

# NLP Advanced

Wenqian Zhang

Xi'an Jiaotong University

2194510944@stu.xjtu.edu.cn

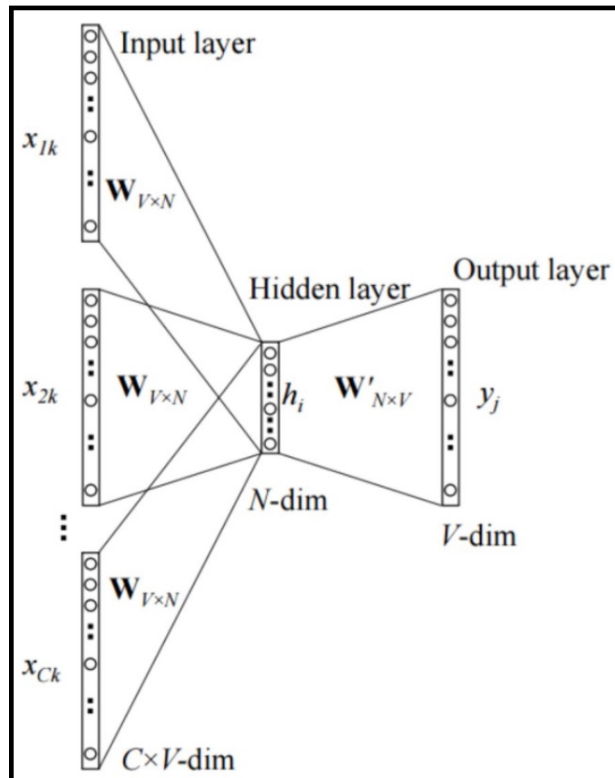
March 2nd, 2022

# Contents

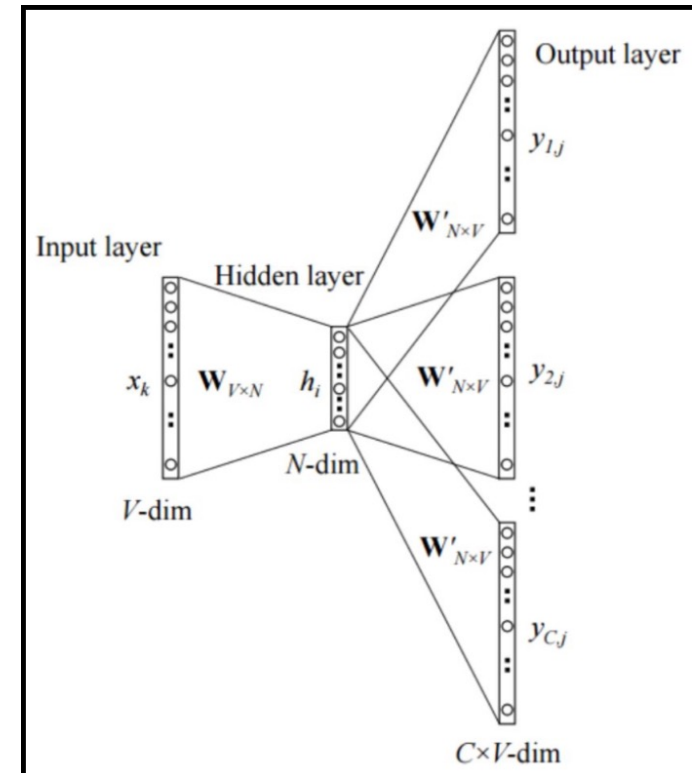
- Revisited
- Attention and Transformers
- Self-supervised Learning
- Pre-trained Language Models

# Revisit: Word2Vec

- “you shall know a word by the company it keeps”
- CBOW



## Skip-Gram



# Revisit: Language Model

- A language model tries to **predict the next word(token)** given the previous token sequence.

$$P(x^{(t+1)} | x^{(t)}, \dots, x^{(1)})$$

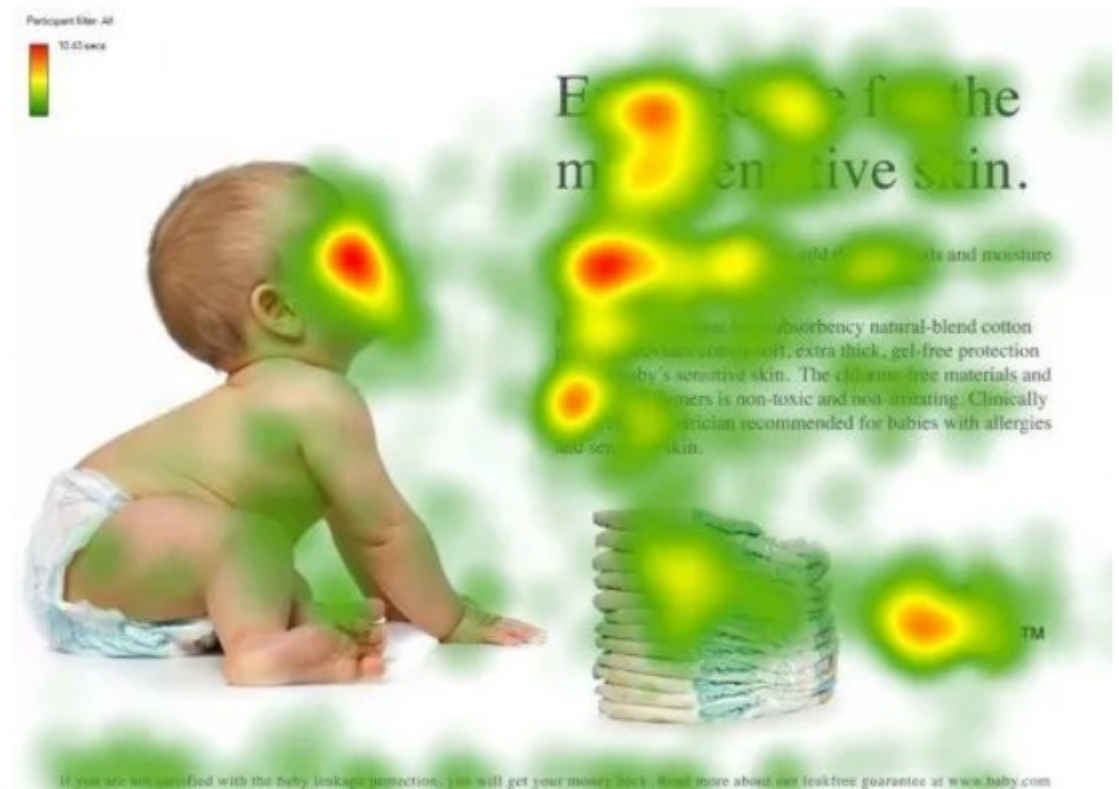
- RNN Language Model
- How to train an RNN language model?

# Contents

- Revisited
- Attention and Transformers
- Self-supervised Learning
- Pre-trained Language Models

# 1. What is attention?

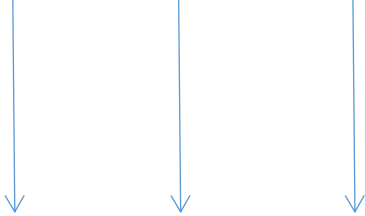
- we tend to focus on something meaningful, containing much information
- Is there a same mechanic for computer?



- attention aids machine to perceive meanings more precisely

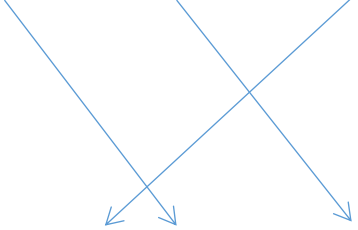
It is often the case in translation that a target word can be inferred by only a few words in the source!

e.g. Tom chase Jerry



汤姆 追赶 杰瑞

An apple a day

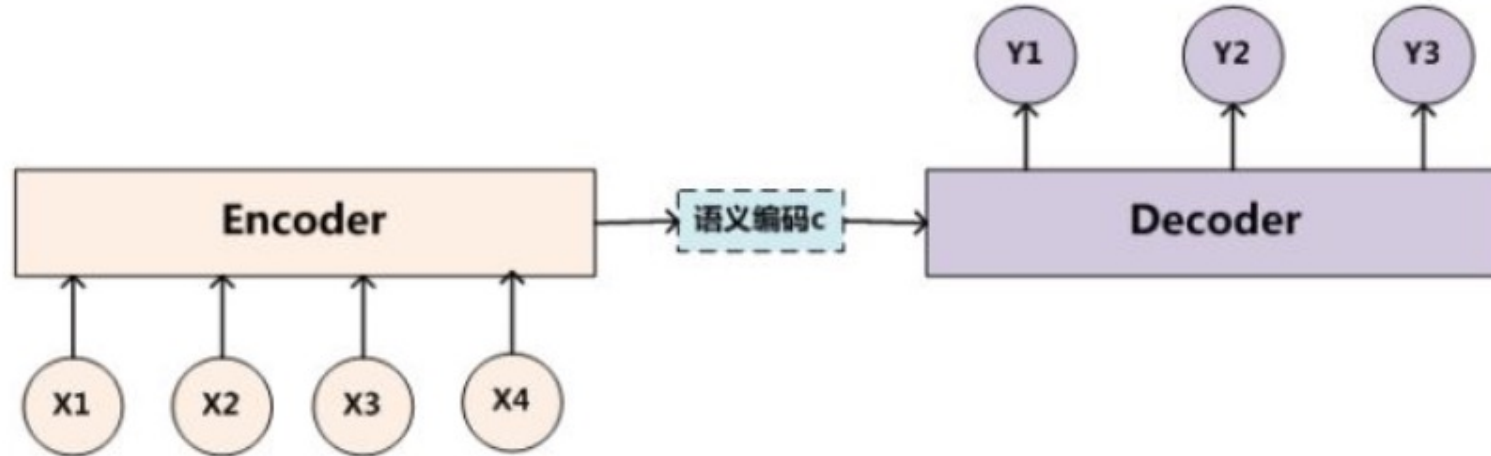


一天一个 苹果

When we get the result ‘追赶’, 'chase' plays a great role.

Now, let's begin with the traditional one

- Encoder---Decoder

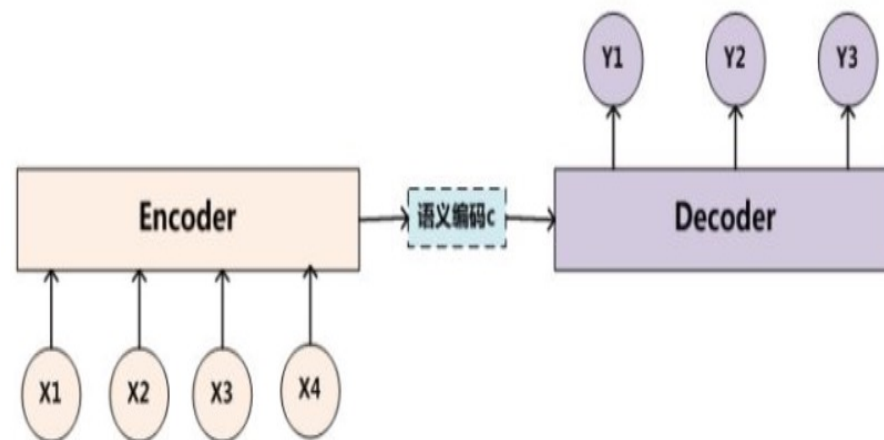


In NLP, encoder---decoder model is widely used;  
It is natural to use RNN in both encoder and decoder



First, embedding and encode

- Source =  $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle$
- Target =  $\langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m \rangle$
- The function of encoder:  $C = F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$   
and this vector C is pass to decoder

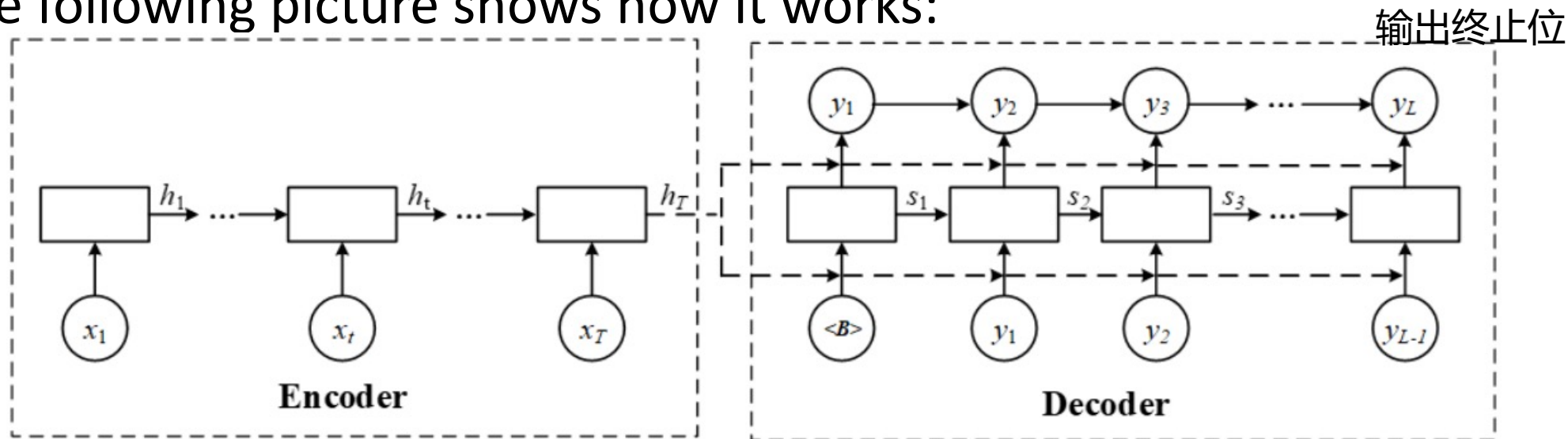


**Then, with the connotation vector, decode**

- Given C, and (Start), get y1;
- Given C, and y1, get y2;
- Given C, y1 and y2, get y3;
- C, y1,y2,...ym-1 are known, get ym=EOS, the translation process ended.

More precisely, we bring RNN into play

- The following picture shows how it works:

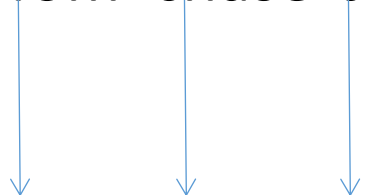


- where  $S_t = f(S_{t-1}, y_{t-1}, h_T)$
- and  $y_t = g(y_{t-1}, S_t, h_T)$

## Problems in the model above

- when we get the translation result  $y_i$ , the whole source sentence is used
- $y_i$  may only rely on  $x_1, x_3, x_4$ , but we have used all words  $x_j$

Tom chase Jerry



汤姆 追赶 杰瑞

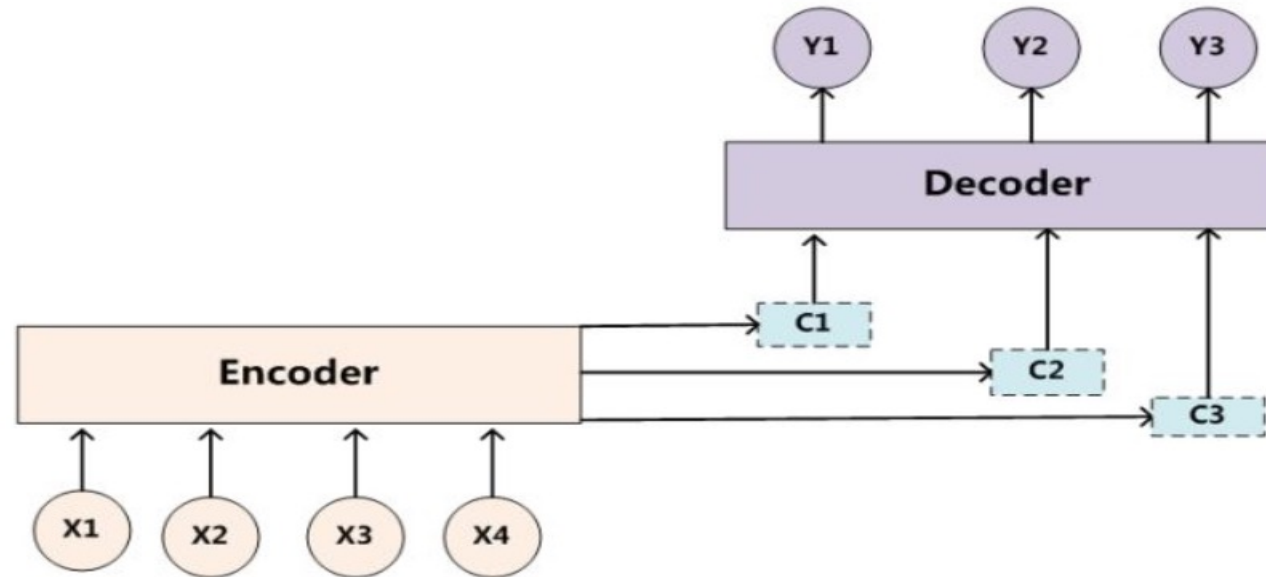
although we can hardly let computer to articulate which  $x_i$  corresponds to which  $y_j$

It will be much better if we attach a weight to each word

e.g. (Tom: 0.2) (chase: 0.2) (Jerry: 0.6) when translate '杰瑞'

## Add attention into the model

- After analysis, it is better to use different context vector  $C_i$  when translate each  $y_i$
- The new m



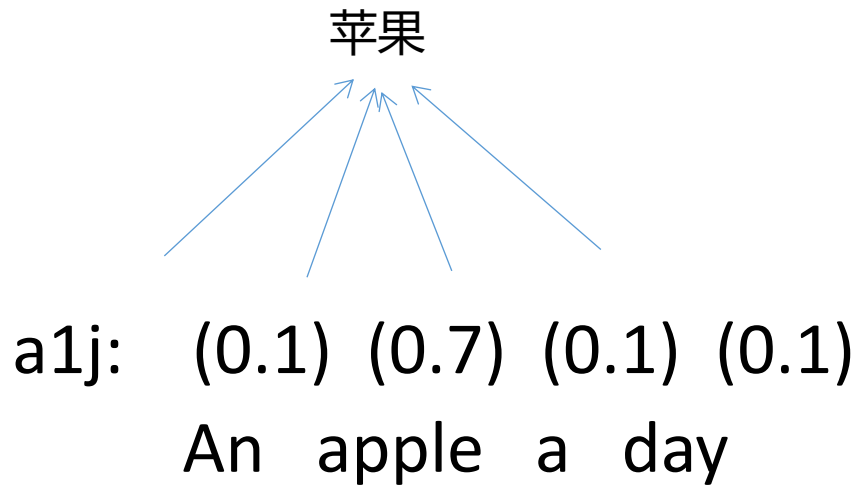
- $y_1 = F(C_1)$     $y_2 = F(C_2, y_1)$     $y_3 = F(C_3, y_1, y_2)$

How to define such  $C_i$ 's

- One idea to get  $C_i$  is weighted-sum

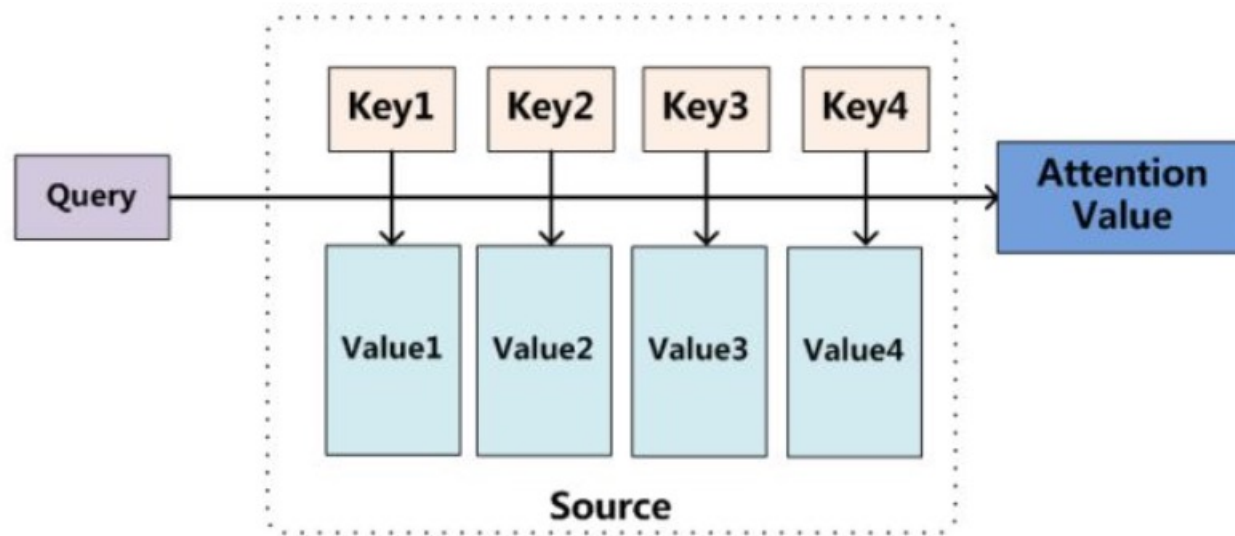
Namely:  $C_i = \sum_{j=1}^L a_{ij} h_j$

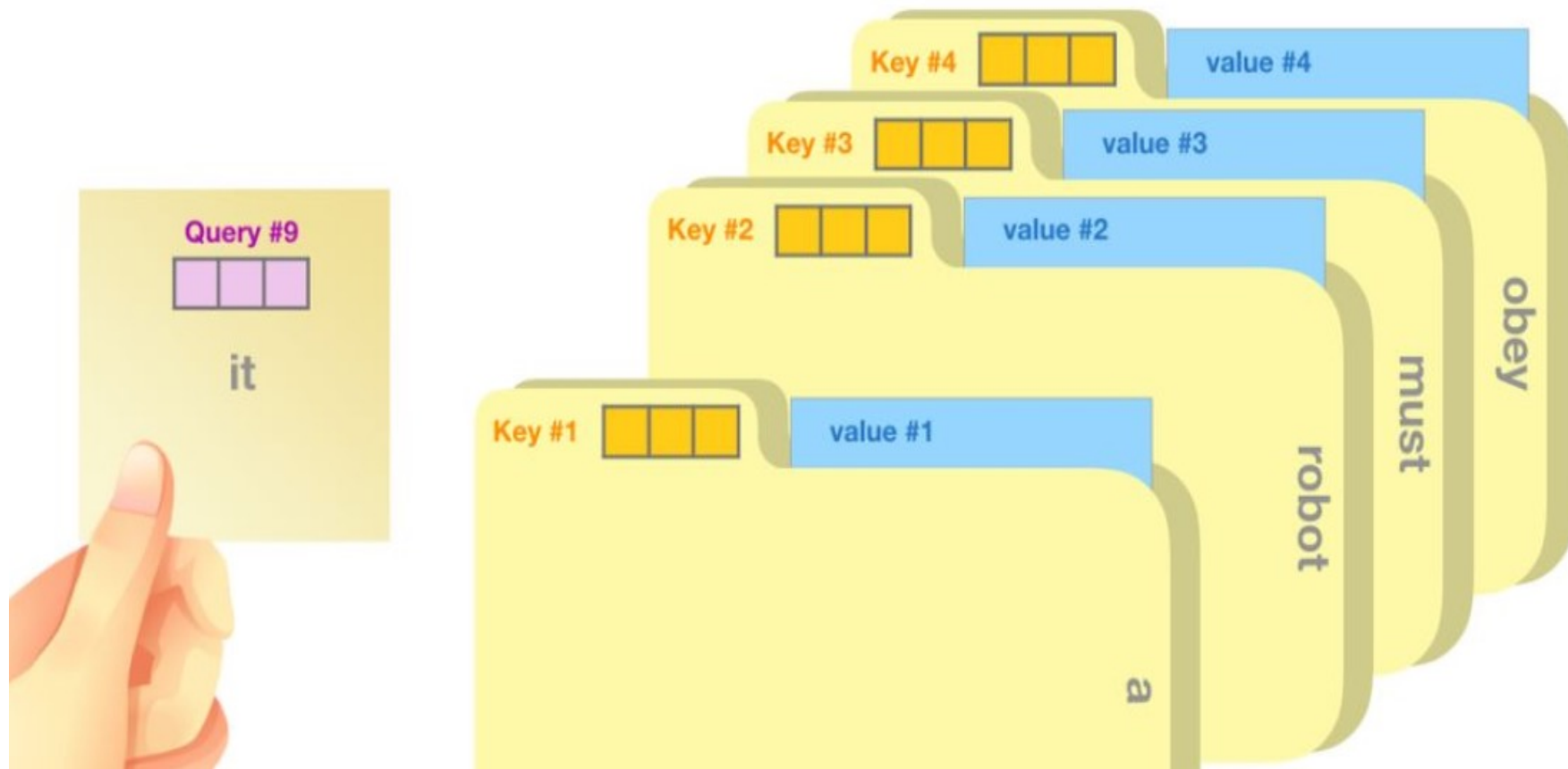
Here  $a_{ij}$  are some coefficients , and  $h_j$  is the embedding vector of  $x_j$



# Soft-addressing

- Now we are going to view the 'attention' in a different way
- What is soft-addressing?
- Attention is a special case of soft-addressing





Key = Value in attention

- the formula is as below:
- $\text{Attention}(\text{Query}, \text{Source}) = \sum_{i=1}^L \text{Similarity}(\text{Query}, \text{Key}(i)) * \text{Value}(i)$
- (1) dot-product:  $\text{Similarity}(\text{Query}, \text{Key}(i)) = \text{Query} * \text{Key}(i)$
- (2) Cosine-sim:  $\text{Similarity}(\text{Query}, \text{Key}(i)) = \text{Query} * \text{Key}(i) / ||\text{Query}|| * ||\text{Key}(i)||$
- (3) scaled dot-product:  $\text{Similarity}(\text{Query}, \text{Key}(i)) = \text{Query} * \text{Key}(i) / \text{squareroot}(d)$



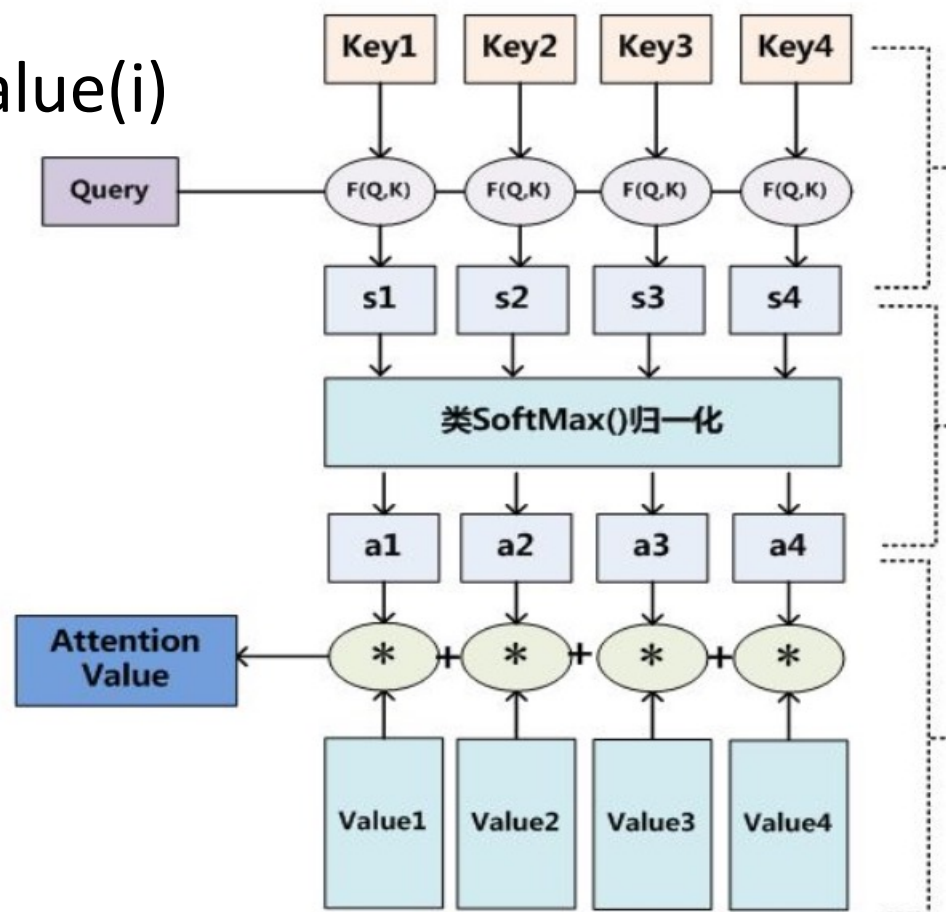
# Get the attention vector

- then ,  $a_i = \text{softmax}(\text{Sim}(i))$ .
- $\text{Attention}(\text{Query}, \text{Source}) = \sum_{i=1}^L a_i * \text{Value}(i)$

$$f(Q, K_i) = \begin{cases} Q^T K_i & \text{dot} \\ Q^T W_a K_i & \text{general} \\ W_a [Q; K_i] & \text{concat} \\ v_o^T \tanh(W_a Q + U_a K_i) & \text{perceptron} \end{cases}$$

$$a_i = \text{softmax}(f(Q, K_i)) = \frac{\exp(f(Q, K_i))}{\sum_j \exp(f(Q, K_j))}$$

$$\text{Attention}(Q, K, V) = \sum_i a_i V_i$$



# Self-attention

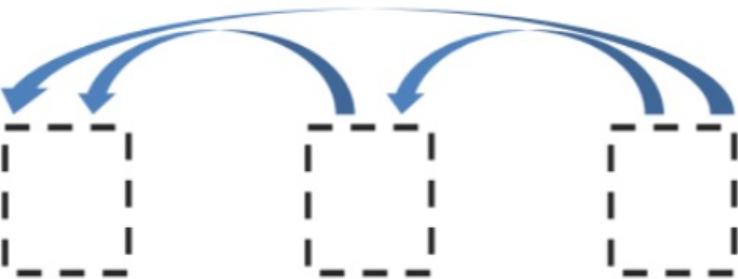
- What is self attention?
- In K=key, Q=Query, V=Value, self-attention takes K=V=Q
- Use self-attention to embed sentence in  $R^d$
- It can catch long-distance dependence
- It is parallizable, we use a matmul to get the result
- constant path length between any two position

# Masked self-attention

- the normal self-attention is fully connected:



- which will be used in encoder
- the masked self-attention is semi-connected:



the later word only depend  
on the former ones

# Multi-head attention

- Instead of compute the attention function once for all, we divide the total dimension  $d=d(\text{model})$  into  $h$  many 'pieces'
- That is , project the total matrix onto  $h$ -many subspaces  
Each subspace has dimension  $d'=d/h$
- It is beneficial to learn  $h$ -many sub-representations, and sum them together to learn the final attention

# Formula for multiheaded

- traditional is :
- $\text{Attention}(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax}(Q \cdot K' / \sqrt{d}) \cdot V$
- multihead splits each matrix, by projecting them onto subspaces:
- written as:  $\text{head}_i = \text{Attention}(QW_i^Q, KW_i^K, VW_i^V)$

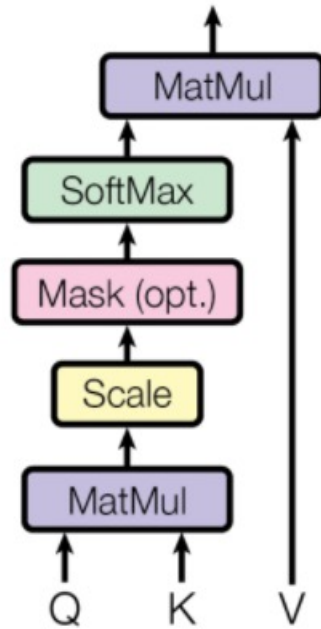
and then:  $\text{MultiHead}(Q, K, V) = \text{Concat}(\text{head}_1, \text{head}_2, \dots, \text{head}_h)W^O$

where:  $W_i^Q \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{model}} \times d_k}, W_i^K \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{model}} \times d_k}, W_i^V \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{model}} \times d_v} \quad W^O \in \mathbb{R}^{hd_v \times d_{\text{model}}}$

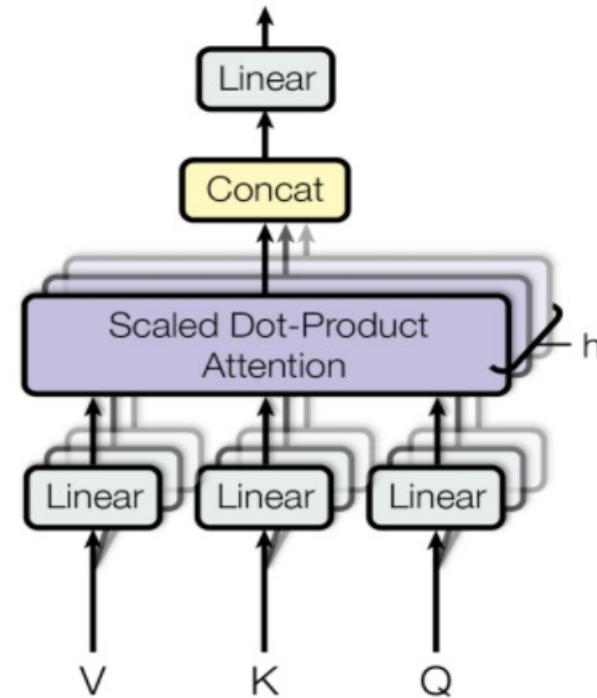
- e.g.  $d(\text{model}) = 512, h = 8$ , then  $d_v = d_k = d/h = 64$

# Some pictures

Scaled Dot-Product Attention



Multi-Head Attention

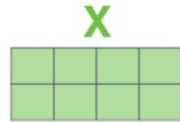


# Some pictures

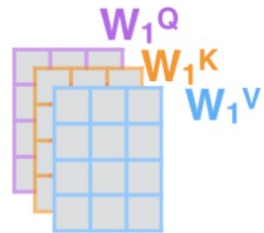
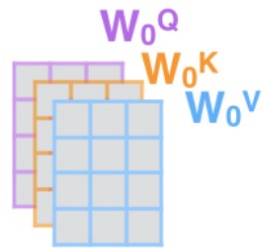
1) This is our input sentence\*

Thinking  
Machines

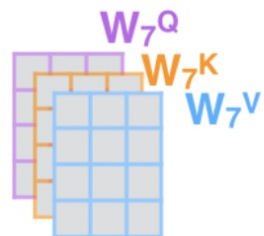
2) We embed each word\*



3) Split into 8 heads.  
We multiply  $X$  or  $R$  with weight matrices



...



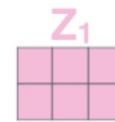
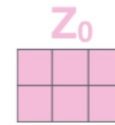
4) Calculate attention using the resulting  $Q/K/V$  matrices



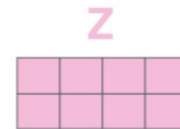
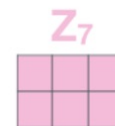
...



5) Concatenate the resulting  $Z$  matrices, then multiply with weight matrix  $W^O$  to produce the output of the layer



...



\* In all encoders other than #0,  
we don't need embedding.  
We start directly with the output  
of the encoder right below this one



# multihead + self attention

- multihead attention allows the model to jointly attend to information from different representation subspaces at different positions
- self attention is good at catching long-distance dependency we can use this to learn word representations
- maybe just attention is good enough !  
" Attention is all you need" --- Google, 2017



# illustrate

## Attention Visualizations

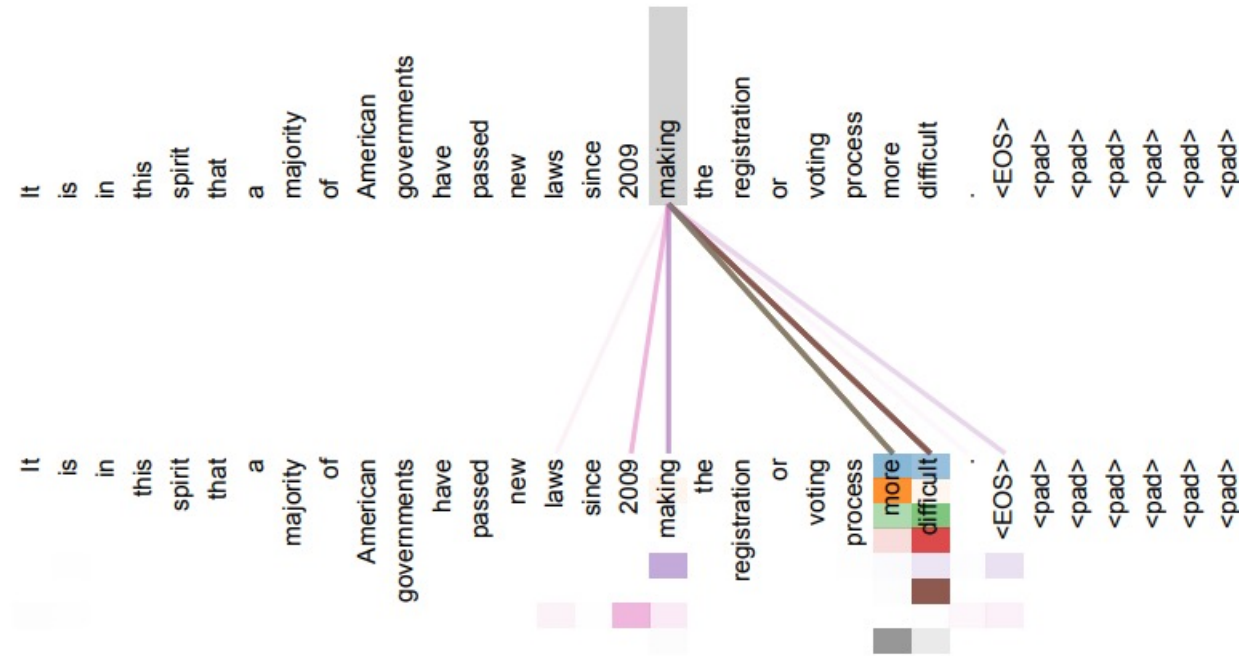
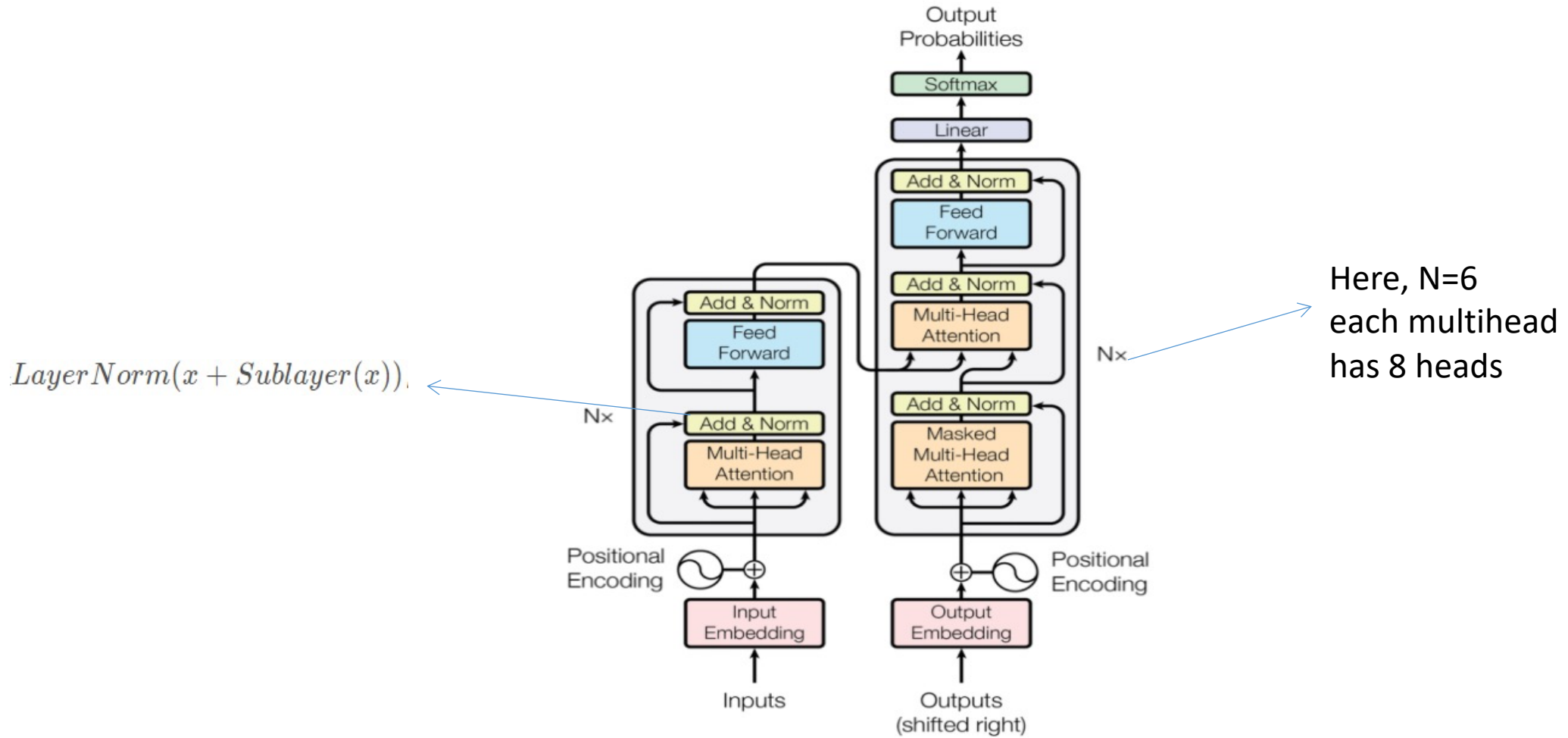


Figure 3: An example of the attention mechanism following long-distance dependencies in the encoder self-attention in layer 5 of 6. Many of the attention heads attend to a distant dependency of the verb 'making', completing the phrase 'making...more difficult'. Attentions here shown only for the word 'making'. Different colors represent different heads. Best viewed in color.

# Only attention

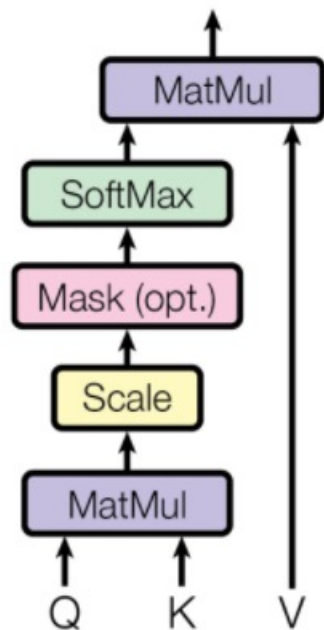
- In 2017, Google successfully built a transformer, using attention mechanism only.
- Without any RNN or CNN in its encoder and decoder
- But the result is cheerful, biting any other translator
- Let's see their model architecture

# Transformers

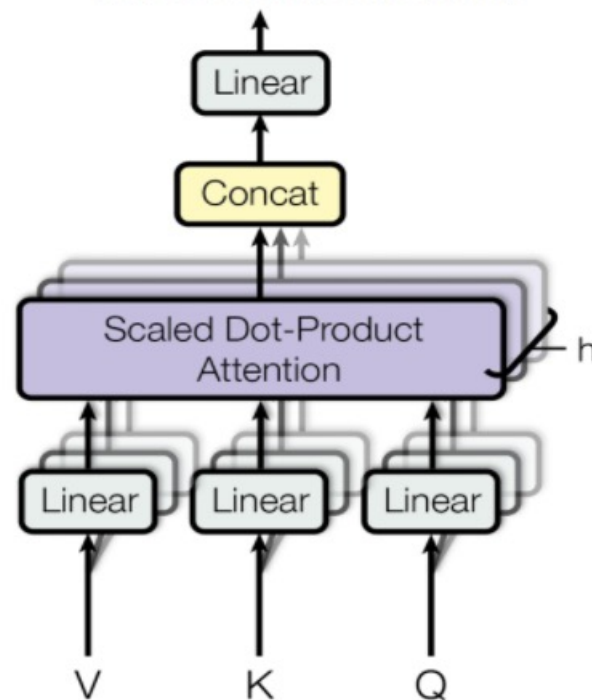


# Some pictures

Scaled Dot-Product Attention



Multi-Head Attention



# Summary

- QKV attention
- Self-attention and in NLP
- Multi-head attention
- transformers

# Contents

- Revisited
- Attention and Transformers
- Self-supervised Learning
- Pre-trained Language Models

# Motivation

- Data annotation has always been the soft spot...
- Few-shot learning
- Unsupervised learning
- Semi-supervised learning
- Self-supervised learning

# Definition

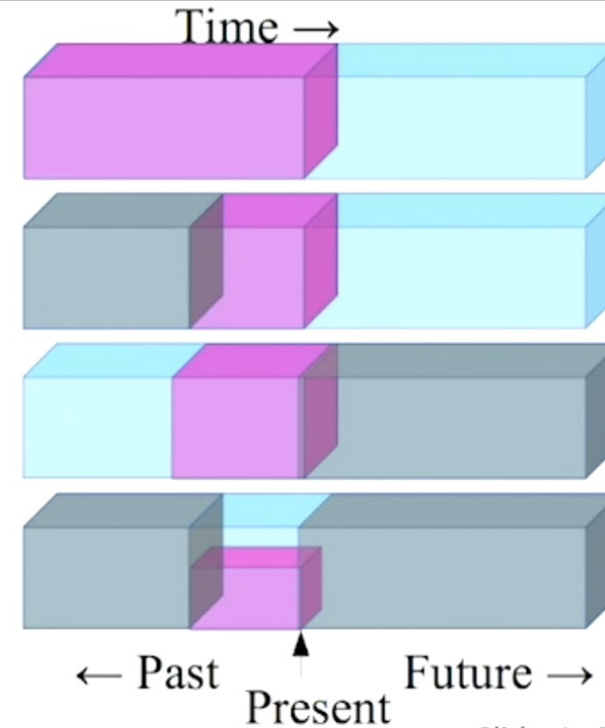
- Framing a supervised learning task in a special form where **predict only a subset of information using the rest**
- In which way, both inputs and labels are provided by the dataset



# But

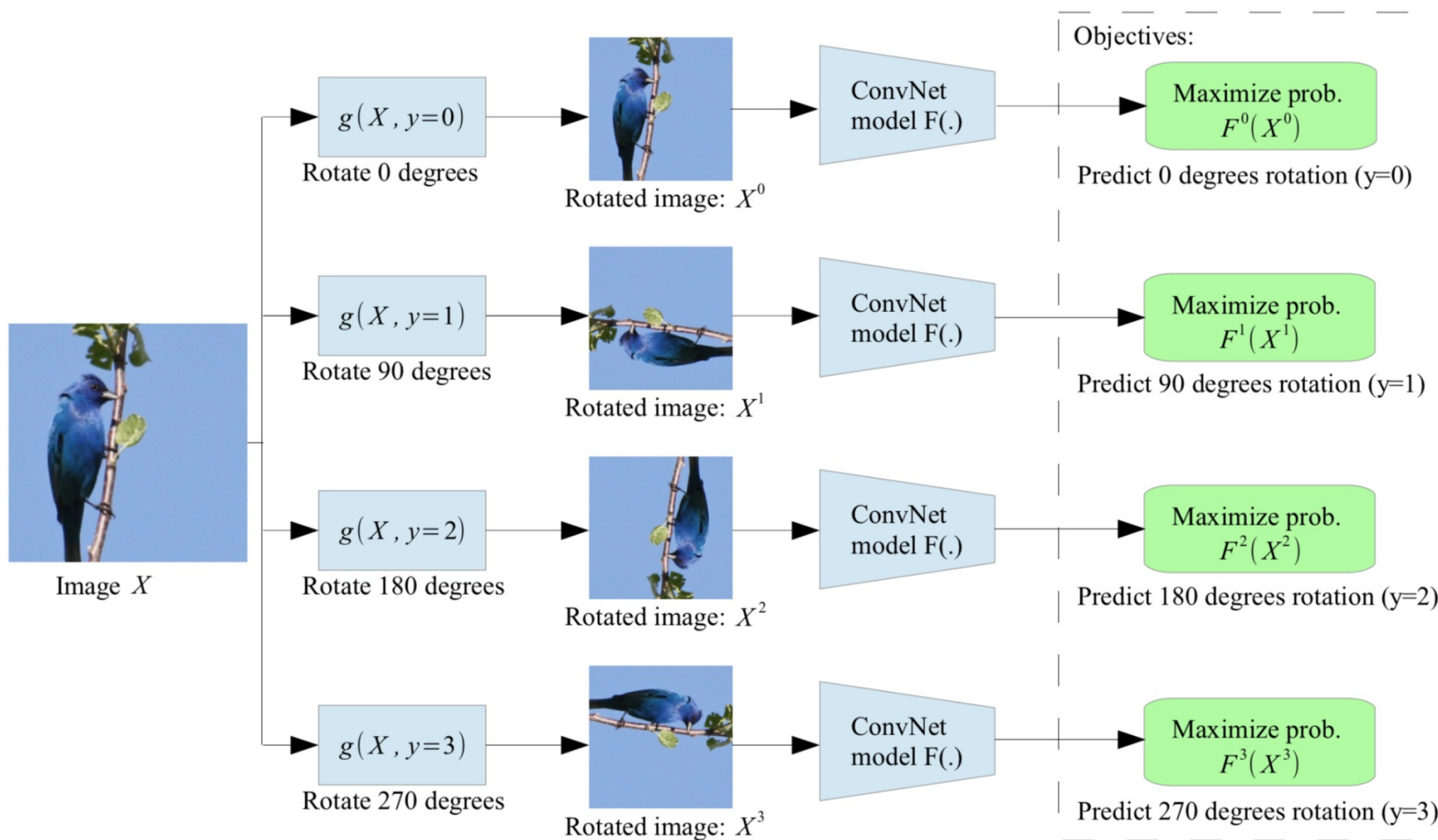
- How do we decide which to predict?

- ▶ Predict any part of the input from any other part.
- ▶ Predict the **future** from the **past**.
- ▶ Predict the **future** from the **recent past**.
- ▶ Predict the **past** from the **present**.
- ▶ Predict the **top** from the **bottom**.
- ▶ Predict the occluded from the visible
- ▶ **Pretend there is a part of the input you don't know and predict that.**



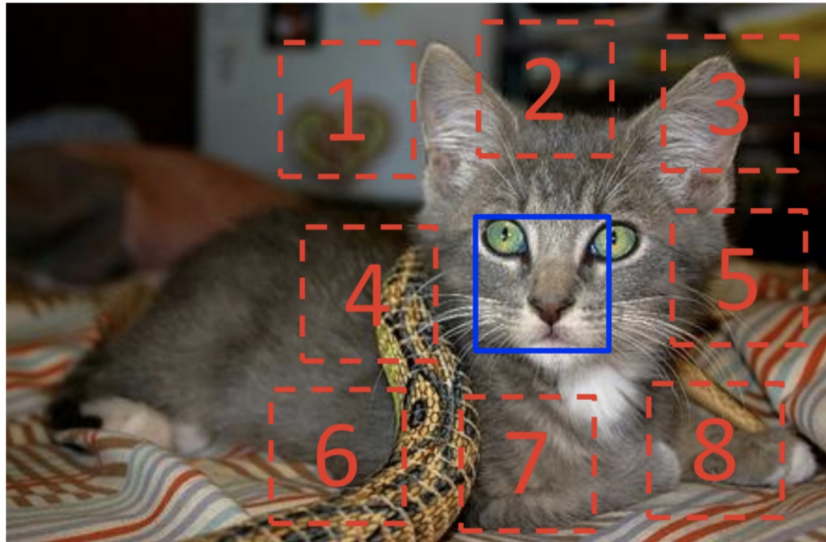
Slide: LeCun

# Image: Rotation



- Learn image semantics in the process

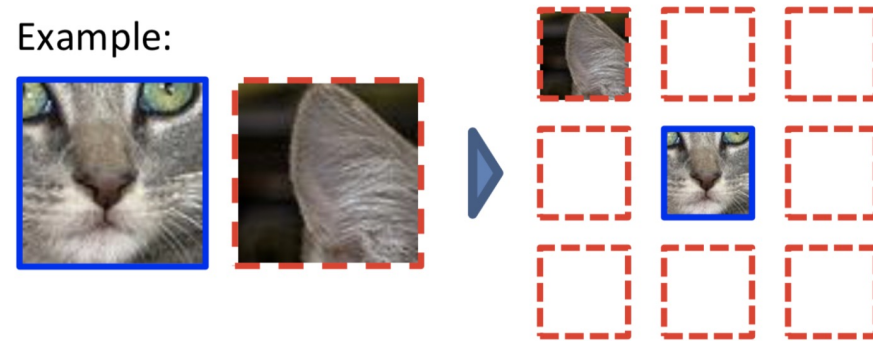
# Image: Patch



$$X = (\text{patch 5}, \text{patch 7}); Y = 3$$

- Gap between patches is crucial...

Example:



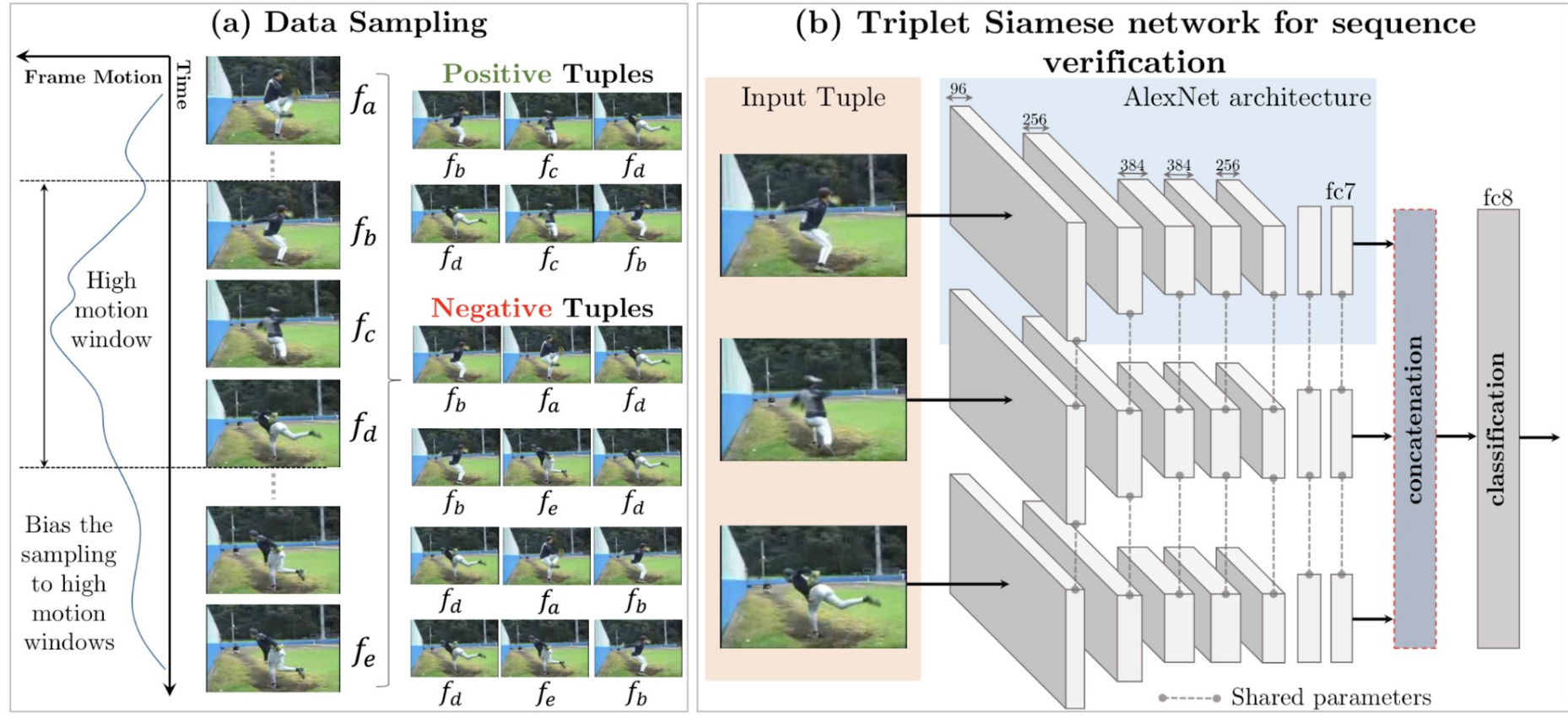
Question 1:



Question 2:



# Video: Frame Sequence



# NLP

- Predict next word of a sentence
  - Language Model
- Predict words within the context window
  - word2vec

# Why self-supervision works

- In the process of solving auxiliary tasks, the network learns **representations** of inputs
- that could be utilized to solve downstream tasks
- **Representation Learning**
  - In comparison to **feature engineering**
  - A system automatically discover features (e.g. word embedding)
- ICLR

# However

- The self-supervised task is not my objective!
- Self-supervised applications serve as a pre-training method, that captures semantic/context/correlation, learns **generic knowledge**
- Fine-tuning for the downstream tasks
- Which brings to transfer learning, specifically pre-train and fine-tune



# Motivation

- Train a network from scratch?
  - Limited data, especially supervised
  - Limited computational resources (maybe u don't feel it now lol)
- Observation: tasks that are similar in context
  - image classification, HUGE dataset and lots of efforts
  - Image style transfer (e.g. horse 2 zebra)
    - Is there any supervised data at all?
    - Same context: understanding images





# Transfer Learning

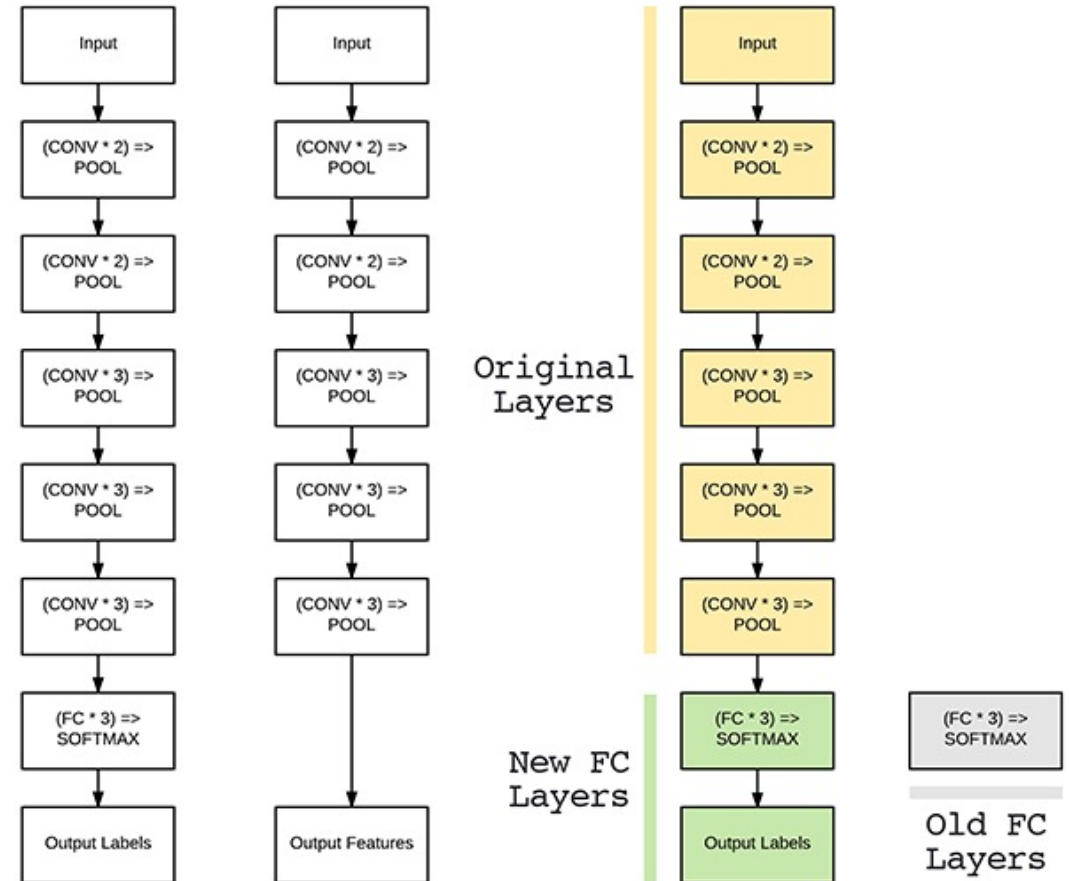
- Transfer learning is a machine learning method where a model developed for a task is reused as the starting point for a model on a second task.
- Often,
  - The first task is rich in data(supervised in CV & self-supervised in NLP)
  - The first model is computationally expensive
  - The second task lacks data or accurate annotation
  - Both tasks are similar in underlying generic knowledge

# TL: Feature Extraction Approach

- Extract the data representation from the first approach as the input for the second model, keeps the first model param unchanged
- For instance
  - Word2vec in NLP
- Question: Are features discovered in the first task exactly what we want in solving the second task?

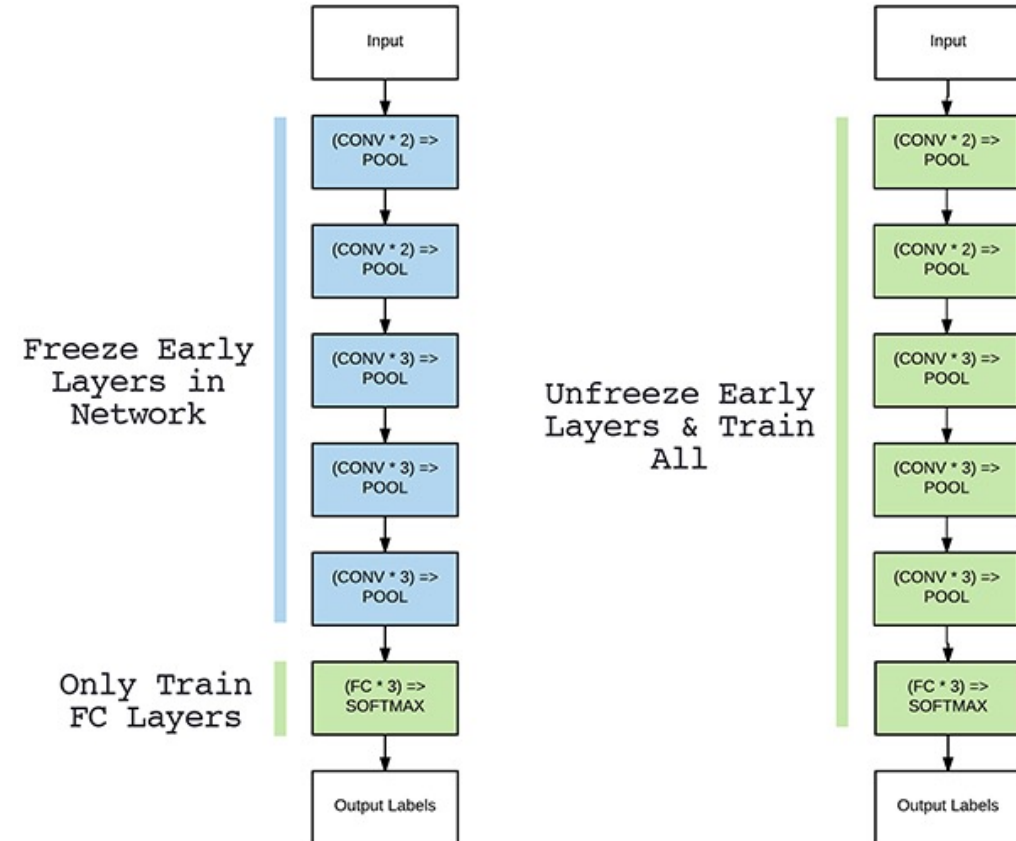
# TL: Fine-Tuning Approach

- #1 Architecture Change
- MOST COMMON APPROACH
- **Truncate the last softmax layer**
- **and replace it with a new one**
- Retain original layer's params



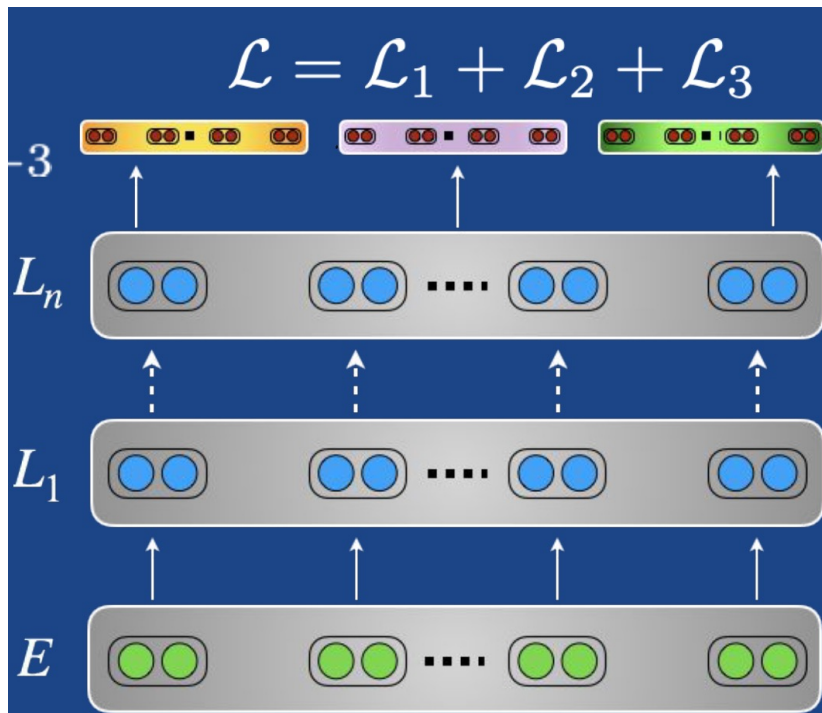
# TL: Fine-Tuning Approach

- #2 Optimization Scheme: Shallow vs Deep FT
- Tricks in deep FT
  - Reduced learning rate
  - Gradual unfreezing (direction?)
  - Tougher regularization
  - warmup

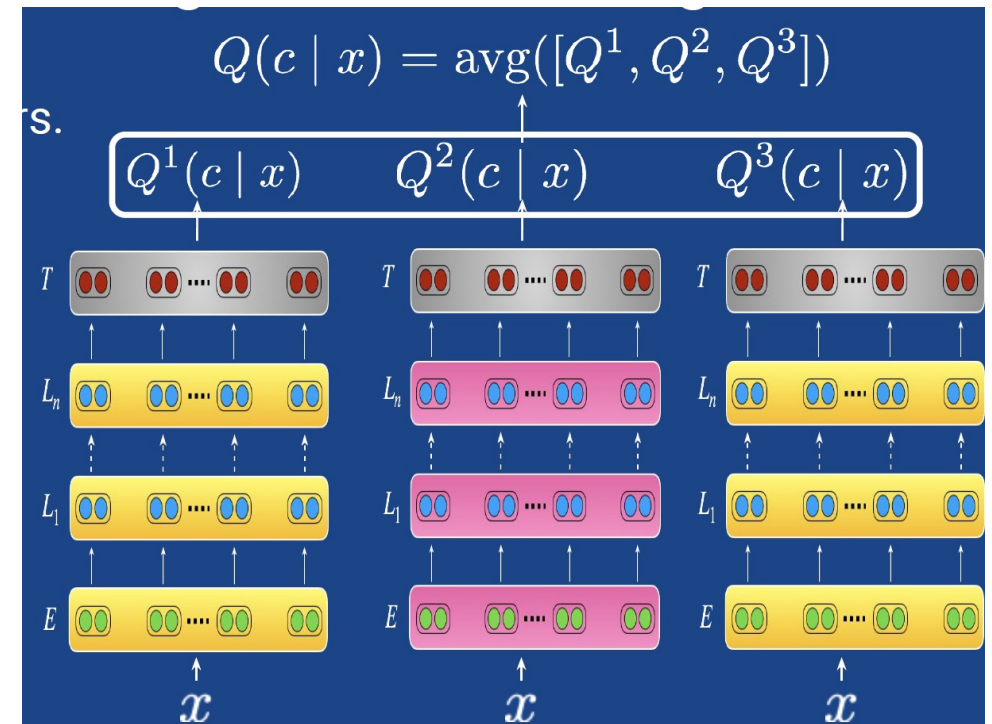


# TL: Fine-Tuning Approach

- #3 Getting more signal
- Multi-task fine-tuning



## Ensembling



# Takeaway till now

- Attention
- Self-supervised learning
- Transfer learning
- Pre-training
- Fine-tuning

# Contents

- Revisited
- Attention and Transformers
- Self-supervised Learning
- Pre-trained Language Models

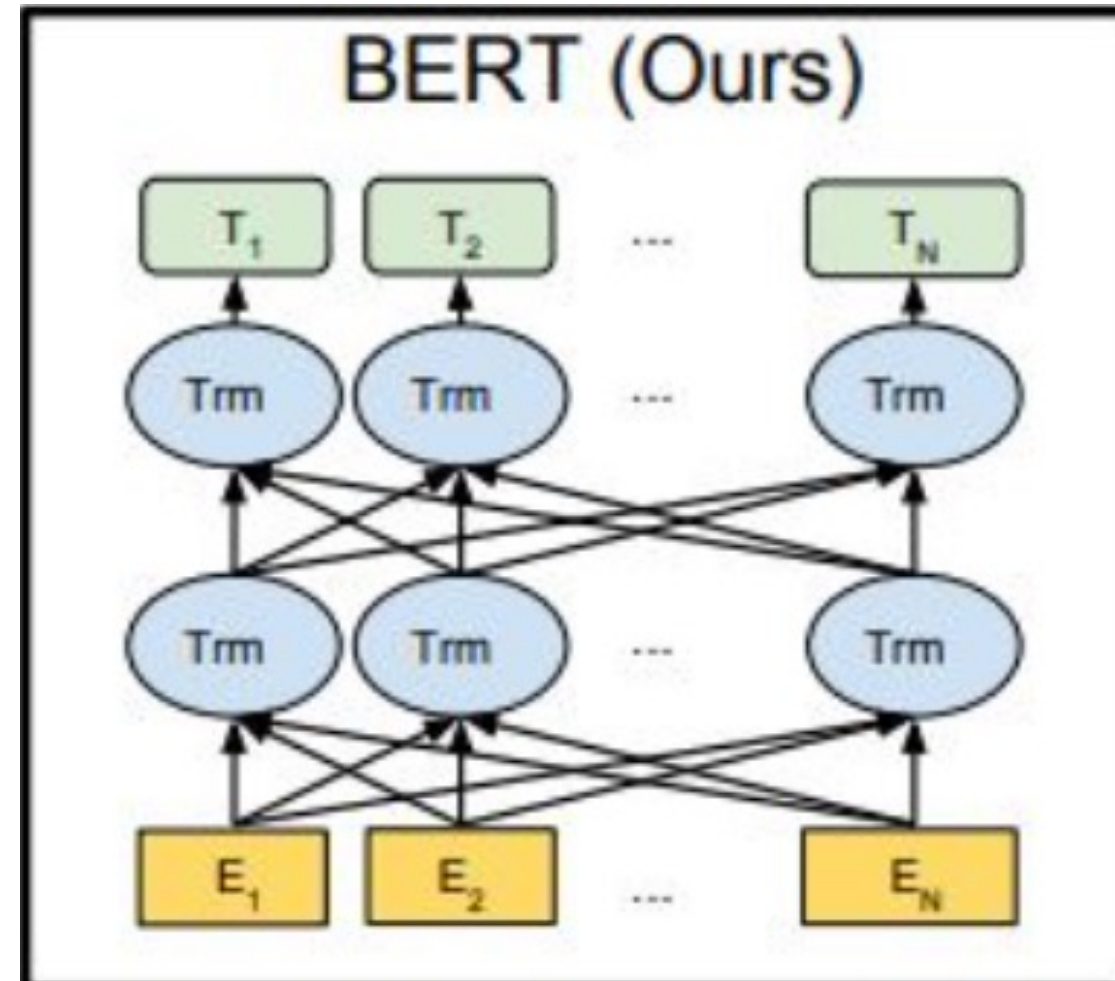
# BERT

- **B**idirectional **E**ncoder **R**epresentation from **T**ransformers
- After transformers, another shocking breakthrough from Google to the NLP community
- A self-supervised pre-training Language Model
  - Architecture?
  - Self-supervised pre-training tasks?
  - How do I use it in fine-tuning downstream tasks?



# BERT Architecture

- Only encoder of transformer
- Bidirectional? Unidirectional
  - Read the entire sequence at once
  - The 'context window' is total



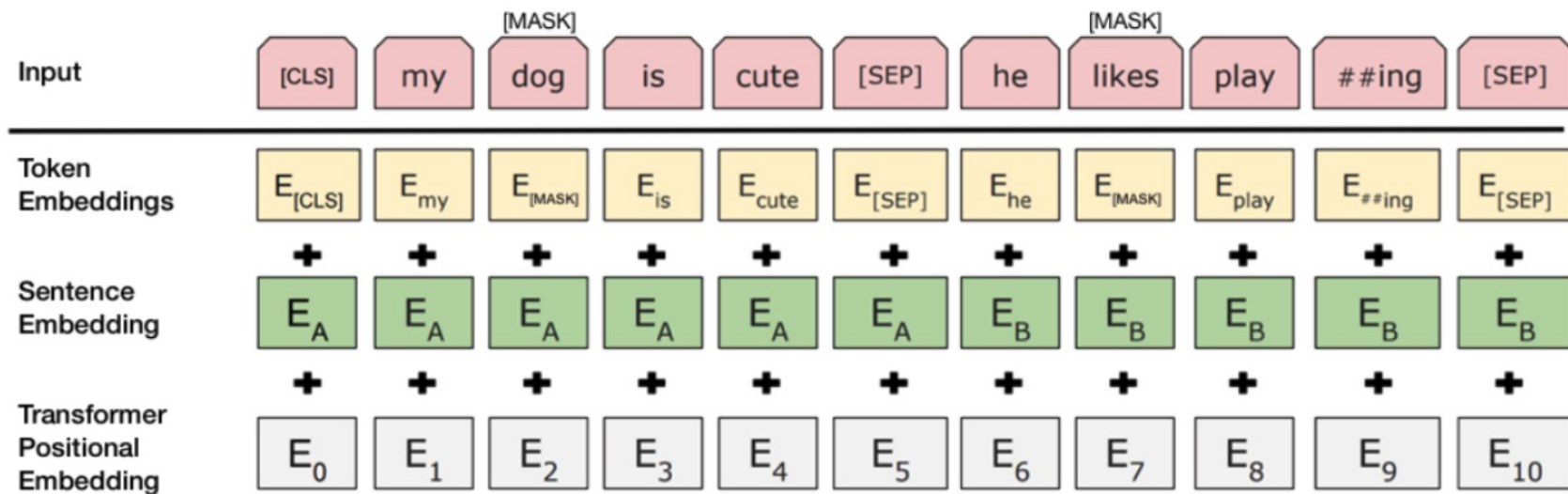
# BERT Pre-training Tasks

- #1 Masked Language Model
- Pick 15% tokens and replace with
  - 80% [MASK], 10% random token, 10% the original one
  - Why not all [MASK]? [MASK] is not in fine-tuning process

$$P(w_i | w_1, \dots, w_{i-1}, w_{i+1}, \dots, w_n)$$

- #2 Next Sentence Prediction
- Each sequence is a concatenation of two sentences A & B
  - 50% B follows A
  - 50% B is a random sentence in the corpus
  - Binary classification

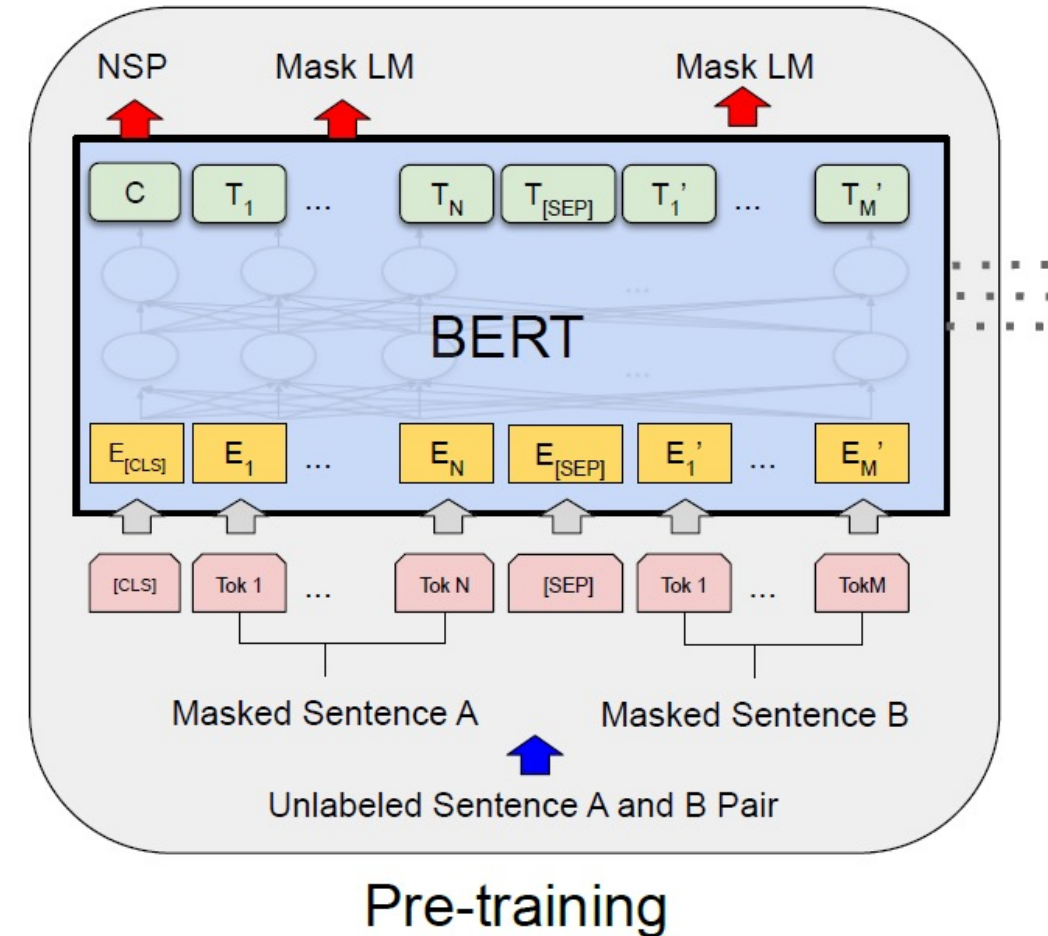
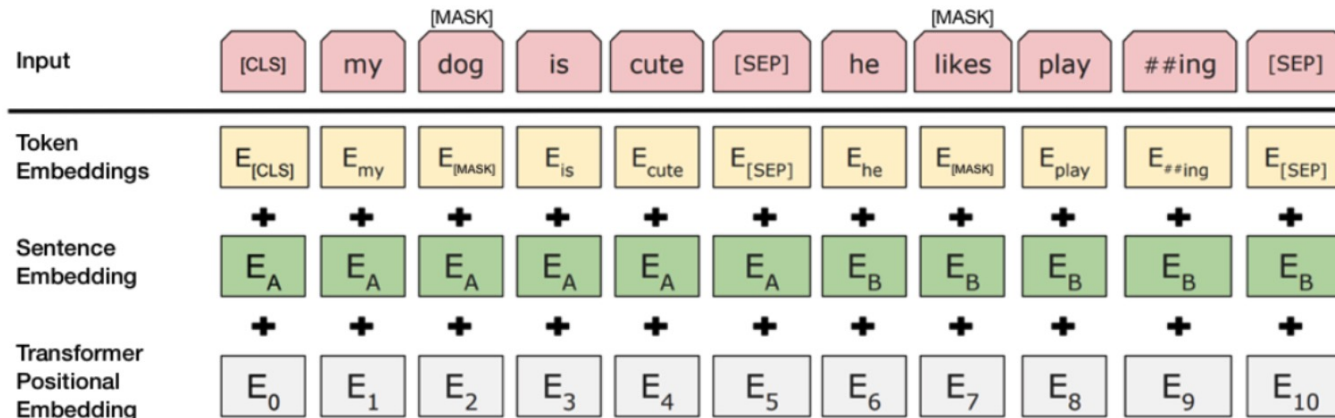
# Joint Pre-training Input



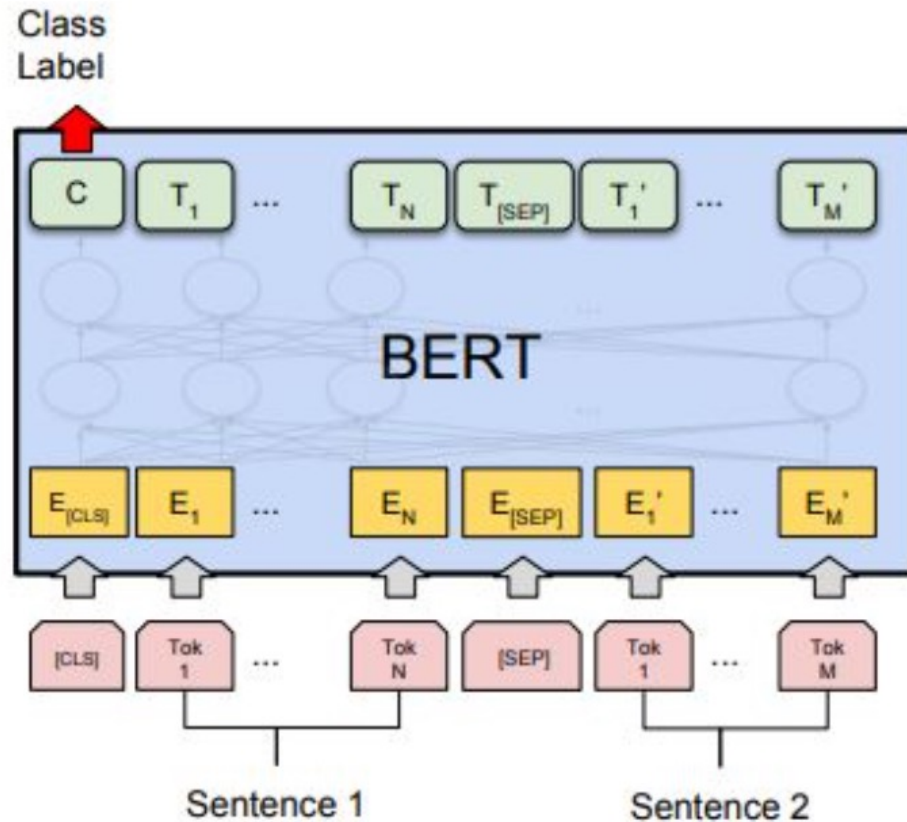
- [CLS]: prompter for next sentence prediction task
- [SEP]: sentence separator
- [MASK]: this word is masked due to Masked LM task

# Joint Pre-training

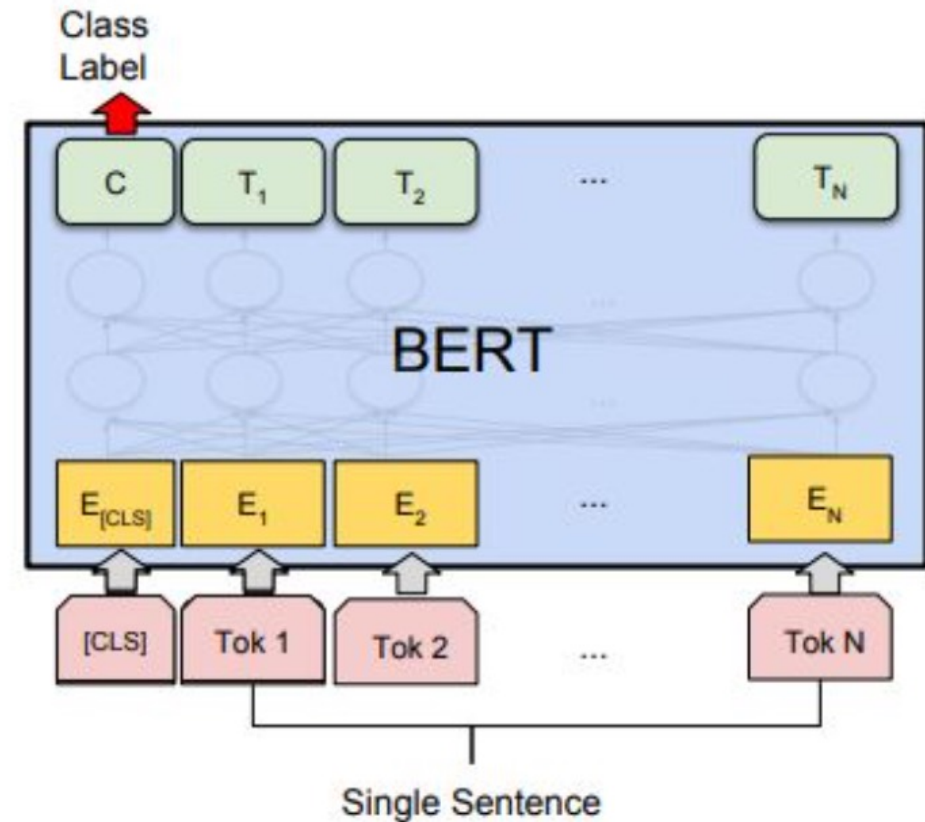
- Next sentence prediction
  - Softmax @ [CLS] token
- Masked Language Model
  - Softmax @ any [MASK] token



# Fine-tuning on Downstream NLP Tasks



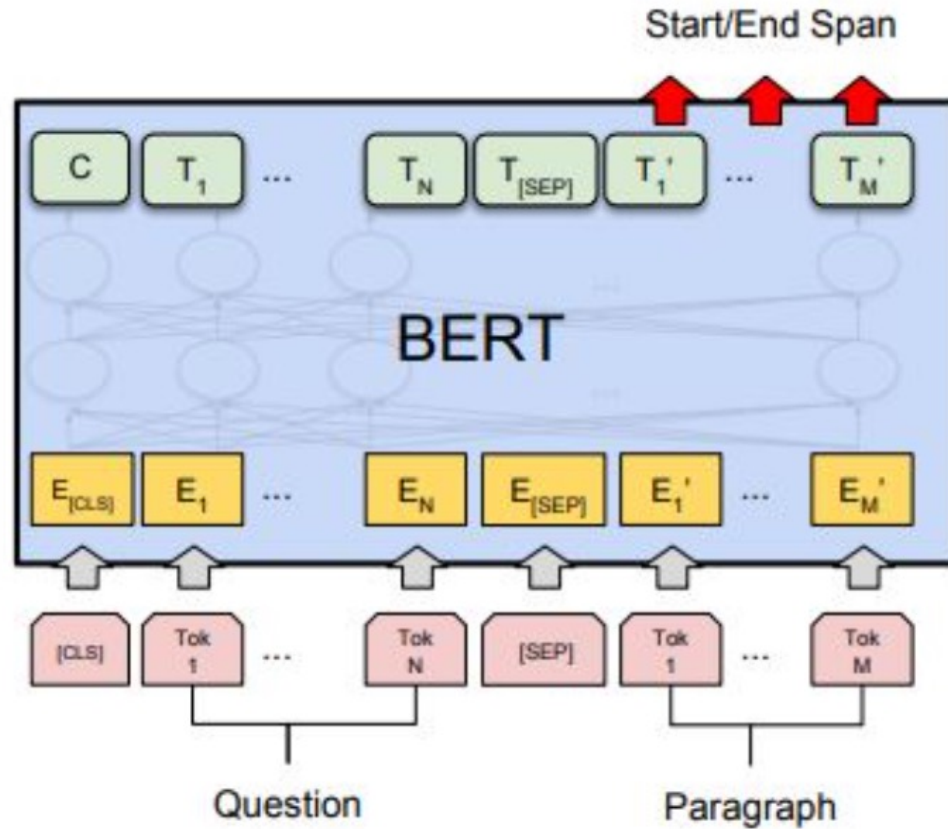
(a) Sentence Pair Classification Tasks:  
MNLI, QQP, QNLI, STS-B, MRPC,  
RTE, SWAG



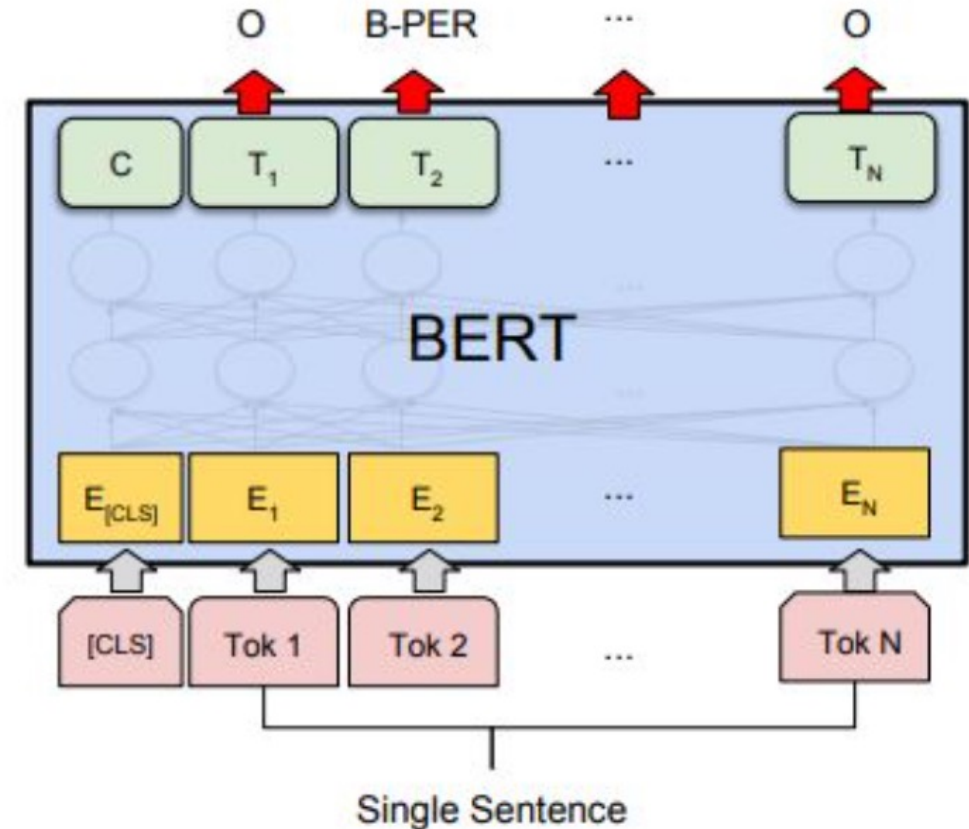
(b) Single Sentence Classification Tasks:  
SST-2, CoLA



# Fine-tuning on Downstream NLP Tasks



(c) Question Answering Tasks:  
SQuAD v1.1



(d) Single Sentence Tagging Tasks:  
CoNLL-2003 NER

# BERT Contributions

- #1 A deep model could also succeed in NLP
- #2 Representation Learning will be ubiquitous in NLP
  - Word2vec: one word, one embedding
  - BERT & more: context-aware embedding
- #3 Pre-training & Fine-tuning schema is substantiated
  - In fact, use pre-trained models whenever u can!

# RoBERTa

- Robustly Optimized BERT Pre-training Approach
  - Shorter pre-train time, better downstream performance
- Change #1: Remove Next Sentence Prediction
  - Better performance on downstream tasks
- Change #2: Bigger batch sizes & longer sequences
  - Augment parallelization & end-task acc
- Change #3: Dynamically change [MASK] strategy
  - Re[MASK] every 4 epochs, 10 different [MASK]ed seqs in 40 epochs



# GPT-3

- “Language Models are Few-shot Learners” by OpenAI
- 175 billion parameters, 12million \$ for pre-training once
- Outperforms on Cloze, Q&A, Translation, Coreference Resolution, Reasoning, Reading Comprehension, Standard Test,...
- Few-shot, one-shot & zero-shot nature further substantiates the efficacy of pre-training to capture generic knowledge in text

# Summary

- Self-supervised Learning
  - Learn to predict part of itself using the rest
- Pre-training & Fine-tuning
  - Pre-train captures generic knowledge, fine-tune for downstream
  - Architecture, Optimization tricks & More Signal
- BERT
  - Architecture, Pre-Training Tasks, how to pre-train and fine-tune
- RoBERTa & GPT-3

Thx for *Attention*