Lecture 5: Attention

Anastasia Ianina

Harbour.Space University
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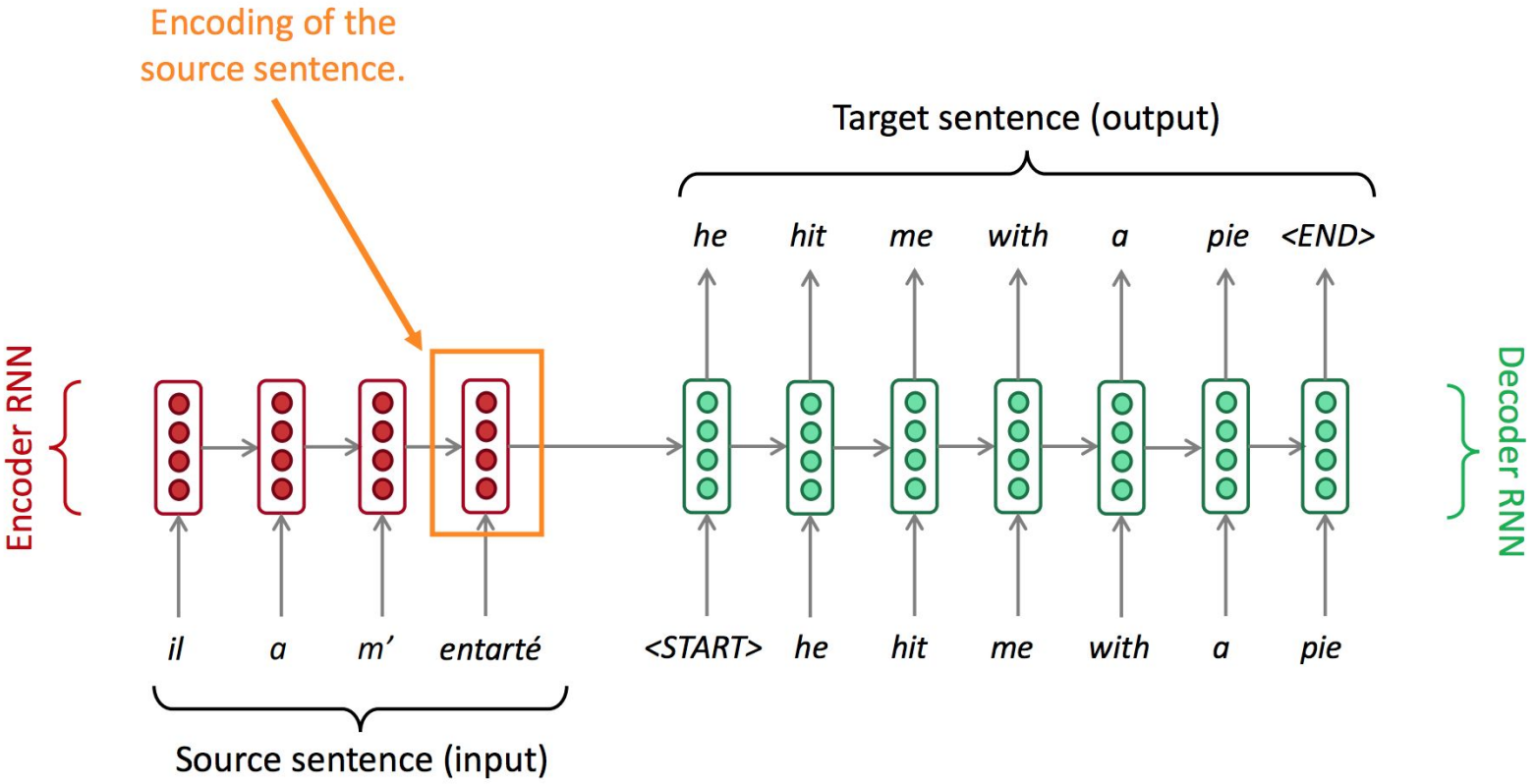
Outline

1. Seq2seq architecture problems
2. Attention
    - In pictures
    - In formulas
3. Word Alignments with Attention
4. Self-Attention
5. Q & A

Based on: http://web.stanford.edu/class/cs224n/slides/cs224n-2019-lecture08-nmt.pdf
https://jalammar.github.io/illustrated-transformer/

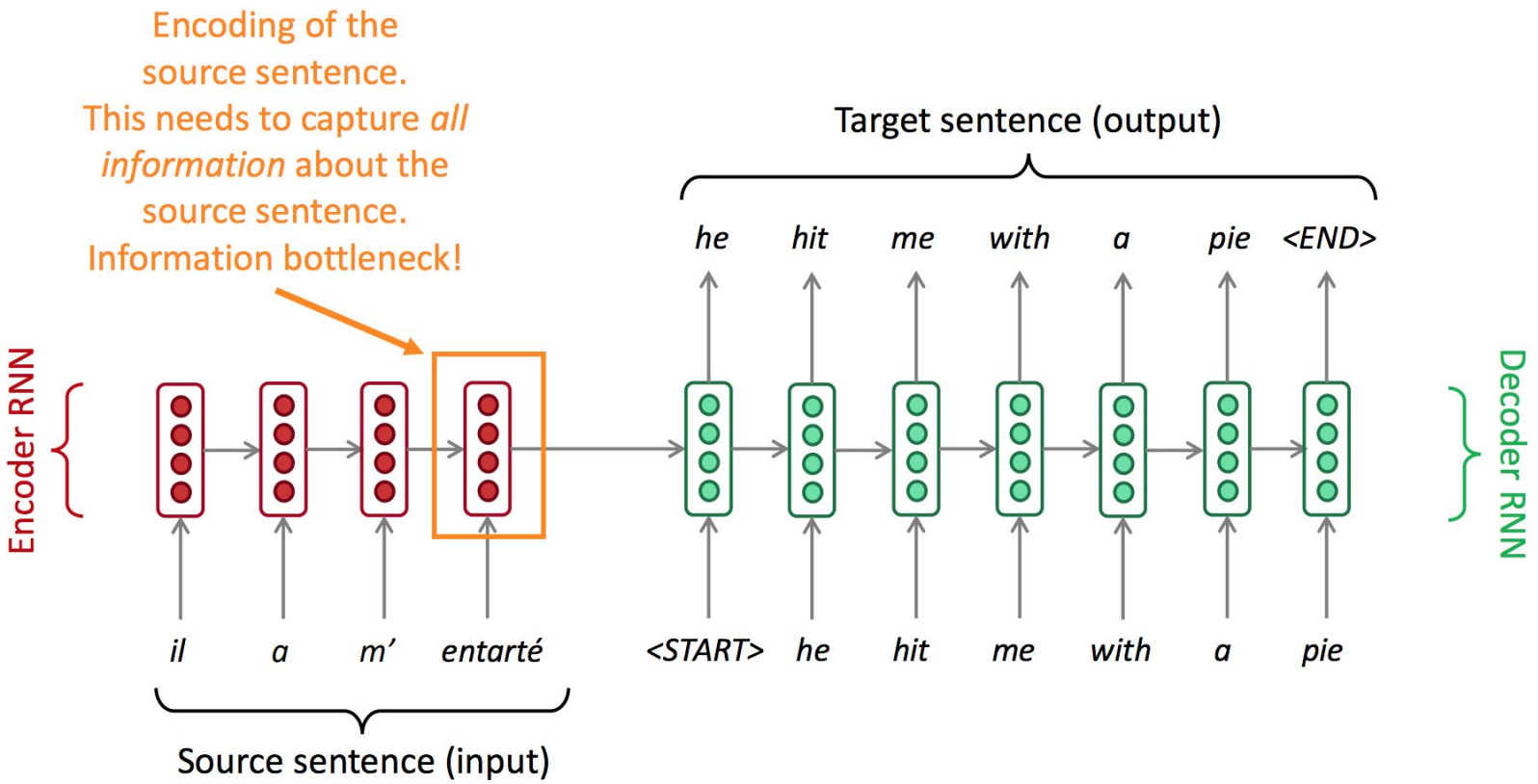
Attention

Seq2seq: the bottleneck problem



Problems with this architecture?

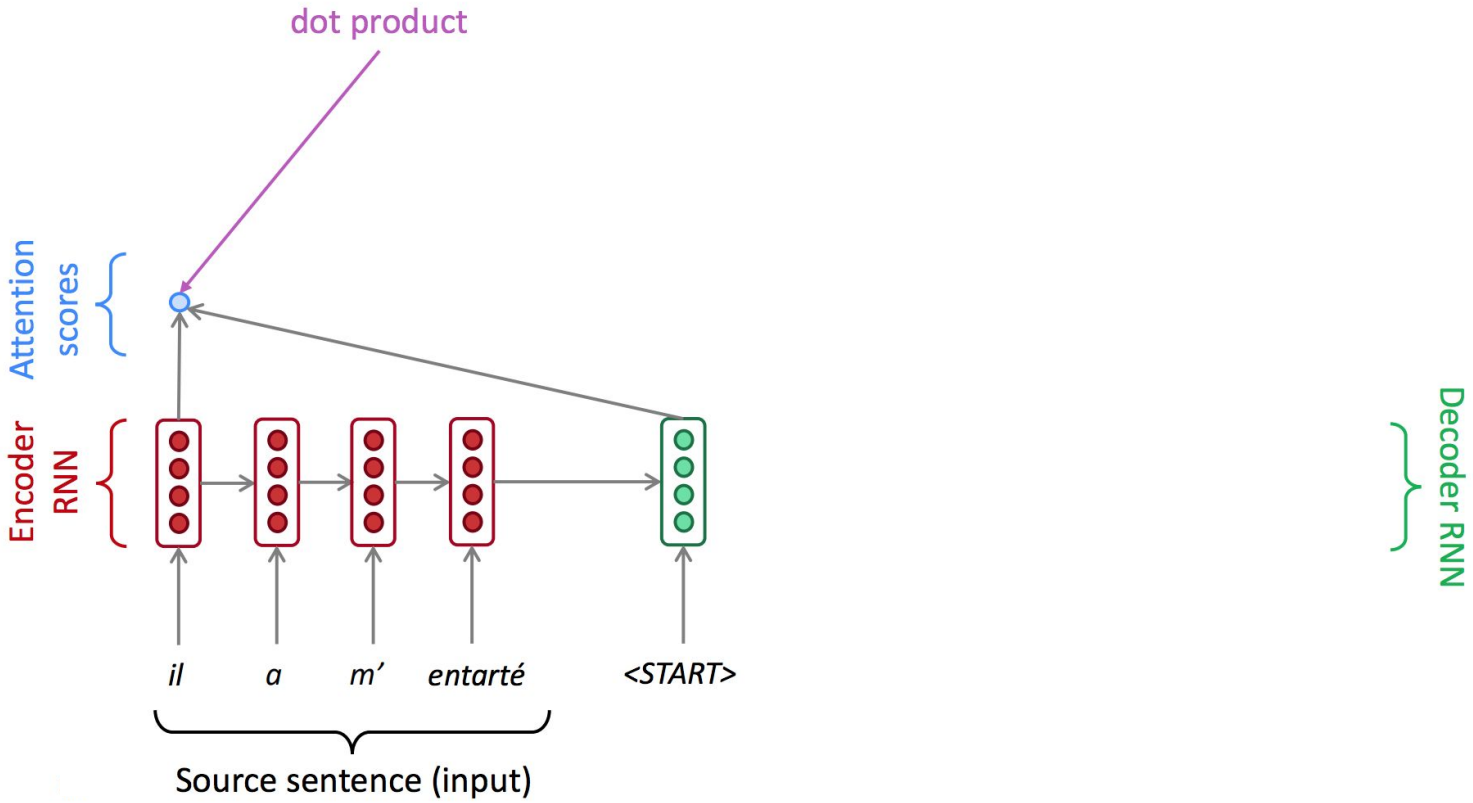
Seq2seq: the bottleneck problem



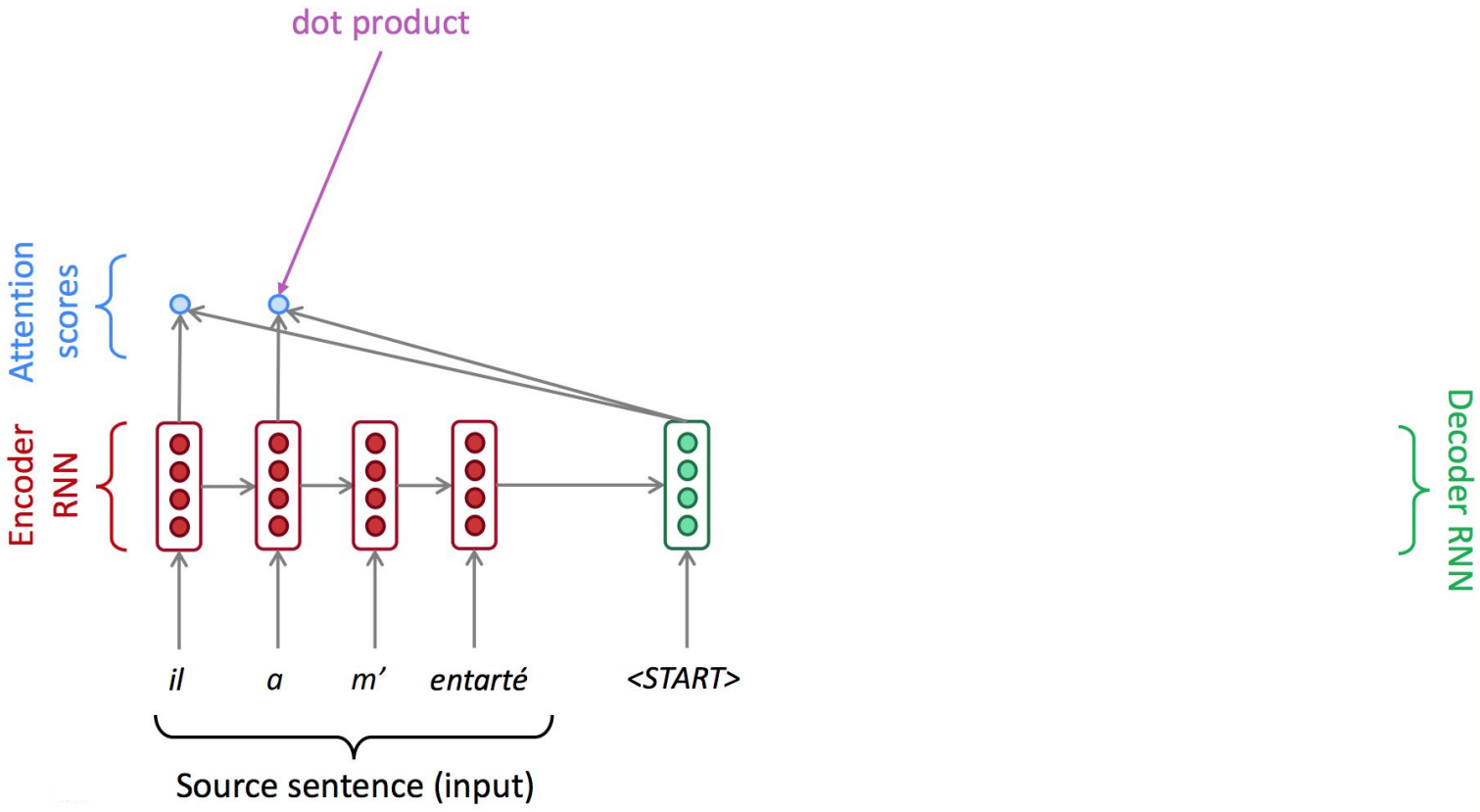
Attention

<u>Main idea:</u> on each step of the **decoder**, use **direct connection to the encoder** to focus on a particular part of the source sequence

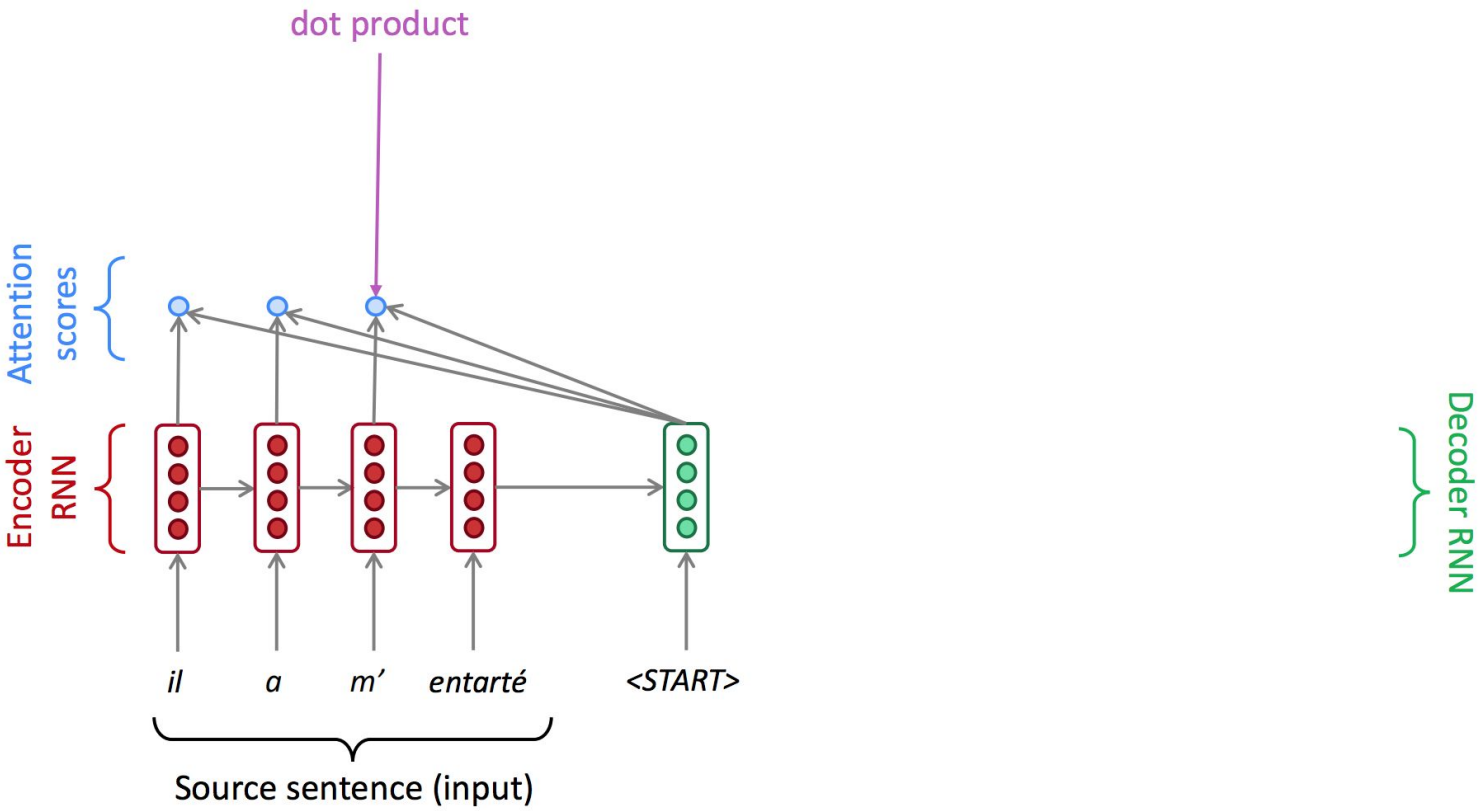
Seq2seq with attention



Seq2seq with attention



Seq2seq with attention



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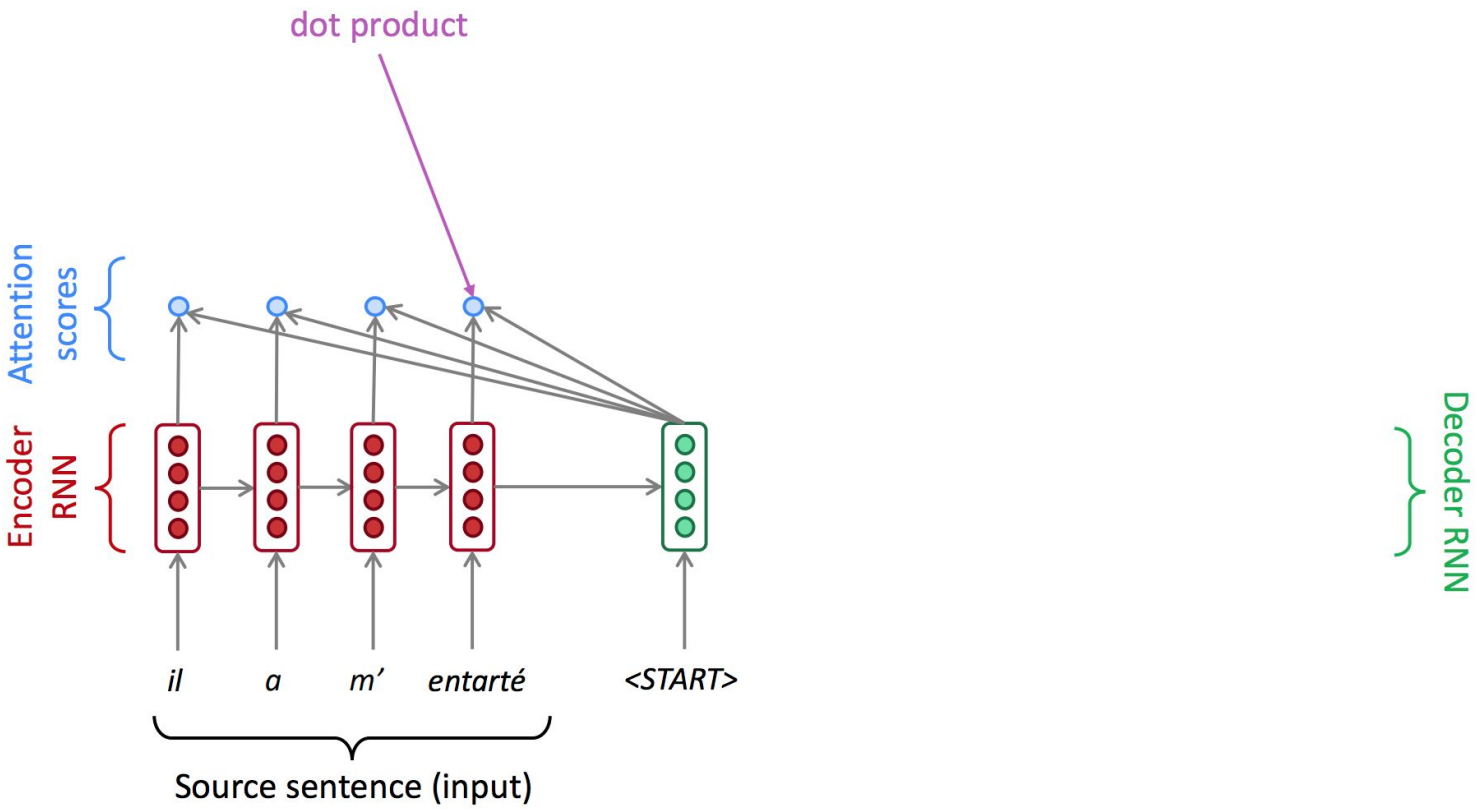
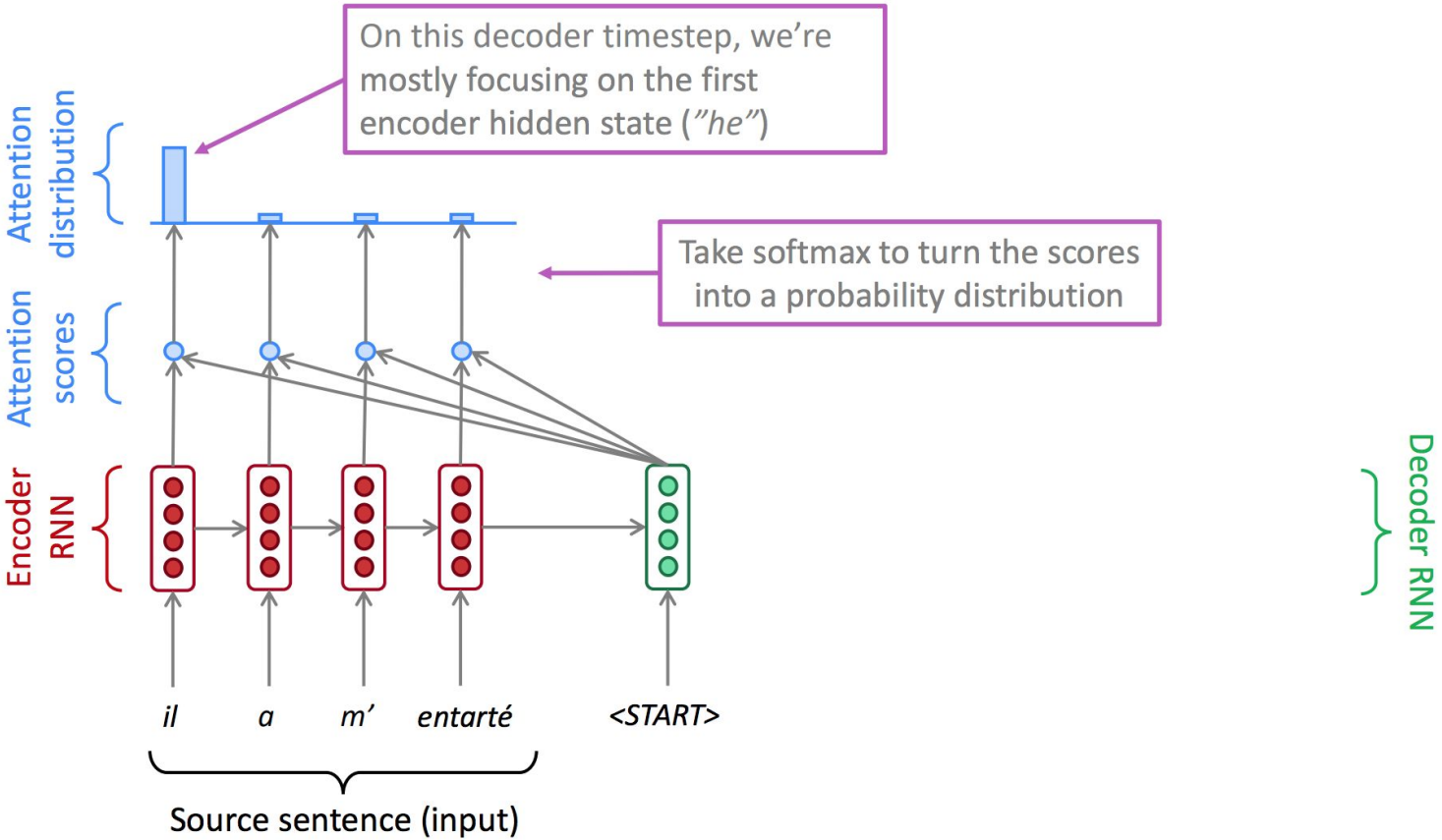
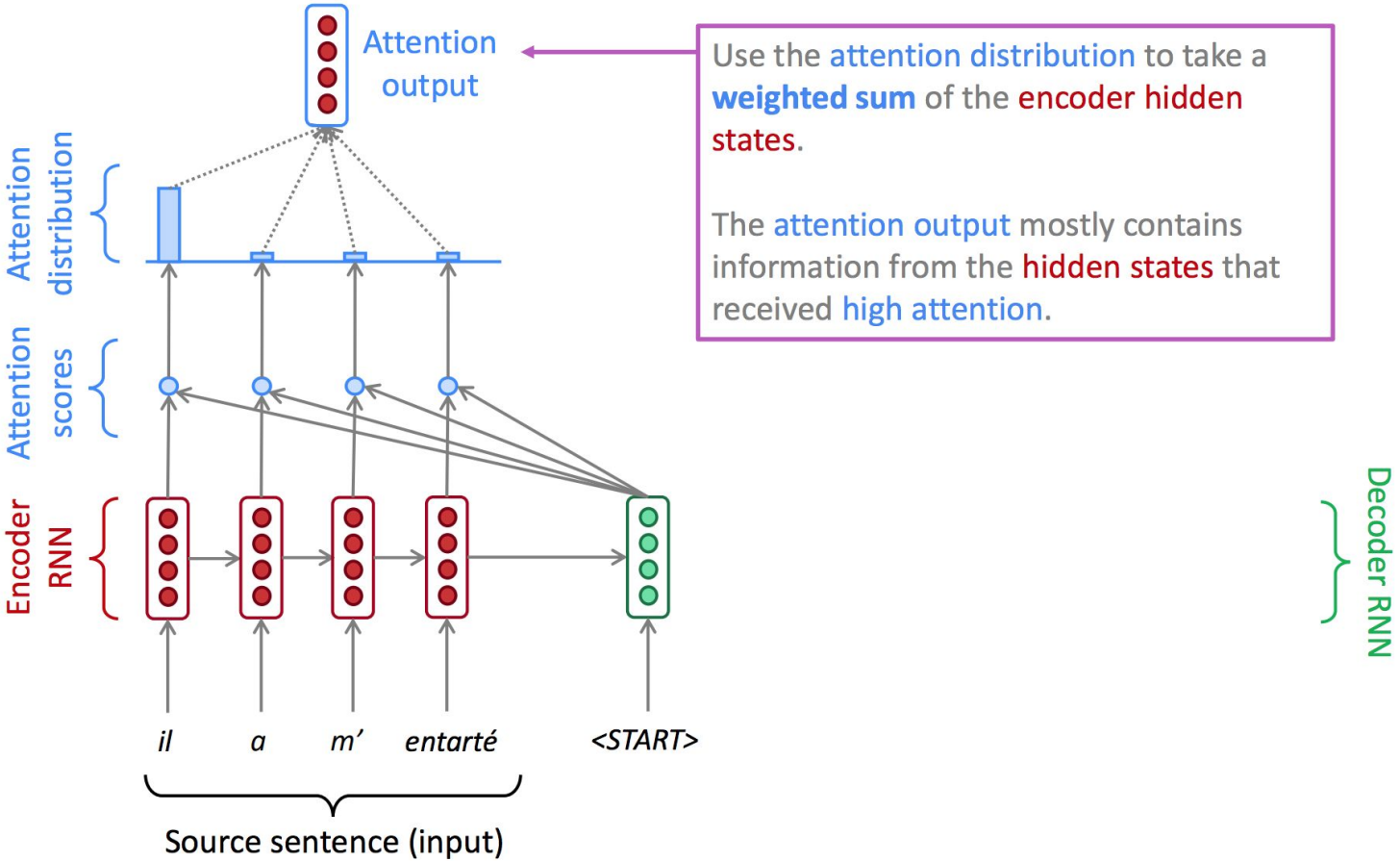


Seq2seq with attention



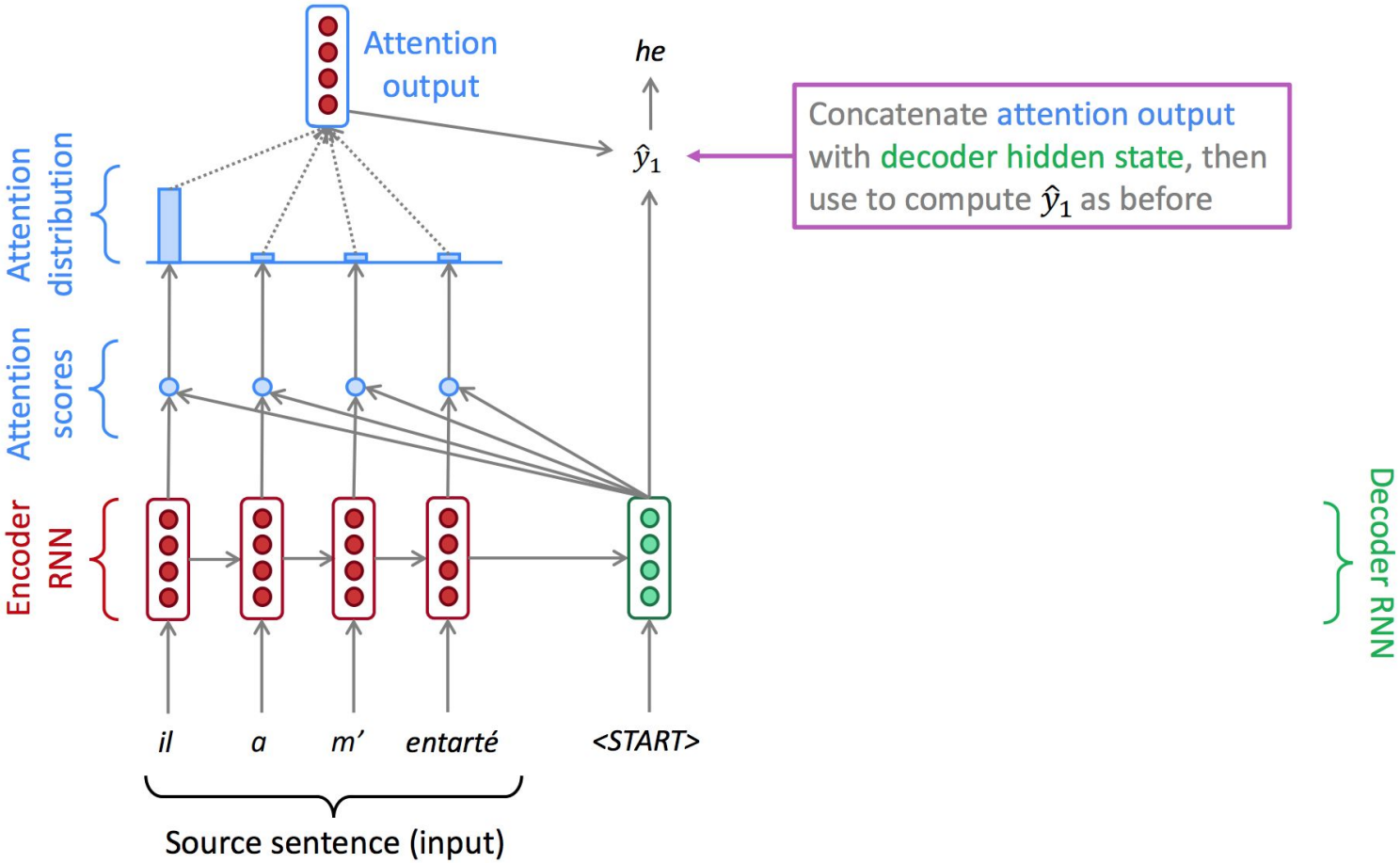
Seq2seq with attention



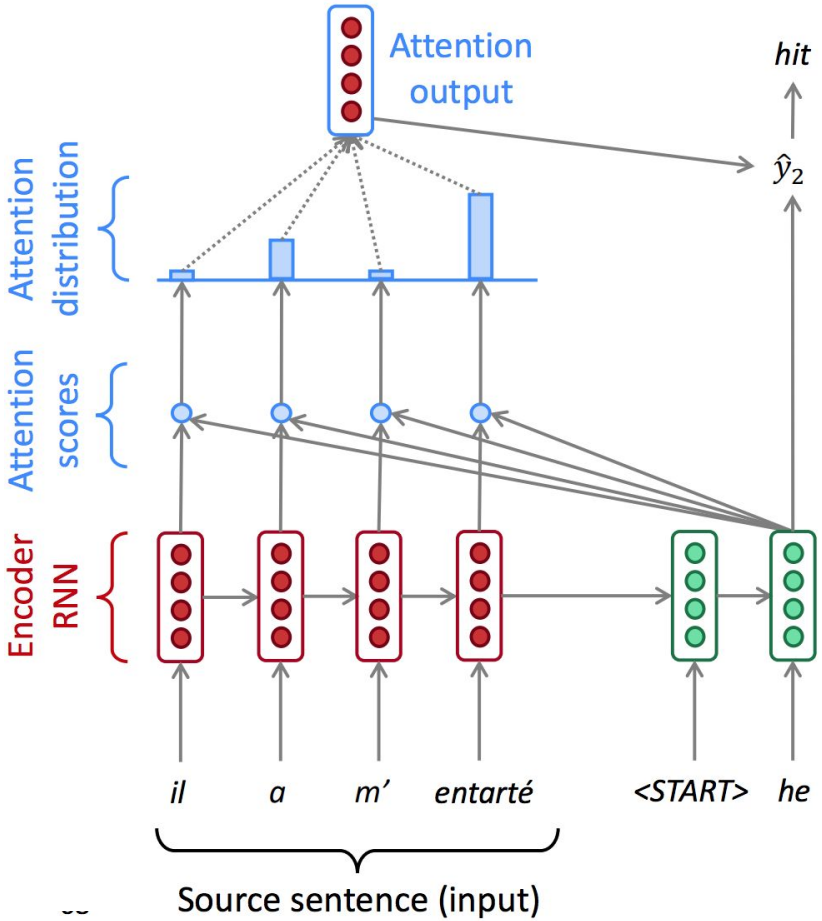
Use the attention distribution to take a **weighted sum** of the encoder hidden states.

The attention output mostly contains information from the hidden states that received high attention.

Seq2seq with attention



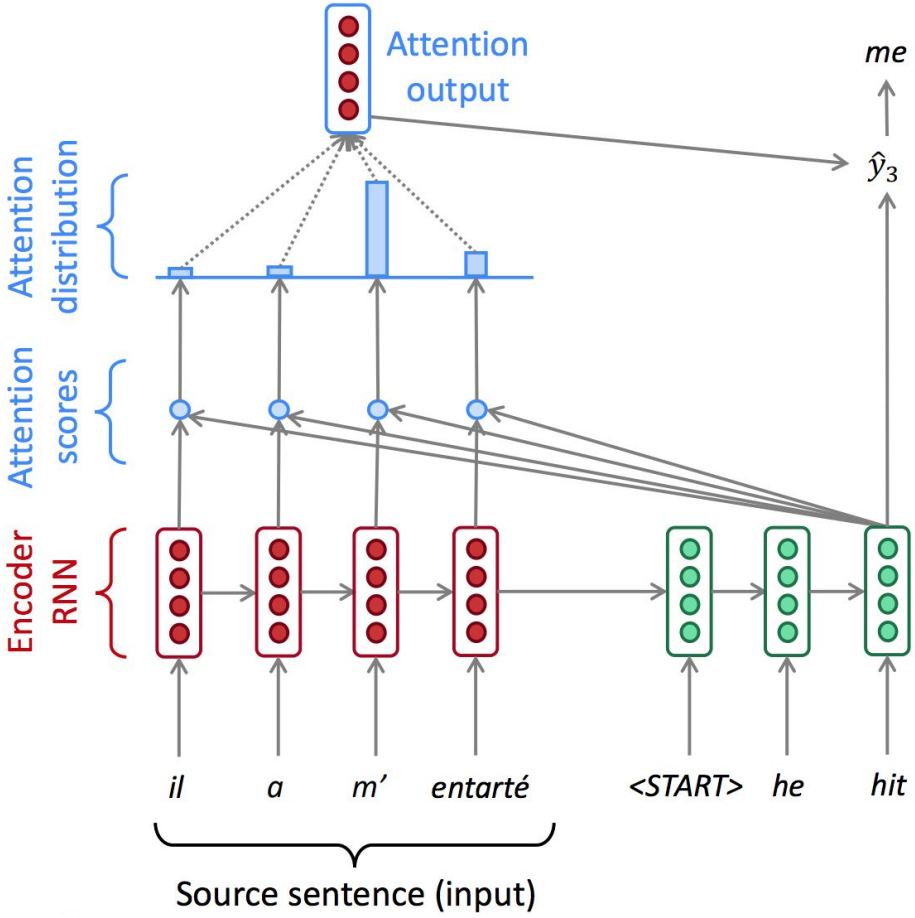
Seq2seq with attention



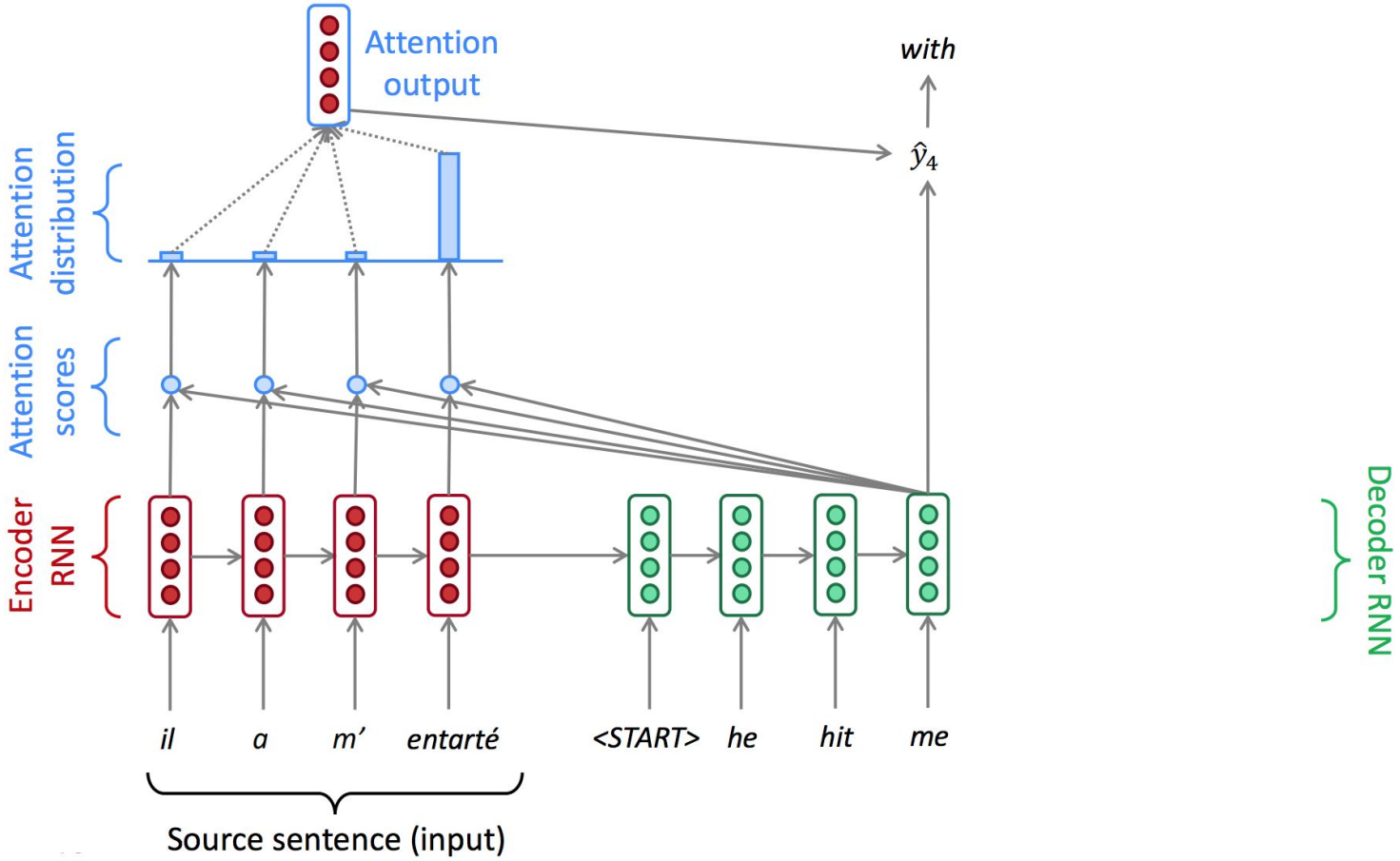
Sometimes we take the attention output from the previous step, and also feed it into the decoder (along with the usual decoder input). We do this in Assignment 4.

Decoder RNN

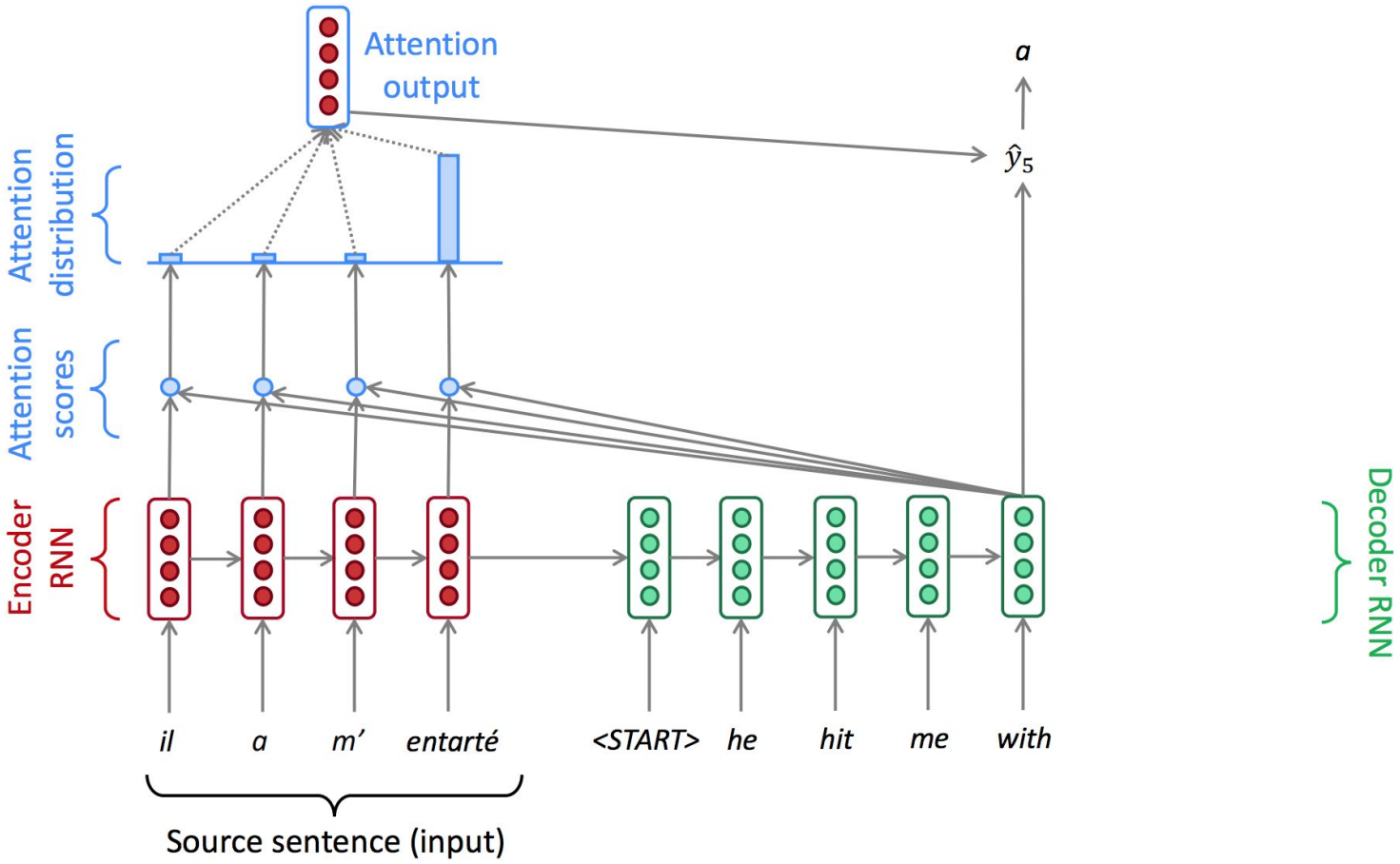
Seq2seq with attention



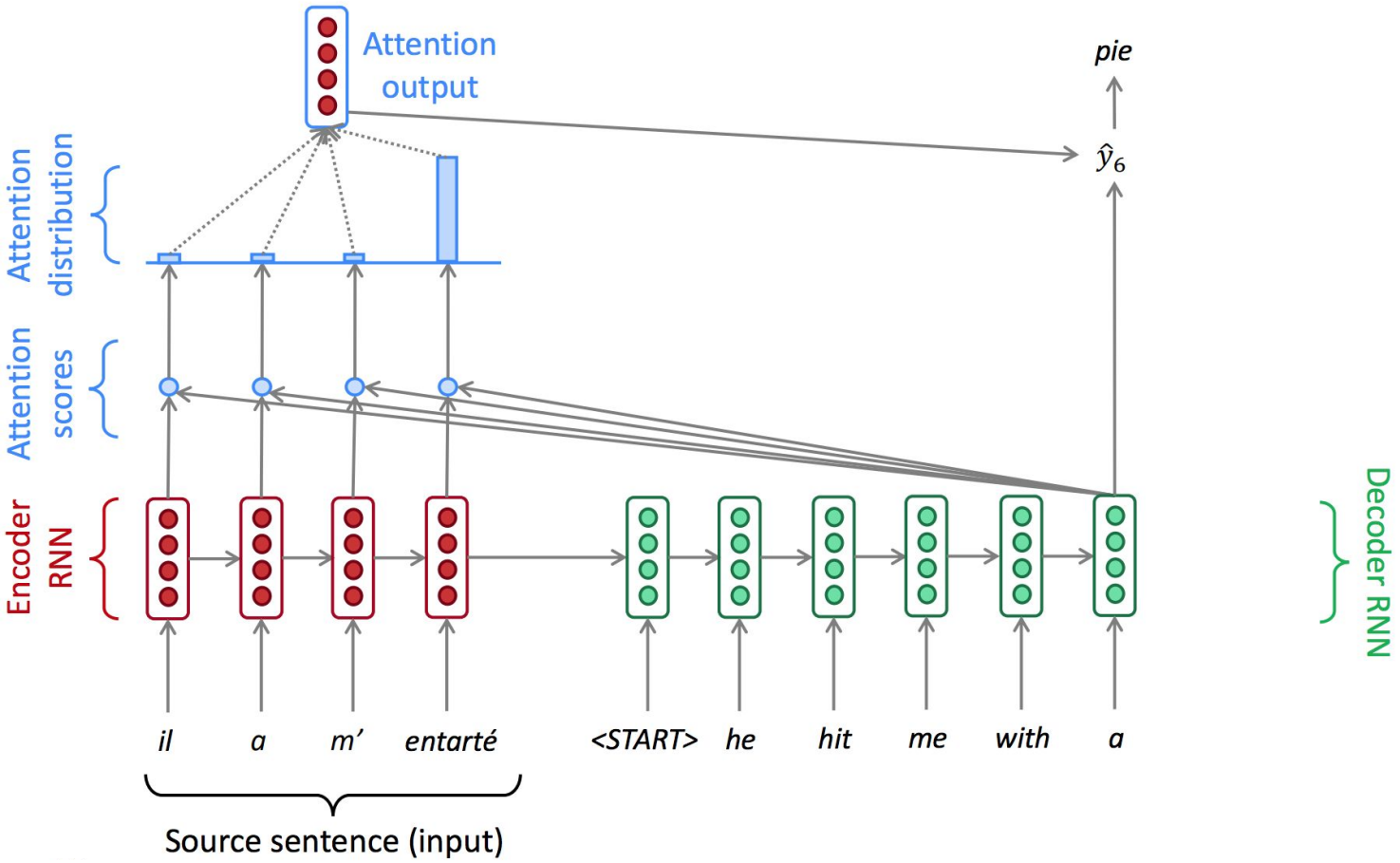
Seq2seq with attention



Seq2seq with attention



Seq2seq with attention



Attention in equations

We have encoder hidden states $h_1, \ldots, h_N \in \mathbb{R}^h$

On timestep *t*, we have decoder hidden state $s_t \in \mathbb{R}^h$

We get the attention scores $\boldsymbol{e}^t$ for this step:

$$\boldsymbol{e}^t = [\boldsymbol{s}_t^T \boldsymbol{h}_1, \ldots, \boldsymbol{s}_t^T \boldsymbol{h}_N] \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

We take softmax to get the attention distribution α^t for this step (this is a probability distribution and sums to 1)

$$\alpha^t = \text{softmax}(\boldsymbol{e}^t) \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

We use α^t to take a weighted sum of the encoder hidden states to get the attention output $\boldsymbol{a}_t$

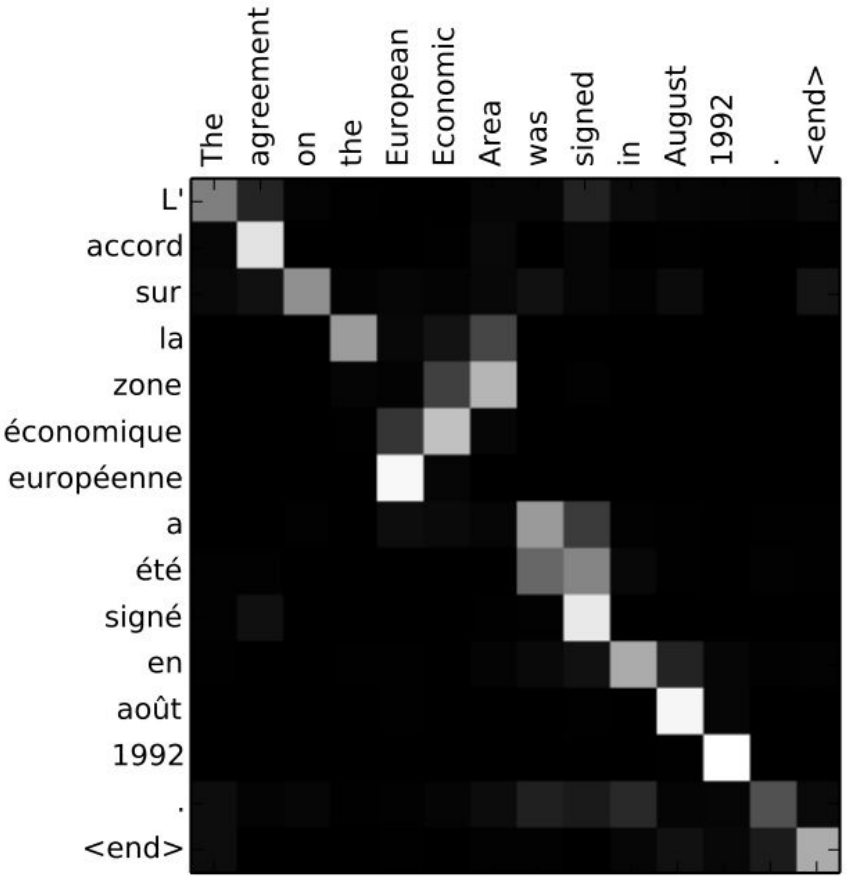
$$\boldsymbol{a}_t = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i^t \boldsymbol{h}_i \in \mathbb{R}^h$$

Finally we concatenate the attention output $\boldsymbol{a}_t$ with the decoder hidden state s_t and proceed as in the non-attention seq2seq model

$$[\boldsymbol{a}_t; \boldsymbol{s}_t] \in \mathbb{R}^{2h}$$

Attention provides interpretability

- We may see what the decoder was focusing on
- We get word alignment for free!



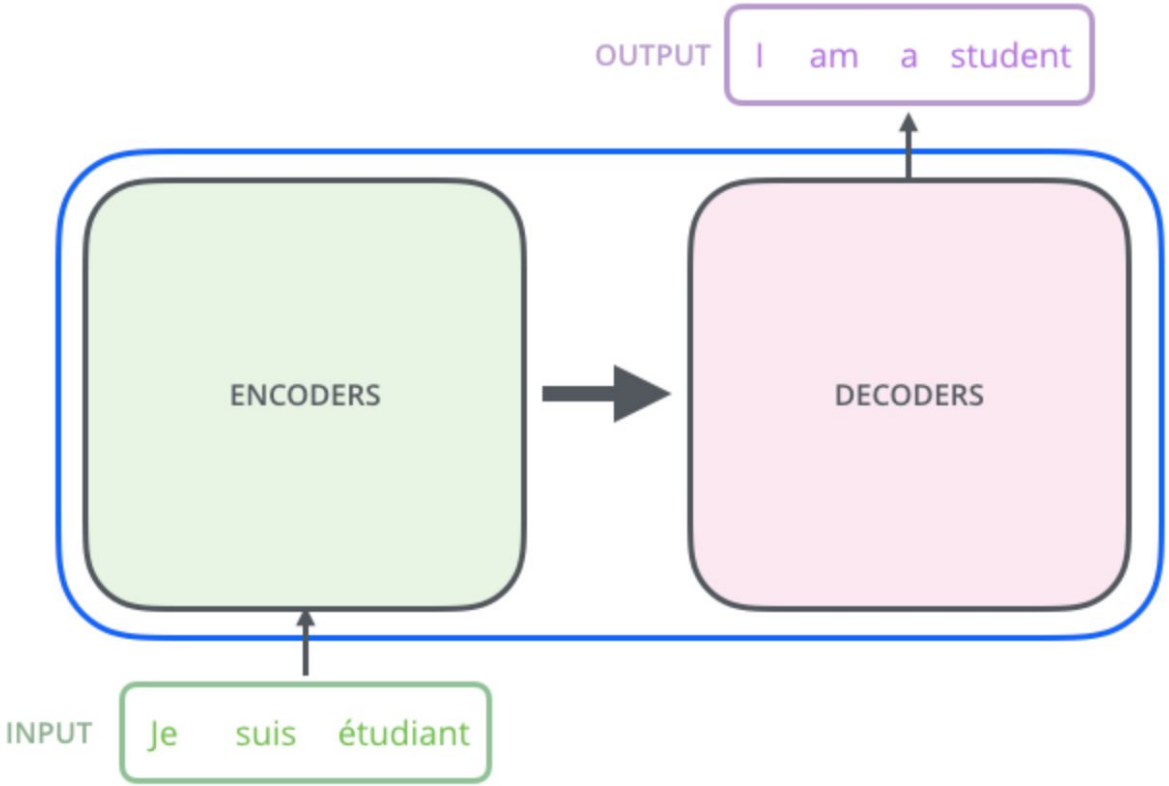
Attention variants

- Basic dot-product (the one discussed before): $\boldsymbol{e}_i = \boldsymbol{s}^T \boldsymbol{h}_i \in \mathbb{R}$
- Multiplicative attention: $\boldsymbol{e}_i = \boldsymbol{s}^T \boldsymbol{W} \boldsymbol{h}_i \in \mathbb{R}$
  - $\boldsymbol{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2 \times d_1}$ - weight matrix
- Additive attention: $\boldsymbol{e}_i = \boldsymbol{v}^T \tanh(\boldsymbol{W}_1 \boldsymbol{h}_i + \boldsymbol{W}_2 \boldsymbol{s}) \in \mathbb{R}$
  - $\boldsymbol{W}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{d_3 \times d_1}, \boldsymbol{W}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{d_3 \times d_2}$ - weight matrices
  - $\boldsymbol{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_3}$ - weight vector

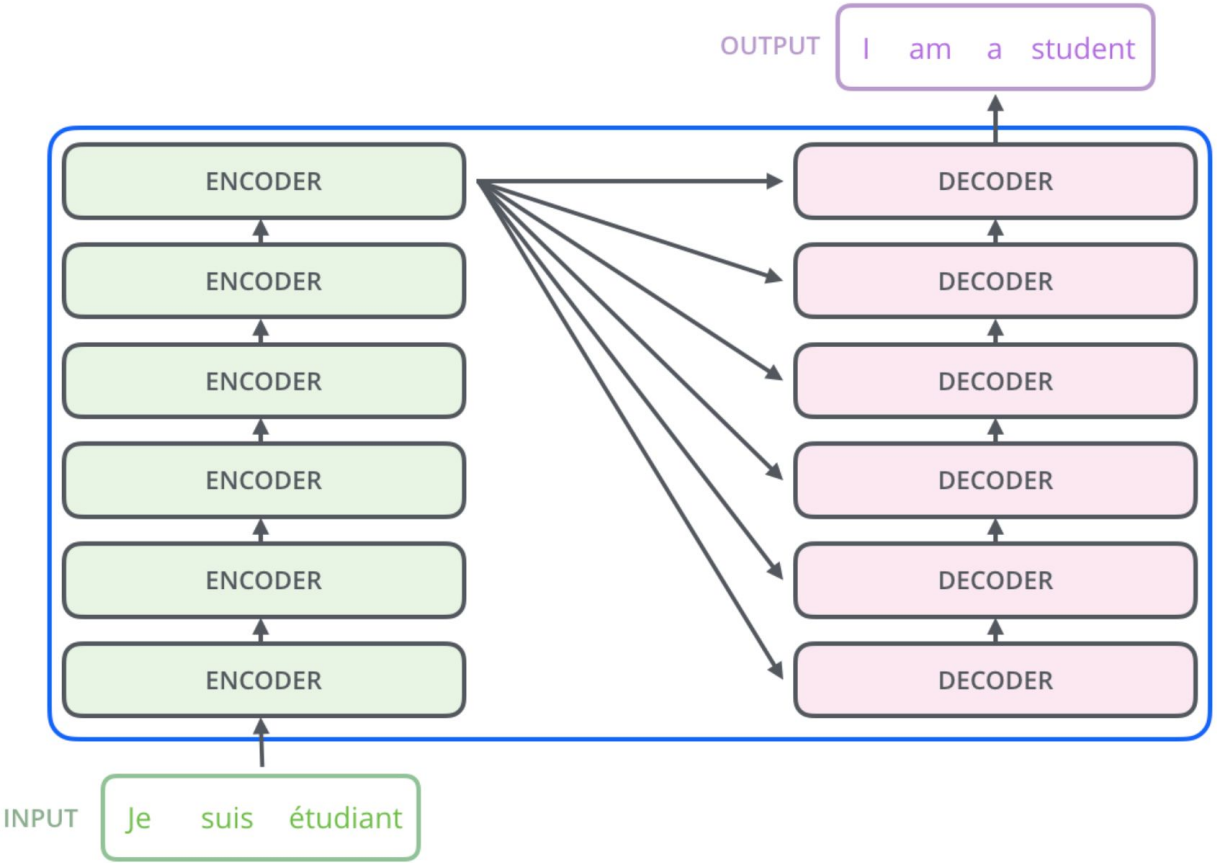
The Transformer

Self-Attention: when it has started?

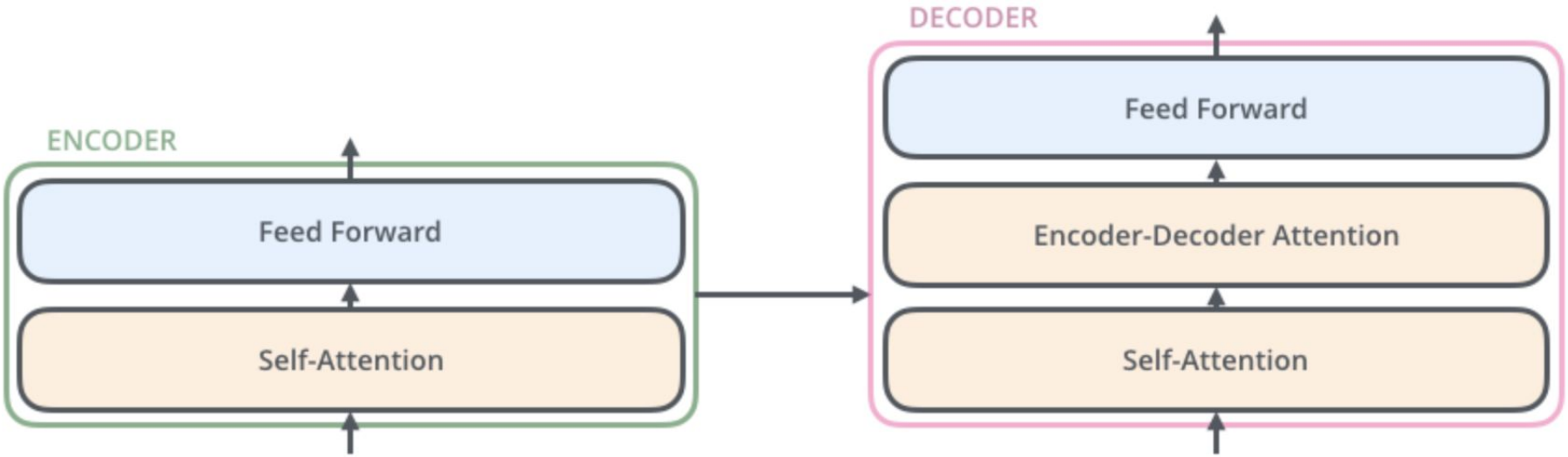
The Transformer



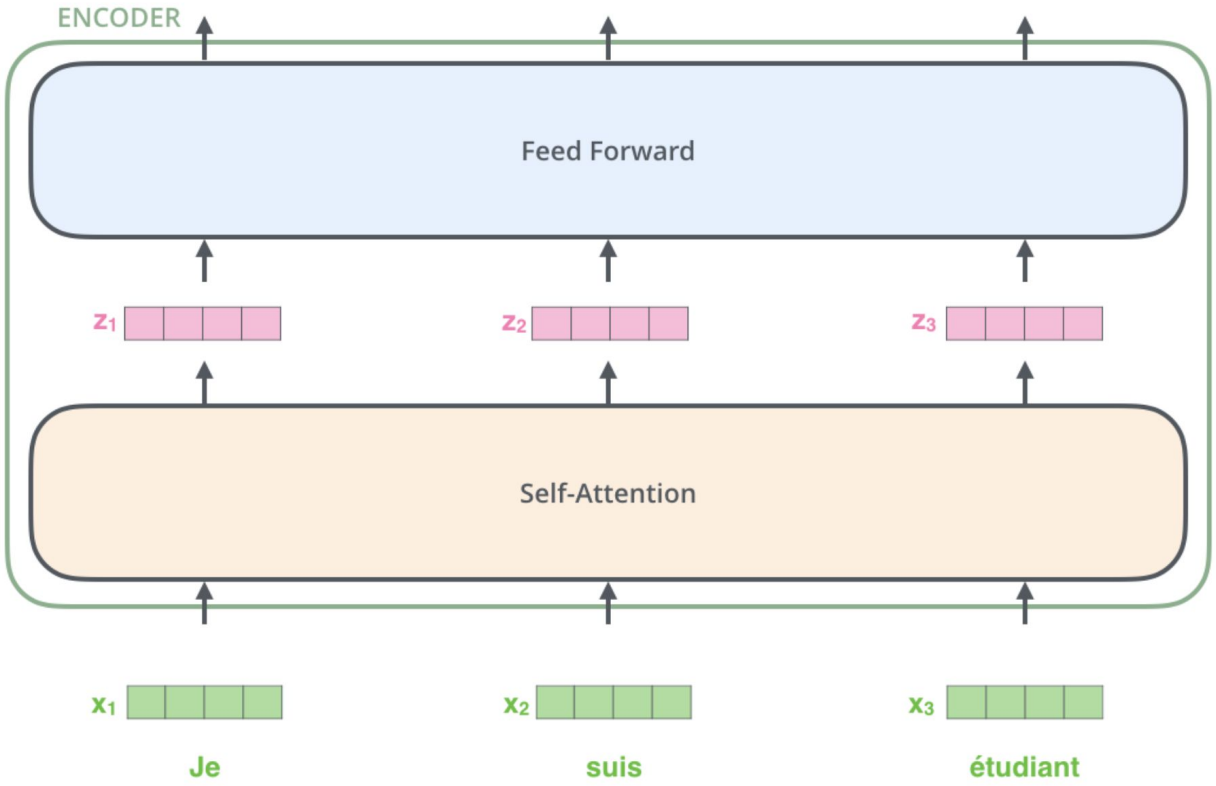
The Transformer



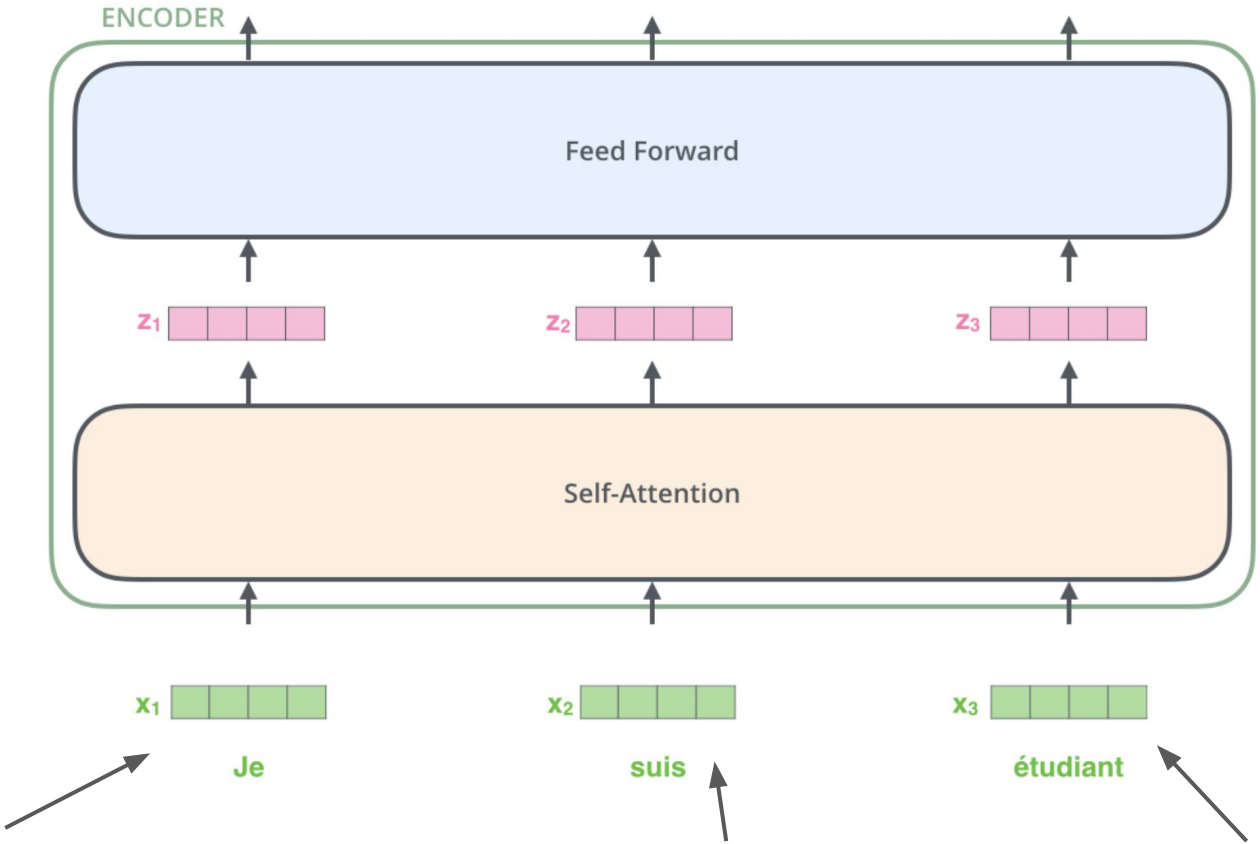
The Transformer



The Transformer



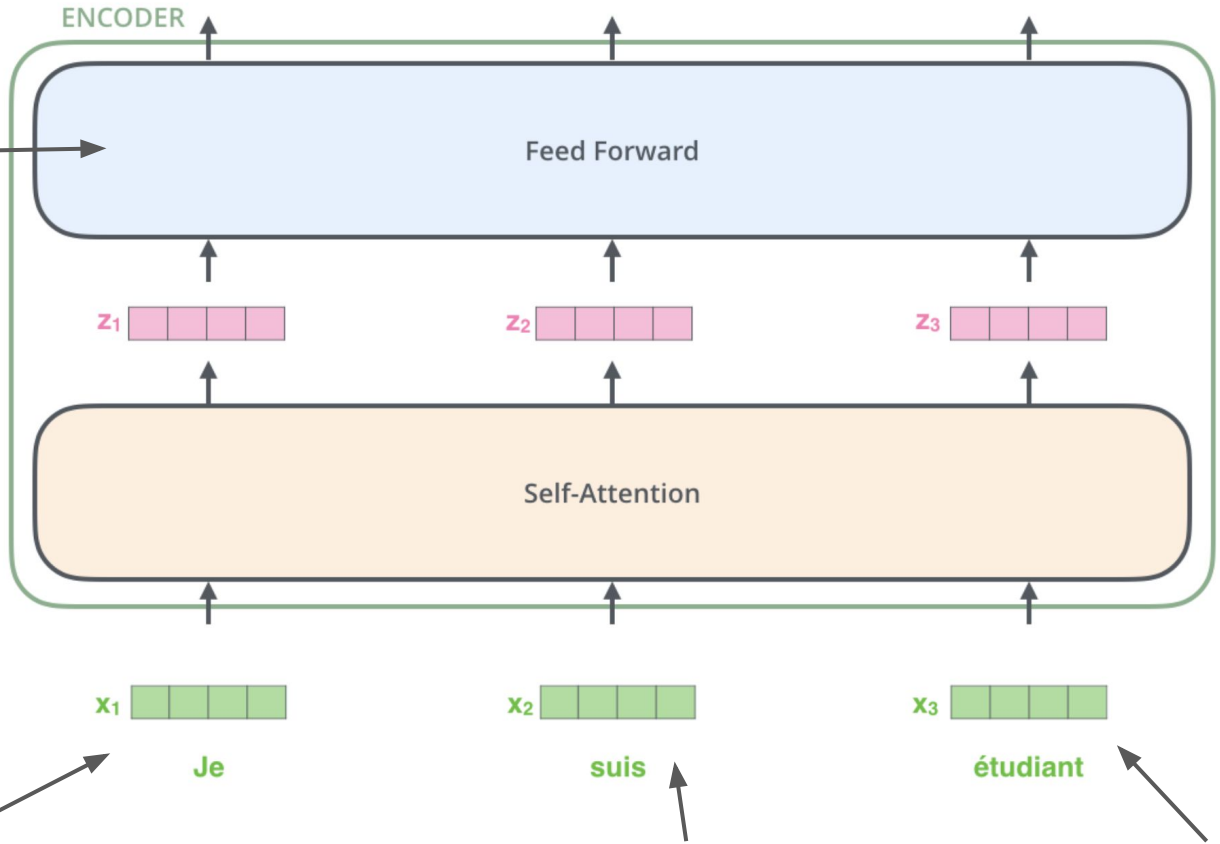
The Transformer



the word in each position flows through its own path in the encoder

The Transformer

Can be parallelized



the word in each position flows through its own path in the encoder

The Transformer: quick overview

- Proposed in the paper “Attention is All You Need” (Ashish Vaswani et al.)
- No recurrent or convolutional neural networks -> just attention
- Beats seq2seq in machine translation task
  - 28.4 BLEU on the WMT 2014 English-to-German translation task
- Much faster
- Uses **self-attention** concept

Self-Attention

Self-Attention at a High Level

”`The animal didn't cross the street because it was too tired`”

- What does “it” in this sentence refer to?

Self-Attention at a High Level

”`The animal didn't cross the street because it was too tired`”

- What does “it” in this sentence refer to?
- We want self-attention to associate “it” with “animal”

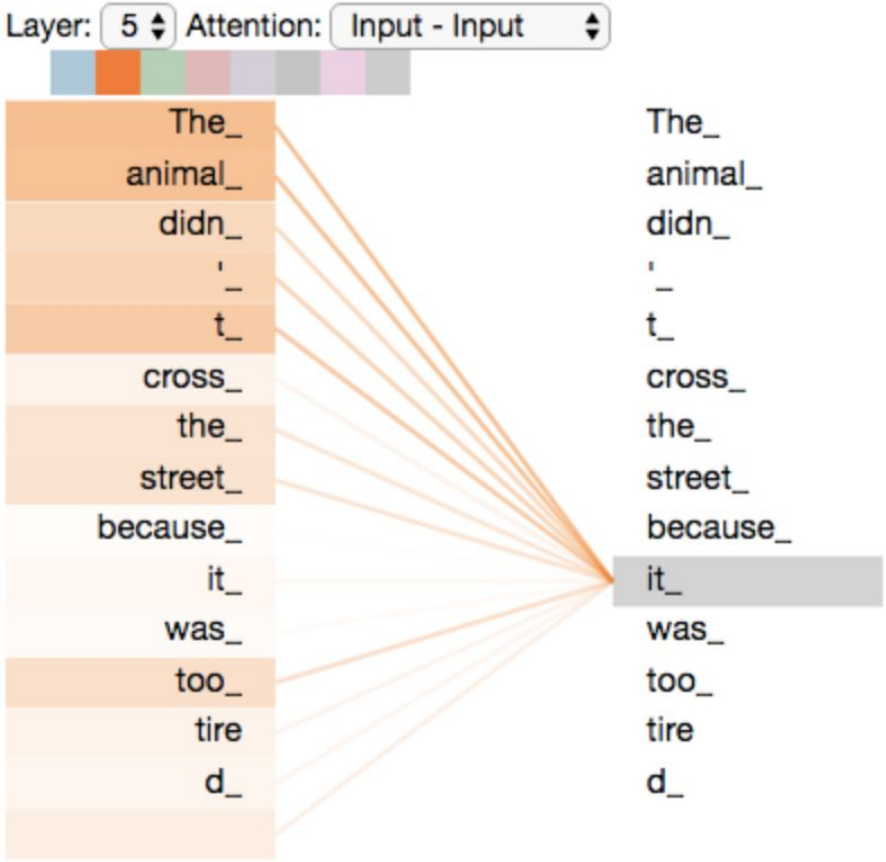
Self-Attention at a High Level

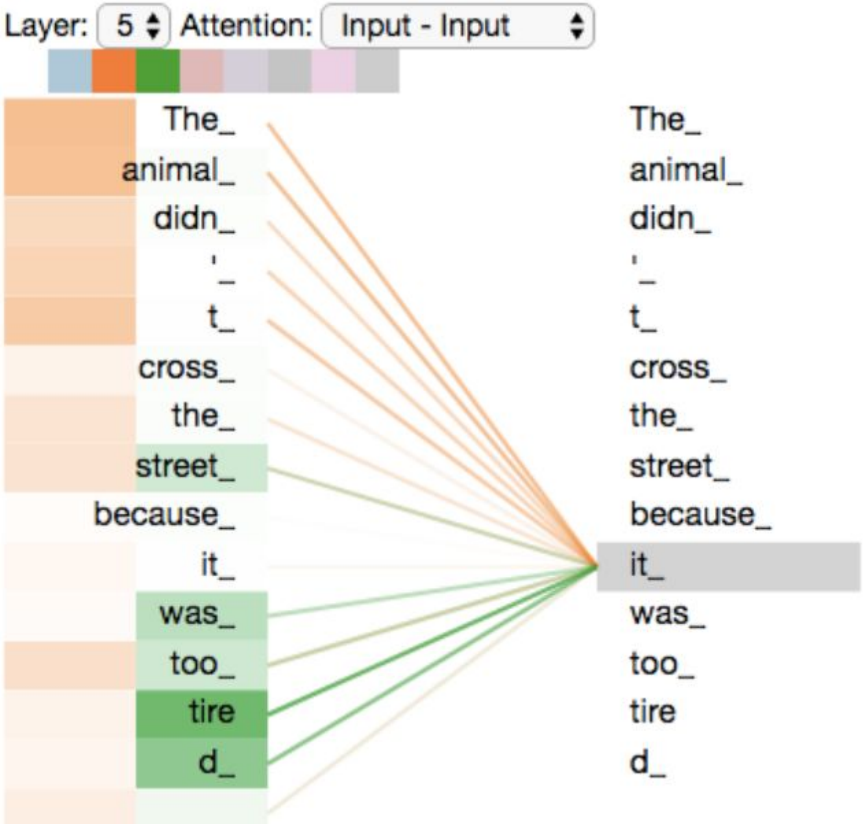
”`The animal didn't cross the street because it was too tired`”

- What does “it” in this sentence refer to?
- We want self-attention to associate “it” with “animal”

- Self-attention is the method the Transformer uses to bake the “understanding” of other relevant words into the one we’re currently processing

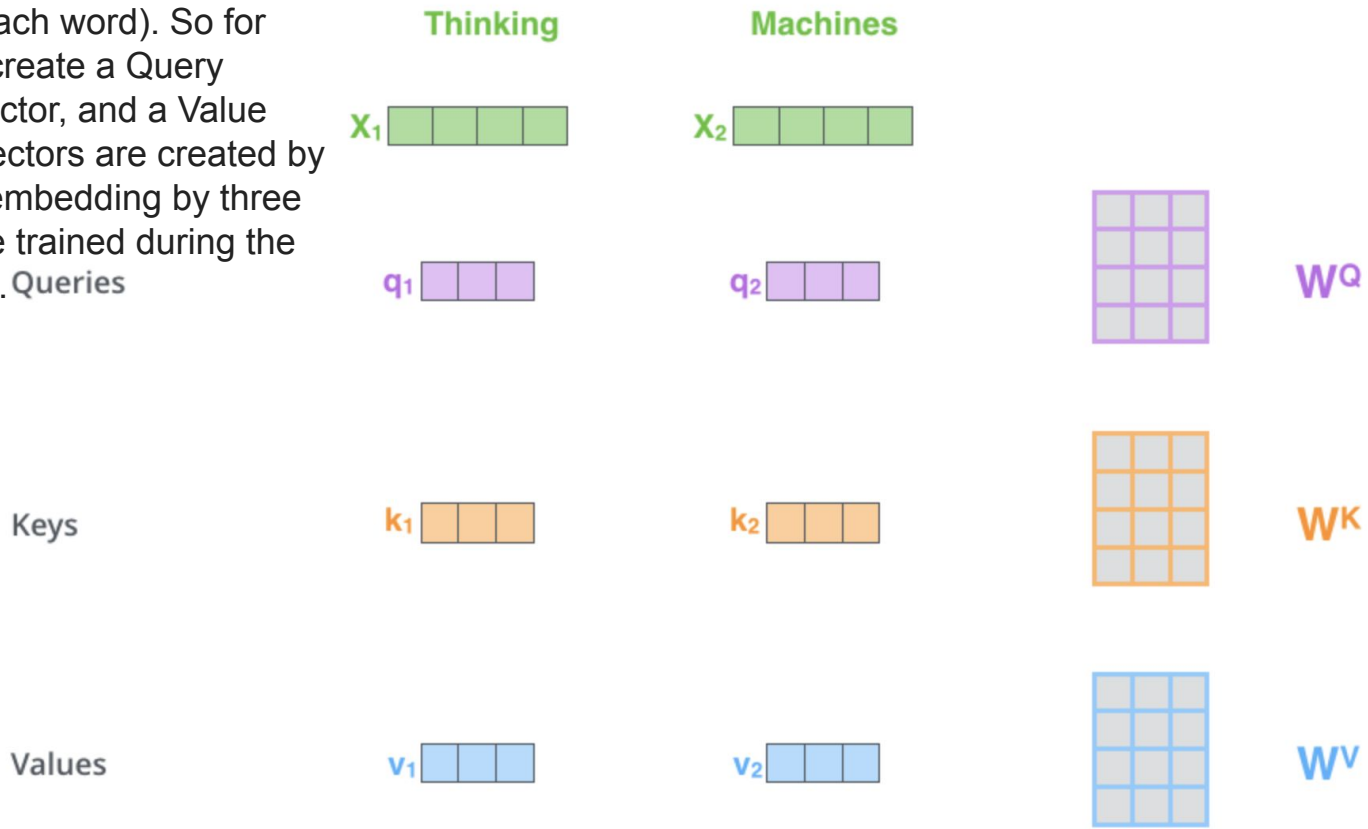
Self-Attention at a High Level





Self-Attention in Detail

The **first step** in calculating self-attention is to create three vectors from each of the encoder's input vectors (in this case, the embedding of each word). So for each word, we create a Query vector, a Key vector, and a Value vector. These vectors are created by multiplying the embedding by three matrices that we trained during the training process.

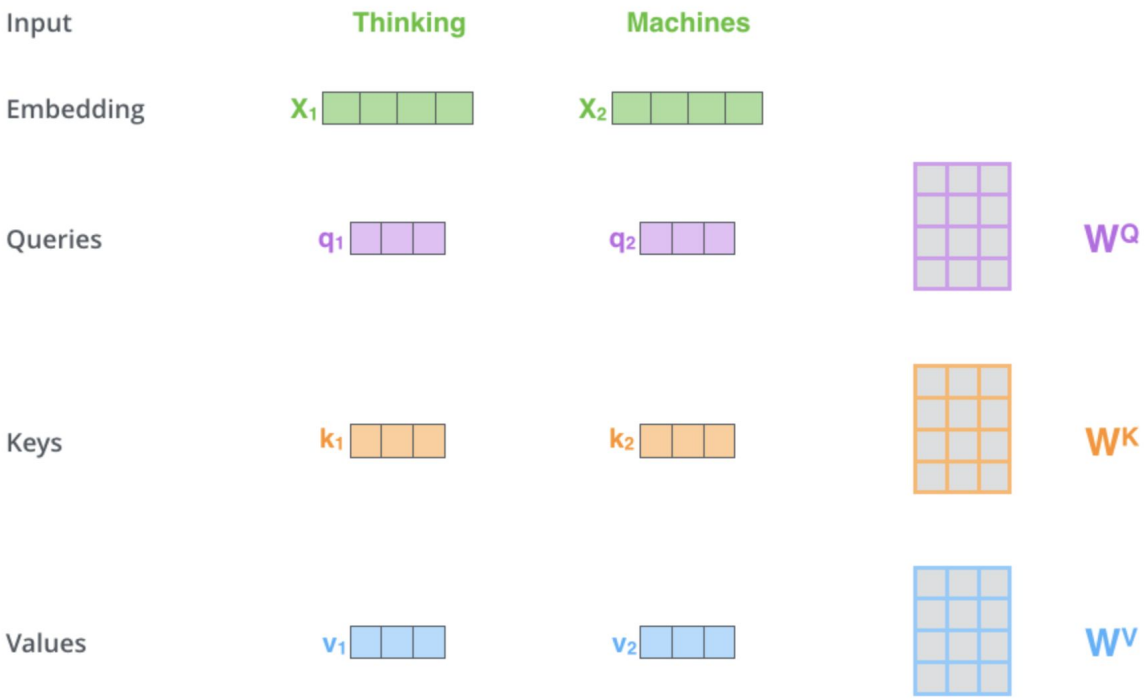


Self-Attention in Detail

STEP 1:

create 3 vectors (Query, Key, Value)

from each of the encoder's input vectors



Self-Attention in Detail

What are the “query”, “key”, and “value” vectors?

Self-Attention at in Detail

What are the “query”, “key”, and “value” vectors?

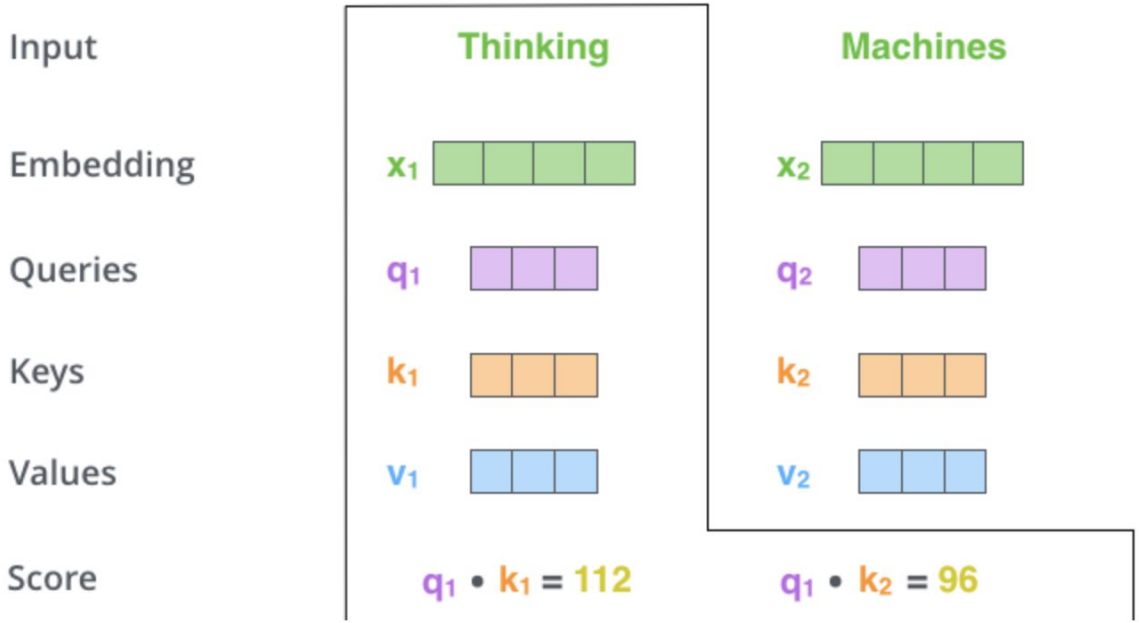
They’re abstractions that are useful for calculating and thinking about attention.

Self-Attention at in Detail

STEP 2:

calculate a score

(score each word of the input sentence against the current word)



Self-Attention at in Detail

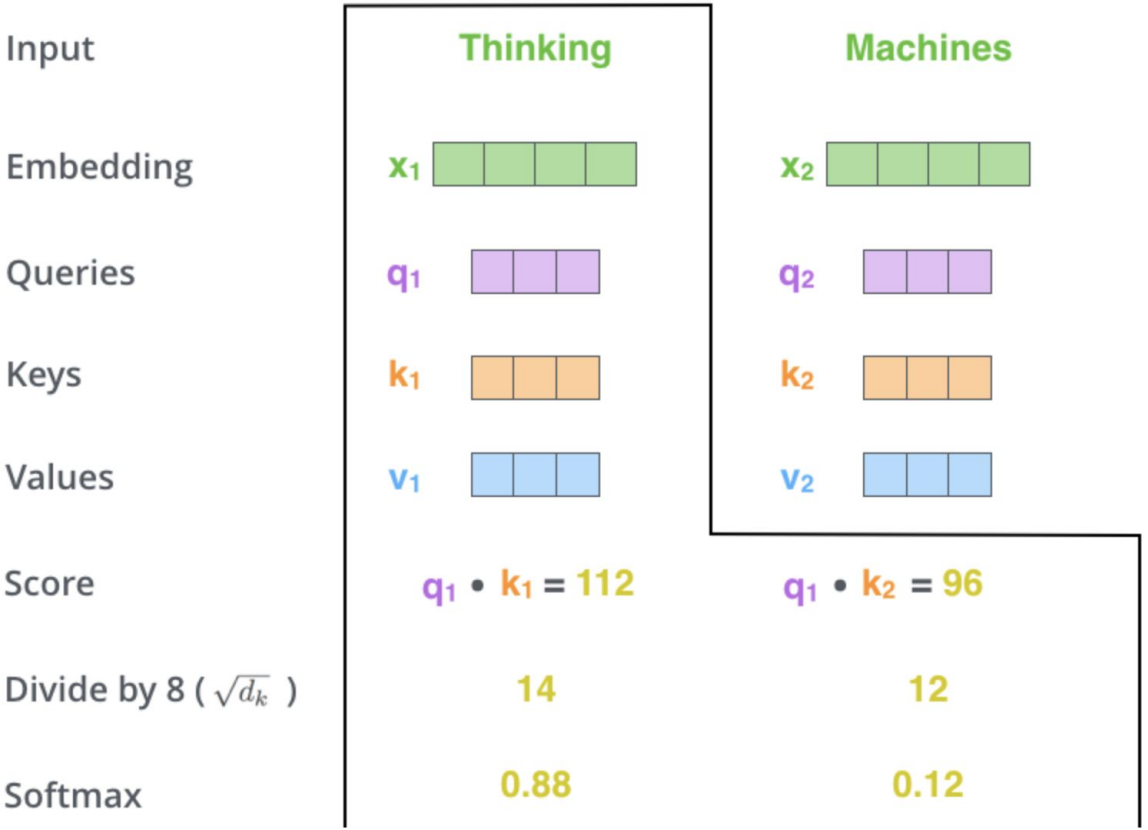
STEP 3:

divide the scores by 8

(the square root of the dimension of the key vectors)

STEP 4:

softmax



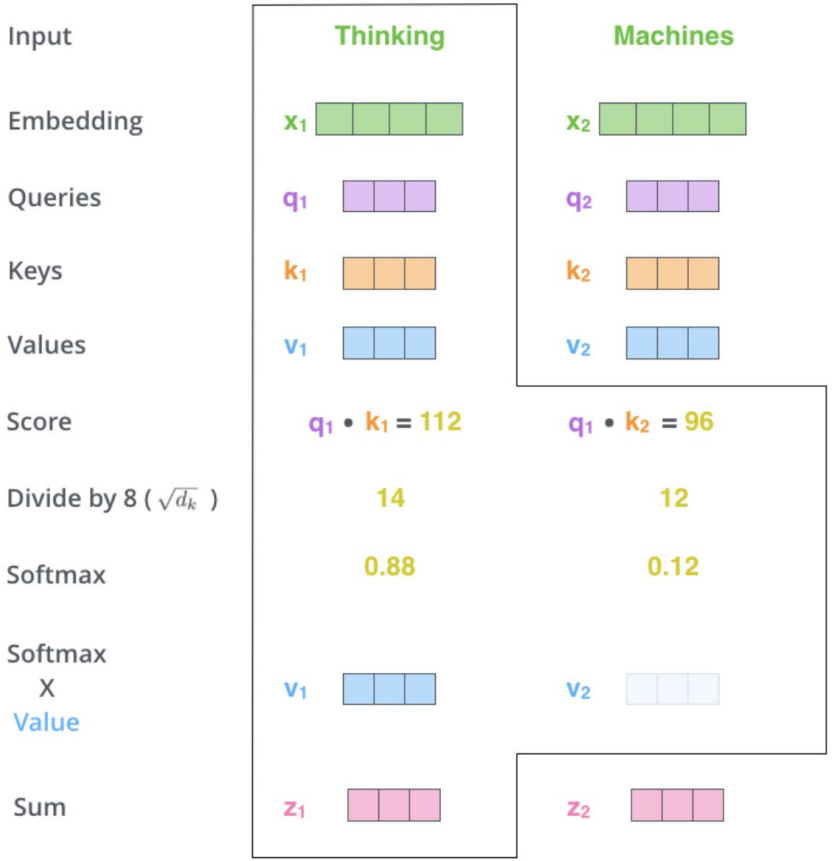
Self-Attention in Detail

STEP 5:

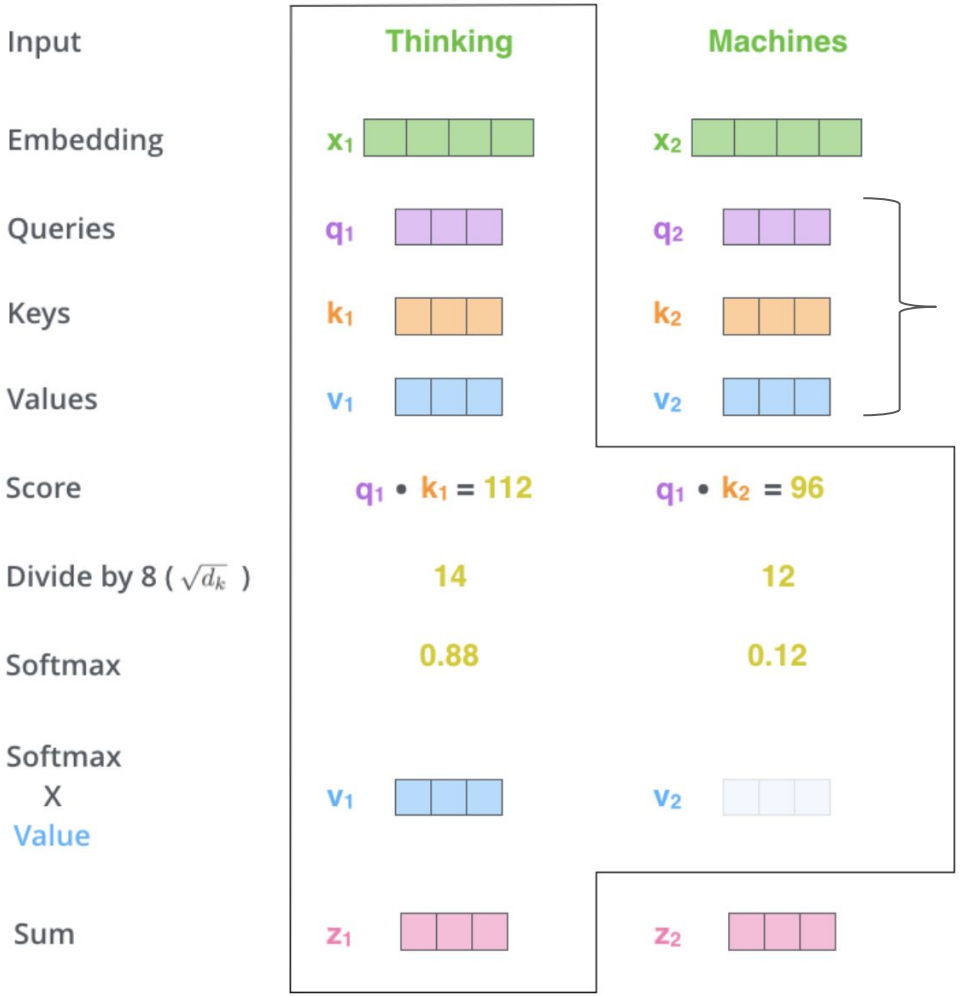
multiply each value vector by the softmax score

STEP 6:

sum up the weighted value vectors



Self-Attention in Detail



STEP 1: create Query, Key, Value

STEP 2: calculate scores

STEP 3: divide by $\sqrt{d_k}$

STEP 4: softmax

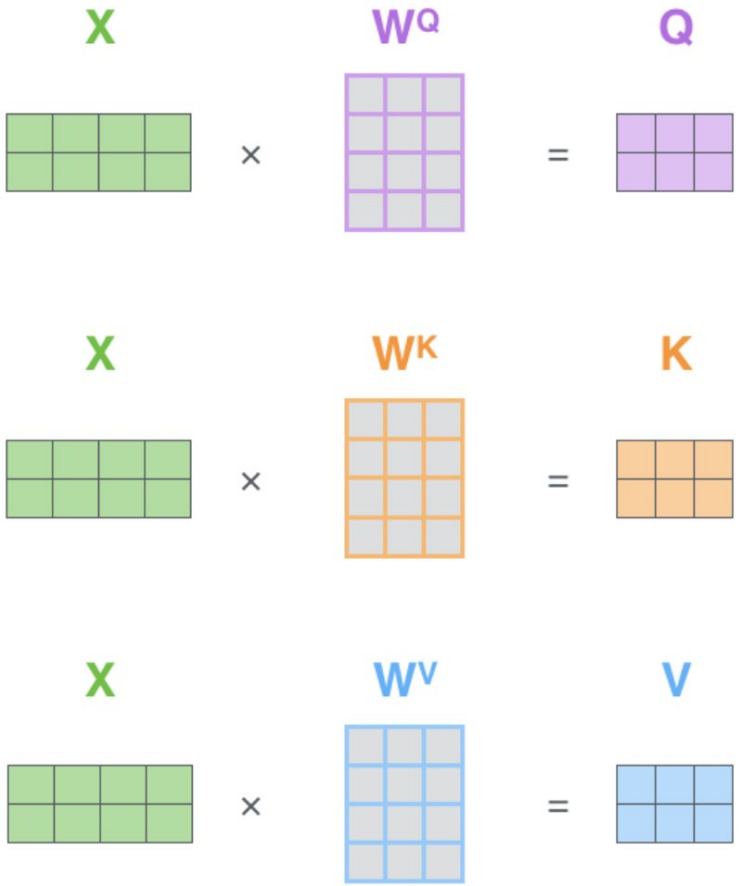
STEP 5: multiply each value vector by the softmax score

STEP 6: sum up the weighted value vectors

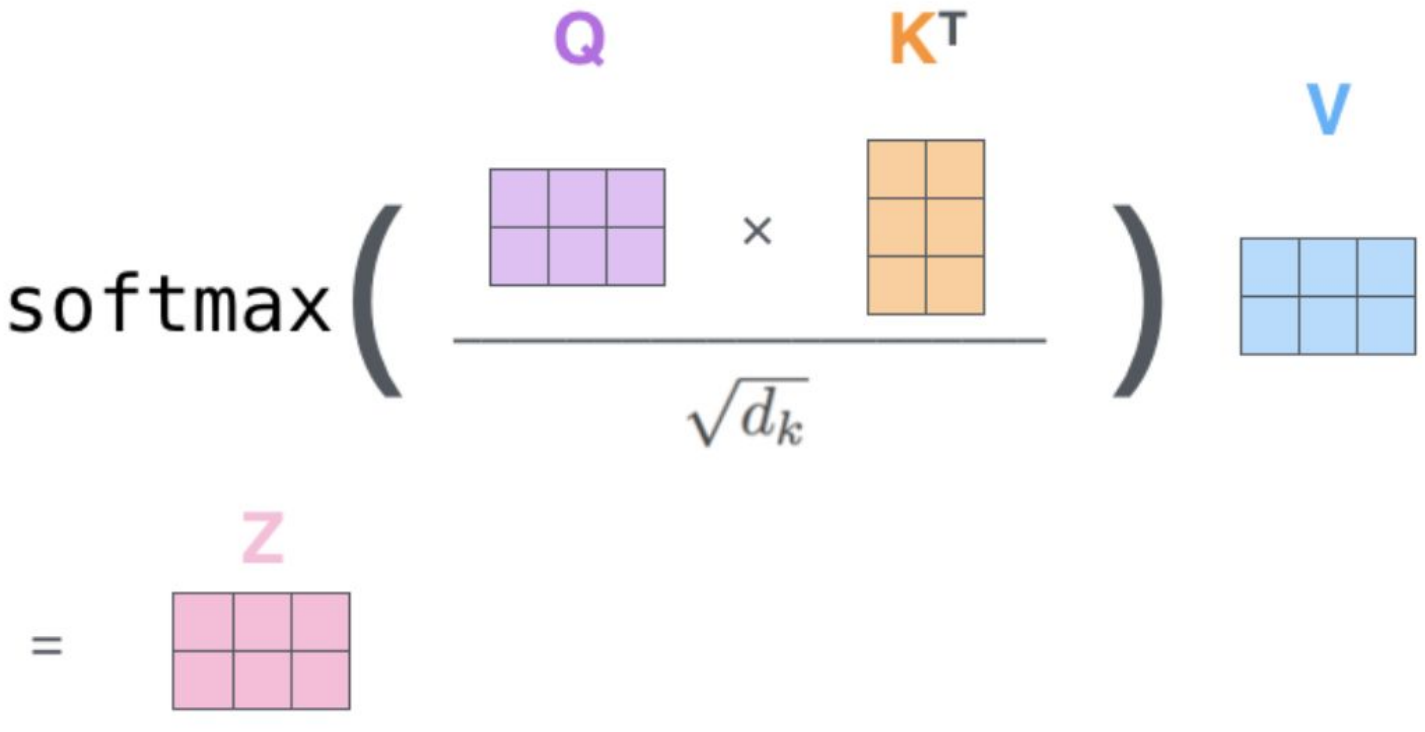
Self-Attention: Matrix Calculation

Pack embeddings into matrix **X**

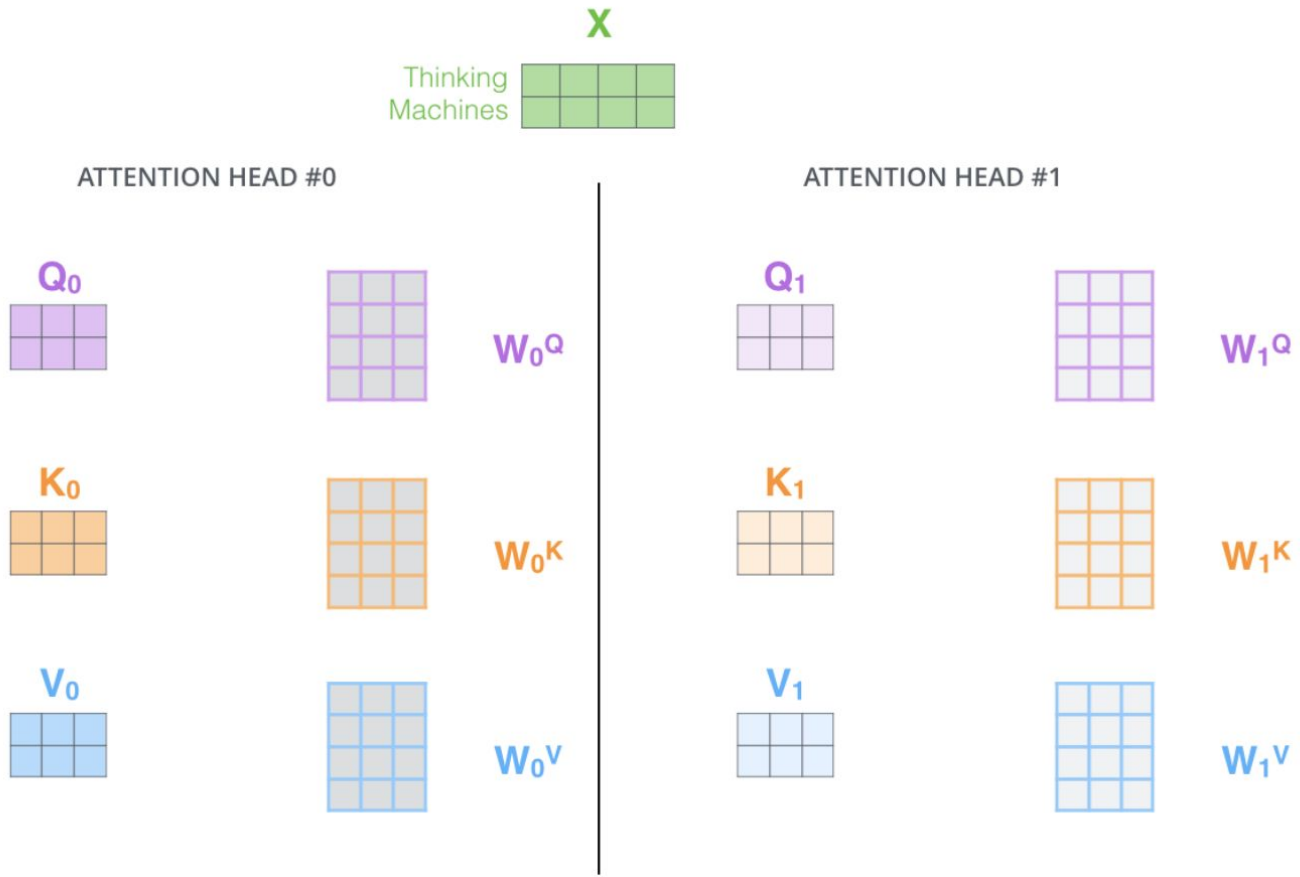
Multiply **X** by weight matrices we've trained (**Wk, Wq, Wv**)



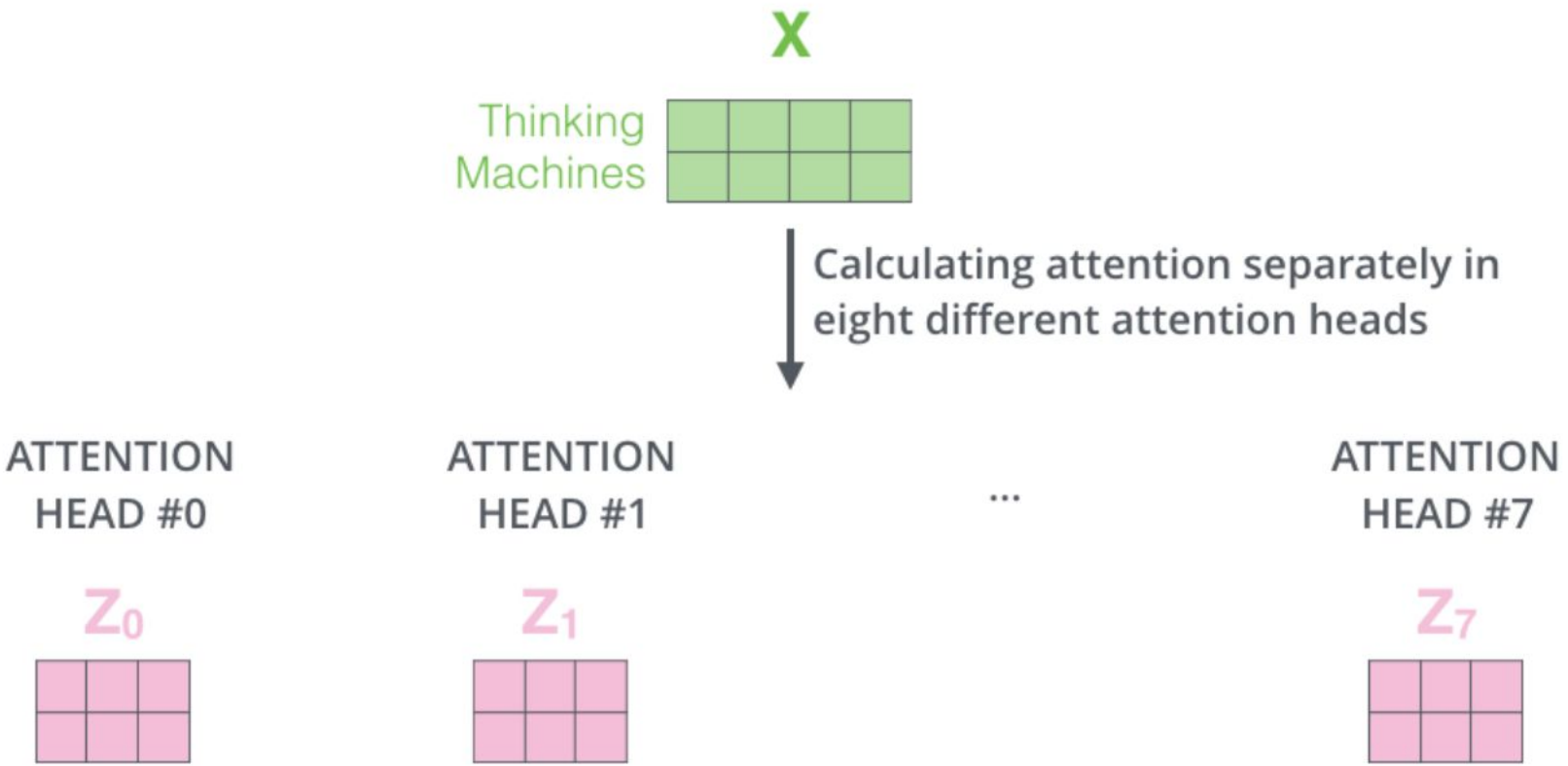
Self-Attention: Matrix Calculation



Multi-Head Attention



Multi-Head Attention

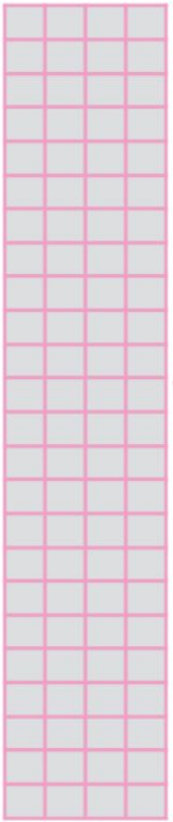


Multi-Head Attention

1) Concatenate all the attention heads

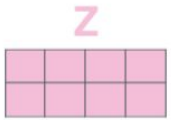
2) Multiply with a weight matrix W^O that was trained jointly with the model

X



3) The result would be the Z matrix that captures information from all the attention heads. We can send this forward to the FFNN

=



1) This is our input sentence*

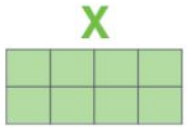
2) We embed each word*

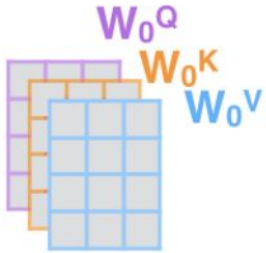
3) Split into 8 heads. We multiply X or R with weight matrices

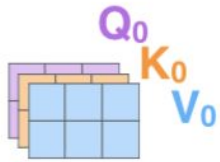
4) Calculate attention using the resulting Q/K/V matrices

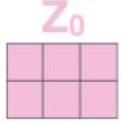
5) Concatenate the resulting Z matrices, then multiply with weight matrix W^O to produce the output of the layer

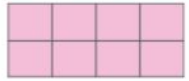
Thinking Machines



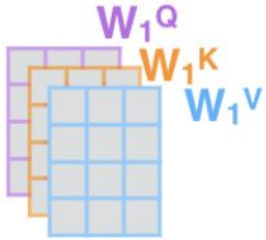


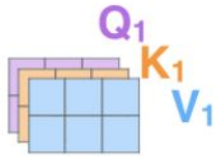


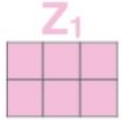


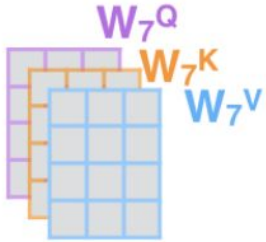


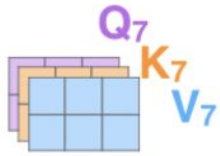
* In all encoders other than #0, we don't need embedding. We start directly with the output of the encoder right below this one

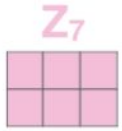




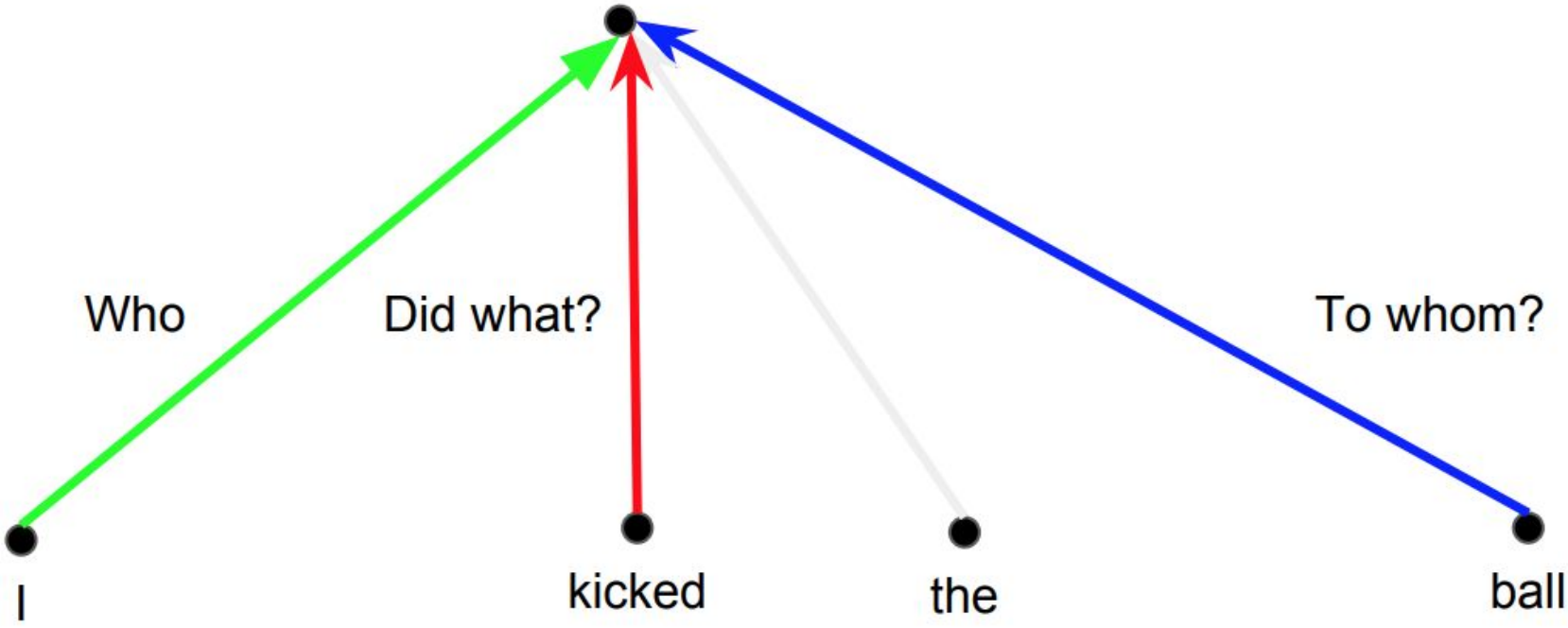




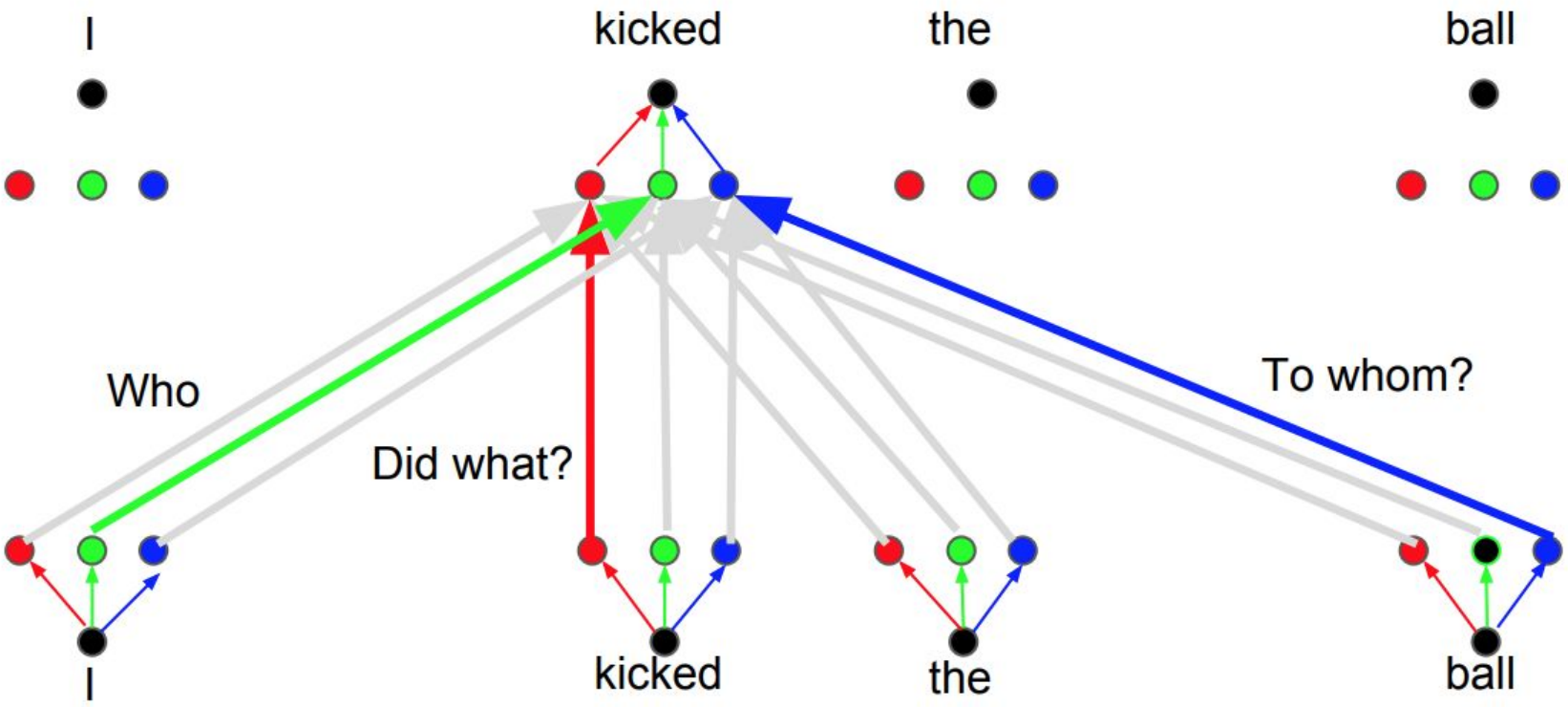




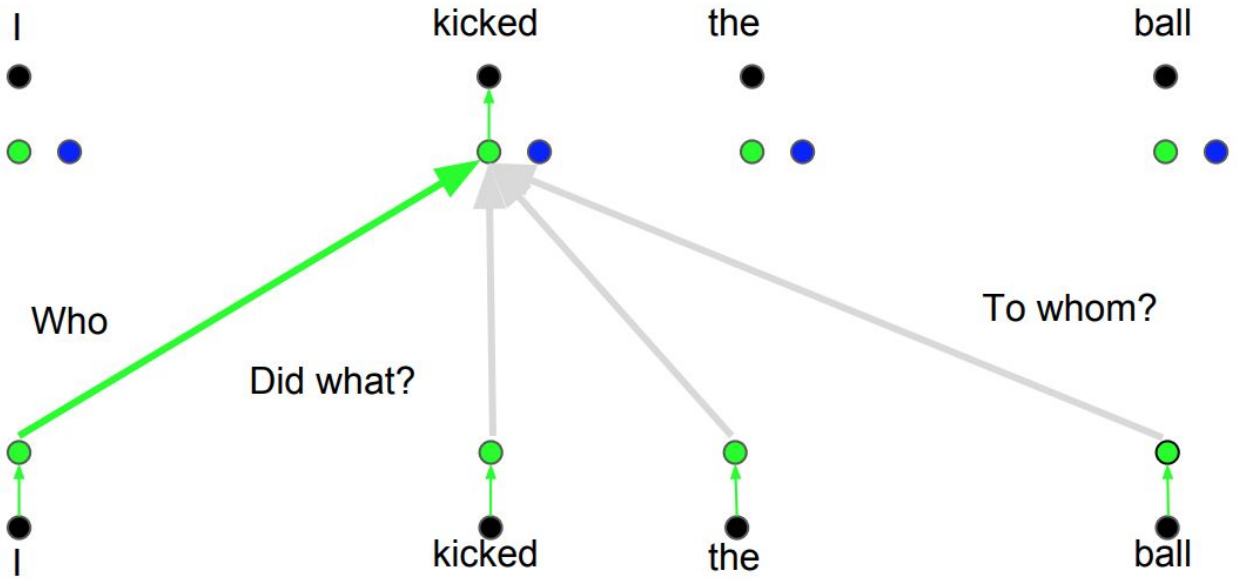
Why Multi-Head Attention?



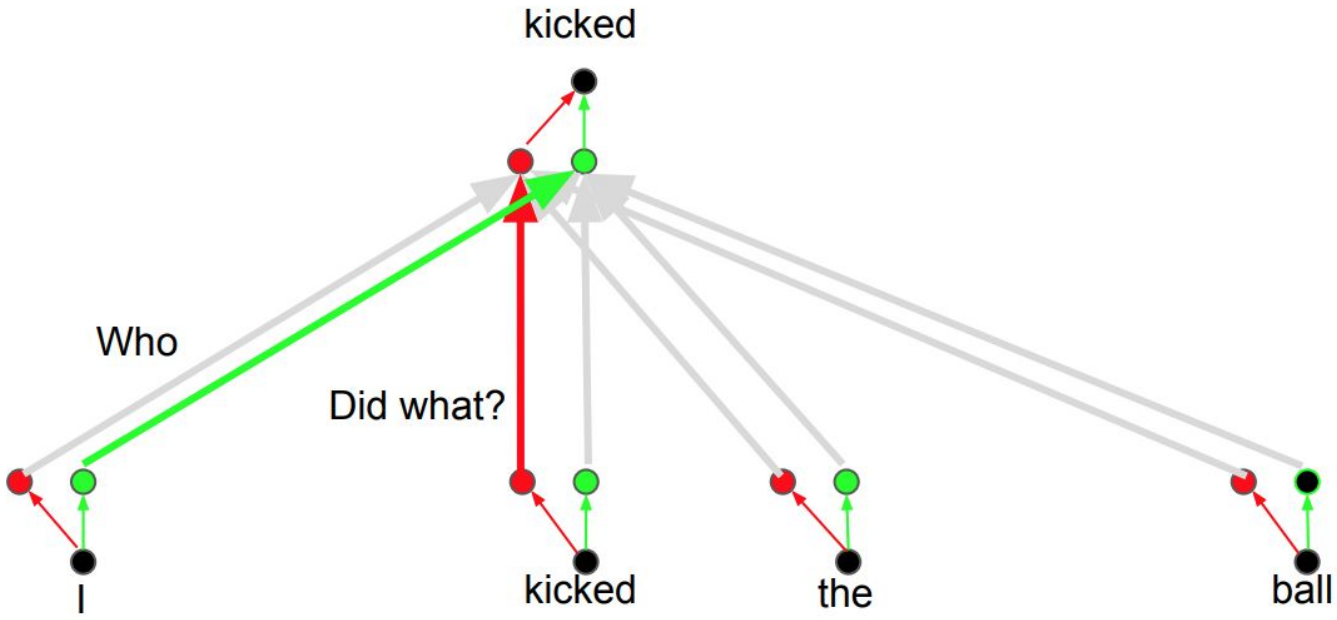
Why Multi-Head Attention?



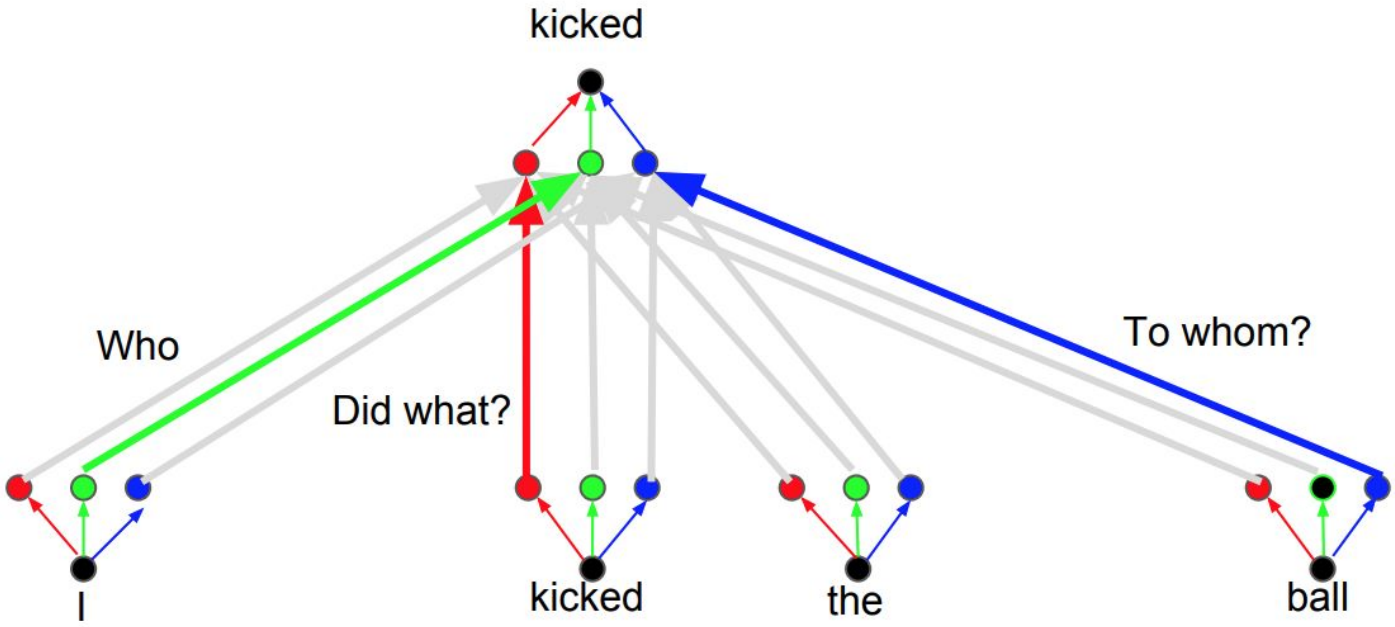
Attention head: Who



Attention head: Did What?

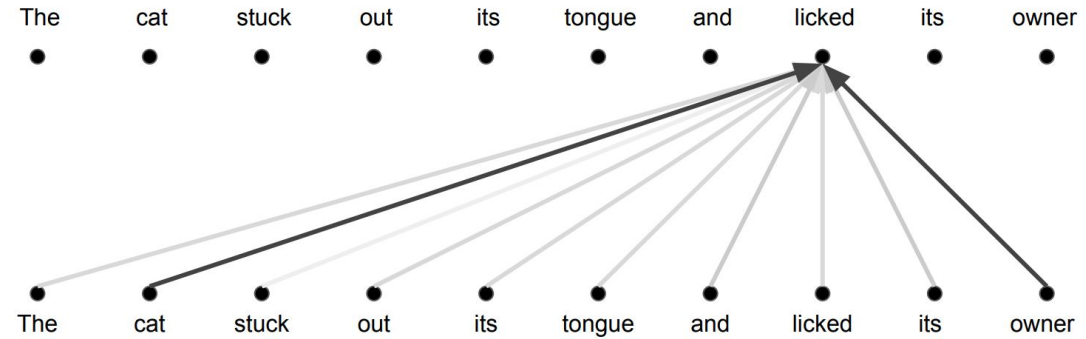


Attention head: To Whom?



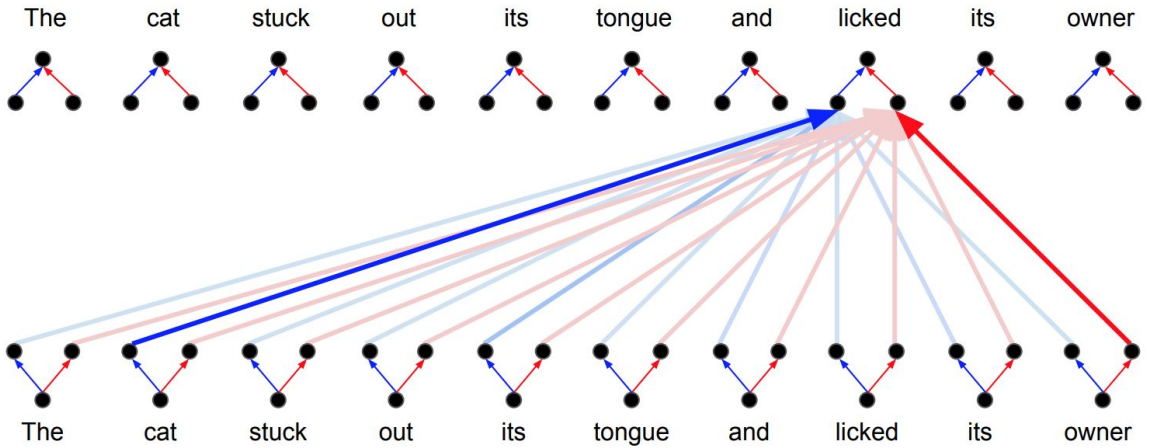
Attention vs. Multi-Head Attention

Attention: a weighted average



Multi-Head Attention:

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



Performance: WMT 2014 BLEU

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

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

Attention is fast

Self-Attention	
RNN (LSTM)	
Convolution	

Attention is fast

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

Attention is fast

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

length=1000 dim=1000 kernel_width=3

Research Challenges

- Constant ‘path length’ between any two positions.
- Unbounded memory.
- Trivial to parallelize (per layer).
- Models Self-Similarity.
- Relative attention provides expressive timing, equivariance, and extends naturally to graphs.