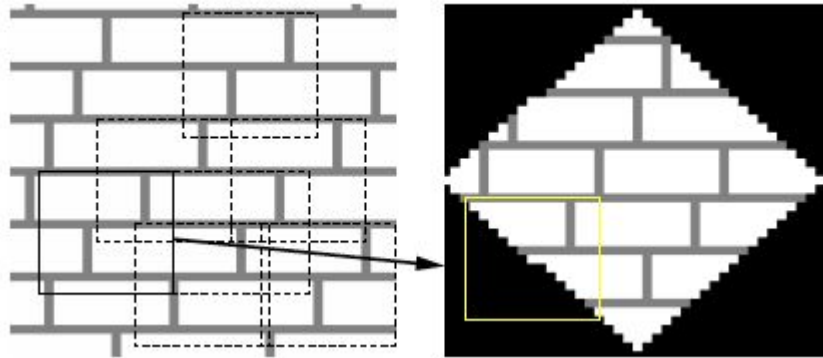
Modeling long-range dependencies with CNNs requires either

long - range dependency
CNN .

Many layers likely making training harder

Large kernels at large parameter/computational cost

Texture Synthesis with Self-Similarity



Texture Synthesis by Non-parametric Sampling (Efros and Leung, 1999)

Non-local Means

image denoising



Figure 1. Scheme of NL-means strategy. Similar pixel neighborhoods give a large weight, $w(p, q1)$ and $w(p, q2)$, while much different neighborhoods give a small weight $w(p, q3)$.

Non-local Means

A Non-local Algorithm for Image Denoising (Buades, Coll, and Morel. CVPR 2005)

Non-local Neural Networks (Wang et al., 2018)

Previous work

Self-attention:

Parikh et al. (2016), Lin et al. (2016), Vaswani et al. (2017)

Autoregressive Image Generation:

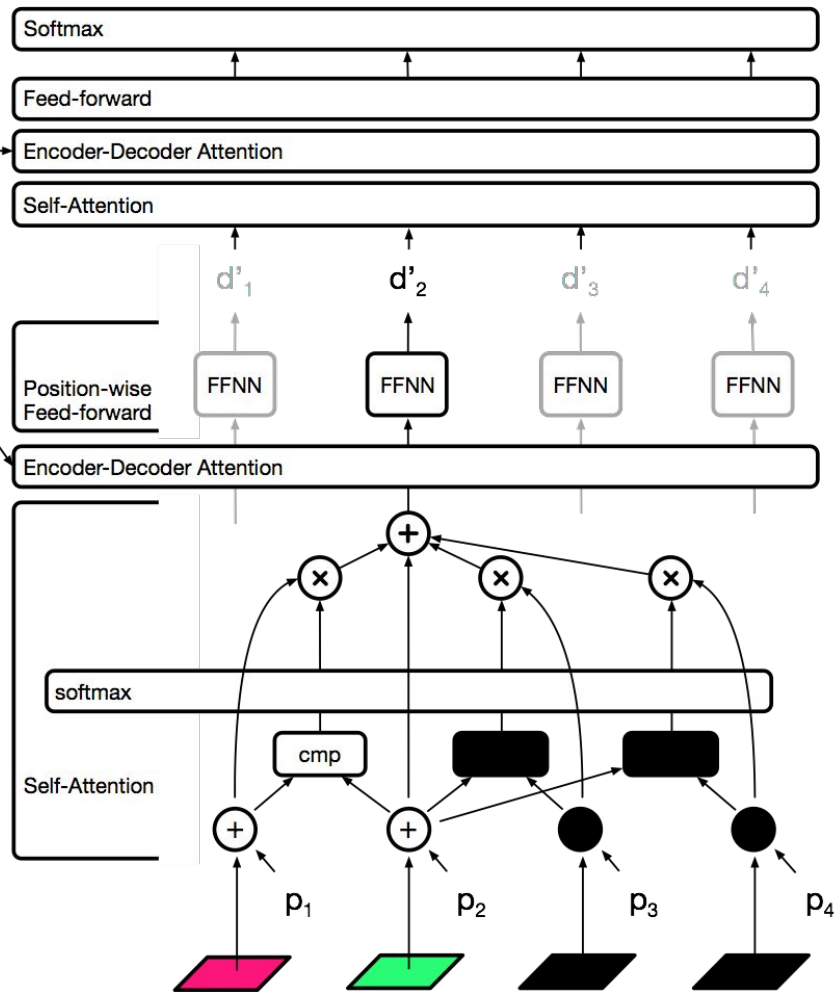
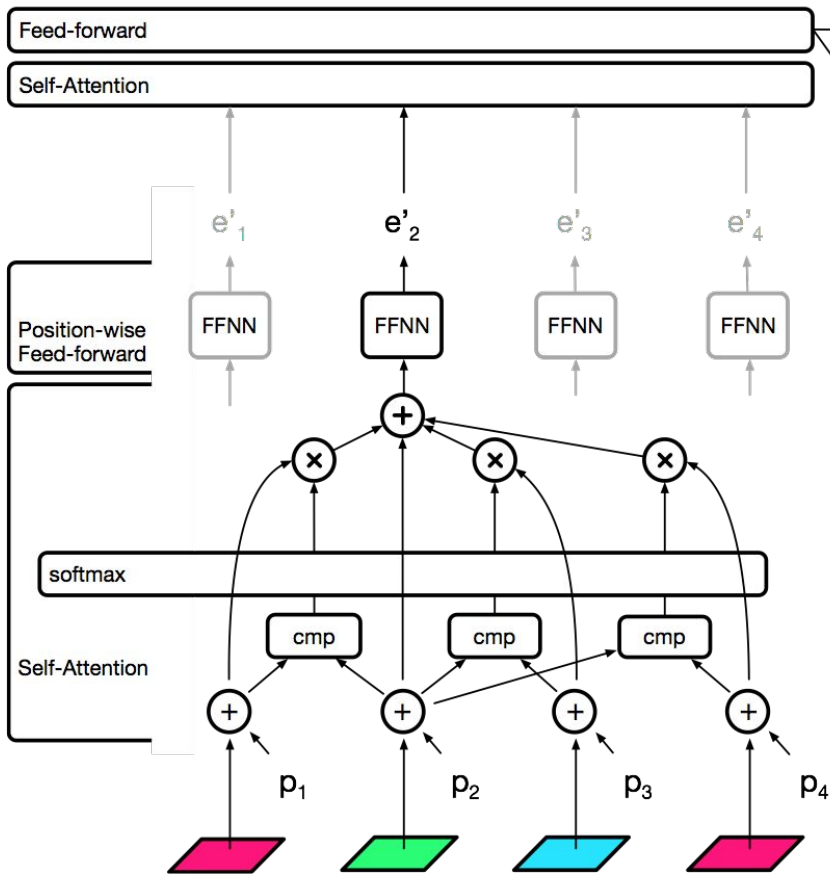
A Oord et al. (2016), Salimans et al. (2017)

Key

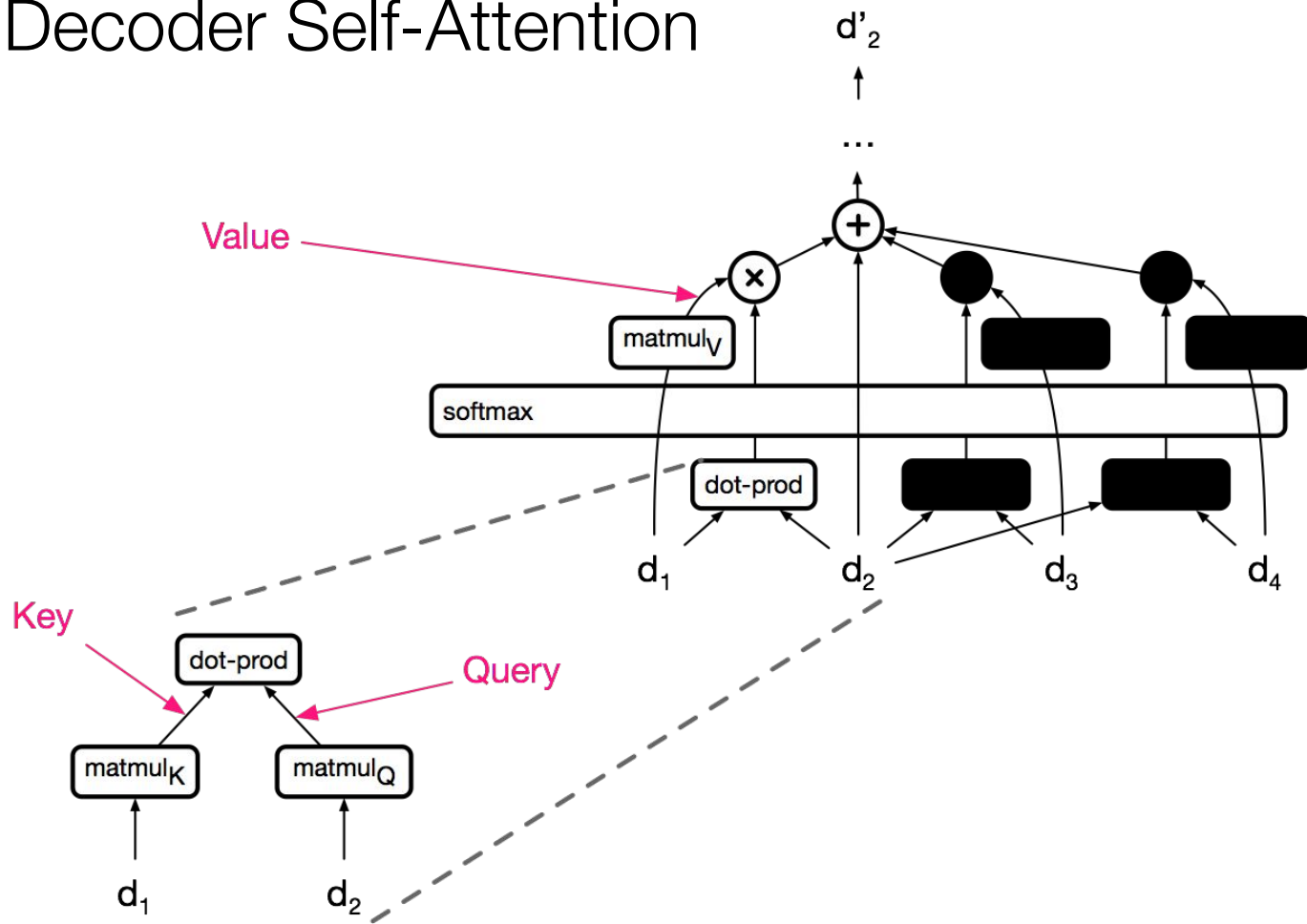


$$A(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax}\left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}}\right)V$$

The Image Transformer



Decoder Self-Attention



Attention is Cheap!

FLOPs

Self-Attention	$O(\text{length}^2 \cdot \text{dim})$
RNN (LSTM)	$O(\text{length} \cdot \text{dim}^2)$
Convolution	$O(\text{length} \cdot \text{dim}^2 \cdot \text{kernel_width})$

Attention is Cheap if length \ll dim!

attention	self - ?
-----------	-------------

FLOPs

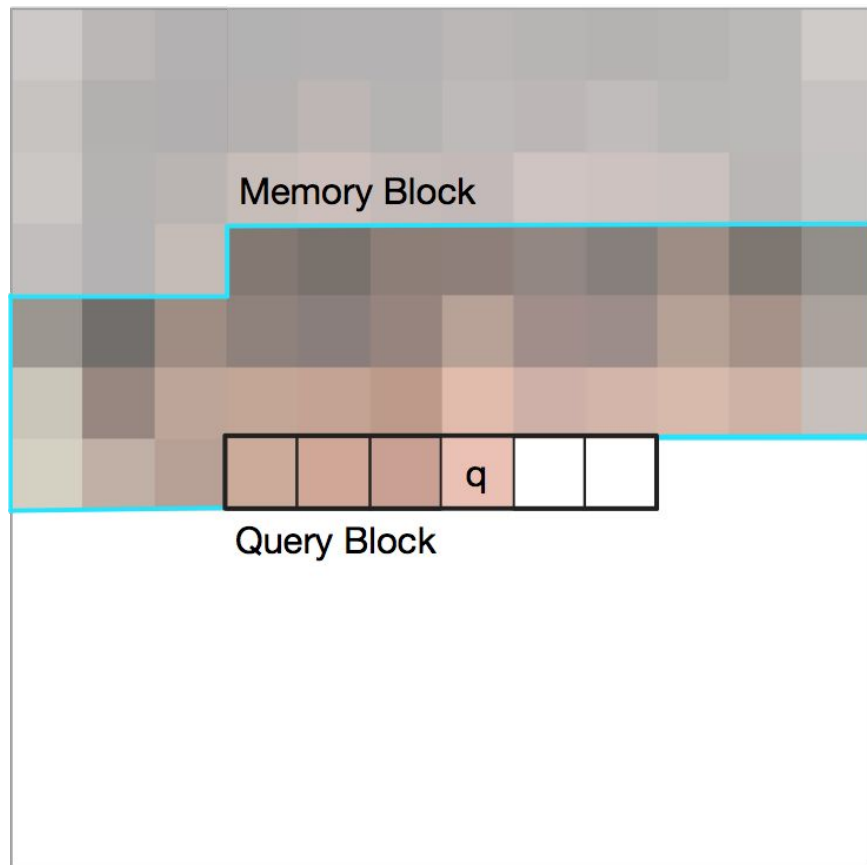
Self-Attention	$O(\text{length}^2 \cdot \text{dim})$ (length=3072 for images)
RNN (LSTM)	$O(\text{length} \cdot \text{dim}^2)$
Convolution	$O(\text{length} \cdot \text{dim}^2 \cdot \text{kernel_width})$

Combining Locality with Self-Attention

Restrict the attention windows to be local neighborhoods

Good assumption for images because of spatial locality

Local 1D Attention



Local 2D Attention

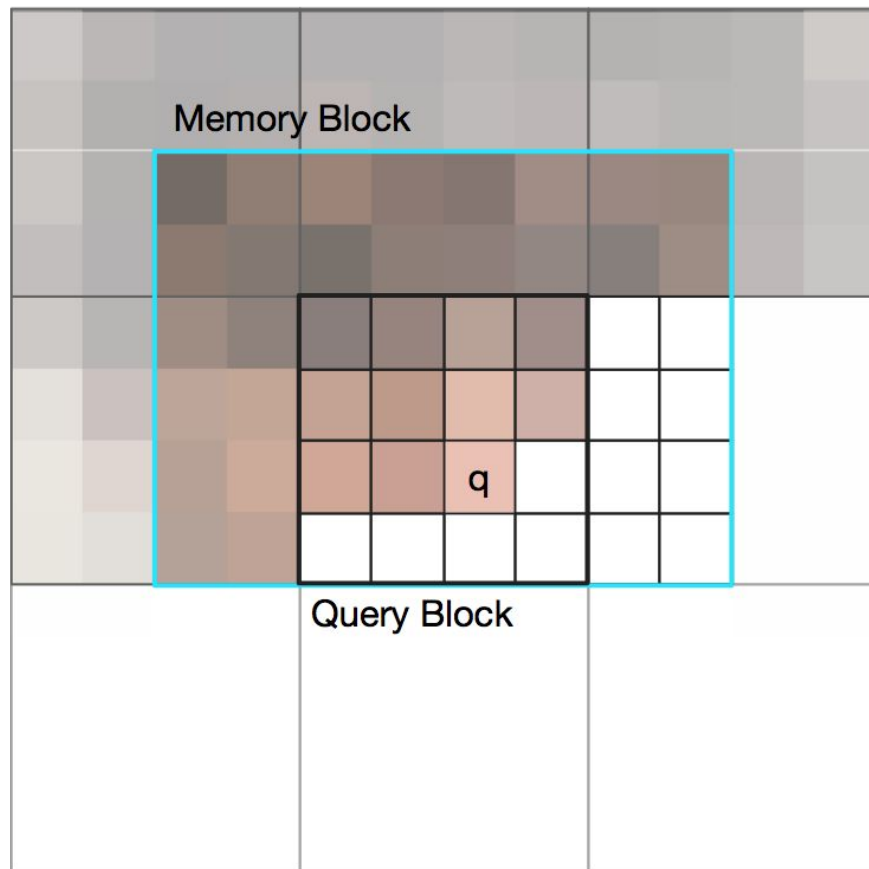
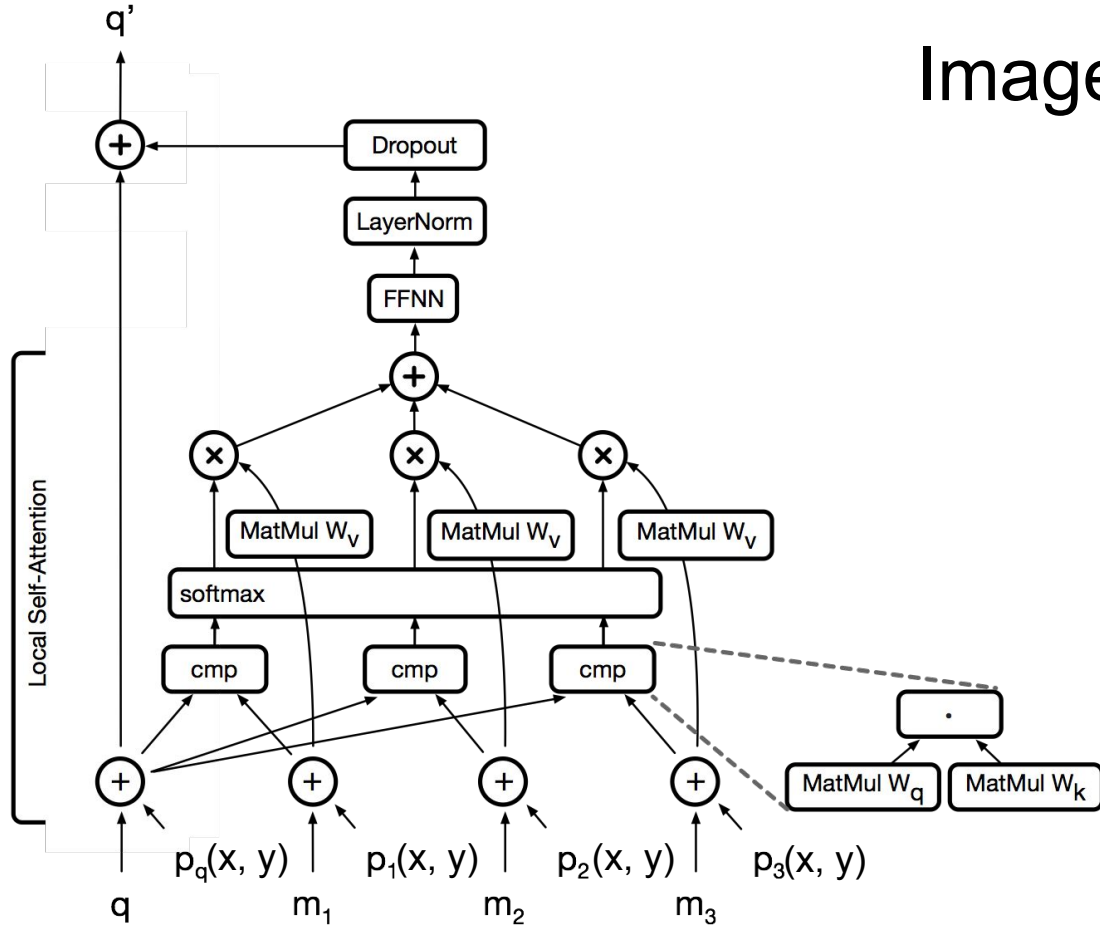


Image Transformer Layer



Tasks

Super-resolution

Unconditional and Conditional Image generation

Results

Image Transformer

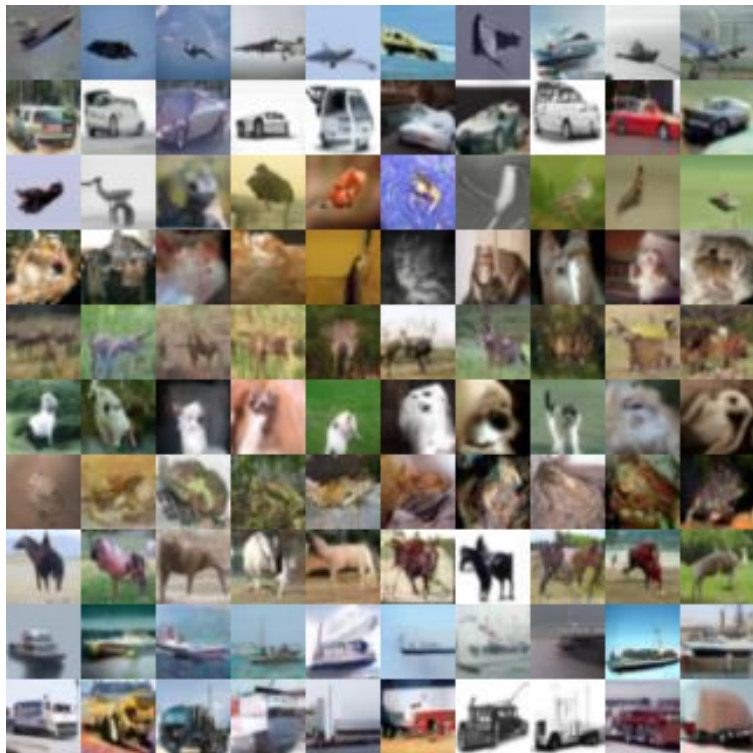
Parmar*, Vaswani*, Uszkoreit, Kaiser, Shazeer, Ku, and Tran. ICML 2018

Unconditional Image Generation

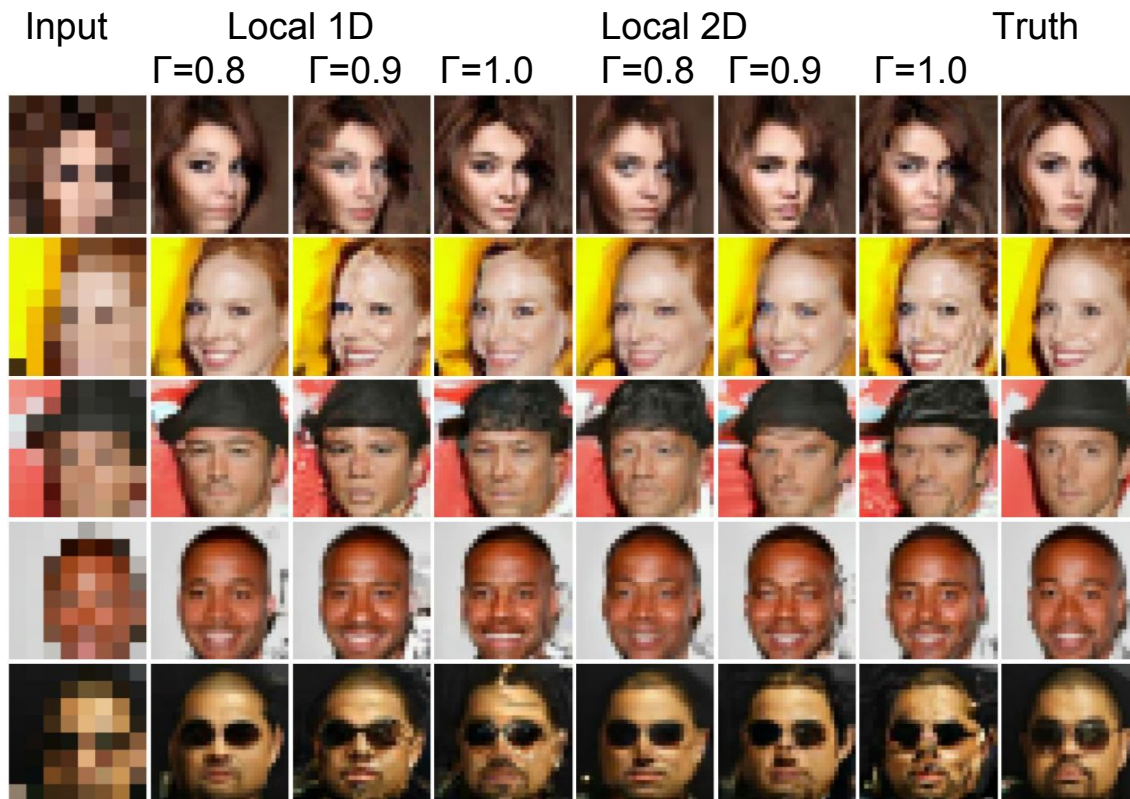
	Cifar-10 (Test)	Imagenet (Validation)
PixelRNN	3.00	3.86
Gated PixelCNN	3.03	3.83
PixelCNN++	2.92 (dmol)	-
PixelSNAIL	2.85	3.8
Image Transformer, 1D local	2.9 (xent)	3.77
Image Transformer, 1D local	2.9 (dmol)	3.78

Cross entropy of various models on CIFAR-10 and Imagenet datasets.

Cifar10 Samples



CelebA Super Resolution

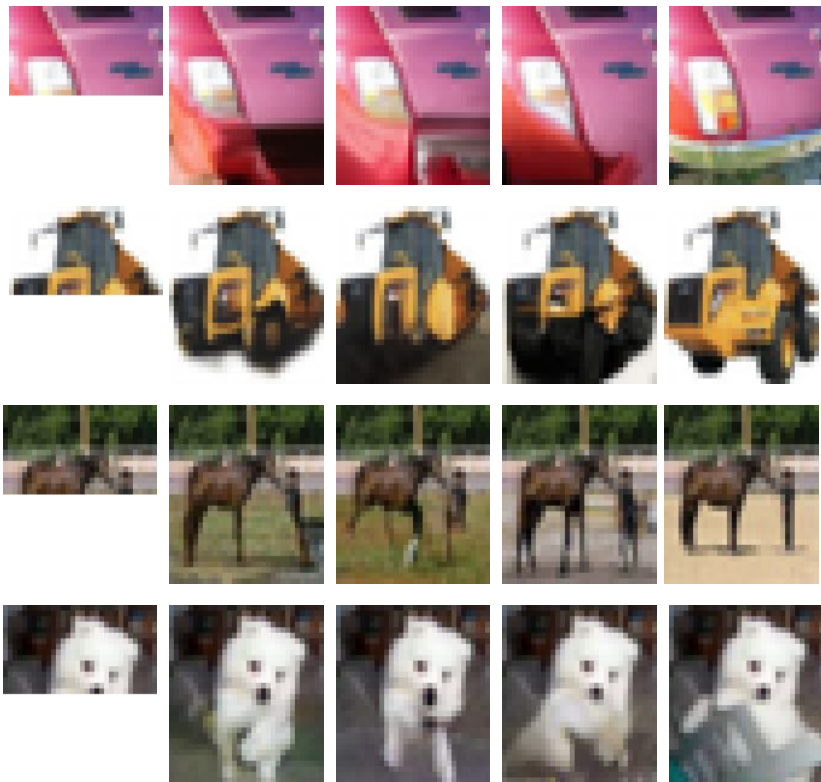


CelebA Super Resolution

	% Fooled			
	$\Gamma = \text{n/a}$	$\Gamma = 1.0$	$\Gamma = 0.9$	$\Gamma = 0.8$
ResNet	4.0	-	-	-
srez GAN (Garcia, 2016)	8.5	-	-	-
Pixel Recursive (Dahl et al., 2017)	-	11.0	10.4	10.25
Image Transformer, 1D local		35.94 \pm 3.0	33.5 \pm 3.5	29.6 \pm 4.0
Image Transformer, 2D local		36.11 \pm 2.5	34 \pm 3.5	30.64 \pm 4.0

Human Eval performance for the Image Transformer on CelebA. The fraction of humans fooled is significantly better than the previous state of art.

Conditional Image Completion



Music generation using relative self-attention

Music Transformer (ICLR 2019) by Cheng-Zhi Anna Huang, Ashish Vaswani, Jakob Uszkoreit, Noam Shazeer, Ian Simon, Curtis Hawthorne, Andrew M. Dai, Matthew D. Hoffman, Monica Dinculescu and Douglas Eck.

Blog post: <https://magenta.tensorflow.org/music-transformer>

Raw representations in music and language

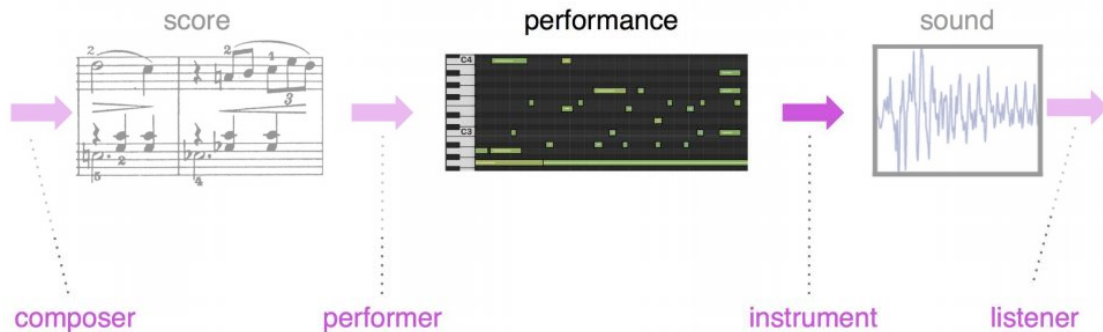
Language

text



speech

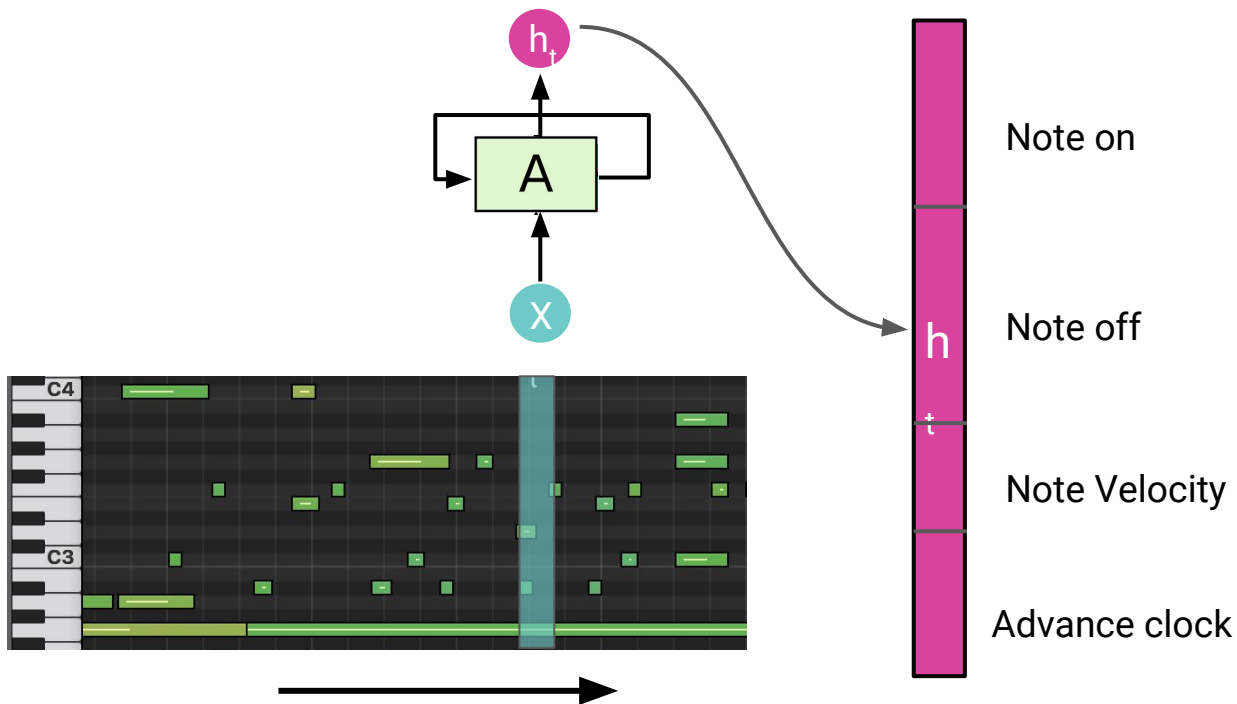
Music



(Image from Simon & Oore, 2016)

Music Language model:

Prior work Performance RNN (Simon & Oore, 2016)



Continuations to given initial motif

Given
motif

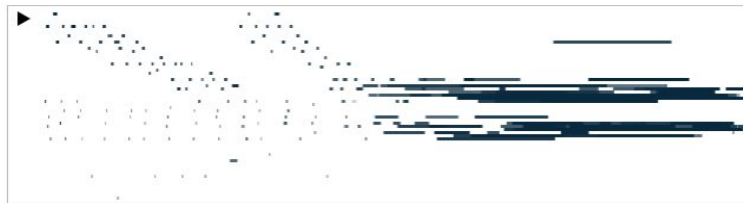


RNN-LSTM



가

Transformer



Music
Transformer



repetition

가

Continuations to given initial motif

Given
motif



Continuations to given initial motif

Given
motif



Continuations to given initial motif

Given
motif



RNN-LSTM



Continuations to given initial motif

Given
motif



RNN-LSTM



Continuations to given initial motif

Given
motif



RNN-LSTM



Transformer



Continuations to given initial motif

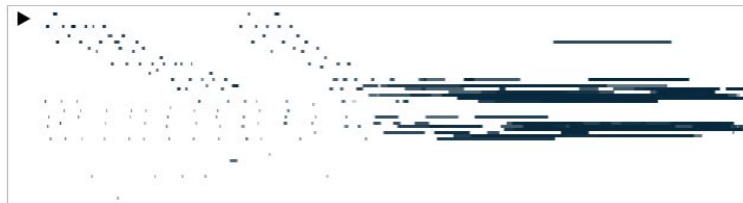
Given
motif



RNN-LSTM



Transformer



Continuations to given initial motif

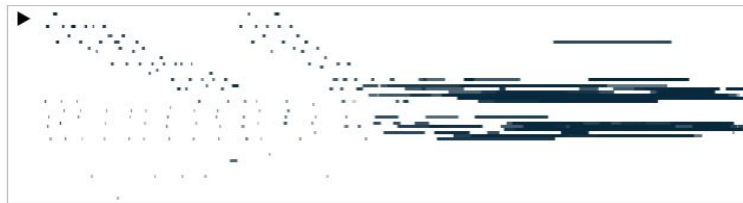
Given
motif



RNN-LSTM



Transformer



Music
Transformer



Continuations to given initial motif

Given
motif



RNN-LSTM



Transformer

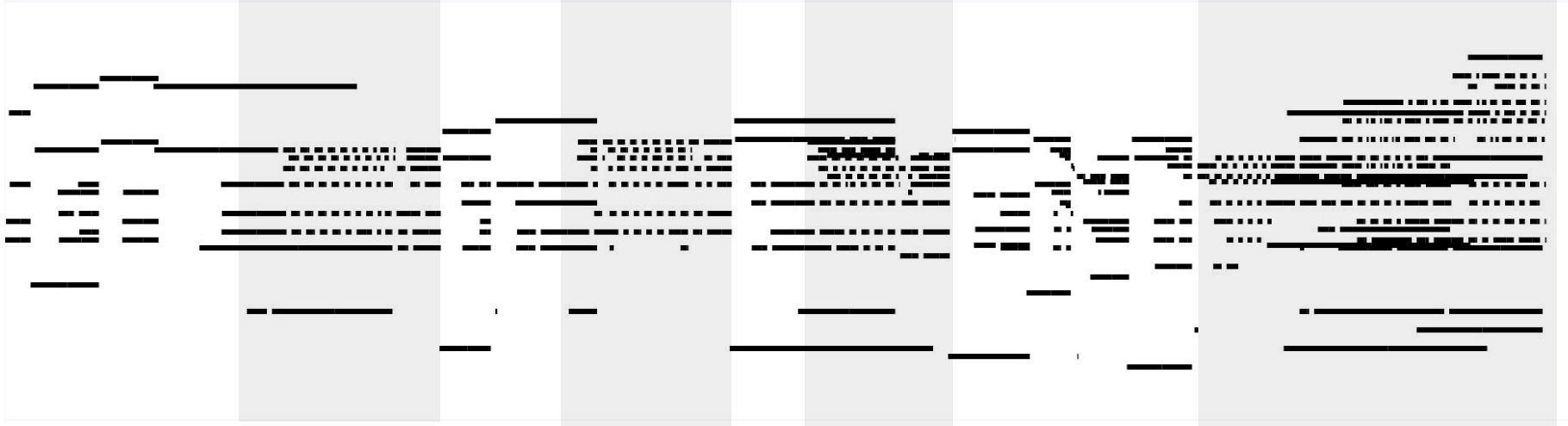


Music
Transformer



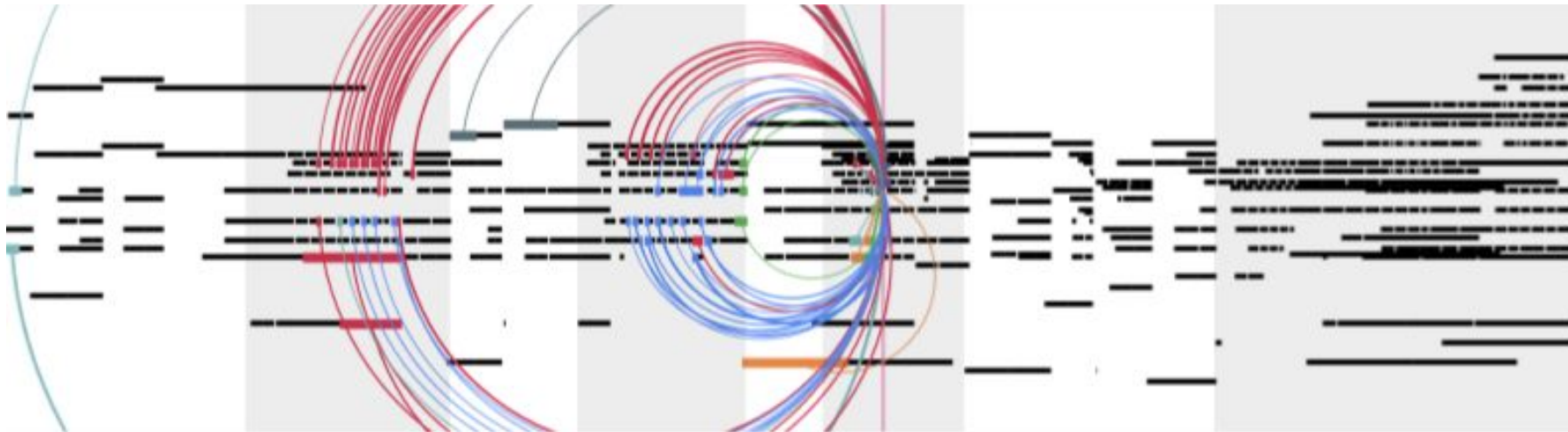
Self-Similarity in Music

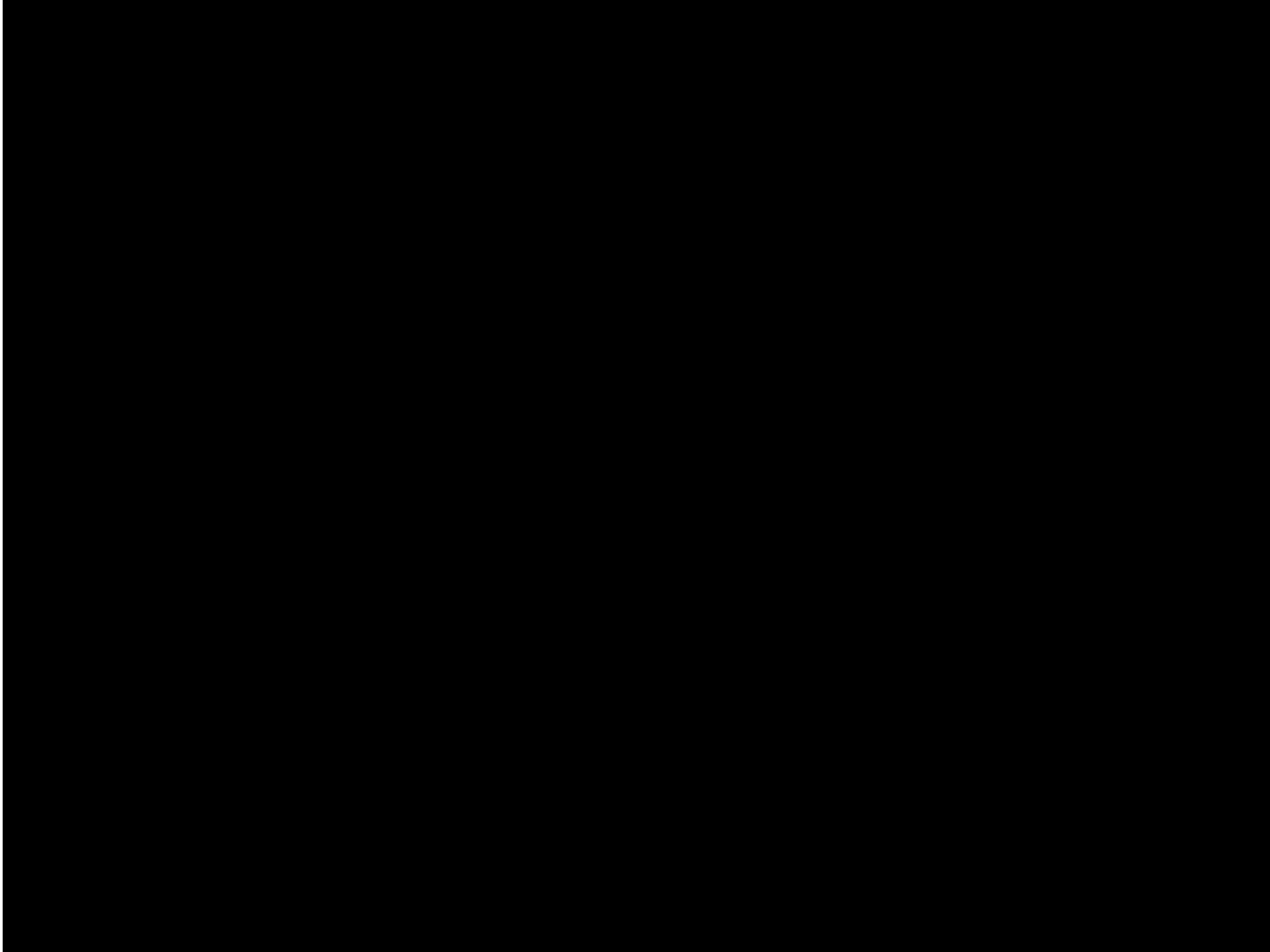
there are a lot of repetition with gaps in between



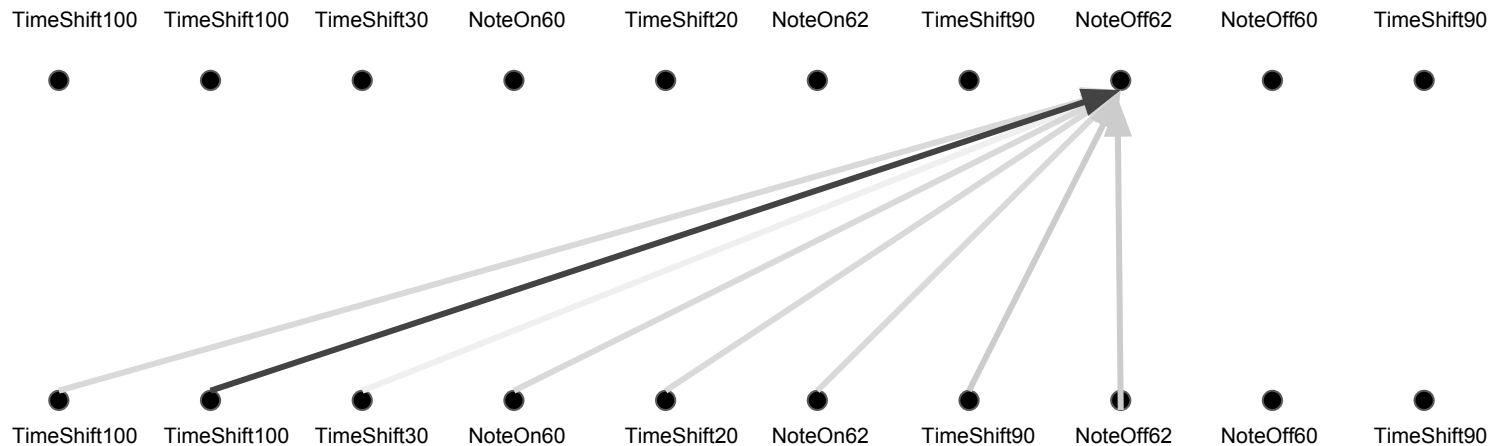
Sample from Music Transformer

self - attention is from
note to note level or
event to event level

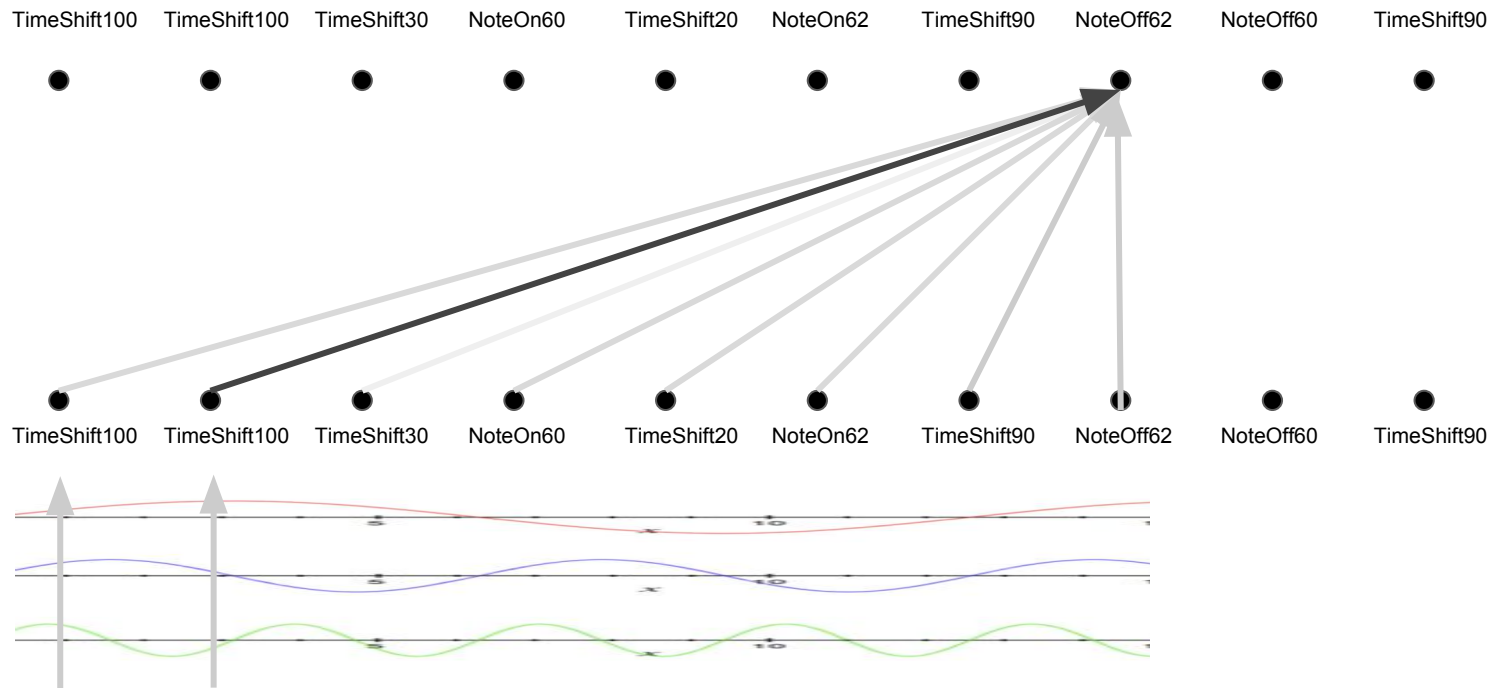




Attention: a weighted average

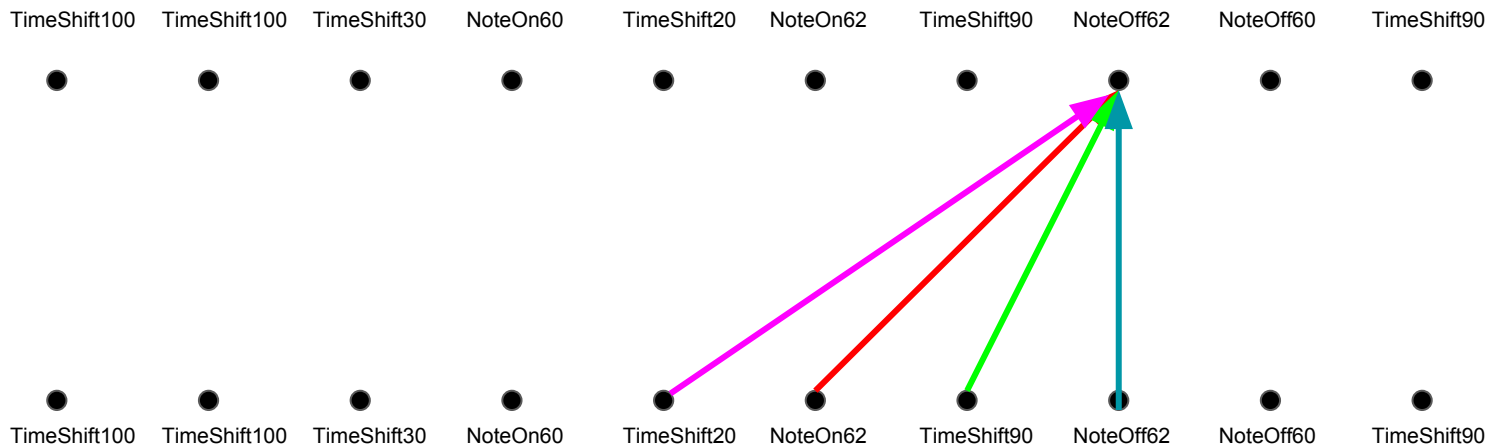


Attention: a weighted average



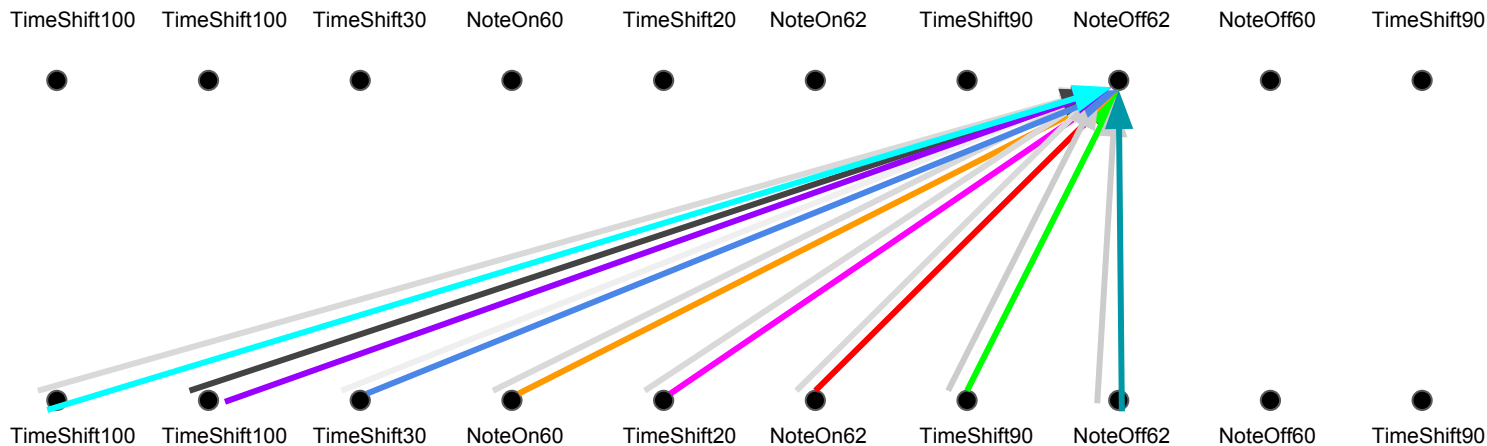
Convolution:

Different linear transformations by relative position.



Relative attention (Shaw et al, 2018)

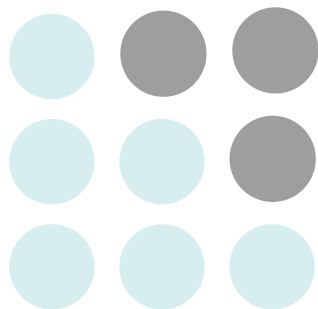
Multihead attention + convolution?



Closer look at attention

Regular Transformer

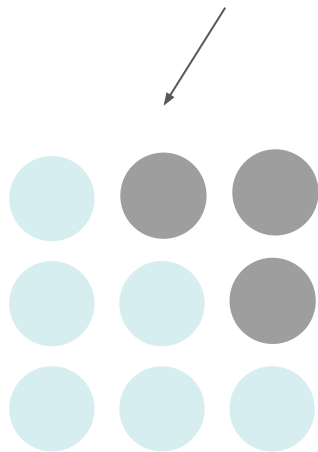
$$\textit{softmax}(QK^{\top})$$



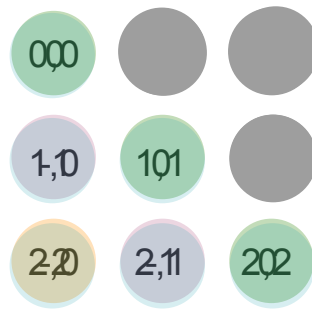
Closer look at relative attention

Regular Transformer + Relative Attention

$$\text{softmax}(QK^{\top} + Qf(E_{rel}))$$



Modulated by
relative positions



Machine Translation (Shaw et al, 2018)

Model	Position Representation	BLEU En-De	BLEU En-Fr
Transformer Big	Absolute	27.9	41.3
Transformer Big	Relative	29.2	41.5

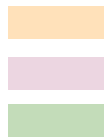
- Transformer
sequence
(50~100 words)
2000 time - steps
range가 2000
tokens

Previous work $O(L^2D)$: **8.5 GB** per layer (Shaw et al, 2018)

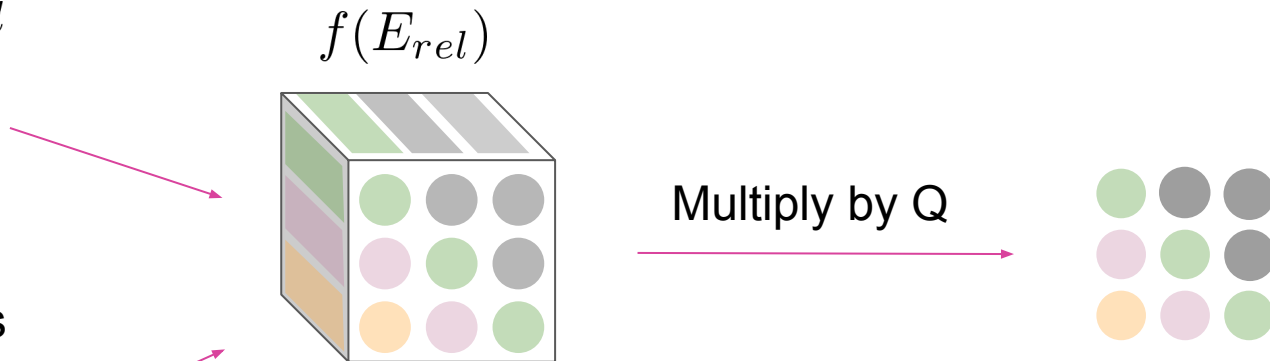
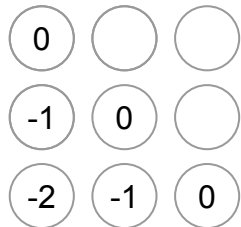
Per layer, $L=2048$, $D=512$

$$\text{softmax}(QK^T + Qf(E_{rel}))$$

Relative
embeddings E_{rel}



Relative distances



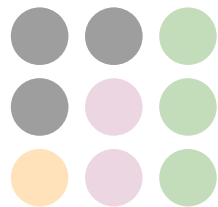
Our formulation $O(LD)$: **4.2 MB** per layer

$$\text{softmax}(QK^{\top} + \text{skew}(QE_{rel}^{\top}))$$

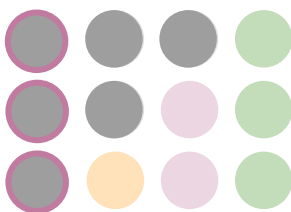
Per layer, $L=2048$, $D=512$

Absolute by relative

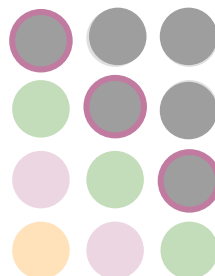
QE^{\top}



Pad



Reshape

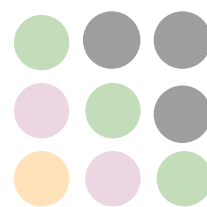


Skew

Slice



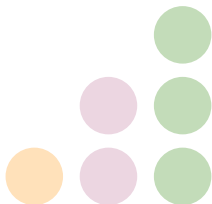
Absolute by absolute



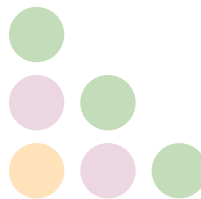
Goal of skewing procedure

Indexed by

absolute by relative



absolute by absolute



Skewing to reduce relative memory from $O(L^2D)$ to $O(LD)$

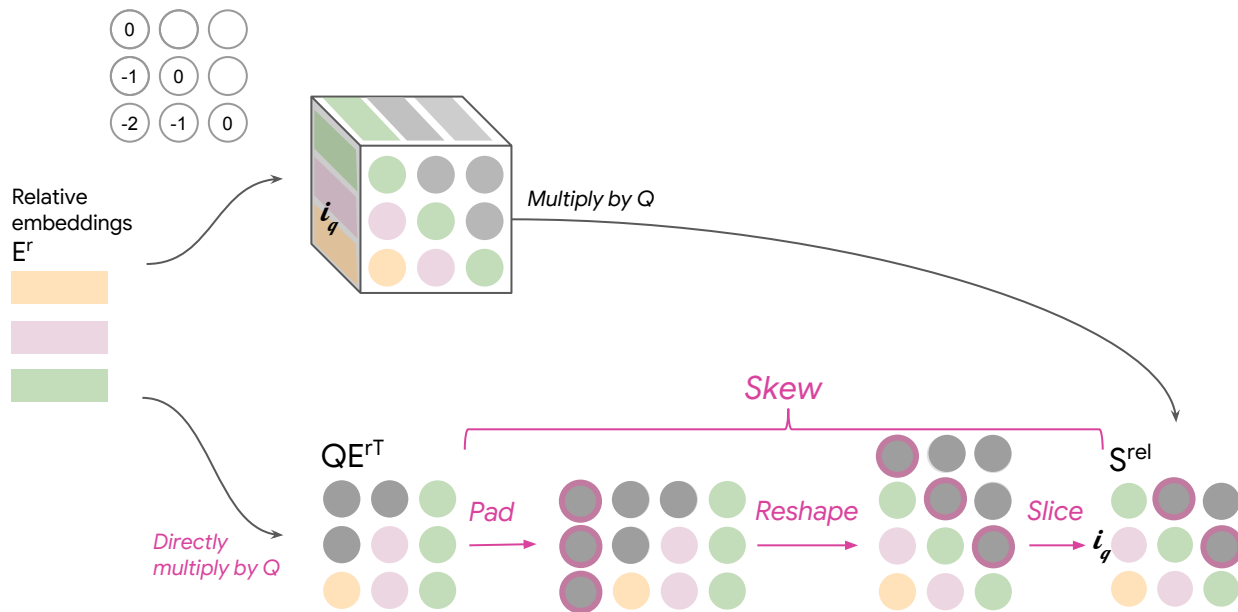
Per layer, $L=2048$, $D=512$

Previous work

$O(L^2D)$: **8.5 GB**

Our work

$O(LD)$: **4.2 MB**

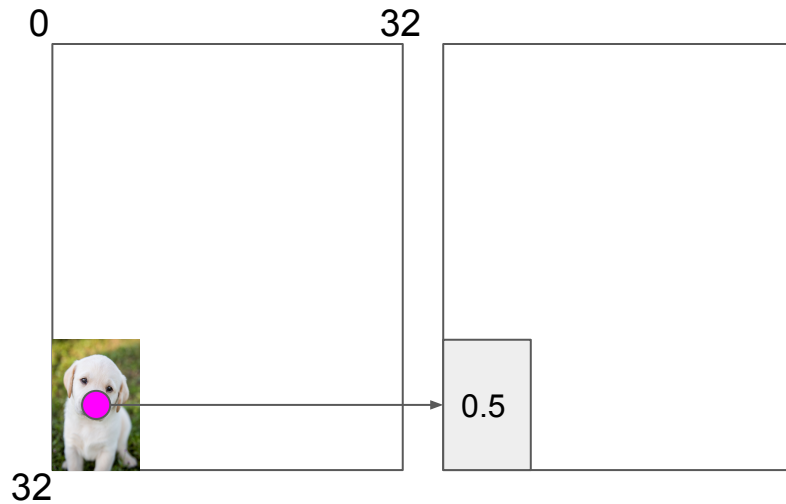
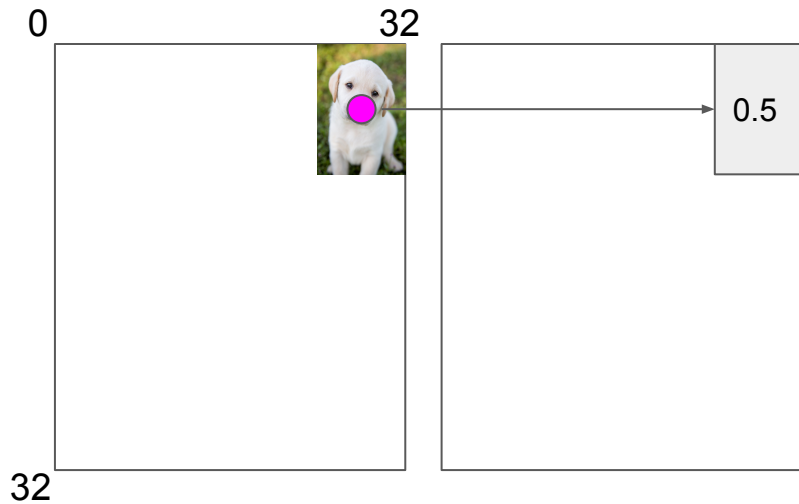


A Jazz sample from Music Transformer

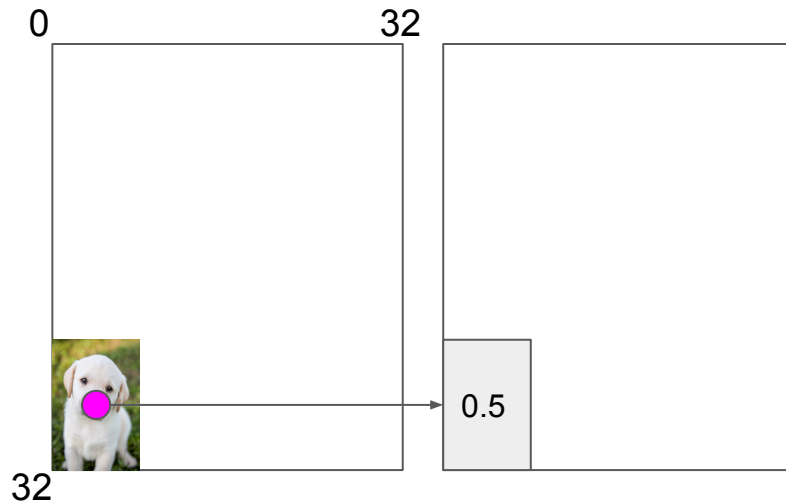
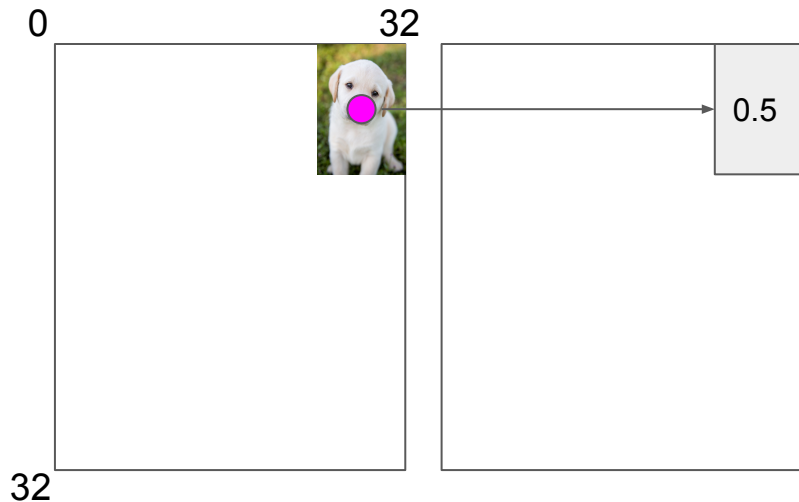
A Jazz sample from Music Transformer



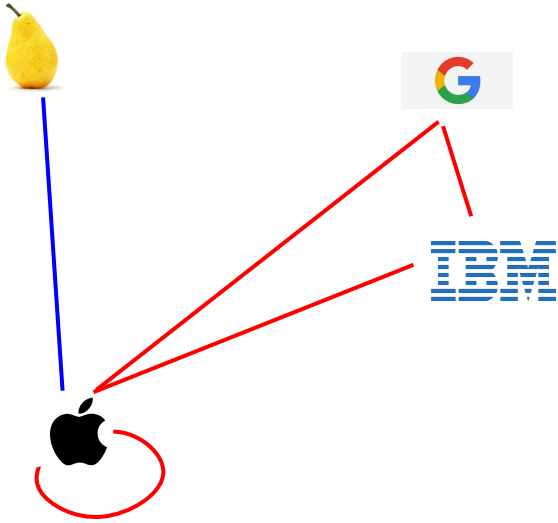
Convolutions and Translational Equivariance



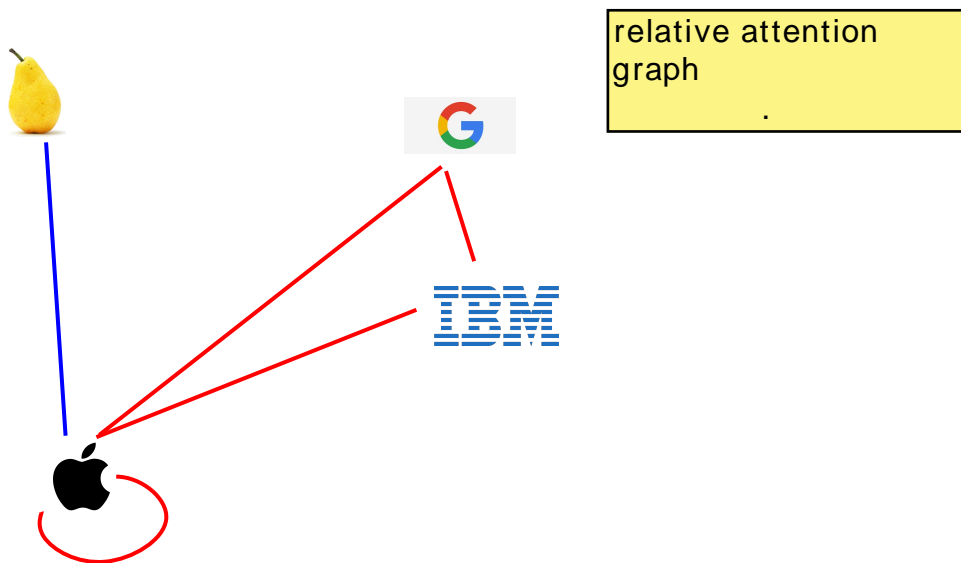
Relative positions Translational Equivariance



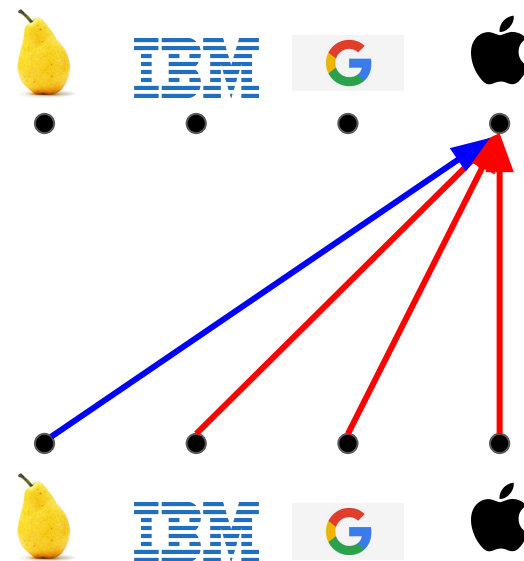
Relative Attention And Graphs



Relative Attention And Graphs

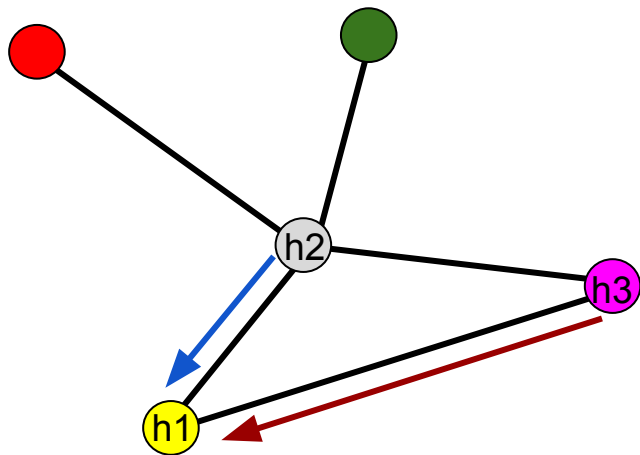


Relational inductive biases, deep learning, and graph networks. (Battaglia et al., 2018)



Self-Attention With Relative Position Representations (Shaw et al., 2018)

Message Passing Neural Networks



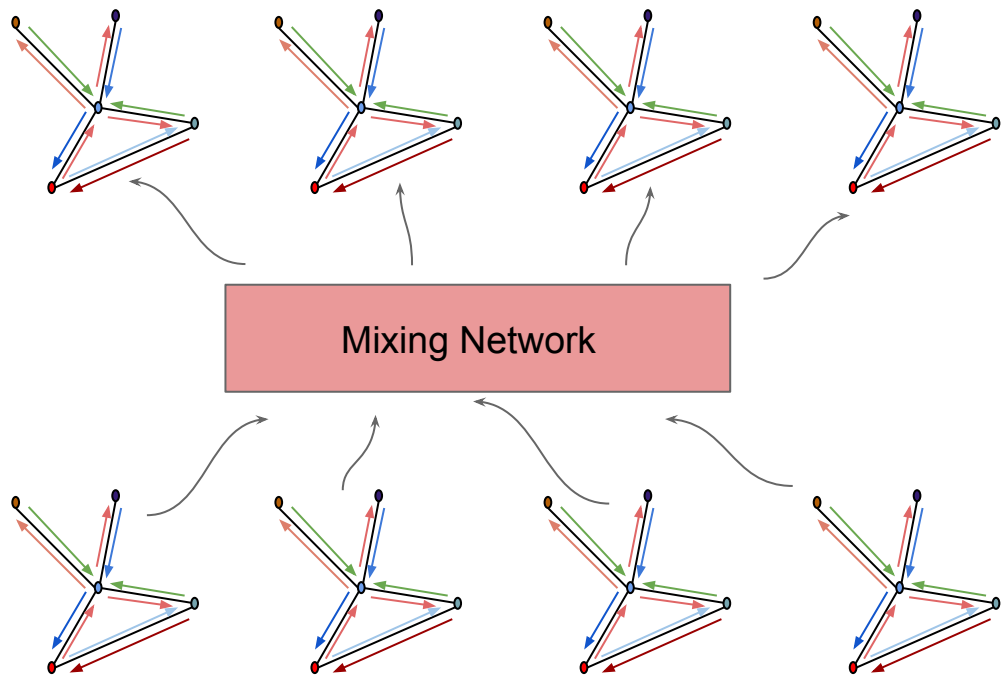
$$m_v^{t+1} = \sum_{w \in N(v)} M_t(h_v^t, h_w^t, e_{vw})$$

$$h_v^{t+1} = U_t(h_v^t, m_v^{t+1})$$

$$\hat{y} = R(\{h_v^T | v \in G\})$$

Neural Message Passing For Quantum
Chemistry. Gilmer et al. ICML 2017

Multiple Towers



- Run k smaller copies of the MPNN in parallel.
- Mix node states after each message pass.
- Offers a factor of k speedup for the same node dimension d ($> 2\times$ speedup when $d=200$).
- Also helped improve performance when used with matrix multiply message function.

Graph Library

[Code](#)

With Justin Gilmer, Jonathan Frankle, and David Bieber

Self-Attention



Constant 'path length' between any two positions.

Unbounded memory.

Trivial to parallelize (per layer).

Models Self-Similarity.

Relative attention provides expressive timing, equivariance, and extends naturally to graphs.

Active Research Area

Non autoregressive transformer (Gu and Bradbury et al., 2018)

Deterministic Non-Autoregressive Neural Sequence Modeling by Iterative Refinement
(Lee, Manismov, and Cho, 2018)

Fast Decoding in Sequence Models Using Discrete Latent Variables (ICML 2018)
Kaiser, Roy, Vaswani, Pamar, Bengio, Uszkoreit, Shazeer

Towards a Better Understanding of Vector Quantized Autoencoders
Roy, Vaswani, Parmar, Neelakantan, 2018

Blockwise Parallel Decoding For Deep Autogressive Models (NeurIPS 2019)
Stern, Shazeer, Uszkoreit,

Transfer learning

Improving Language Understanding by Generative Pre-Training (Radford, Narsimhan, Salimans, and Sutskever)

BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language Understanding (Devlin, Chang, Lee, and Toutanova)

Optimization and Large Models

Adafactor: Adaptive Learning Rates with Sublinear Memory Cost (ICML 2018).
Shazeer, Stern.

Memory-Efficient Adaptive Optimization for Large-Scale Learning (2019). Anil,
Gupta, Koren, Singer.

Mesh-TensorFlow: Deep Learning for Supercomputers (NeurIPS 2019).
Shazeer, Cheng, Parmar, Tran, Vaswani, Koanantakool, Hawkins, Lee, Hong,
Young, Sepassi, Hechtman) [Code](#) (5 billion parameters)

Self-attention in Other Work.

Generating Wikipedia by Summarizing Long sequences. (ICLR 2018). Liu, Saleh, Pot, Goodrich, Sepassi, Shazeer, Kaiser.

Universal Transformers (ICLR 2019). Deghiani*, Gouws*, Vinyals, Uszkoreit, Kaiser.

Transformer-XL: Attentive Language Models Beyond a Fixed-Length Context (2019). Dai, Yang, Yang, Carbonell, Le, Salakhutdinov.

A Time-Restricted Self-Attention Layer for ASR (ICASSP 2018). Povey, Hadian, Gharemani, Li, Khudanpur.

Character-Level Language Modeling with Deeper Self-Attention (2018). Roufou*, Choe*, Guo*, Constant*, Jones*

Ongoing and Future Work

Ongoing

Self-supervision and classification for images and video

Understanding Transfer

Future

Multitask learning

Long-range attention