

NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING

LECTURE 13: Neural Machine Translation

goorm

**KAIST AI**  
Graduate School of AI



# Index

1. Machine Translation
2. Supervised Neural Machine Translation
3. Unsupervised Neural Machine Translation
4. Difficulties
5. Multilingual Machine Translation

# Machine Translation

- Machine translation is the task of translating a sentence  $x$  from **source language** to a sentence  $y$  in **target language**
- Most biggest Research Area
  - [ACL 2021 Accepted Papers](#)
  - [EMNLP 2021 Accepted Papers](#)

Source Sentence ( $x$ )

나는 학교에 간다

Translation by Machine



Target Sentence ( $y$ )

I go to school

# Machine Translation

- Statistical Machine Translation

- Learn a probabilistic model from data
- If we want to find best English sentence  $y$ , given Korean sentence  $x$

$$\operatorname{argmax}_y P(y|x)$$

- Let's use Bayes Rule to break the expression down.

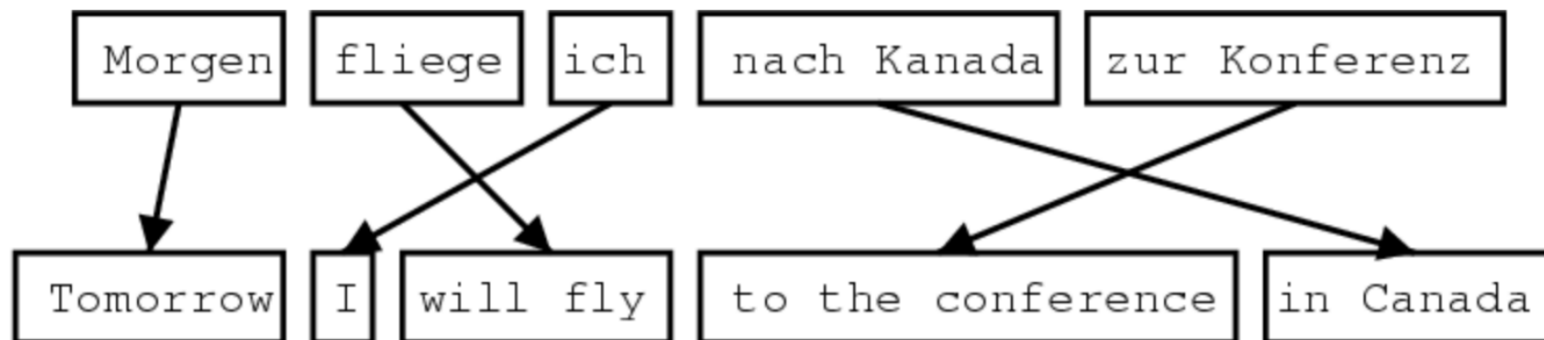
$$\operatorname{argmax}_y P(x|y)P(y)$$

- $P(x|y)$ : Translation Model
- $P(y)$ : Language Model

# Machine Translation

- Statistical Machine Translation

- How to learn a translation model  $P(x|y)$  from the parallel corpus?
- Latent  $a$  variable into the model:  $P(x, a|y)$ , where  $a$  is the alignment
- Alignment: word-level correspondence between **source sentence  $x$**  and **target sentence  $y$**
- But, Some words have no counterpart



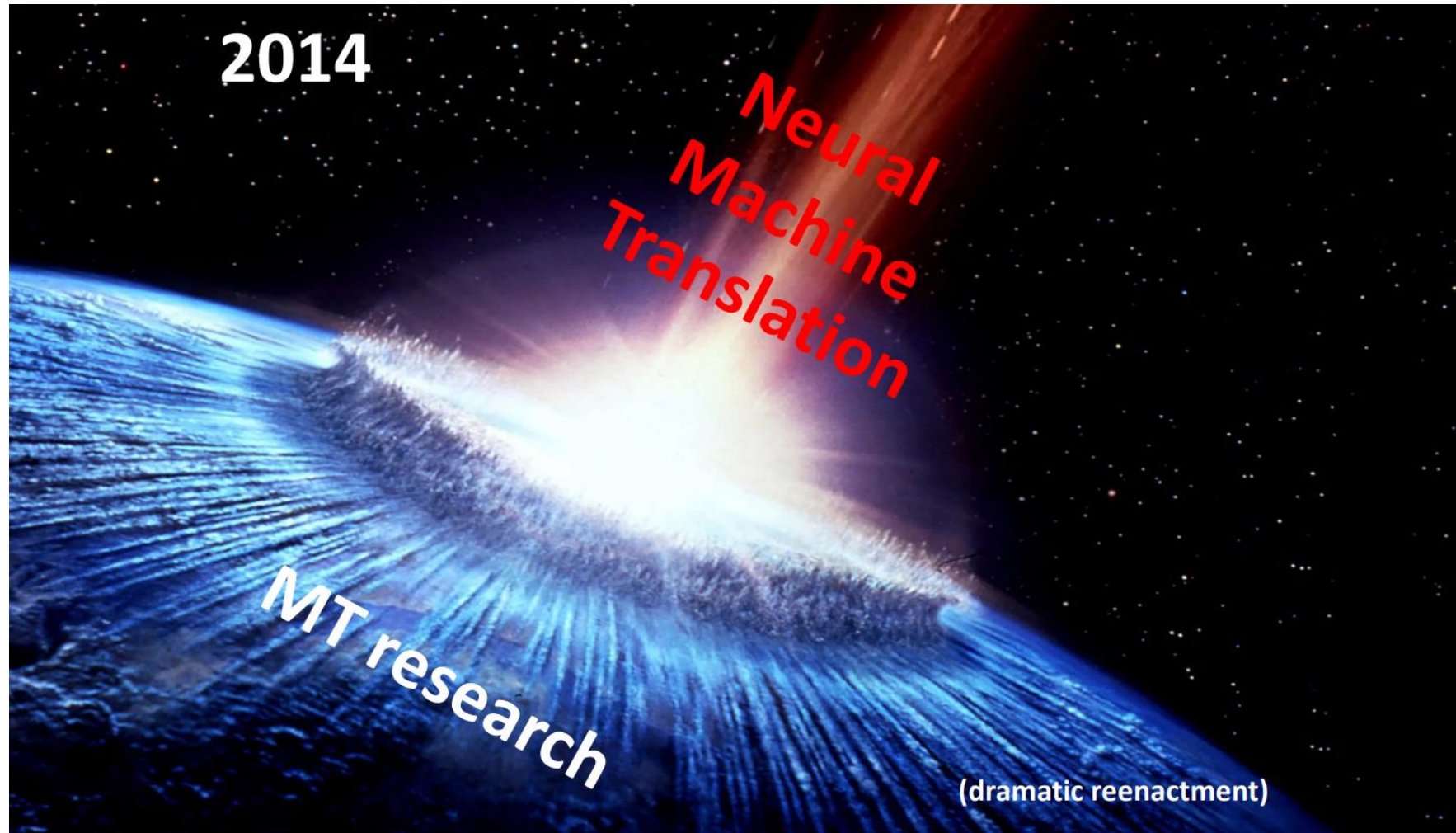
# Machine Translation

- Statistical Machine Translation
  - Extremely complex
  - Systems had many subcomponents
  - Feature engineering
  - Human effort to maintain



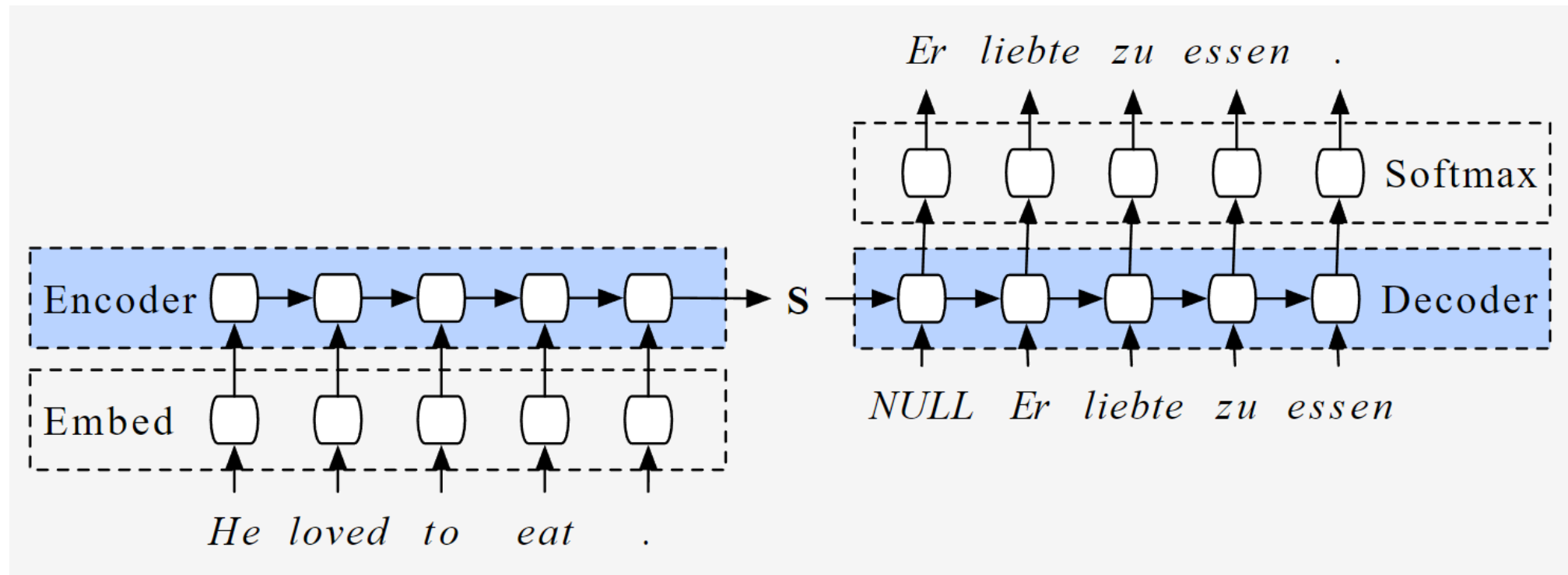
# Machine Translation

- Neural Machine Translation



# Machine Translation

- Neural Machine Translation
  - [2014 Neurips: Sequence-to-sequence Learning with Neural Networks](#)
  - [2015 ICLR: Neural Machine Translation by Jointly Learning to Align and Translate](#)





# Machine Translation

- How to evaluate Machine Translation?

- BLEU (Bilingual Evaluation Understudy)

- Reference: Half of my heart is in Hanana ooh na na

- Predicted: Half as my heart is in Obama ooh na

$$precision = \frac{\text{number of correct}}{\text{length of prediction}} = \frac{7}{9} = 78\%$$

$$recall = \frac{\text{number of correct}}{\text{length of reference}} = \frac{7}{10} = 70\%$$

$$F - \text{measure} = \frac{precision \times recall}{\frac{1}{2}(precision + recall)} = \frac{0.78 \times 0.7}{0.5 \times (0.78 + 0.7)} = 73.78\%$$

# Machine Translation

- How to evaluate Machine Translation?
  - [BLEU \(Bilingual Evaluation Understudy\)](#)
    - N-gram overlap between machine translation output and reference sentence
    - Compute precision for n-grams for one to four
    - Add brevity penalty for too short translations

$$BLEU = \min(1, \frac{\text{length of prediction}}{\text{length of reference}}) (\prod_{i=1}^4 \text{precision}_i)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

# Machine Translation

Predicted (from model 1): Half as my heart is in Obama ooh na

Reference: Half of my heart is in Havana ooh na na

Predicted (from model 2): Havana na in heart my is Half ooh of na

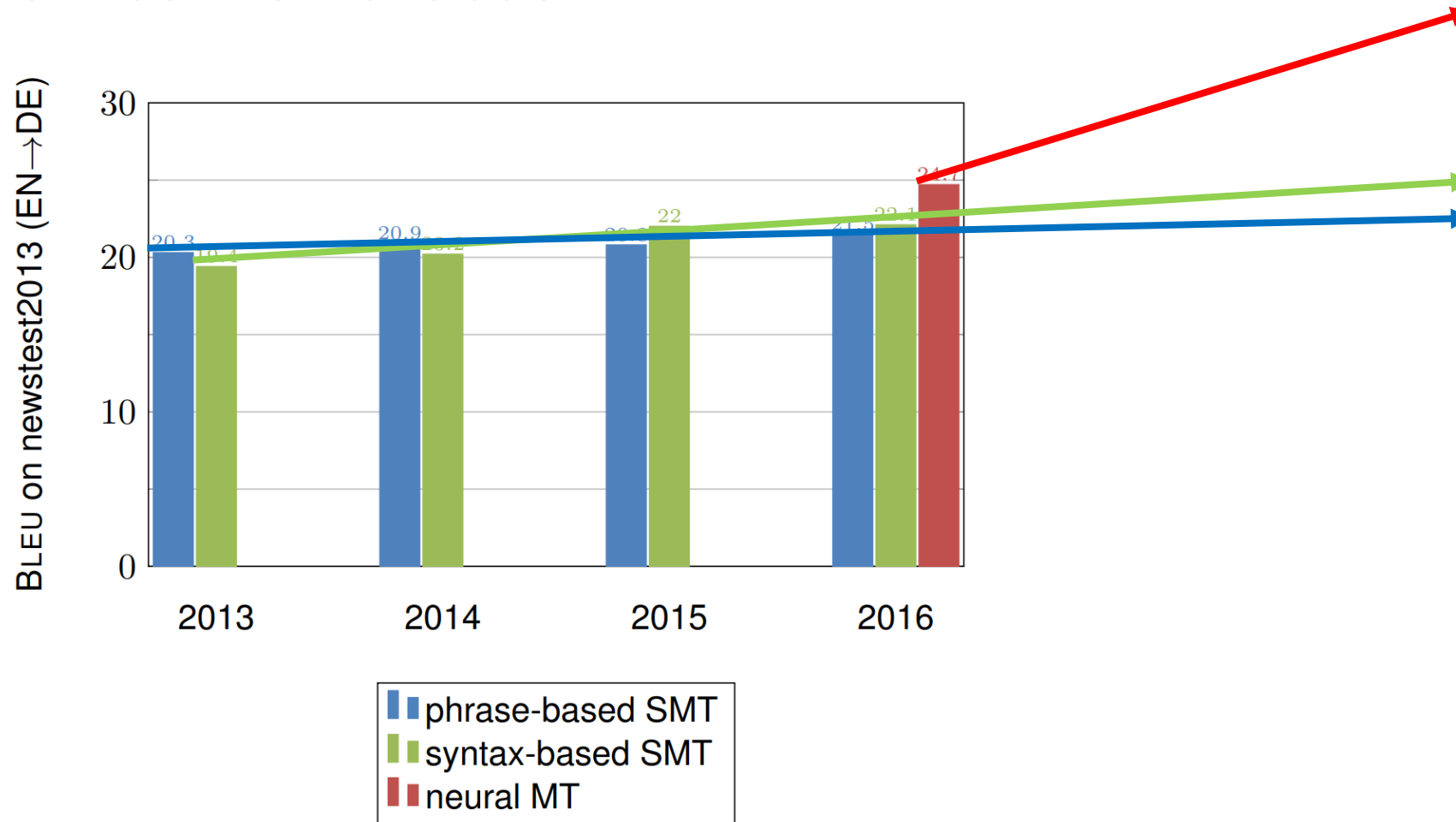
| Metric             | Model 1                     | Model 2 |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Precision (1-gram) | 7/9                         | 10/10   |
| Precision (2-gram) | 4/8                         | 0/9     |
| Precision (3-gram) | 2/7                         | 0/8     |
| Precision (4-gram) | 4/6                         | 0/7     |
| Brevity penalty    | 9/10                        | 10/10   |
| BLEU               | $0.9 \times \sqrt[4]{0.07}$ | 0       |

# Machine Translation

- Advanced/Other Evaluation Criteria
  - [SacreBLEU](#)
  - [YiSi](#)
  - [ESIM](#)

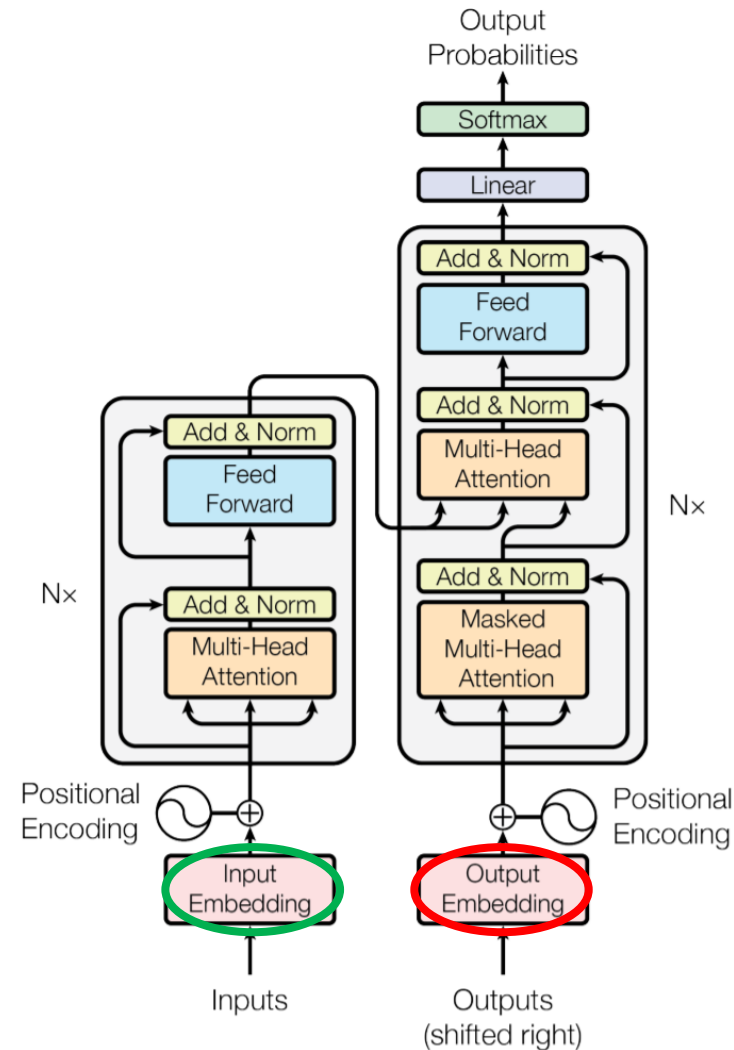
# Machine Translation

- Neural Machine Translation



# Supervised Neural Machine Translation

- Neural Machine Translation
  - How to train with parallel corpus?
  - [Open source parallel corpus: OPUS](#)

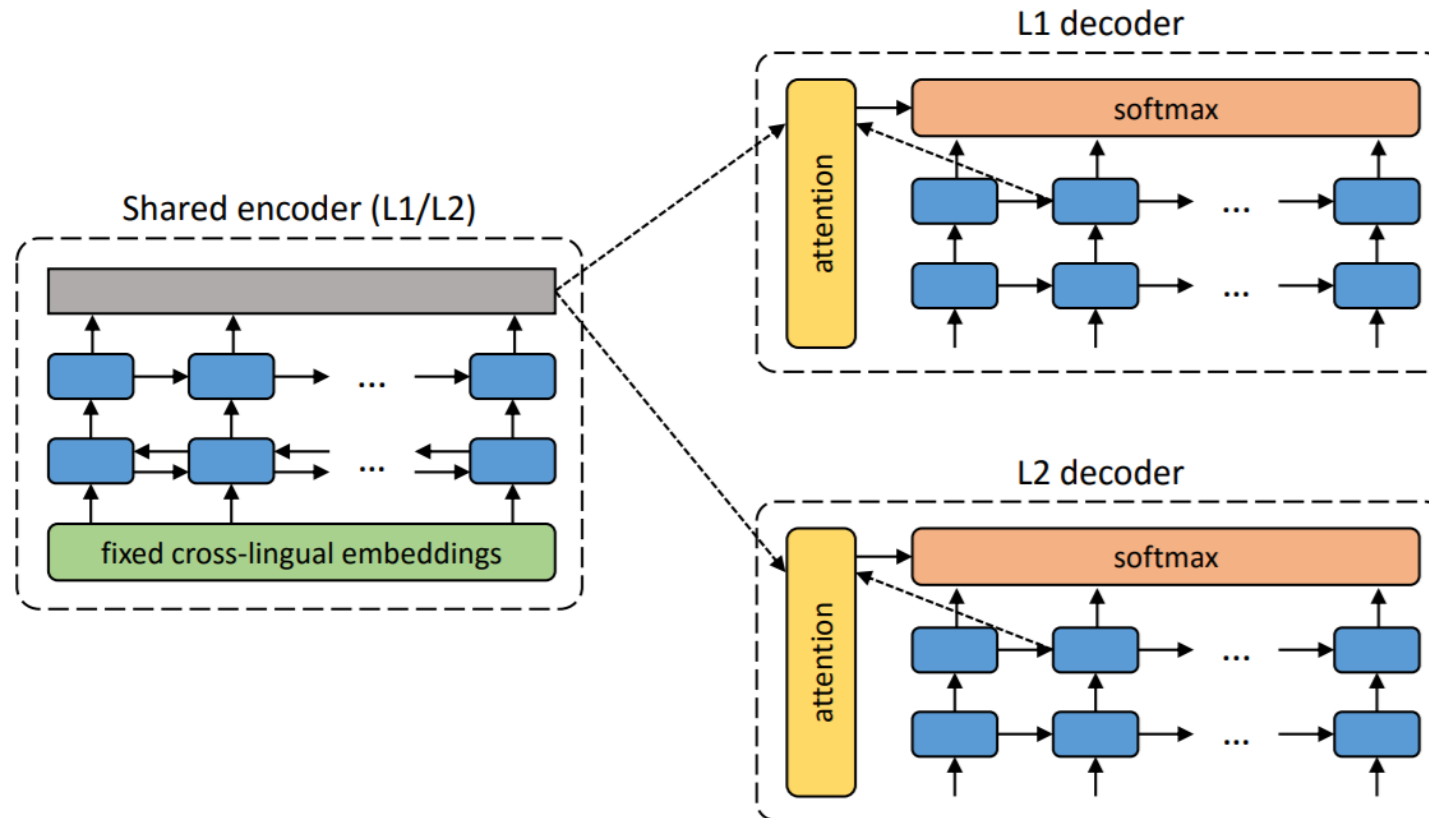


# Supervised Neural Machine Translation

- Drawback
  - There are many monolingual corpus, but few parallel corpus

# Unsupervised Neural Machine Translation

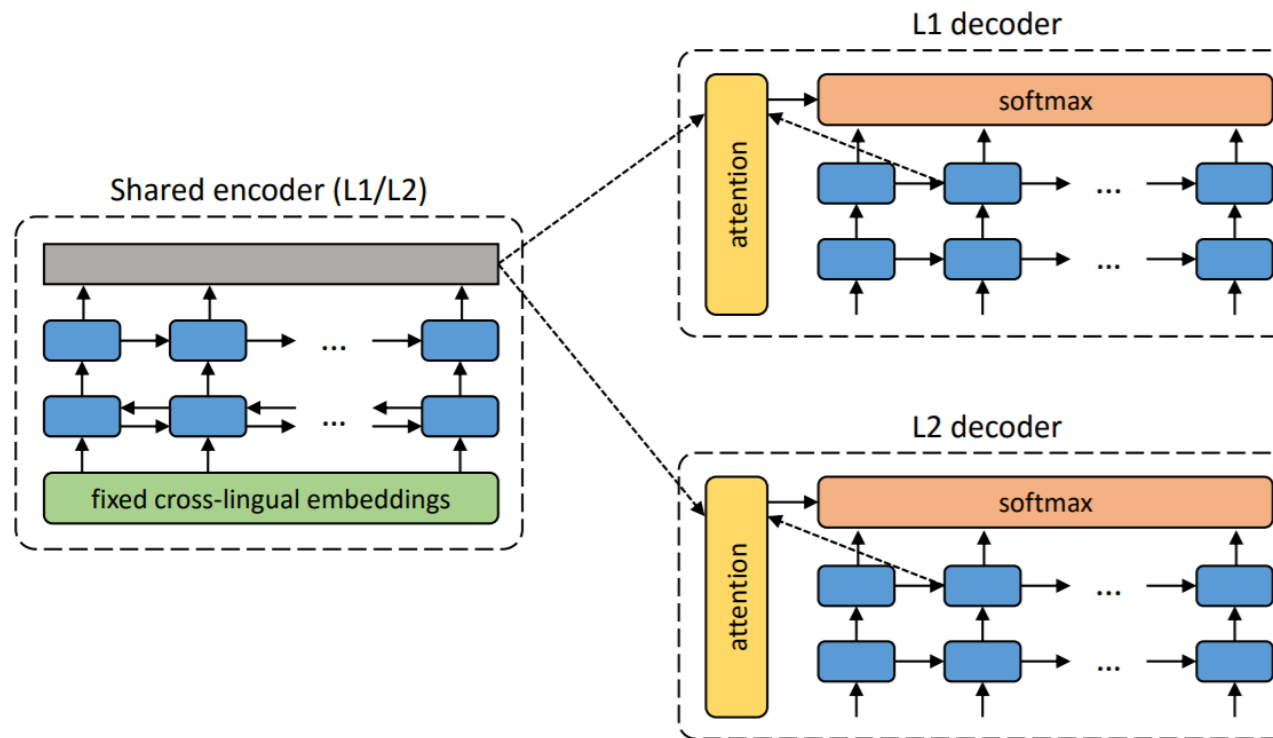
- Unsupervised neural machine translation with monolingual corpus
  - denoising
  - backtranslation





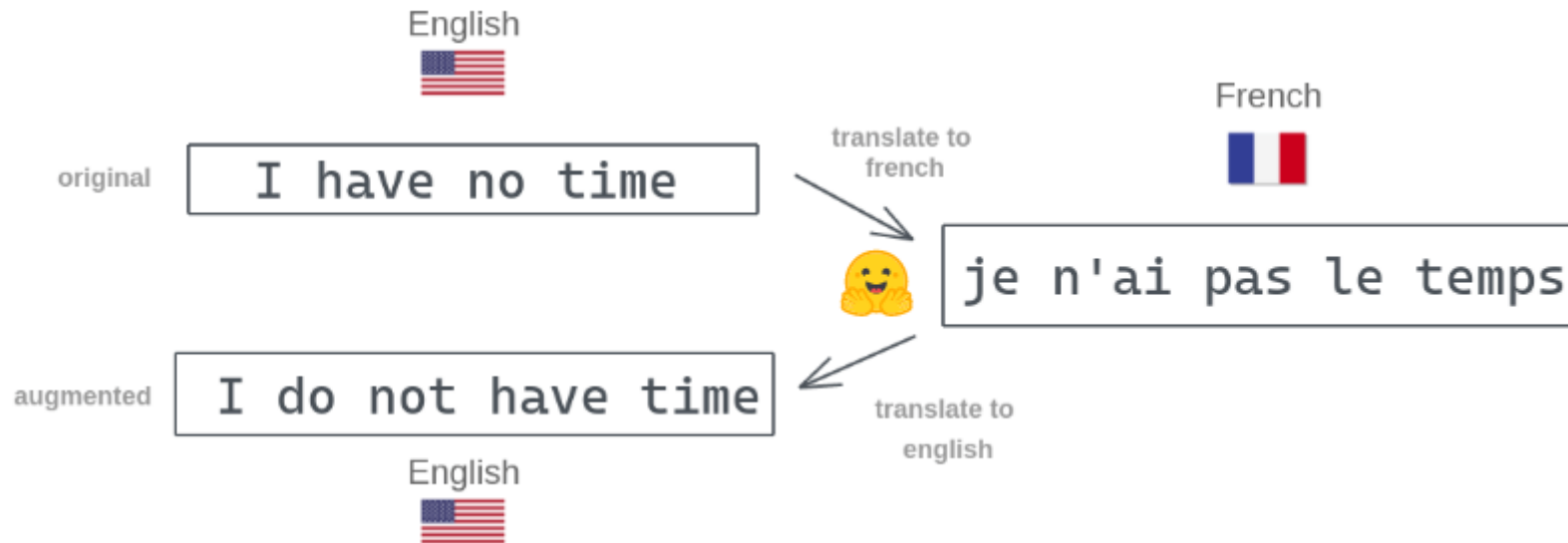
# Unsupervised Neural Machine Translation

- Denoising
  - Optimizes the probability of encoding a noised version of the sentence with the shared encoder and reconstructing it with the decoder



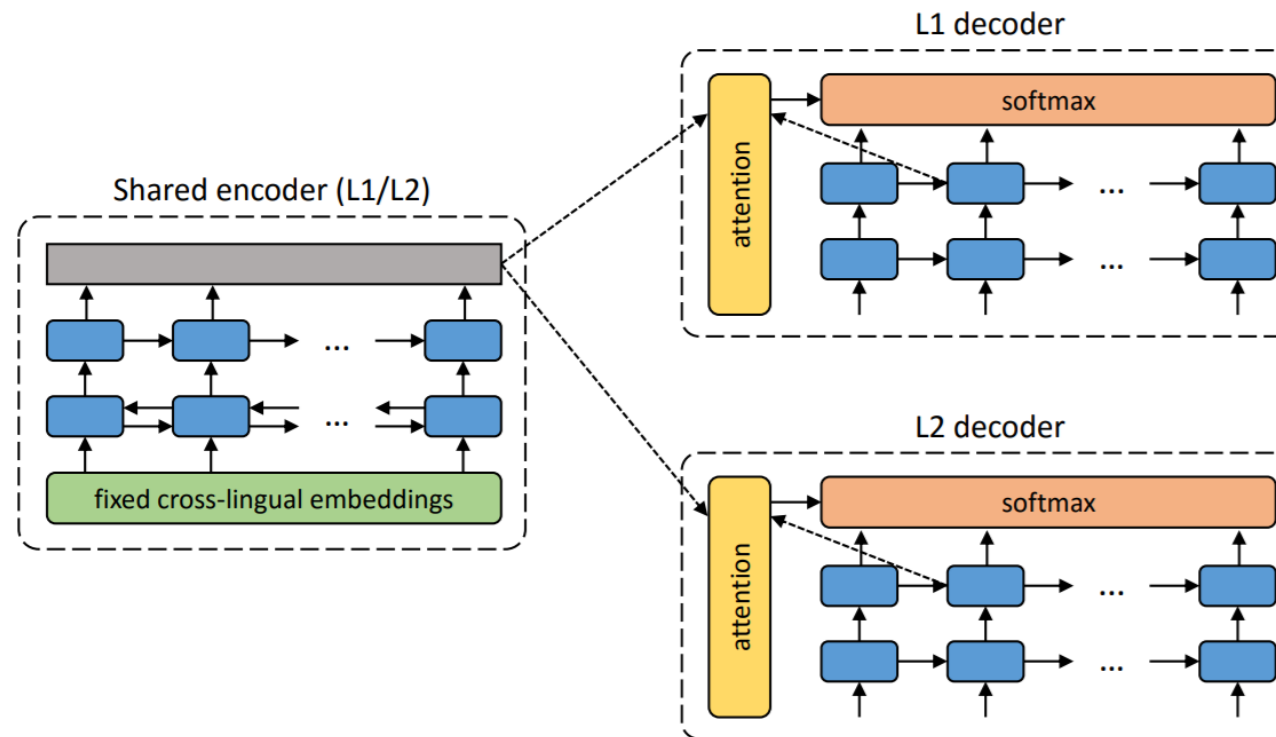
# Unsupervised Neural Machine Translation

- Backtranslation
  - Retranslating sentence from the target language back to its source language



# Unsupervised Neural Machine Translation

- Backtranslation
  - Translate a sentence in inference mode and then optimizes the probability of encoding this translated sentence with the shared encoder and recovering the original sentence with the decoder

































# Difficulties

- Six Challenges for Neural Machine Translation
  - Domain Mismatch
  - Amount of Training Data
  - Rare Words
  - Long Sentences
  - Word Alignment
  - Decoding(Beam Search)

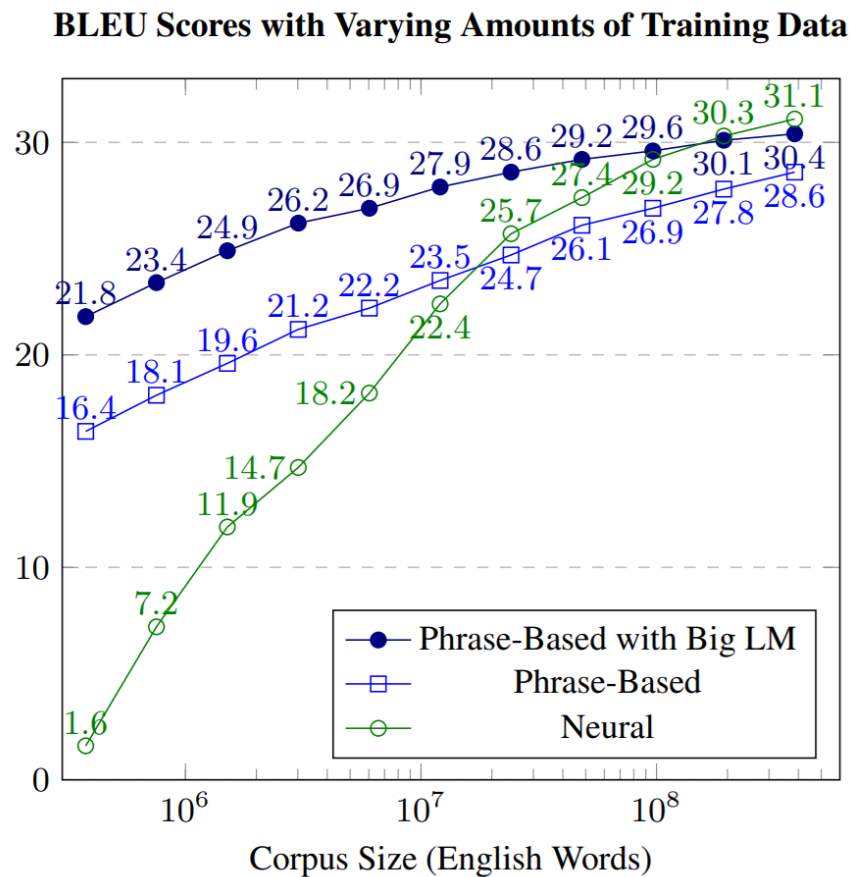
# Difficulties

- Domain Mismatch
  - In-domain
  - Out-domain

| System ↓         | Law  | Medical   | IT  | Koran  | Subtitles  |
|------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| <b>All Data</b>  | <br>30.5 32.8 | <br>45.1 42.2  | <br>35.3 44.7  | <br>17.9 17.9   | <br>26.4 20.8   |
| <b>Law</b>       | <br>31.1 34.4 | <br>12.1 18.2  | <br>3.5 6.9    | <br>1.3 2.2     | <br>2.8 6.0     |
| <b>Medical</b>   | <br>3.9 10.2  | <br>39.4 43.5  | <br>2.0 8.5    | <br>0.6 2.0     | <br>1.4 5.8     |
| <b>IT</b>        | <br>1.9 3.7 | <br>6.5 5.3  | <br>42.1 39.8 | <br>1.8 1.6   | <br>3.9 4.7   |
| <b>Koran</b>     | <br>0.4 1.8 | <br>0.0 2.1  | <br>0.0 2.3  | <br>15.9 18.8 | <br>1.0 5.5   |
| <b>Subtitles</b> | <br>7.0 9.9 | <br>9.3 17.8 | <br>9.2 13.6 | <br>9.0 8.4   | <br>25.9 22.1 |

# Difficulties

- Amount of Training Data
  - Outperforms SMT under high-resource conditions

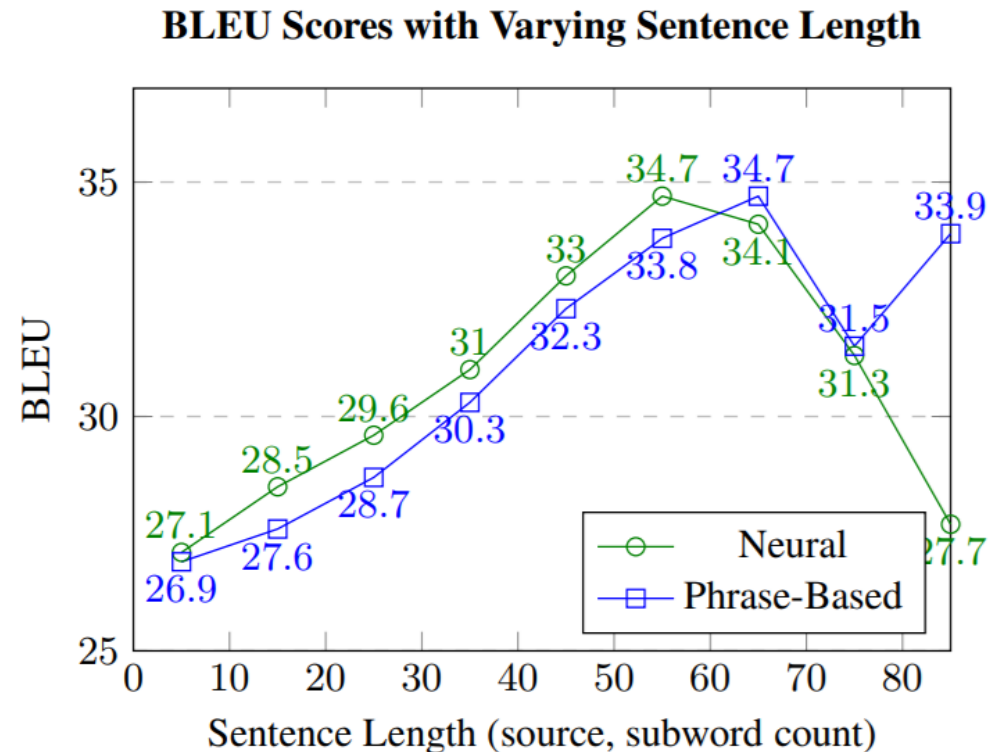


# Difficulties

- Rare Words
  - NMT models perform poorly on rare words
  - Solution: Sub-word Embedding(?)

# Difficulties

- Long Sentences
  - Early encoder-decoder NMT models poorly translate long sentences
  - [Attention is all you need](#)
  - [Transformer-XL](#)
  - [Train short, test long](#)





# Difficulties

- Word Alignment
  - Attention scores do not correspond with our intuition
  - [Attention is not Explanation](#)
  - [Attention is not not Explanation](#)

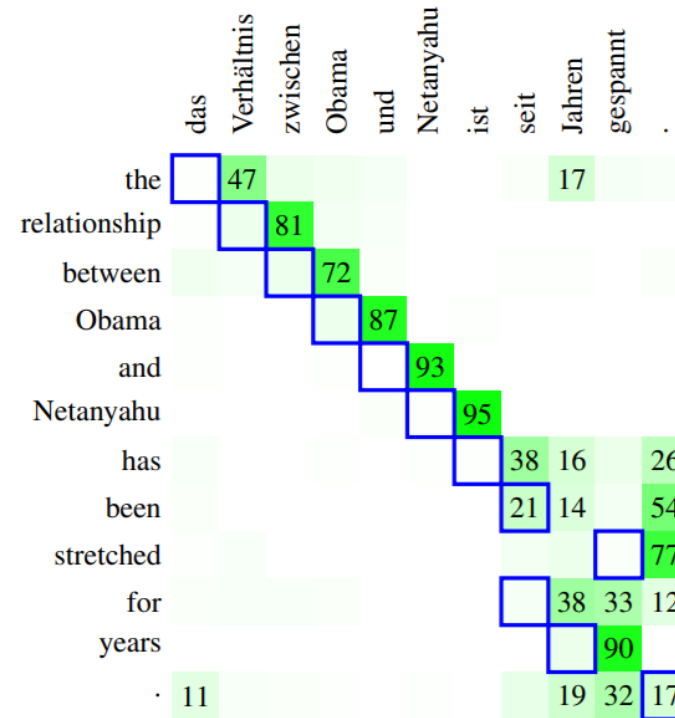
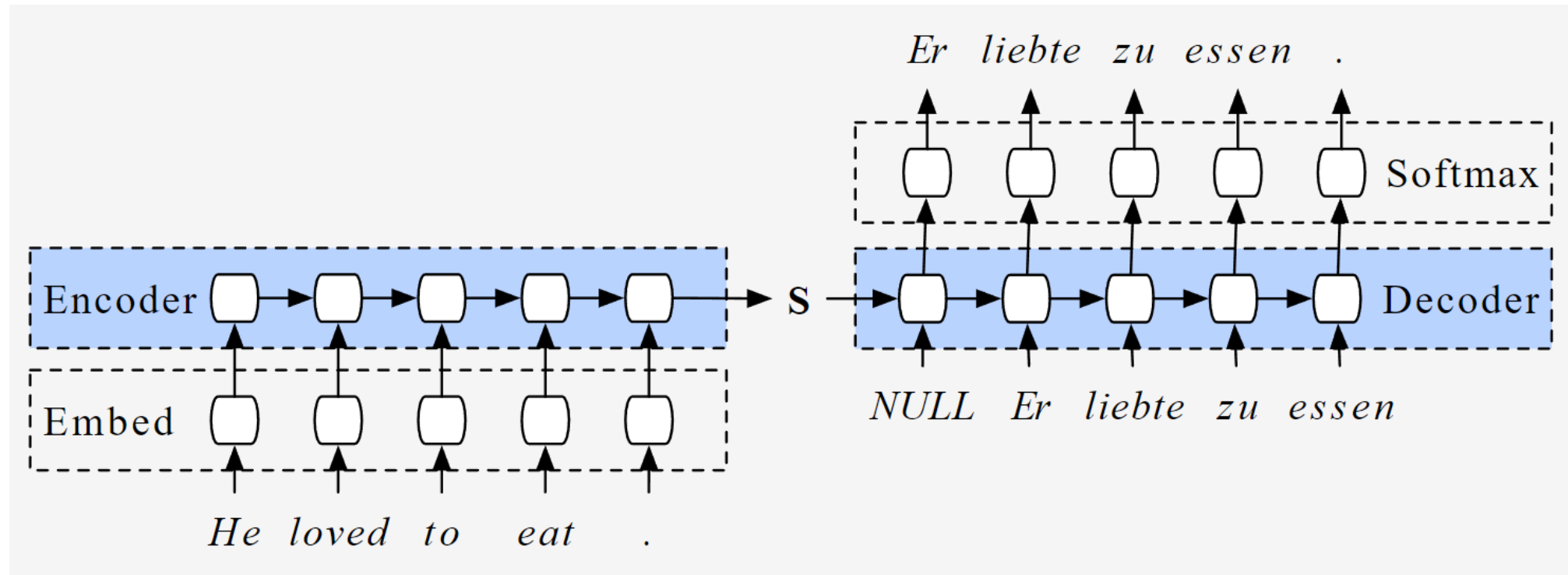


Figure 9: Mismatch between attention states and desired word alignments (German-English).

# Difficulties

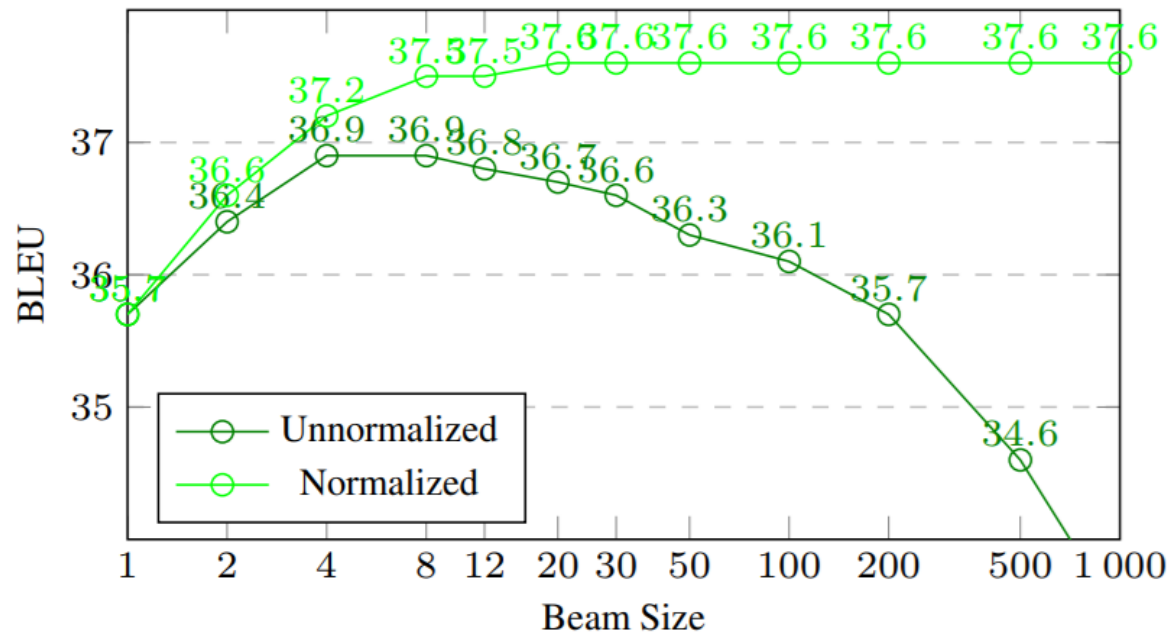
- Beam search
  - Too slow



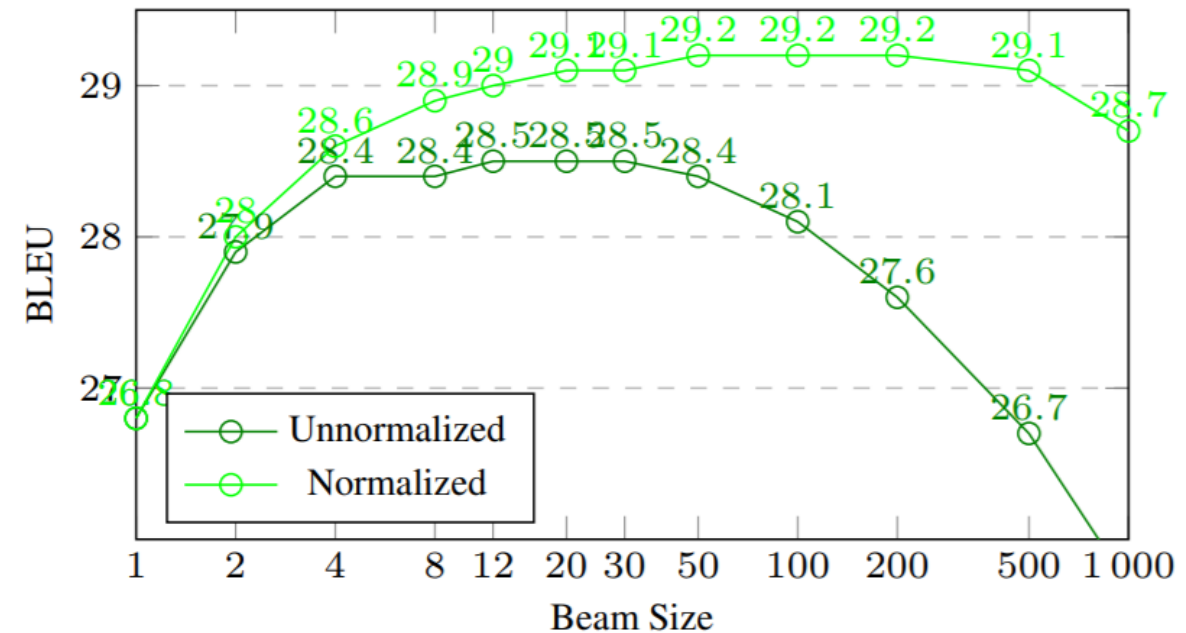
# Difficulties

- Beam search
  - Increasing the beam size does not consistently improve translation quality

German-English

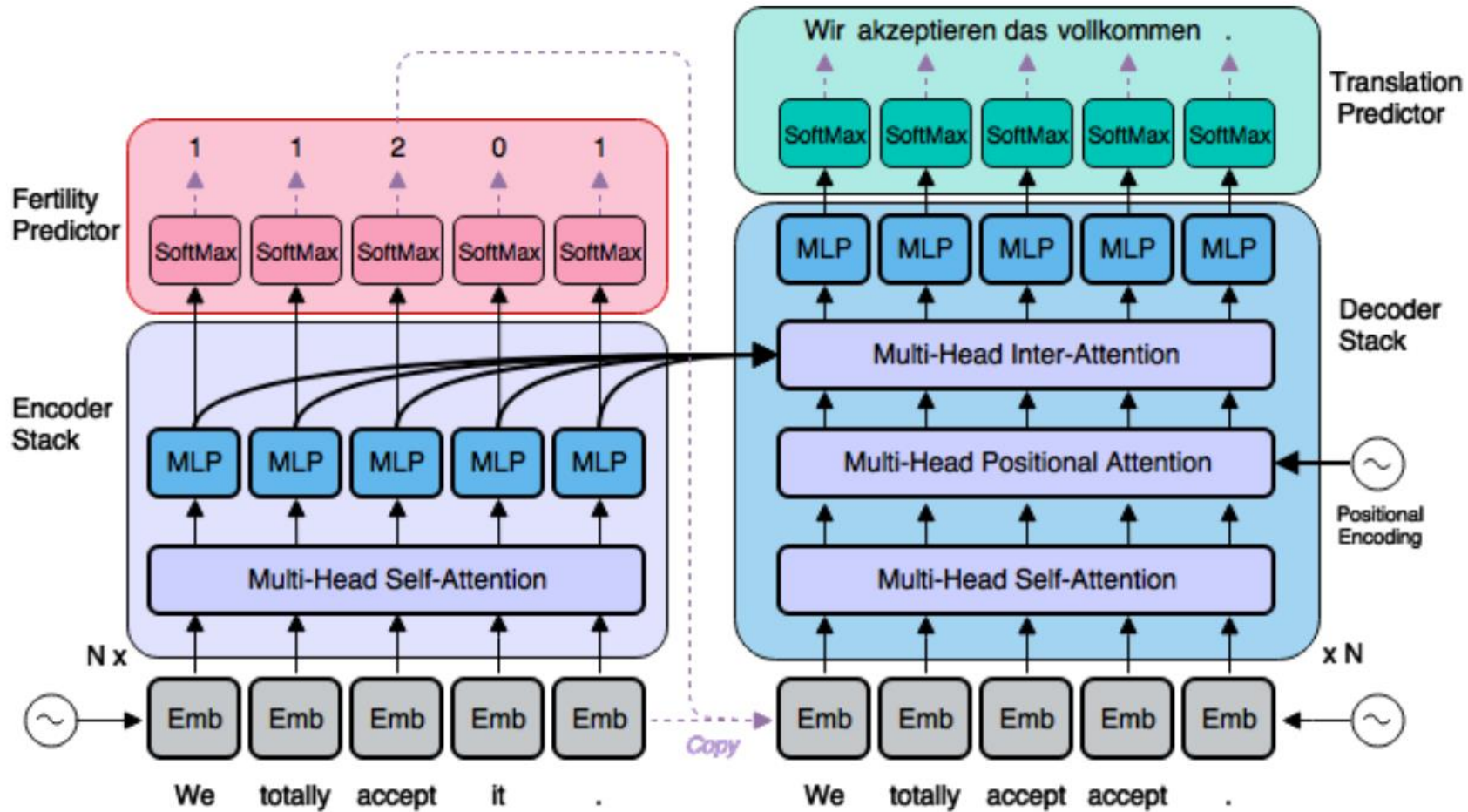


English-German



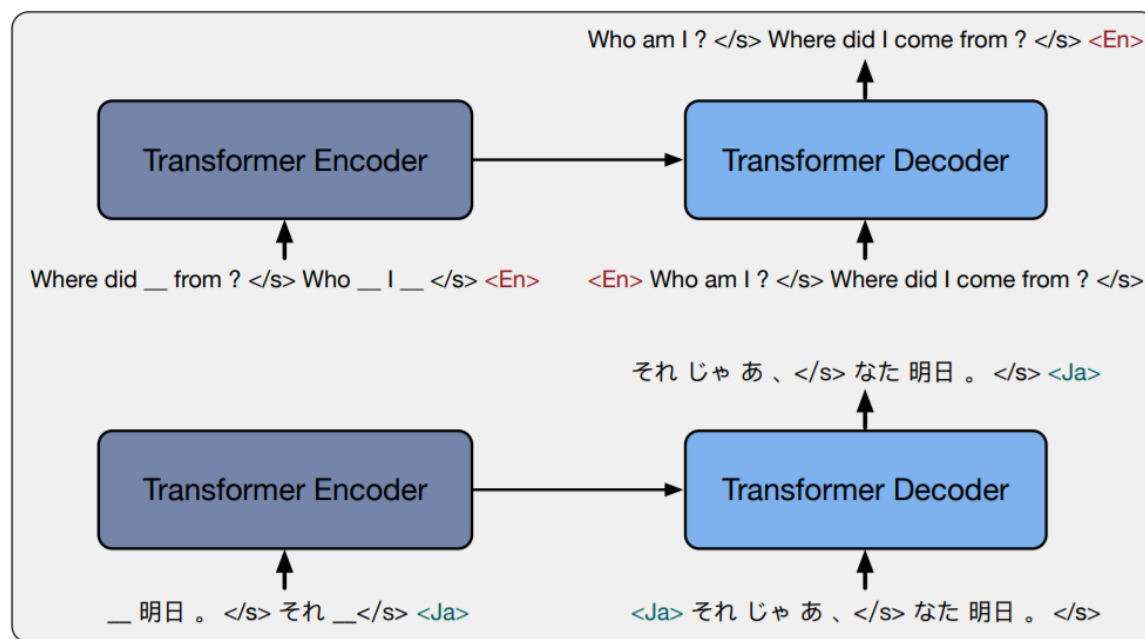
# Difficulties

- Non-autoregressive text generation

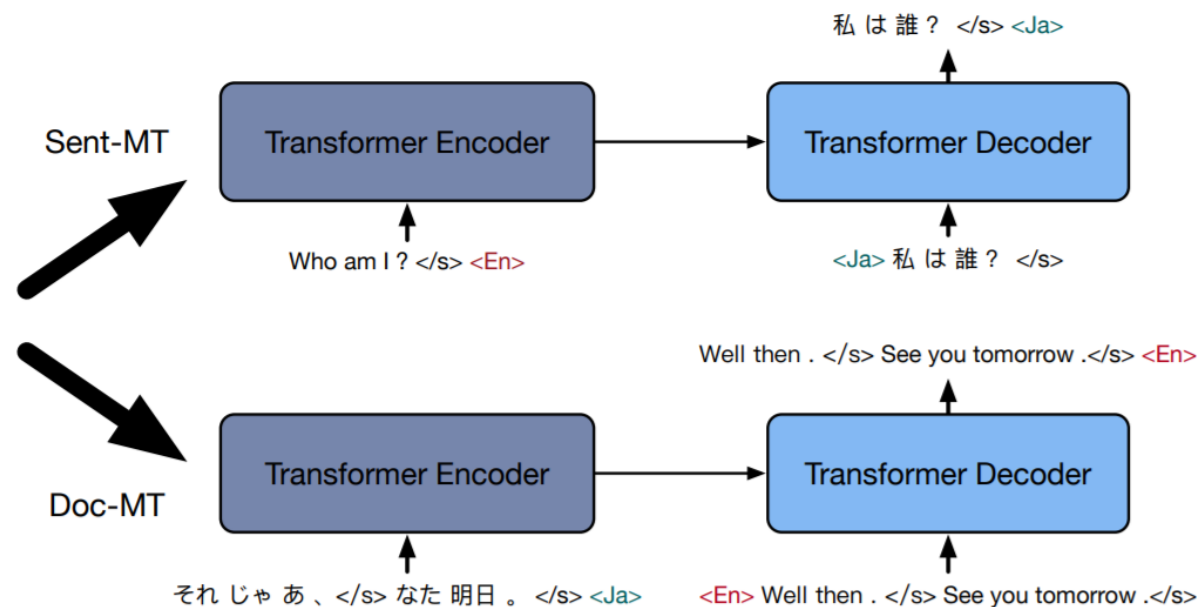


# Multilingual Neural Machine Translation

- Multilingual Denoising Pre-training for Neural Machine Translation



Multilingual Denoising **Pre-Training** (mBART)



**Fine-tuning** on Machine Translation