

Language: Architectures

EECE454 Intro. to Machine Learning Systems

Fall 2024

Overview

- **Last two weeks.** Deep learning for **visual data** (specifically, image)
 - Architectures
 - Scalable training
 - Generative model

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- **Last two weeks.** Deep learning for visual data (specifically, image)
 - Architectures
 - Scalable training
 - Generative model
- **This week.** Deep learning for **language** (specifically, text)
 - Architectures
 - Preprocessing
 - RNNs and Transformers
 - Language modeling

Preview: Text vs. Image

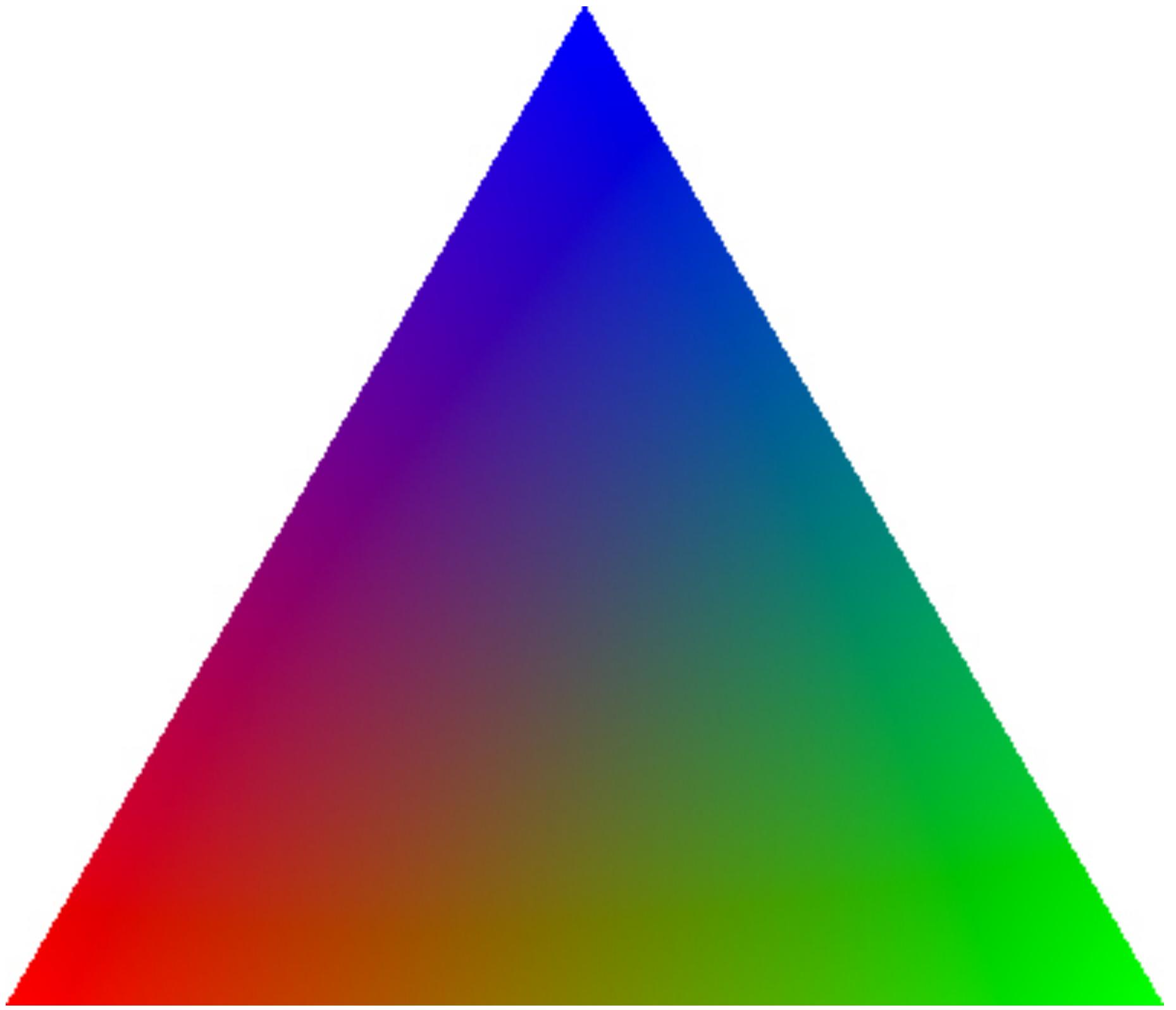
- **Question.** Why should language processing be different from image processing?



Preview: Text vs. Image

- **Question.** Why should language processing be different from image processing?

- Language is **discrete**:
 - Interpolating “■” & “■” vs. “A” & “C”
 - To-do: Vectorization mechanism needed



Preview: Text vs. Image

- **Question.** Why should language processing be different from image processing?
 - Language is discrete:
 - Interpolating “■” & “■” vs. “A” & “C”
 - To-do: Vectorization mechanism needed
 - Language has **variable length**
 - To-do: Need a neural network architecture that can handle **sequences** effectively

Are we still on for later?

yeah.

What time do you want to meet?

could do 7.

Great, see you later!

see you then.

Preview: Text vs. Image

- **Question.** Why should language processing be different from image processing?
 - Language is discrete:
 - Interpolating “■” & “■” vs. “A” & “C”
 - To-do: Vectorization mechanism needed
 - Language has variable length
 - To-do: Need a neural network architecture that can handle sequences effectively
 - Language has **weaker locality** than images
 - To-do: Architecture that can cover far distance
- Note. Later, we will see how image processing can be made similar to texts

“**The boy did not have
any idea where he is at.**”

Preprocessing

Pre-processing

- Translating text data into a sequence of vectors:
- Typically involves:
 - Normalization
 - Pre-tokenization
 - Tokenization
 - Embedding

“The boy did not have
any idea where he is at.”



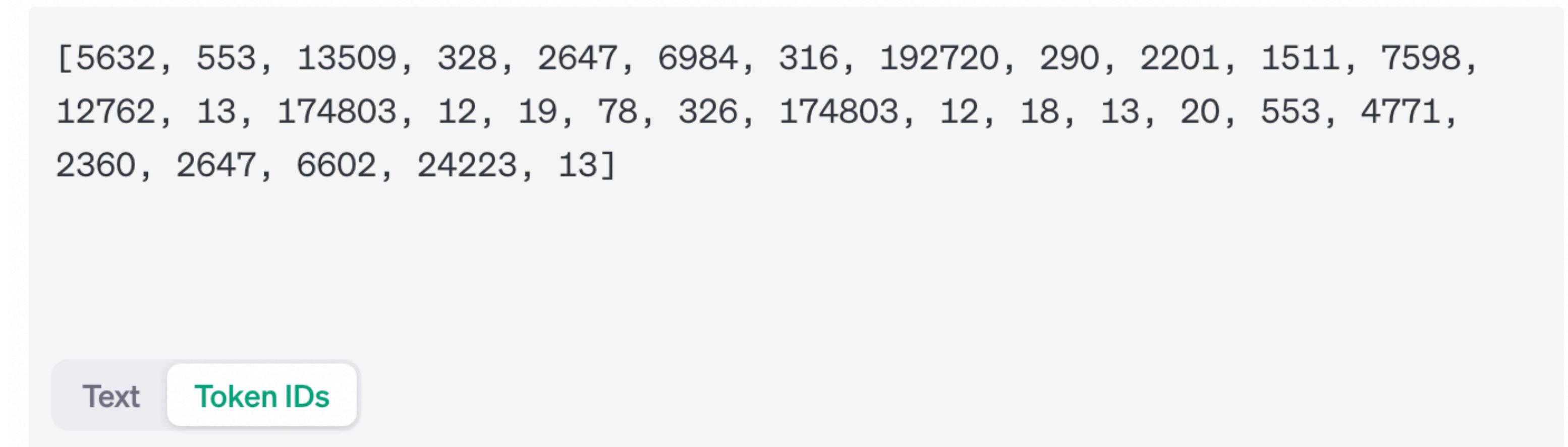
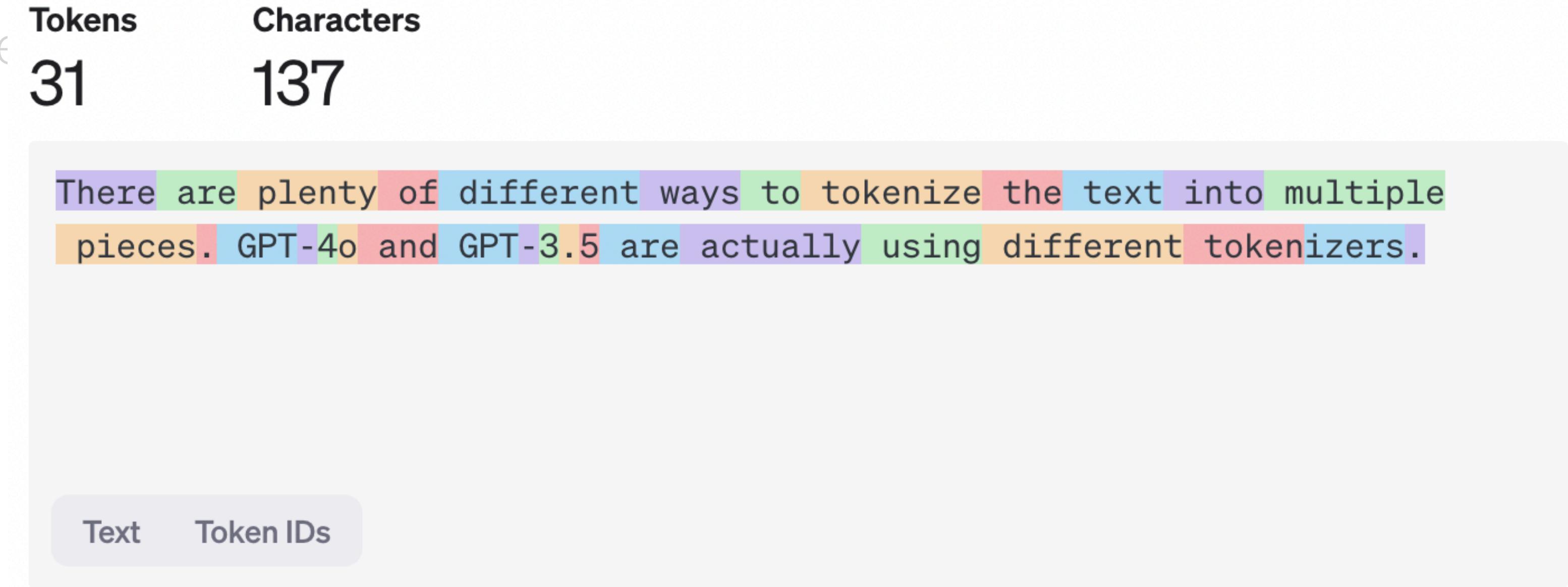
$(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n), \quad \mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$



Model

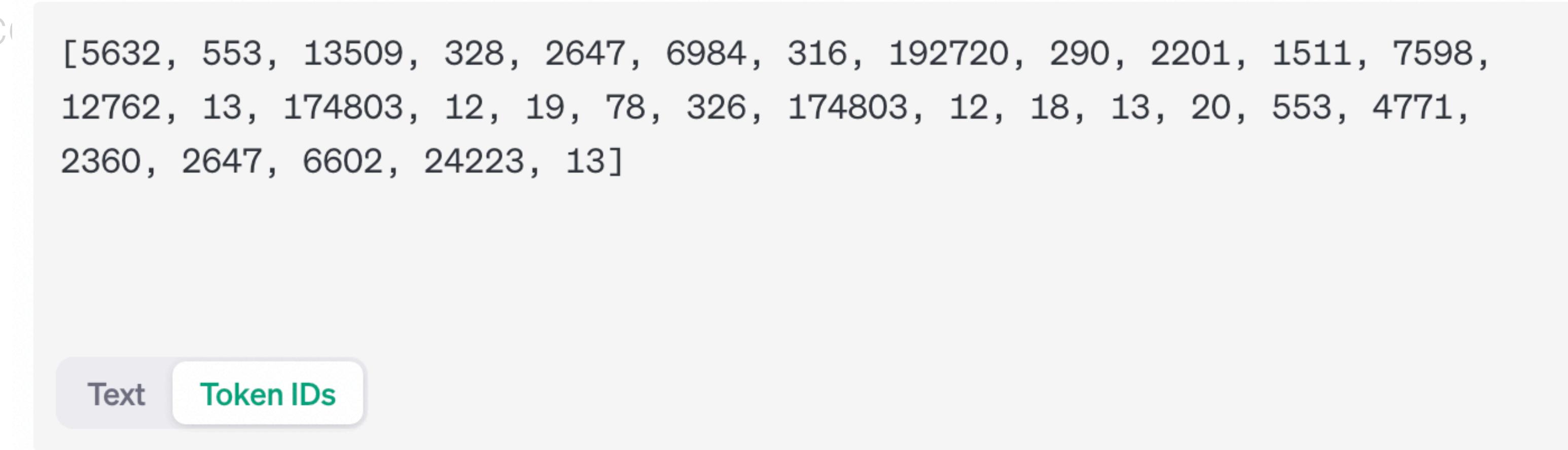
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Pre-processing

- Translating text data into a sequence
- Typically involves:
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 - Pre-tokenization
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 - Embedding
- The first three are responsible for chunking the text and mapping them to codes.
- Embedding maps each chunk to a vector
 - Want to keep our dictionary small enough for handling!



$$\begin{aligned} [\text{token 1}] &\longrightarrow \mathbf{x}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^d \\ [\text{token 2}] &\longrightarrow \mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^d \\ &\dots \\ [\text{token 30522}] &\rightarrow \mathbf{x}_{30522} \in \mathbb{R}^d \end{aligned}$$

Normalization

- Various **cleanups** on the given text to reduce data complexity
 - Lowercasing
 - e.g., “hello” and “Hello” has the same meaning
 - Removing unnecessary whitespaces, accents, punctuations
 - e.g., “I ate it all” → “I ate it all”
“café” → “cafe” “e-mail” → “email”

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“café” → “cafe” “e-mail” → “email”
 - Date & Numerics
 - “01/31/2024,” “31st Jan. 2024” → “2024-01-31”
 - Unicode normalization
 - handling many equivalences
 - <https://www.unicode.org/reports/tr15/>

Subtype	Examples
Font variants	ſ → H
	₩ → H
Linebreaking differences	[NBSP] → [SPACE]
Positional variant forms	ع → ع
	ع → ع
	ع → ع
	ع → ع
Circled variants	① → 1
Width variants	カ → カ
Rotated variants	⌒ → {
	⌒ → }
Superscripts/subscripts	i ⁹ → i ₉
	i ₉ → i ⁹
Squared characters	アバ → アバート
Fractions	¼ → 1/4
Other	dž → dž

Pre-tokenization

- Facilitate more accurate tokenization (chunking) by **breaking down text** into manageable units.
 - Handling contractions
 - “can’t” → “can” + “t”
 - Dealing with punctuations
 - “(some sentence).” → “(some sentence)” + “.”
 - Abbreviations and acronyms
 - “DMZ” should not be “D” + “MZ”

Tokenization

- Breaking the sentence down into tokens
 - Word-based tokenization
 - Good semantics
 - Too many vocabularies...

Split on spaces

Let's	do	tokenization!
-------	----	---------------

Split on punctuation

Let	's	do	tokenization	!
-----	----	----	--------------	---

Tokenization

- Breaking the sentence down into tokens
 - Word-based tokenization
 - Character-based tokenization
 - Smaller vocabulary size
 - Bad semantics



Tokenization

- Breaking the sentence down into tokens
 - Word-based tokenization
 - Character-based tokenization
 - Subword tokenization
 - Frequent words are kept as a single token
 - Rare words are subdivided
 - Reduces expected sequence length
 - How to take “spaces” into account differs from tokenizer to tokenizer

Let's </w>	do</w>	token	ization</w>	!</w>
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Byte-Pair Encoding

- Data-driven generation of tokenization policy
 - Start from the character-level tokens
 - Generate combined codes for the frequent tokens

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- **Example.**
- Suppose that our text corpus consists of five words:
 - Then our initial vocabulary will be: ["b", "g", "h", "n", "p", "s", "u"]

"hug", "pug", "pun", "bun", "hugs"

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- Count the word frequencies.

```
("hug", 10), ("pug", 5), ("pun", 12), ("bun", 4), ("hugs", 5)
```

```
("h" "u" "g", 10), ("p" "u" "g", 5), ("p" "u" "n", 12), ("b" "u" "n", 4), ("h" "u" "g" "s", 5)
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("h" "u" "g", 10), ("p" "u" "g", 5), ("p" "u" "n", 12), ("b" "u" "n", 4), ("h" "u" "g" "s", 5)
```

Vocabulary: ["b", "g", "h", "n", "p", "s", "u", "ug"]

Corpus: ("h" "ug", 10), ("p" "ug", 5), ("p" "u" "n", 12), ("b" "u" "n", 4), ("h" "ug" "s", 5)

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- Repeat until the desired vocab. size is met.

Vocabulary: ["b", "g", "h", "n", "p", "s", "u", "ug", "un", "hug"]

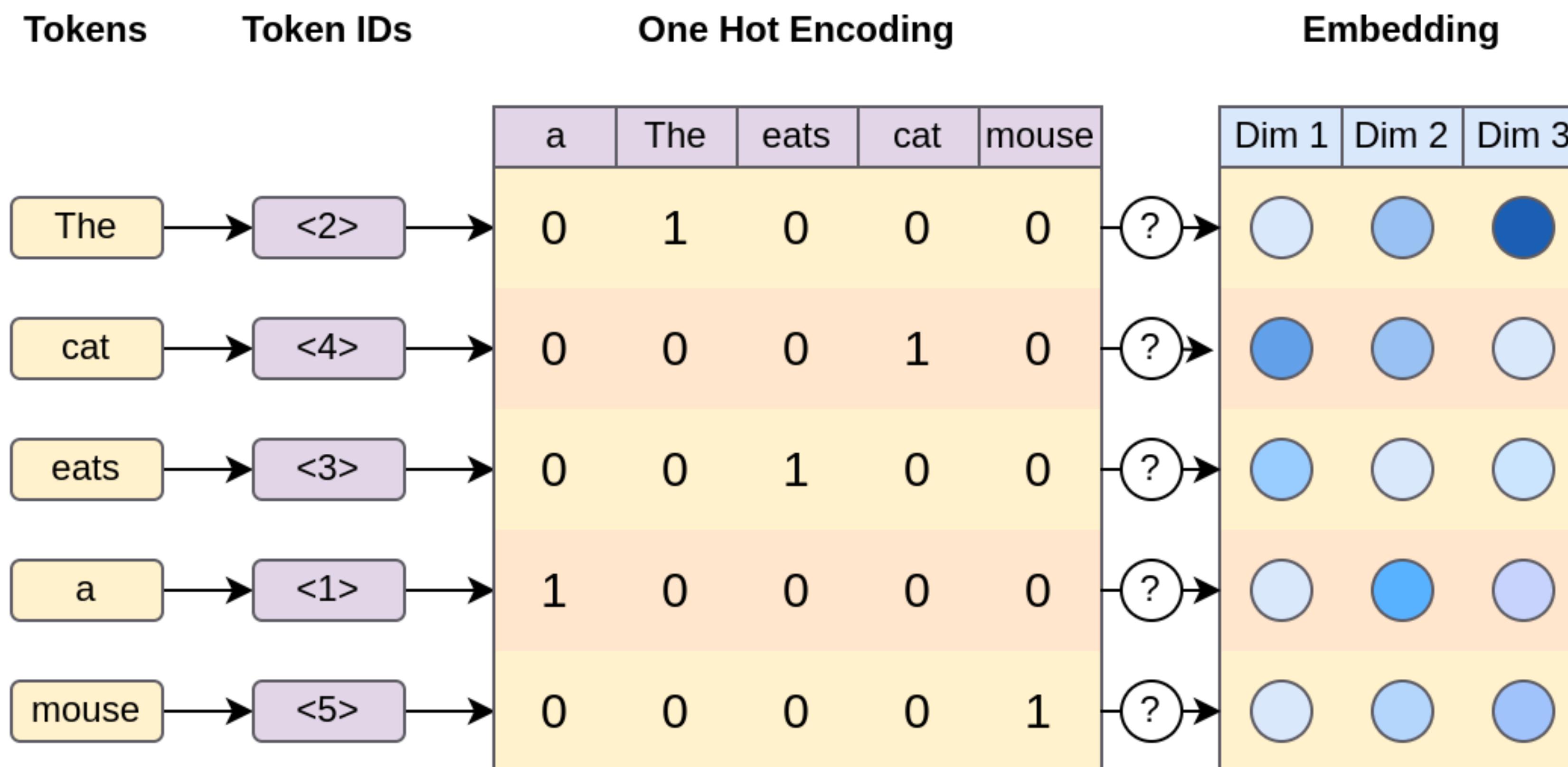
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- Repeat until the desired vocab. size is met.
- **Note.** Many other ways to do it, e.g., WordPiece.

Embedding

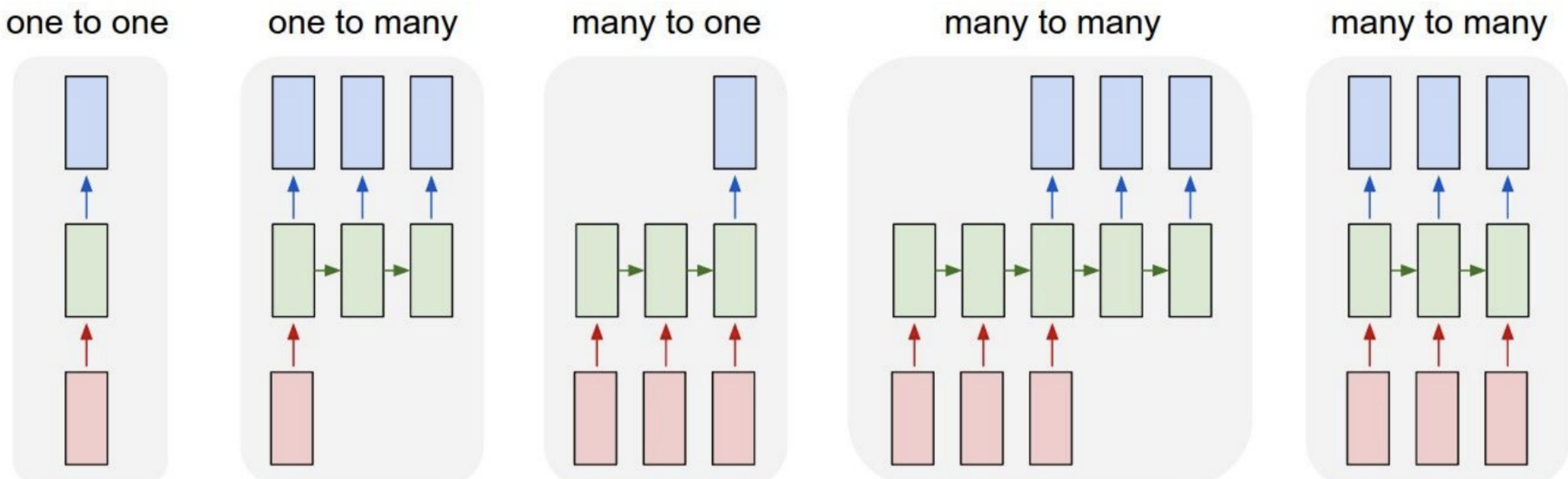
- Each token IDs is translated into one-hot encodings, and then to embeddings
 - Implementable with lookup tables
 - Embedding is **trainable** as well – more details on this later



Architectures

Architectures

- We will cover two architectures that are designed for **sequence-like inputs / outputs**
 - RNNs
 - Transformers
- Should be able to handle all following cases...

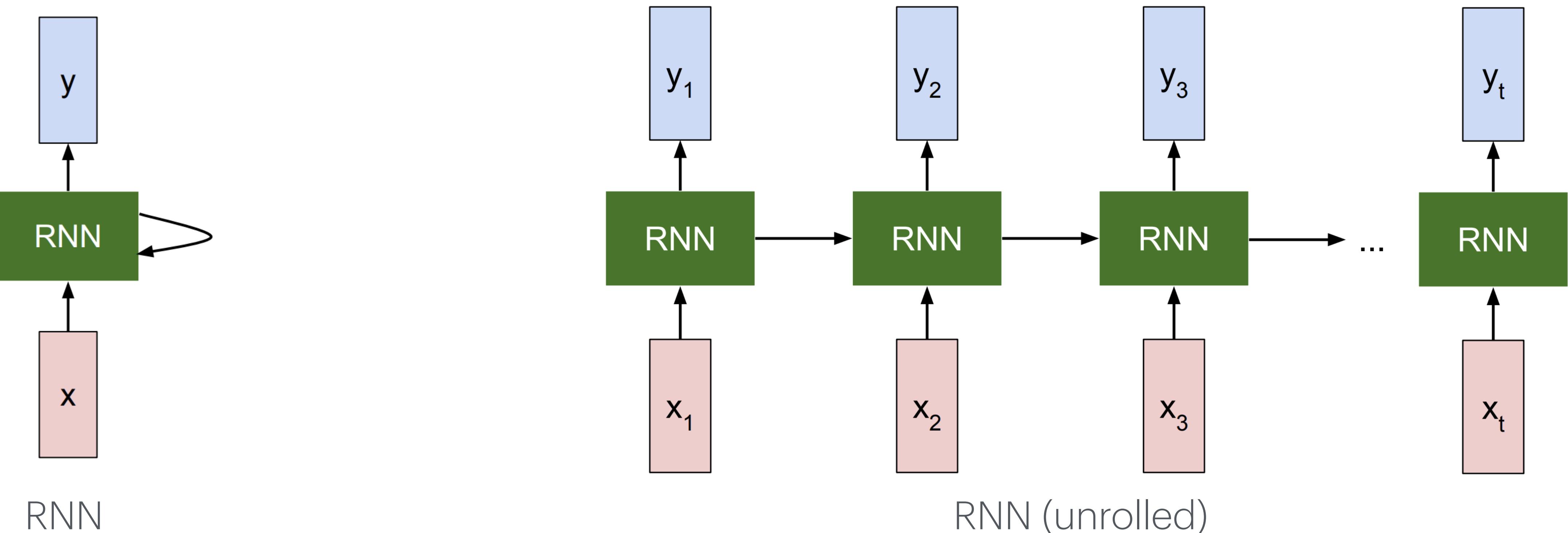


RNNs

(follows exposition of <https://cs231n.github.io/rnn/>)

Recurrent Neural Networks

- **Idea.** Handle sequential input using a state-space model $\hat{\mathbf{y}}_t = f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t; \mathbf{h}_{t-1})$
 - The internal state $\mathbf{h}_{t-1} = g_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \mathbf{h}_{t-2})$ contains the (compressed) information from the past history of inputs $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}$.



Recurrent Neural Networks

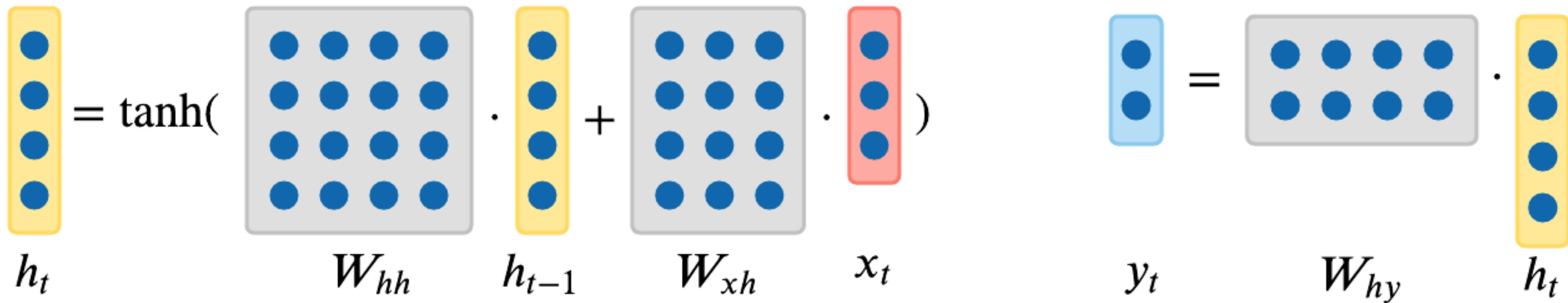
- **Parameterization.**

In the simplest form (Rumelhart, 1986), the recurrence can be formalized as:

$$\mathbf{h}_t = \tanh(\mathbf{W}_{hh}\mathbf{h}_{t-1} + \mathbf{W}_{xh}\mathbf{x}_t)$$

$$\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{W}_{hy}\mathbf{h}_t$$

(recall: hidden Markov models)

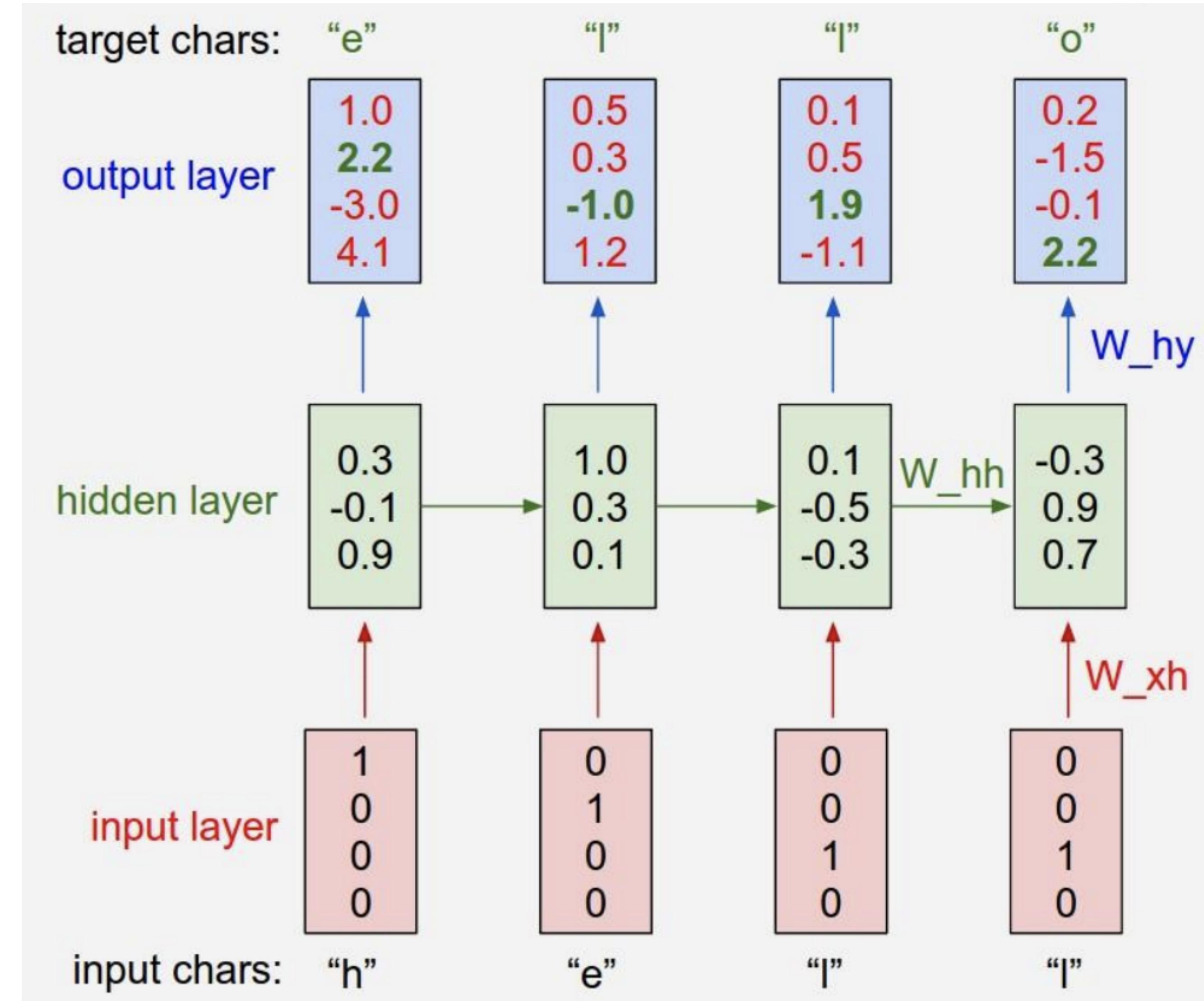


RNN for language modeling

- **Example (Language Model).**

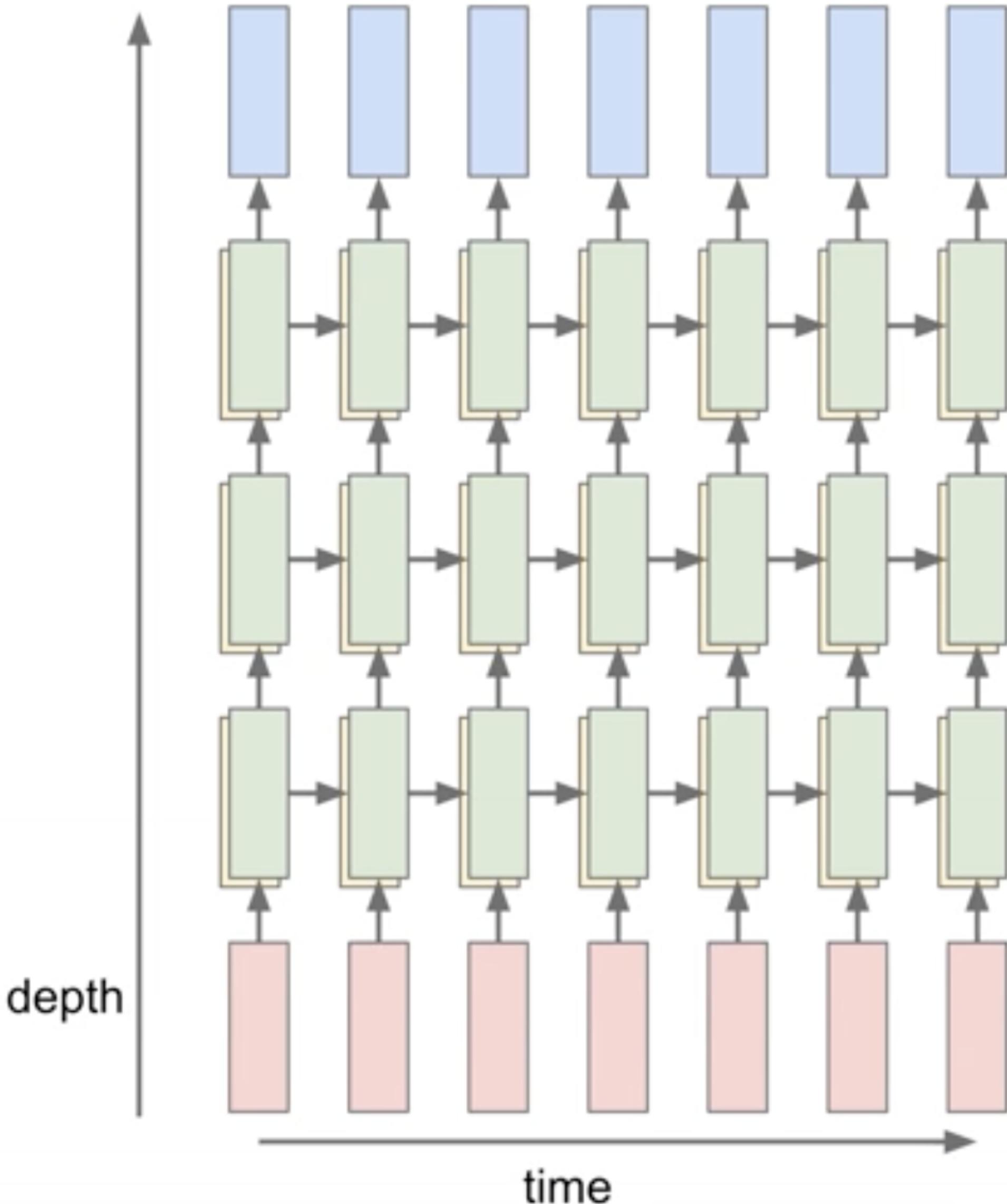
Suppose that we want to generate new sentences with:

- Character-level tokens
- Single-layer RNN
- No embedding layer
- Then, we can feed the generated character as an RNN input to keep on generating new characters.
 - Similar in transformers (much compute!)



Deep RNNs

- Stack multiple RNN blocks to build a deep RNN
 - Strengthens the “memory” of RNNs
 - Can capture longer-term relationships, theoretically
 - but this is actually quite difficult!



Limitations

- **Hard to capture long-term dependencies.** Due to vanishing/exploding gradients from $\tanh(\cdot)$
 - Suppose that we want to use the loss at time t (i.e., L_t), to update the information that we should have kept at time 1 (i.e., \mathbf{h}_1).
 - The partial derivative of current state w.r.t. past state is:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{h}_t}{\partial \mathbf{h}_{t-1}} = \tanh'(\mathbf{W}_{hh}\mathbf{h}_{t-1} + \mathbf{W}_{xh}\mathbf{x}_t)\mathbf{W}_{hh}$$

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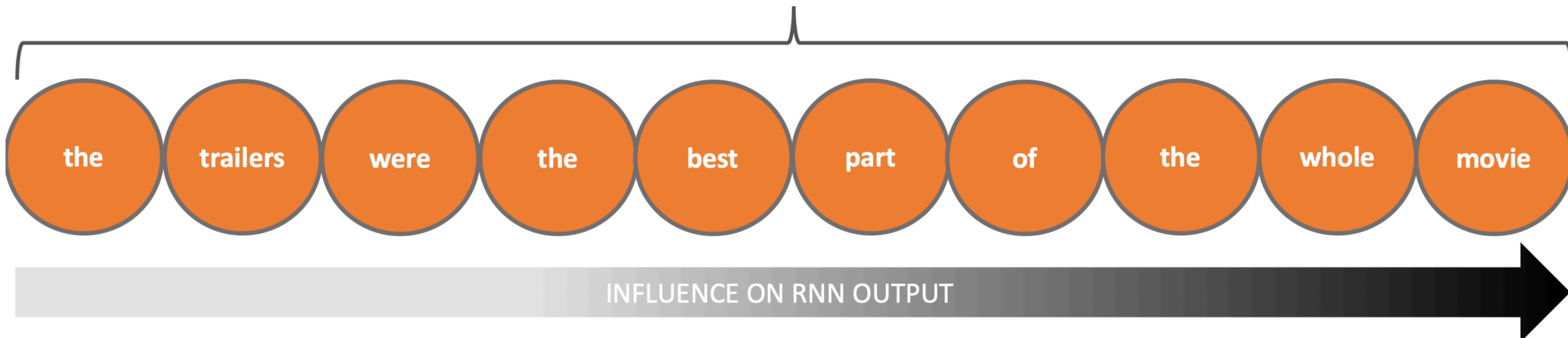
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{h}_t}{\partial \mathbf{h}_{t-1}} = \tanh'(\mathbf{W}_{hh}\mathbf{h}_{t-1} + \mathbf{W}_{xh}\mathbf{x}_t)\mathbf{W}_{hh}$$

- The gradient with respect to the loss at time t (L_t) can be written as:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial L_t}{\partial \mathbf{h}_1} &= \frac{\partial L_t}{\partial \mathbf{h}_t} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}_t}{\partial \mathbf{h}_{t-1}} \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}_2}{\partial \mathbf{h}_1} \\ &= \frac{\partial L_t}{\partial \mathbf{h}_t} \cdot \left(\prod_{i=2}^t \tanh'(\mathbf{W}_{hh}\mathbf{h}_{i-1} + \mathbf{W}_{xh}\mathbf{x}_i) \right) \mathbf{W}_{hh}^{t-1}\end{aligned}$$

Limitations

“the trailers were the best part of the whole movie.”



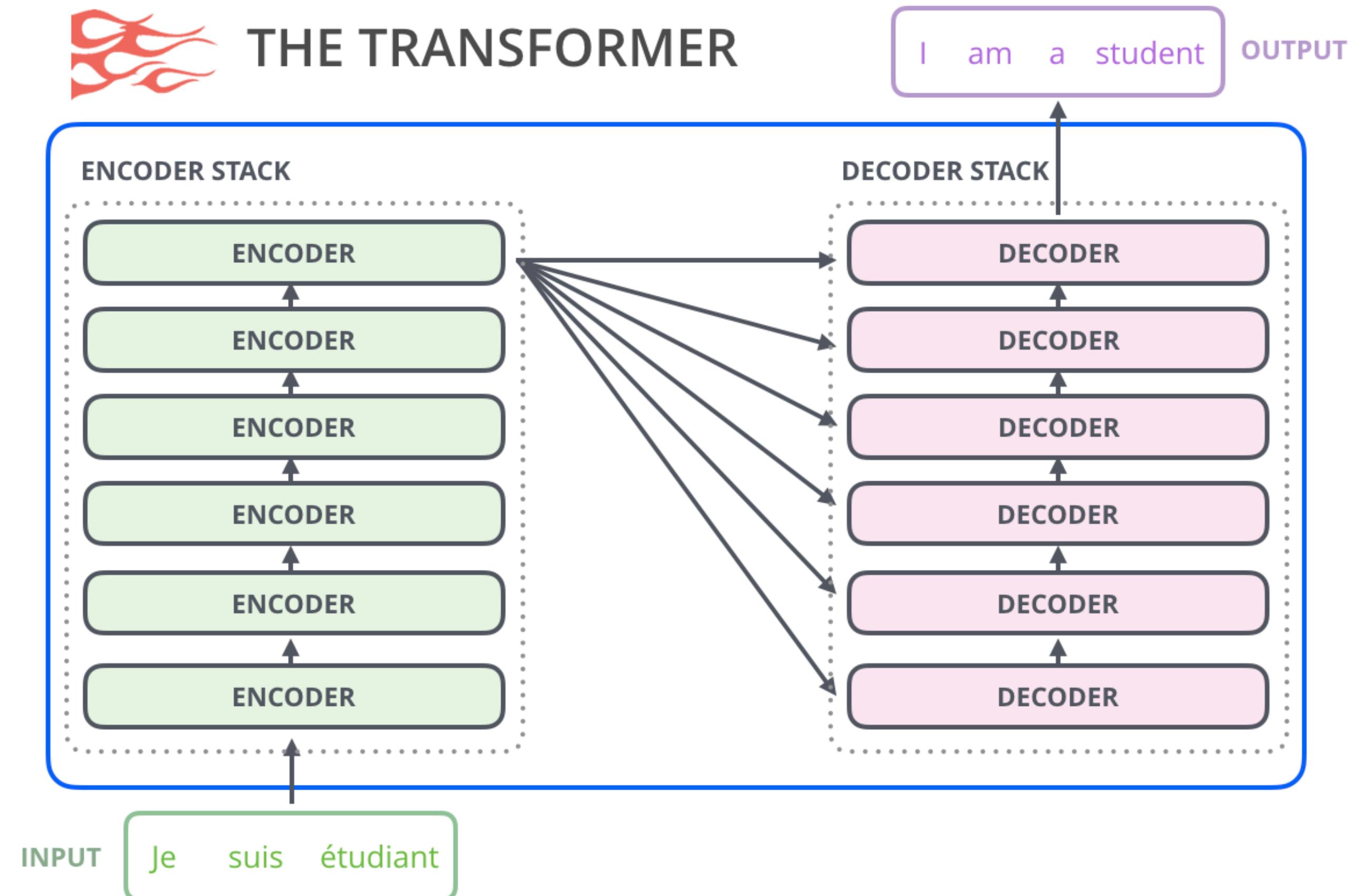
- **Solution.**

- Adopt **extra modules** that is designed for long-term dependencies
 - called LSTM (not covered in this course)
- Let the very old input **directly affect** the new output
 - called Transformers

Transformers

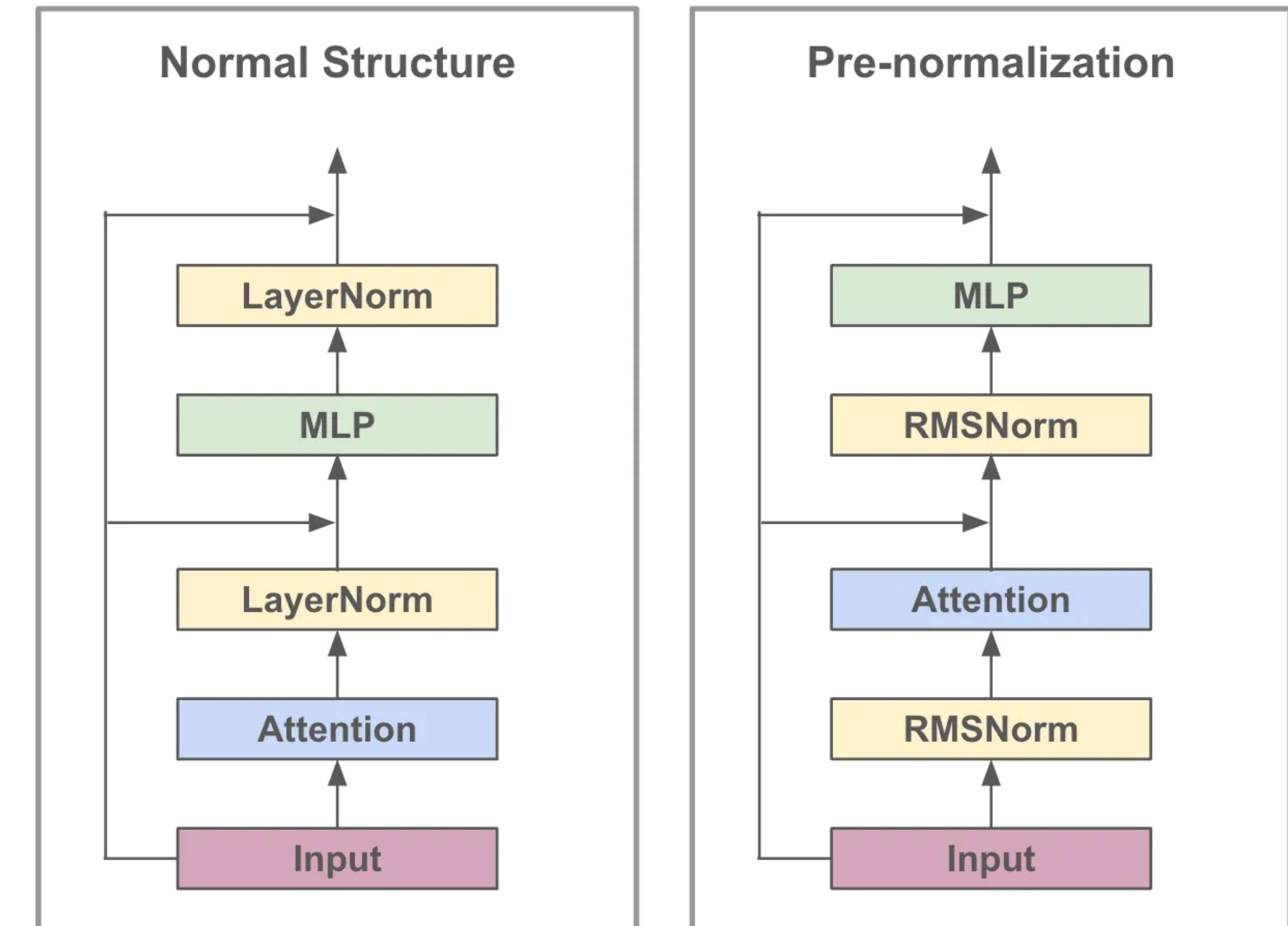
Transformers

- Consists of a stack of encoders blocks, and a stack of decoder blocks
 - **Encoder-only.** BERT
 - **Decoder-only.** GPT (our focus)



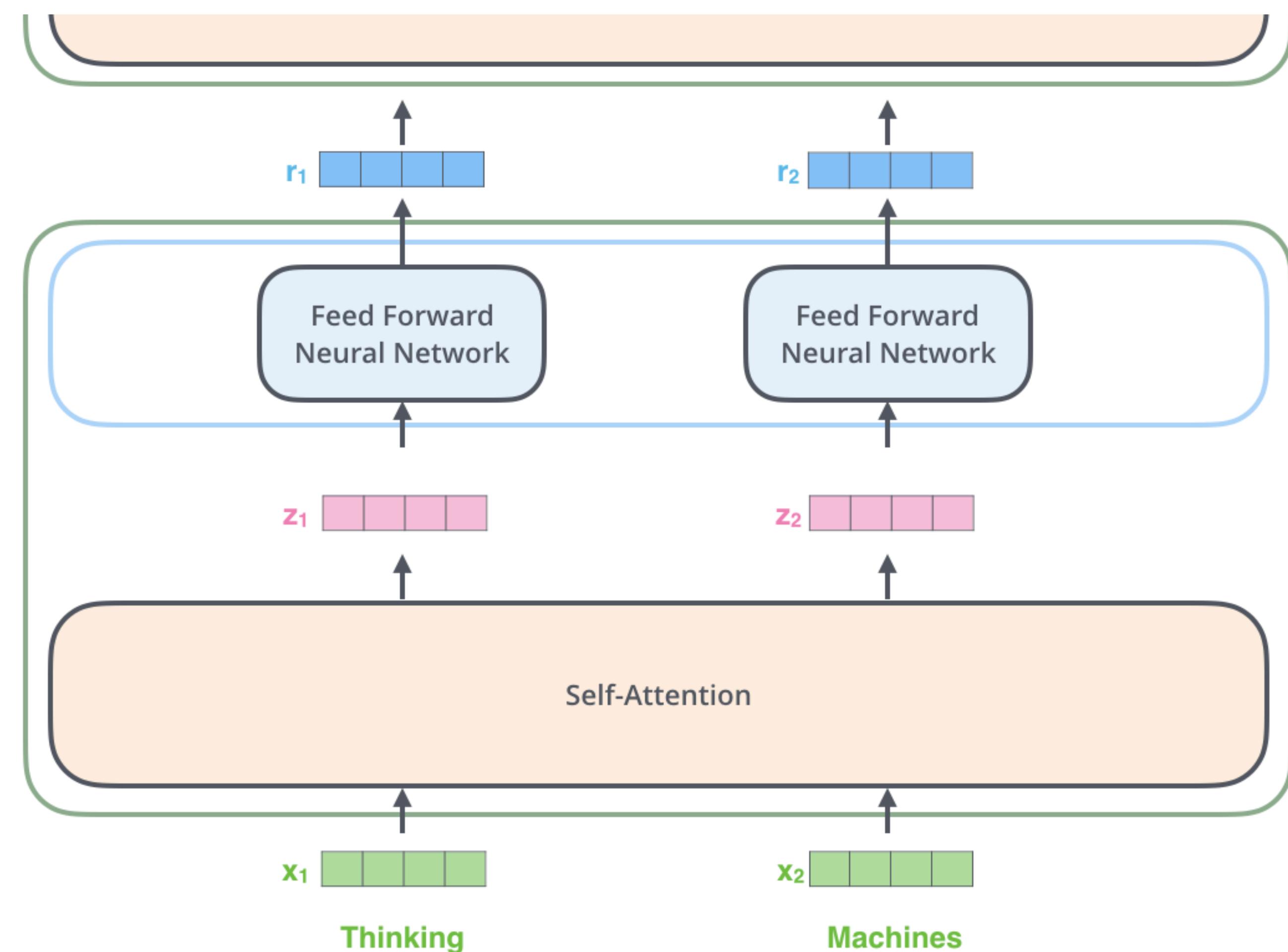
Transformers

- Consists of a stack of encoders blocks, and a stack of decoder blocks
 - **Encoder-only.** BERT
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- Each block consists of four elements:
 - Multi-head self-attention (MHA)
 - Feed-forward network (FFN)
 - LayerNorm / RMSNorm
 - Residual connections



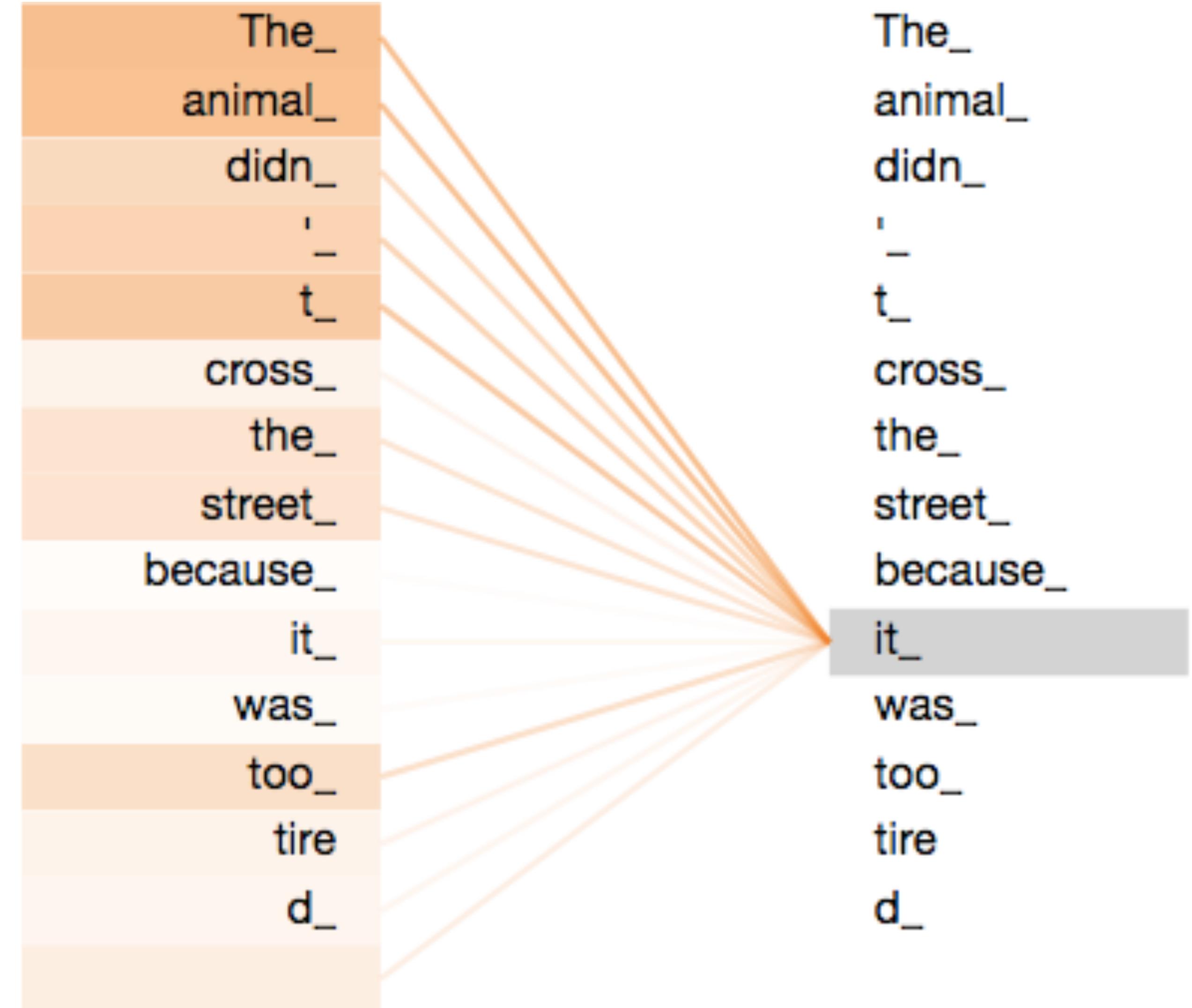
MHA and FFN

- MHA and FFN plays a complementary role
 - **MHA.** Captures inter-token dependency
 - **FFN.** Applies intra-token operations
 - Same operation for all tokens



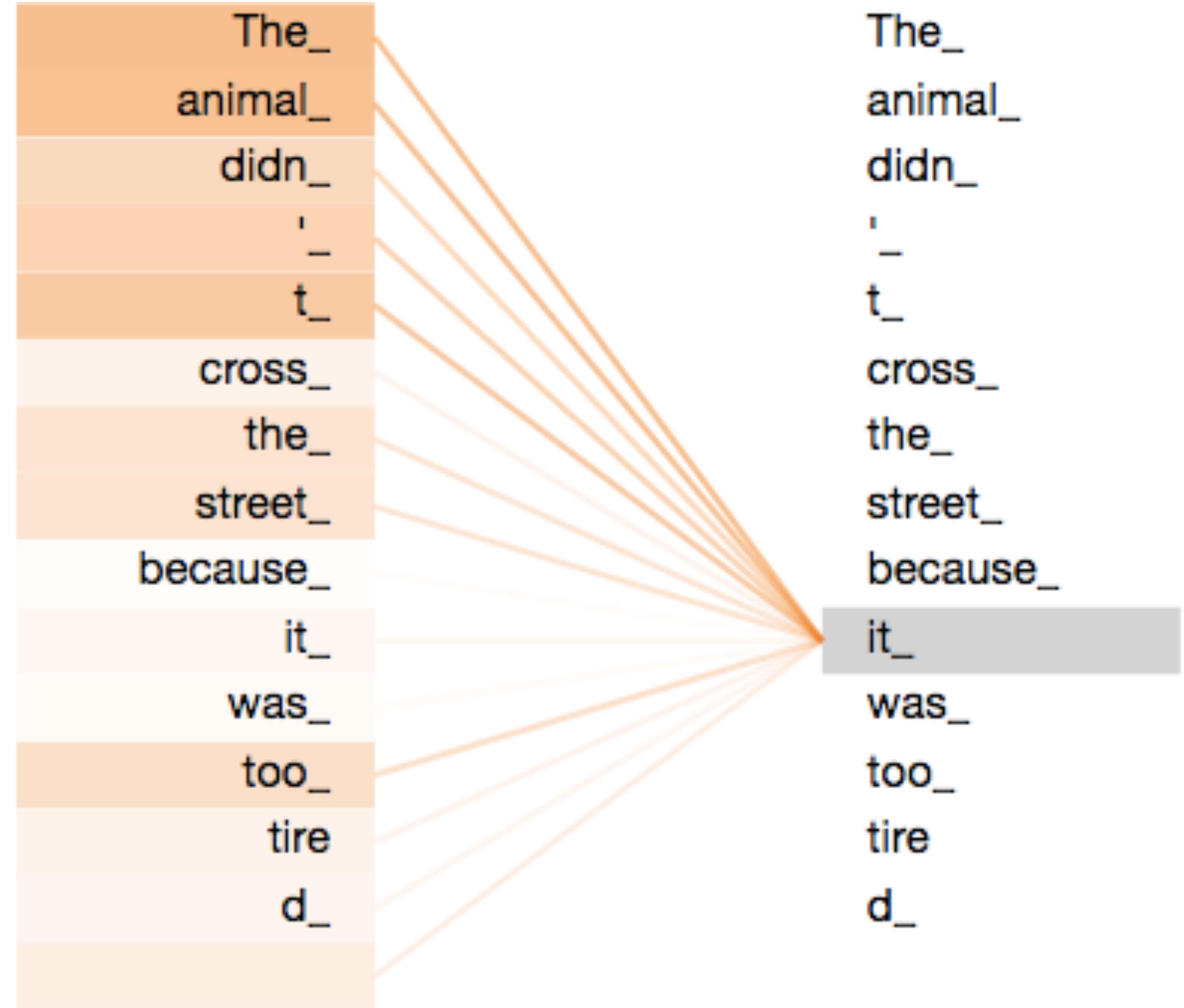
Self-Attention

- **Idea.** Measures the **relevance** of other tokens for processing the target token
 - The token output will be a weighted sum of “values” from other tokens



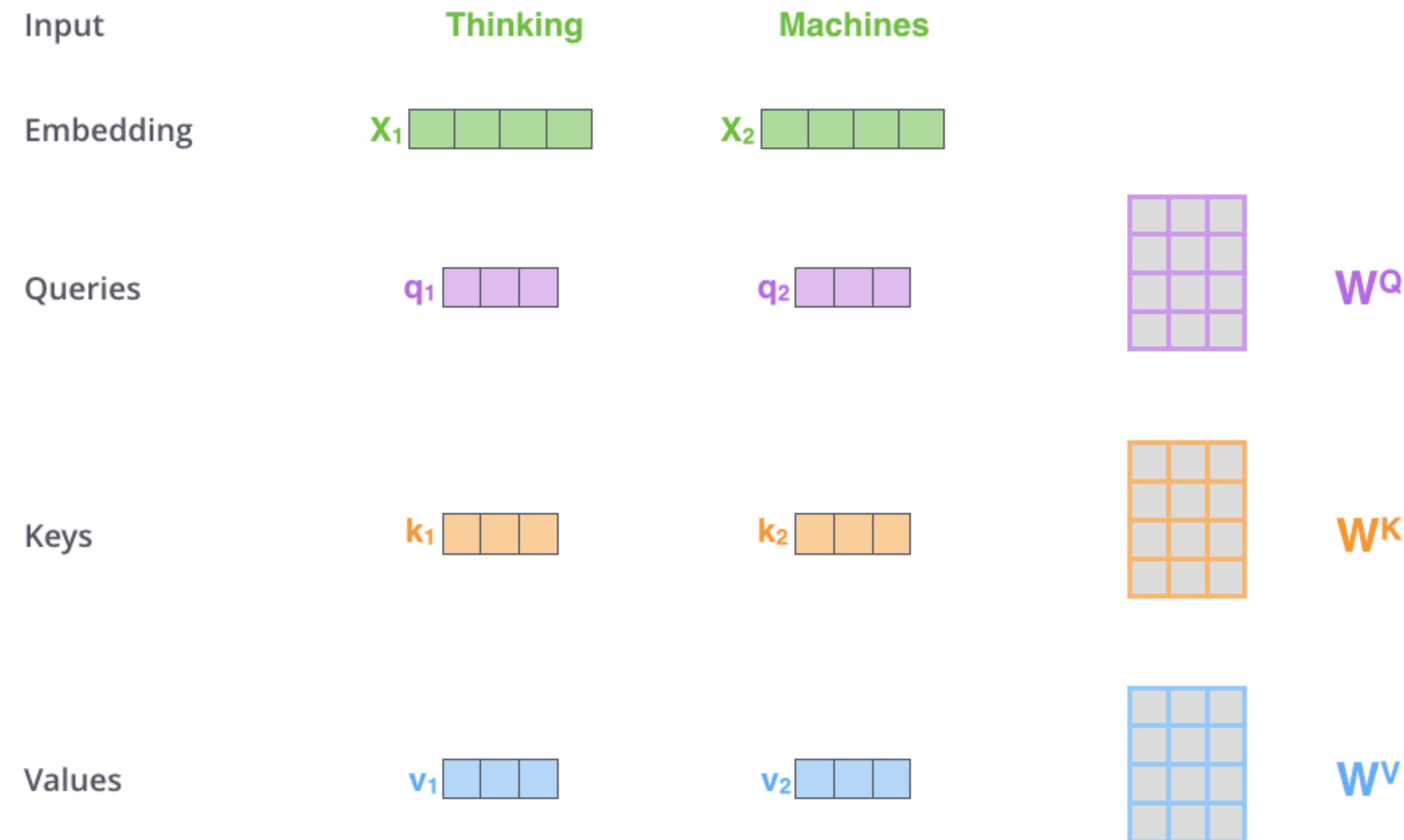
Self-Attention

- **Idea.** Measures the relevance of other tokens for processing the target token
 - The token output will be a weighted sum of “values” from other tokens
 - To measure the relevance, we use the so-called **attention score**
 - Expressed as a softmax of the dot products of query (self) and key (other tokens)
 - Also pays attention to the self
 - thus called self-attention



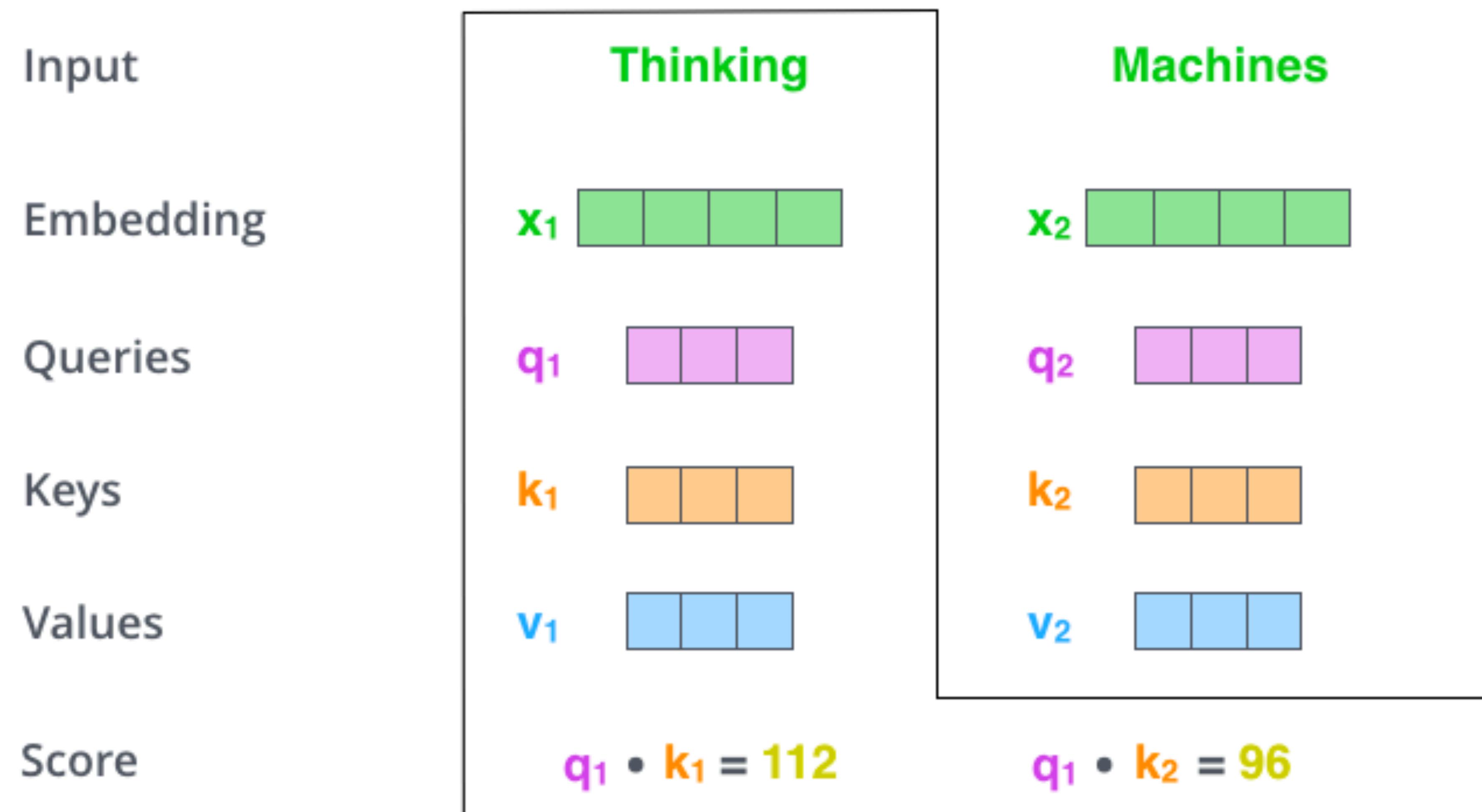
Self-Attention

- **Step 1.** For each **token**, we compute **query**, **key**, and **value**.
 - Weight matrices are shared over the tokens



Self-Attention

- **Step 2.** Compute **dot product** of the **query** (self) and **key** (self, others)



Self-Attention

- **Step 3.** Compute **output** as a weighted sum of **values**, weighted by the **softmax of dot products**.
 - Normalized by the dimensions

$$\text{softmax} \left(\frac{\mathbf{Q} \times \mathbf{K}^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) \mathbf{V}$$

The diagram illustrates the computation of the attention matrix \mathbf{Z} from inputs \mathbf{Q} and \mathbf{K}^T . A yellow bracket groups the softmax function and the multiplication of \mathbf{Q} and \mathbf{K}^T before normalization. Below this, the result is multiplied by \mathbf{V} to produce the final output \mathbf{Z} .

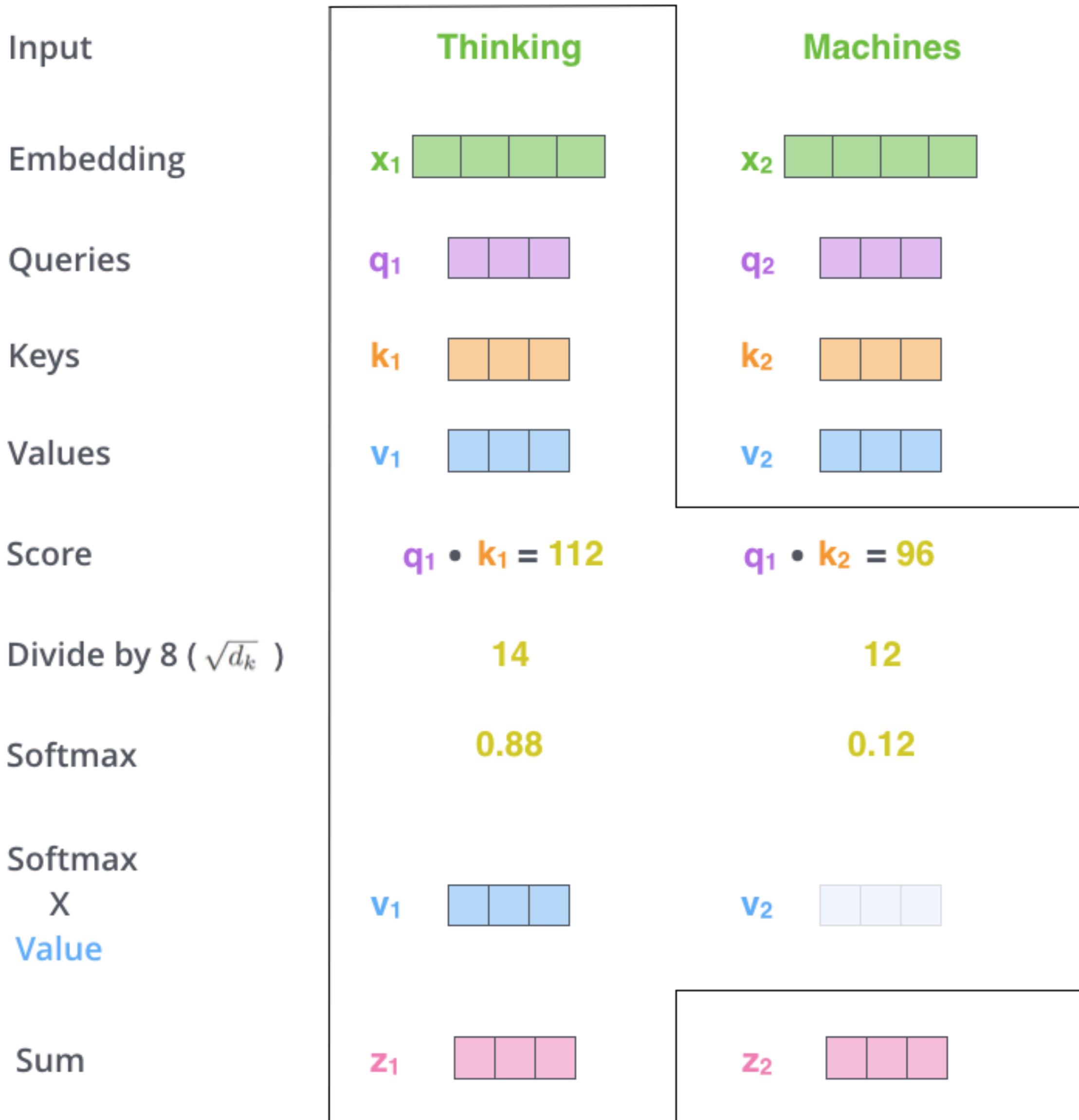
\mathbf{Q} : A 2x4 matrix of pink squares.
 \mathbf{K}^T : A 4x2 matrix of orange squares.
 \mathbf{V} : A 2x3 matrix of blue squares.
 \mathbf{Z} : A 2x3 matrix of pink squares.

Self-Attention

- **Computation & Memory.**

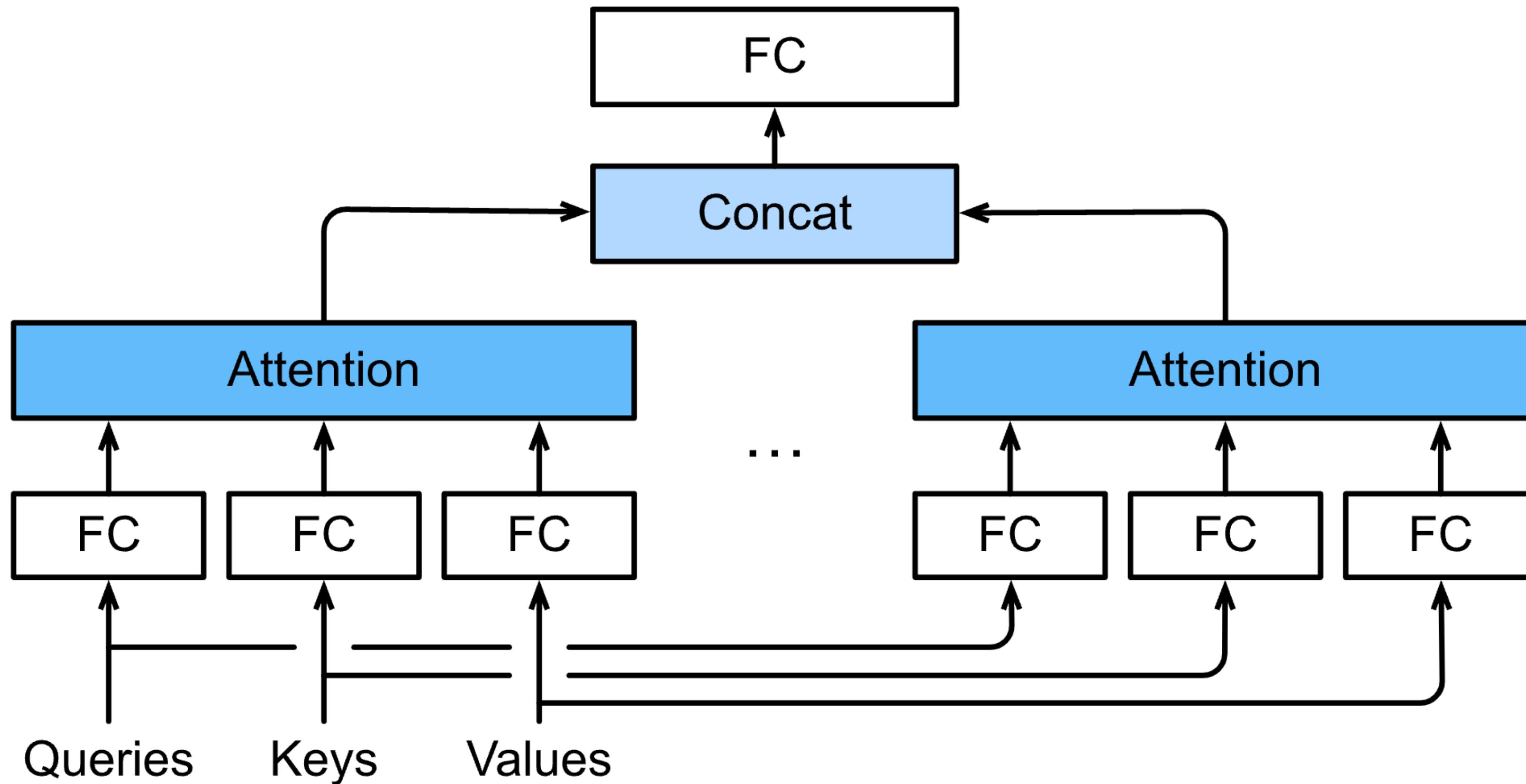
Suppose that we have n tokens.

- Q/K/V computation.
 - $O(n)$
- Attention for each Q-K pairs.
 - $O(n^2)$
- Weighted sum.
 - $O(n^2)$
- Unlike RNN, requires **quadratic** operation with respect to the sequence length!



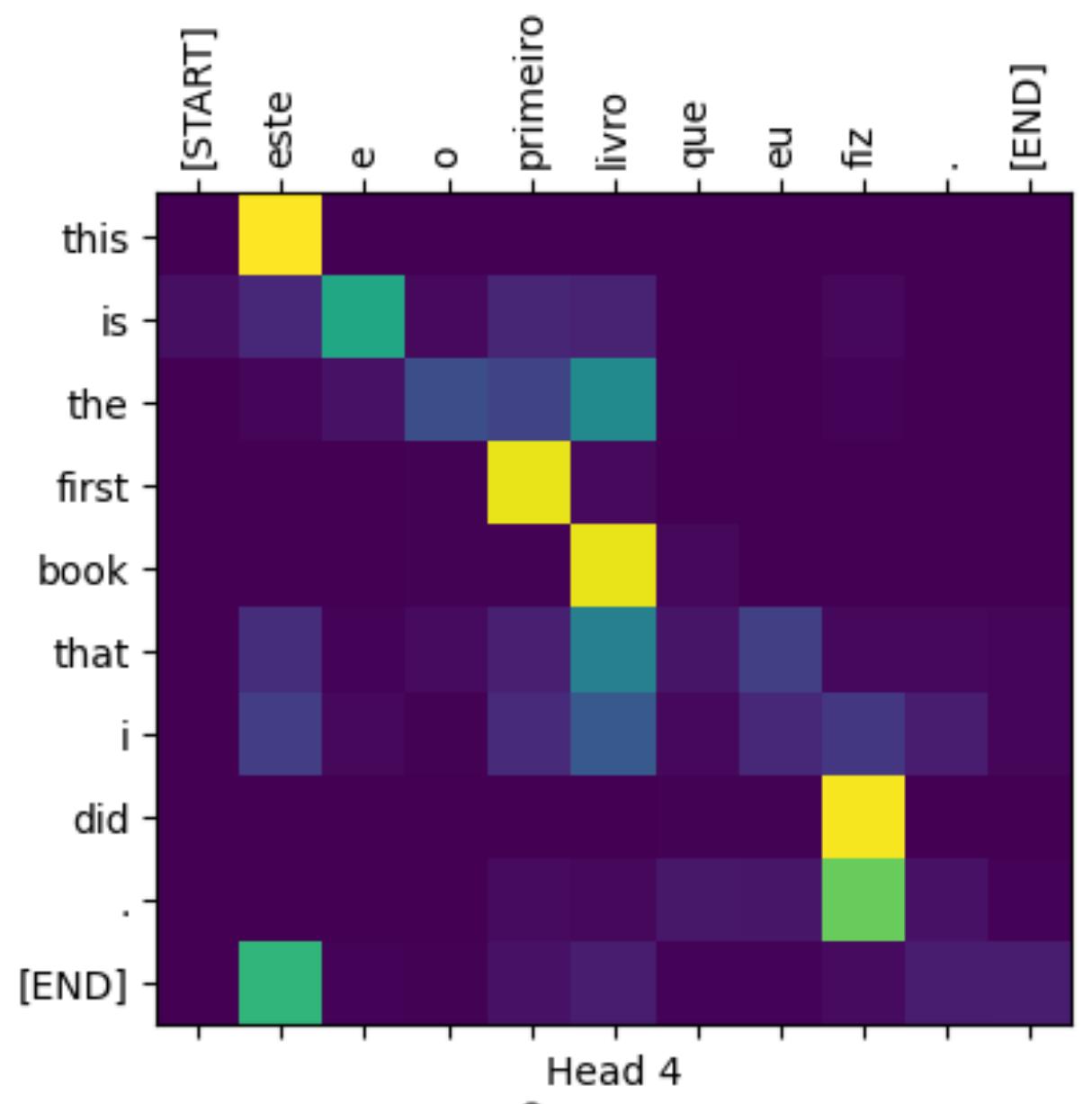
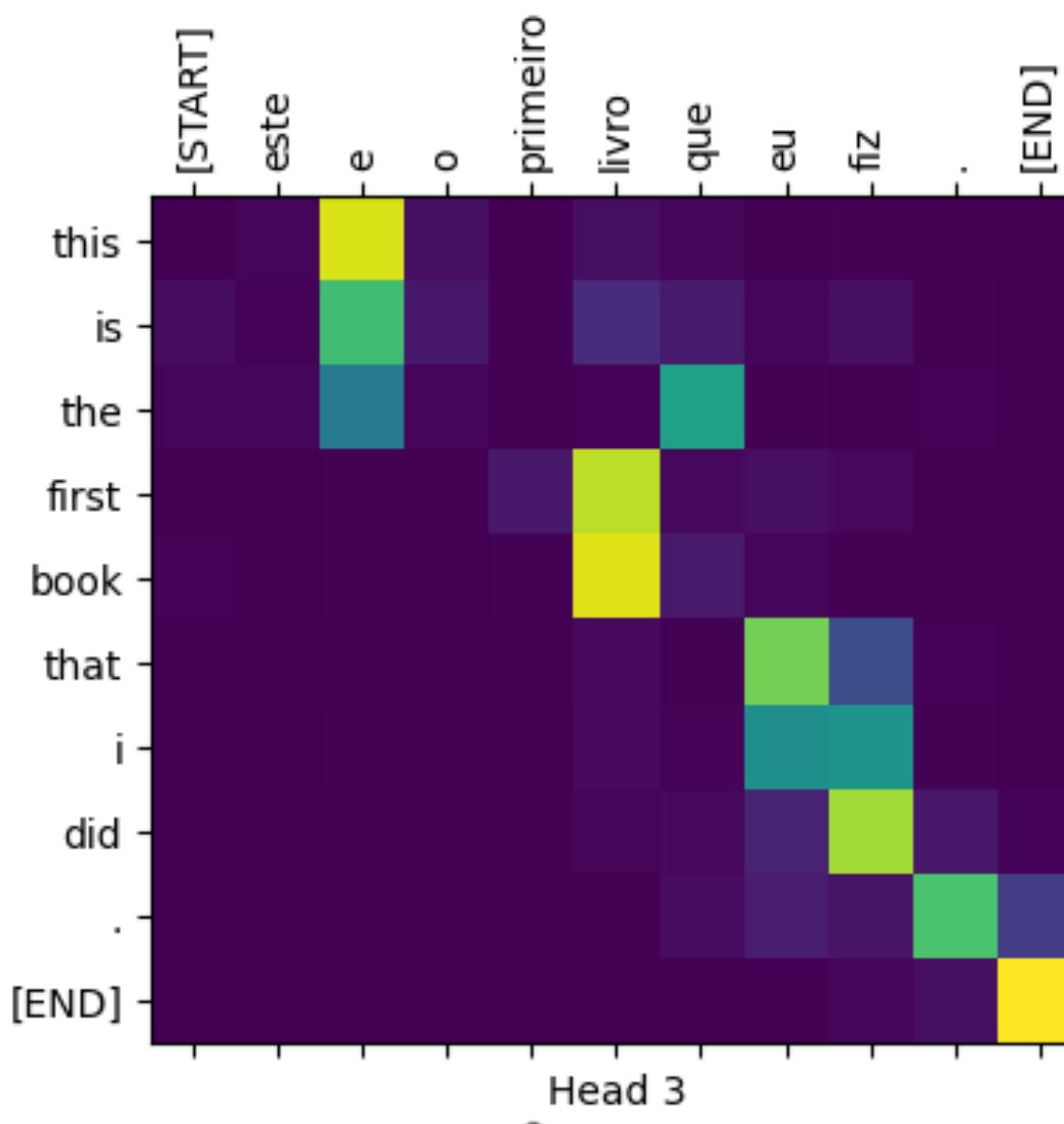
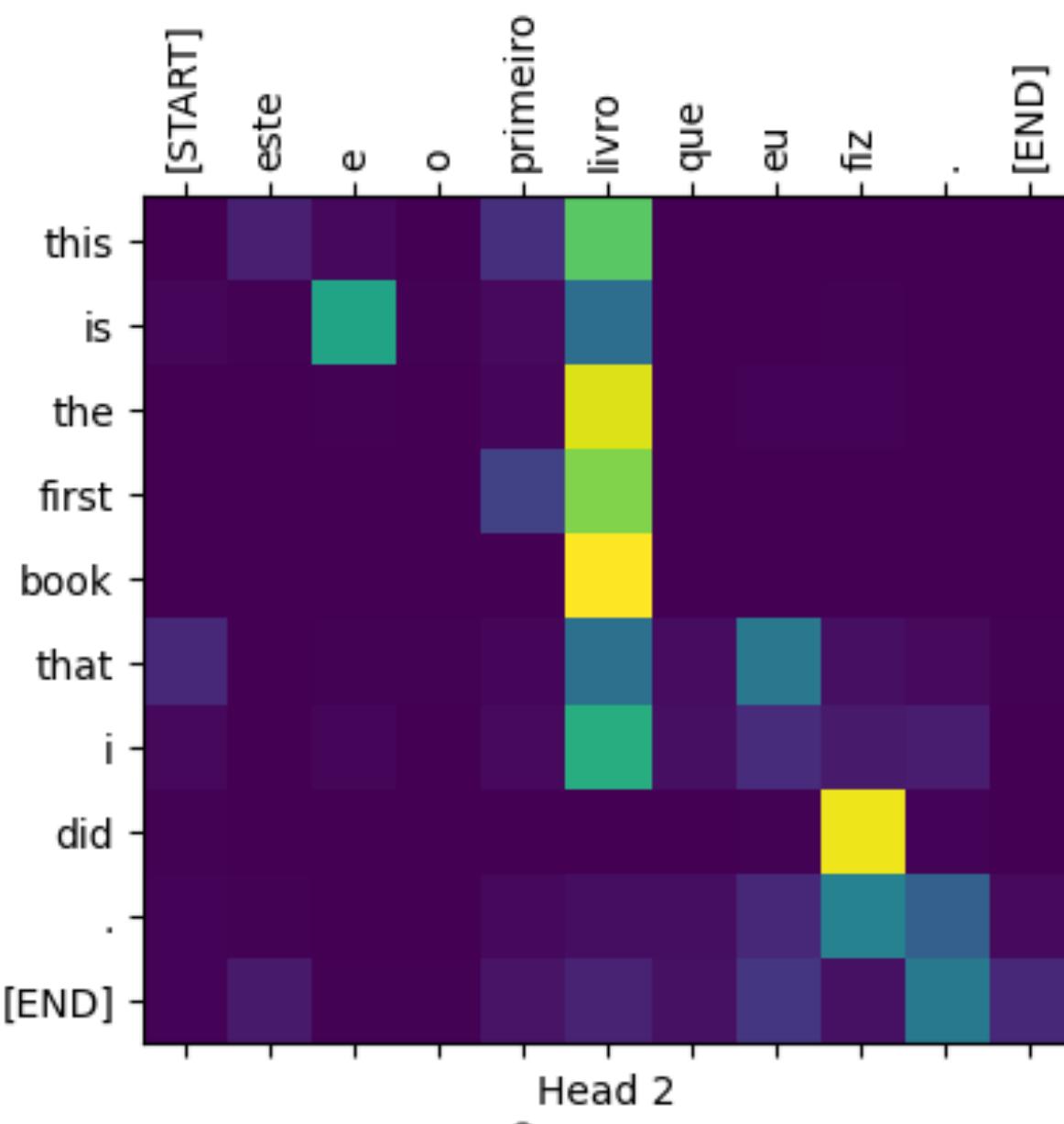
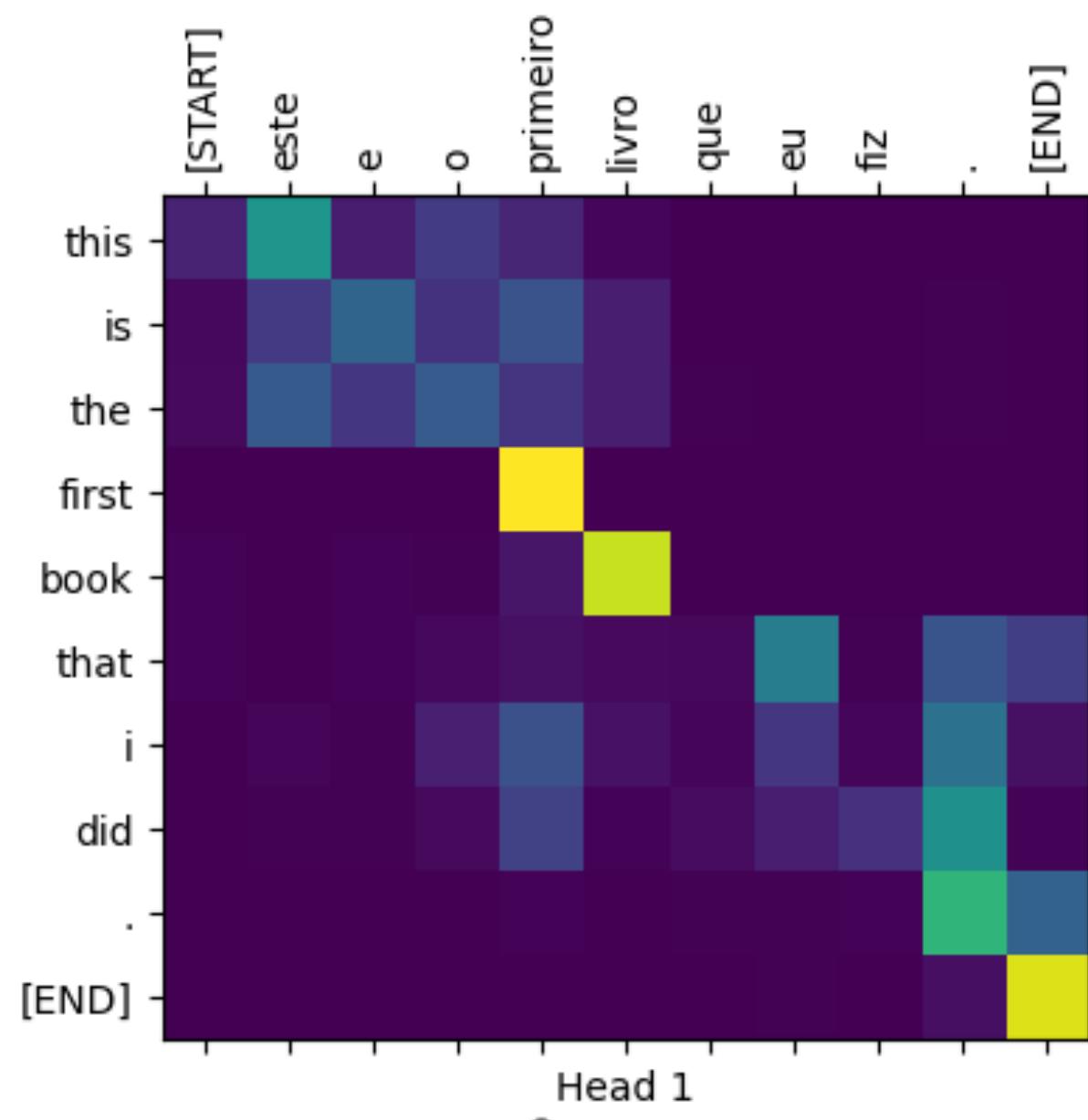
Multi-head SA

- Typically, we use multiple parallel self-attention layers in a transformer block
 - The outputs of the SA blocks are concatenated, and linearly projected.



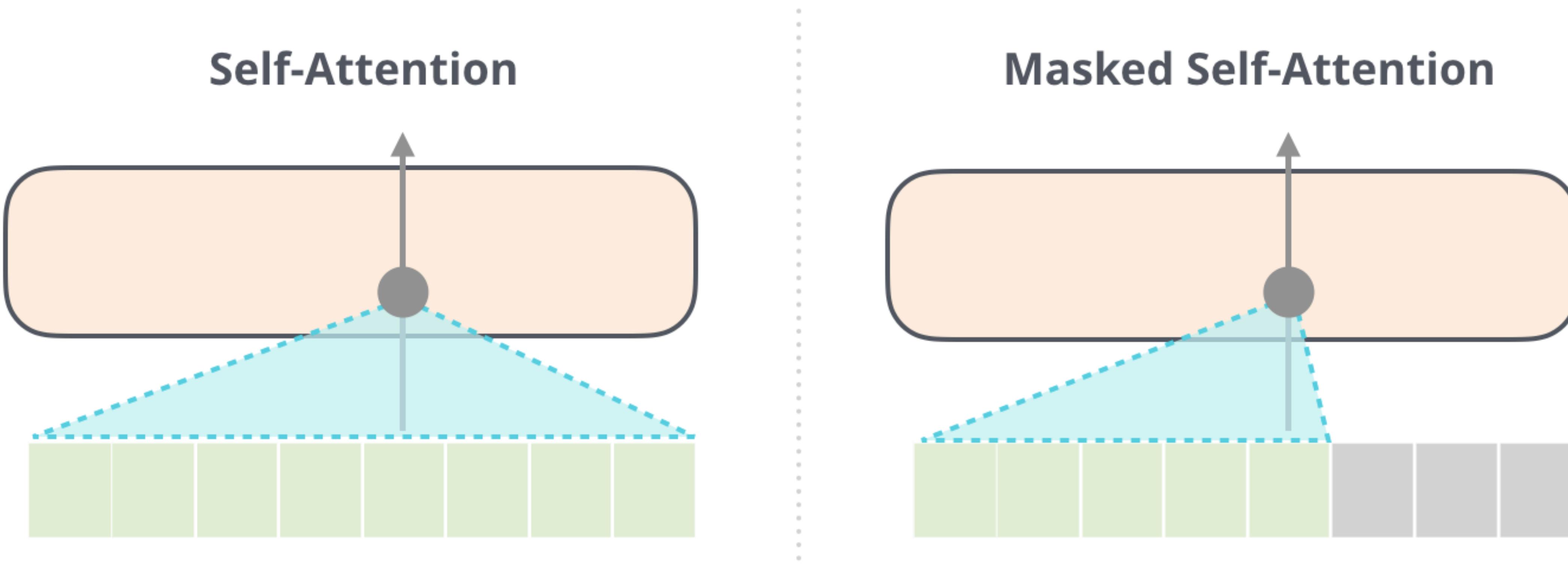
Multi-head SA

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 - The outputs of the SA blocks are concatenated, and linearly projected
 - The heads indeed tend to capture diverse attention patterns



Causal masking for attention

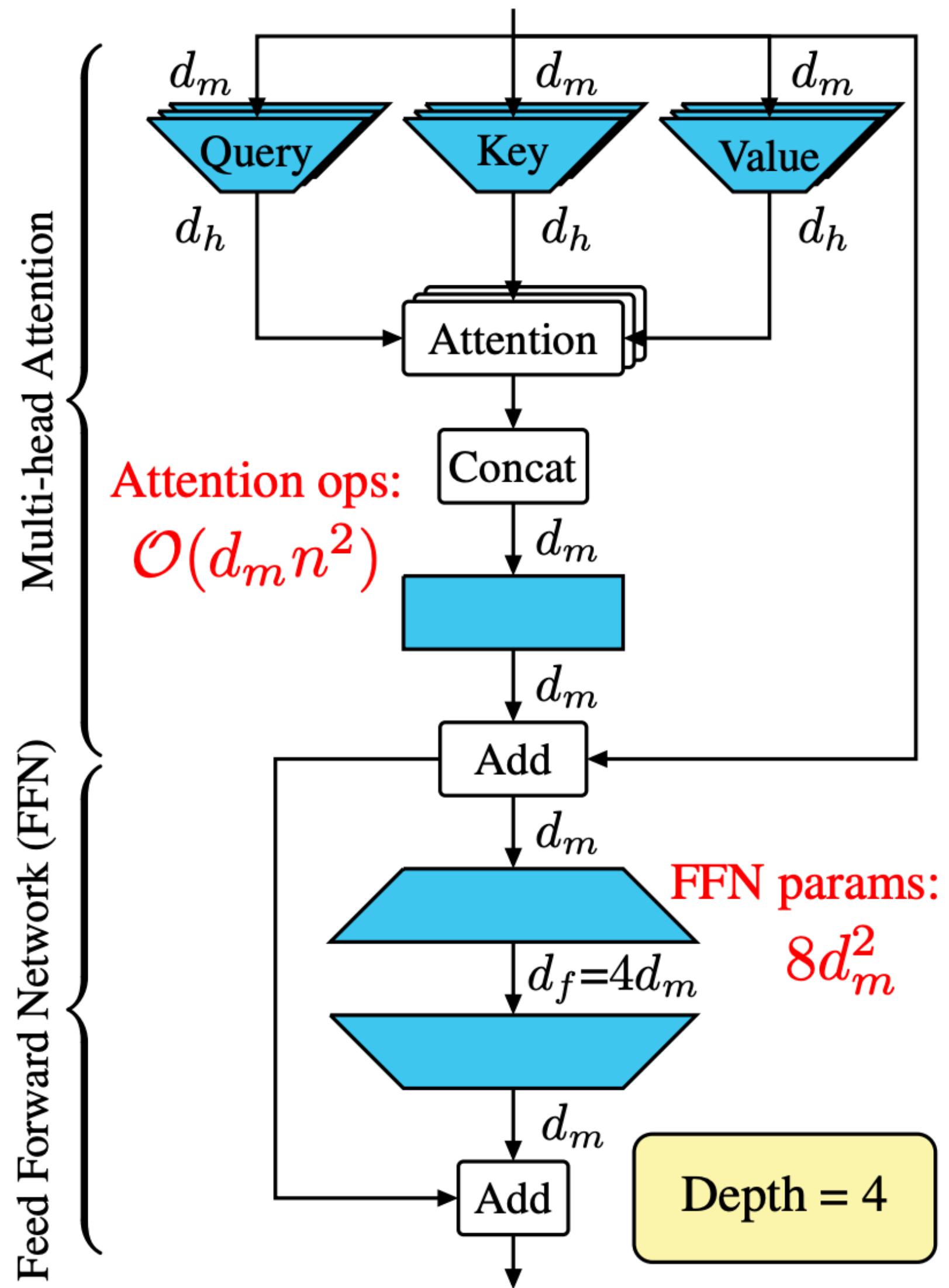
- In decoder-only transformers (like GPT), the self-attention layers are **masked**
 - For generating t th token, one can only see $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}$



Feed-forward network

- Fully-connected layers that follow the MHA
 - If very basic, simply use two-layer nets
 - Takes the **inverted bottleneck** structure
 - Tend to be very compute-heavy
 - Especially so for larger models

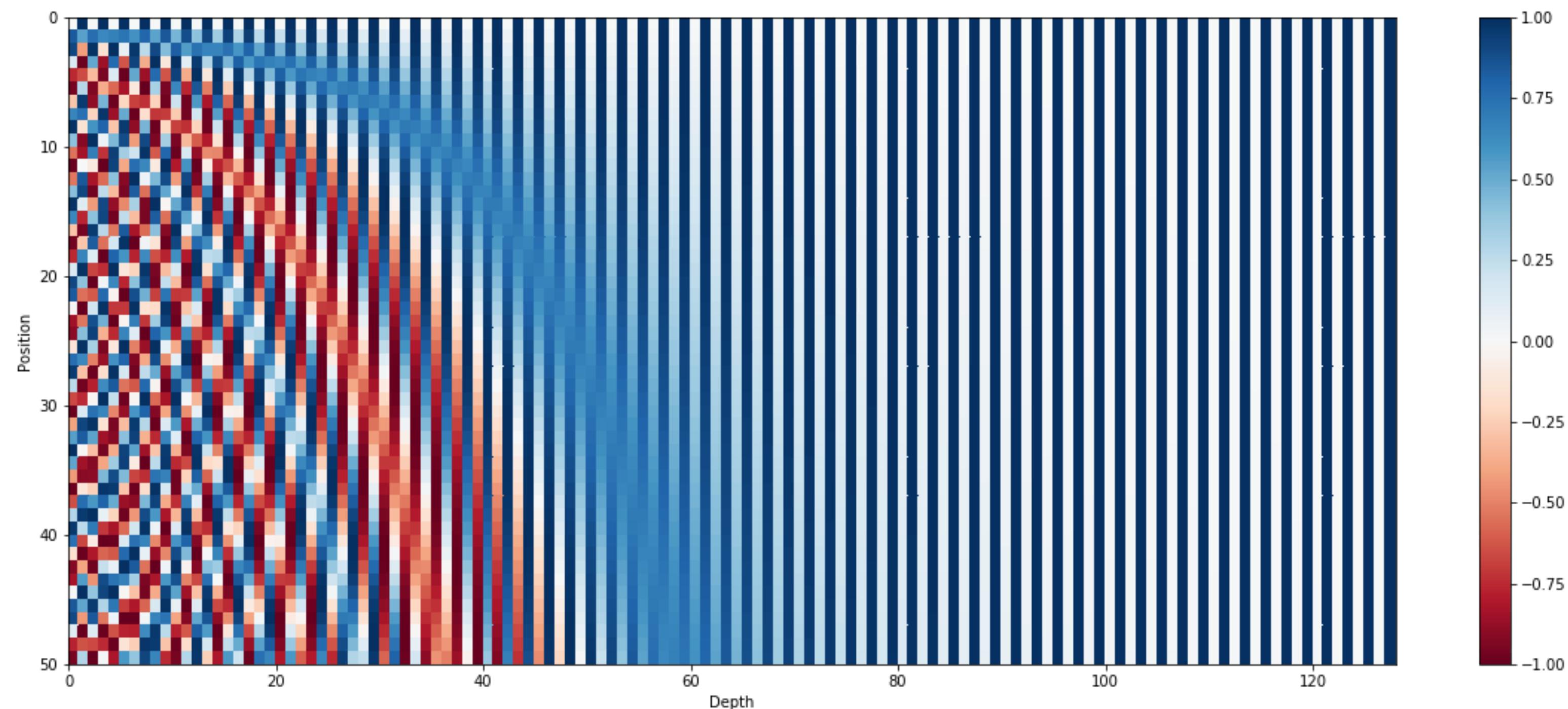
1	description	FLOPs / update	% FLOPS MHA	% FLOPS FFN	% FLOPS attn	% FLOPS logit
8	OPT setups					
9	760M	4.3E+15	35%	44%	14.8%	5.8%
10	1.3B	1.3E+16	32%	51%	12.7%	5.0%
11	2.7B	2.5E+16	29%	56%	11.2%	3.3%
12	6.7B	1.1E+17	24%	65%	8.1%	2.4%
13	13B	4.1E+17	22%	69%	6.9%	1.6%
14	30B	9.0E+17	20%	74%	5.3%	1.0%
15	66B	9.5E+17	18%	77%	4.3%	0.6%
16	175B	2.4E+18	17%	80%	3.3%	0.3%



Positional encoding

- **Observation.** Self-attention mechanism is neat, but it disregards **positional information!**
 - Solution. To resolve this, it is common to add position-specific information to the data (positional encoding; added to initial embeddings)

$$\vec{p}_t^{(i)} = f(t)^{(i)} := \begin{cases} \sin(\omega_k \cdot t), & \text{if } i = 2k \\ \cos(\omega_k \cdot t), & \text{if } i = 2k + 1 \end{cases} \quad \omega_k = \frac{1}{10000^{2k/d}}$$



More references

- **Beginner.** Jay Alammar's blog posts
 - <https://jalammar.github.io/illustrated-transformer/>
- **Advanced.**
 - Phuong and Hutter, "Formal Algorithms for Transformers," 2022
 - <https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.09238>
 - He and Hoffman, "Simplifying Transformer Blocks," 2023
 - <https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.01906>

Cheers