



Natural Language Processing; Language Modeling



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Deep contextualized word representations

ELMo: Embeddings from Language Models
 $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_N) \rightarrow$ sequence of N tokens

Forward Language Model

$$p(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_N) = \prod_{k=1}^N p(t_k | t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{k-1})$$

$x_k^{LM} \rightarrow$ context-independent token representation

$x_k^{LM} \triangleright L$ layers of forward LSTMs

$$\overrightarrow{h}_{k,j}^{LM}, j = 1, \dots, L$$

$\overrightarrow{h}_{k,L}^{LM} \triangleright$ softmax \rightarrow predict next token t_{k+1}

Backward LM

$$p(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_N) = \prod_{k=1}^N p(t_k | t_{k+1}, t_{k+2}, \dots, t_N)$$

$$\overleftarrow{h}_{k,j}^{LM}, j = 1, \dots, L$$

Bidirectional LM

$$\sum_{k=1}^N (\log p(t_k | t_1, \dots, t_{k-1}; \Theta_x, \overrightarrow{\Theta}_{LSTM}, \Theta_s) + \log p(t_k | t_{k+1}, \dots, t_N; \Theta_x, \overleftarrow{\Theta}_{LSTM}, \Theta_s))$$

ELMo

$$\begin{aligned} R_k &= \{x_k^{LM}, \overrightarrow{h}_{k,j}^{LM}, \overleftarrow{h}_{k,j}^{LM} \mid j = 1, \dots, L\} \\ &= \{h_{k,j}^{LM} \mid j = 0, \dots, L\}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} h_{k,0}^{LM} &= x_k^{LM} \\ h_{k,j}^{LM} &= [\overrightarrow{h}_{k,j}^{LM}; \overleftarrow{h}_{k,j}^{LM}] \\ \text{ELMo}_k &= E(R_k; \Theta_e) \\ E(R_k) &= h_{k,L}^{LM} \\ \text{ELMo}_k^{\text{task}} &= E(R_k; \Theta^{\text{task}}) = \gamma^{\text{task}} \sum_{j=0}^L s_j^{\text{task}} h_{k,j}^{LM} \\ s_j^{\text{task}} &\rightarrow \text{softmax-normalized weights} \\ [x_k; \text{ELMo}_k^{\text{task}}] &\rightarrow \text{input to task RNN} \\ [h_k; \text{ELMo}_k^{\text{task}}] &\rightarrow \text{output of task RNN} \end{aligned}$$

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Question Answering 2. Textual Entailment 3. Semantic Role Labeling 4. Coreference Resolution 5. Named Entity Extraction 6. Sentiment Analysis | Downstream Tasks |
|---|-------------------------|

TASK	PREVIOUS SOTA	OUR BASELINE		INCREASE (ABSOLUTE/RELATIVE)
		ELMo + BASELINE	ELMo + RELATIVE	
Stanford Question Answering Dataset \leftarrow SQuAD	Liu et al. (2017) F ₁ 84.4	81.1	85.8	4.7 / 24.9%
Stanford Natural Language Inference \leftarrow SNLI	Chen et al. (2017) accuracy 88.6	88.0	88.7 \pm 0.17	0.7 / 5.8%
Semantic Role Labeling \leftarrow SRL	He et al. (2017) F ₁ 81.7	81.4	84.6	3.2 / 17.2%
Coreference Resolution \leftarrow Coref	Lee et al. (2017) average F ₁ 67.2	67.2	70.4	3.2 / 9.8%
Named Entity Recognition \leftarrow NER	Peters et al. (2017) F ₁ 91.93 \pm 0.19	90.15	92.22 \pm 0.10	2.06 / 21%
Stanford Sentiment Treebank \leftarrow SST-5	McCann et al. (2017) accuracy 53.7	51.4	54.7 \pm 0.5	3.3 / 6.8%

Source		Nearest Neighbors
GloVe	play	playing, game, games, played, players, plays, player, Play, football, multiplayer
biLM	Chico Ruiz made a spectacular play on Alusik 's grounder {...}	Kieffer , the only junior in the group , was commended for his ability to hit in the clutch , as well as his all-round excellent play .
	Olivia De Havilland signed to do a Broadway play for Garson {...}	{...} they were actors who had been handed fat roles in a successful play , and had talent enough to fill the roles competently , with nice understatement .

An Empirical Evaluation of Generic Convolutional and Recurrent Networks for Sequence Modeling

Sequence Modeling

$x_0, \dots, x_T \rightarrow$ input sequence

$y_0, \dots, y_T \rightarrow$ output sequence

$f : \mathcal{X}^{T+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}^{T+1}$

sequence modeling network

$\hat{y}_0, \dots, \hat{y}_T = f(x_0, \dots, x_T)$

Causal Constraint

y_t depends only on x_0, \dots, x_t and not on any “future” inputs x_{t+1}, \dots, x_T

$L(y_0, \dots, y_T, f(x_0, \dots, x_T)) \rightarrow$ loss

1D fully-convolutional network (FCN)

zero padding

causal convolutions

TCN = 1D FCN + causal convolutions

temporal convolutional network

Dilated Convolutions

longer history

$x \in \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow$ 1D sequence input

$f : \{0, \dots, k-1\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

filter

$$F(s) = (x *_d f)(s) = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} f(i)x_{s-di}$$

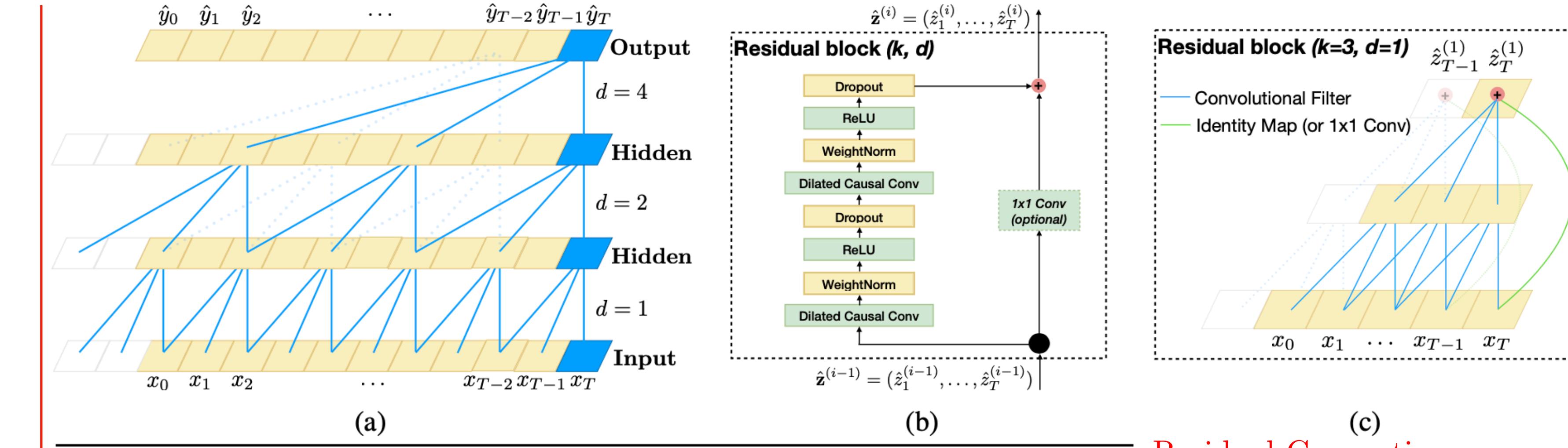
$d \rightarrow$ dilation factor

$k \rightarrow$ filter size

$s - di \rightarrow$ direction of the past

$(k-1)d \rightarrow$ effective history of such a layer

$d = O(2^i)$ at level i of the network

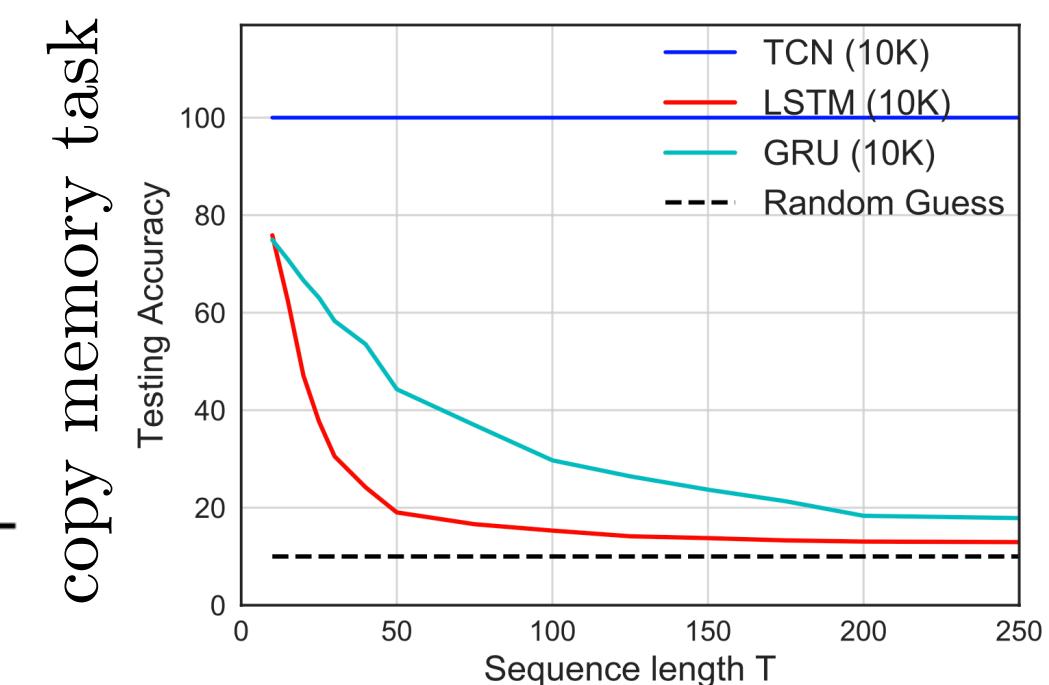


Sequence Modeling Task	Model Size (\approx)	Models			
		LSTM	GRU	RNN	TCN
Seq. MNIST (accuracy ^h)	70K	87.2	96.2	21.5	99.0
Permuted MNIST (accuracy)	70K	85.7	87.3	25.3	97.2
Adding problem $T=600$ (loss ^ℓ)	70K	0.164	5.3e-5	0.177	5.8e-5
Copy memory $T=1000$ (loss)	16K	0.0204	0.0197	0.0202	3.5e-5
Music JSB Chorales (loss)	300K	8.45	8.43	8.91	8.10
Music Nottingham (loss)	1M	3.29	3.46	4.05	3.07
Word-level PTB (perplexity ^ℓ)	13M	78.93	92.48	114.50	88.68
Word-level Wiki-103 (perplexity)	-	48.4	-	-	45.19
Word-level LAMBADA (perplexity)	-	4186	-	14725	1279
Char-level PTB (bpc ^ℓ)	3M	1.36	1.37	1.48	1.31
Char-level text8 (bpc)	5M	1.50	1.53	1.69	1.45

Residual Connections

$$o = \text{Activation}(x + \mathcal{F}(x))$$

JSB Chorales: Each input is a sequence of elements. Each element is an 88-bit binary code that corresponds to the 88 keys on a piano, with 1 indicating a key that is pressed at a given time.





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Improving Language Understanding by Generative Pre-Training



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Unsupervised pre-training

$$\mathcal{U} = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\} \rightarrow \text{unsupervised corpus of tokens}$$

$$L_1(\mathcal{U}) = \sum_i \log P(u_i | u_{i-k}, \dots, u_{i-1}; \Theta)$$

size of the context window

Transformer decoder

$$U = (u_{-k}, \dots, u_{-1}) \rightarrow \text{context vector of tokens}$$

$$h_0 = U W_e + W_p$$

position embedding matrix

token embedding matrix

$$h_l = \text{transformer_block}(h_{l-1}), l = 1, \dots, L$$

number of layers

$$P(u) = \text{softmax}(h_L W_e^T)$$

Supervised fine-tuning

$\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{labeled dataset}$

$x^1, \dots, x^m \rightarrow \text{input tokens}$

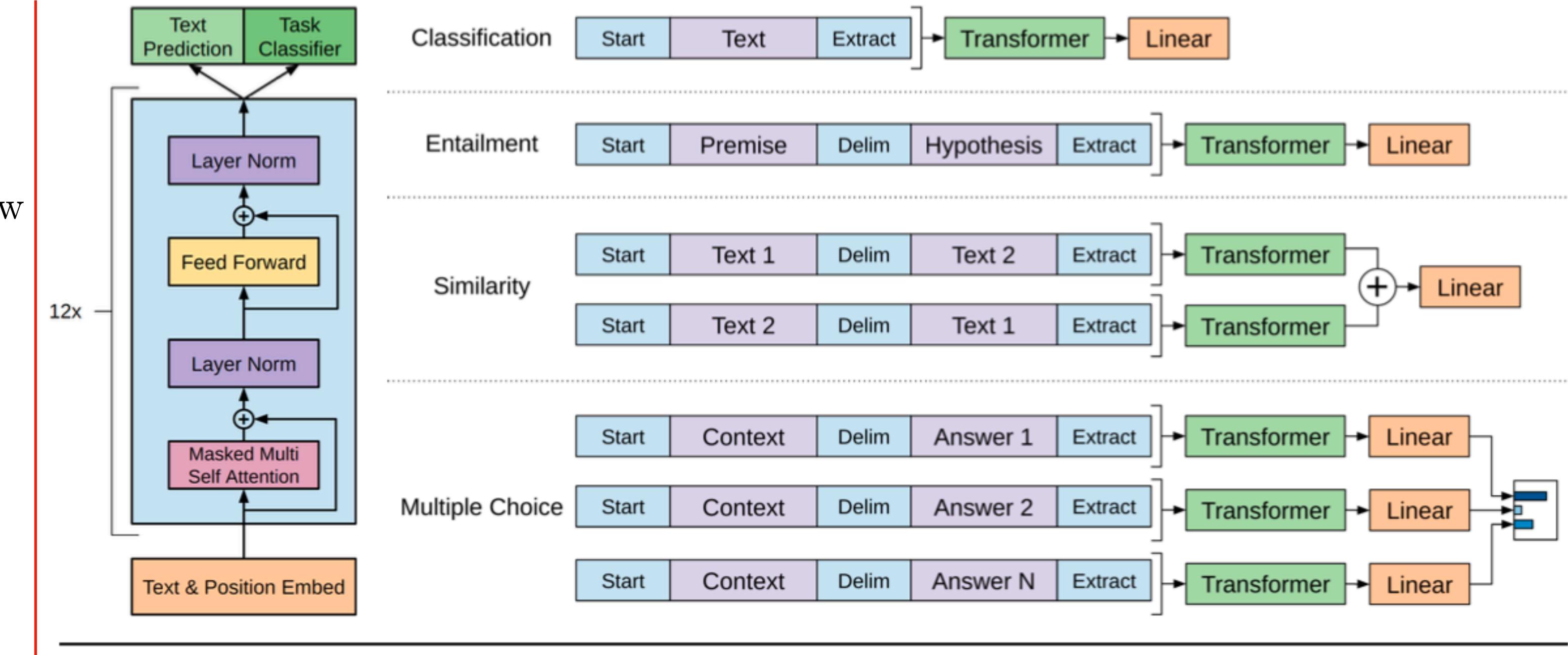
$y \rightarrow \text{label}$

$h_L^m \rightarrow \text{final transformer block's activation}$

$$p(y|x^1, \dots, x^m) = \text{softmax}(h_L^m W_y)$$

$$L_2(\mathcal{C}) = \sum_{(x,y)} \log P(y|x^1, \dots, x^m)$$

$$L_3(\mathcal{C}) = L_2(\mathcal{C}) + \lambda * L_1(\mathcal{C})$$



Task

Datasets

Natural language inference

SNLI [5], MultiNLI [66], Question NLI [64], RTE [4], SciTail [25]

Question Answering

RACE [30], Story Cloze [40]

Sentence similarity

MSR Paraphrase Corpus [14], Quora Question Pairs [9], STS Benchmark [6]

Classification

Stanford Sentiment Treebank-2 [54], CoLA [65]

Natural Language Inference entailment, contradiction or neutral

image captions (SNLI)

transcribed speech, popular fiction, and government reports (MNLI)

Wikipedia articles (QNLI)

Corpus of Linguistic Acceptability (CoLA)

science exams (SciTail)

Semantic Textual Similarity (STS-B)

news articles (RTE)

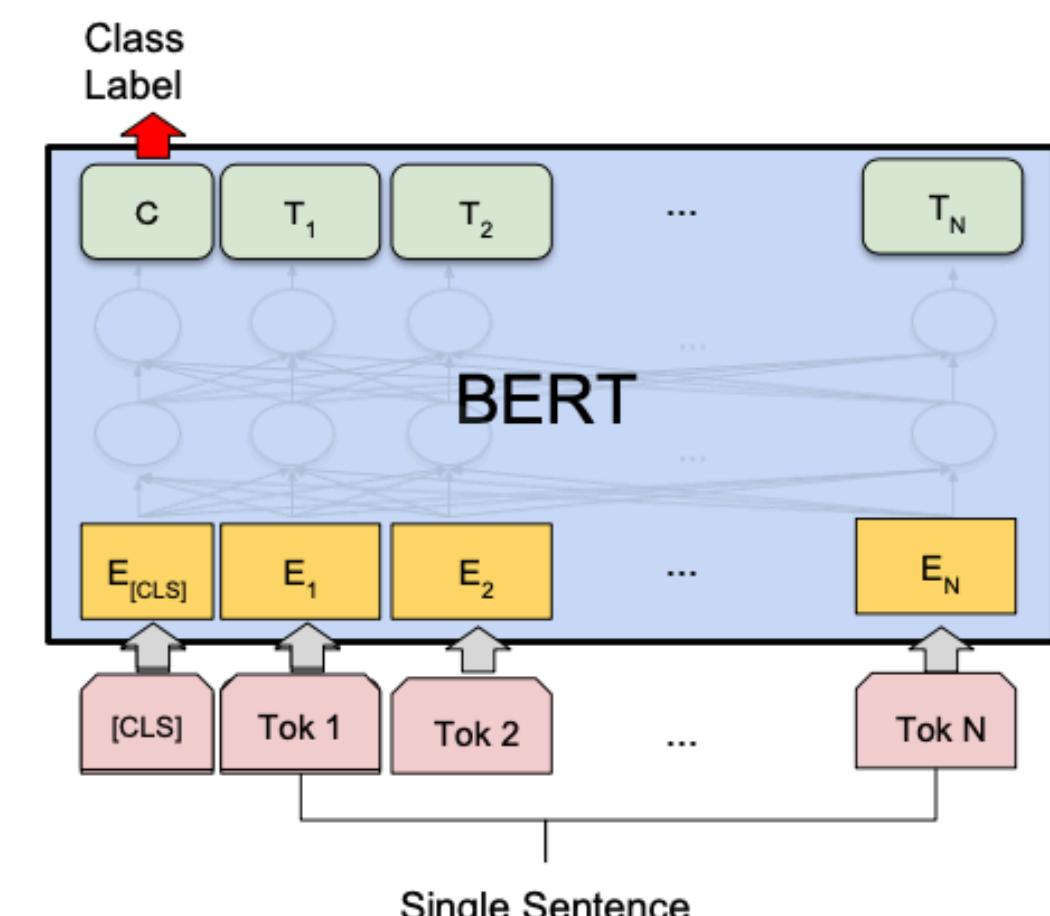
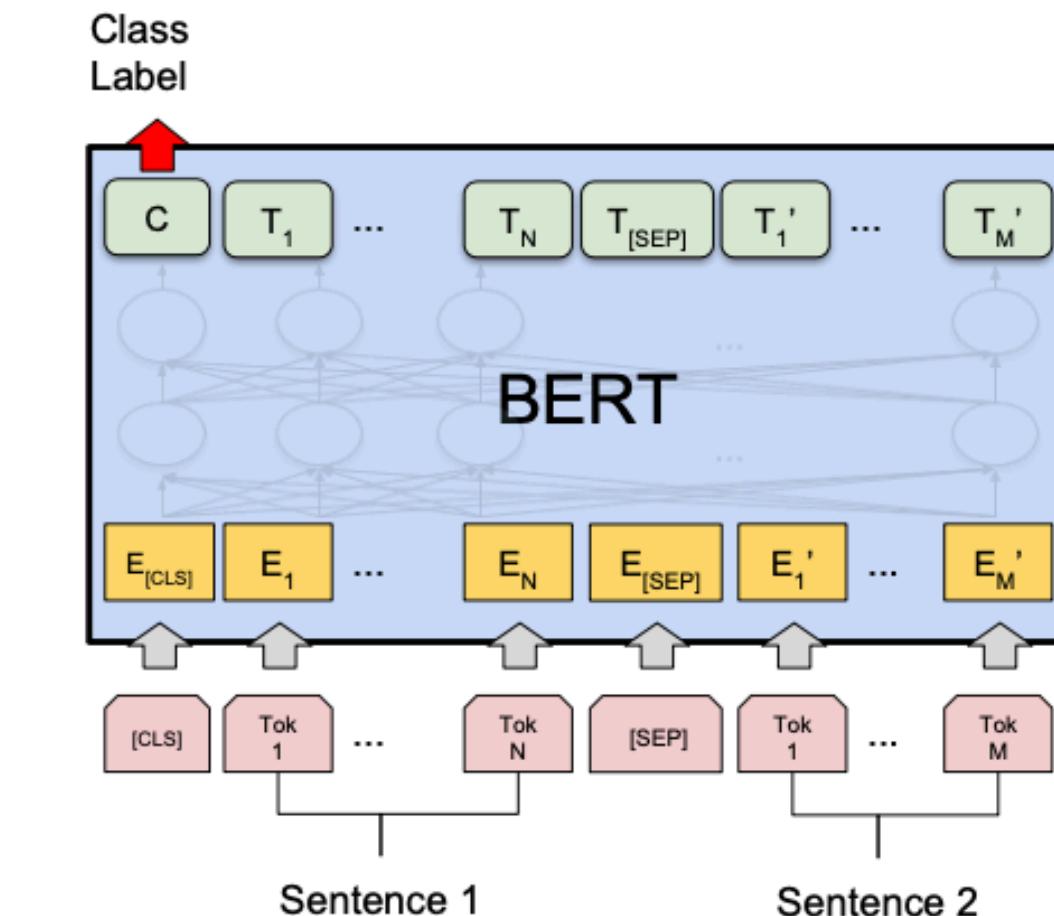
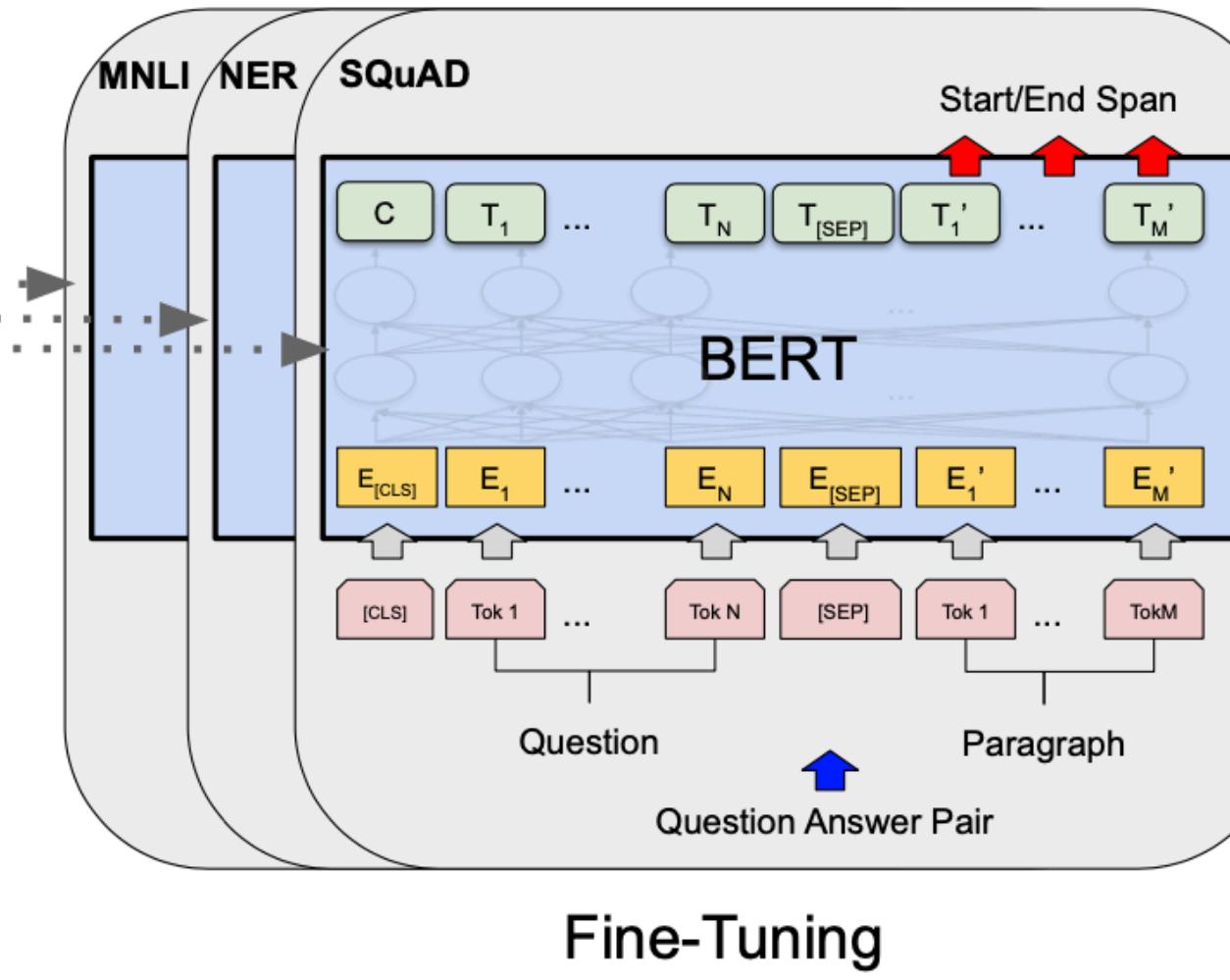
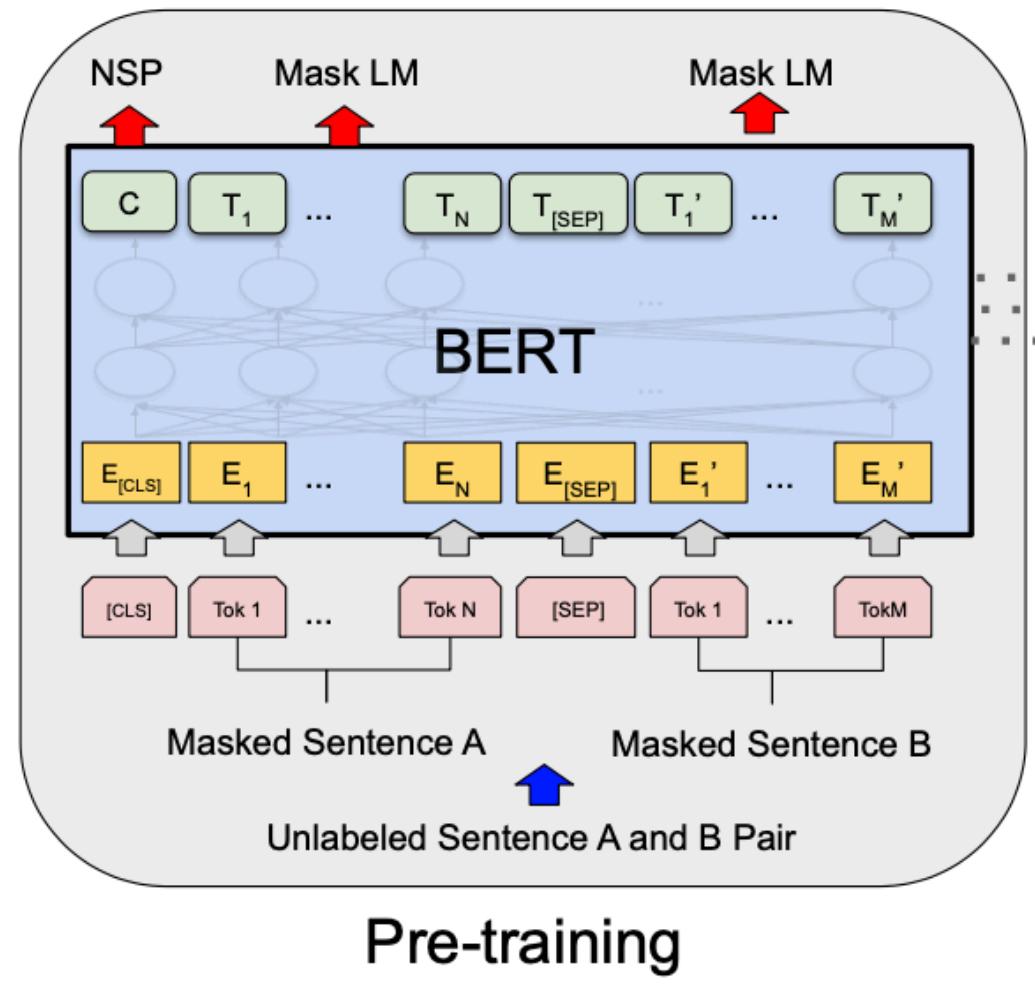


BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language Understanding



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Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers

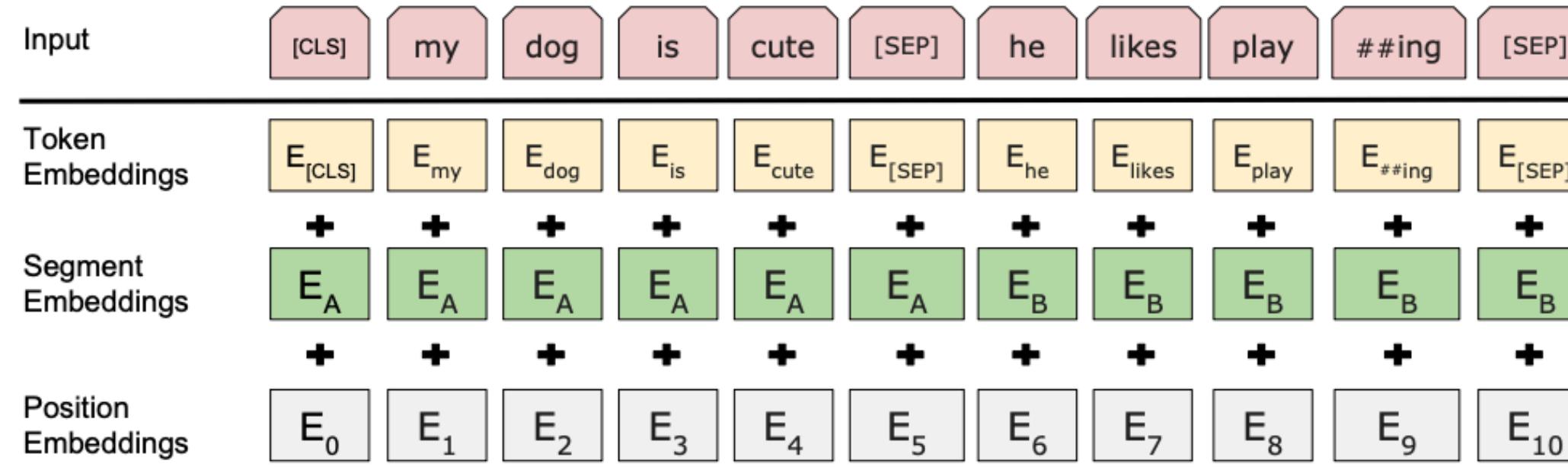


Task 1: Masked LM

mask 15% of all WordPiece tokens in each sequence at random

Task 2: Next Sentence Prediction (NSP)

IsNext vs NotNext



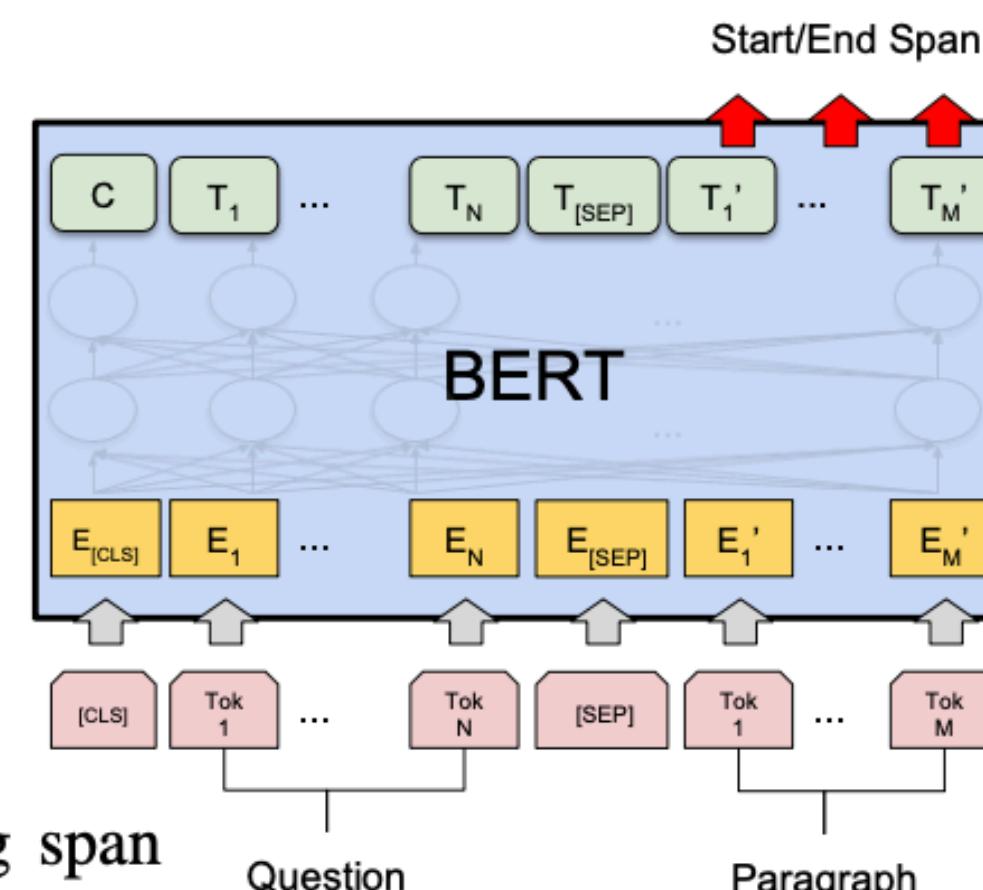
$$S \in \mathbb{R}^H \rightarrow \text{start}$$

$$E \in \mathbb{R}^H \rightarrow \text{end}$$

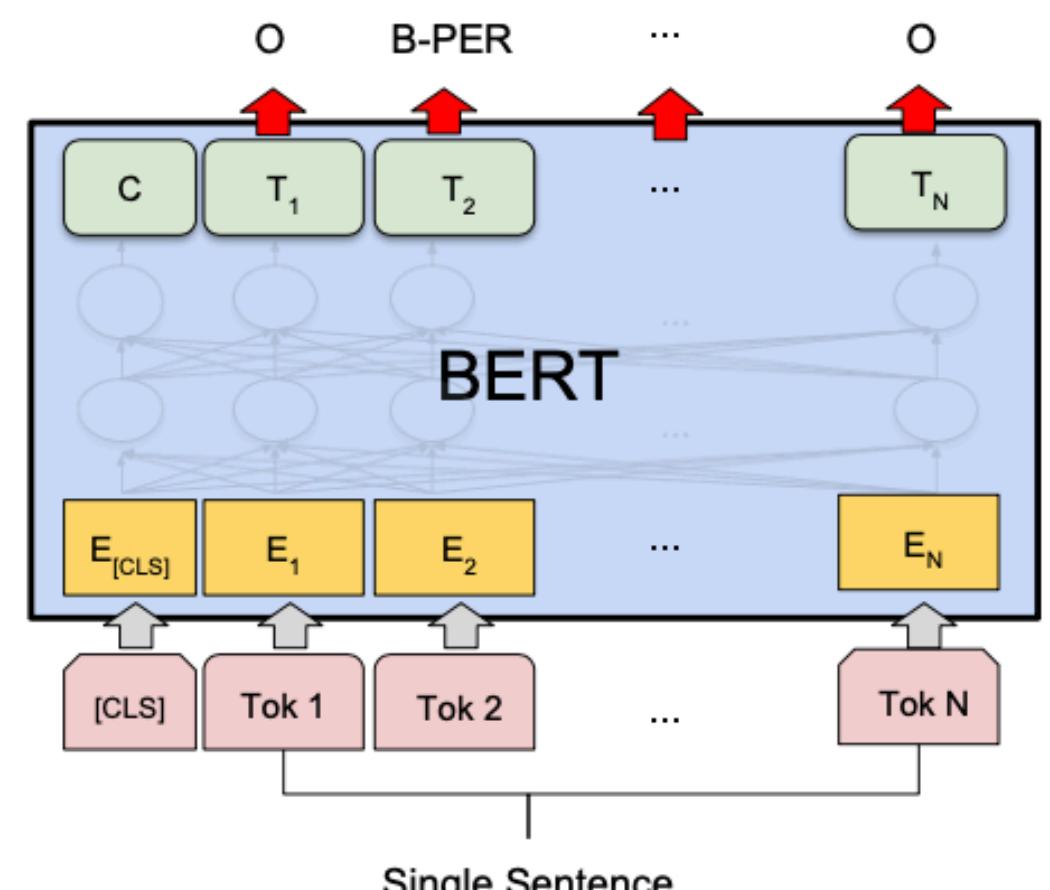
$$P_i = \frac{e^{S \cdot T_i}}{\sum_j e^{S \cdot T_j}}$$

$$S \cdot T_i + E \cdot T_j$$

maximum scoring span



(c) Question Answering Tasks:
SQuAD v1.1



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



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Language Models are Unsupervised Multitask Learners



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- Question Answering
- Machine Translation
- Reading Comprehension
- Summarization

GPT-2 → a 1.5B parameter Transformer

$(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow$ set of examples

$x = (s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n) \rightarrow$ variable-length sequence of symbols

$$p(x) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(s_i | s_1, \dots, s_{i-1})$$

$$p(s_{n-k}, \dots, s_n | s_1, \dots, s_{n-k-1})$$

$$p(\text{output} | \text{input})$$

$$p(\text{output} | \text{input}, \text{task})$$

Task conditioning: 1. architectural level
2. algorithmic level

(e.g., Model-Agnostic Meta-Learning)

translation training example

(translate to french, english text, french text)

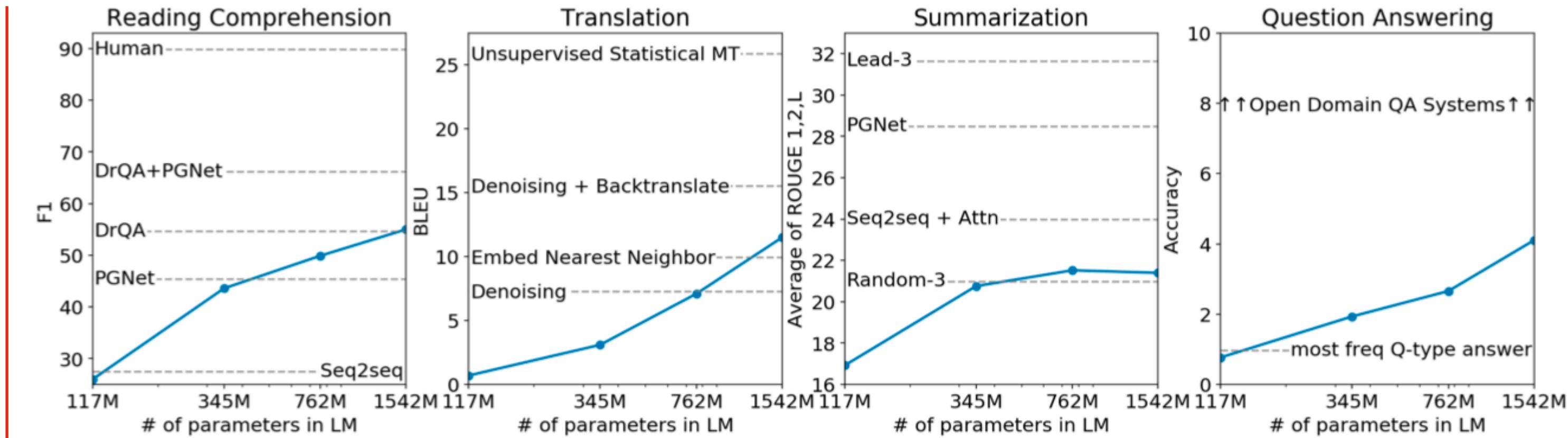
reading comprehension training example

(answer the question, document, question, answer)

pre-processing steps: lower-casing,

tokenization, and out-of-vocabulary tokens

Byte Pair Encoding (BPE): a practical middle ground between character and word level language modeling



"I'm not the cleverest man in the world, but like they say in French: **Je ne suis pas un imbecile** [I'm not a fool].

In a now-deleted post from Aug. 16, Soheil Eid, Tory candidate in the riding of Joliette, wrote in French: "**Mentez mentez, il en restera toujours quelque chose**," which translates as, "**Lie lie and something will always remain**."

"I hate the word '**perfume**'," Burr says. "It's somewhat better in French: '**parfum**'."

If listened carefully at 29:55, a conversation can be heard between two guys in French: "**-Comment on fait pour aller de l'autre côté? -Quel autre côté?**", which means "**- How do you get to the other side? - What side?**".

If this sounds like a bit of a stretch, consider this question in French: **As-tu aller au cinéma?**, or **Did you go to the movies?**, which literally translates as Have-you to go to movies/theater?

"Brevet Sans Garantie Du Gouvernement", translated to English: **"Patented without government warranty"**.

Context (passage and previous question/answer pairs)

Tom goes everywhere with Catherine Green, a 54-year-old secretary. He moves around her office at work and goes shopping with her. "Most people don't seem to mind Tom," says Catherine, who thinks he is wonderful. "He's my fourth child," she says. She may think of him and treat him that way as her son. He moves around buying his food, paying his health bills and his taxes, but in fact Tom is a dog.

Catherine and Tom live in Sweden, a country where everyone is expected to lead an orderly life according to rules laid down by the government, which also provides a high level of care for its people. This level of care costs money.

People in Sweden pay taxes on everything, so aren't surprised to find that owning a dog means more taxes. Some people are paying as much as 500 Swedish kronor in taxes a year for the right to keep their dog, which is spent by the government on dog hospitals and sometimes medical treatment for a dog that falls ill. However, most such treatment is expensive, so owners often decide to offer health and even life - for their dog.

In Sweden dog owners must pay for any damage their dog does. A Swedish Kennel Club official explains what this means: if your dog runs out on the road and gets hit by a passing car, you, as the owner, have to pay for any damage done to the car, even if your dog has been killed in the accident.

Q: How old is Catherine?
A: 54

Q: where does she live?
A:

Model answer: Stockholm
Turker answers: Sweden, Sweden, in Sweden, Sweden

Table 1. Examples of naturally occurring demonstrations of English to French and French to English translation found throughout the WebText training set.



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ALBERT: A Lite BERT for Self-supervised Learning of Language Representations



[YouTube Video](#)

$V \rightarrow$ vocabulary size ($\approx 30,000$)

$E \rightarrow$ vocabulary embedding size

$L \rightarrow$ number of encoder layers

$H \rightarrow$ hidden size

$4H \rightarrow$ feedforward/filter size

$H/64 \rightarrow$ number of attention heads

Factorized embedding parameterization

Reduce the embedding parameters from

$\mathcal{O}(V \times H)$ to $\mathcal{O}(V \times E + E \times H)$

This parameter reduction is significant when $H \gg E$.

Cross-layer parameter sharing

Inter-sentence coherence loss

In addition to the masked language modeling (MLM) loss, BERT uses an additional loss called next-sentence prediction (NSP).

Positive examples:

consecutive segments from the corpus

Negative examples:

pairing segments from different documents
sentence-order prediction (SOP) loss

Positive examples:

consecutive segments from the corpus

Negative examples:

swapped consecutive segments

Model	Parameters	Layers	Hidden	Embedding	Parameter-sharing
BERT	base	108M	12	768	768
	large	334M	24	1024	1024
ALBERT	base	12M	12	768	128
	large	18M	24	1024	128
	xlarge	60M	24	2048	128
	xxlarge	235M	12	4096	128

Model	Parameters	SQuAD1.1	SQuAD2.0	MNLI	SST-2	RACE	Avg	Speedup
BERT	base	108M	90.4/83.2	80.4/77.6	84.5	92.8	68.2	82.3
	large	334M	92.2/85.5	85.0/82.2	86.6	93.0	73.9	85.2
ALBERT	base	12M	89.3/82.3	80.0/77.1	81.6	90.3	64.0	80.1
	large	18M	90.6/83.9	82.3/79.4	83.5	91.7	68.5	82.4
	xlarge	60M	92.5/86.1	86.1/83.1	86.4	92.4	74.8	85.5
	xxlarge	235M	94.1/88.3	88.1/85.1	88.0	95.2	82.3	88.7

The effect of vocabulary embedding size on the performance of ALBERT-base.

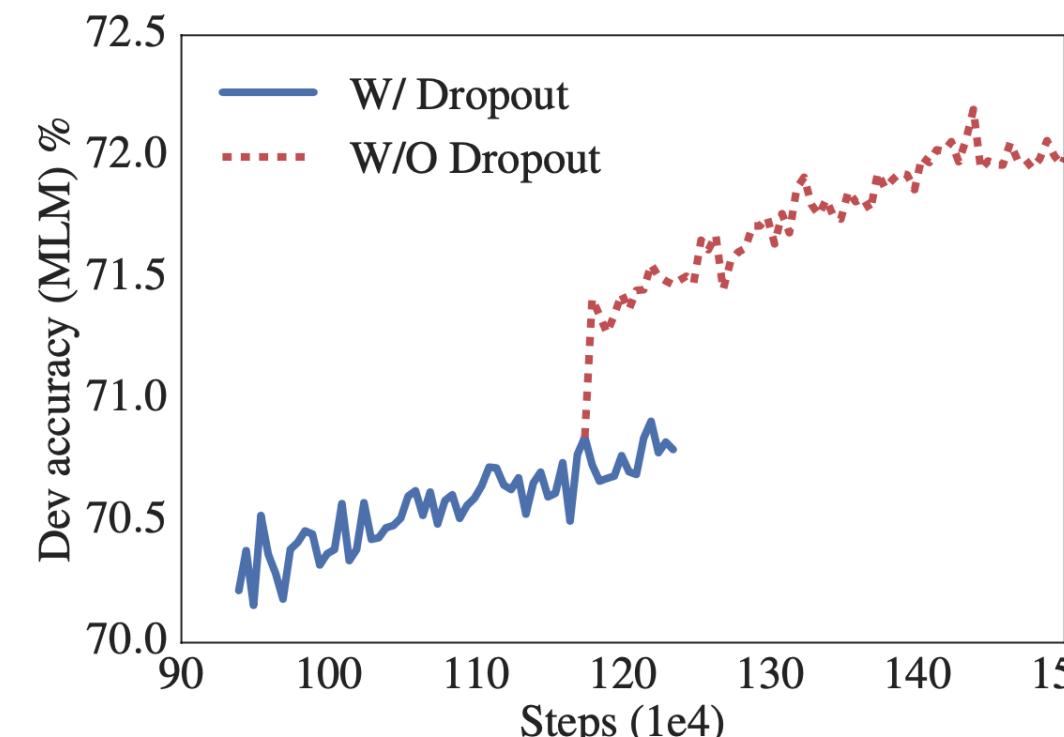
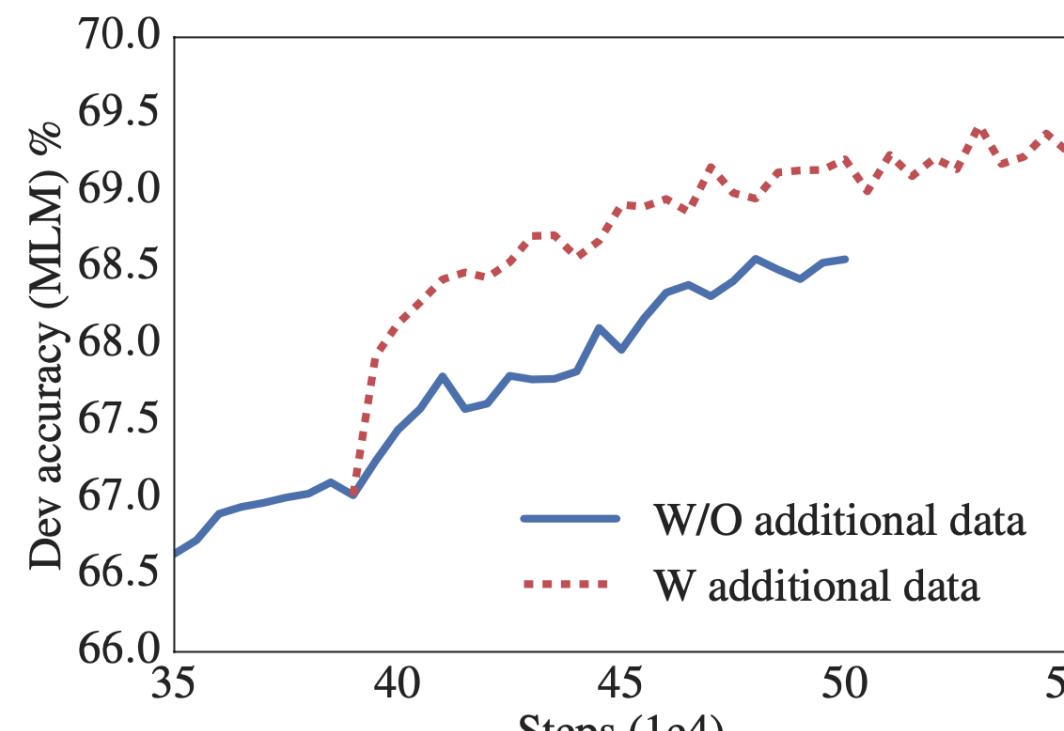
Model	E	Parameters	SQuAD1.1	SQuAD2.0	MNLI	SST-2	RACE	Avg
ALBERT	64	87M	89.9/82.9	80.1/77.8	82.9	91.5	66.7	81.3
	128	89M	89.9/82.8	80.3/77.3	83.7	91.5	67.9	81.7
	256	93M	90.2/83.2	80.3/77.4	84.1	91.9	67.3	81.8
	768	108M	90.4/83.2	80.4/77.6	84.5	92.8	68.2	82.3
ALBERT	64	10M	88.7/81.4	77.5/74.8	80.8	89.4	63.5	79.0
	128	12M	89.3/82.3	80.0/77.1	81.6	90.3	64.0	80.1
	256	16M	88.8/81.5	79.1/76.3	81.5	90.3	63.4	79.6
	768	31M	88.6/81.5	79.2/76.6	82.0	90.6	63.3	79.8

The effect of cross-layer parameter-sharing strategies, ALBERT-base configuration.

Model	Parameters	SQuAD1.1	SQuAD2.0	MNLI	SST-2	RACE	Avg
ALBERT	all-shared	31M	88.6/81.5	79.2/76.6	82.0	90.6	63.3
	shared-attention	83M	89.9/82.7	80.0/77.2	84.0	91.4	67.7
	shared-FFN	57M	89.2/82.1	78.2/75.4	81.5	90.8	62.6
	not-shared	108M	90.4/83.2	80.4/77.6	84.5	92.8	68.2
ALBERT	all-shared	12M	89.3/82.3	80.0/77.1	82.0	90.3	64.0
	shared-attention	64M	89.9/82.8	80.7/77.9	83.4	91.9	67.6
	shared-FFN	38M	88.9/81.6	78.6/75.6	82.3	91.7	64.4
	not-shared	89M	89.9/82.8	80.3/77.3	83.2	91.5	67.9

SP tasks	Intrinsic Tasks		
	MLM	NSP	SOP
None	54.9	52.4	53.3
NSP	54.5	90.5	52.0
SOP	54.0	78.9	86.5

SQuAD1.1	SQuAD2.0	MNLI	SST-2	RACE	Downstream Tasks	
					Avg	
88.6/81.5	78.1/75.3	81.5	89.9	61.7	79.0	
88.4/81.5	77.2/74.6	81.6	91.1	62.3	79.2	
89.3/82.3	80.0/77.1	82.0	90.3	64.0	80.1	





RoBERTa: A Robustly Optimized BERT Pretraining Approach

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Robustly optimized BERT approach

replication study of BERT pre-training

BERT

$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N \rightarrow$ segment 1 (sequence of tokens)

$y_1, y_2, \dots, y_M \rightarrow$ segment 2 (sequence of tokens)

$[CLS], x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N, [SEP], y_1, y_2, \dots, y_M, [EOS] \rightarrow$ single input sequence

$M + N < T \rightarrow$ maximum sequence length during training

$L \rightarrow$ number of layers

$A \rightarrow$ number of self-attention heads

$H \rightarrow$ hidden dimension

- masked language modeling (MLM)

15% of input tokens are selected for possible replacement. Of the selected tokens, 80% are replaced with [MASK], 10% are left unchanged, and 10% are replaced by a randomly selected vocabulary token.

- next sentence prediction (NSP)

positive examples (consecutive sentences from the text corpus)

negative examples (pairing segments from different documents)

The NSP objective was designed to improve performance on downstream tasks,

such as Natural Language Inference

$T = 512 \rightarrow$ maximum length

$S = 1,000,000 \rightarrow$ updates

$B = 256 \rightarrow$ minibatch

16GB of uncompressed text (BOOKCORPUS + English WIKIPEDIA)

RoBERTa's modifications are simple, they include: (1) training the model longer, with bigger batches, over more data; (2) removing the next sentence prediction objective; (3) training on longer sequences; (4) dynamically changing the masking pattern applied to the training data; and (5) collecting a large new dataset (CC-NEWS) of comparable size to other privately used datasets, to better control for training set size effects.

160GB of uncompressed text:

- BOOKCORPUS + English WIKIPEDIA (16GB)
- CC-NEWS (76GB)
- OPENWEBTEXT (38GB)
- STORIES (31GB)

masking once during data preprocessing

	static	78.3	84.3	92.5
dynamic	78.7	84.0	92.9	

Model	SQuAD 1.1/2.0	MNLI-m	SST-2	RACE
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Our reimplementation (with NSP loss):

SEGMENT-PAIR	90.4/78.7	84.0	92.9	64.2
SENTENCE-PAIR	88.7/76.2	82.9	92.1	63.0

Our reimplementation (without NSP loss):

FULL-SENTENCES	90.4/79.1	84.7	92.5	64.8
DOC-SENTENCES	90.6/79.7	84.7	92.7	65.6
BERT _{BASE}	88.5/76.3	84.3	92.8	64.3
XLNet _{BASE} (K = 7)	-/81.3	85.8	92.7	66.1
XLNet _{BASE} (K = 6)	-/81.0	85.6	93.4	66.7

Model	data	bsz	steps	batch size		
				SQuAD (v1.1/2.0)	MNLI-m	SST-2
RoBERTa	with BOOKS + WIKI	16GB	8K	100K	93.6/87.3	89.0
	+ additional data (§3.2)	160GB	8K	100K	94.0/87.7	89.3
	+ pretrain longer	160GB	8K	300K	94.4/88.7	90.0
	+ pretrain even longer	160GB	8K	500K	94.6/89.4	90.2
BERT _{LARGE}	with BOOKS + WIKI	13GB	256	1M	90.9/81.8	86.6
	XLNet _{LARGE}	13GB	256	1M	94.0/87.8	88.4
	+ additional data	126GB	2K	500K	94.5/88.8	89.8
						95.6

Model	SQuAD 1.1 EM	SQuAD 2.0 F1	Model	SQuAD 1.1 EM	SQuAD 2.0 F1
BERT _{LARGE}	84.1	90.9	79.0	81.8	
XLNet _{LARGE}	89.0	94.5	86.1	88.8	
RoBERTa	88.9	94.6	86.5	89.4	

Single models on dev, w/o data augmentation	
BERT _{LARGE}	84.1
XLNet _{LARGE}	89.0
RoBERTa	88.9
Single models on test (as of July 25, 2019)	
XLNet _{LARGE}	86.3 [†]
RoBERTa	86.8
XLNet + SG-Net Verifier	87.0[†]
	89.9[†]

Model	Accuracy	Middle	High
BERT _{LARGE}	72.0	76.6	70.1
XLNet _{LARGE}	81.7	85.4	80.2
RoBERTa	83.2	86.5	81.3



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Transformer-XL: Attentive Language Models Beyond a Fixed-Length Context



[YouTube Playlist](#)

$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_T) \rightarrow$ corpus of tokens

$p(x) = \prod_t p(x_t | x_{<t}) \rightarrow$ Language Modeling

encode the context $x_{<t}$ into a fixed size hidden state

$$\begin{cases} s_\tau = [x_{\tau,1}, x_{\tau,2}, \dots, x_{\tau,L}] \\ s_{\tau+1} = [x_{\tau+1,1}, x_{\tau+1,2}, \dots, x_{\tau+1,L}] \end{cases}$$

consecutive segments of length L

$$h_\tau^n \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times d}$$

\nwarrow n -th layer hidden state sequence produced for the τ -th segment s_τ

$$\tilde{h}_{\tau+1}^{n-1} = [\text{SG}(h_\tau^{n-1}), h_{\tau+1}^{n-1}] \in \mathbb{R}^{2L \times d}$$

\nwarrow stop gradient

$$q_{\tau+1}^n = h_{\tau+1}^{n-1} W_q^T$$

$$k_{\tau+1}^n = \tilde{h}_{\tau+1}^{n-1} W_k^T$$

$$v_{\tau+1}^n = \tilde{h}_{\tau+1}^{n-1} W_v^T$$

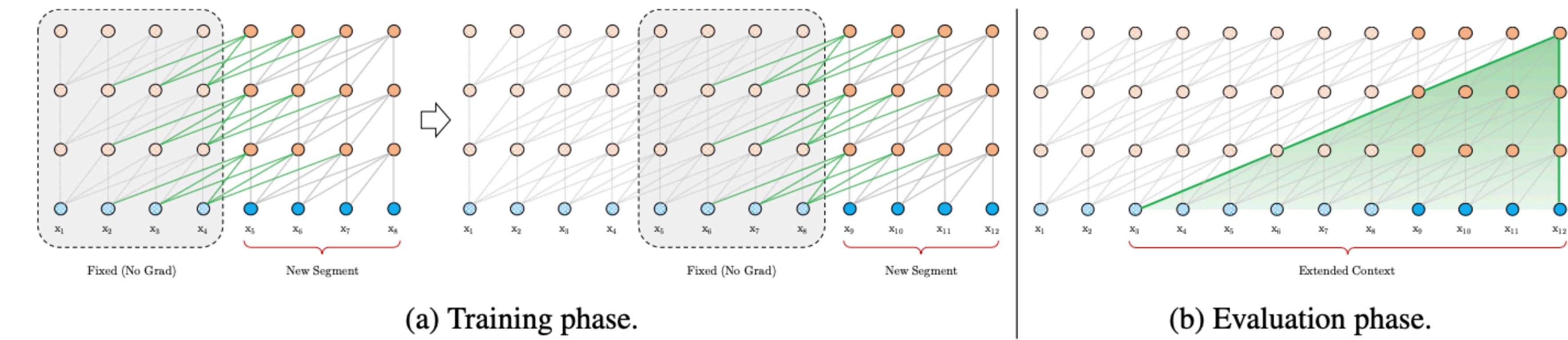
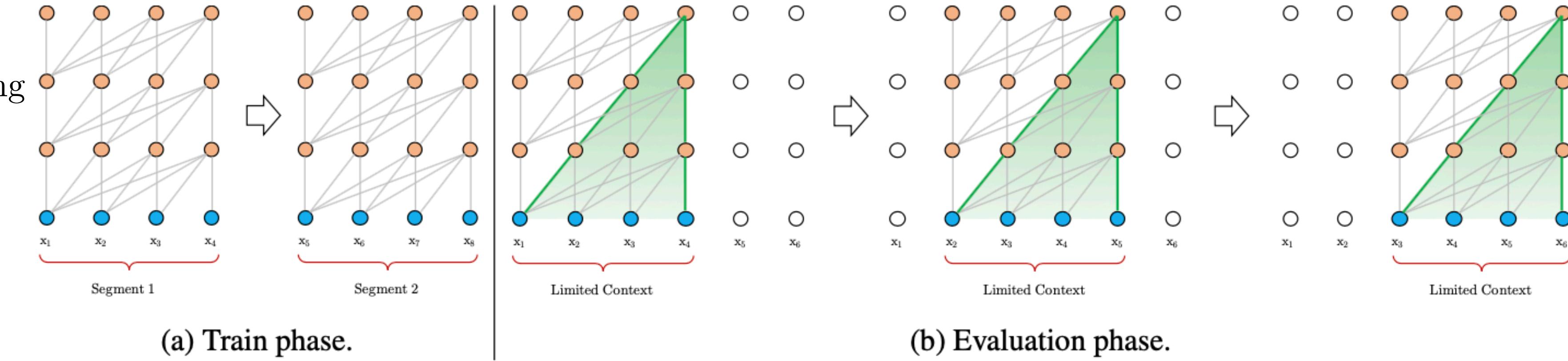
$$h_{\tau+1}^n = \text{transformer-layer}(q_{\tau+1}^n, k_{\tau+1}^n, v_{\tau+1}^n)$$

$$m_\tau^n \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times d} \quad (\text{e.g., } m_\tau^n = h_\tau^n) \rightarrow \text{memory}$$

Relative Positional Encodings

$$U \in \mathbb{R}^{L_{\max} \times d}$$

\nwarrow “absolute” positional encodings



The model has no information to distinguish the positional difference between $x_{\tau,j}$ and $x_{\tau+1,j}$ for any $j = 1, \dots, L$

$R \in \mathbb{R}^{L_{\max} \times d}$ i -th row: relative distance of i between two positions

\nwarrow “relative” positional encoding

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_{i,j}^{\text{rel}} &= \underbrace{\mathbf{E}_{x_i}^\top \mathbf{W}_q^\top \mathbf{W}_{k,E} \mathbf{E}_{x_j}}_{(a)} + \underbrace{\mathbf{E}_{x_i}^\top \mathbf{W}_q^\top \mathbf{W}_{k,R} \mathbf{R}_{i-j}}_{(b)} \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{W}_{k,E} \mathbf{E}_{x_j}}_{(c)} + \underbrace{\mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{W}_{k,R} \mathbf{R}_{i-j}}_{(d)}. \end{aligned}$$

attention score between query q_i and key vector k_j

$$\mathbf{A}_{i,j}^{\text{abs}} = \underbrace{\mathbf{E}_{x_i}^\top \mathbf{W}_q^\top \mathbf{W}_k \mathbf{E}_{x_j}}_{(a)} + \underbrace{\mathbf{E}_{x_i}^\top \mathbf{W}_q^\top \mathbf{W}_k \mathbf{U}_j}_{(b)} + \underbrace{\mathbf{U}_i^\top \mathbf{W}_q^\top \mathbf{W}_k \mathbf{E}_{x_j}}_{(c)} + \underbrace{\mathbf{U}_i^\top \mathbf{W}_q^\top \mathbf{W}_k \mathbf{U}_j}_{(d)}.$$



Boulder

XLNet: Generalized Autoregressive Pretraining for Language Understanding



[YouTube Video](#)

Pre-training objectives:

- Autoencoding (AE) Language Modeling
- Autoregressive (AR) Language Modeling

$$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_T)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} p(x) &= \prod_{t=1}^T p(x_t | x_{<t}) \rightarrow \text{forward product} \\ p(x) &= \prod_{t=T}^1 p(x_t | x_{>t}) \rightarrow \text{backward product} \end{aligned} \right\}_{\text{AR}}$$

[MASK] → AE (pretrain-finetune discrepancy)
all possible permutations of the factorization order

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\theta} \log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) &= \sum_{t=1}^T \log p_{\theta}(x_t | \mathbf{x}_{<t}) \\ &= \sum_{t=1}^T \log \frac{\exp(h_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{1:t-1})^\top e(x_t))}{\sum_{x'} \exp(h_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{1:t-1})^\top e(x'))} \end{aligned}$$

$x \rightarrow \hat{x} \rightarrow \bar{x}$
masked tokens
corrupted ([MASK] 15%)

$$\max_{\theta} \log p_{\theta}(\bar{\mathbf{x}} | \hat{\mathbf{x}}) \approx \sum_{t=1}^T m_t \log p_{\theta}(x_t | \hat{\mathbf{x}})$$

$$\begin{aligned} m_t = 1 \text{ indicates } x_t \text{ is masked.} \\ &= \sum_{t=1}^T m_t \log \frac{\exp(H_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})_t^\top e(x_t))}{\sum_{x'} \exp(H_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})_t^\top e(x'))} \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{Z}_T \rightarrow$ set of all possible permutations of $\{1, 2, \dots, T\}$

$z_t \rightarrow t\text{-th element of a permutation } z \in \mathcal{Z}_T$

$z_{<t} \rightarrow$ the first $t-1$ elements of a permutation $z \in \mathcal{Z}_T$

$$\max_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{Z}_T} \left[\sum_{t=1}^T \log p_{\theta}(x_{z_t} | \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{z}_{<t}}) \right]$$

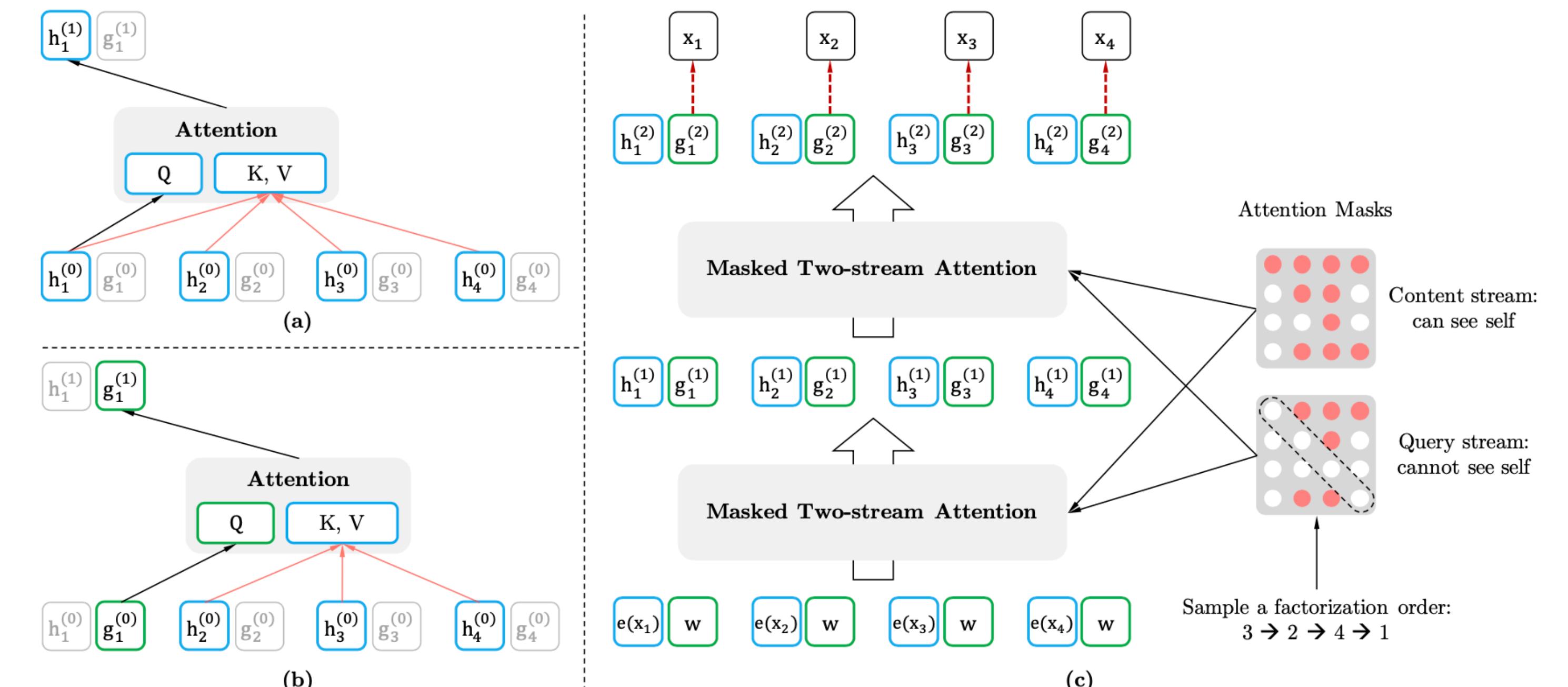
$$\mathcal{J}_{\text{BERT}} = \log p(\text{New} | \text{is a city}) + \log p(\text{York} | \text{is a city}),$$

$$\mathcal{J}_{\text{XLNet}} = \log p(\text{New} | \text{is a city}) + \log p(\text{York} | \text{New}, \text{is a city}).$$

Partial Prediction

$$\max_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{Z}_T} [\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{z}_{>c}} | \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{z}_{\leq c}})] = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{Z}_T} \left[\sum_{t=c+1}^{|\mathbf{z}|} \log p_{\theta}(x_{z_t} | \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{z}_{<t}}) \right]$$

Make the objective function depend on the position (i.e., the value of z_t) it will predict.

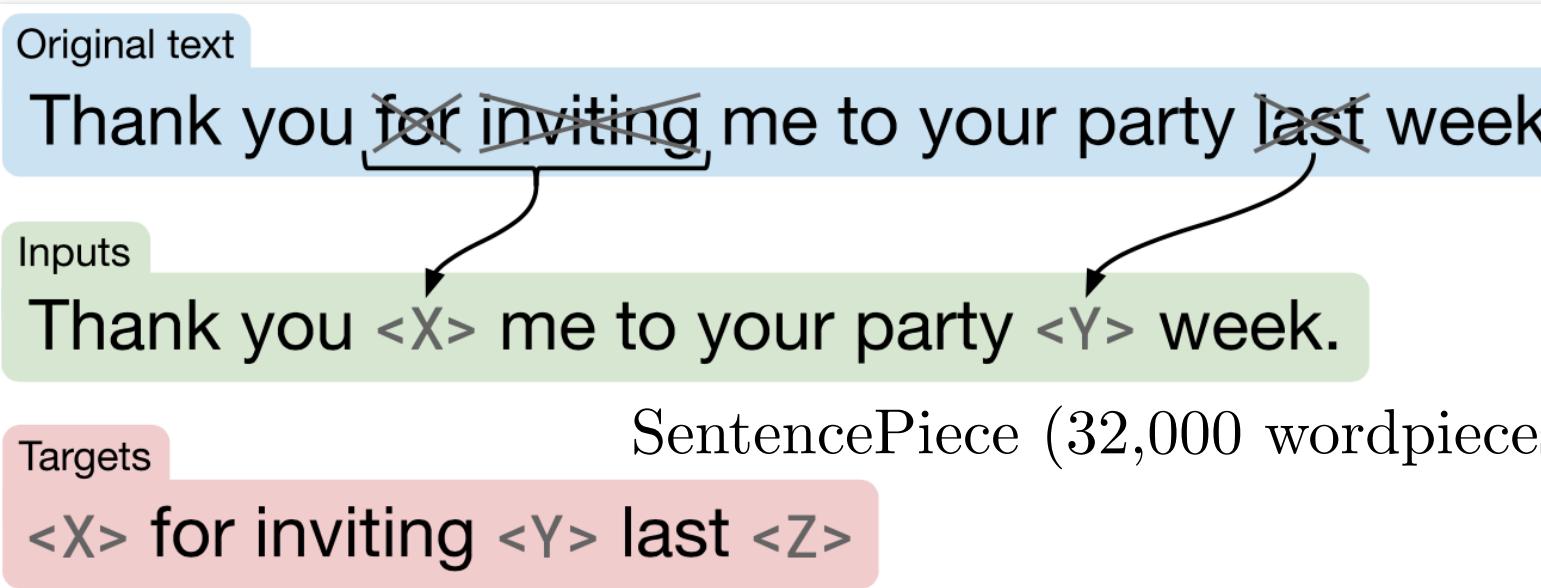
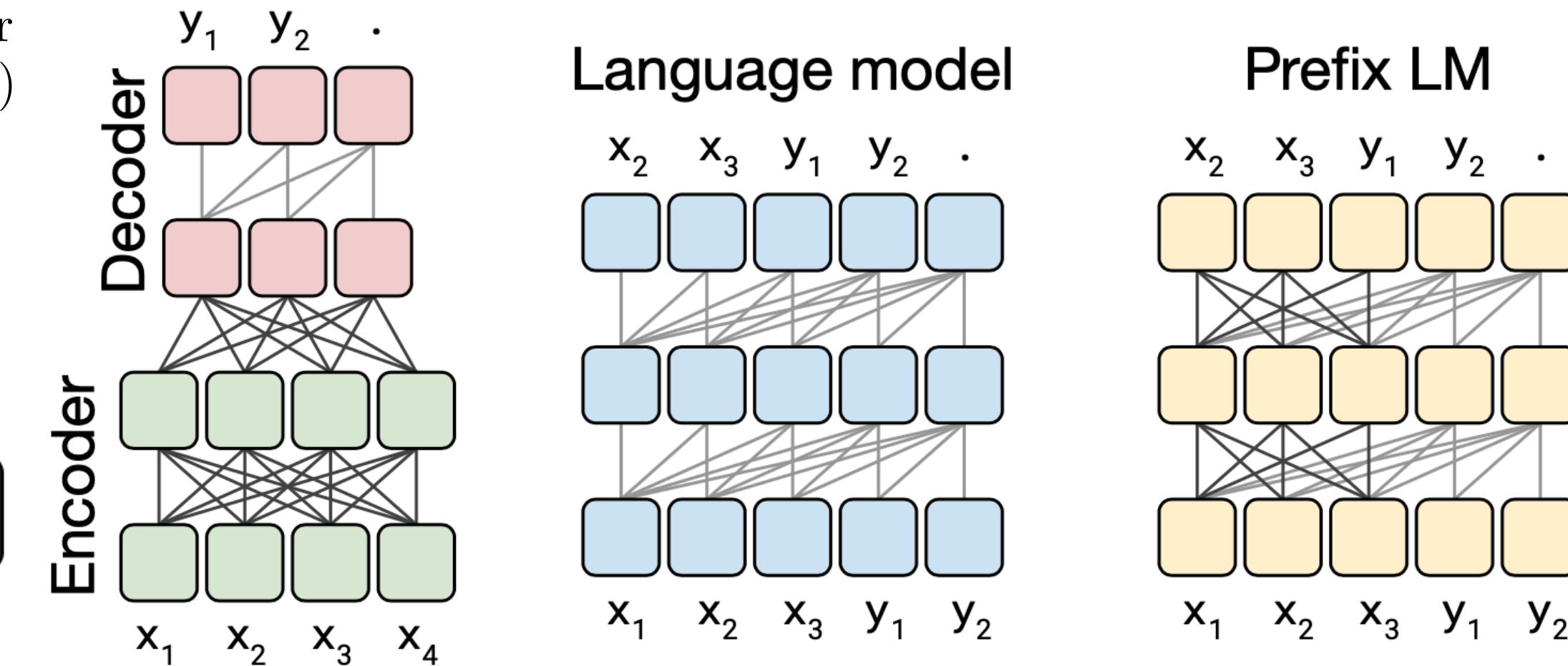
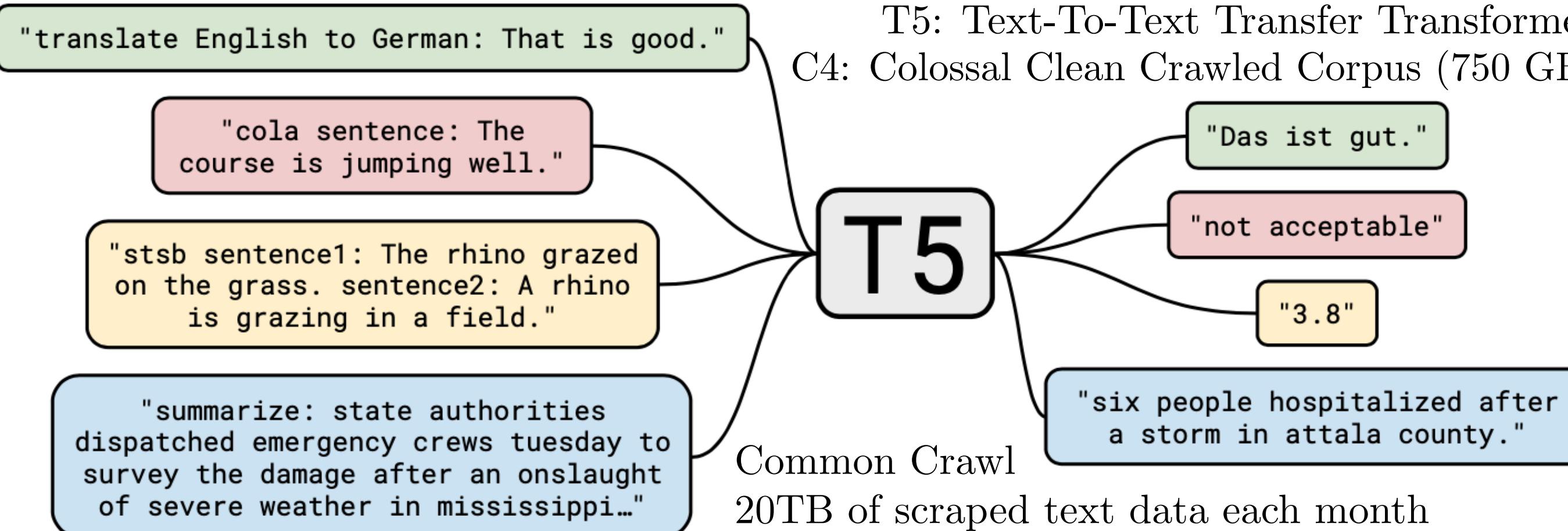


$$\begin{aligned} g_{z_t}^{(m)} &\leftarrow \text{Attention}(Q = g_{z_t}^{(m-1)}, KV = \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{z}_{<t}}^{(m-1)}; \theta), \quad (\text{query stream: use } z_t \text{ but cannot see } x_{z_t}) \\ h_{z_t}^{(m)} &\leftarrow \text{Attention}(Q = h_{z_t}^{(m-1)}, KV = \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{z}_{\leq t}}^{(m-1)}; \theta), \quad (\text{content stream: use both } z_t \text{ and } x_{z_t}). \end{aligned}$$

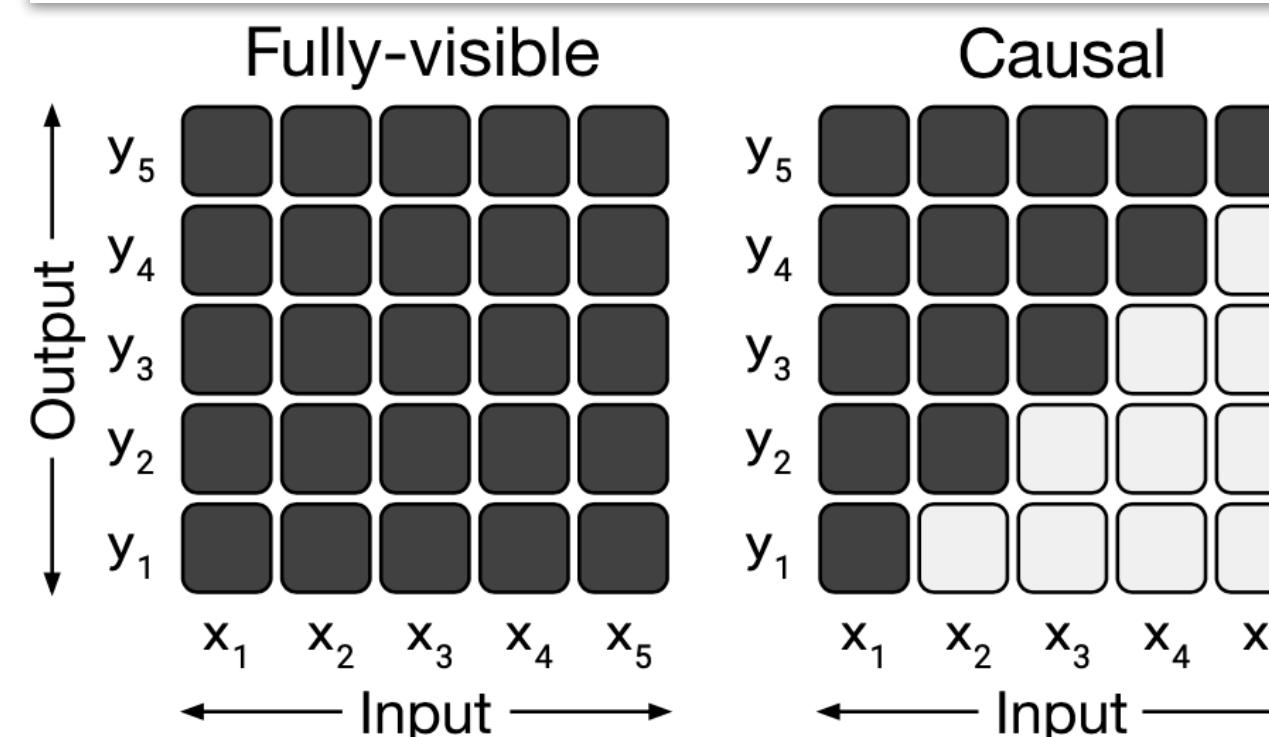


Boulder

Exploring the Limits of Transfer Learning with a Unified Text-to-Text Transformer



Objective	Inputs	Targets
Prefix language modeling BERT-style Devlin et al. (2018)	Thank you for inviting	me to your party last week .
Deshuffling MASS-style Song et al. (2019)	Thank you <M> <M> me to your party apple week . party me for your to . last fun you inviting week Thank	(original text) (original text)
I.i.d. noise, replace spans I.i.d. noise, drop tokens	Thank you <M> <M> me to your party <M> week . Thank you <X> me to your party <Y> week . Thank you me to your party week .	(original text) <X> for inviting <Y> last <Z> for inviting last
Random spans	Thank you <X> to <Y> week .	<X> for inviting me <Y> your party last <Z>



1 / $\sqrt{\max(n, 10^4)}$ → “inverse square root” learning rate schedule								
Data set	Size	GLUE	CNNDM	SQuAD	SGLUE	EnDe	EnFr	EnRo
★ C4	745GB	83.28	19.24	80.88	71.36	26.98	39.82	27.65
C4, unfiltered	6.1TB	81.46	19.14	78.78	68.04	26.55	39.34	27.21
RealNews-like	35GB	83.83	19.23	80.39	72.38	26.75	39.90	27.48
WebText-like	17GB	84.03	19.31	81.42	71.40	26.80	39.74	27.59
Wikipedia	16GB	81.85	19.31	81.29	68.01	26.94	39.69	27.67
Wikipedia + TBC	20GB	83.65	19.28	82.08	73.24	26.77	39.63	27.57



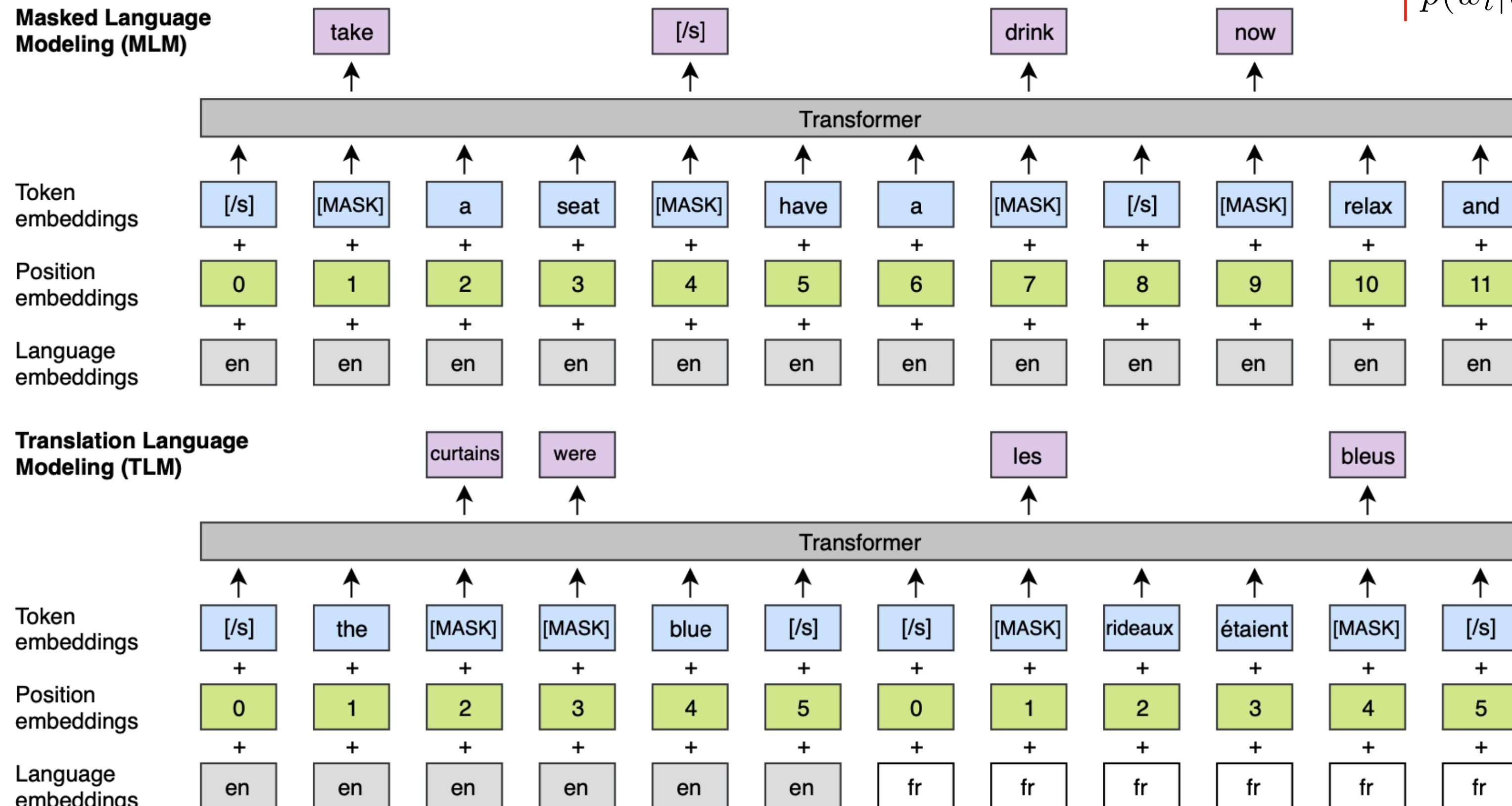
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[YouTube Video](#)

Cross-lingual Language Model Pretraining

- multiple languages
 - cross-lingual pretraining
 - cross-lingual language models (XLMs)
 - monolingual data (unsupervised)
 - parallel data (supervised)
- $\{C_i\}_{i=1}^N \rightarrow N$ monolingual corpora
 $n_i \rightarrow$ number of sentences in C_i



Shared sub-word vocabulary

Shared vocabulary created using Byte Pair Encoding (BPE)

Learn the BPE splits on the concatenation of sentences sampled randomly from the monolingual corpora

Sentences are sampled according to a multinomial distribution with probabilities $\{q_i\}_{i=1}^N$

$$q_i = \frac{p_i^\alpha}{\sum_{j=1}^N p_j^\alpha} \quad \text{with} \quad p_i = \frac{n_i}{\sum_{k=1}^N n_k}, \alpha = 0.5$$

Alleviates the bias towards high-resource languages!

Causal Language Modeling (CLM)

$p(w_t | w_1, \dots, w_{t-1}; \theta) \rightarrow$ a Transformer language model

Results on cross-lingual classification accuracy. Test accuracy on the 15 XNLI languages.

	en	fr	es	de	el	bg	ru	tr	ar	vi	th	zh	hi	sw	ur	Δ
<i>Machine translation baselines (TRANSLATE-TRAIN)</i>																
Devlin et al. (2018)	81.9	-	77.8	75.9	-	-	-	-	70.7	-	-	76.6	-	-	61.6	-
XLM (MLM+TLM)	85.0	80.2	80.8	80.3	78.1	79.3	78.1	74.7	76.5	76.6	75.5	78.6	72.3	70.9	63.2	76.7
<i>Machine translation baselines (TRANSLATE-TEST)</i>																
Devlin et al. (2018)	81.4	-	74.9	74.4	-	-	-	-	70.4	-	-	70.1	-	-	62.1	-
XLM (MLM+TLM)	85.0	79.0	79.5	78.1	77.8	77.6	75.5	73.7	73.7	70.8	70.4	73.6	69.0	64.7	65.1	74.2
<i>Evaluation of cross-lingual sentence encoders</i>																
Conneau et al. (2018b)	73.7	67.7	68.7	67.7	68.9	67.9	65.4	64.2	64.8	66.4	64.1	65.8	64.1	55.7	58.4	65.6
Devlin et al. (2018)	81.4	-	74.3	70.5	-	-	-	-	62.1	-	-	63.8	-	-	58.3	-
Artetxe and Schwenk (2018)	73.9	71.9	72.9	72.6	73.1	74.2	71.5	69.7	71.4	72.0	69.2	71.4	65.5	62.2	61.0	70.2
XLM (MLM)	83.2	76.5	76.3	74.2	73.1	74.0	73.1	67.8	68.5	71.2	69.2	71.9	65.7	64.6	63.4	71.5
XLM (MLM+TLM)	85.0	78.7	78.9	77.8	76.6	77.4	75.3	72.5	73.1	76.1	73.2	76.5	69.6	68.4	67.3	75.1

BLEU

	en-fr	fr-en	en-de	de-en	en-ro	ro-en
<i>Previous state-of-the-art - Lample et al. (2018b)</i>						
NMT	25.1	24.2	17.2	21.0	21.2	19.4
PBSMT	28.1	27.2	17.8	22.7	21.3	23.0
PBSMT + NMT	27.6	27.7	20.2	25.2	25.1	23.9
<i>Our results for different encoder and decoder initializations</i>						

EMB	EMB	29.4	29.4	21.3	27.3	27.5	26.6
-	-	13.0	15.8	6.7	15.3	18.9	18.3
-	CLM	25.3	26.4	19.2	26.0	25.7	24.6
-	MLM	29.2	29.1	21.6	28.6	28.2	27.3
CLM	-	28.7	28.2	24.4	30.3	29.2	28.0
CLM	CLM	30.4	30.0	22.7	30.5	29.0	27.8
CLM	MLM	32.3	31.6	24.3	32.5	31.6	29.8
MLM	-	31.6	32.1	27.0	33.2	31.8	30.5
MLM	CLM	33.4	32.3	24.9	32.9	31.7	30.4
MLM	MLM	33.4	33.3	26.4	34.3	33.3	31.8

Results on supervised MT. BLEU scores

Pretraining	-	CLM	MLM
Sennrich et al. (2016)	33.9	-	-
ro → en	28.4	31.5	35.3
ro ↔ en	28.5	31.5	35.6
ro ↔ en + BT	34.4	37.0	38.5

Low-resource language model

Training languages	Nepali perplexity
Nepali	157.2
Nepali + English	140.1
Nepali + Hindi	115.6
Nepali + English + Hindi	109.3



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SpanBERT: Improving Pre-training by Representing and Predicting Spans

Extractive Question Answering

“Which NFL team won Super Bowl 50?”

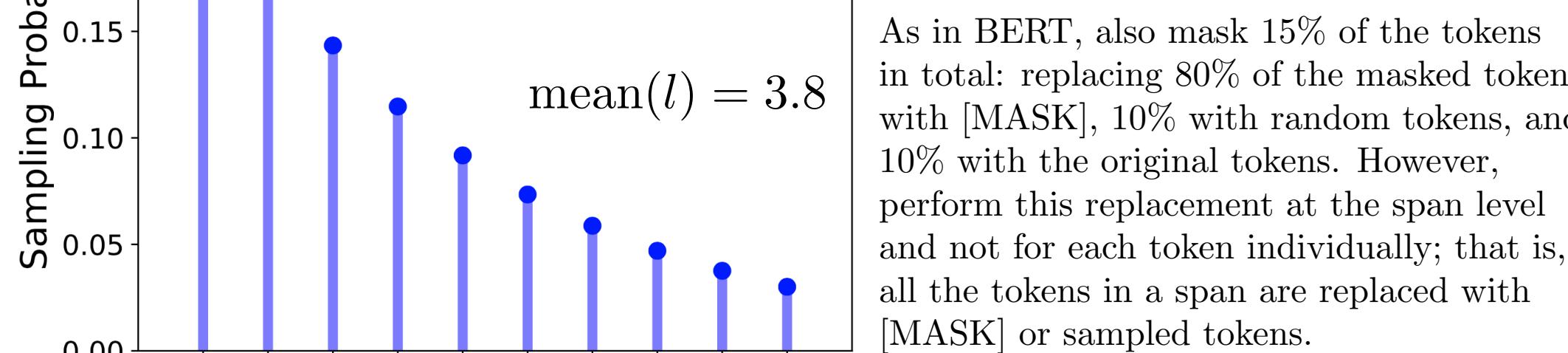
determining that “Denver Broncos” is a type of “NFL team” is critical for answering this question

Span Masking

$X = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow$ sequence of tokens

select a subset of tokens $Y \subset X$ by iteratively sampling spans of text until the masking budget (e.g., 15% of X) has been spent at each iteration sample a span length (number of words) from a geometric distribution (skewed towards shorter spans)

randomly (uniformly) select the starting point for the span to be masked



Span Boundary Objective (SBO)

$x_1, \dots, x_n \rightarrow$ output of the transformer encoder for each token in the sequence

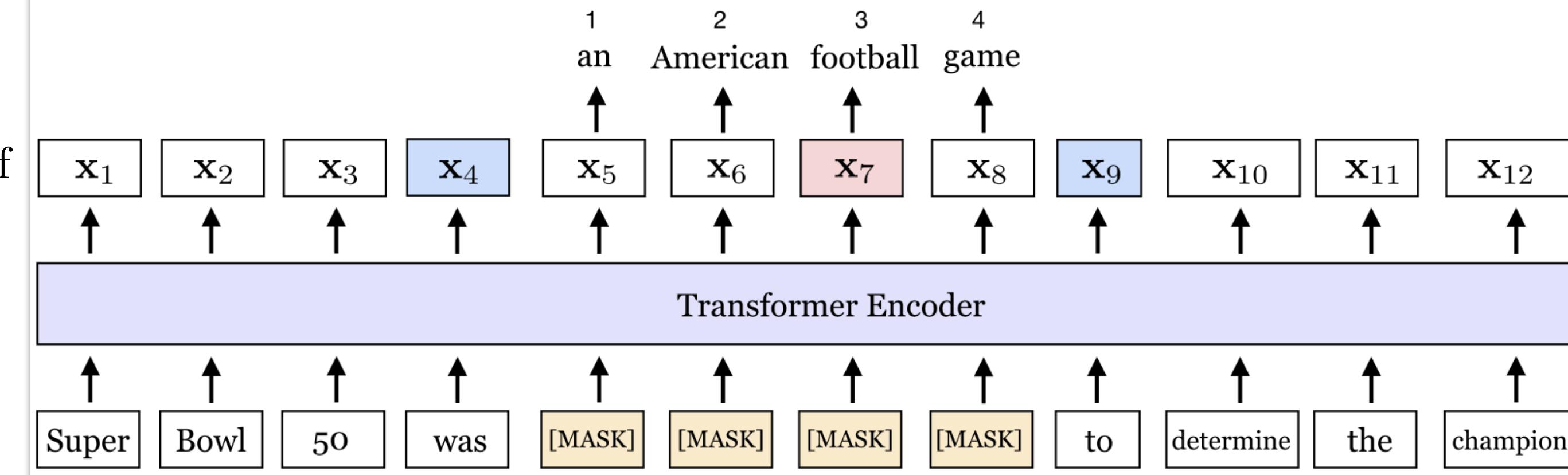
$(x_s, \dots, x_e) \in Y \rightarrow$ masked span of tokens

$(s, e) \rightarrow$ start and end positions

$x_{s-1}, x_{e+1} \rightarrow$ output encodings of the external boundary tokens

$$\mathcal{L}(\text{football}) = \mathcal{L}_{\text{MLM}}(\text{football}) + \mathcal{L}_{\text{SBO}}(\text{football})$$

$$= -\log P(\text{football} | \mathbf{x}_7) - \log P(\text{football} | \mathbf{x}_4, \mathbf{x}_9, \mathbf{p}_3)$$



$\mathbf{p}_{i-s+1} \rightarrow$ position embedding of the target token

$\mathbf{y}_i = f(\mathbf{x}_{s-1}, \mathbf{x}_{e+1}, \mathbf{p}_{i-s+1}) \rightarrow$ representation of token x_i in the span

$$\mathbf{h}_0 = [\mathbf{x}_{s-1}; \mathbf{x}_{e+1}; \mathbf{p}_{i-s+1}]$$

$\mathbf{h}_1 = \text{LayerNorm}(\text{GeLU}(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{h}_0)) \rightarrow$ two layer feed-forward network

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \text{LayerNorm}(\text{GeLU}(\mathbf{W}_2 \mathbf{h}_1))$$

Gaussian error Linear Unit (GeLU)

$$\mathcal{L}(x_i) = \mathcal{L}_{\text{MLM}}(x_i) + \mathcal{L}_{\text{SBO}}(x_i)$$

$$= -\log P(x_i | \mathbf{x}_i) - \log P(x_i | \mathbf{y}_i)$$

reuse the input embedding for the target tokens in both MLM and SBO

	SQuAD 1.1		SQuAD 2.0	
	EM	F1	EM	F1
Human Perf.	82.3	91.2	86.8	89.4
Google BERT	84.3	91.3	80.0	83.3
Our BERT	86.5	92.6	82.8	85.9
Our BERT-1seq	87.5	93.3	83.8	86.6
SpanBERT	88.8	94.6	85.7	88.7



Boulder



[YouTube Video](#)

Language Models are Few-Shot Learners

Traditional fine-tuning (not used for GPT-3)

Fine-tuning

The model is trained via repeated gradient updates using a large corpus of example tasks.



In-context Learning

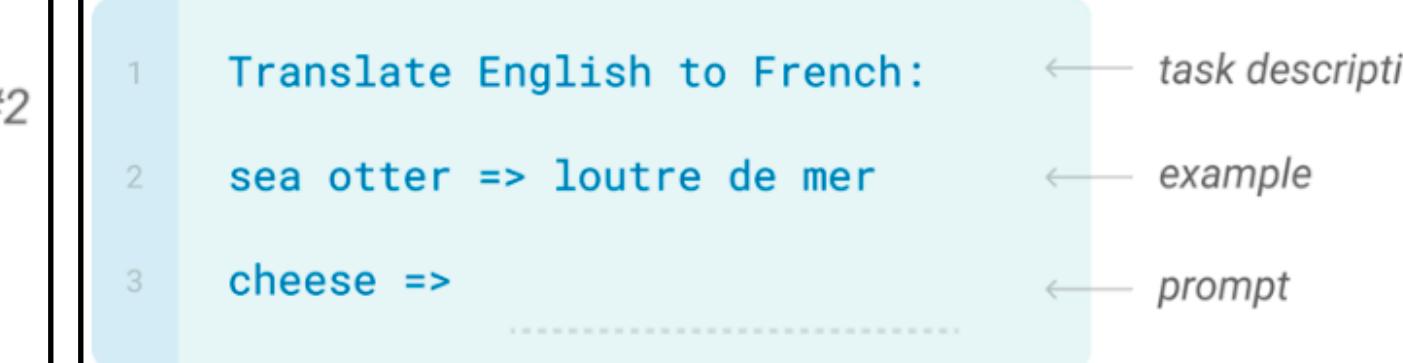
Zero-shot

The model predicts the answer given only a natural language description of the task. No gradient updates are performed.



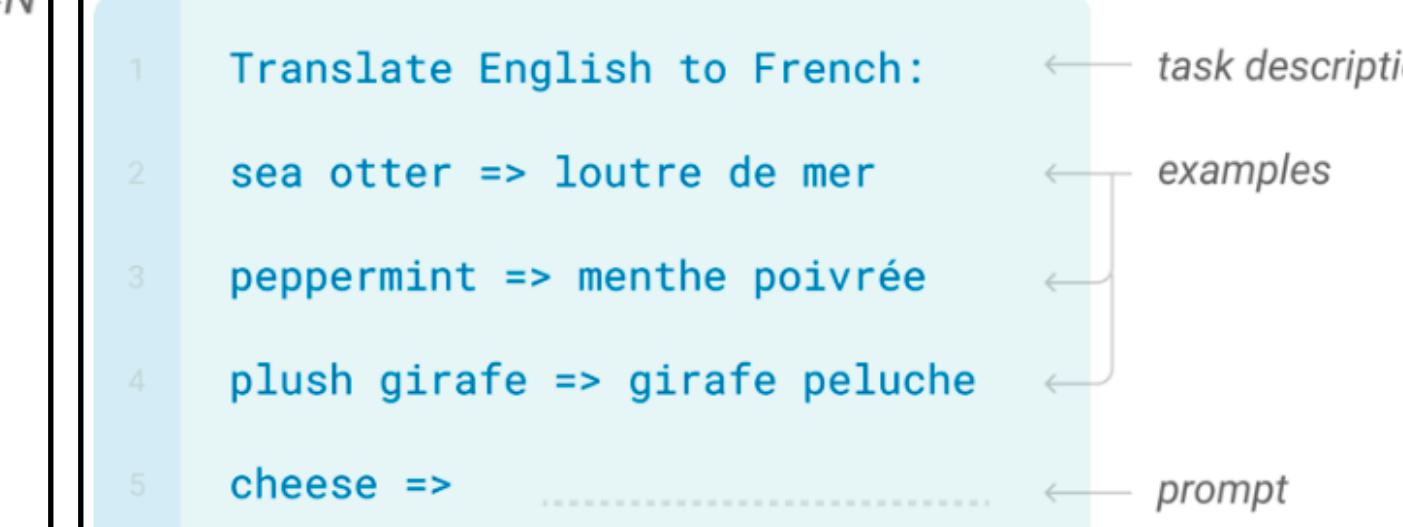
One-shot

In addition to the task description, the model sees a single example of the task. No gradient updates are performed.



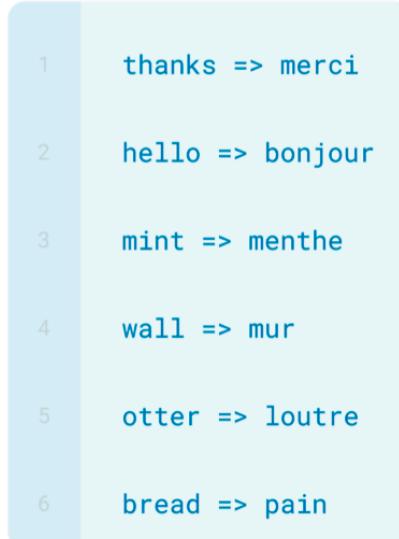
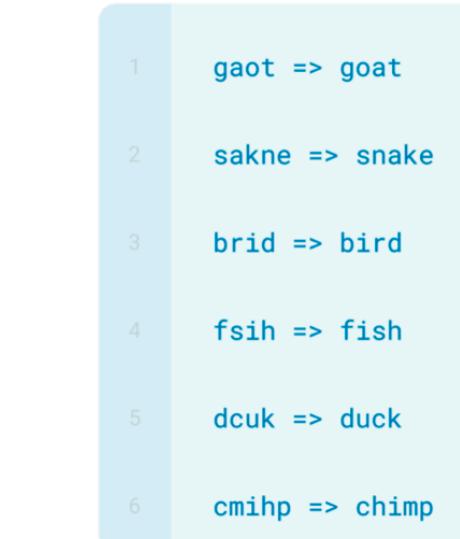
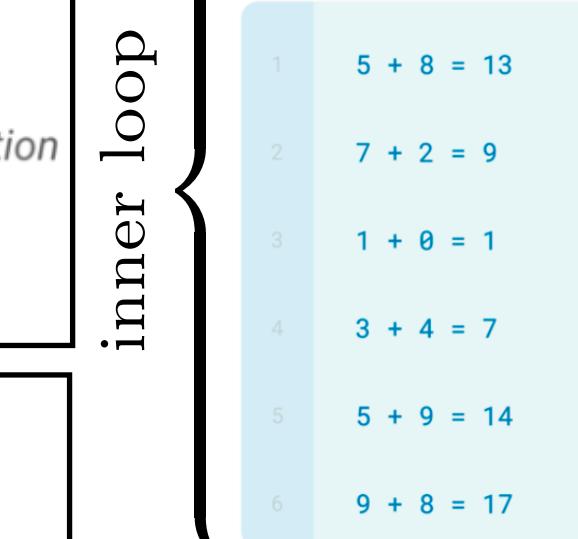
Few-shot

In addition to the task description, the model sees a few examples of the task. No gradient updates are performed.



outer loop

Learning via SGD during unsupervised pre-training



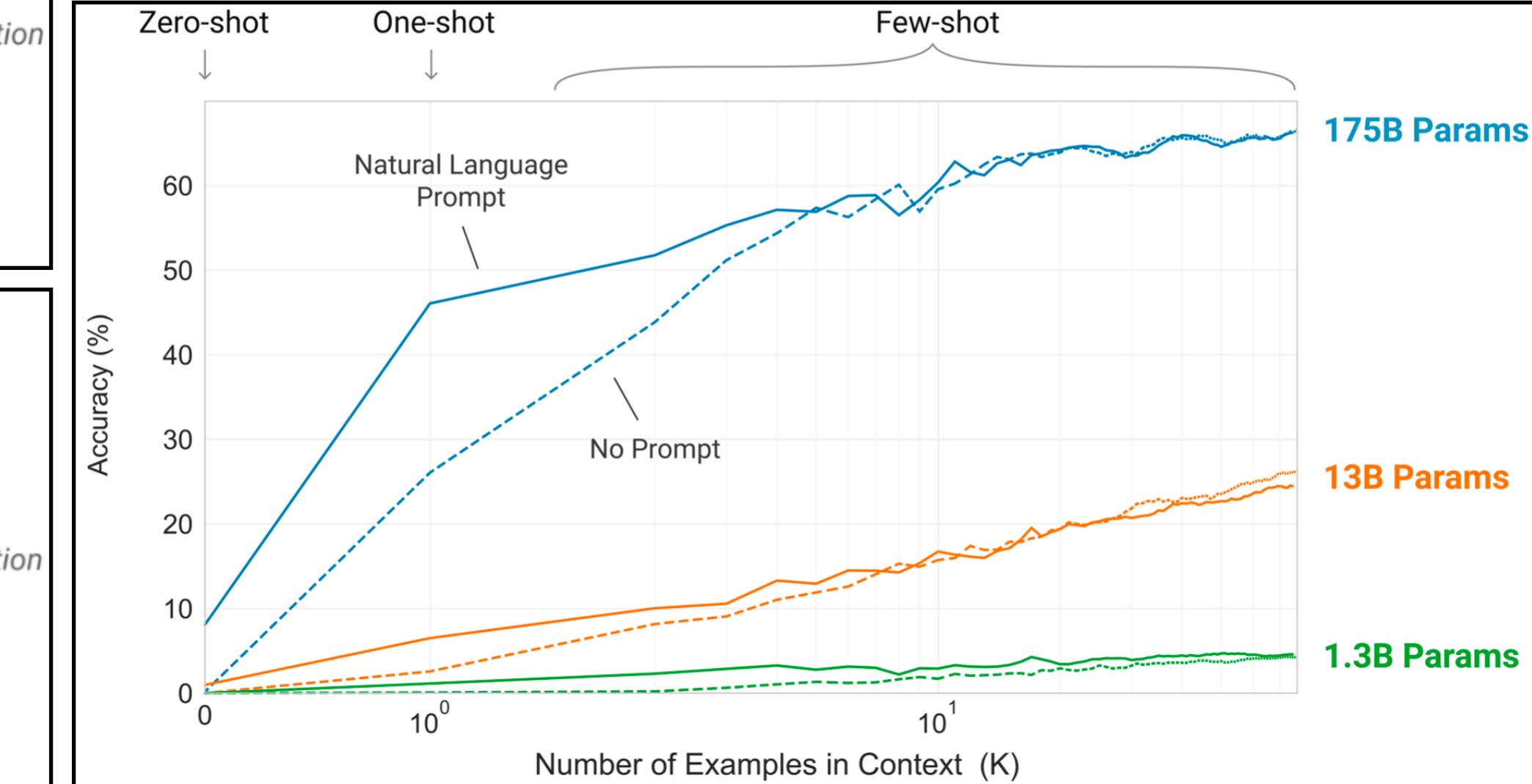
inner loop

In-context learning

In-context learning

In-context learning

Larger models make increasingly efficient use of in-context information



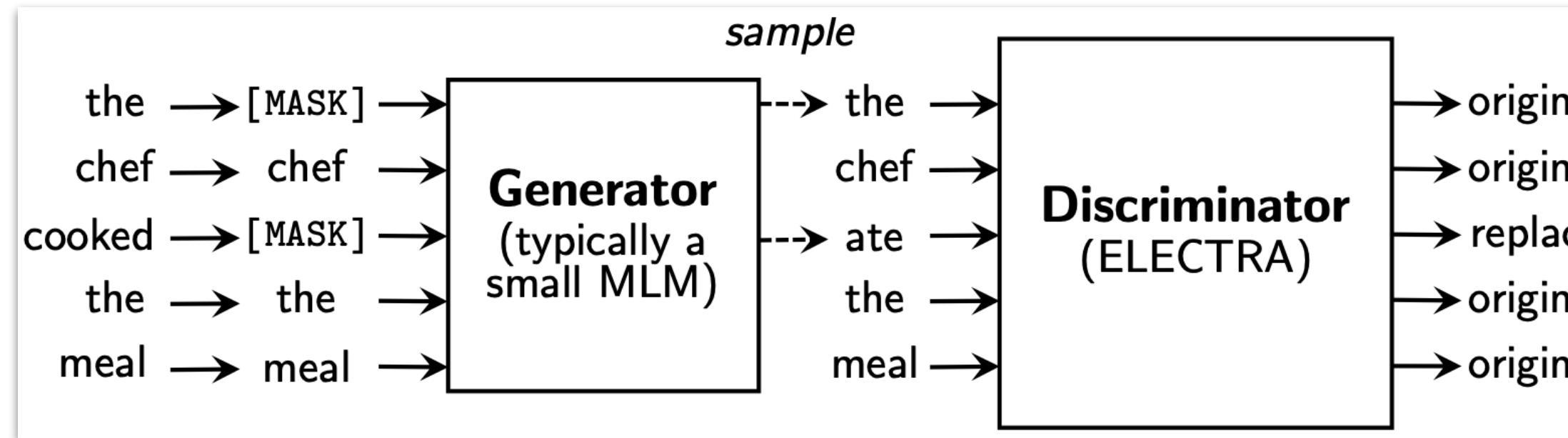
- Common Crawl dataset (filtered) – Webtext dataset
- Two internet-based books corpora – English language Wikipedia



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ELECTRA: Pre-training Text Encoders as Discriminators Rather Than Generators

Masked Language Modeling (MLM) approaches incur a substantial compute cost because the network only learns from 15% of the tokens per example!
Efficiently Learning an Encoder that Classifies Token Replacements Accurately (ELECTRA)



$G \rightarrow$ generator

$D \rightarrow$ discriminator

$x = [x_1, \dots, x_n] \rightarrow$ sequence of input tokens

$h(x) = [h_1, \dots, h_n] \rightarrow$ sequence of contextualized vector representations

$h \rightarrow$ encoder (transformer network)

$$p_G(x_t|x) = \exp(e(x_t)^T h_G(x)_t) / \sum_{x'} \exp(e(x')^T h_G(x)_t)$$

$e(x_t) \rightarrow$ token embedding

$D(x, t) = \text{sigmoid}(w^T h_D(x_t)) \rightarrow$ probability of token x_t being “real”

$m = [m_1, \dots, m_k] \rightarrow$ random set of positions (integers between 1 and n) to mask out

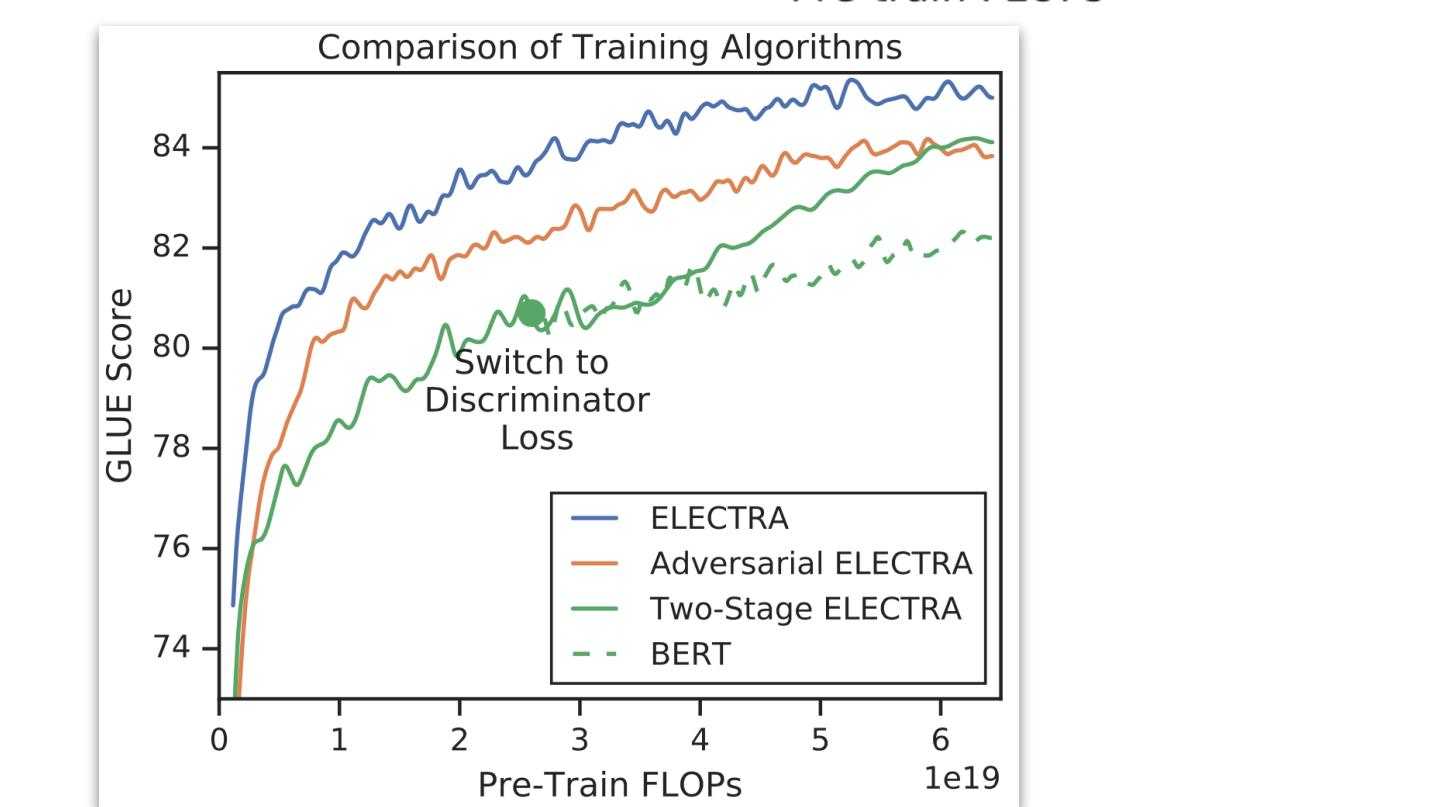
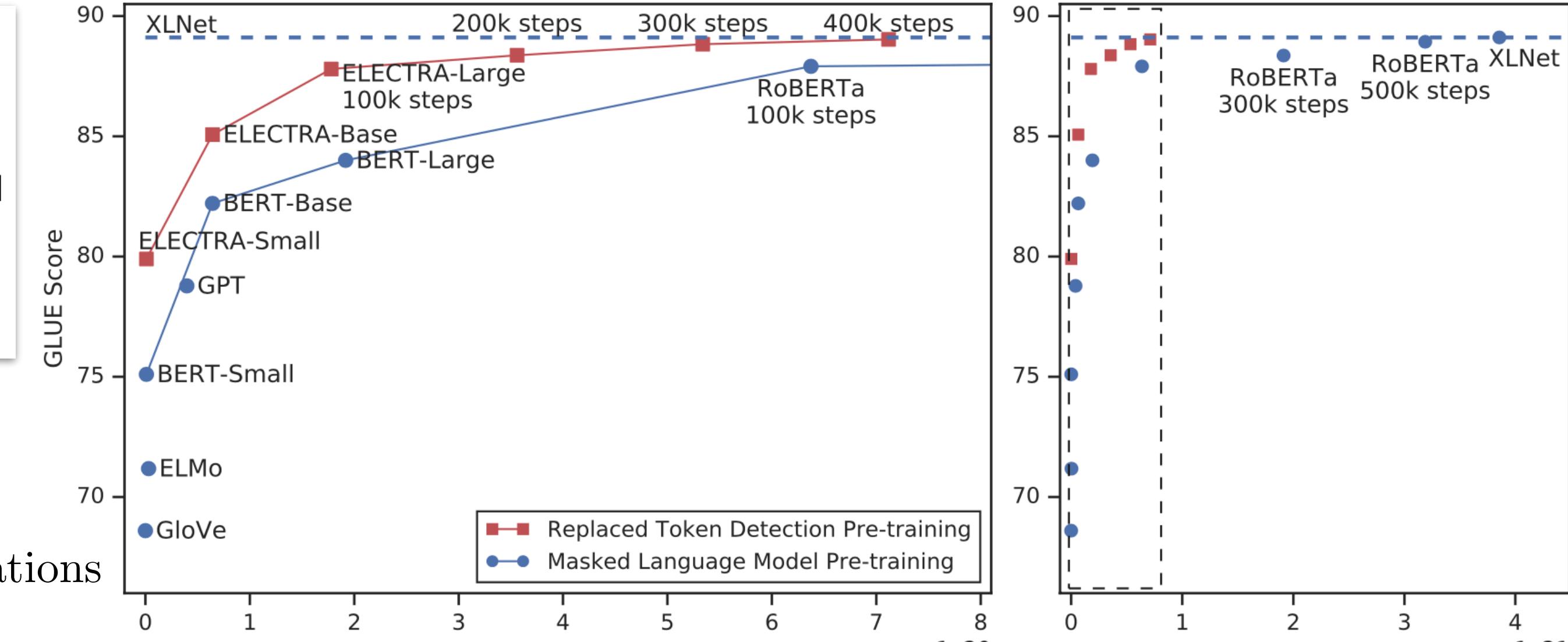
$k = \lceil 0.15n \rceil \rightarrow$ 15% of tokens are masked out

$m_i \sim \text{unif}\{1, n\}$ for $i = 1, \dots, k$

$x^{\text{mask}} = \text{REPLACE}(x, m, [\text{MASK}])$

$\hat{x}_i \sim p_G(x_i|x^{\text{mask}})$ for $i \in m$

$x^{\text{corrupt}} = \text{REPLACE}(x, m, \hat{x})$



$$\min_{\theta_G, \theta_D} \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{MLM}}(x, \theta_G) + \lambda \mathcal{L}_{\text{Disc}}(x, \theta_D)$$

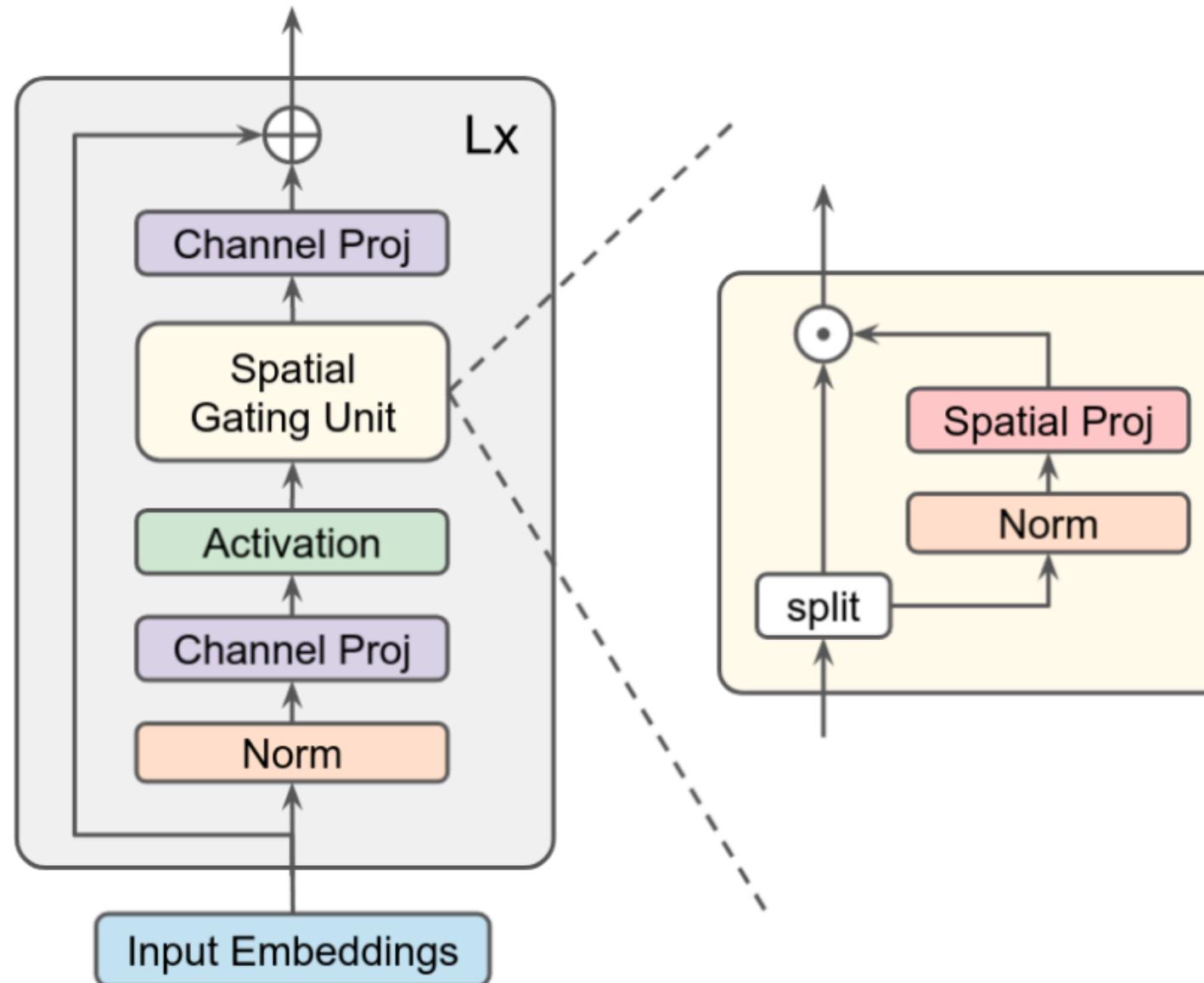
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{MLM}}(x, \theta_G) = \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{i \in m} -\log p_G(x_i | x^{\text{mask}}) \right)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Disc}}(x, \theta_D) = \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{t=1}^n -\mathbb{1}(x_t^{\text{corrupt}} = x_t) \log D(x^{\text{corrupt}}, t) - \mathbb{1}(x_t^{\text{corrupt}} \neq x_t) \log (1 - D(x^{\text{corrupt}}, t)) \right)$$



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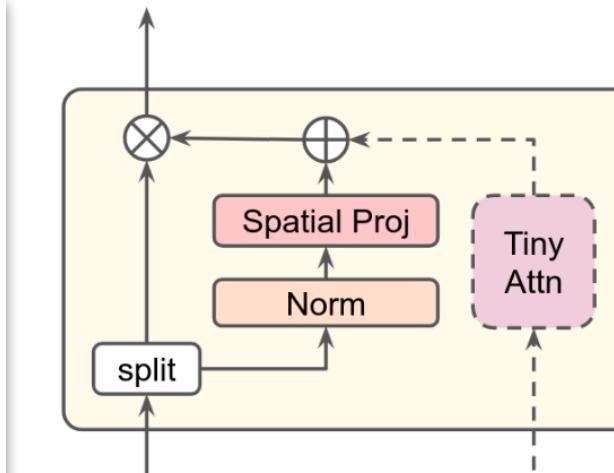
Pay Attention to MLPs



Pseudo-code for the gMLP block

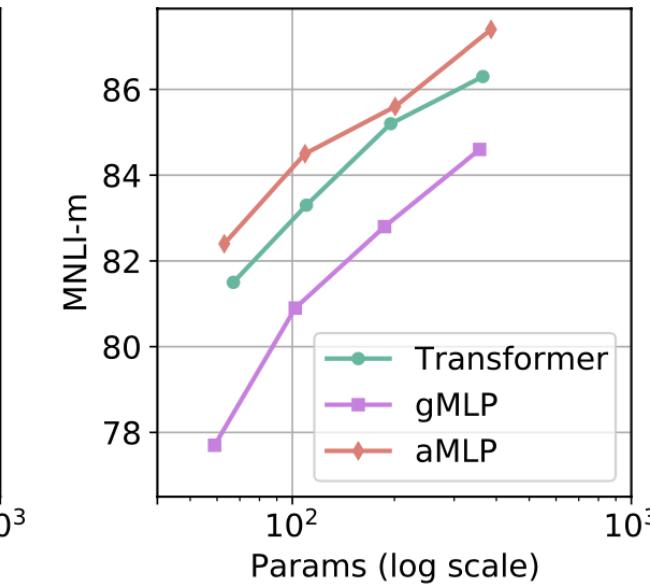
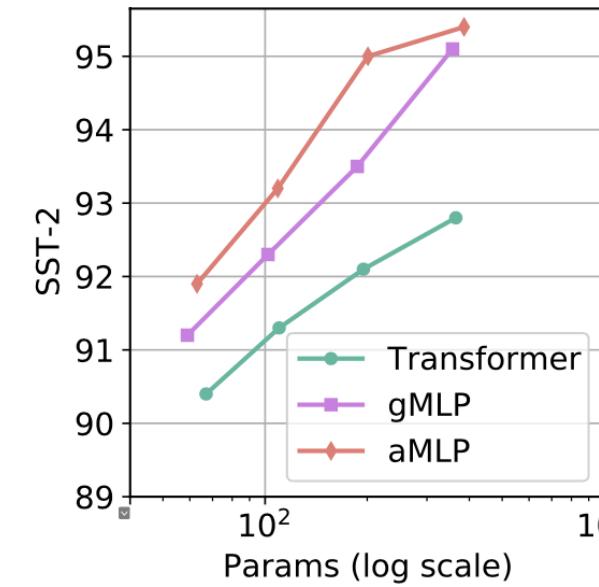
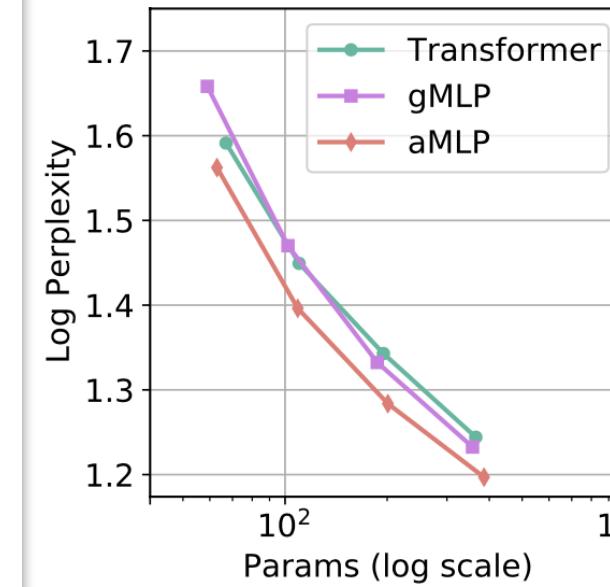
```
def gmlp_block(x, d_model, d_ffn):
    shortcut = x
    x = norm(x, axis="channel")
    x = proj(x, d_ffn, axis="channel")
    x = gelu(x)
    x = spatial_gating_unit(x)
    x = proj(x, d_model, axis="channel")
    return x + shortcut

def spatial_gating_unit(x):
    u, v = split(x, axis="channel")
    v = norm(v, axis="channel")
    n = get_dim(v, axis="spatial")
    v = proj(v, n, axis="spatial", init_bias=1)
    return u * v
```



Pseudo-code for the tiny attention module

```
def tiny_attn(x, d_ffn, d_attn=64):
    qkv = proj(x, 3 * d_attn, axis="channel")
    q, k, v = split(qkv, 3, axis="channel")
    w = einsum("bnd,bmd->bnm", q, k)
    a = softmax(w * rsqrt(d_attn))
    x = einsum("bnm,bmd->bnd", a, v)
    return proj(x, d_ffn, axis="channel")
```



L blocks with identical size and structure

$X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d} \rightarrow$ token representations

$n \rightarrow$ sequence length

$d \rightarrow$ dimension

For brevity, let's omit shortcuts, normalizations and biases!

$Z = \sigma(XU)$, $\sigma \rightarrow$ GeLU (Gaussian error Linear Unit)

$\tilde{Z} = s(Z) \rightarrow$ spatial interactions

$Y = \tilde{Z}V$

$U, V \rightarrow$ linear projections across the channel dimension

Spatial Gating Unit (SGU)

cross-token interactions

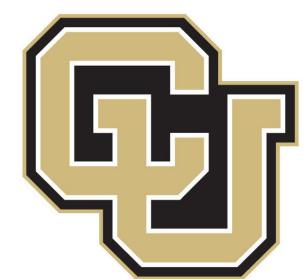
$f_{W,b}(Z) = WZ + b, W \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

$$Z = (Z_1, Z_2)$$

$$s(Z) = Z_1 \odot f_{W,b}(Z_2)$$

gMLP: MLP with a small attention
aMLP: gMLP with a small attention

	Perplexity	SST-2	MNLI (m/mm)	SQuAD		Attn Size	Params (M)
				v1.1	v2.0		
BERT _{base} [2]	–	92.7	84.4/-	88.5	76.3	768 (64 × 12)	110
BERT _{base} (ours)	4.17	93.8	85.6/85.7	90.2	78.6	768 (64 × 12)	110
gMLP _{base}	4.28	94.2	83.7/84.1	86.7	70.1	–	130
aMLP _{base}	3.95	93.4	85.9/85.8	90.7	80.9	64	109
BERT _{large} [2]	–	93.7	86.6/-	90.9	81.8	1024 (64 × 16)	336
BERT _{large} (ours)	3.35	94.3	87.0/87.4	92.0	81.0	1024 (64 × 16)	336
gMLP _{large}	3.32	94.8	86.2/86.5	89.5	78.3	–	365
aMLP _{large}	3.19	94.8	88.4/88.4	92.2	85.4	128	316



Boulder



Questions?

[YouTube Playlist](#)
