

Transformers Part 1

Lecture 17
Subir Varma

So Far ...

Lecture 3

Lecture 4

Lecture 10-12

Lecture 13

Lecture 14

Lecture 16

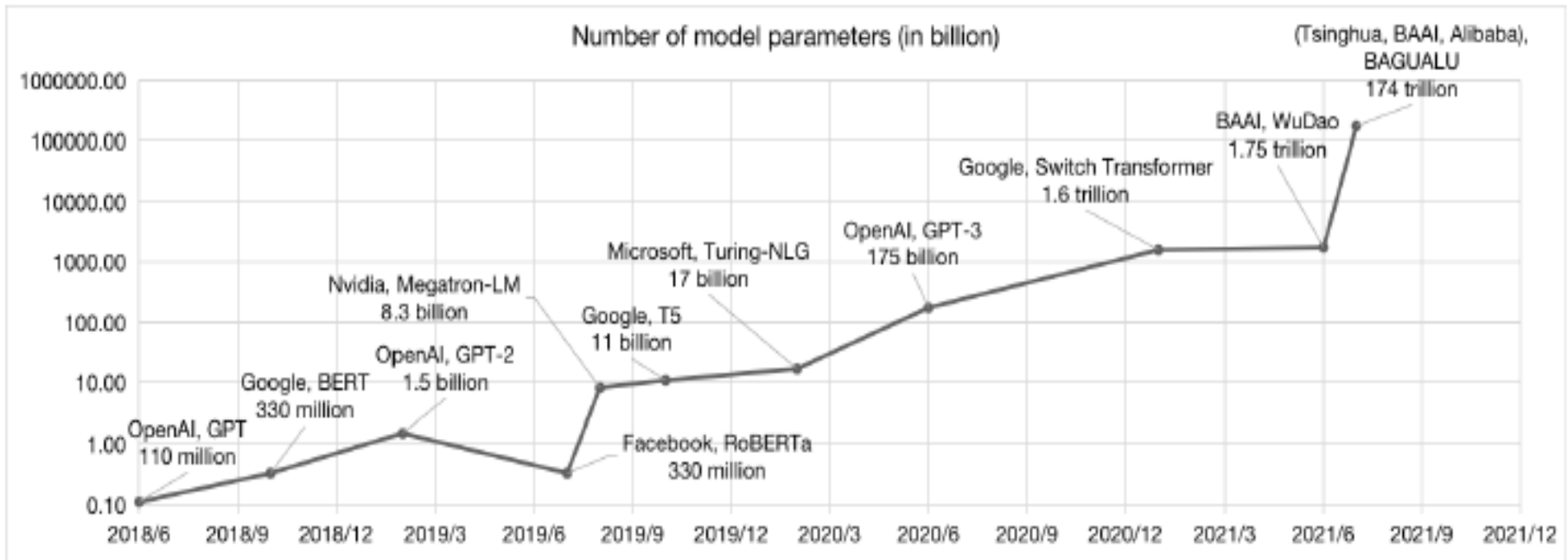
Linear → Dense Feed Forward → ConvNets → RNNs → LSTMs → Attention
(vectors) (images) (sequences)



Next: Transformers

Also used for Sequences

Transformers



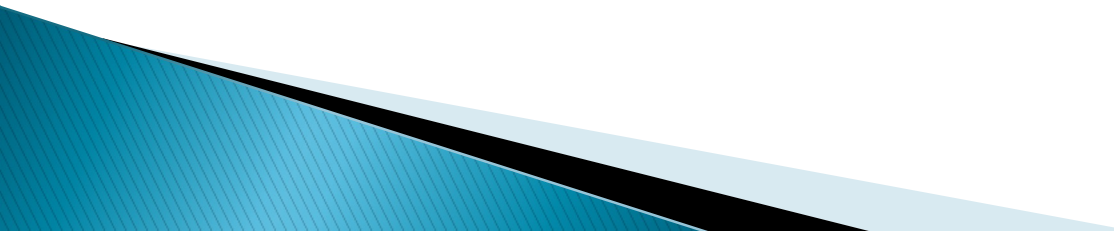
- Has made possible much larger models (higher capacity)
- Can be trained using Self Supervised Learning, so very large datasets are available

Huge
Models

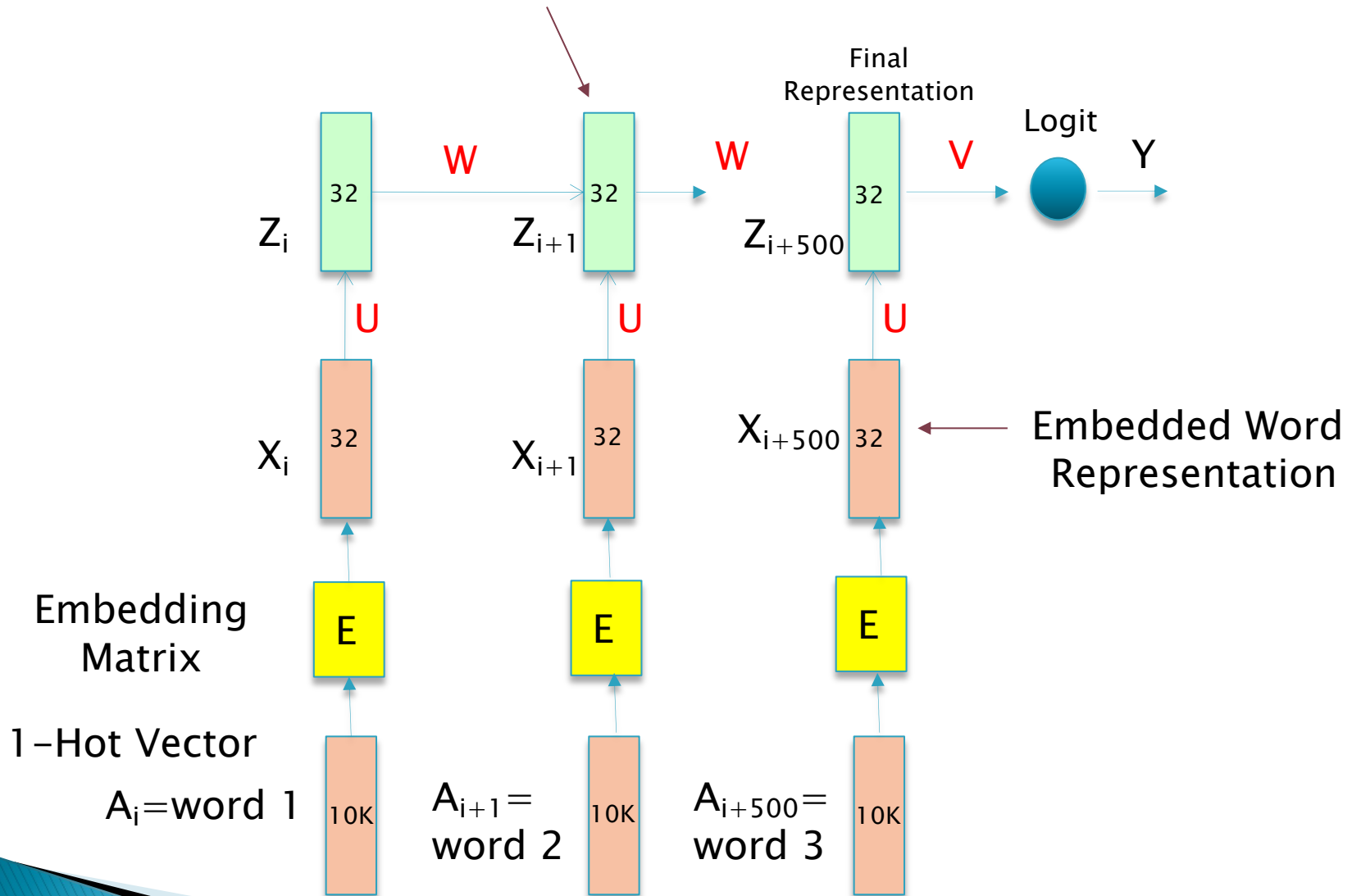


Huge
Datasets

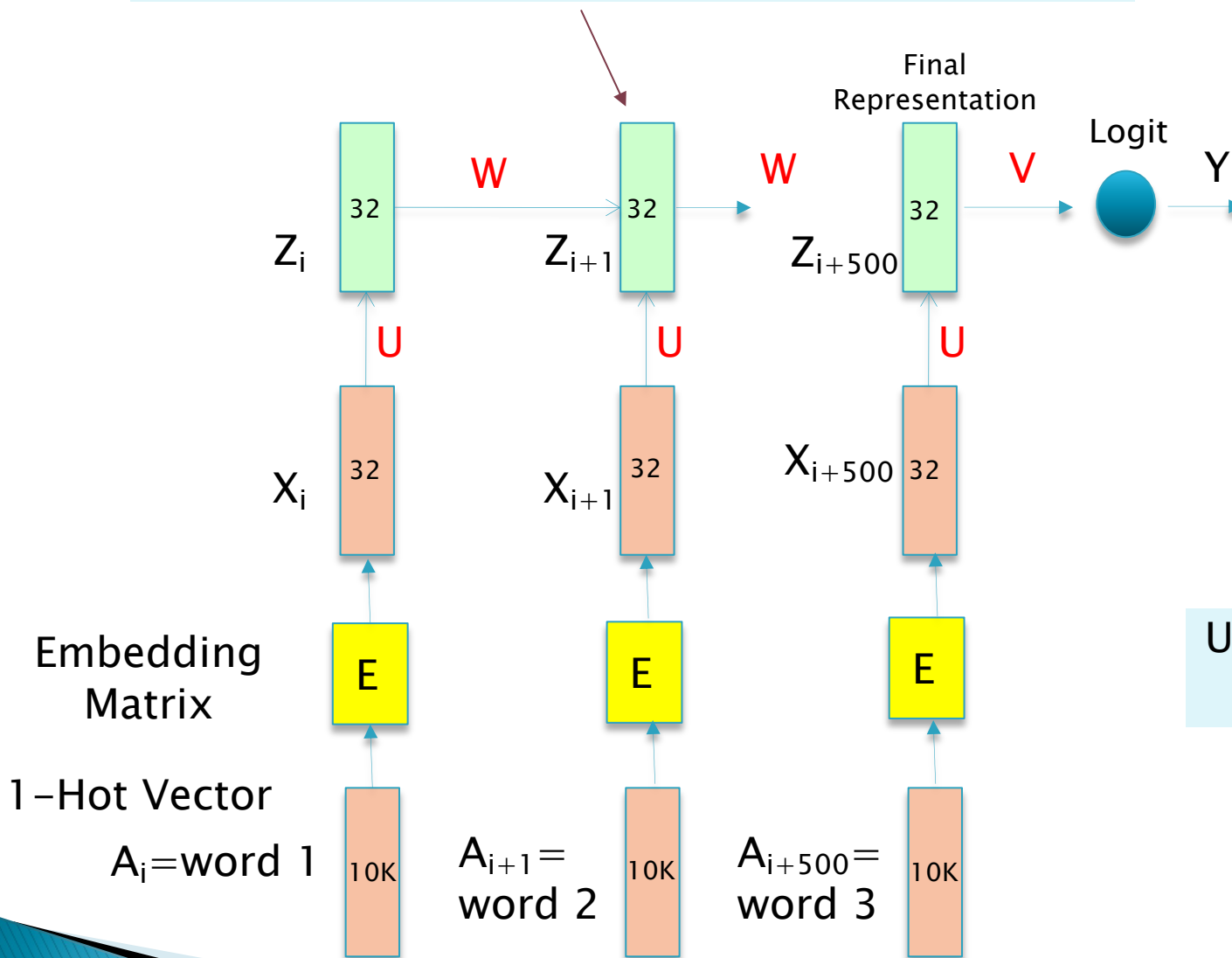
Problems with RNNs/LSTMs

- ▶ Sequential computation prevents parallelization
 - ▶ Despite GRUs and LSTMs, RNNs still need the attention mechanism to deal with long range dependencies – path length for codependent computation between states grows with sequence
 - ▶ But if attention gives us access to any state... maybe we don't need the RNN?
- 

Embedded Word Representation in the context of the other words in the Sentence



But this representation is only a function of the words that came before it



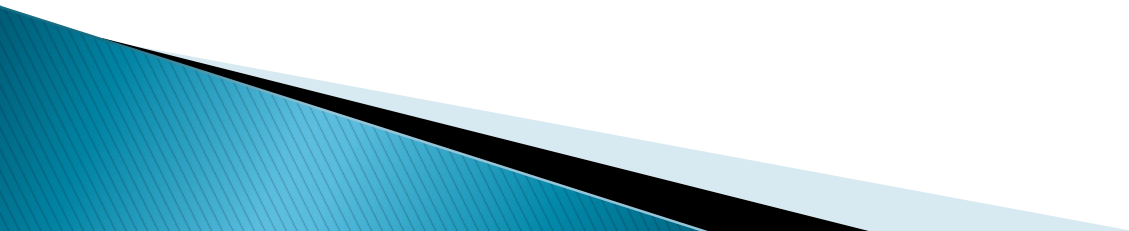
Why not make it a function of all the words in the sentence!

How?

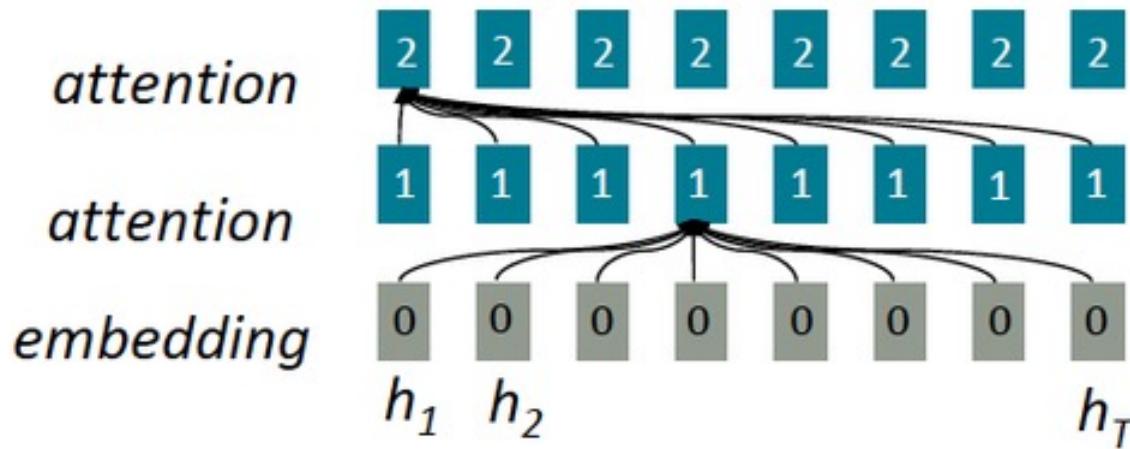


Use the Attention Mechanism

Self Attention



Self Attention



All words attend to all words in previous layer; most arrows here are omitted

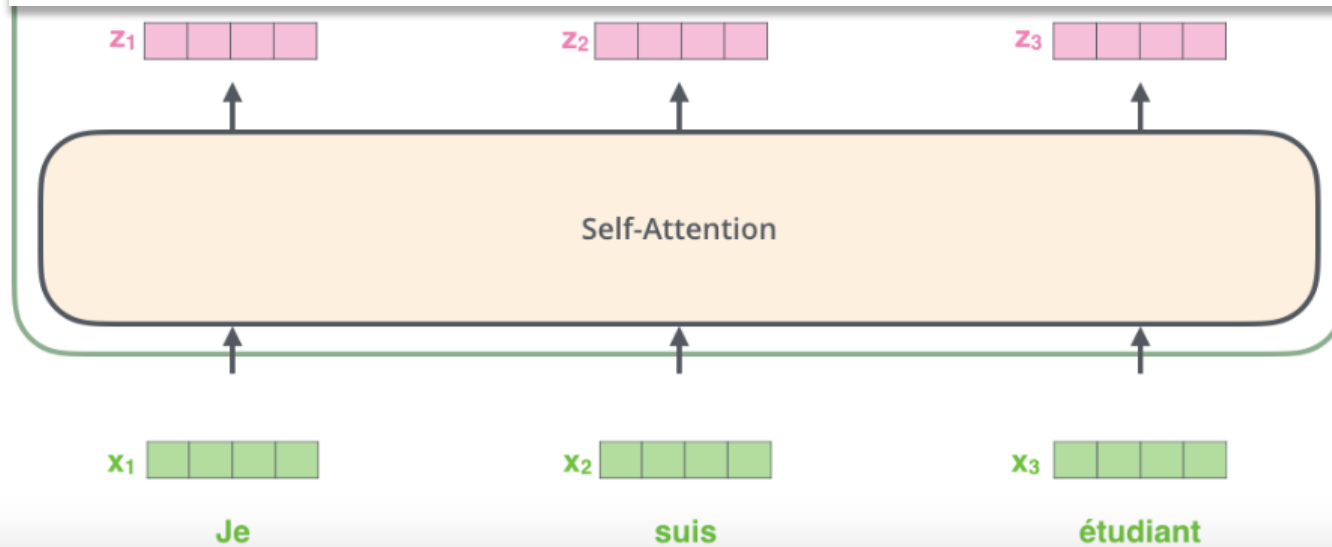
- ▶ The representation of each of the words is modified by every other word in the sequence by using the Self Attention mechanism
- ▶ The idea behind this architecture is that after several layers of Self Attention, each word develops a representation that takes into account all the other words that exist in the sentence.

Self Attention

- ▶ Meaning of a word is context specific:
 - Example: Mark a Date vs Going on a date vs buying date at the market
- ▶ A Smart Embedding technique would provide a different vector representation for a word depending upon the other words surrounding it
- ▶ Self Attention: A way to make Word Representations Context Aware
- ▶ It does so by modulating the the word representation by using the representations of other words in the sentence.

Self Attention (cont)

How to Compute the Self Attention Scores?



Computing Self Attention Scores

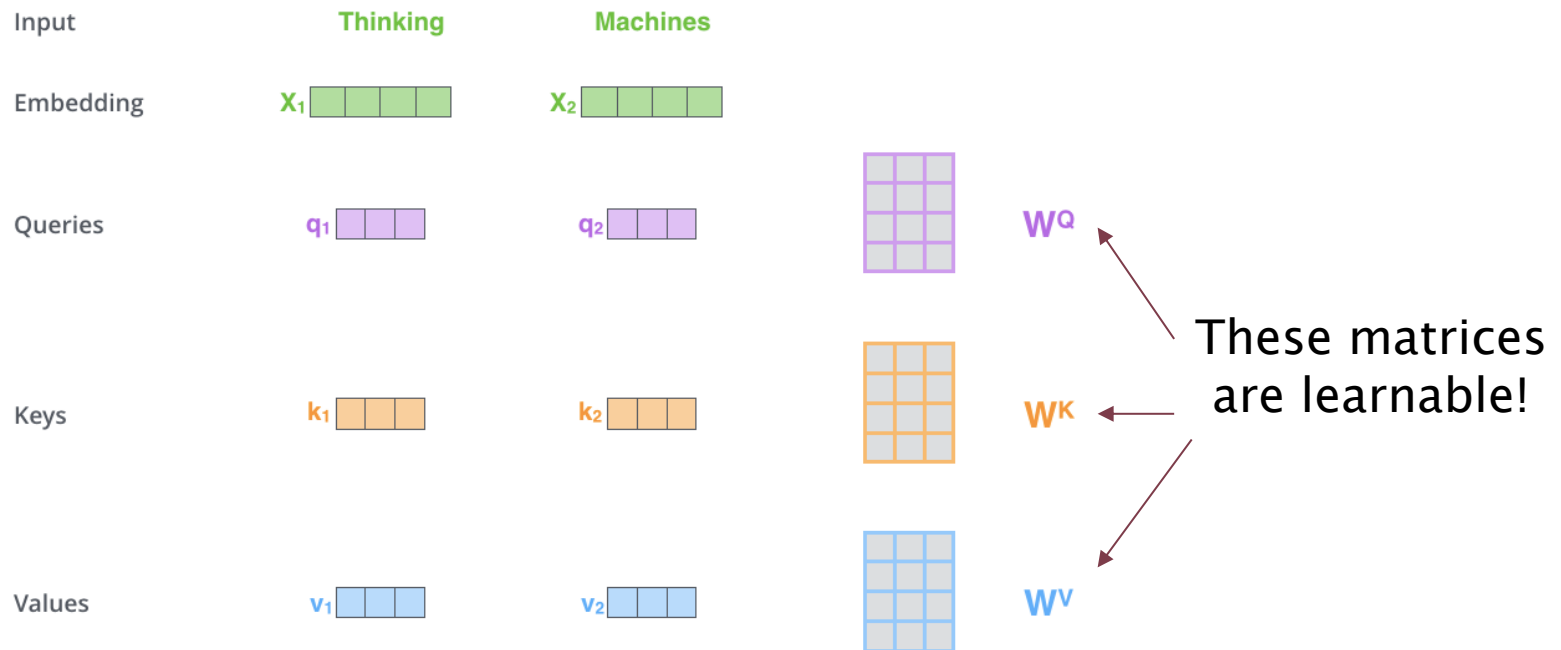
- ▶ Simplest way:

$$a_{ik} = x_i \circ x_k, 1 \leq k \leq n$$
$$w_{ik} = \text{softmax}_k(a_{ik})$$

This technique does not involve any learning since there are no parameters

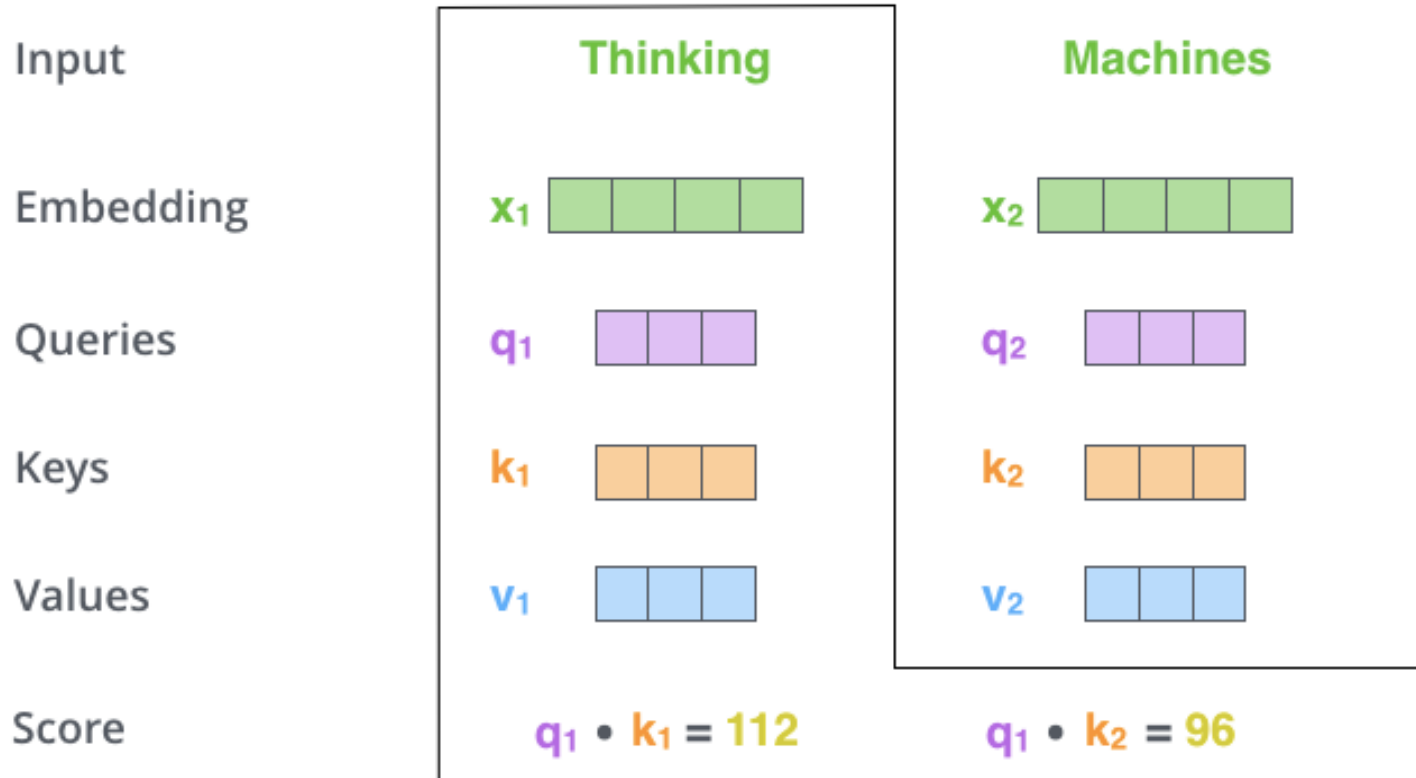
Generalized Self Attention

- ▶ The initial word embeddings are sent through 3 independent sets of dense projections, resulting in 3 separate vectors (per word)

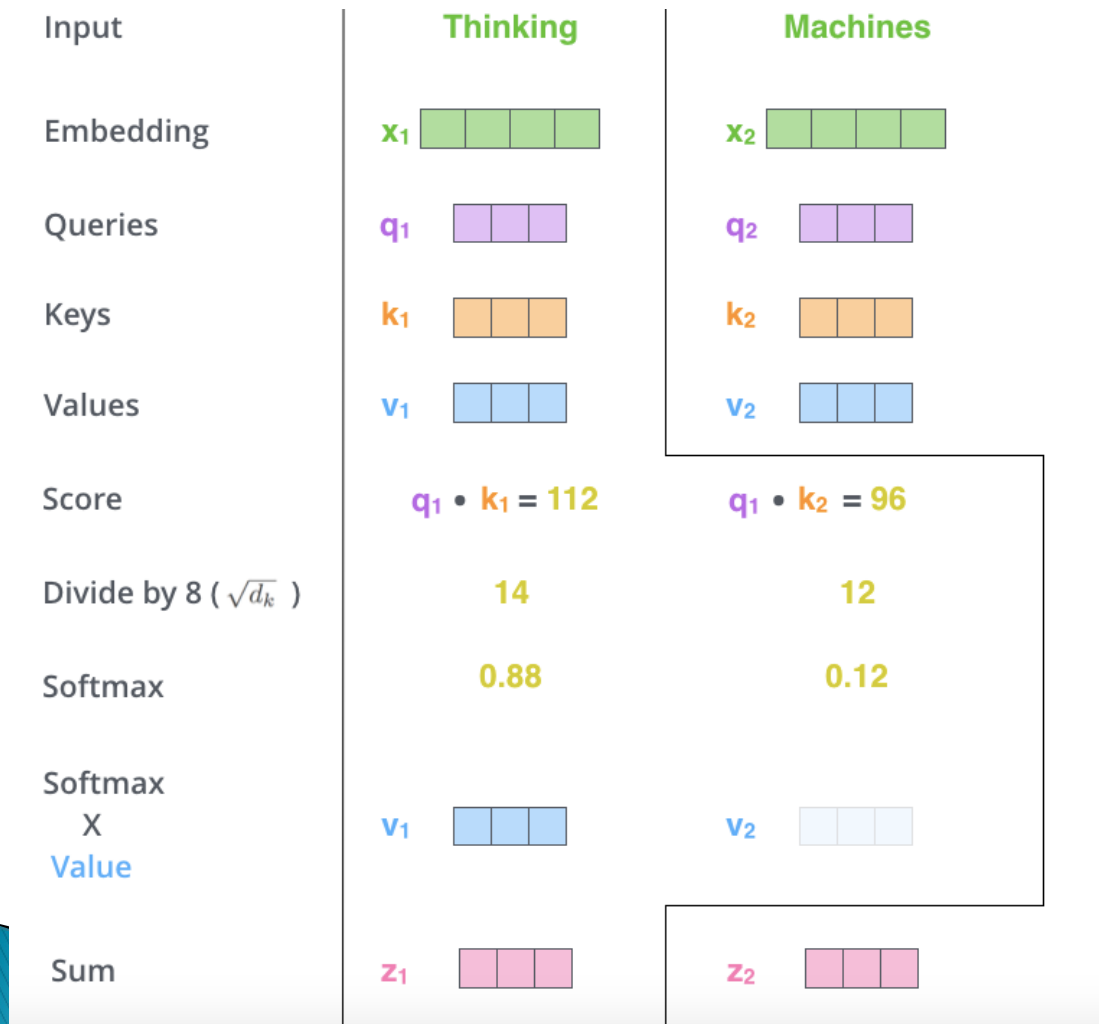


Multiplying x_1 by the W^Q weight matrix produces q_1 , the "query" vector associated with that word. We end up creating a "query", a "key", and a "value" projection of each word in the input sentence.

Generalized Self Attention (cont)



Generalized Self Attention (cont)

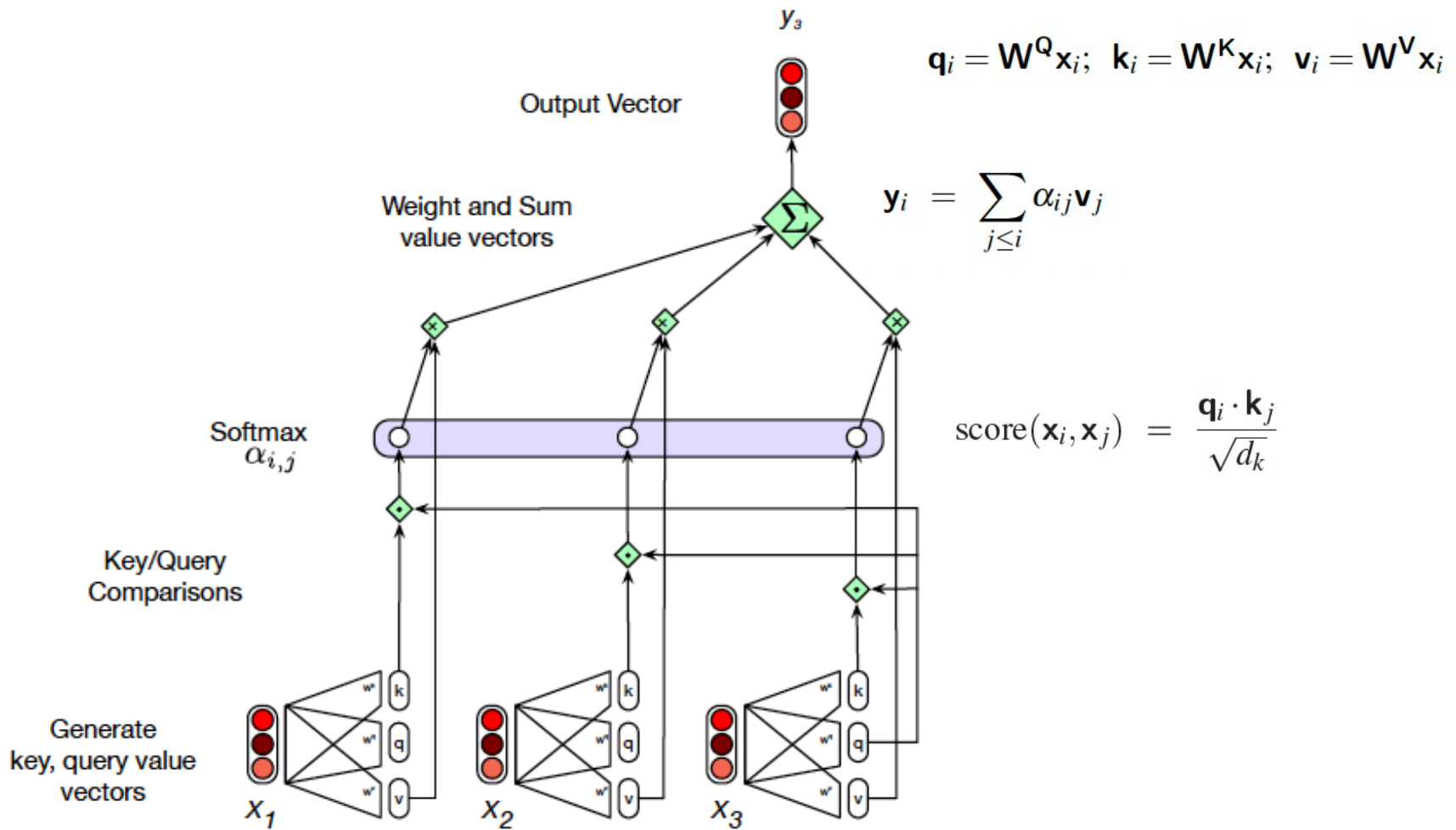


$$Q=W^QX; K=W^KX; V=W^VX$$

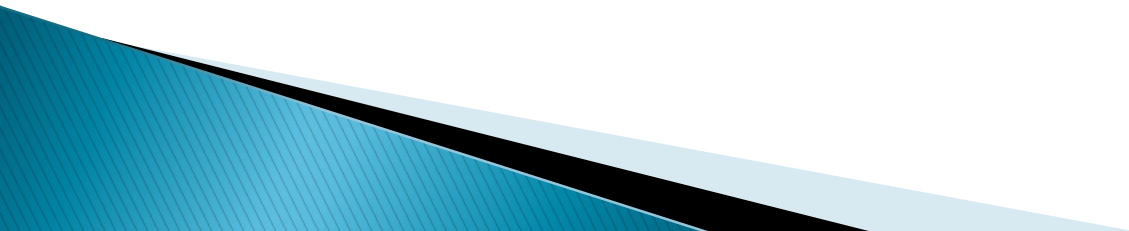
Summarized as:

$$Z = softmax\left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d}}\right)V$$

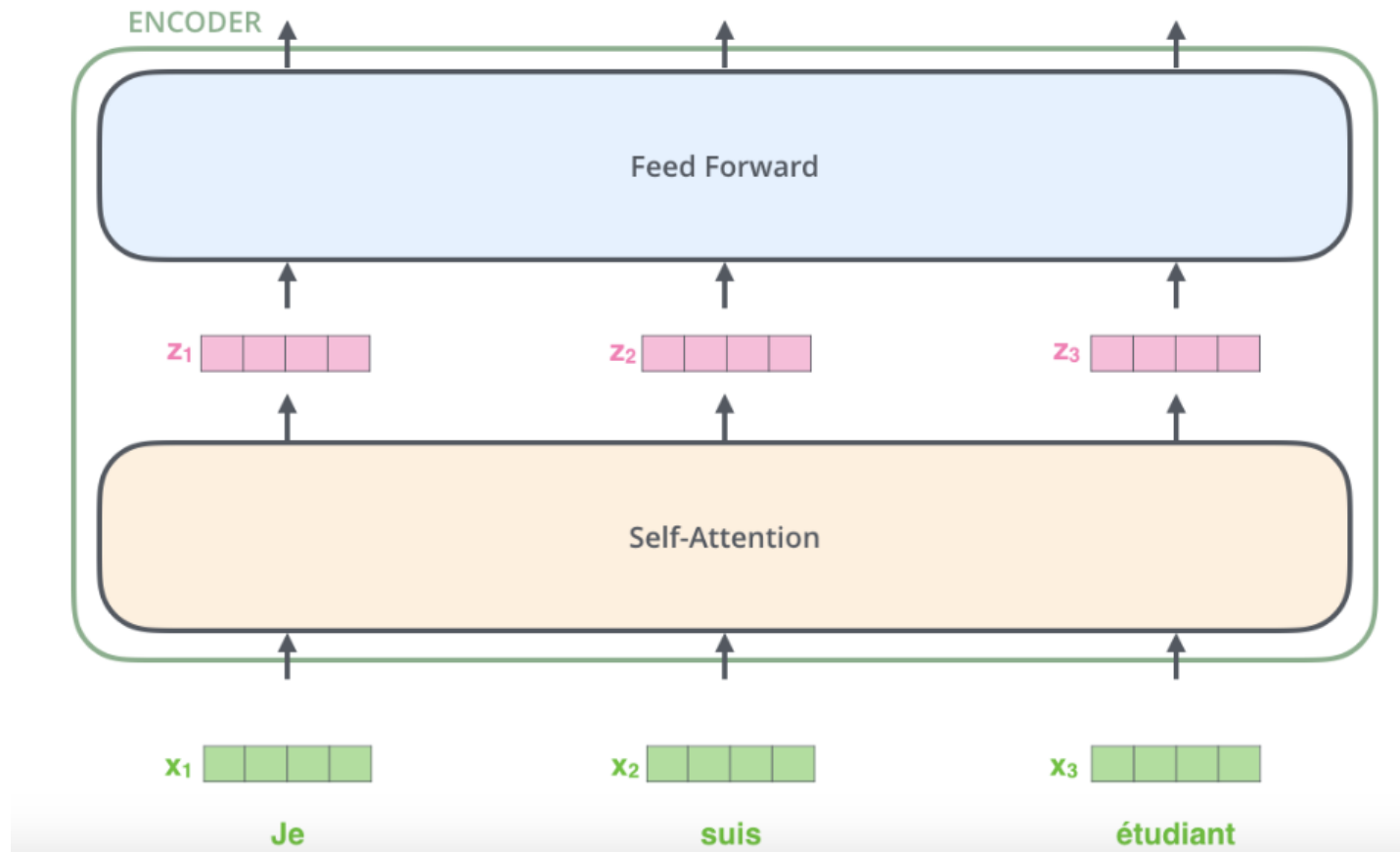
Generalized Self Attention (cont)



Transformer Encoders

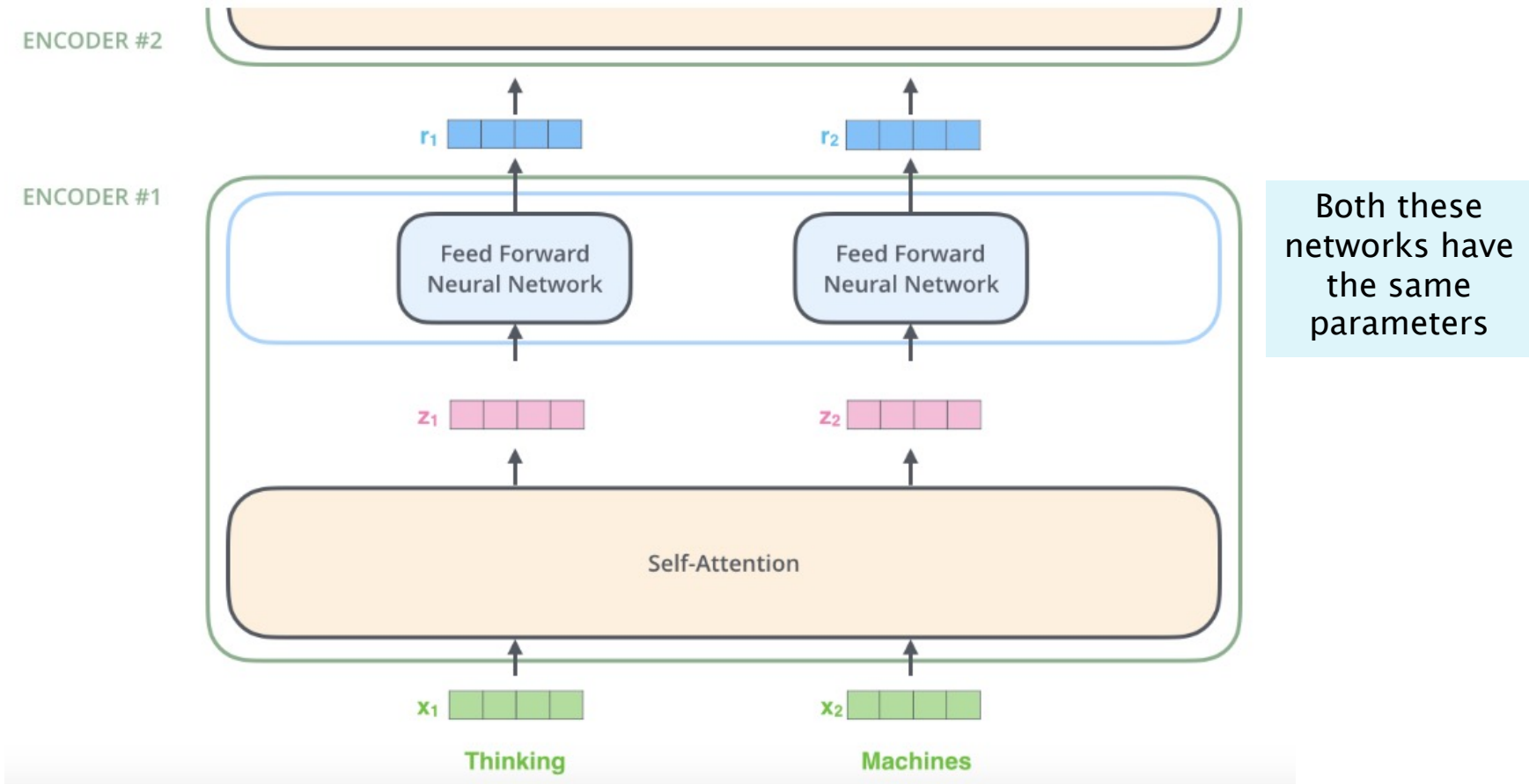


Transformers – Encoders



Here we begin to see one key property of the Transformer, which is that the word in each position flows through its own path in the encoder. There are dependencies between these paths in the self-attention layer. The feed-forward layer does not have those dependencies, however, and thus the various paths can be executed in parallel while flowing through the feed-forward layer.

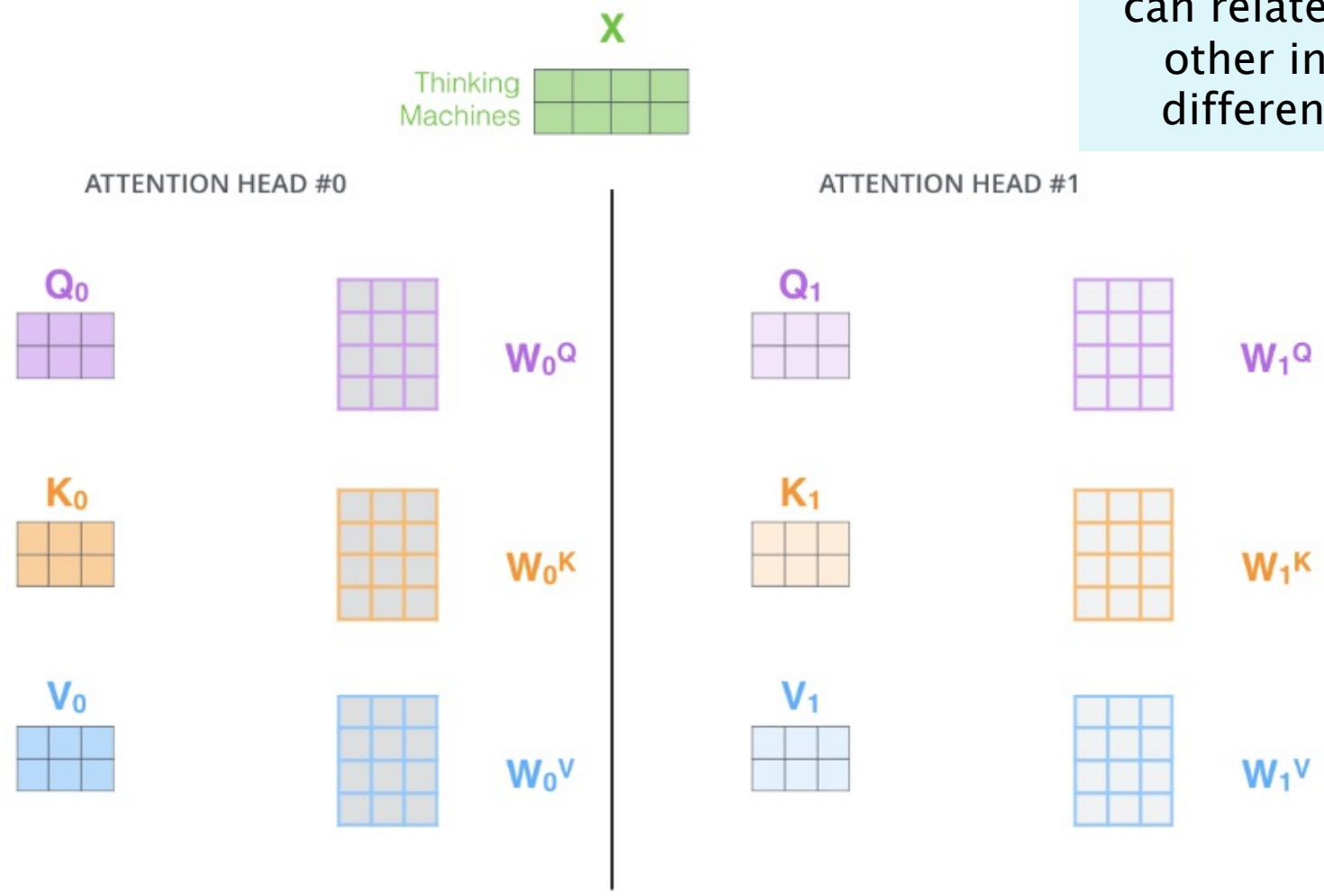
Transformers – Encoders



The word at each position passes through a self-attention process. Then, they each pass through a feed-forward neural network -- the exact same network with each vector flowing through it separately.

Multi-Headed Attention

Words in a sentence can relate to each other in many different ways



With multi-headed attention, we maintain separate Q/K/V weight matrices for each head resulting in different Q/K/V matrices. As we did before, we multiply X by the $WQ/WK/WV$ matrices to produce Q/K/V matrices.

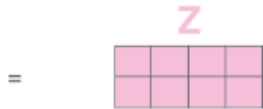
Multi-Headed Attention

Save

1) Concatenate all the attention heads



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



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

x



Attention – Summary

Save our input sentence*

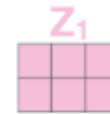
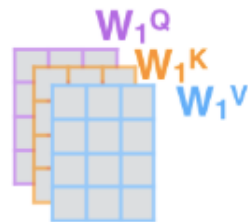
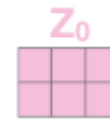
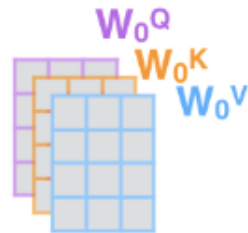
2) We embed each word*

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

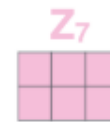
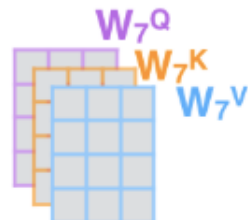
Thinking Machines



...

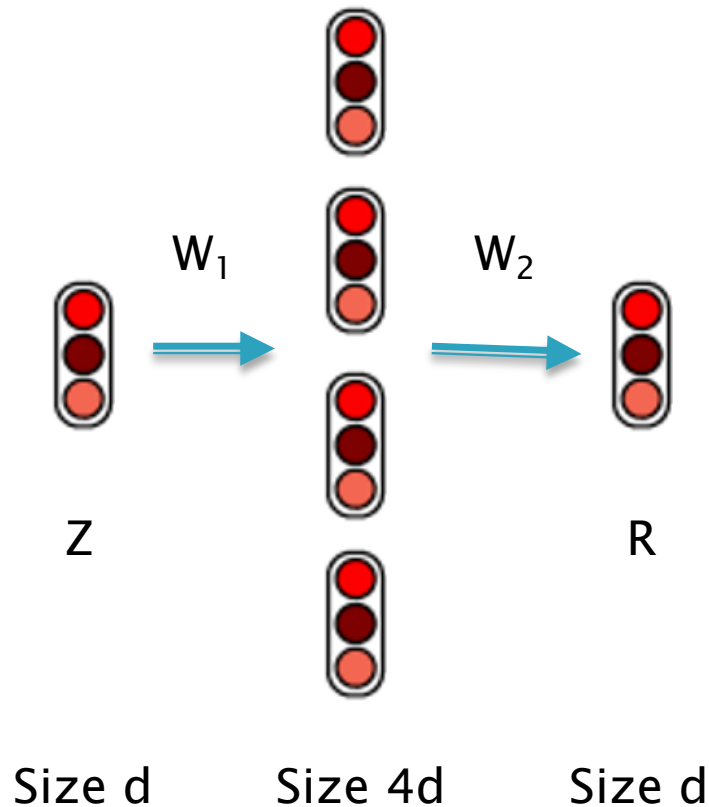
...

...



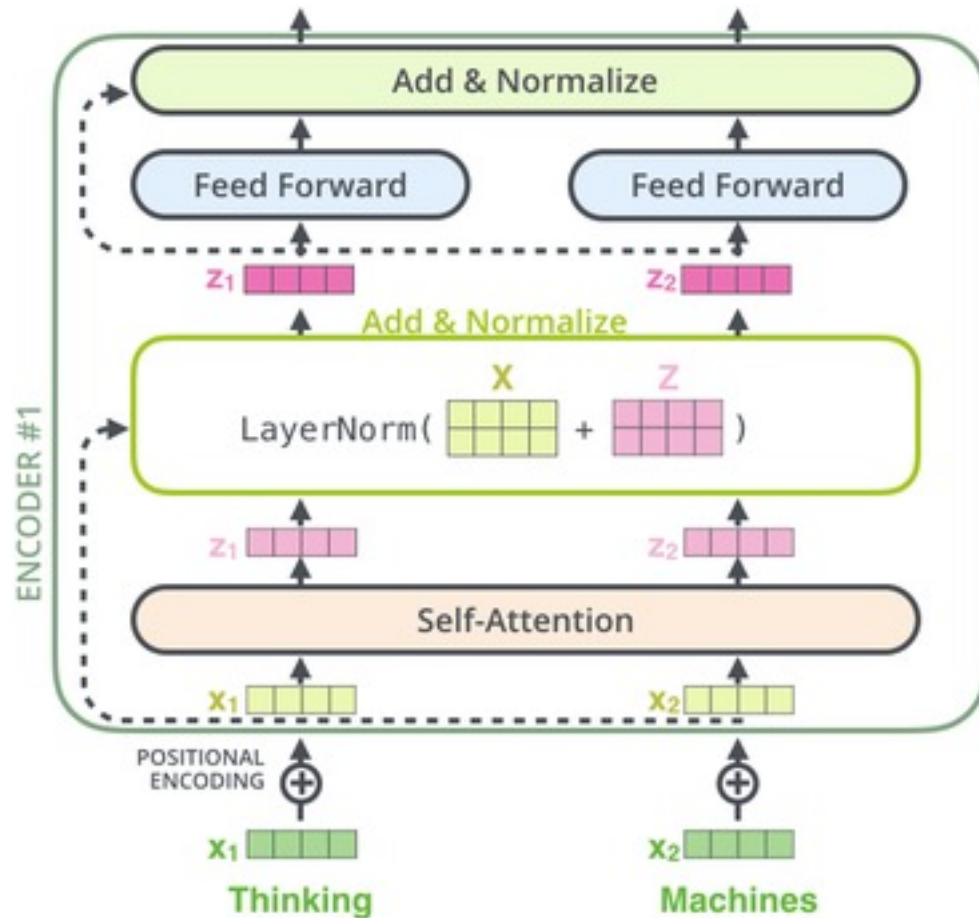
Dense Feed Forward Layer

$$R_i = \text{ReLU}(Z_i W_1 + b_1) W_2 + b_2, \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$



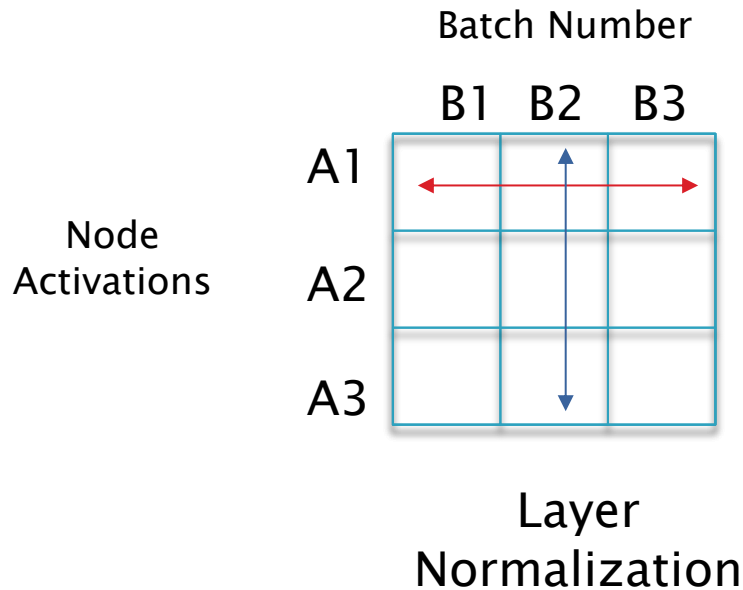
Add Residual Connections and Layer Normalization

A Single Layer



Layer Normalization

▶ Batch Normalization vs Layer Normalization



Batch Normalization

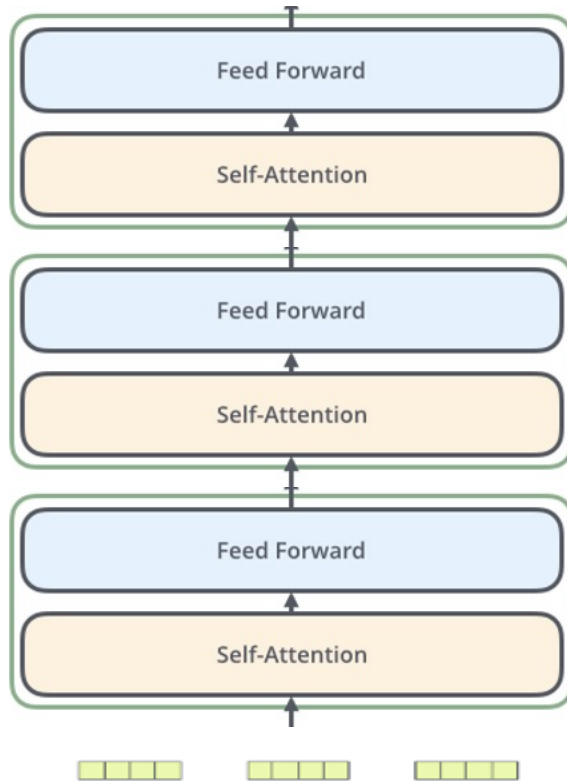
$$\mu_L = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{m=1}^d a(m)$$

$$\sigma_L^2 = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{m=1}^d (a(m) - \mu_L)^2$$

$$\hat{a}(m) = \frac{a(m) - \mu_L}{\sqrt{\sigma_L^2 + \epsilon}}$$

$$c(m) = \gamma \hat{a}(m) + \beta$$

Multiple Layers



$$(W_3^Q, W_3^K, W_3^V), W_3^{FF}$$

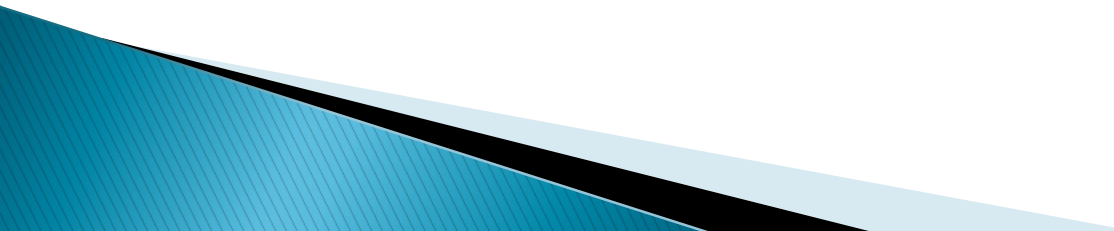
$$(W_2^Q, W_2^K, W_2^V), W_2^{FF}$$

$$(W_1^Q, W_1^K, W_1^V), W_1^{FF}$$

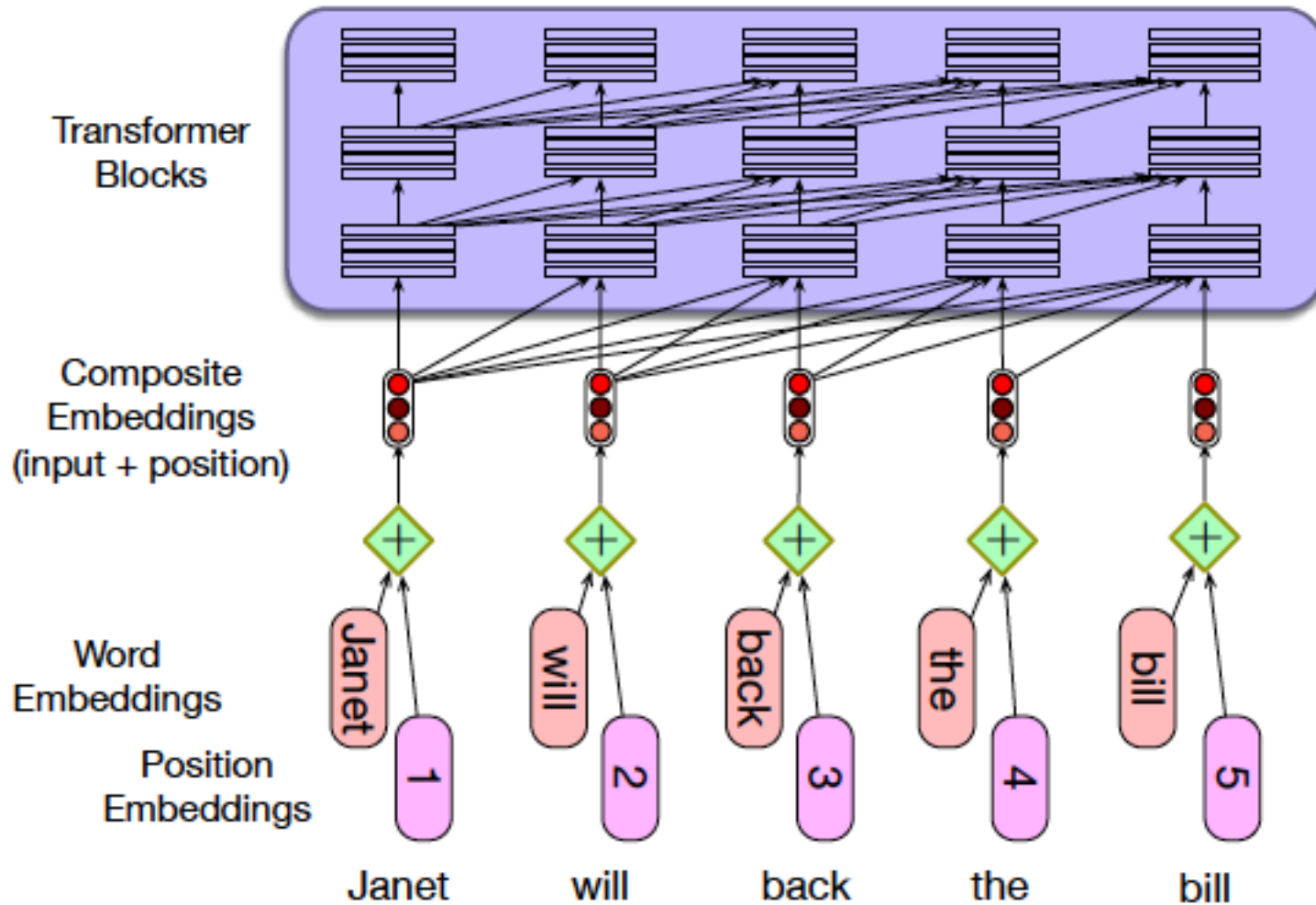
Parameters
not shared
Between layers

Modularity: All elements of input sequence share the same parameters:
RNN like property

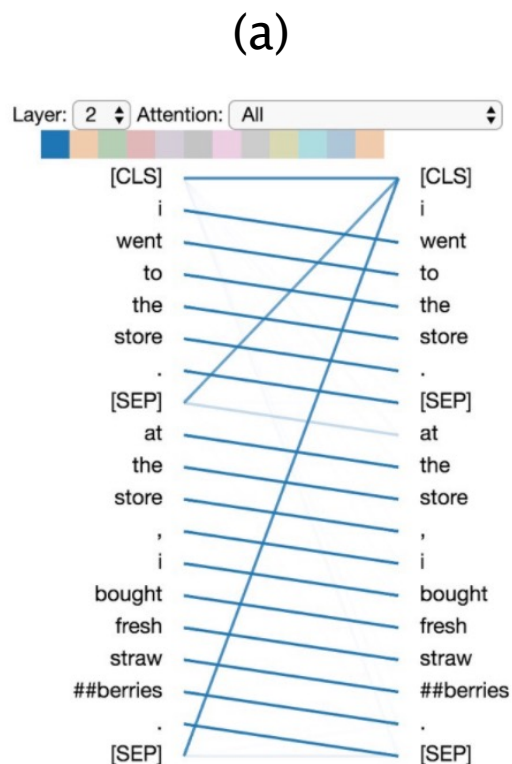
Positional Encoding

- ▶ Positional information arises naturally in RNN/LSTMs
 - ▶ Transformer Architecture is invariant to permutations of the input sequence
 - ▶ This is a problem if the position is important
Example: NLP
- 

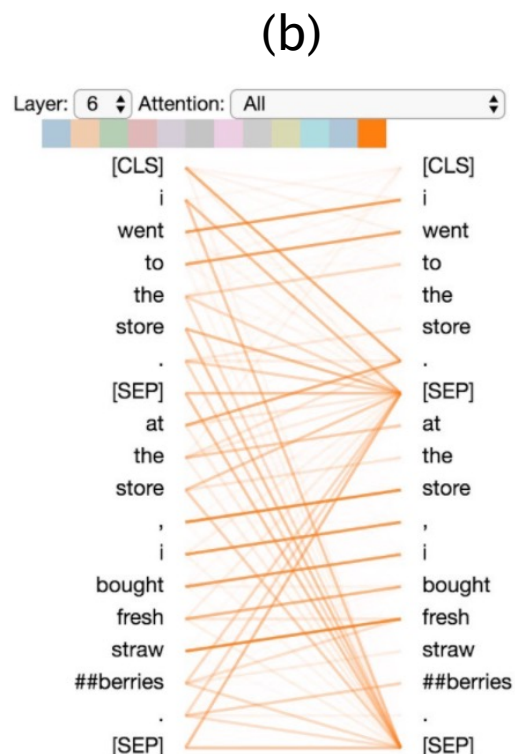
Positional Encoding



Visualizing Attention in Transformers



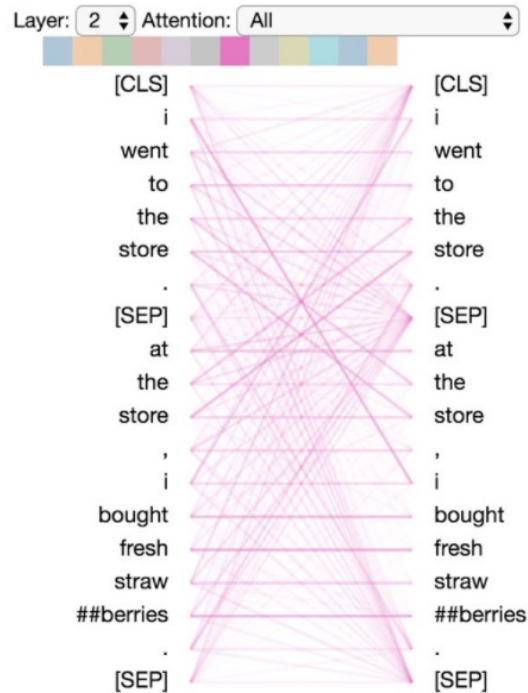
Attention to Next Word
Similar to a Backwards RNN



Attention to Prior Word
Similar to a Forward RNN

Visualizing Attention

(c)

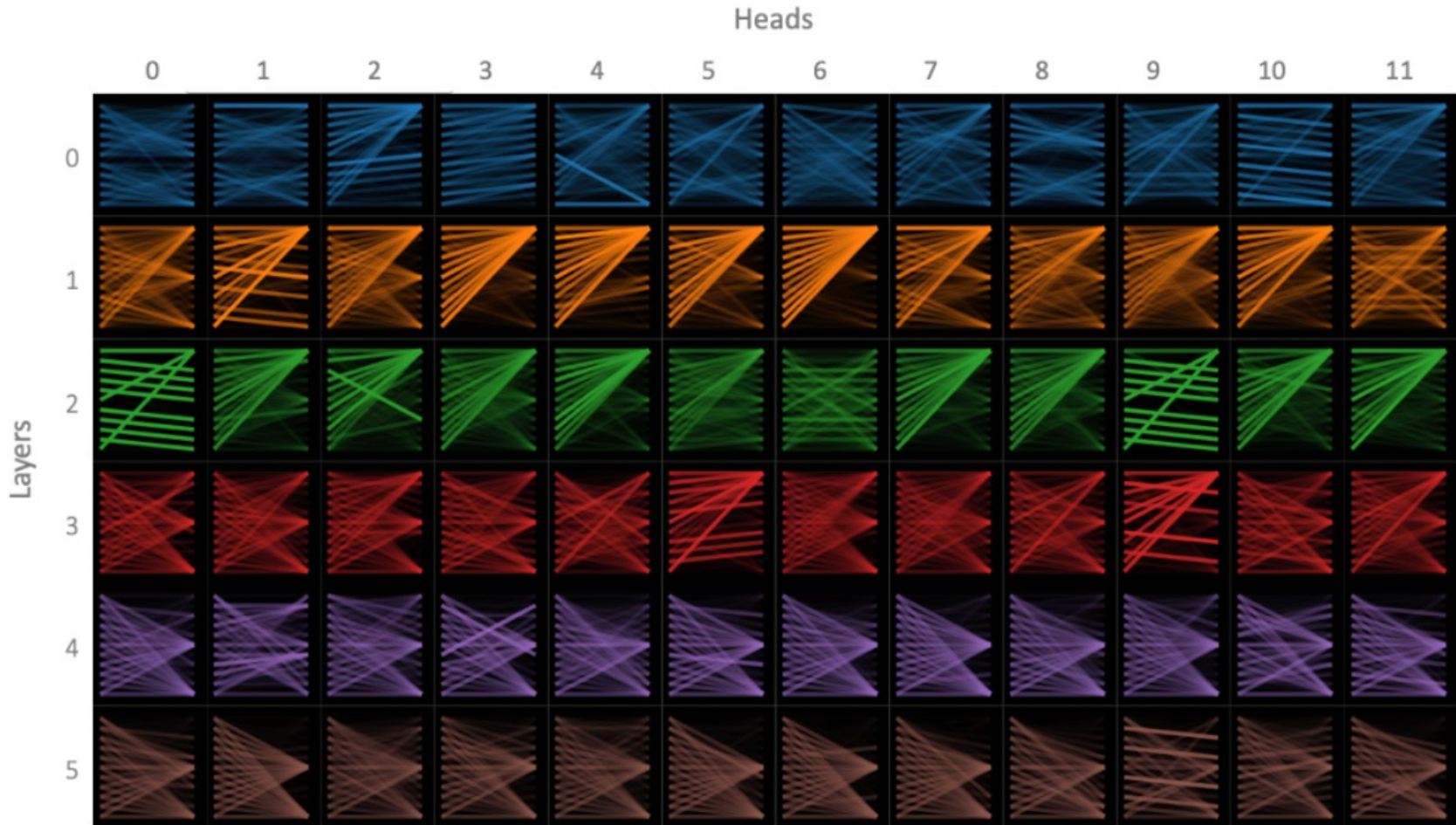


(d)

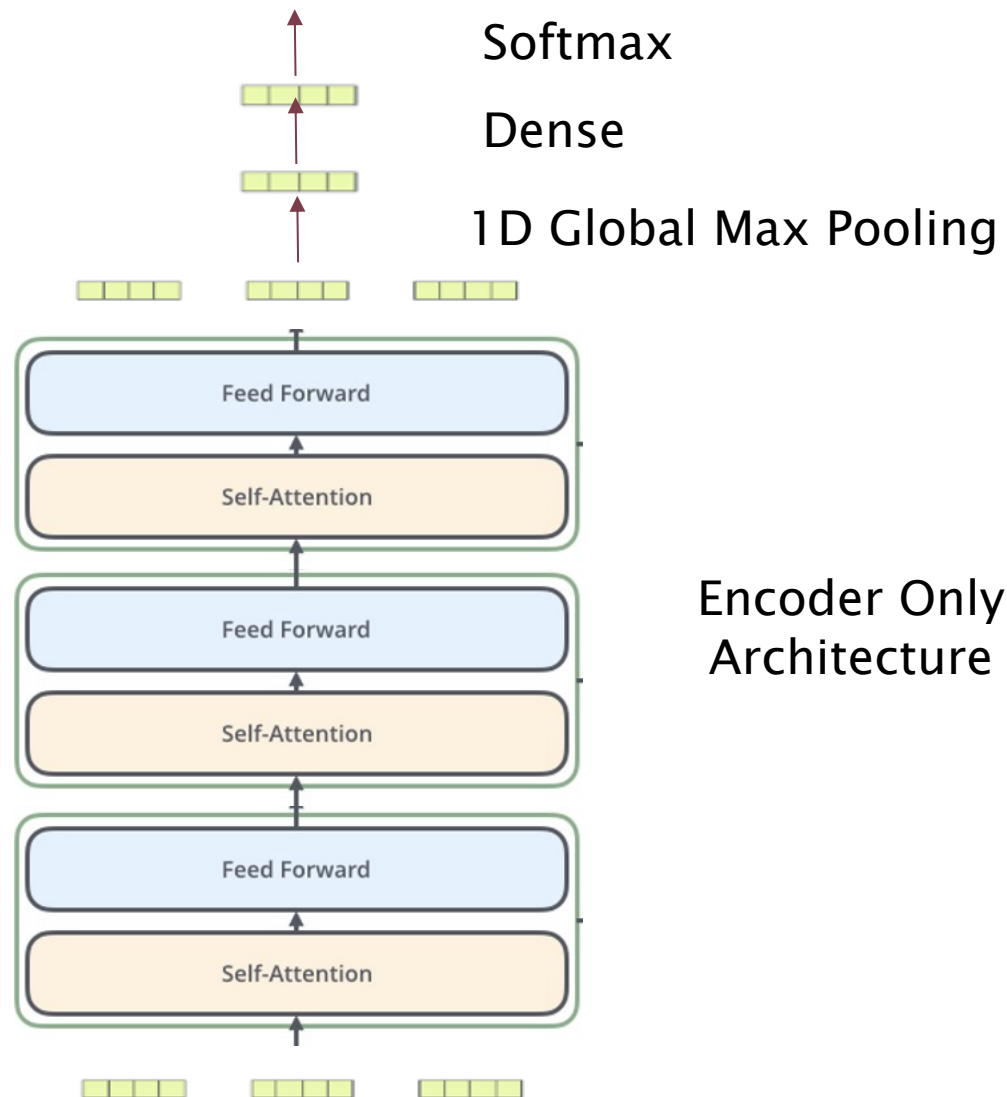


Attention to Similar Words

Visualizing Attention



Classification using Transformers



Further Reading

- ▶ Das and Varma: Chapter Transformers
- ▶ Chollet (2nd Edition): Chapter 11, Section 11.4
- ▶ <http://jalammarm.github.io/illustrated-transformer/>