



# **Workshop: GenAI and LLM, searching data in natural language**

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# Agenda

- Brief intro to Artificial Intelligence
- Machine Learning and Neural Networks
- Large Language Model (LLM)
- Transformers architecture
- Top-k and temperature
- Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG)
- Embedding and Vector Search
- Lab: LangChain, Llama 3.2, Elasticsearch



Image generated using dall-e-3

# Artificial intelligence

- Many definitions have been proposed:
  - The ability of a digital computer to perform tasks commonly associated with intelligent beings
  - The theory and development of computer systems able to perform tasks normally requiring human intelligence, such as visual perception, speech recognition, decision-making, and translation between languages
  - An umbrella term for a range of algorithm-based technologies that solve complex tasks by carrying out functions that previously required human thinking

# AI examples

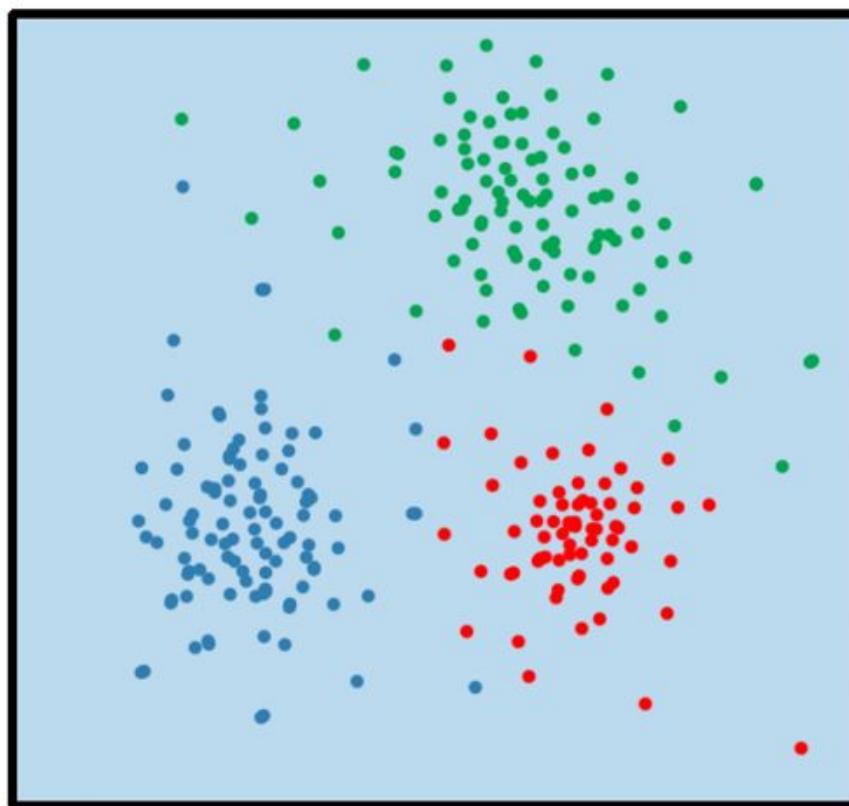
- February 10, 1996, [Deep Blue](#) beat Garry Kasparov in the first game of a six-game match—the first time a computer had ever beat a human in a formal chess game
- March 15, 2016, [AlphaGo](#) beat Lee Sedol 4-1 in a formal Go game
- June 2020, [Google's DeepMind A.I.](#) beats doctors in breast cancer screening trial
- June 2022, the Google [LaMDA](#) (Language Model for Dialog Applications) chatbot apparently passed the **Turing Test**. Many experts in the field, pointing out that a language model appearing to mimic human conversation does not indicate that any intelligence is present

# Machine learning

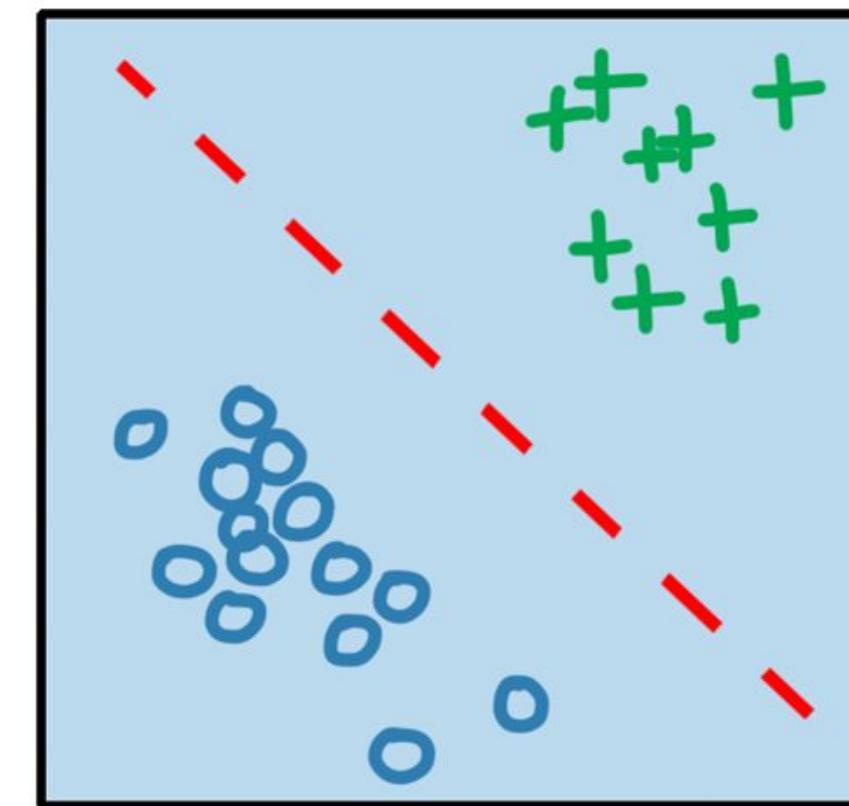
- **Machine Learning (ML)** is the use and development of computer systems that are able to **learn** and **adapt** without following explicit instructions, by using algorithms and **statistical models** to analyse and draw inferences from patterns in data
- We can have 3 types of ML:
  - **Supervised learning:** use of labeled datasets to train algorithms that to classify data or predict outcomes (eg. image and speech recognition, recommendation systems, fraud detection)
  - **Unsupervised learning:** algorithms learn patterns exclusively from unlabeled data (eg. clustering, anomaly detection, preparing data for supervised learning)
  - **Reinforcement learning:** training method based on rewarding desired behaviors and punishing undesired ones

# machine learning

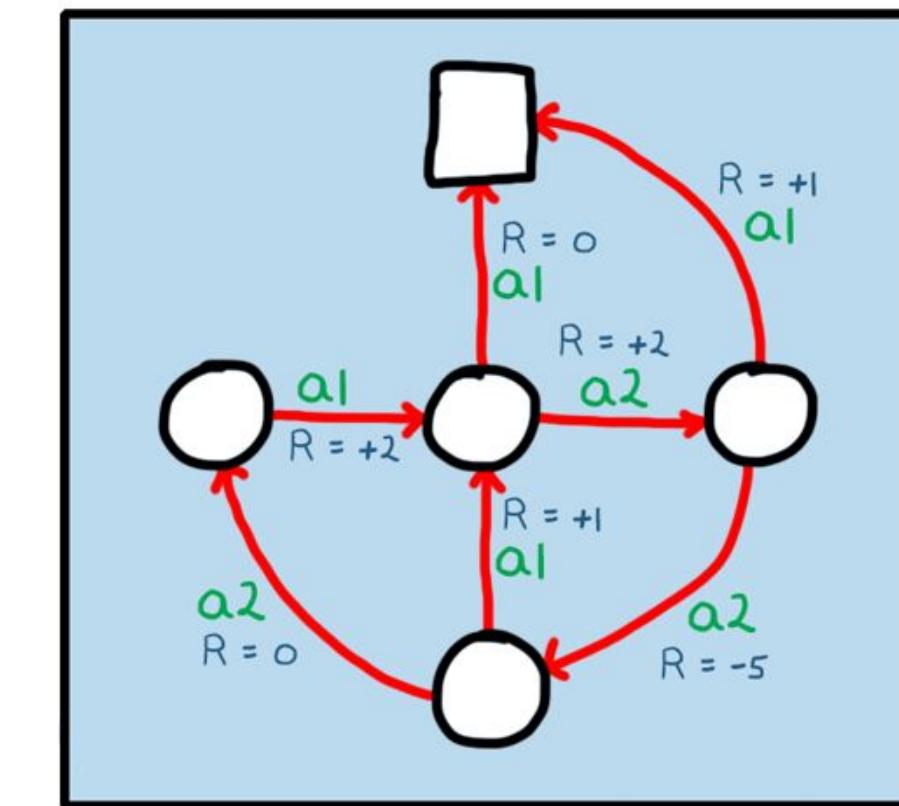
unsupervised  
learning



supervised  
learning

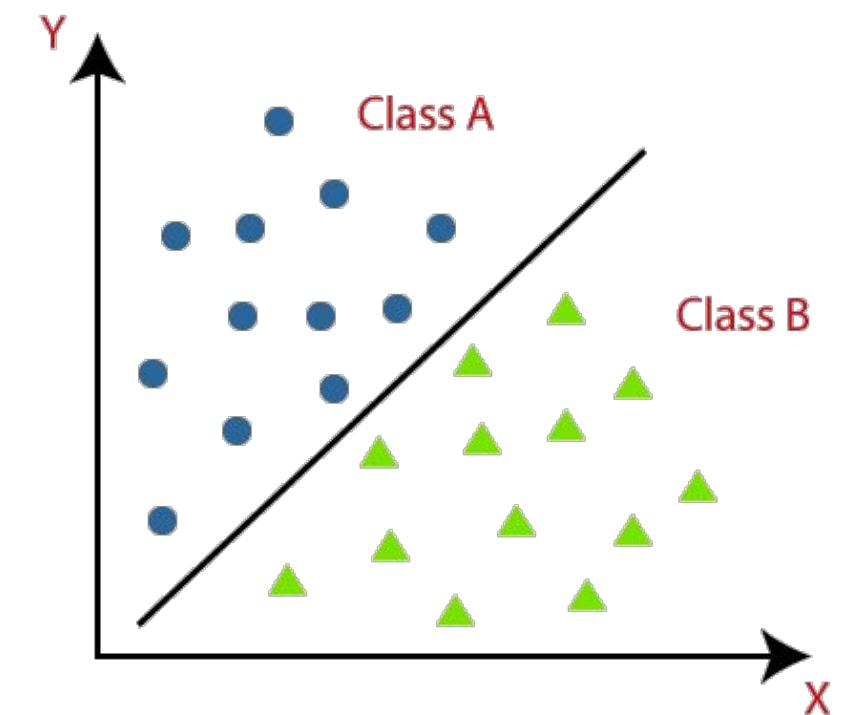
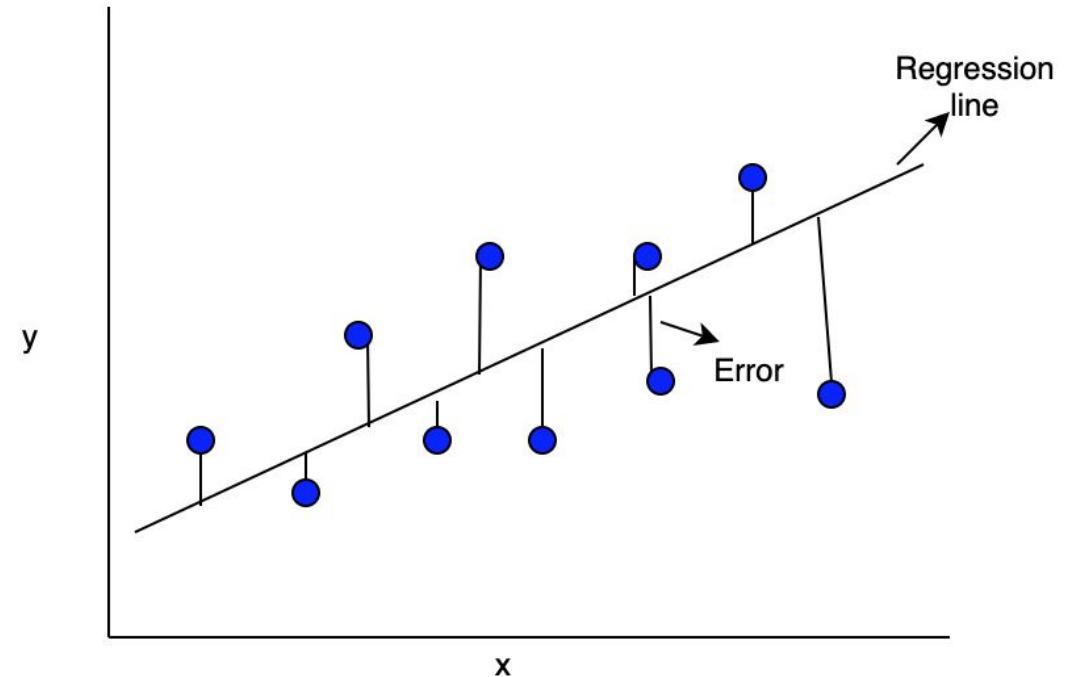


reinforcement  
learning



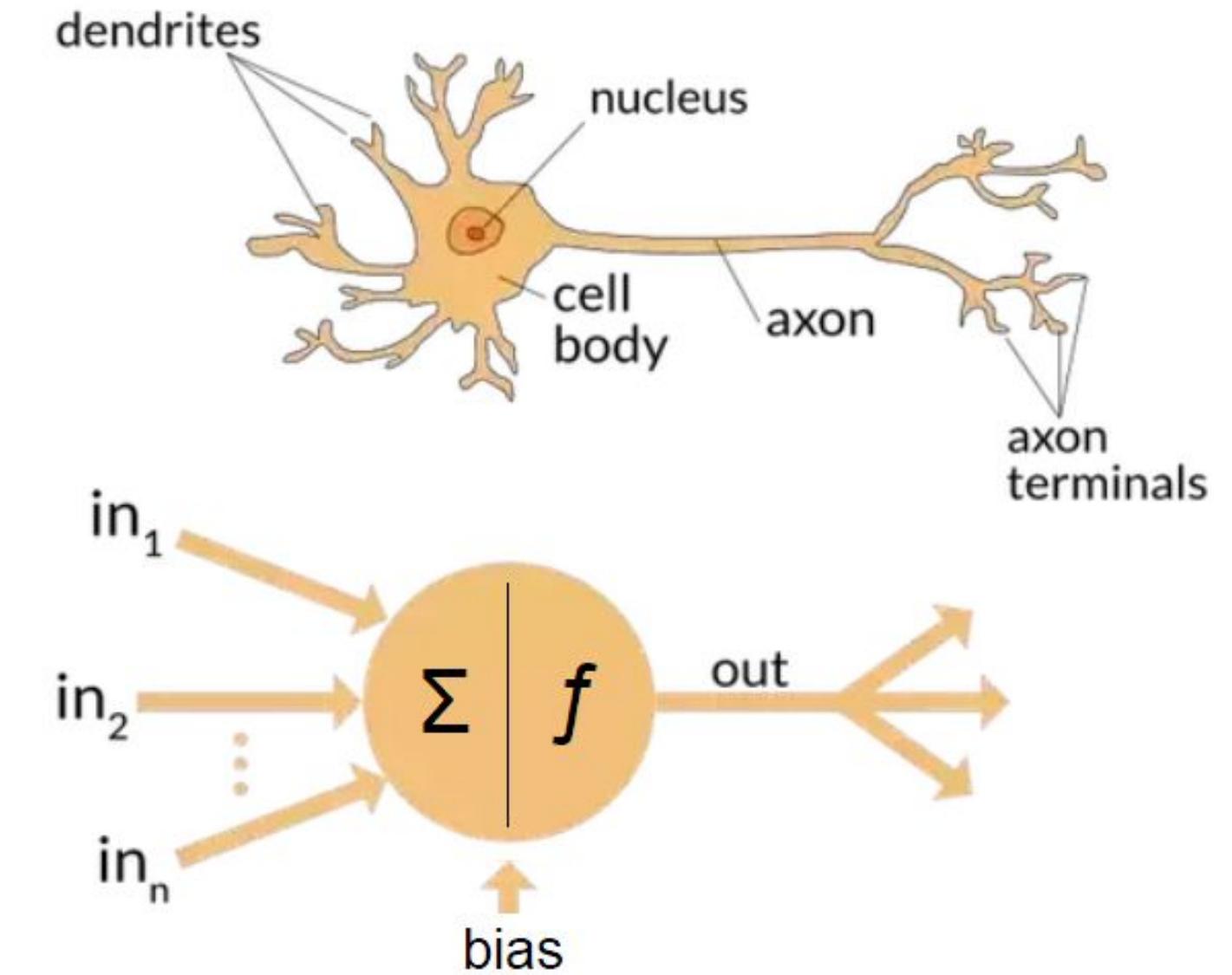
# Classification and regression

- In the supervised learning we have two types of classifications:
  - **Regression**, when the target variable is continuous. Example: predict the salary of a person based on education degree, work experience and geo location
  - **Classification**, when the target variable is discrete. Example: sentiment analysis of a piece of text (e.g. comments of a product)



# Neural Network

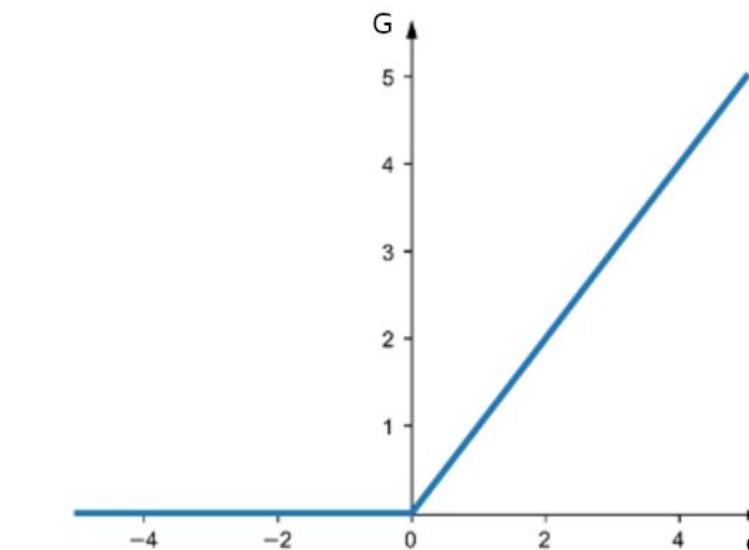
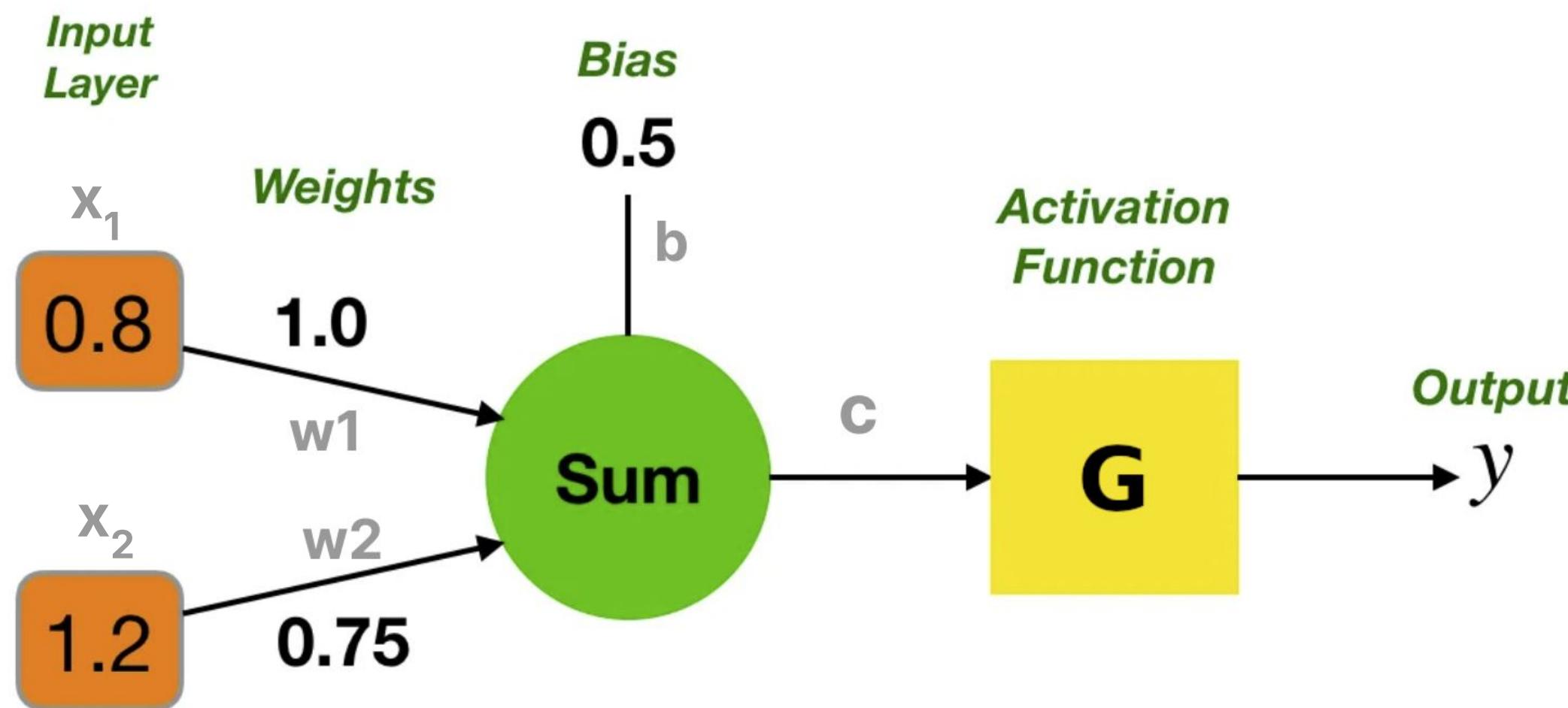
- A **neural network** is a method in artificial intelligence that teaches computers to process data in a way that is inspired by the human brain
- Collection of **nodes** (artificial neurons) with inputs and outputs. A neuron computes some non-linear function of the sum of its inputs
- The nodes are collected in **layers**
- If the number of layers is greater than 3 we say **deep learning network**



# Single layer neuron

Example: ReLU activation

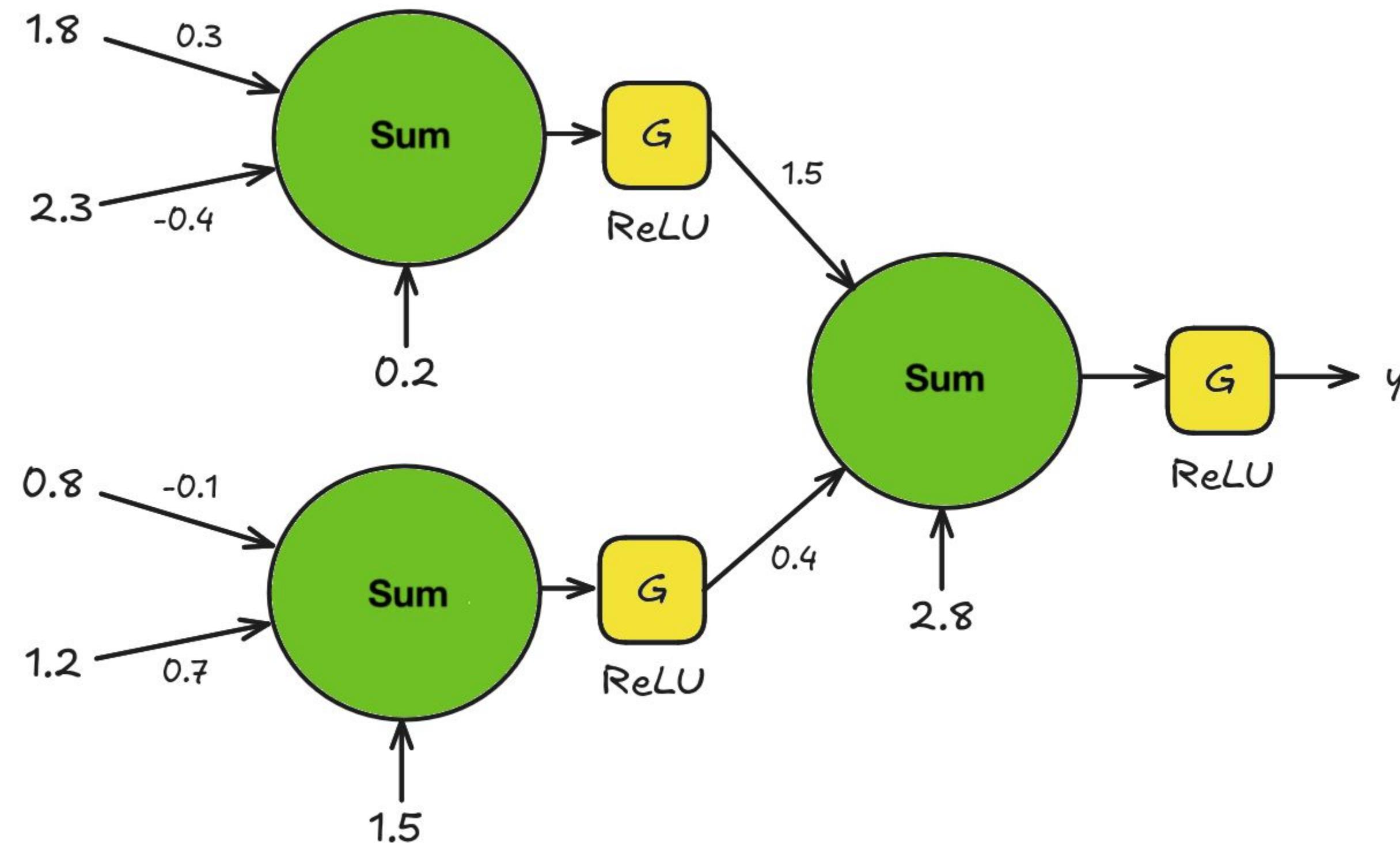
$$G(c) = \begin{cases} c & ? \\ c & : \\ 0 & \end{cases}$$



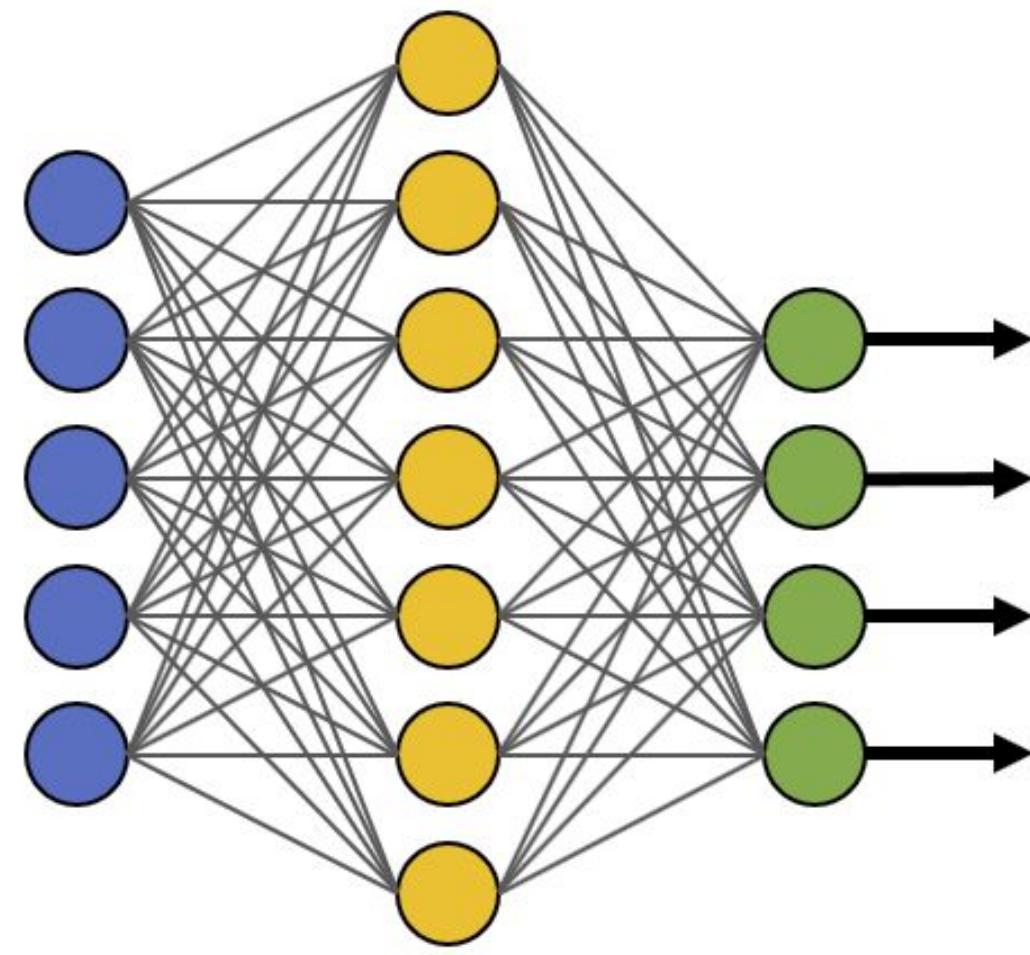
$$\begin{aligned} c &= x_1 * w_1 + x_2 * w_2 + b \\ &= 0.8 * 1.0 + 1.2 * 0.75 + 0.5 \\ &= 2.2 \end{aligned}$$

$$y = G(c) = G(2.2) = 2.2$$

# Exercise: what is the value of y?

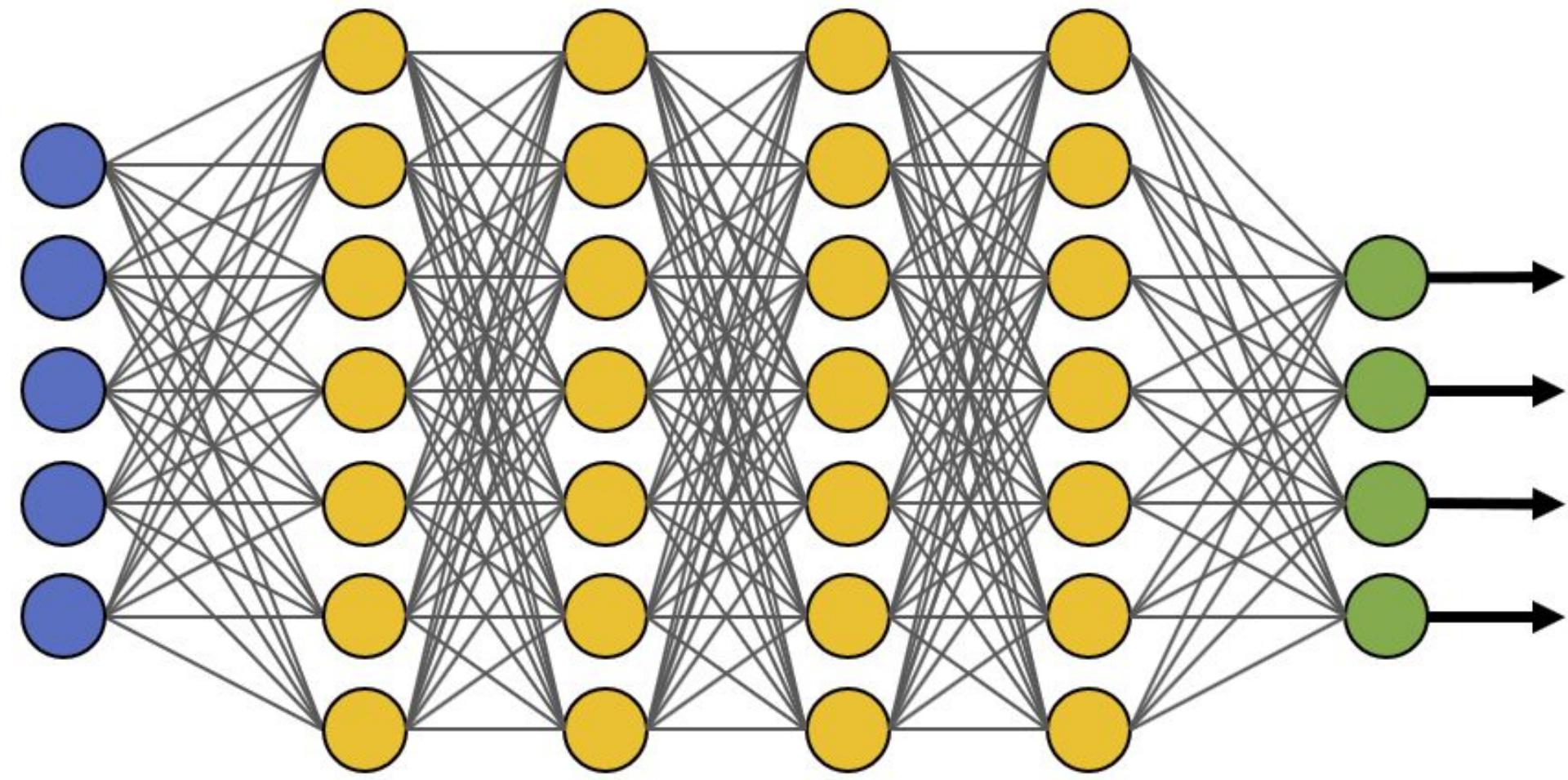


## Simple Neural Network



Input Layer

## Deep Learning Neural Network



Hidden Layer

Output Layer

# Generative AI

- **Generative Artificial Intelligence** (GenAI) is artificial intelligence capable of generating text, images, or other media, using generative models
- GenAI models **learn the patterns and structure** of their input training data and then generate new data that has **similar characteristics**
- It's used in many industries, including art, writing, script writing, software development, product design, healthcare, finance, gaming, marketing, and fashion
- The [GenAI market size](#) has been valued at \$36 billion in 2024, and is projected to reach \$191.8 billion by 2032

# Examples



## Prompt for GPT-4o

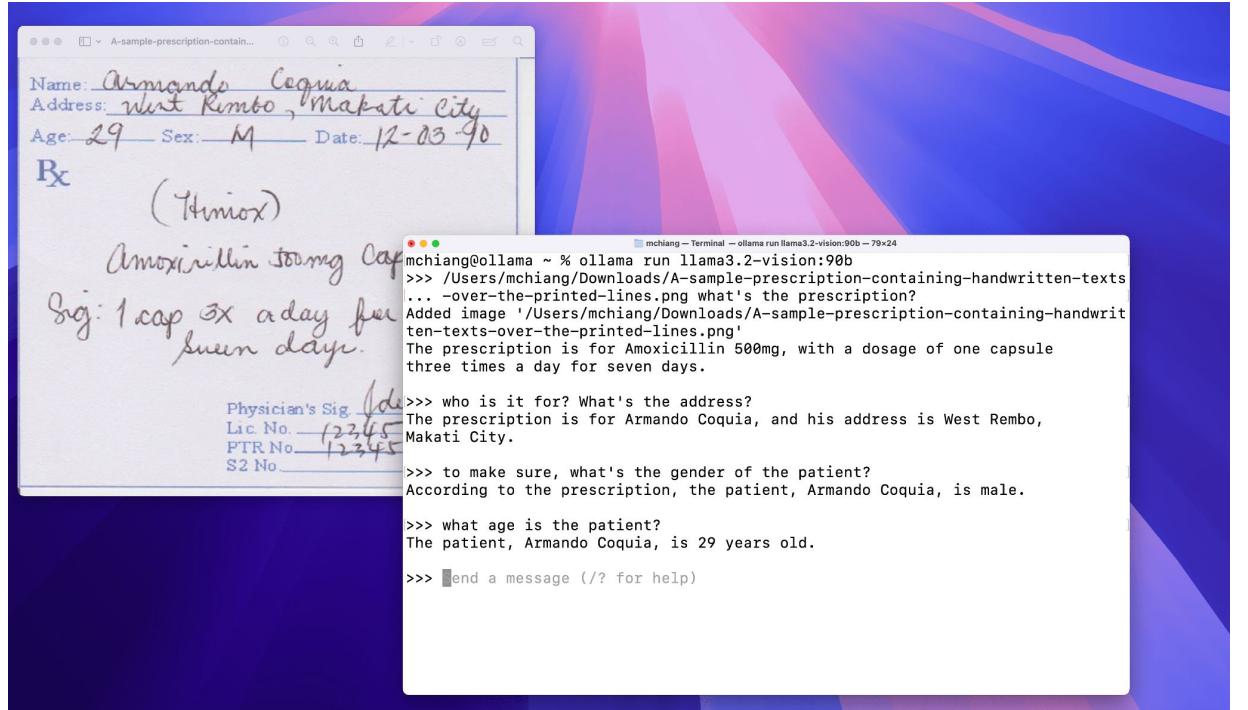
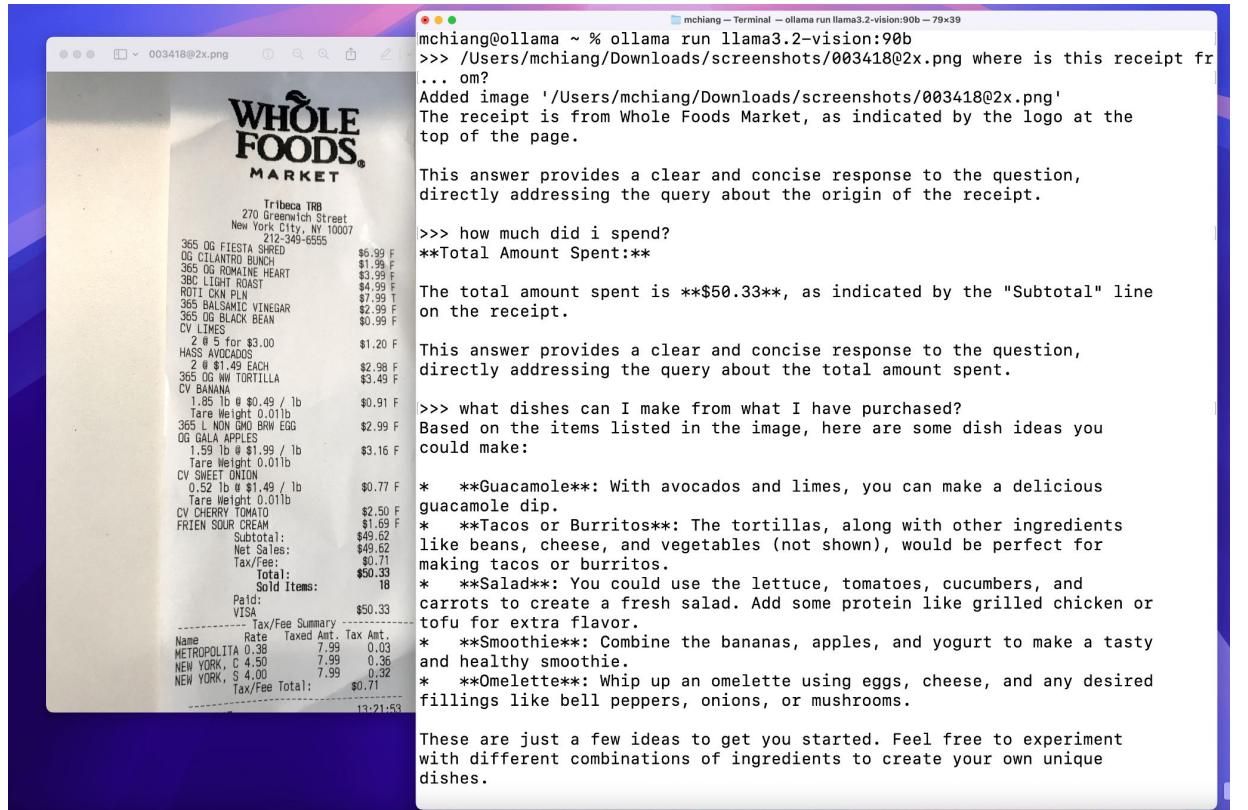
Create a picture of an astronaut  
programming a computer on the  
Moon

Audio file generated using tts-1



# Llama3.2-vision

- A multimodal small (11B) and medium-sized (90B) vision LLM by Meta
- Support image reasoning, such as document-level understanding including charts and graphs, captioning of images, and more
- Released Sept. 25, 2024
- A quick [DEMO](#) using ollama



# AI ⊃ ML ⊃ DL ⊃ GenAI

## Artificial Intelligence

The ability of a machine to show human ability like reasoning, learning, such as creativity.



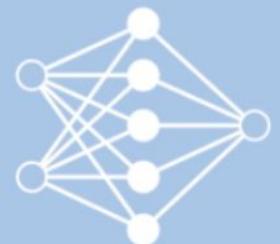
## Machine Learning

The set of algorithms that make intelligent machines capable of improving with time and experience.



## Deep Learning

A type of ML based on *deep* neural networks made of multiple layers of processing.



## Generative AI



# State of AI 2024

- [stateof.ai](#) is a very good report about AI in Research, Industry, Politics, Safety and Predictions

**STATE OF AI REPORT.**  
October 10, 2024  
Nathan Benaich  
AIR STREET CAPITAL.  
stateof.ai

airstreet.com

**Introduction | Research | Industry | Politics | Safety | Predictions** #stateofai | 10

Our 2023 Prediction	Evidence
YES	Largely badly, but GenAI AI visual effects have been seen in Netflix and HBO productions.
~	Not yet, but there's still time.
NO	Not yet, despite promising work on open-endedness, including strong game performance.
~	While the Magnificent Seven have enjoyed strong gains, private companies are hanging on until markets settle. However, AI chip company Cerebras has fled to IPO.
NO	Not quite yet - let's give it another year.
YES	Both regulators are investigating this partnership.
YES	The commitments from Bletchley and Seoul summits remain voluntary and high-level.
NO	Some VC funds are rumored to be offering GPUs for equity, but we're yet to see anyone go down the debt route.
YES	It turns out this had already happened last year with "Heart on My Sleeve", but we've also seen an AI-generated song reach #27 in Germany and spend several days in the Top 50.
YES	Sam Altman is reportedly raising huge sums of money to do this, while each of Google, Amazon, Meta and Microsoft continue to build and improve their owned AI silicon.

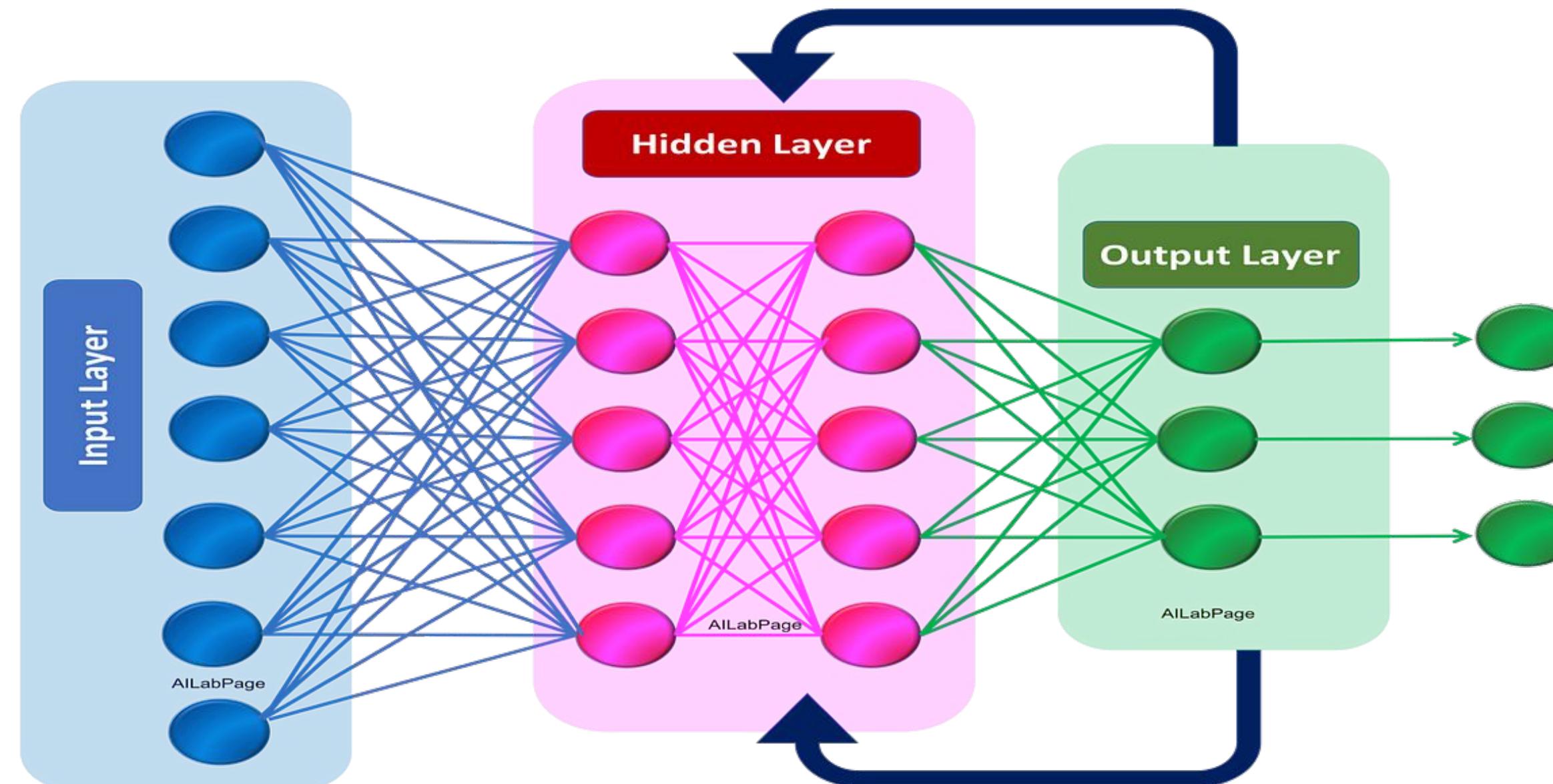
stateof.ai 2024

# Large Language Model (LLM)

# RNN, before LLM

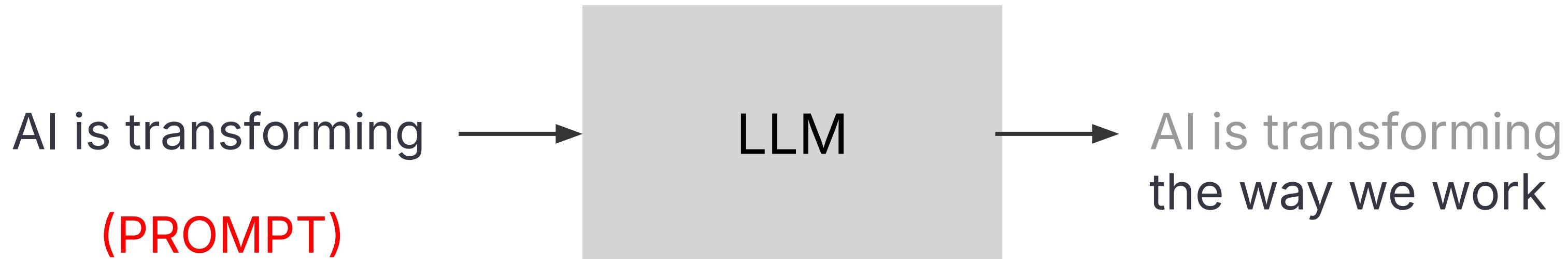
- **Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN)**
- Prediction of the next words based on the previous words
- RNN does not scale
- To complete a sentence the model needs to understand the structure of the entire sentence
- Eg. “The teacher taught the students with the book”
  - Did the teacher teach using the book?
  - Did the student have the book?
  - Or was it both?

# RNN backpropagation



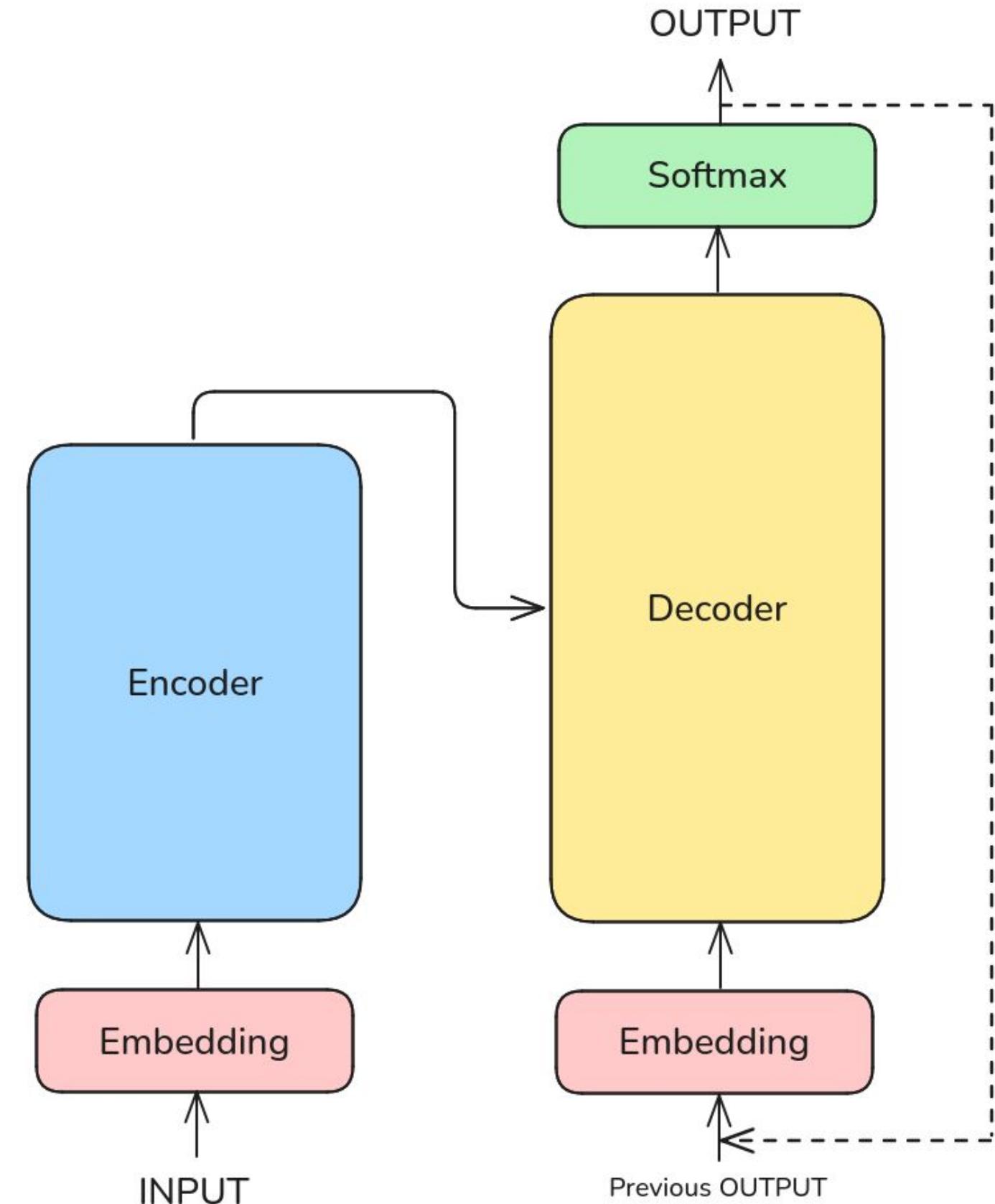
# LLM

- **Large Language Model (LLM)** are probabilistic models that produce sentence in natural language
- These models work by completing sentences



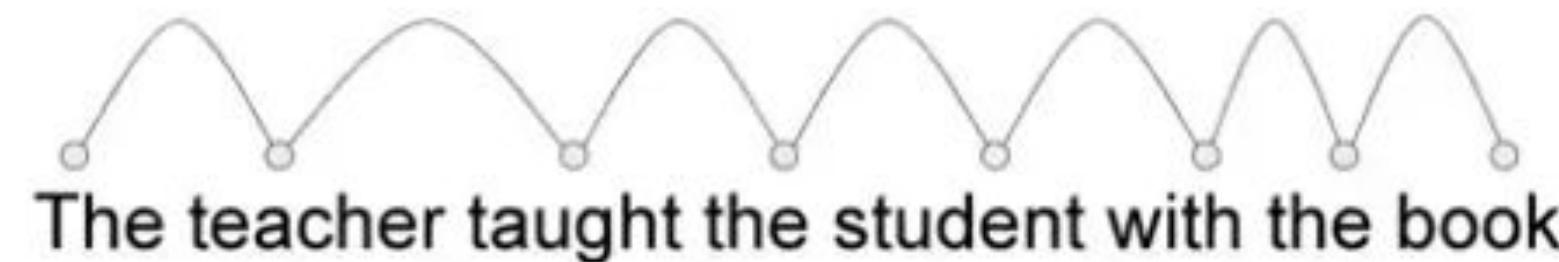
# Transformer architecture

- Introduced in [Attention is All You Need](#) paper in 2017
- Basement of all LLMs
- The sentences are analyzed using a **self-attention** mechanism: each part of a sentence is evaluated in relation to every other part to understand contextual relationships and assign appropriate weights

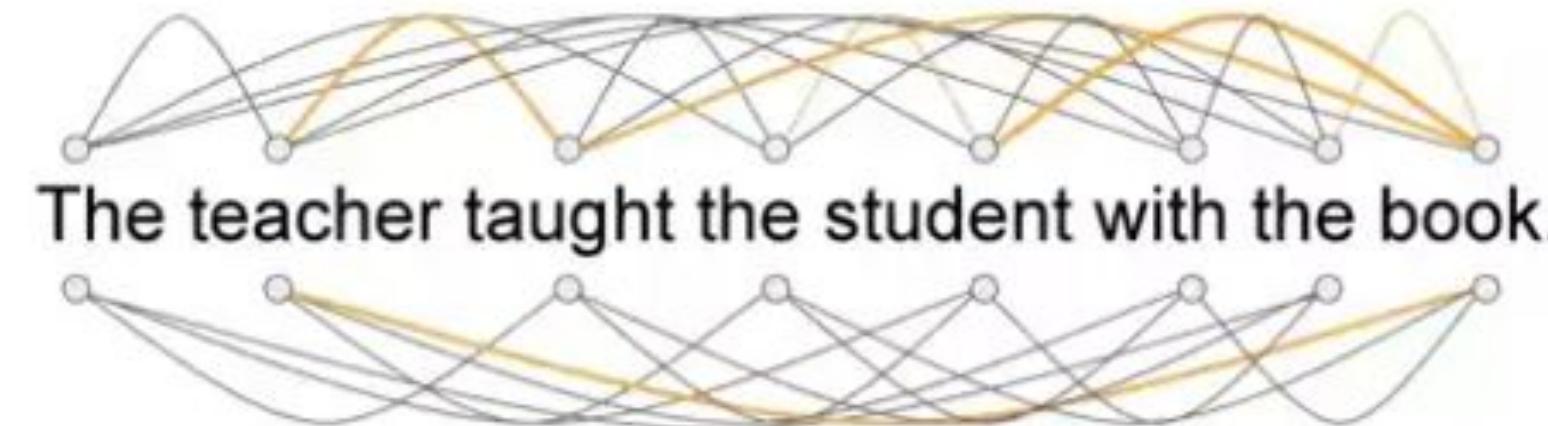


# RNN vs Transformers

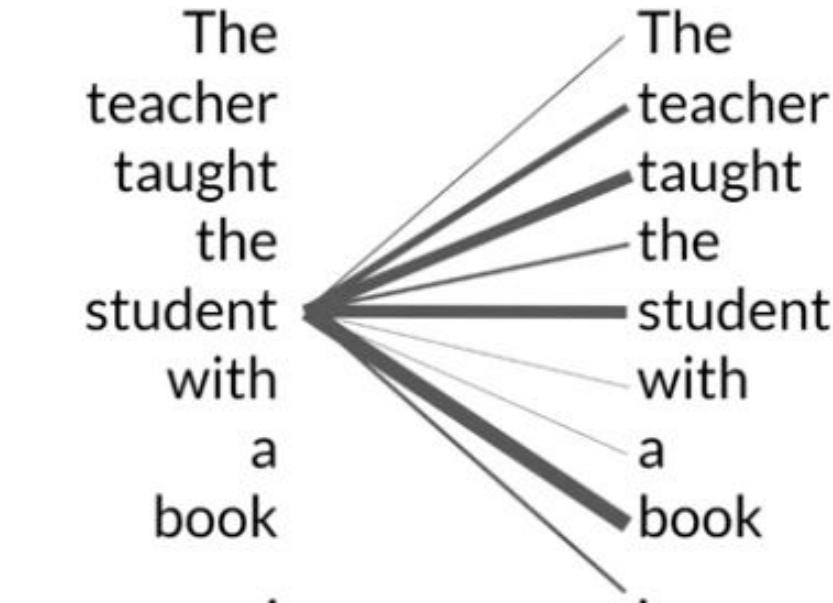
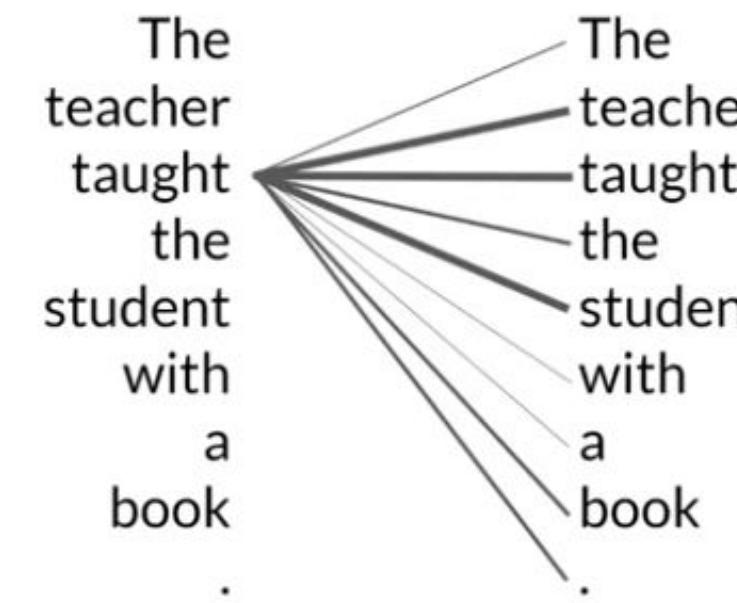
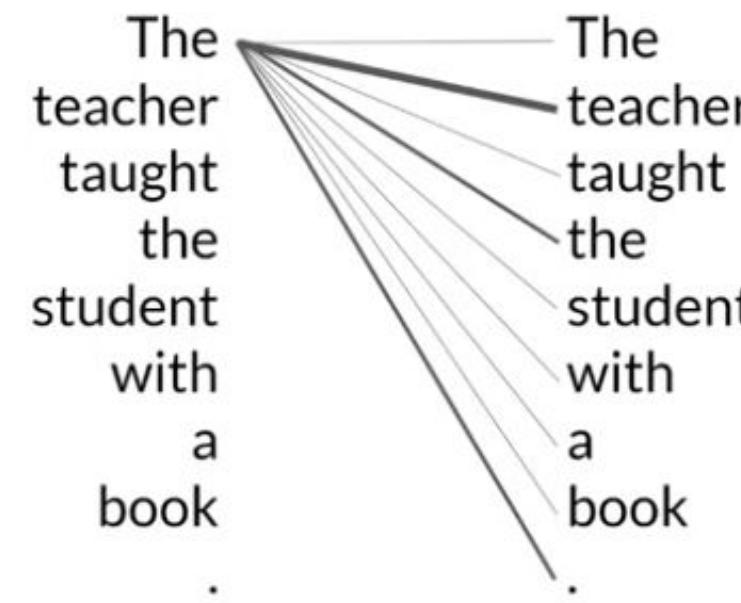
**RNN**



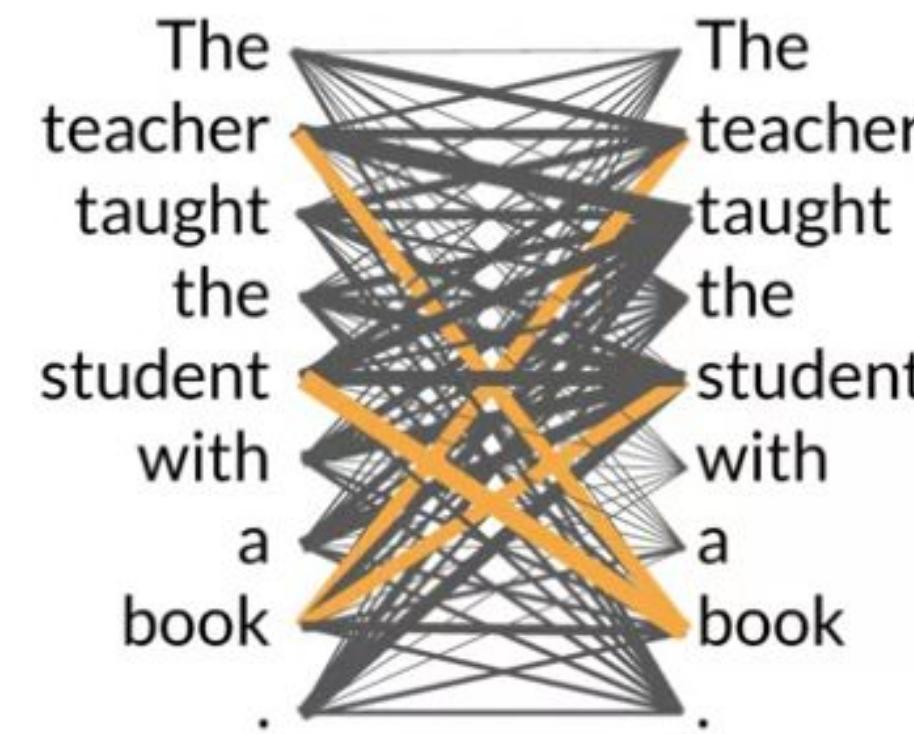
**Transformers**



# Attention map



eg. **book** is  
strongly  
connected  
with **teacher**  
and **student**



**self-attention**

# LLM

- **Large Language Model (LLM)** consisting of a neural network with many parameters (typically billions of weights or more), trained on large quantities of unlabelled text using self-supervised learning
- A message is splitted in **tokens**
- Each token is translated in a number using an operation called **embeddings**
- LLM **repeatedly predicting** the next token

# Size of GPT-4

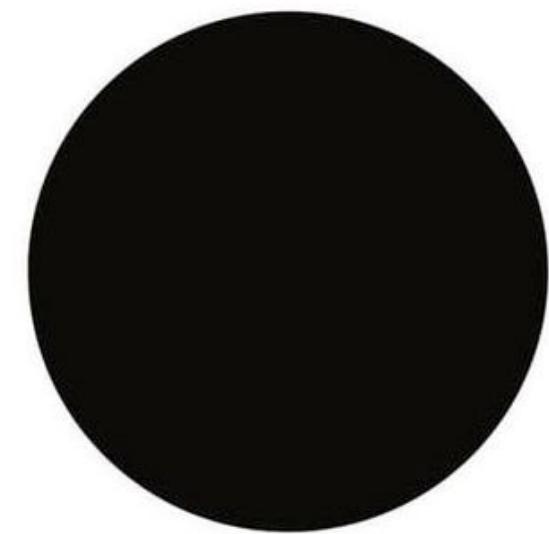
- Around **1.76 trillion** parameters
- Neural network with **120** layers
- Process up to **25,000** words at once
- Estimated training cost is \$200M using 10,000 [Nvidia A100 GPU](#) for 11 months

GPT-3



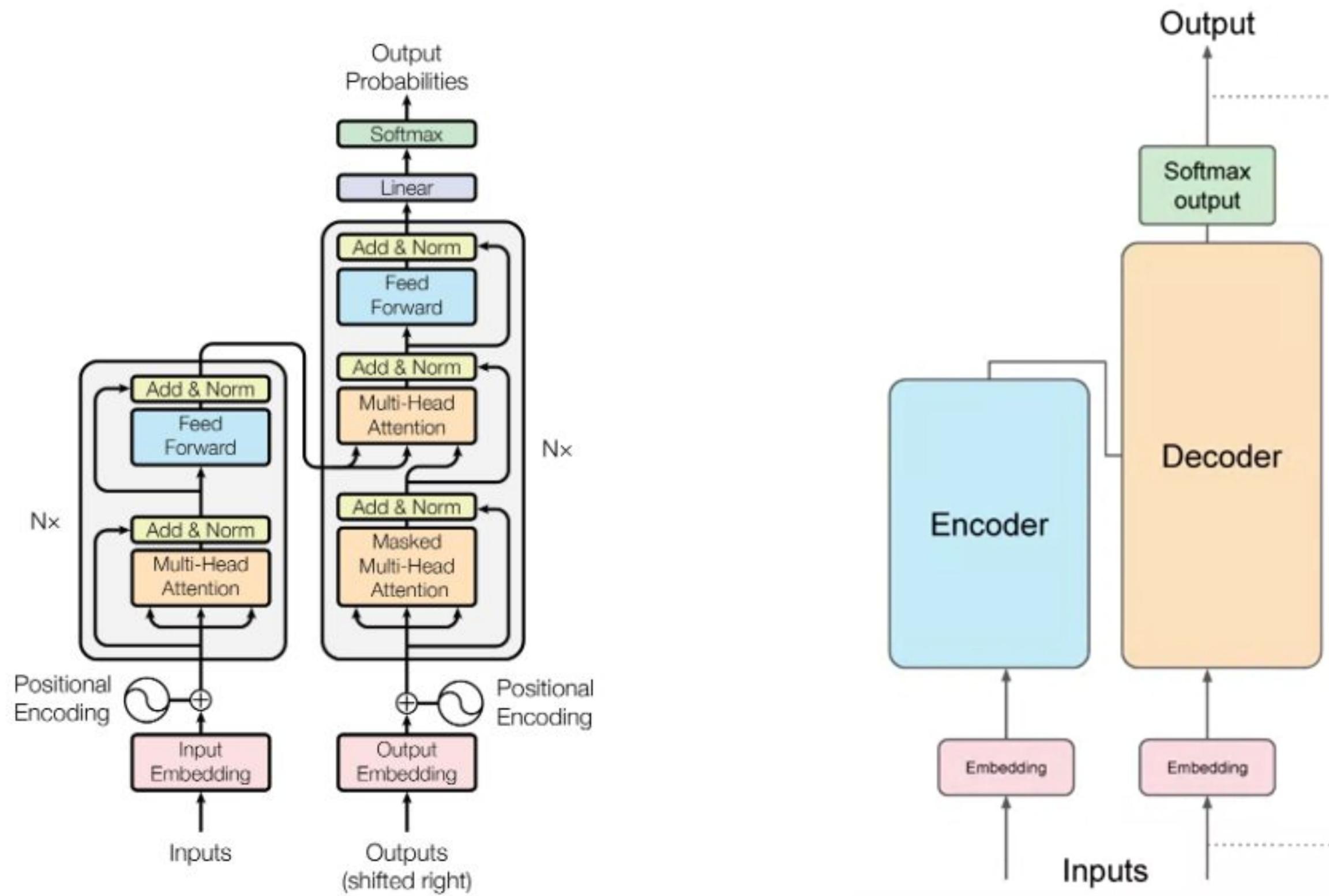
175.000.000.000

GPT-4



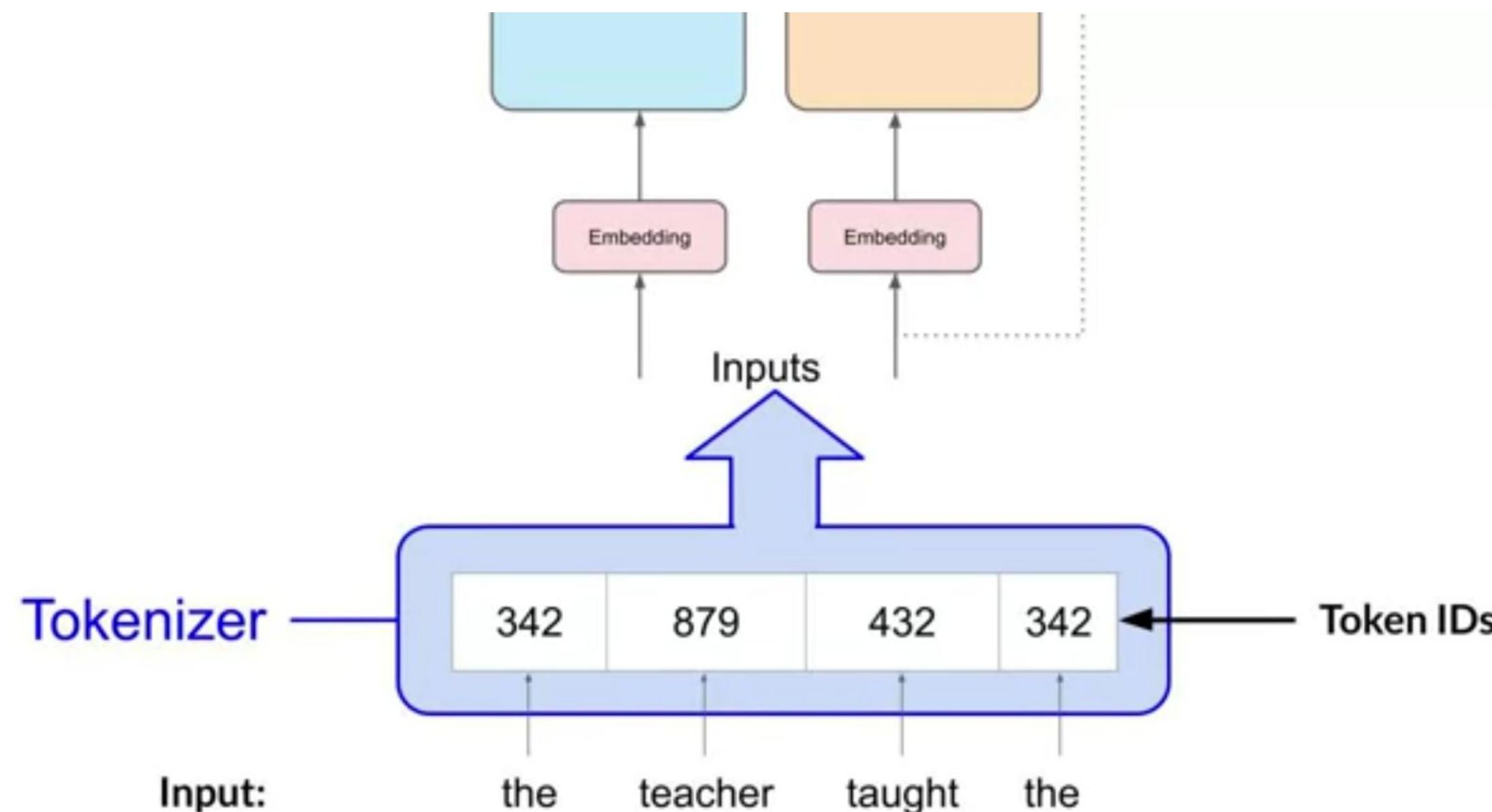
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# Transformers architecture

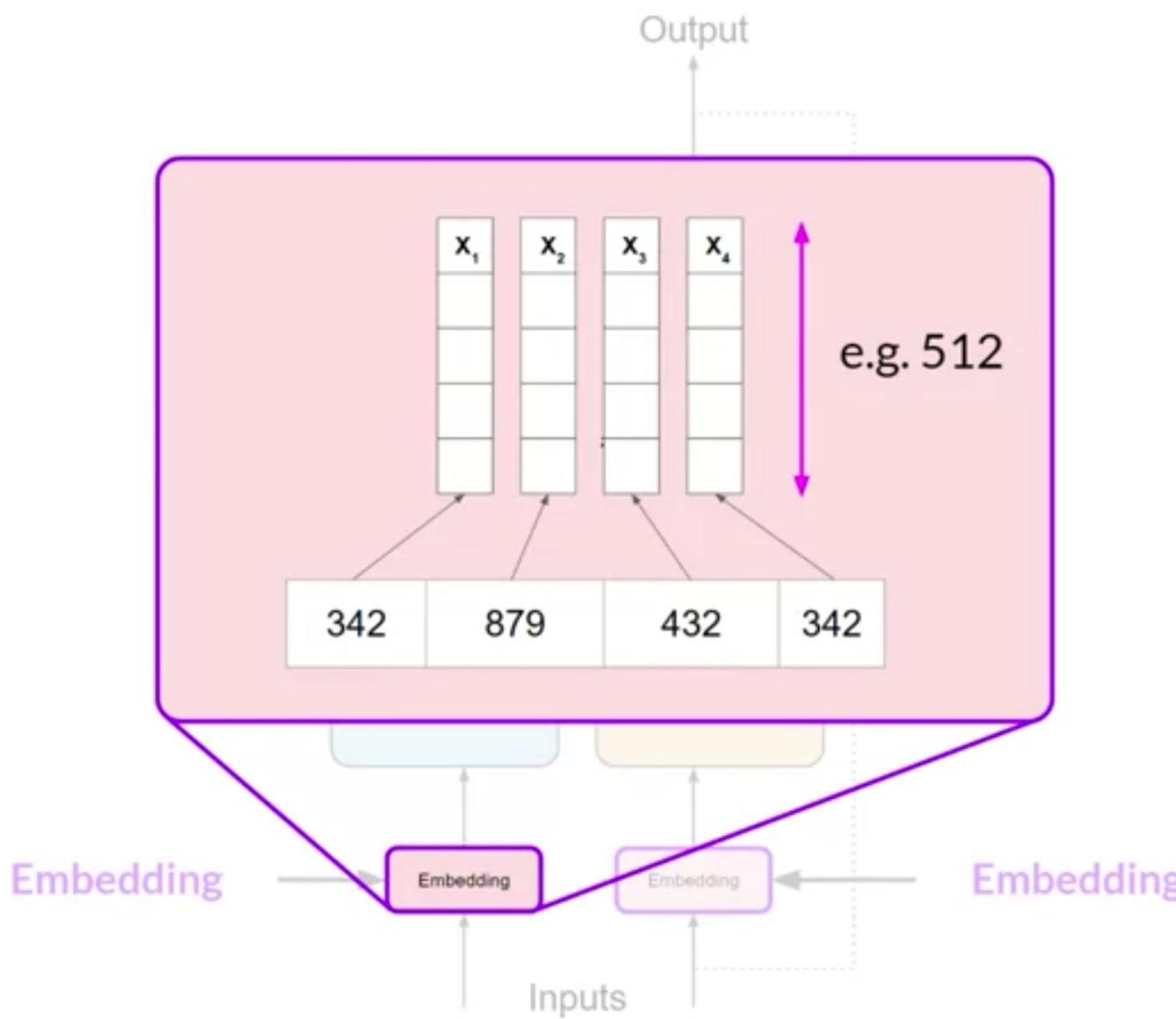


# Tokenizer

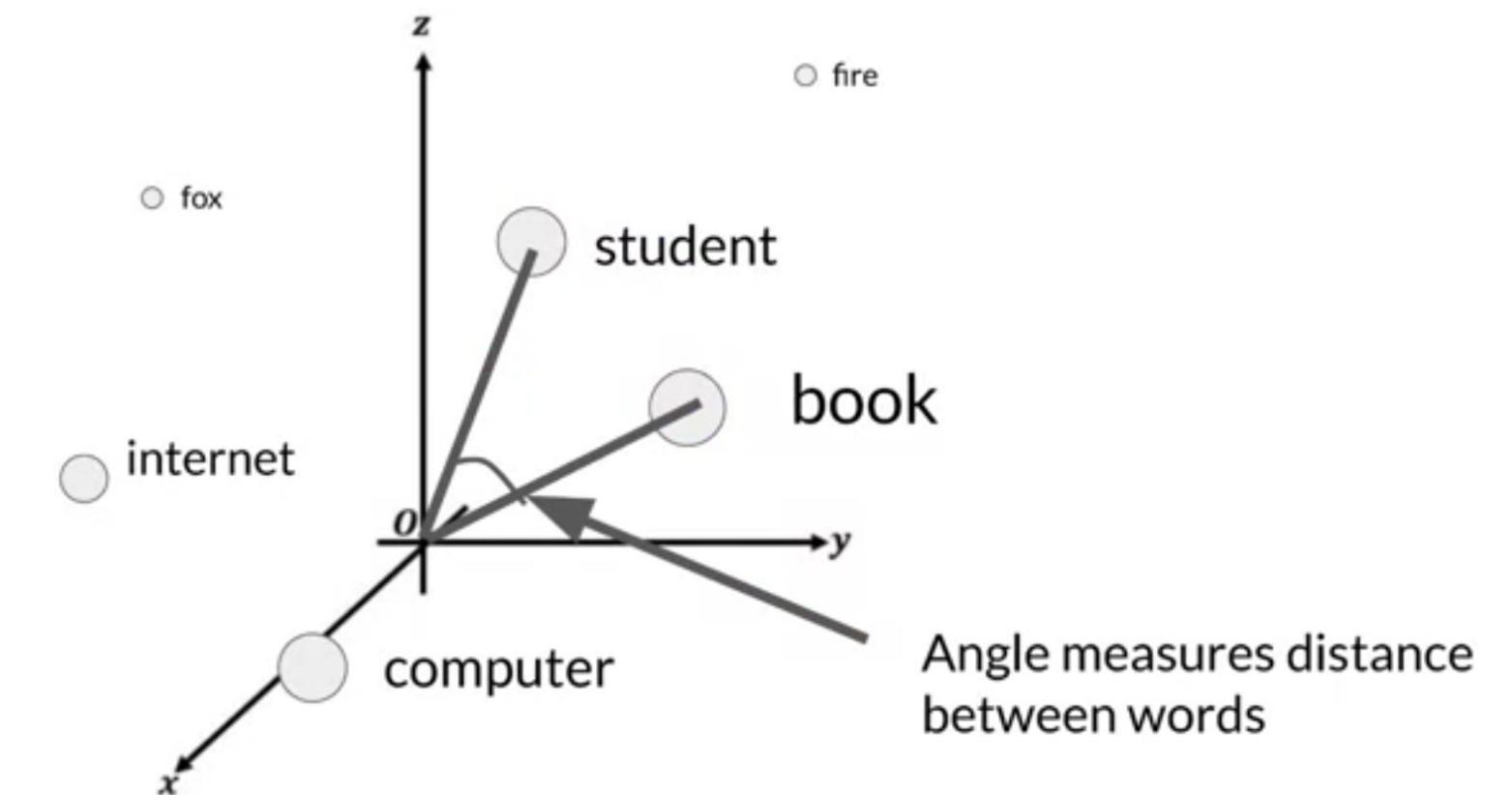
- We need to convert a sentence in numbers using a **tokenizer**



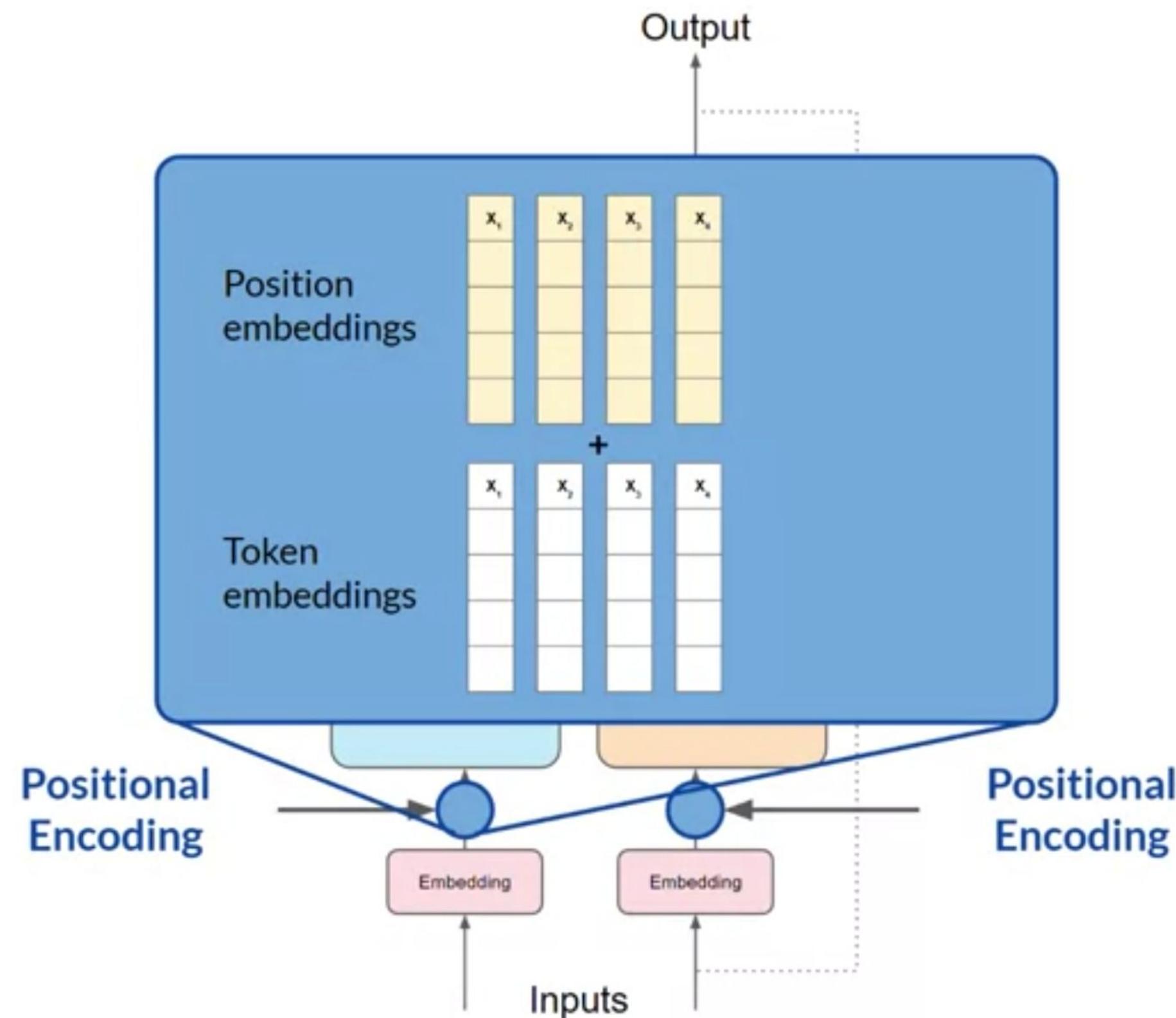
# Embedding



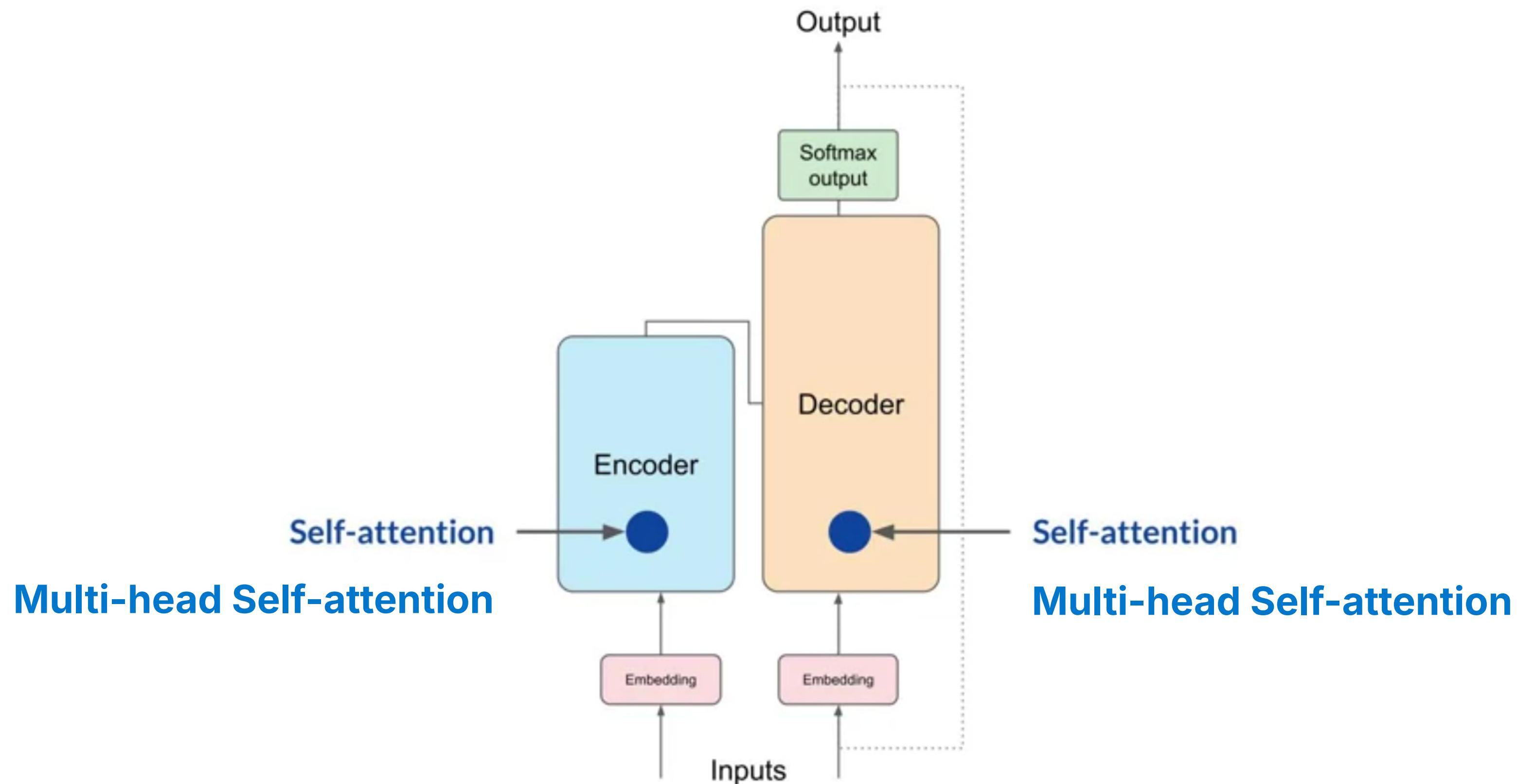
Example with 3 dimensions



# Positional encoding

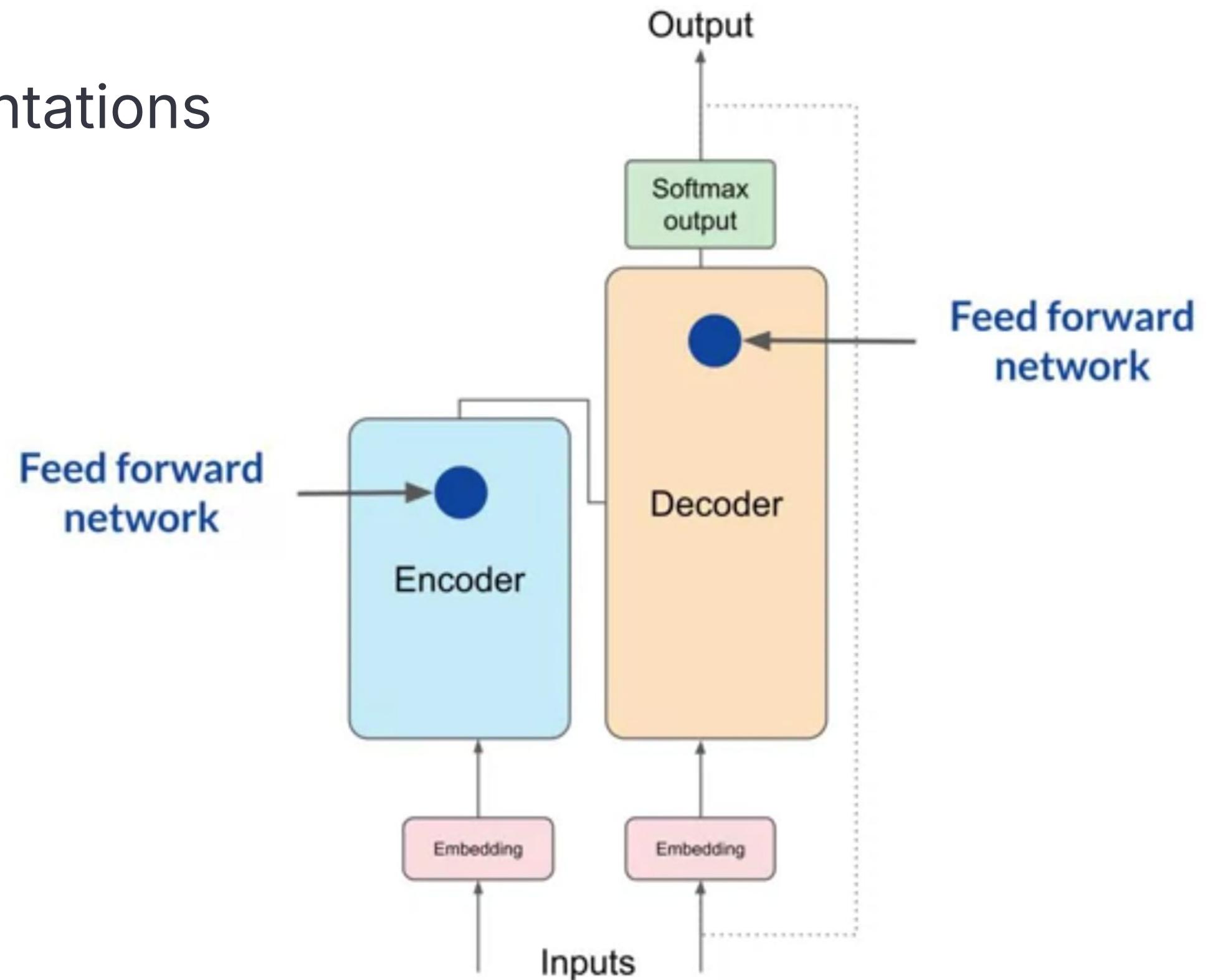


# Self-attention

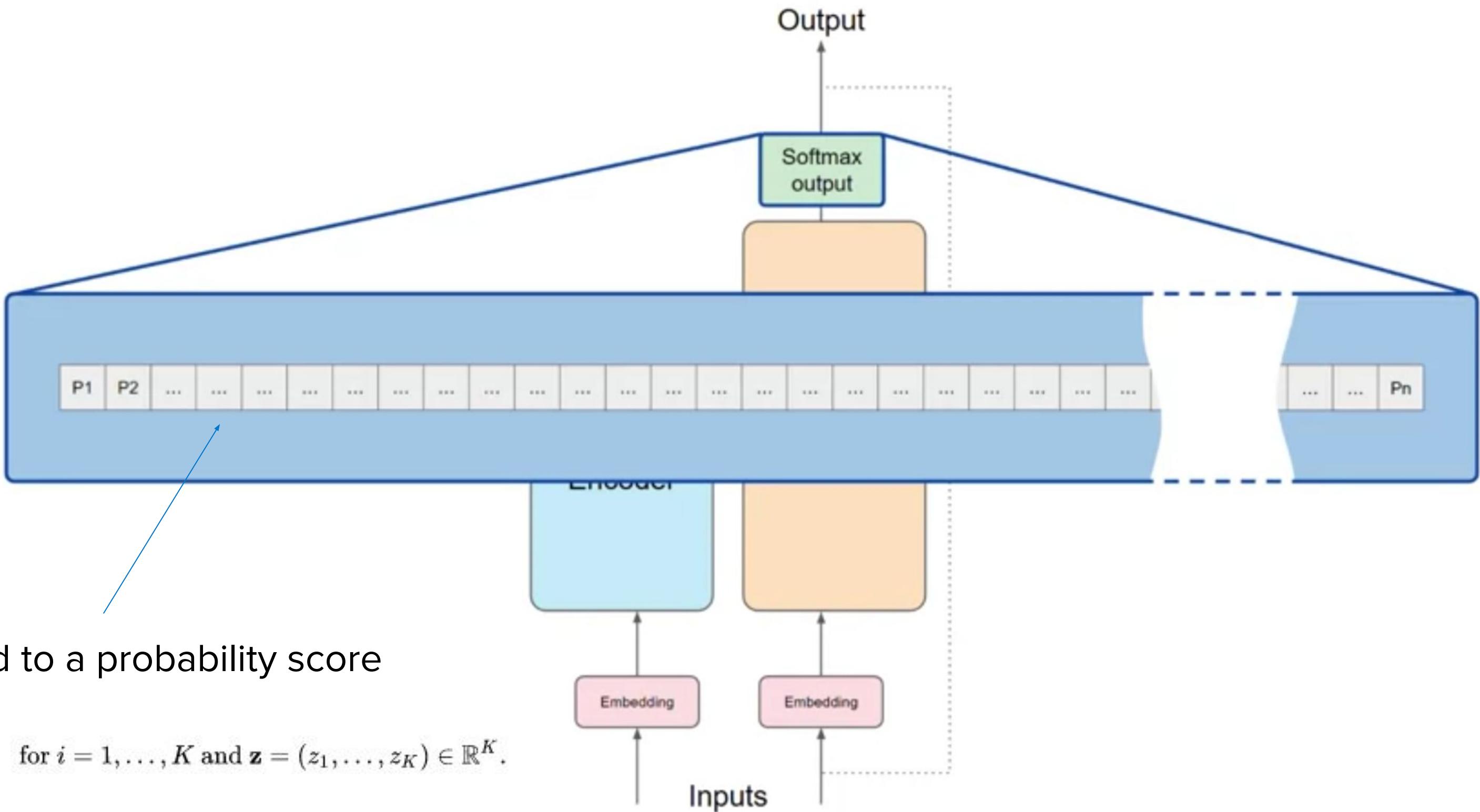


# Feed forward network

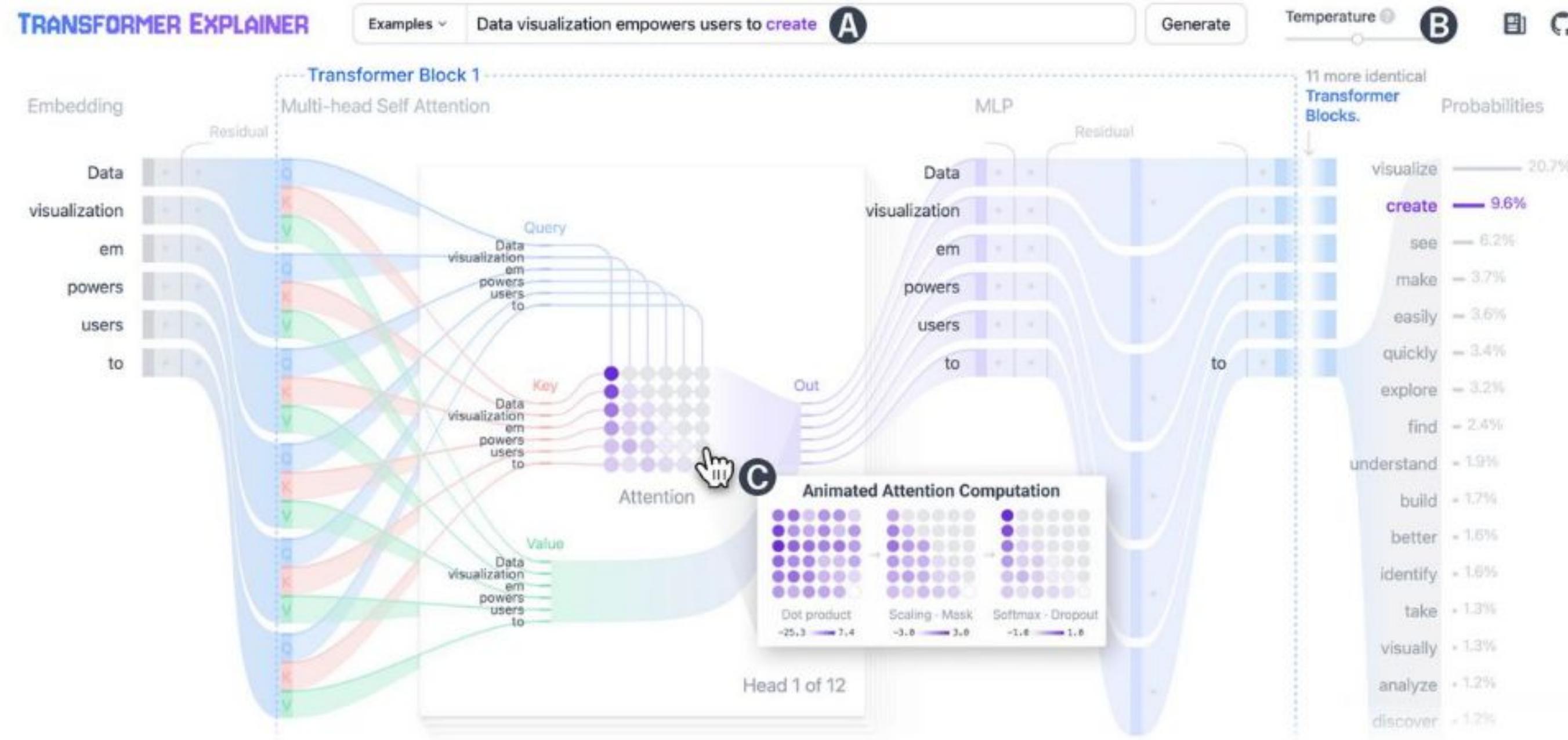
It helps refine the token representations learned from self-attention



# Softmax

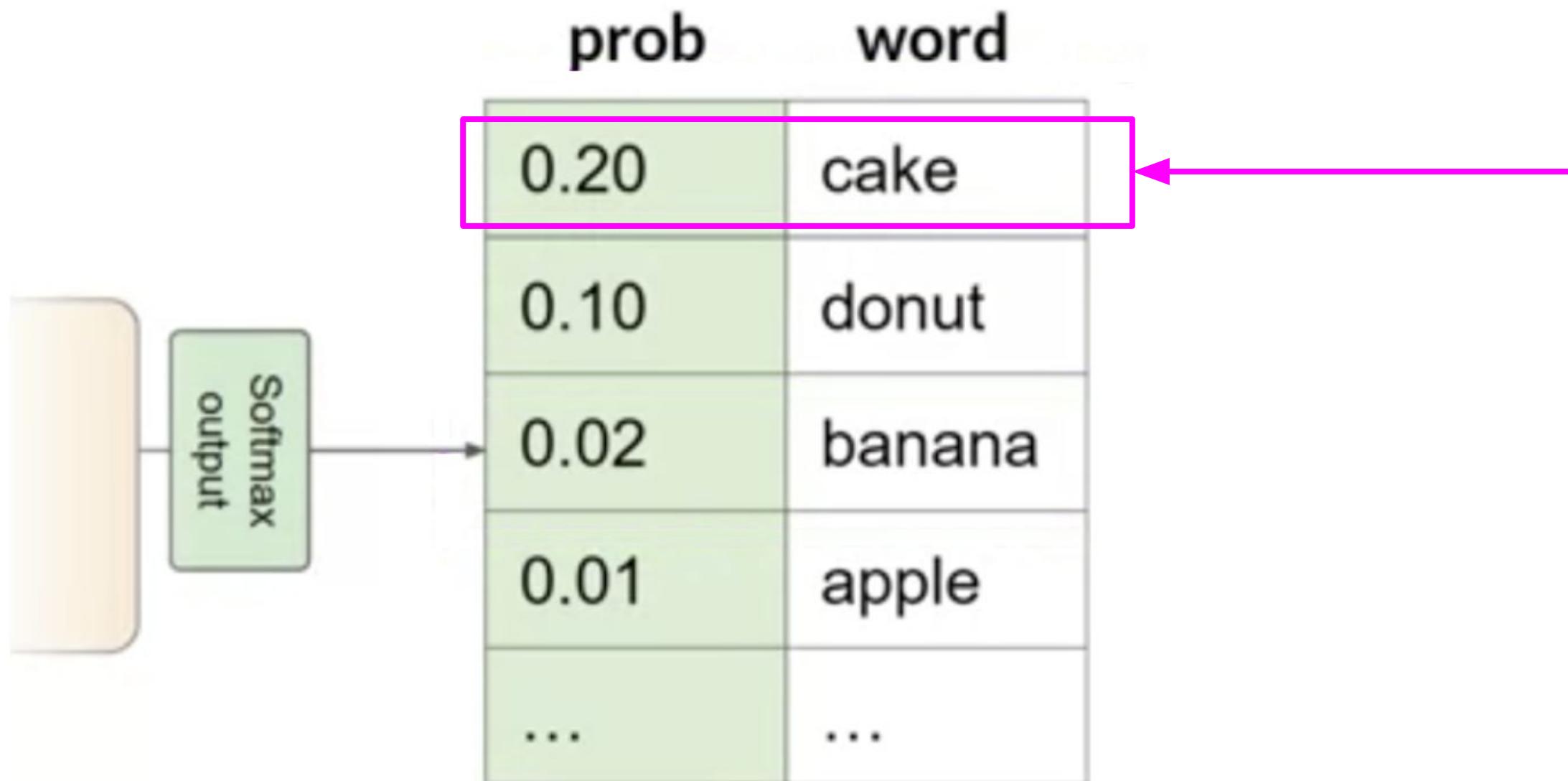


# Transformer Explainer



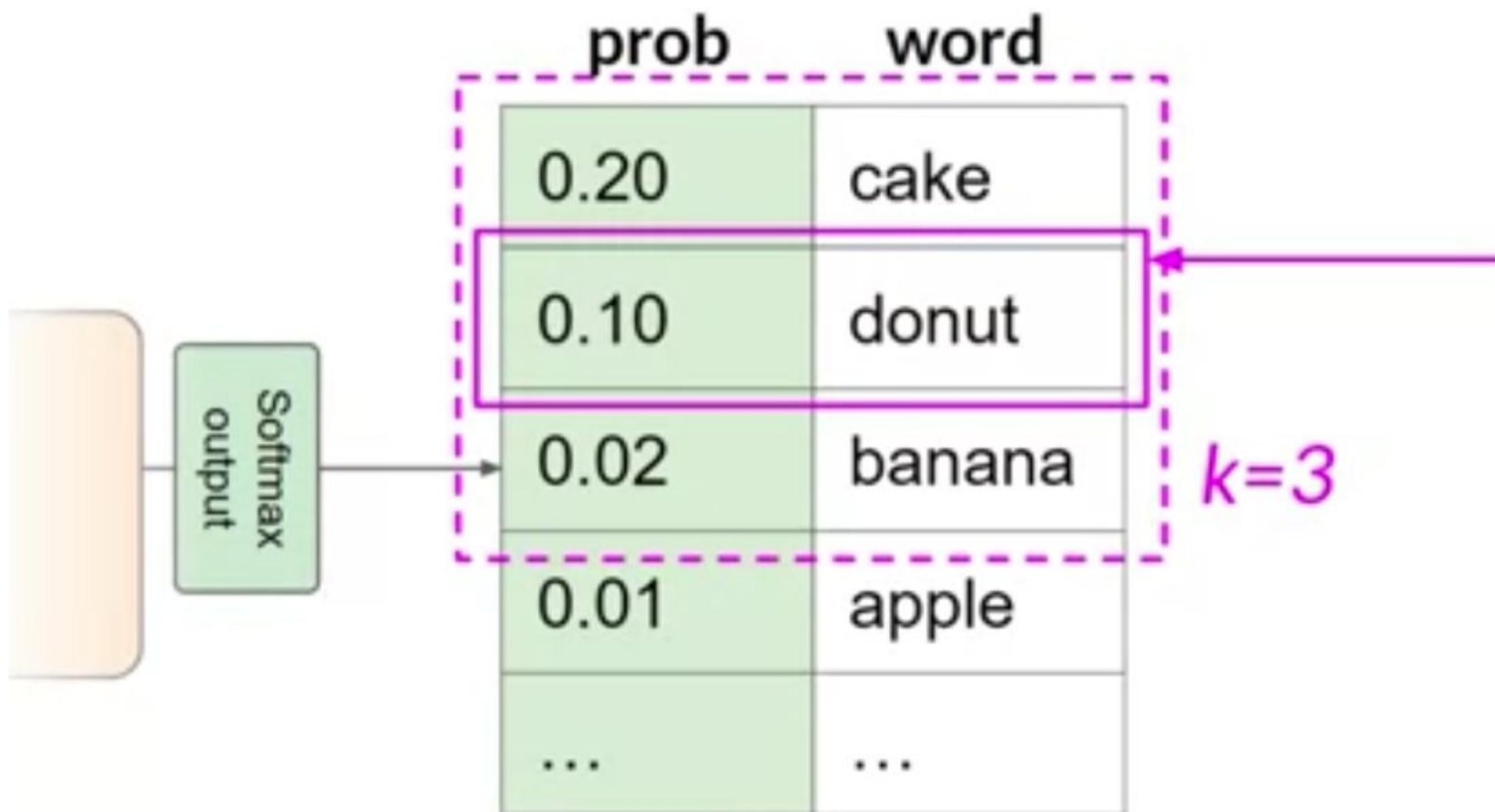
<https://poloclub.github.io/transformer-explainer/>

# Predict the next word



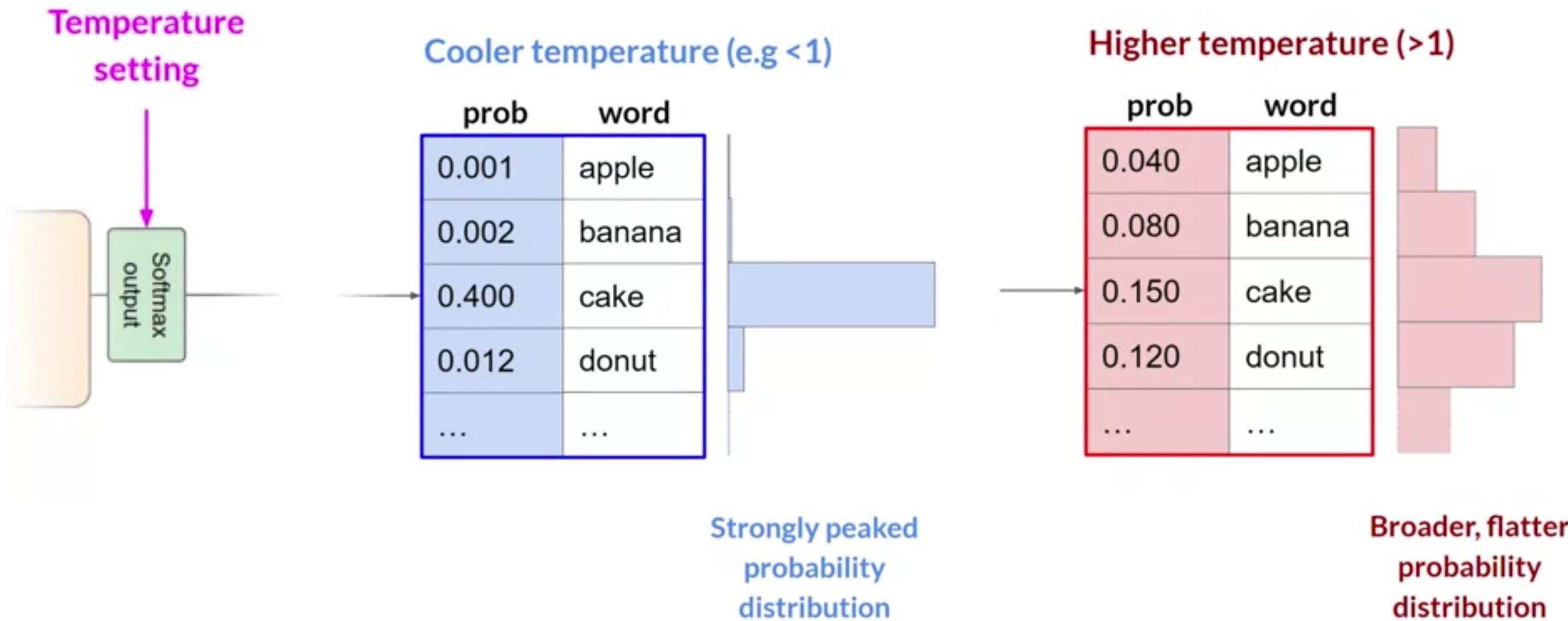
Choose the one with greatest probability (greedy algorithm)

# Top-k



**top-k:** select an output from the top-k results after applying random-weighted strategy using the probabilities

# Temperature



# LLM visualization

LLM Visualization

Chapter: Overview

GPT-2 (small) nano-gpt GPT-2 (XL) GPT-3

Table of Contents

- Intro
- Introduction
- Preliminaries
- Components
- Embedding
- Layer Norm
- Self Attention
- Projection
- MLP
- Transformer
- Softmax
- Output

nano-gpt  
n\_params = 85,584

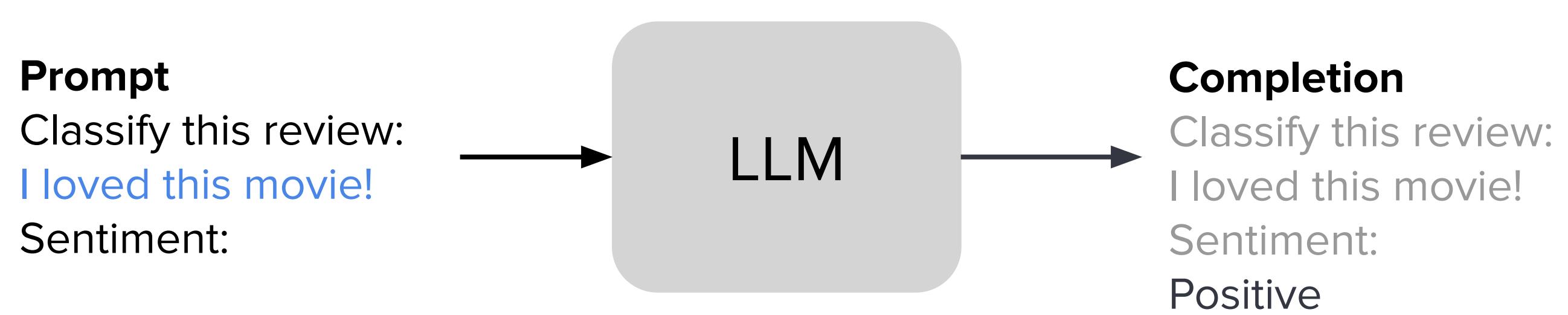
The screenshot shows the LLM Visualization interface for the nano-gpt model. On the left, there is a detailed diagram of the model's architecture. It starts with input tokens ('How to predict', 'text', 'tokens', 'words') which are converted into 'tok embed'. This is combined with 'pos embed' (using a sine wave) and passed through a 'transformer i' layer. The transformer layer consists of a 'multi-head, causal self-attention' block followed by two 'layer norm' blocks, then a 'feed forward' block, and another 'layer norm' block before the final 'linear' and 'softmax' layers. A welcome message at the bottom left says: "Welcome to the walkthrough of the GPT large language model! Here we'll explore the model *nano-gpt*, with a mere 85,000 parameters. Its goal is a simple one: take a sequence of six letters: C B A B B C and sort them in alphabetical order, i.e. to 'ABBBCC'." On the right, a 3D visualization shows the model's structure, with each layer represented by a stack of colored rectangles (blue, green, purple) connected by lines, and a legend indicating the color mapping for different components.

<https://bbycroft.net/llm>

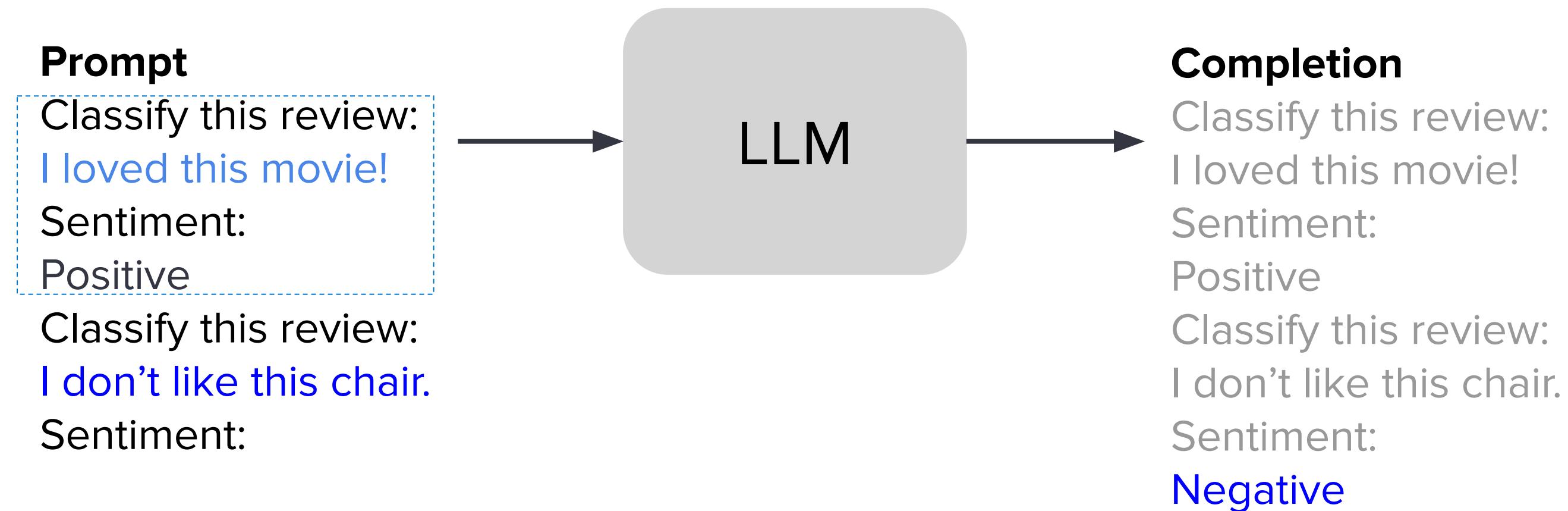
# Prompt engineering

- You can encounter situations where the model doesn't produce the outcome that you want on the first try
- You may have to revisit the language several times to get a good answer
- The development and improvement of the prompt is known as **prompt engineering**
- One powerful strategy is to include examples of the task that you want the model to carry out inside the prompt
- This is called **In-Context Learning (ICL)**

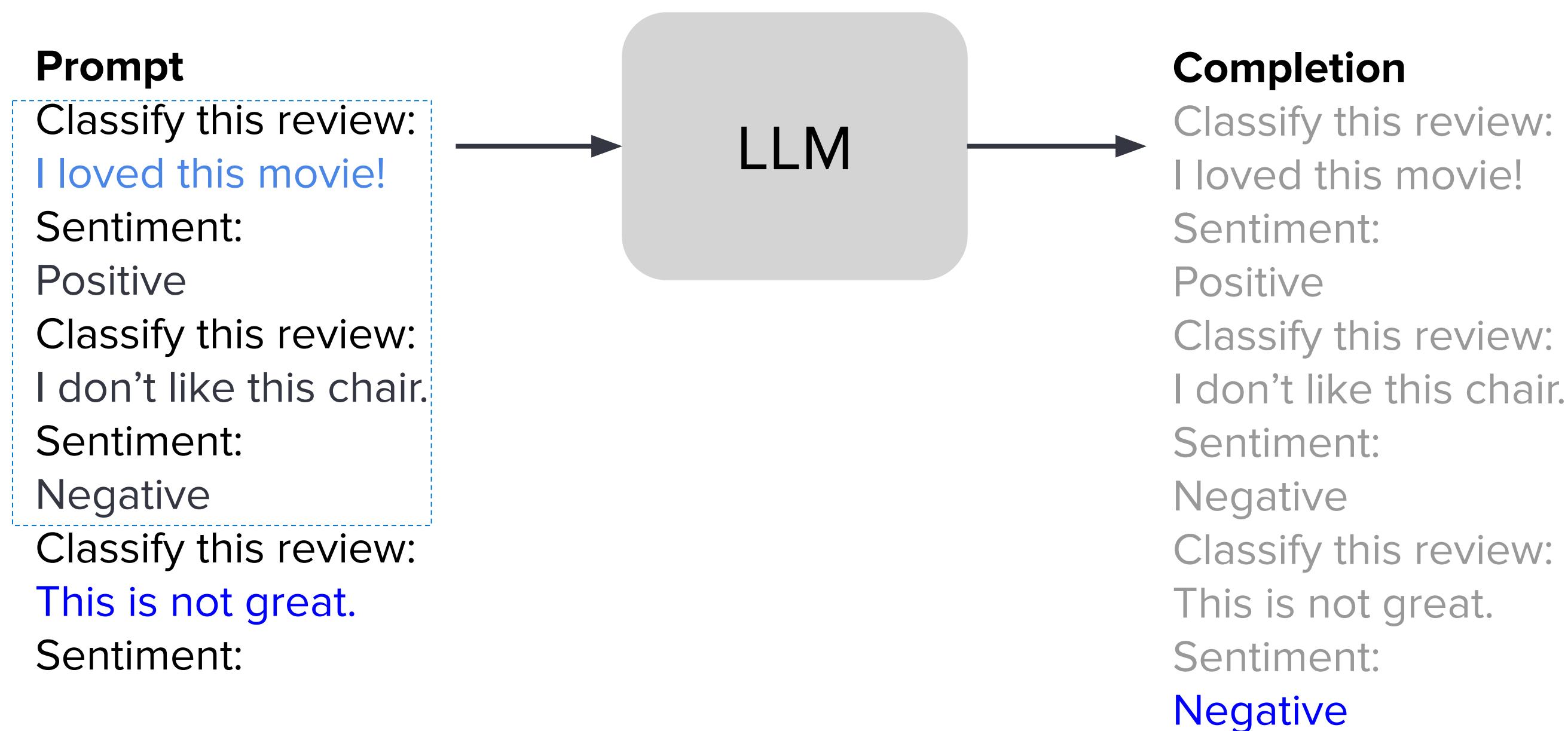
# ICL - zero shot inference



# ICL - one shot inference



# ICL - few shot inference



# Ollama

- [Ollama](#) is a software for downloading and running LLMs locally
- Llama 3, Phi 3, Mistral, Gemma, and [other models](#)
- Simple command line tool:
  - `ollama pull llama3.2:3b`
  - `ollama run llama3.2:3b`



# **Laboratory:**

## LLM examples with Ollama and OpenAI



[Sorgenti Python](#)

# Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)

# **Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)**

- **RAG** is a technique in natural language processing that combines information retrieval systems with **Large Language Models (LLM)** to generate more informed and accurate responses
- It is composed by the following parts:
  - **Retrieval-Augmented**
  - **Generation**

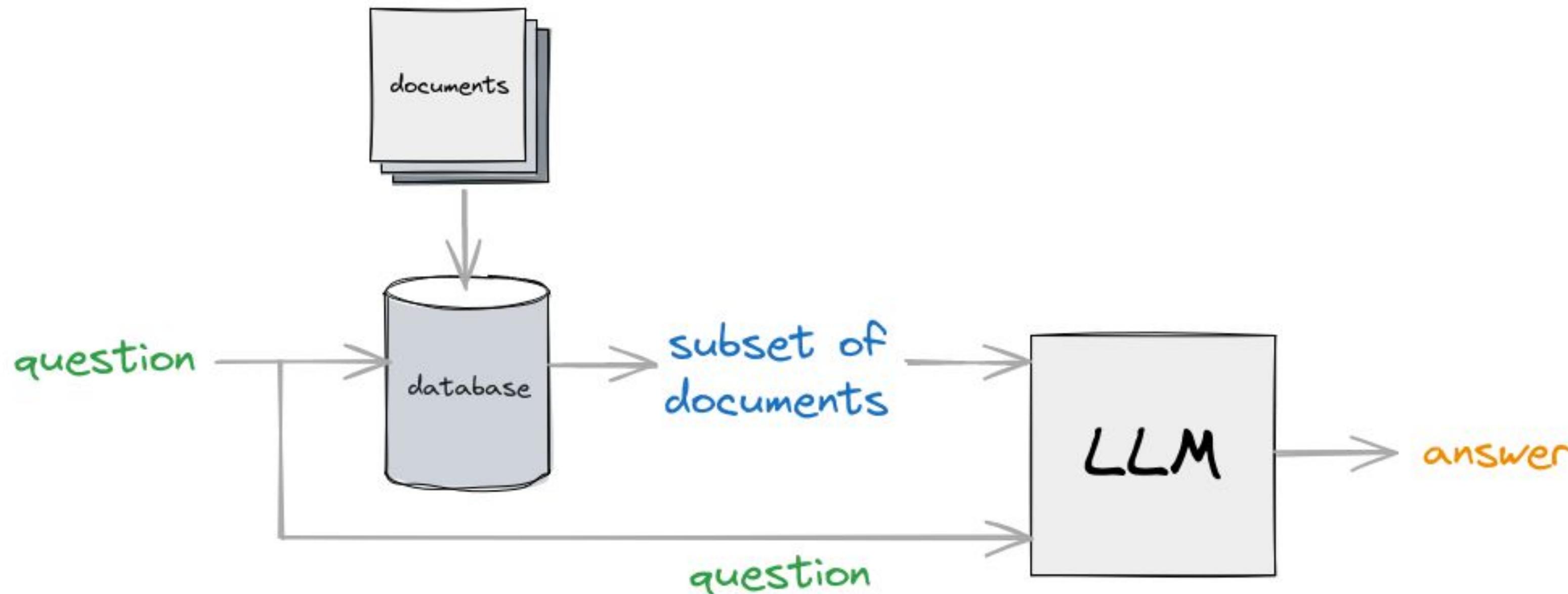
# Generation

- LLMs are very powerful but have some limitations:
  - **No source** (potential hallucinations)
    - How can I verify the information coming from an LLM?
    - What sources has been used to generate the answer?
  - **Out of date**
    - An LLM is trained in a period of time
    - For update we need to retraining the model (very expensive)

# Retrieval-Augmented

- We collect sets of private or public document
- We build a **retrieval system** (e.g. a database) to extract a subset of documents using a **question**
- Then we pass the **question + documents found** to an LLM as prompt with a context
- The LLM can give an answer using the updated documents

# RAG architecture

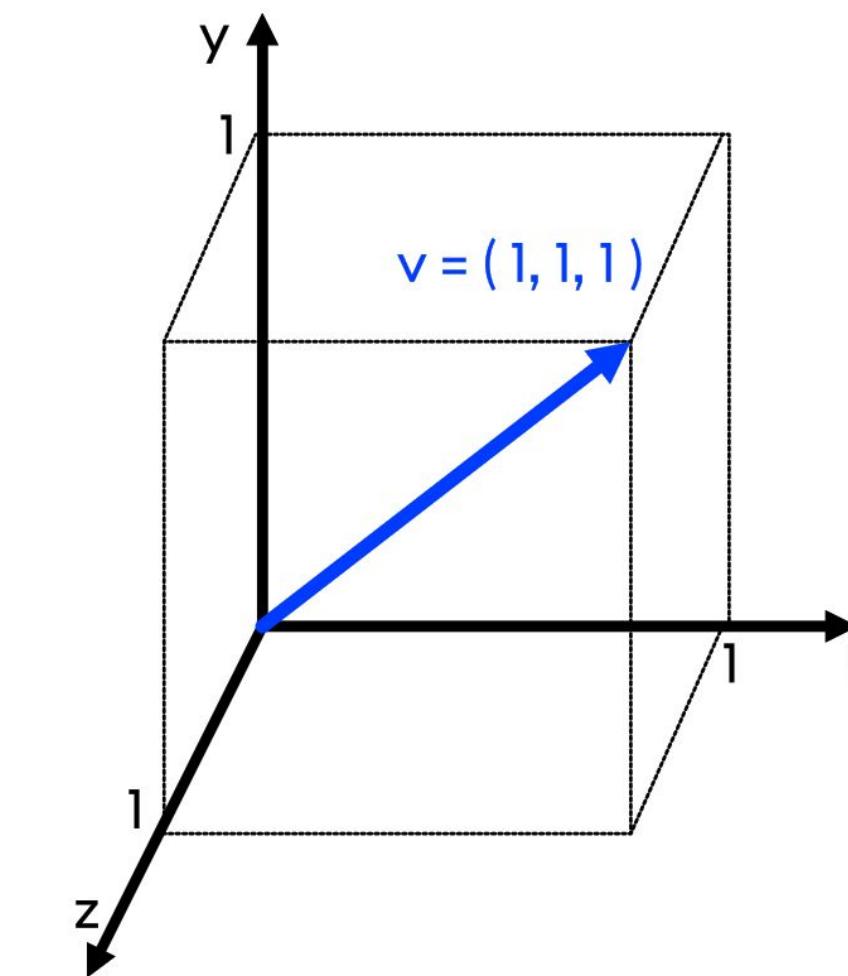
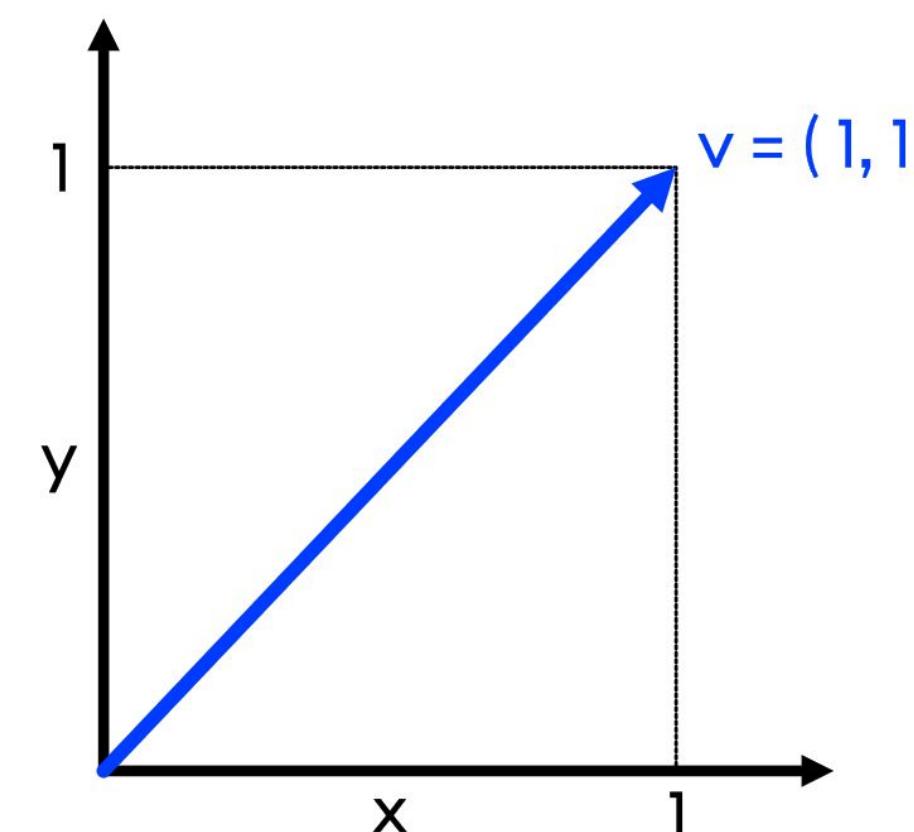


# Retrieve documents from a question

- How we can retrieve documents in a database using a question?
- We need to use **semantic search**
- One solution is to use a **vector database**
- A vector database is a system that uses **vectors** (set of numbers) to retrieve information

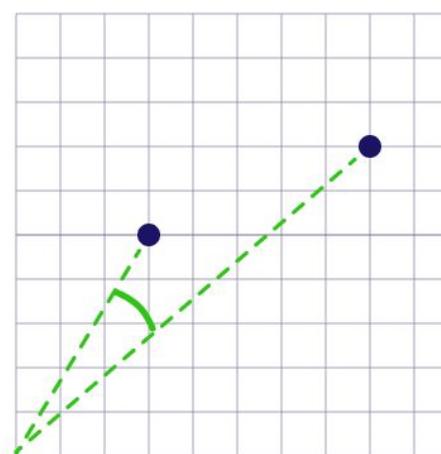
# What is a vector?

- A vector is a set of numbers
- Example: a vector of 3 elements [2, 5, -10]
- A vector can be represented in a multi-dimensional space (eg. Llama3.2 uses 3072 dimensions)



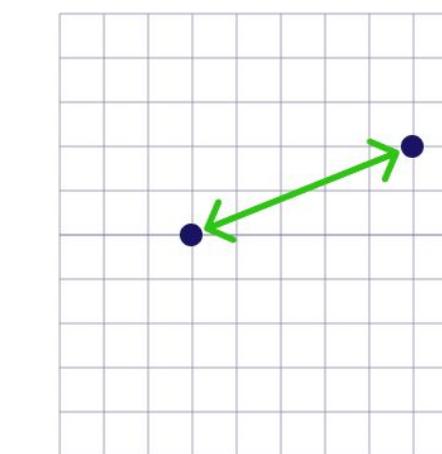
# Similarity between two vectors

- Two vectors are (semantically) similar if they are close to each other
- We need to define a way to measure the similarity



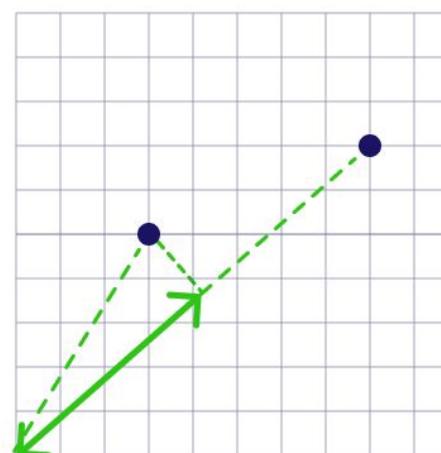
Cosine Distance

$$1 - \frac{A \cdot B}{\|A\| \|B\|}$$



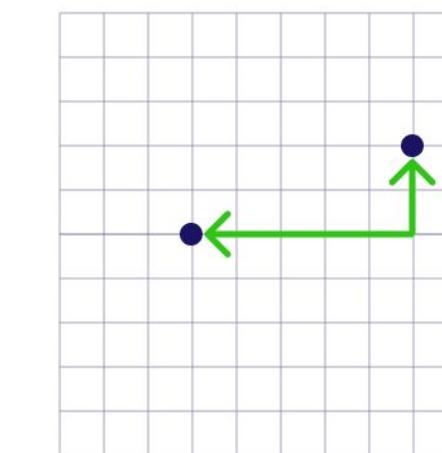
Squared Euclidean  
(L2 Squared)

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - y_i)^2$$



Dot Product

$$A \cdot B = \sum_{i=1}^n A_i B_i$$

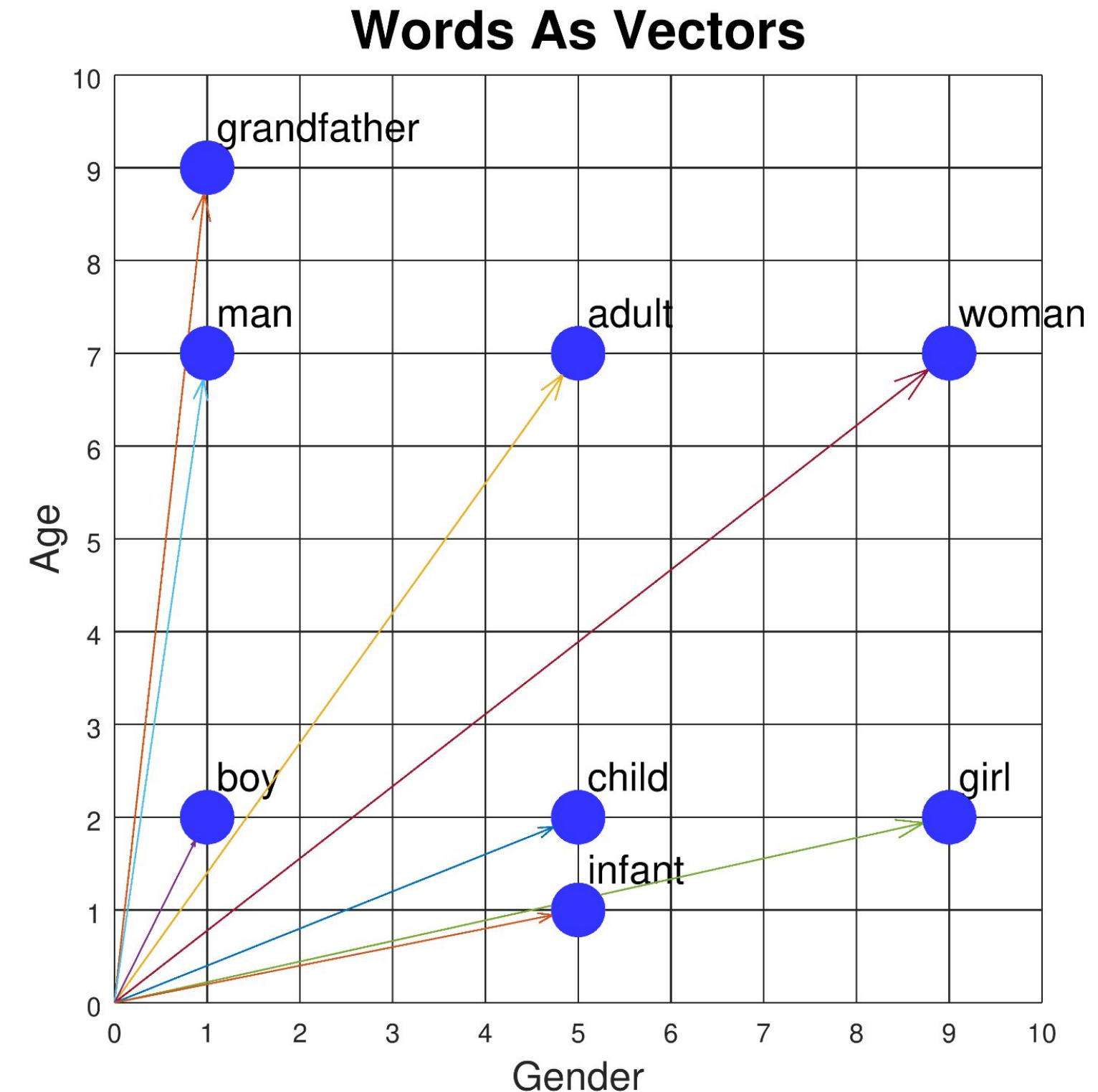


Manhattan (L1)

$$\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i - y_i|$$

# Embedding

- Embedding is the translation of an input (document, image, sound, movie, etc) to a vector
- There are many techniques, using an LLM typically this is done by a neural network
- The goal is to group information that are semantically related to each other
- <https://projector.tensorflow.org/>



# Vector database + LLM

- The search query (**question**) is in natural language
- We use semantic search to retrieve top-n relevant documents (**context**)
- We send the following prompt to the LLM (example):
  - *Given the following {context} answer to the following {question}*

# Split the documents in chunk

- We need to store data in the vector database using chunk of information
- We cannot use big documents since we need to pass it in the context part of the prompt for an LLM that typically has a token limit (e.g. Llama3.2 up to 128K)
- We need to split the documents in **chunk** (part of words)

# Elasticsearch (vector database)

- [Elasticsearch](#) is Free and Open Source ([AGPL](#)), Distributed, RESTful Search Engine
- Distributed search and analytics engine, scalable data store and **vector database** optimized for speed and relevance on production-scale workloads.
- You can run it locally with a single command:
  - `curl -fsSL https://elastic.co/start-local | sh`

# LangChain

- [LangChain](#) is an open source composable framework to build with LLMs
- Supports all the LLMs (see [here](#))
- Integrations with many vector databases (e.g. Chroma, Elasticsearch, Milvus, Qdrant, Redis)
- Available for [Python](#) (98K ⭐) and [Javascript](#) (13K ⭐)
- MIT license
- Other interesting projects: [LangGraph](#) (MIT license) and [LangSmith](#) (commercial)



# **Laboratory:**

## RAG with LangChain + Llama 3.2 + Elasticsearch

[Google Colab](#)

[Sorgenti Python](#)

# References

- [What is retrieval-augmented generation?](#) IBM research
- Ashish Vaswan et al., [Attention Is All You Need](#), Proceedings of 31st Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS 2017)
- Albert Ziegler, John Berryman, [A developer's guide to prompt engineering and LLMs](#), Github blog post
- Sebastian Raschka, [Build a Large Language Model \(From Scratch\)](#), Manning, 2024
- [Elasticsearch as vector database](#), Elastic Search Labs
- [Elasticsearch search relevance](#), Elastic Search Labs
- E.Zimuel, [Retrieval-Augmented Generation for talking with your private data using LLM](#), AI Heroes 2023 conference, Turin (Italy)
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# Thanks!

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