

5. Transformers

Generative Algorithms for Sound and Music



Universitat
Pompeu Fabra
Barcelona

MTG

Music Technology
Group

A meme featuring three people walking down a city street. On the left, a woman in a red dress is labeled "NEW, SHINY AI MODEL". In the center, a man in a plaid shirt is labeled "ANY AI MUSIC ENGINEER". On the right, a woman in a blue top is labeled "60+ YEARS OF SOLID TECHNIQUES".

**NEW,
SHINY AI MODEL**

**ANY AI
MUSIC ENGINEER**

**60+ YEARS
OF SOLID
TECHNIQUES**

Transformer Battle



Organize 4 teams

- Guinea pigs
- Dogs
- Cats
- Hamsters

Rules of engagement

- Good explanation = +2
- Tough question = +4
- Wrong answer / explanation = -1
- If you can't answer, another group will jump in

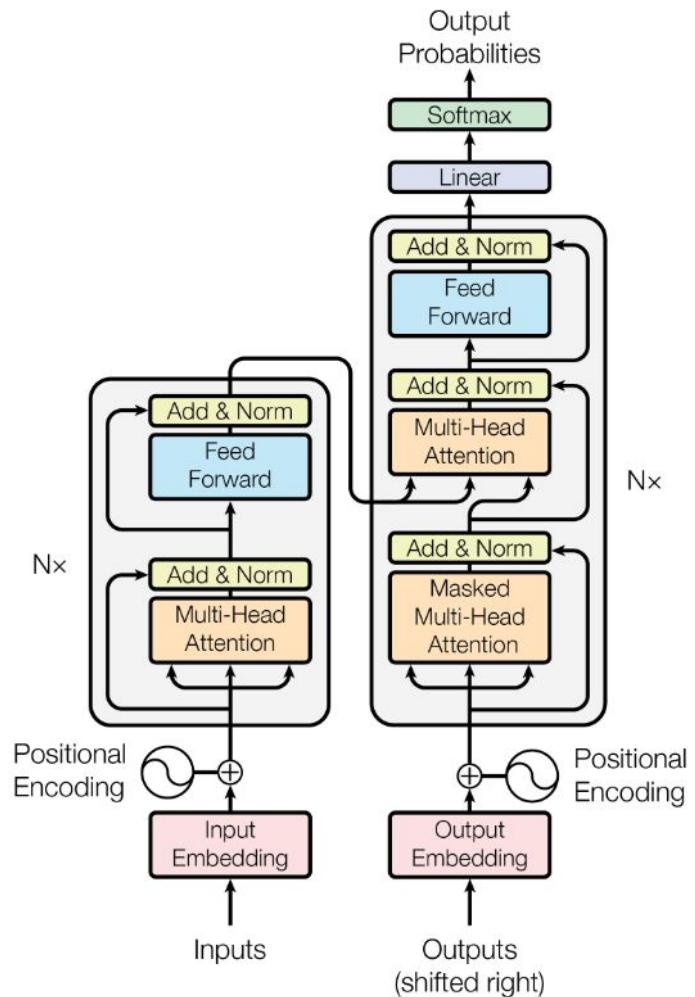
Tough question





RUTHLESS WINS THE DAY

Real-time scores



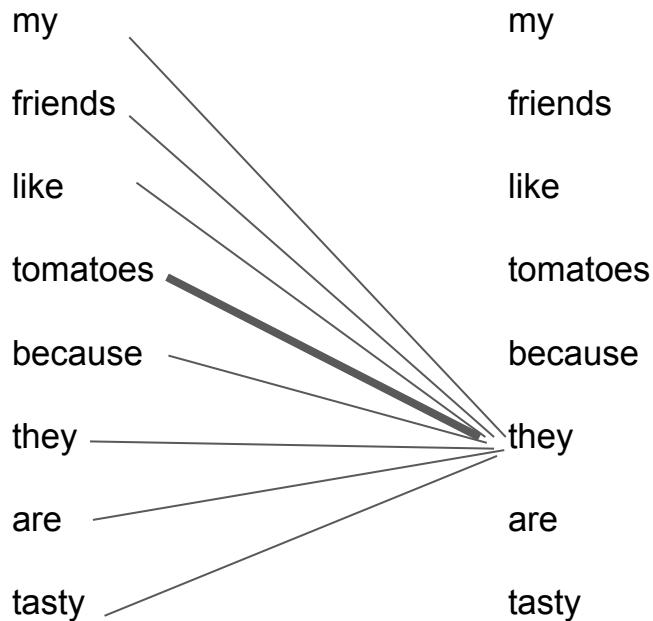
A reference problem

My friends like tomatoes because they are tasty

A reference problem

My friends like tomatoes because **they** are tasty

Self-attention: Intuition



What matrices do we have in self-attention?

Query, key, value matrices

$$\begin{matrix} \text{Query (Q)} \\ \text{I} \\ \text{like} \\ \text{cats} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1.3 & 0.8 \\ 0.7 & 3.5 \\ 1.9 & 0.1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{Key (K)} \\ \text{I} \\ \text{like} \\ \text{cats} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & 2.4 \\ 0.8 & 1.7 \\ 2.5 & 0.3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{Value (V)} \\ \text{I} \\ \text{like} \\ \text{cats} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.4 & 1.0 \\ 1.2 & 2.8 \\ 1.7 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

How do we derive Q, K, V?

How do we derive Q, K, V?

- Multiply input matrix by 3 weight matrices
- Learn weights during training

$$IW_Q = Q$$

$$IW_K = K$$

$$IW_V = V$$

Why not use fixed K
instead of learnable
per head?

Self-attention: Formalisation

Self-attention: Formalisation

$$Z(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax} \left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) V$$

Self-attention: Step 1

$$Z(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax} \left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) V$$

Self-attention: Step 1

$$QK^T = \begin{matrix} \text{I} \\ \text{like} \\ \text{cats} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1.3 & 0.8 \\ 0.7 & 3.5 \\ 1.9 & 0.1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \text{I} & \text{like} & \text{cats} \\ 0.6 & 0.8 & 2.5 \\ 2.4 & 1.7 & 0.3 \end{matrix} = \begin{bmatrix} q_1k_1 & q_1k_2 & q_1k_3 \\ q_2k_1 & q_2k_2 & q_2k_3 \\ q_3k_1 & q_3k_2 & q_3k_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{I} \\ \text{like} \\ \text{cats} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2.7 & 2.4 & 3.49 \\ 8.82 & 6.51 & 2.8 \\ 1.38 & 1.69 & 4.78 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\quad Q \qquad \qquad K^T$$

Which ones are Q and K really?

The diagram consists of two columns of words. The left column contains the words: my, friends, like, tomatoes, because, they, are, and tasty. The right column contains the words: my, friends, like, tomatoes, because, they, are, and tasty. Lines connect the words in the following pairs: (my, my), (friends, friends), (like, like), (tomatoes, tomatoes), (because, because), (they, they), (are, are), and (tasty, tasty). The lines for 'they' and 'are' are significantly thicker than the others.

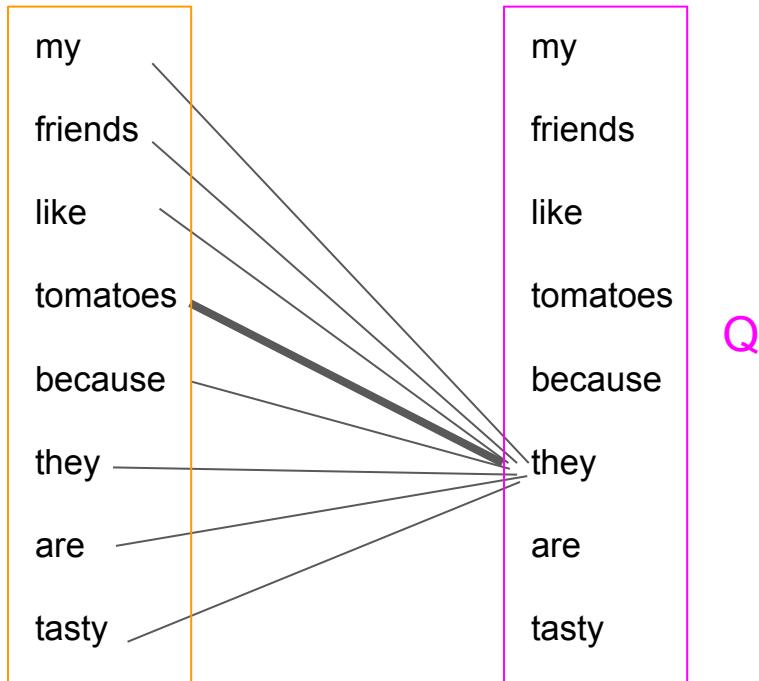
my
friends
like
tomatoes
because
they
are
tasty

my
friends
like
tomatoes
because
they
are
tasty

Self-attention: Step 2

$$Z(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax} \left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) V$$

What are Q and K really?



Why Q and K are
separate matrices?

What happens if $Q = K$?

Self-attention: Step 3

$$Z(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax} \left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) V$$

Self-attention: Step 3

- Normalize similarity scores
- Apply *softmax*
- Each word vector (row) adds up to 1
(probability)

$$\text{softmax} \left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \text{I} & \text{like} & \text{cats} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} \text{I} \\ \text{like} \\ \text{cats} \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & 0.2 & 0.1 \\ 0.2 & 0.6 & 0.2 \\ 0.4 & 0.1 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

*values in the matrix completely made up

Self-attention: Step 3

$$\text{softmax} \left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right)$$

Self-attention: Step 3

$$\text{softmax} \left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right)$$

Attention score

Relevance of different parts of the sequence to each other

Self-attention: Step 4

$$Z(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax} \left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) V$$

Self-attention: Step 4

$$Z = \begin{matrix} & \textcolor{magenta}{I} & \textcolor{magenta}{like} & \textcolor{magenta}{cats} \\ \textcolor{cyan}{I} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & 0.2 & 0.1 \end{bmatrix} & \textcolor{red}{I} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.4 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \textcolor{cyan}{like} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.6 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix} & \textcolor{red}{like} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.2 & 2.8 \end{bmatrix} \\ \textcolor{cyan}{cats} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.4 & 0.1 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix} & \textcolor{red}{cats} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.7 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} & \textcolor{orange}{I} & \textcolor{orange}{like} & \textcolor{orange}{cats} \\ \textcolor{orange}{I} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.69 & 1.28 \end{bmatrix} & \textcolor{orange}{I} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.14 & 1.92 \end{bmatrix} \\ \textcolor{orange}{like} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.14 & 1.92 \end{bmatrix} & \textcolor{orange}{like} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.13 & 0.78 \end{bmatrix} \\ \textcolor{orange}{cats} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.13 & 0.78 \end{bmatrix} & \textcolor{orange}{cats} & \begin{bmatrix} \vec{z}_1 \\ \vec{z}_2 \\ \vec{z}_3 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$\text{softmax} \left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) \quad V$$

Self-attention for word “I”

$$Z = \begin{matrix} & \text{I} & \text{like} & \text{cats} \\ \text{I} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & 0.2 & 0.1 \\ 0.2 & 0.6 & 0.2 \\ 0.4 & 0.1 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{matrix} \text{I} \\ \text{like} \\ \text{cats} \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.4 & 1.0 \\ 1.2 & 2.8 \\ 1.7 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{matrix} \text{v}_1 \\ \text{v}_2 \\ \text{v}_3 \end{matrix} \\ \text{like} & & & & \text{like} \\ \text{cats} & & & & \text{cats} \end{matrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.69 & 1.28 \\ 1.14 & 1.92 \\ 1.13 & 0.78 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{z}_1 \\ \vec{z}_2 \\ \vec{z}_3 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\text{softmax}\left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}}\right) \quad V$$

$$\vec{z}_1 = 0.7\vec{v}_1 + 0.2\vec{v}_2 + 0.1\vec{v}_3 = 0.7 [0.4 \quad 1.0] + 0.2 [1.2 \quad 2.8] + 0.1 [1.7 \quad 0.2]$$
$$\begin{matrix} \text{I} & \text{like} & \text{cats} \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{I} & \text{like} & \text{cats} \end{matrix}$$

Sum of the value vectors weighted by the scores

A reference problem: Solved

My friends like tomatoes because they are tasty

$$\vec{z}_{they} = 0.0\vec{v}_1 + 0.0\vec{v}_2 + 0.0\vec{v}_3 + 0.9\vec{v}_4 + 0.0\vec{v}_5 + 0.1\vec{v}_6 + 0.0\vec{v}_7 + 0.0\vec{v}_8$$

my friends like tomatoes because they are tasty

Why not use K for V?

Analogy: Search engine

$Q = ?$

$K = ?$

$V = ?$

Attention scores = ?

Result = ? \times ?

What's multi-head attention?

What's multi-head attention?

- Run multiple instances of the self-attention mechanism in parallel
- Compute as many Q, K, V, Z matrices as the number of heads

$$Z = \text{concatenate}(Z_1, Z_2, Z_3, \dots, Z_n)W_0$$

What does
concatenation **really**
mean mathematically?

$$Z = \text{concatenate}(Z_1, Z_2, Z_3, \dots, Z_n)W_0$$

WHY MULTIPLE HEADS?



Why do we multiply
concatenated Z by

Wo?

$$Z = \text{concatenate}(Z_1, Z_2, Z_3, \dots, Z_n)W_0$$

Positional encoding: Strategy

$$I' = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 1.2 \\ 0.5 & 4.1 \\ 2.1 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 1.0 \\ 2.5 & 1.3 \\ 1.1 & 0.3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & 2.2 \\ 3.0 & 5.4 \\ 3.2 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix}$$

I P

Why transformer
doesn't know about
order?

How do we compute P?

How do we compute P?

$$P(pos, 2i) = \sin\left(\frac{pos}{10000^{2i/dimension_{model}}}\right)$$

$$P(pos, 2i + 1) = \cos\left(\frac{pos}{10000^{2i/dimension_{model}}}\right)$$

Why sinusoidal?

How's the position
encoded, for real?

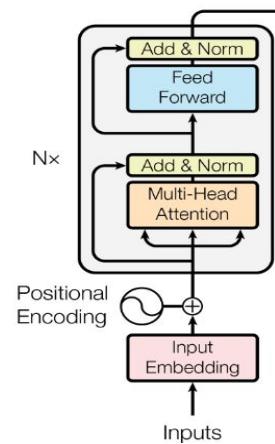
How do we compute P?

$$P(pos, 2i) = \sin\left(\frac{pos}{10000^{2i/dimension_{model}}}\right)$$

$$P(pos, 2i + 1) = \cos\left(\frac{pos}{10000^{2i/dimension_{model}}}\right)$$

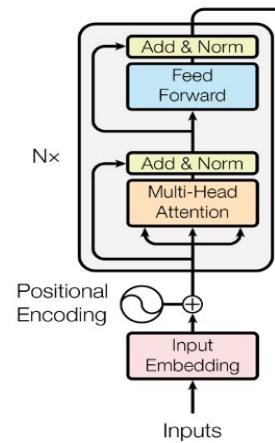
$$P = \begin{matrix} \text{Spaghetti} \\ \text{monster} \\ \text{is} \\ \text{great} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sin\left(\frac{0}{10000^{2 \cdot 0/3}}\right) & \cos\left(\frac{0}{10000^{2 \cdot 1/2}}\right) & \sin\left(\frac{0}{10000^{2 \cdot 2/3}}\right) \\ \sin\left(\frac{1}{10000^{2 \cdot 0/3}}\right) & \cos\left(\frac{1}{10000^{2 \cdot 1/2}}\right) & \sin\left(\frac{1}{10000^{2 \cdot 2/3}}\right) \\ \sin\left(\frac{2}{10000^{2 \cdot 0/3}}\right) & \cos\left(\frac{2}{10000^{2 \cdot 1/2}}\right) & \sin\left(\frac{2}{10000^{2 \cdot 2/3}}\right) \\ \sin\left(\frac{3}{10000^{2 \cdot 0/3}}\right) & \cos\left(\frac{3}{10000^{2 \cdot 1/2}}\right) & \sin\left(\frac{3}{10000^{2 \cdot 2/3}}\right) \end{bmatrix}$$

Other components missing from encoder?



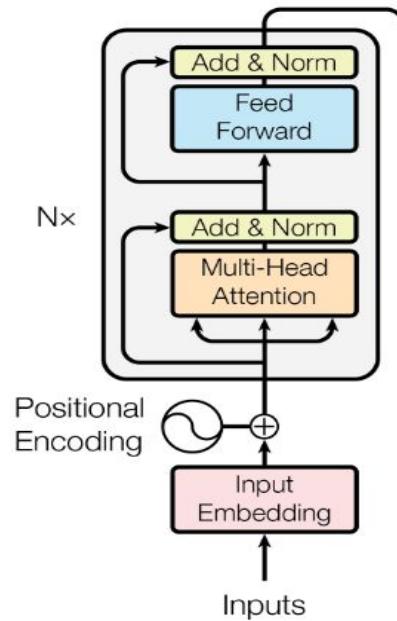
Other components missing from encoder?

- Feed-forward
- Add & Norm

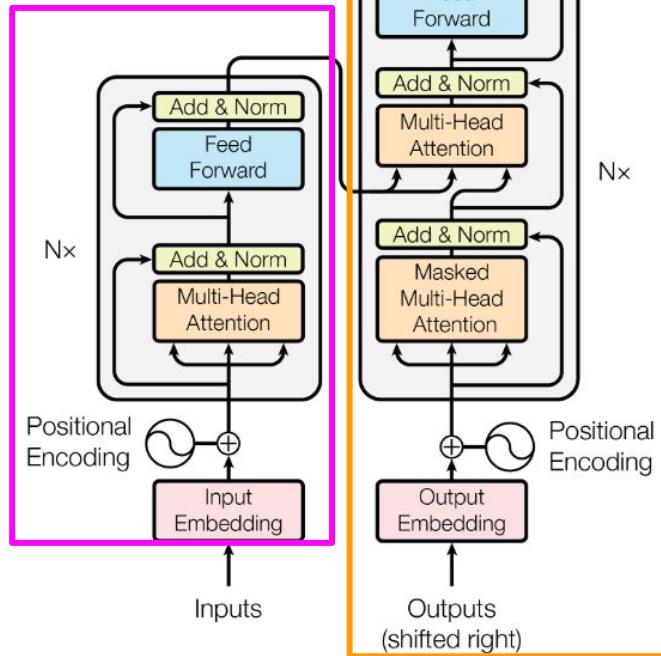


Why feedforward?

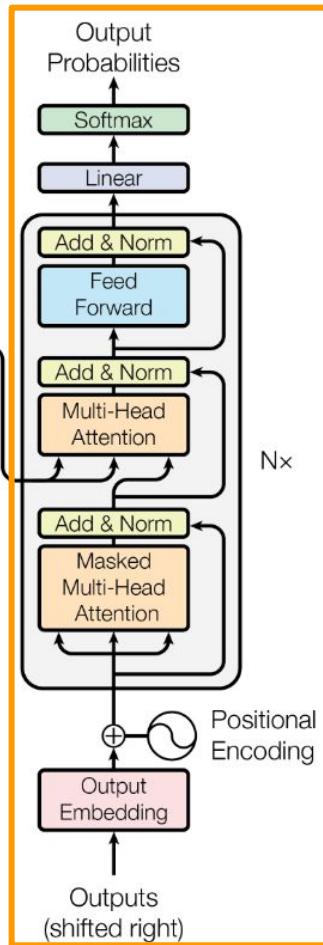
How do Add and Norm
work for real?



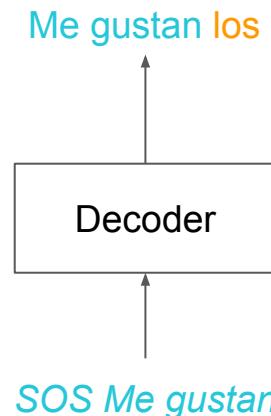
Encoder



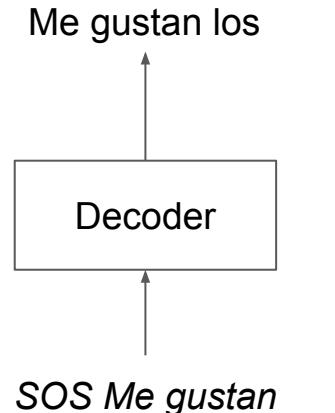
Decoder



Training / inference discrepancy

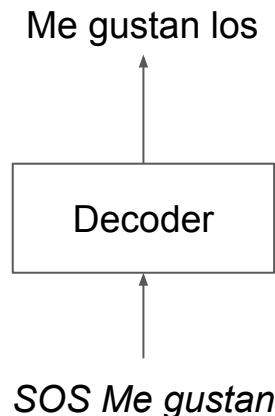


Training / inference discrepancy



What decoder knows during inference
SOS me gustan

Training / inference discrepancy



What decoder knows during inference
SOS me gustan

What decoder knows during training
SOS me gustan los gatos

Masked multi-head attention

$$Z_i(Q_i, K_i, V_i) = \text{softmax} \left(\frac{Q_i K_i^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) V_i$$

Masked multi-head attention

$$\frac{Q_i K_i^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} = \begin{matrix} & \text{sos} & \text{me} & \text{gustan} & \text{los} & \text{gatos} \\ \text{sos} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.3 & 0.8 & 1.3 & 2.8 & 2.3 \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{me} & \begin{bmatrix} 2.4 & 2.8 & 2.3 & 6.8 & 1.9 \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{gustan} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.6 & 7.4 & 1.6 & 0.3 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{los} & \begin{bmatrix} 2.1 & 1.2 & 9.3 & 5.2 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{gatos} & \begin{bmatrix} 4.3 & 3.8 & 6.3 & 1.8 & 2.3 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Masked multi-head attention

$$\frac{Q_i K_i^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} = \begin{matrix} \text{sos} \\ \text{me} \\ \text{gustan} \\ \text{los} \\ \text{gatos} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1.3 & 0.8 & 1.3 & 2.8 & 2.3 \\ 2.4 & 2.8 & 2.3 & 6.8 & 1.9 \\ 1.6 & 7.4 & 1.6 & 0.3 & 0.5 \\ 2.1 & 1.2 & 9.3 & 5.2 & 0.2 \\ 4.3 & 3.8 & 6.3 & 1.8 & 2.3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Masked multi-head attention

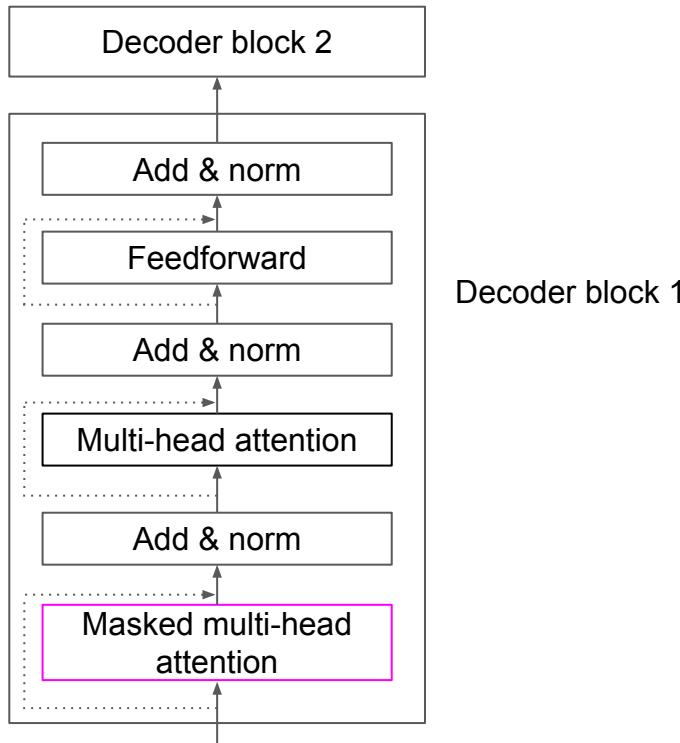
$$\frac{Q_i K_i^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} = \begin{matrix} \text{sos} \\ \text{me} \\ \text{gustan} \\ \text{los} \\ \text{gatos} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{sos} & \text{me} & \text{gustan} & \text{los} & \text{gatos} \\ 1.3 & \cancel{0.8} & \cancel{1.3} & \cancel{2.8} & \cancel{2.3} \\ 2.4 & 2.8 & 2.3 & 6.8 & 1.9 \\ 1.6 & 7.4 & 1.6 & 0.3 & 0.5 \\ 2.1 & 1.2 & 9.3 & 5.2 & 0.2 \\ 4.3 & 3.8 & 6.3 & 1.8 & 2.3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Masked multi-head attention

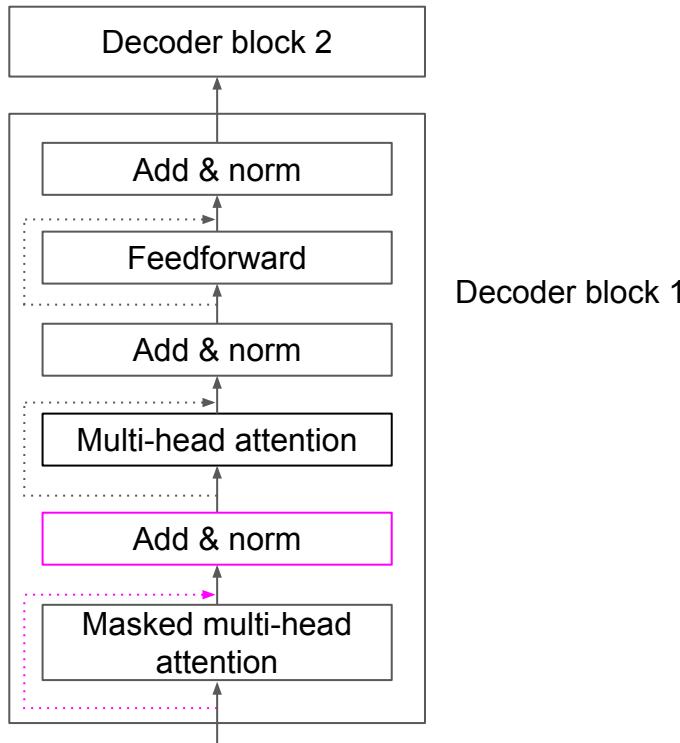
$$\frac{Q_i K_i^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} = \begin{matrix} & \text{sos} & \text{me} & \text{gustan} & \text{los} & \text{gatos} \\ \text{sos} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.3 & -\infty & -\infty & -\infty & -\infty \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{me} & \begin{bmatrix} 2.4 & 2.8 & -\infty & -\infty & -\infty \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{gustan} & \begin{bmatrix} 1.6 & 7.4 & 1.6 & -\infty & -\infty \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{los} & \begin{bmatrix} 2.1 & 1.2 & 9.3 & 5.2 & -\infty \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{gatos} & \begin{bmatrix} 4.3 & 3.8 & 6.3 & 1.8 & 2.3 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

What does softmax spit
when it encounters the
-infinity mask?

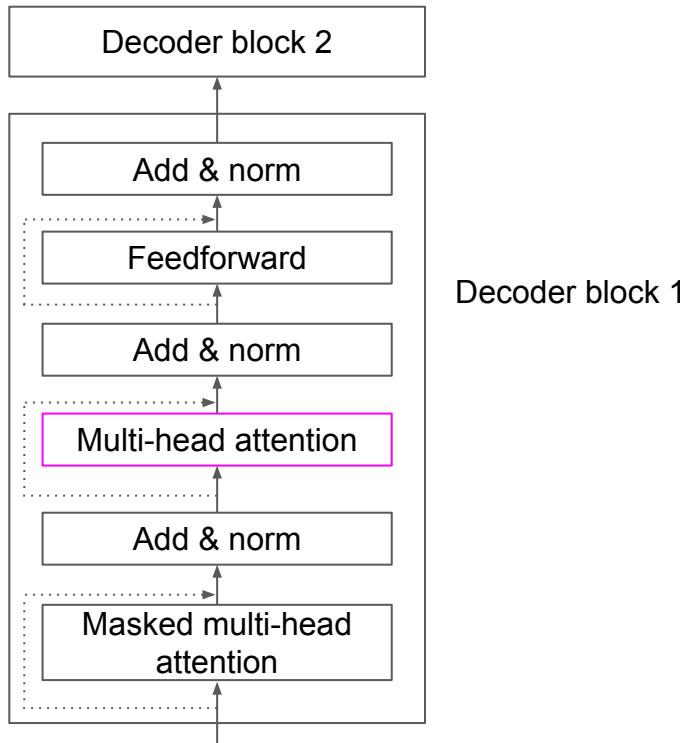
Decoder block



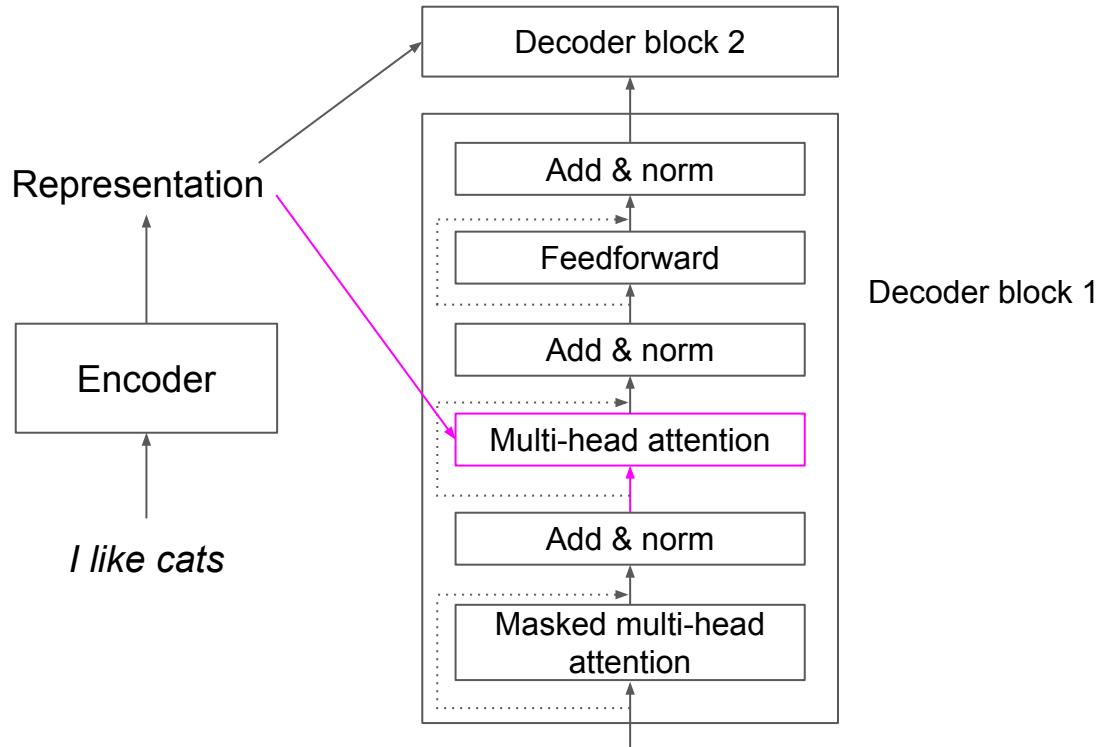
Decoder block



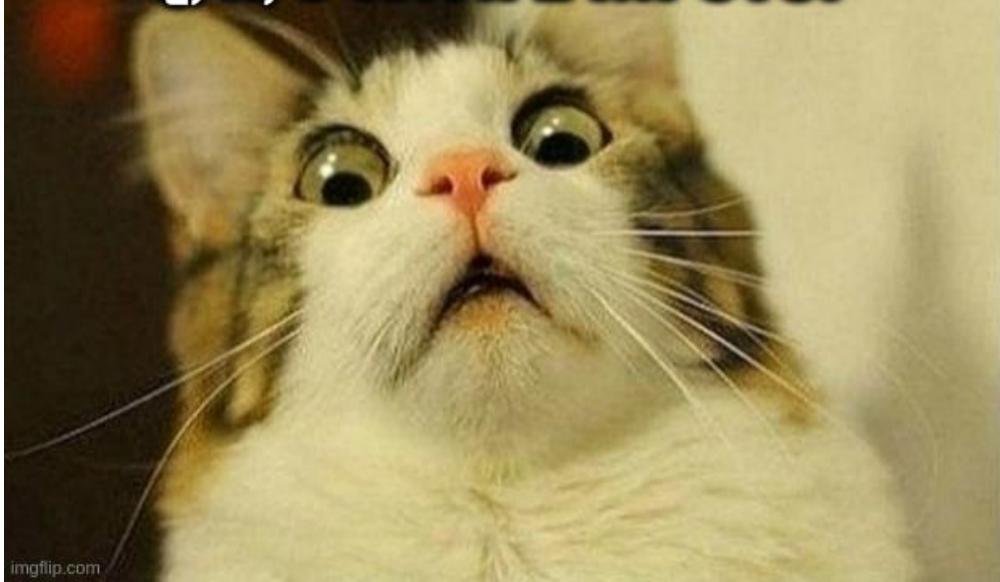
Decoder block



Decoder block



**HOW CAN WE DERIVE
Q, K, V WITH 2 INPUTS?**



Deriving Q, K, V

- Query matrix (Q) from masked attention input
- Key (K) and value (V) matrices from encoder representation

$$MW_Q = Q$$

$$RW_K = K$$

$$RW_V = V$$

Deriving Q, K, V

- Q holds representation of target sentence
- K, V hold representation of source sentence

Why do we derive Q
from target, and K, V
from source?

Deriving attention matrix

$$Z = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} I & like & cats \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} SOS \\ me \\ gustan \\ los \\ gatos \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & 0.2 & 0.1 \\ 0.6 & 0.3 & 0.1 \\ 0.1 & 0.8 & 0.1 \\ 0.1 & 0.3 & 0.6 \\ 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} I & like & cats \end{matrix} \\ & \begin{bmatrix} 0.4 & 1.0 \\ 1.2 & 2.8 \\ 1.7 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix}^{\begin{matrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{matrix}} \\ & = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \vec{z}_1 \\ \vec{z}_2 \\ \vec{z}_3 \\ \vec{z}_4 \\ \vec{z}_5 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} \text{sos} \\ \text{me} \\ \text{gustan} \\ \text{los} \\ \text{gatos} \end{matrix} & \end{matrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$\vec{z}_3 = 0.1\vec{v}_1 + 0.8\vec{v}_2 + 0.1\vec{v}_3$$

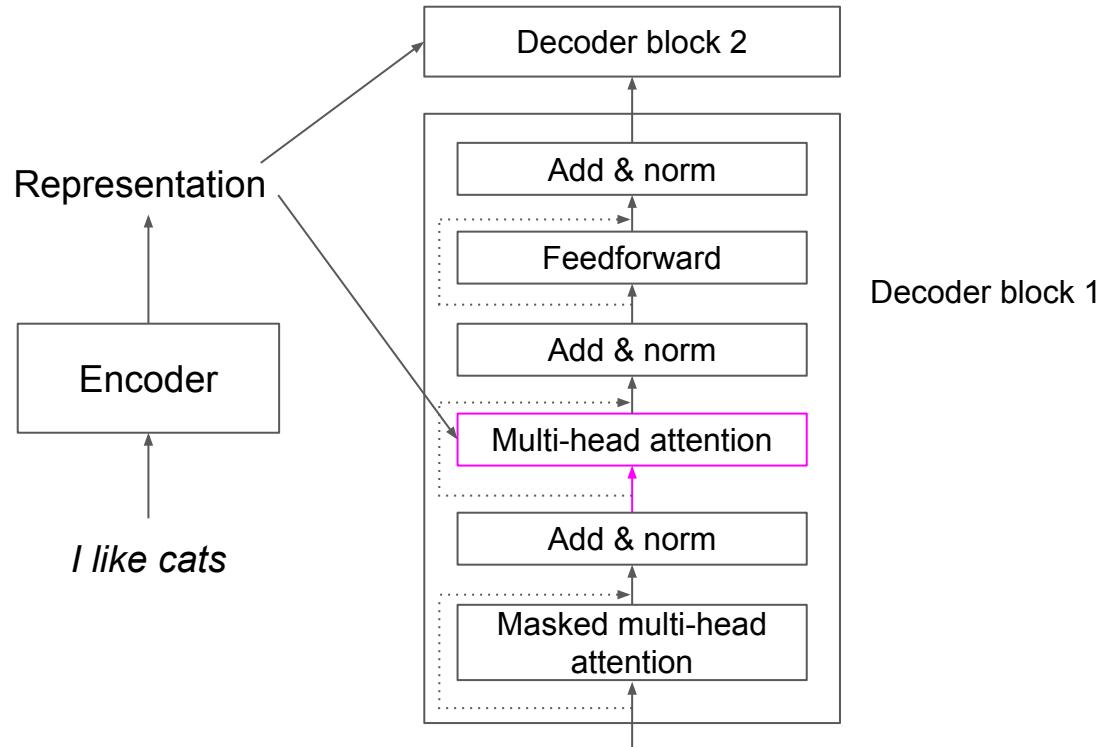
gustan

|

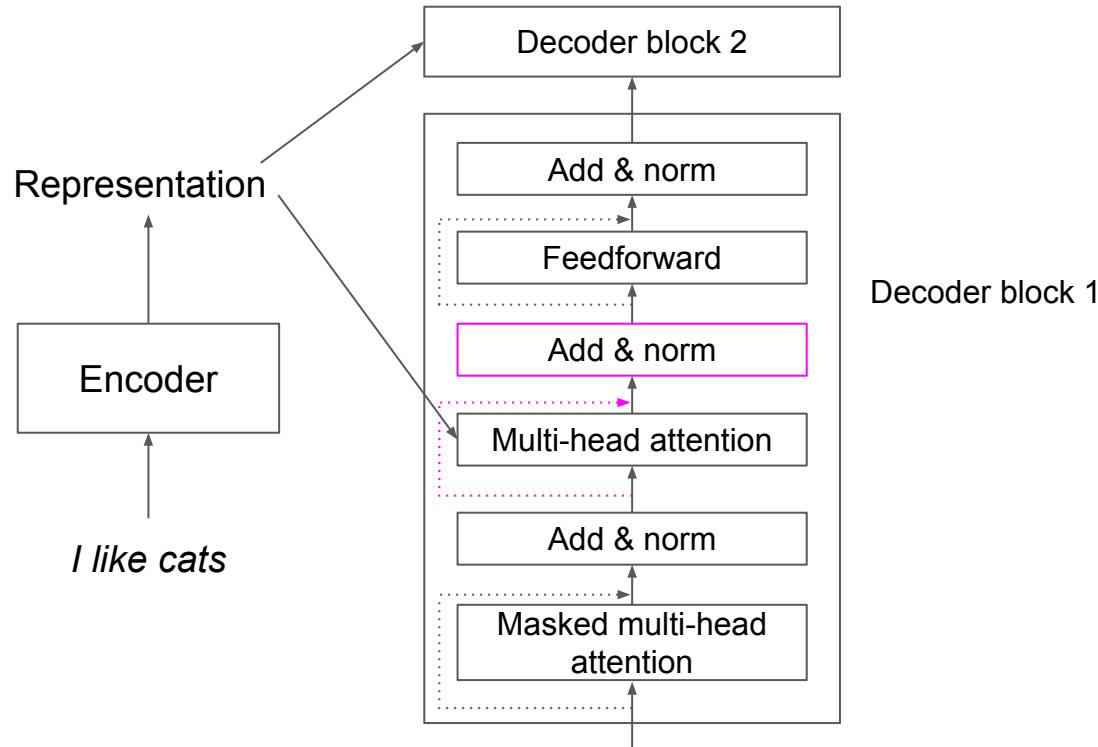
like

cats

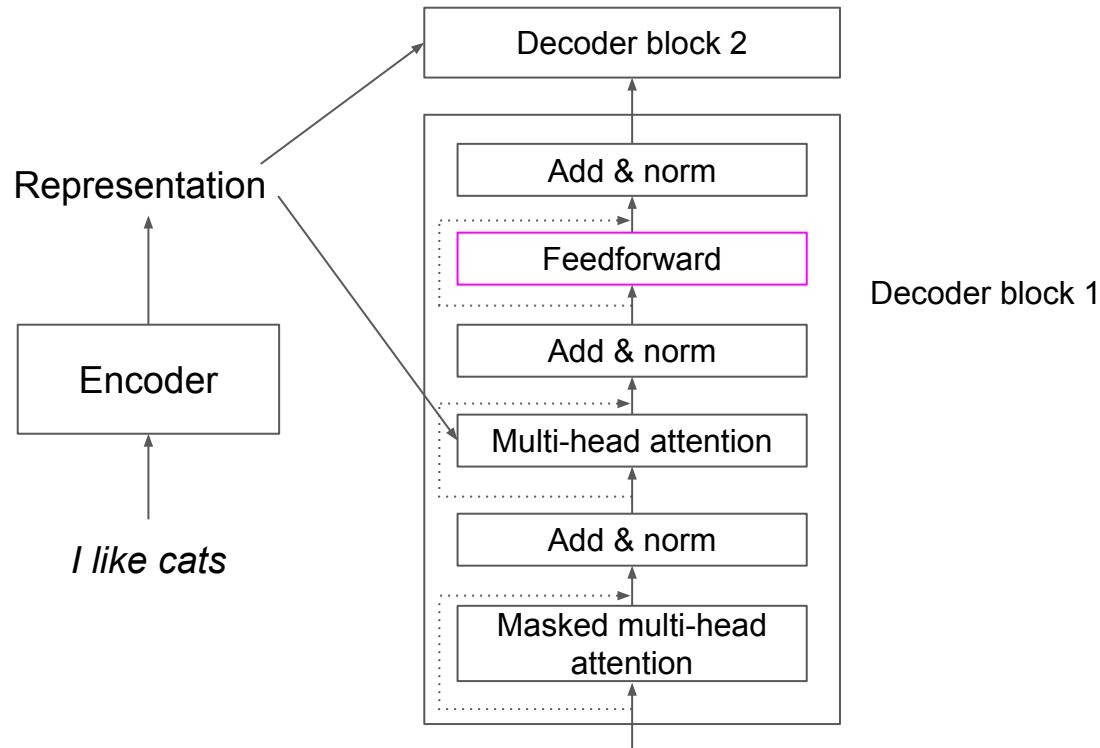
Decoder block



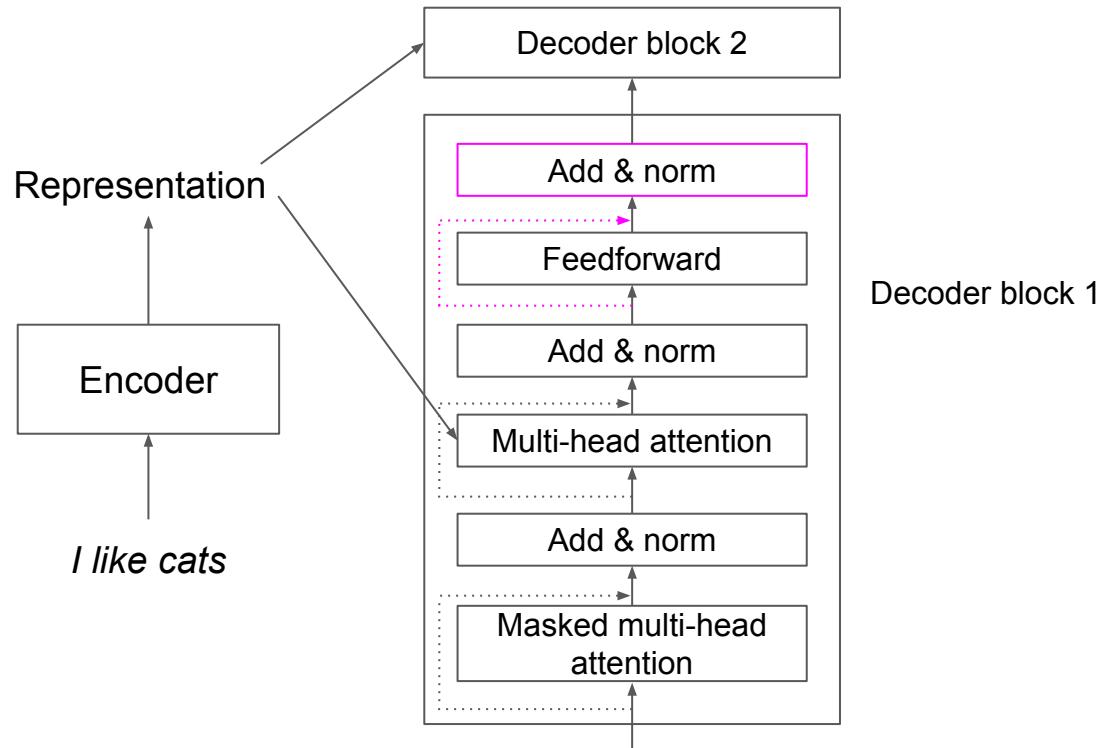
Decoder block



Decoder block

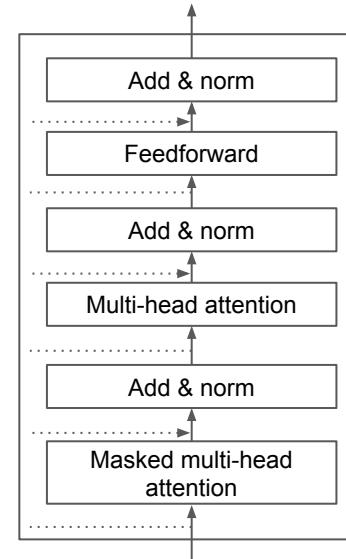


Decoder block

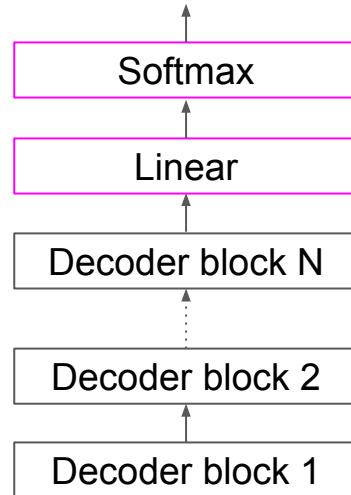


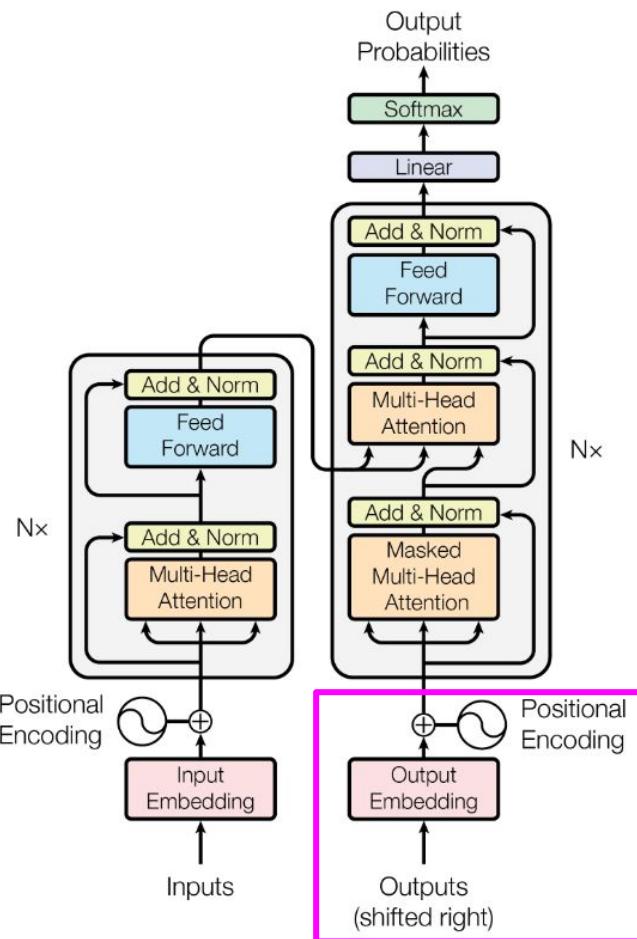
What's the deeper meaning?

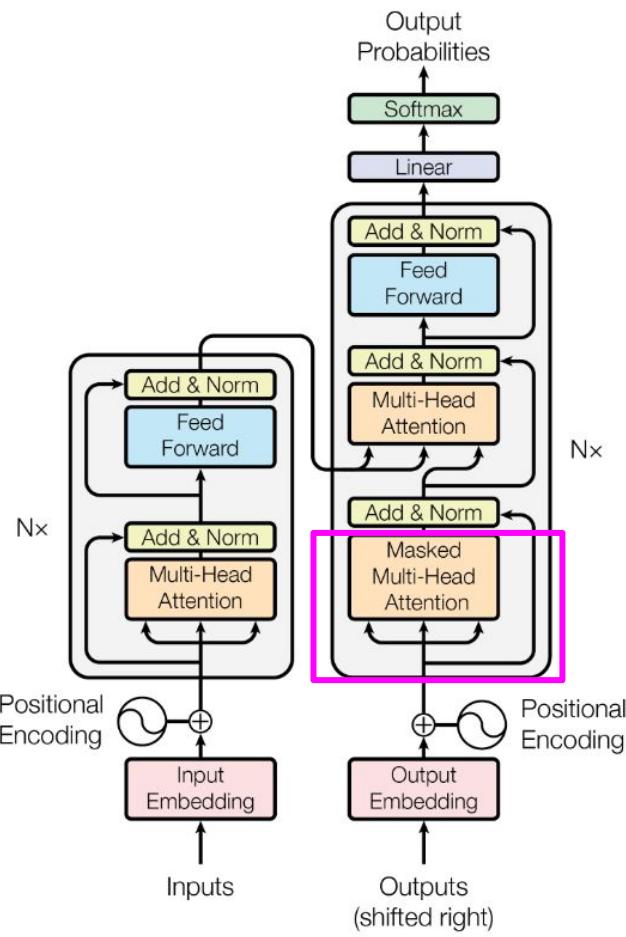
- Masked multi-head attention
- Multi-head attention
- Feedforward
- Add & Norm

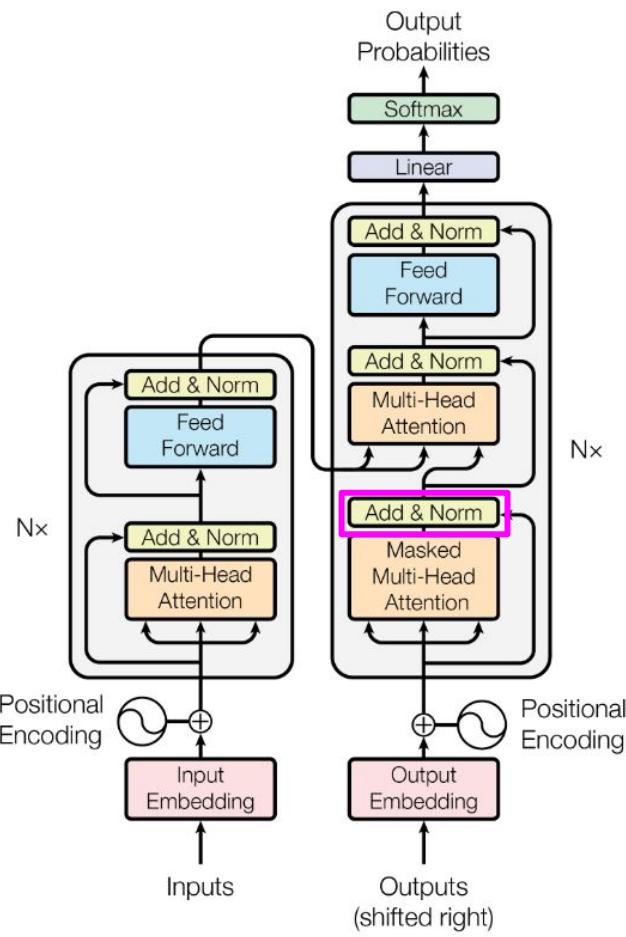


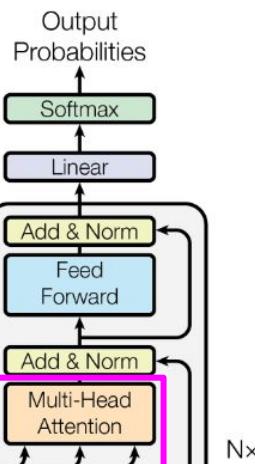
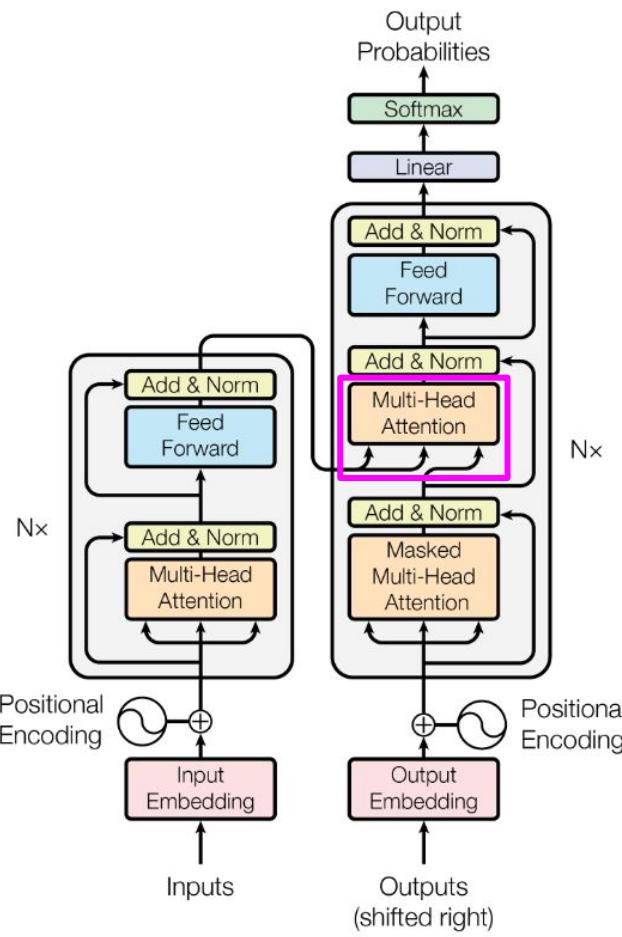
Linear & softmax layers

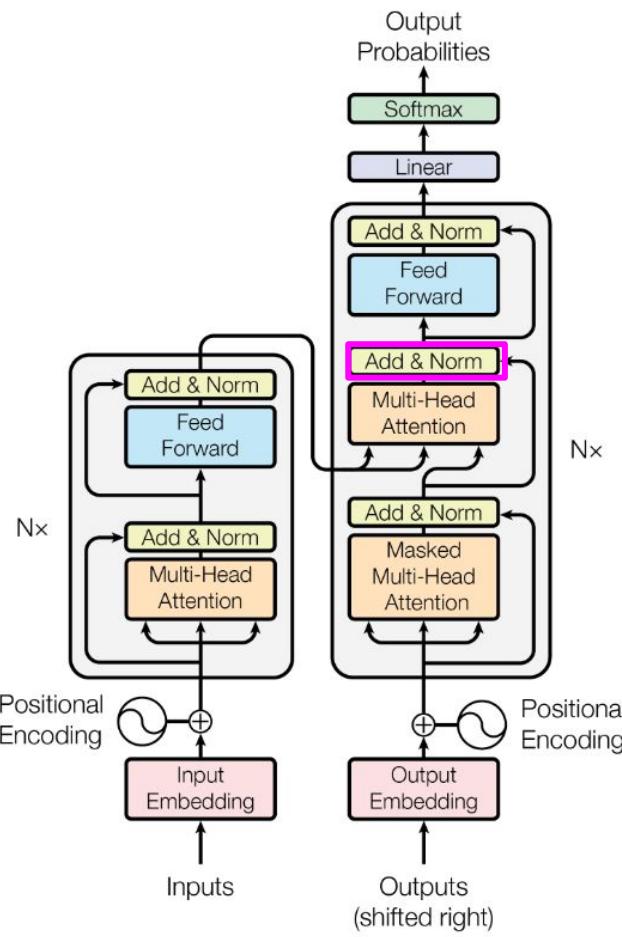


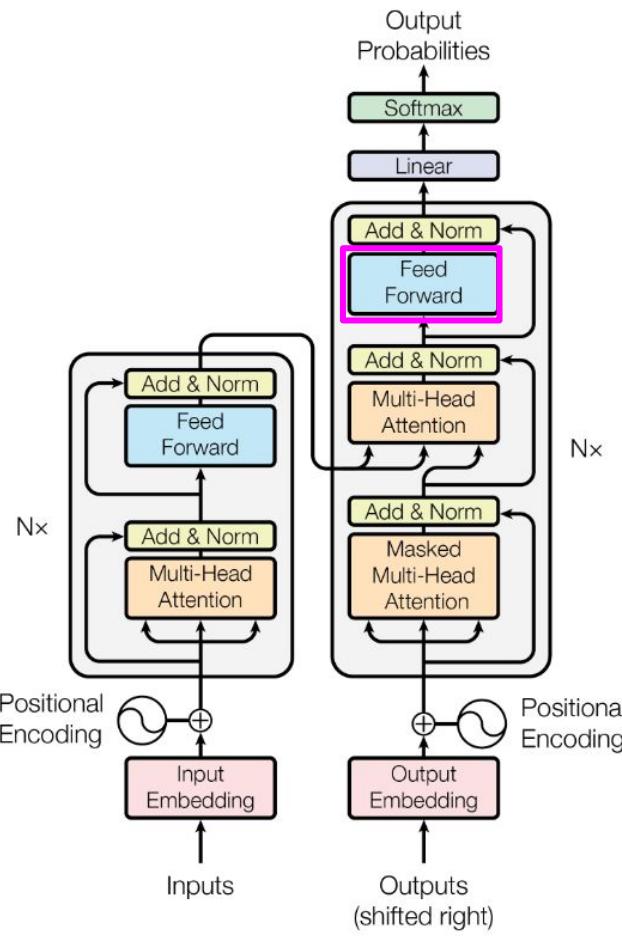


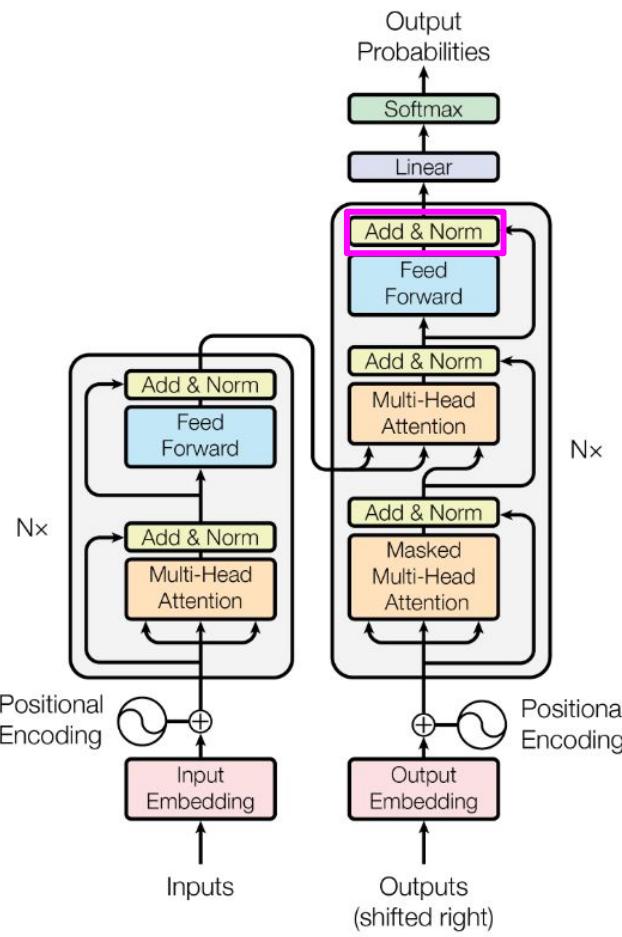


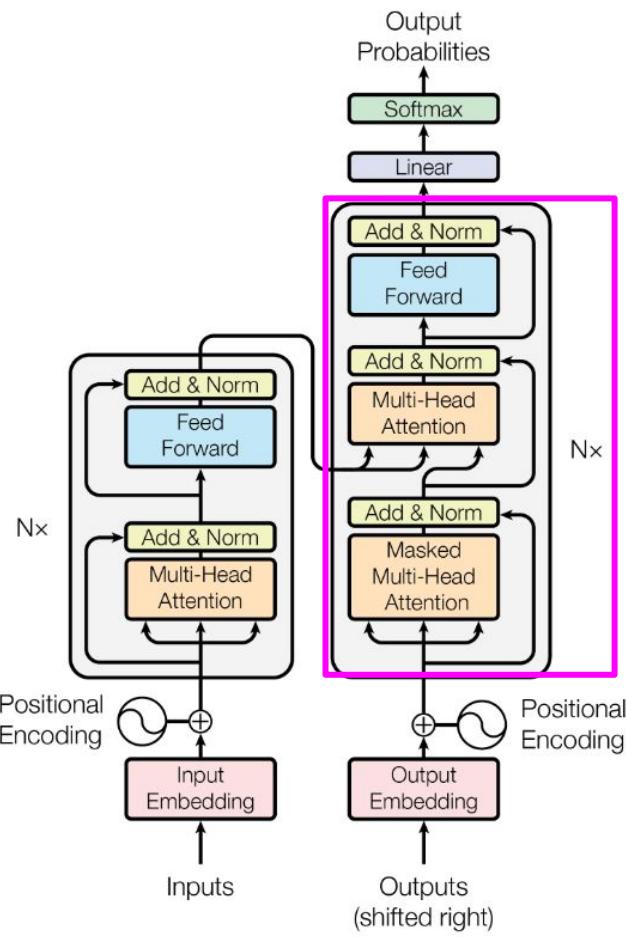


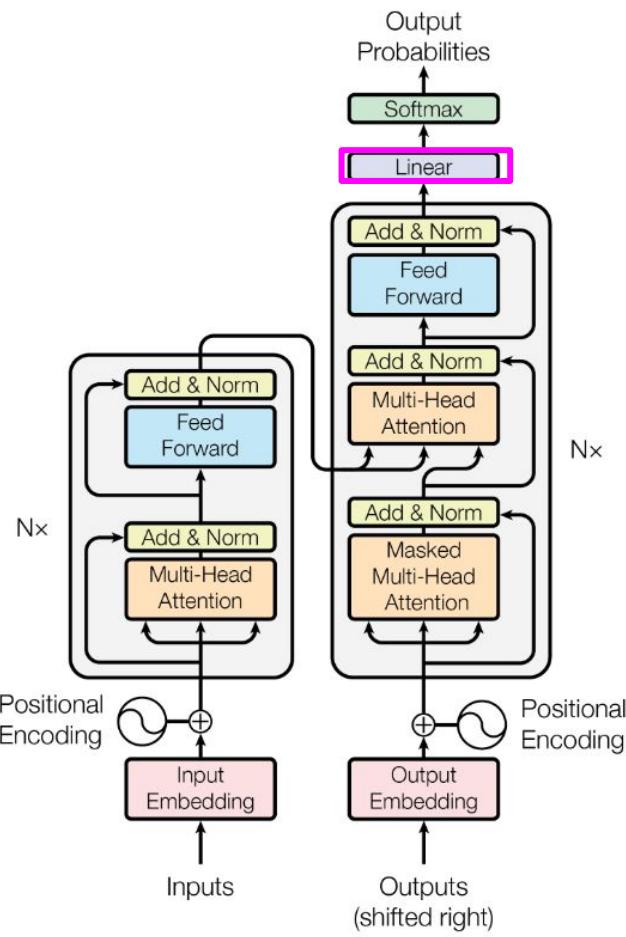


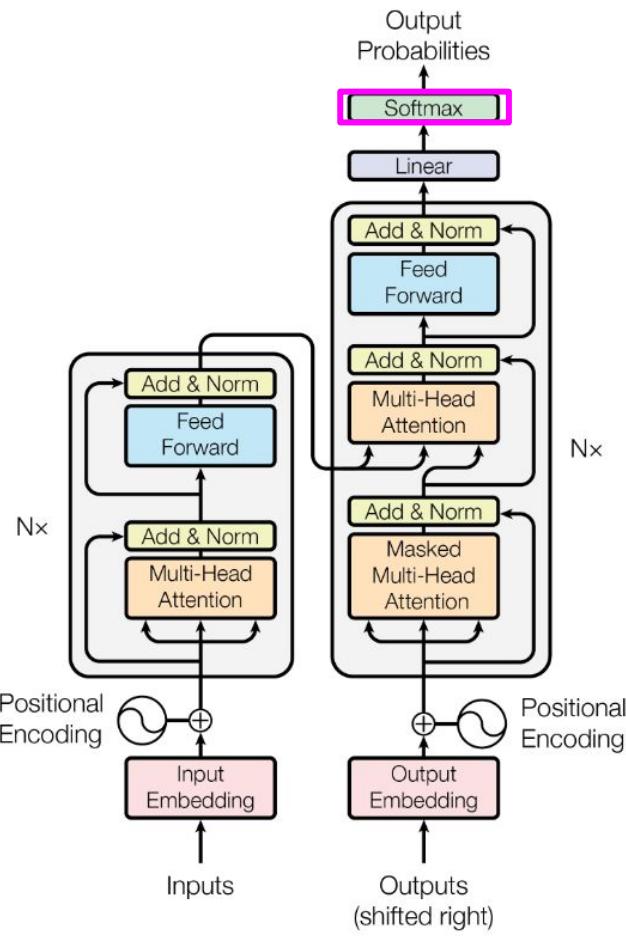


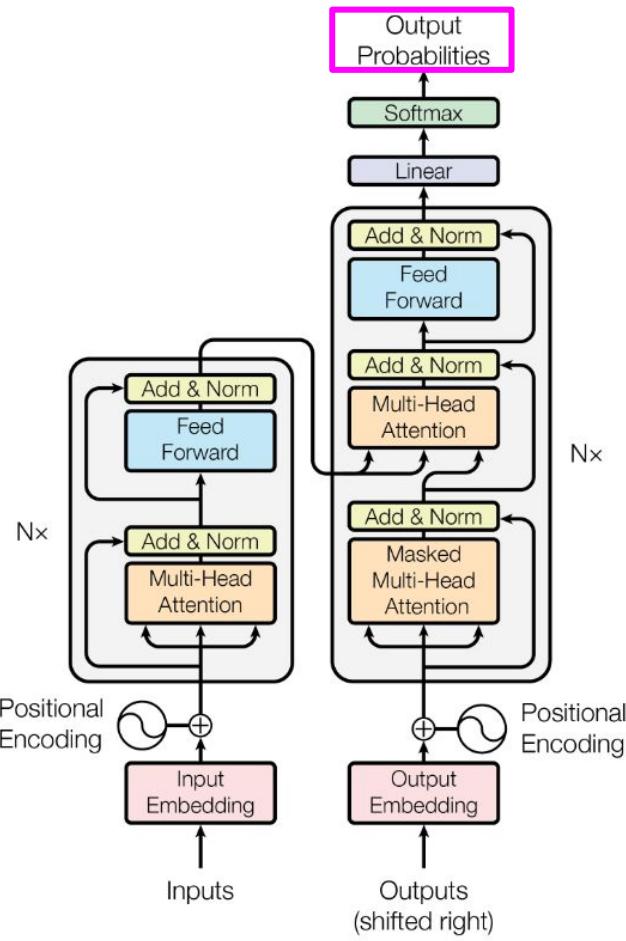












After all of this, why
encoder + decoder?

YOU'VE MADE IT



CONGRATS!

My experience with Transformers

- Most capable model

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- Most capable model
- Massive amount of music data needed

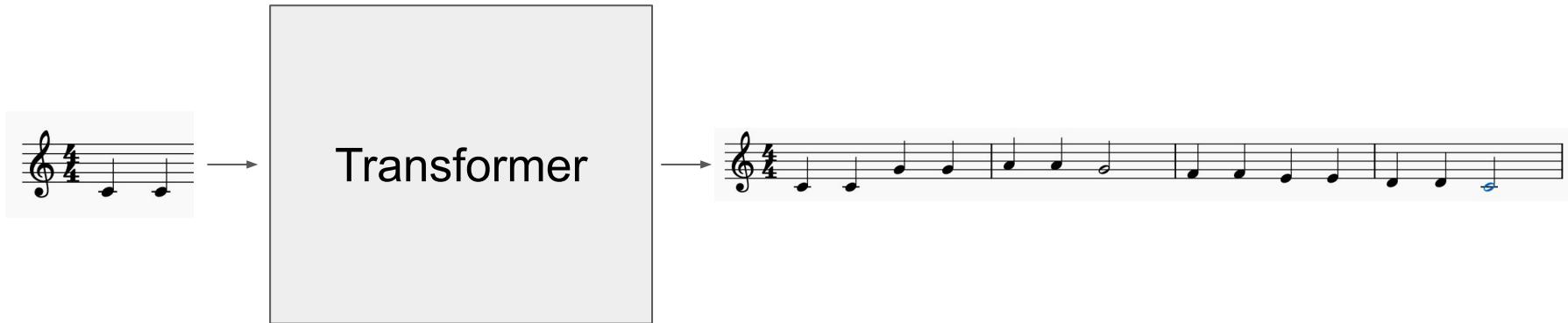
My experience with Transformers

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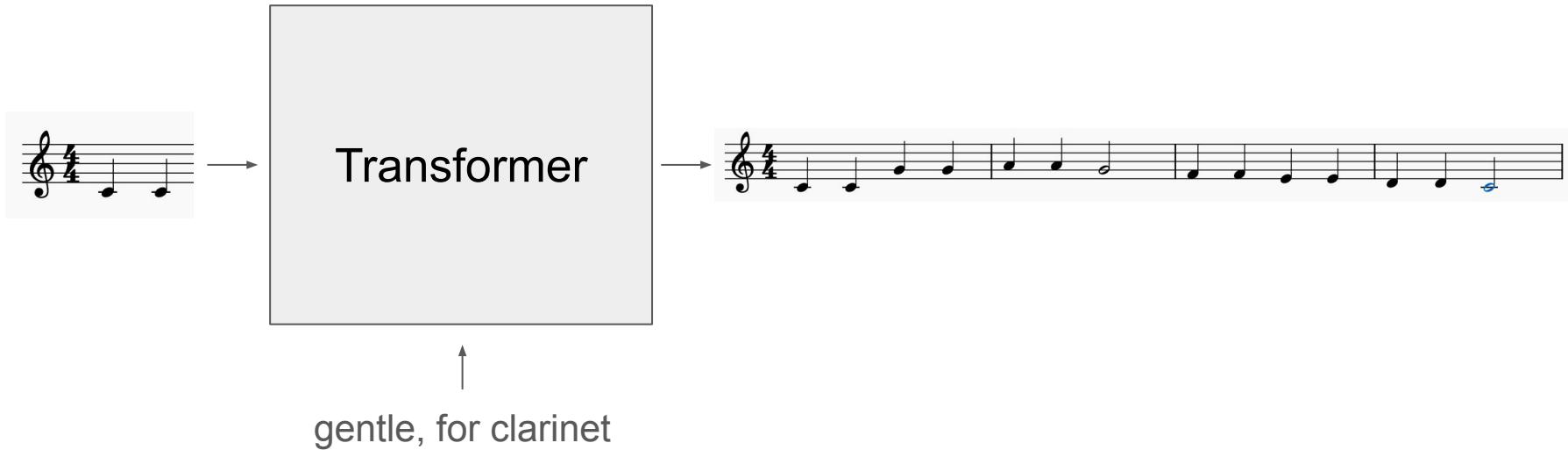
My experience with Transformers

- Most capable model
- Massive amount of music data needed
- Music theory bozo
- Music representation is everything

Lack of creative control



Lack of creative control



**AI ENGINEERS WHO THROW AI AND
BRUTE-FORCE AT MUSIC GENERATION TASKS**



**IGNORING ALL
MUSIC KNOWLEDGE**

My idea

- 2-level transformer
- Level 1: Generate high-level music representation
- Level 2: Fill the notes for level 1

My idea: Music representation



**PITCH,
DURATION**



**FORM, HARMONY,
MELODIC CONTOUR,
MUSIC GESTURES,...**

Music gestures: Examples

- Melodic
 - Running scale up
 - Running scale down
- Harmonic
 - Perfect cadence
- Structure
 - Repetition
 - Variation

BEING
AN ESSAY
ON
VARIOUS
SCHEMATA
CHARACTERISTIC OF
EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY
MUSIC
FOR COURTY CHAMBERS,
CHAPELS, AND THEATERS,
INCLUDING TASTFUL
PASSAGES OF MUSIC
DRAWN FROM
MOST EXCELLENT
CHAPEL MASTERS
IN THE EMPLOY OF
NOBLE AND NOTEWORTHY
PERSONAGES,
Said Music
All Collected for the
Reader's Delectation
on the
World Wide Web

MUSIC
in the
GALANT STYLE



ROBERT O. GJERDINGEN

Theme

MEYER

PRINNER

CADENCE

FONTE

MONTE

VI CADENCE

MEYER

PRINNER

CADENCE

My idea: Level 1 music representation

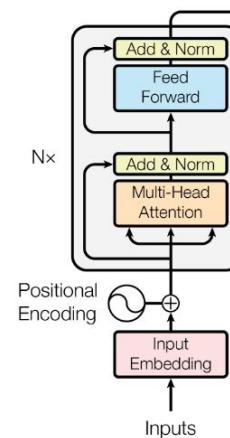
- High-level description of symbolic music

My idea: Level 1 music representation

- High-level description of symbolic music
- Easier to learn
- More coherent generation
- Controllable

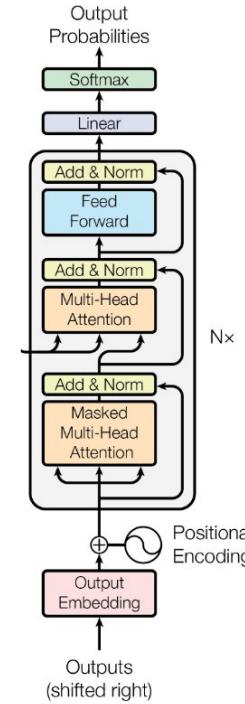
3 types of Transformer architectures

- Encoder only (BERT, MERT)



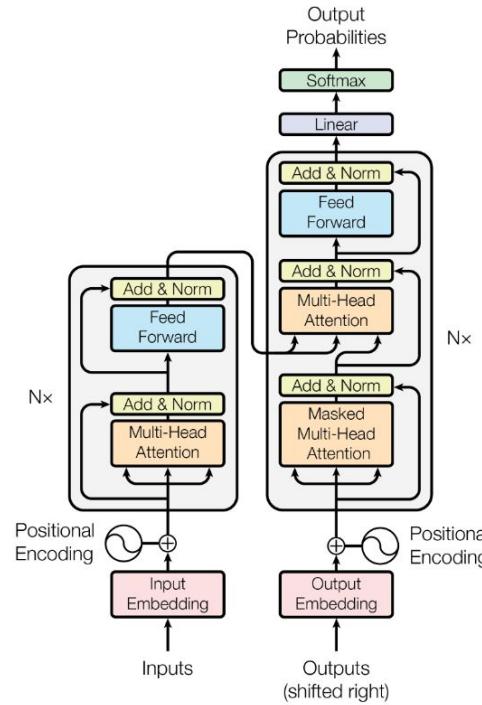
3 types of Transformer architectures

- Encoder only (BERT, MERT)
- Decoder only (GPT, MuPT)



3 types of Transformer architectures

- Encoder only (BERT, MERT)
- Decoder only (GPT, MuPT)
- Encoder - decoder



How can you condition
music generation on
text (*a la* Suno)?

How do we condition generation?

1. Single prompt (decoder)

[text tokens] <SEP> [music tokens]

How do we condition generation?

1. Single prompt (decoder)
2. Special tokens + segment embeddings (decoder)

<TEXT> blah blah </TEXT>
<MUSIC> ... </MUSIC>

How do we condition generation?

1. Single prompt (decoder)
2. Special tokens + segment embeddings (decoder)
3. Prefix conditioning with learned embeddings (decoder)

[prefix embeddings] + [music tokens]

How do we condition generation?

1. Single prompt (decoder)
2. Special tokens + segment embeddings (decoder)
3. Prefix conditioning with learned embeddings (decoder)
4. Encoder - decoder conditioning

How do we condition generation?

1. Single prompt (decoder)
2. Special tokens + segment embeddings (decoder)
3. Prefix conditioning with learned embeddings (decoder)
4. Encoder - decoder conditioning
5. Multi-stream encoder - decoder conditioning

Can transformers
create truly original
music? Can they get
us to transformational
creativity?

Tips for using Transformers

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Tips for using Transformers

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- Augment music data
- When using pre-trained models:
 - Fine-tune
 - Distillation

Bridging symbolic and audio

- Come up with a strategy / new architecture to repurpose the Transformer architecture for audio-based music gen.
- What challenges would you face?

ANY QUESTIONS / DOUBTS/ IDEAS?

