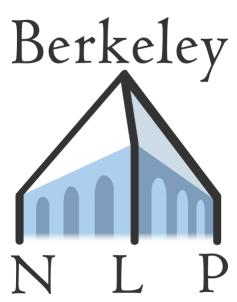
Transformers: The Era of Rapid Scaling in NLP







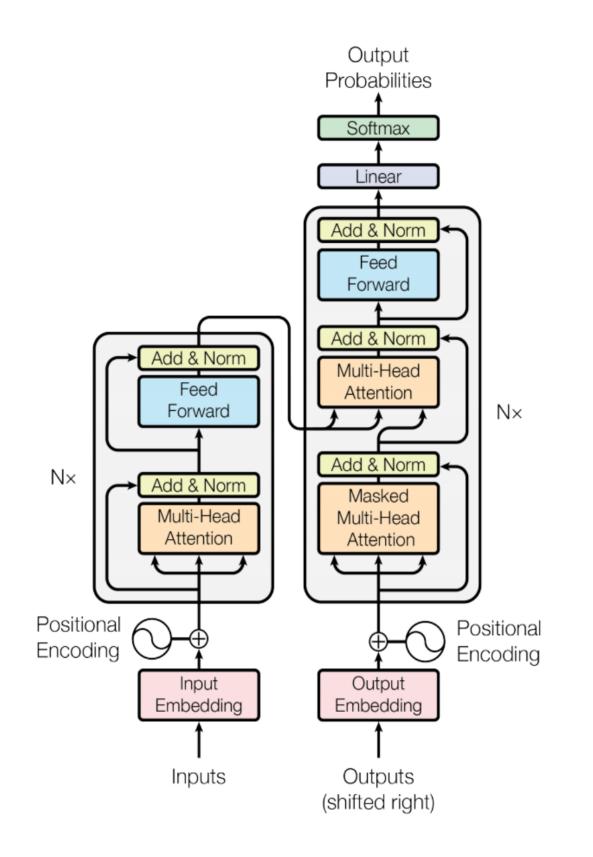
Nikita Kitaev

February 22, 2022

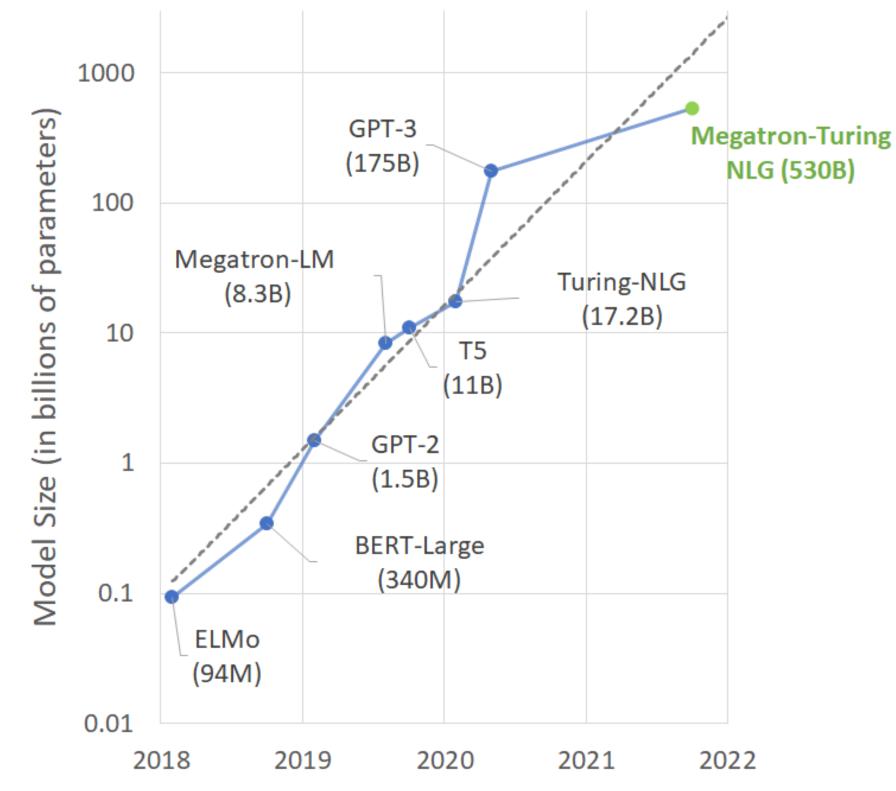
The Era of Rapid Scaling in NLP

2017: Transformer is introduced

[Vaswani+17] Attention is All You Need



2022: Large-scale Transformer models are the dominant approach for many NLP tasks



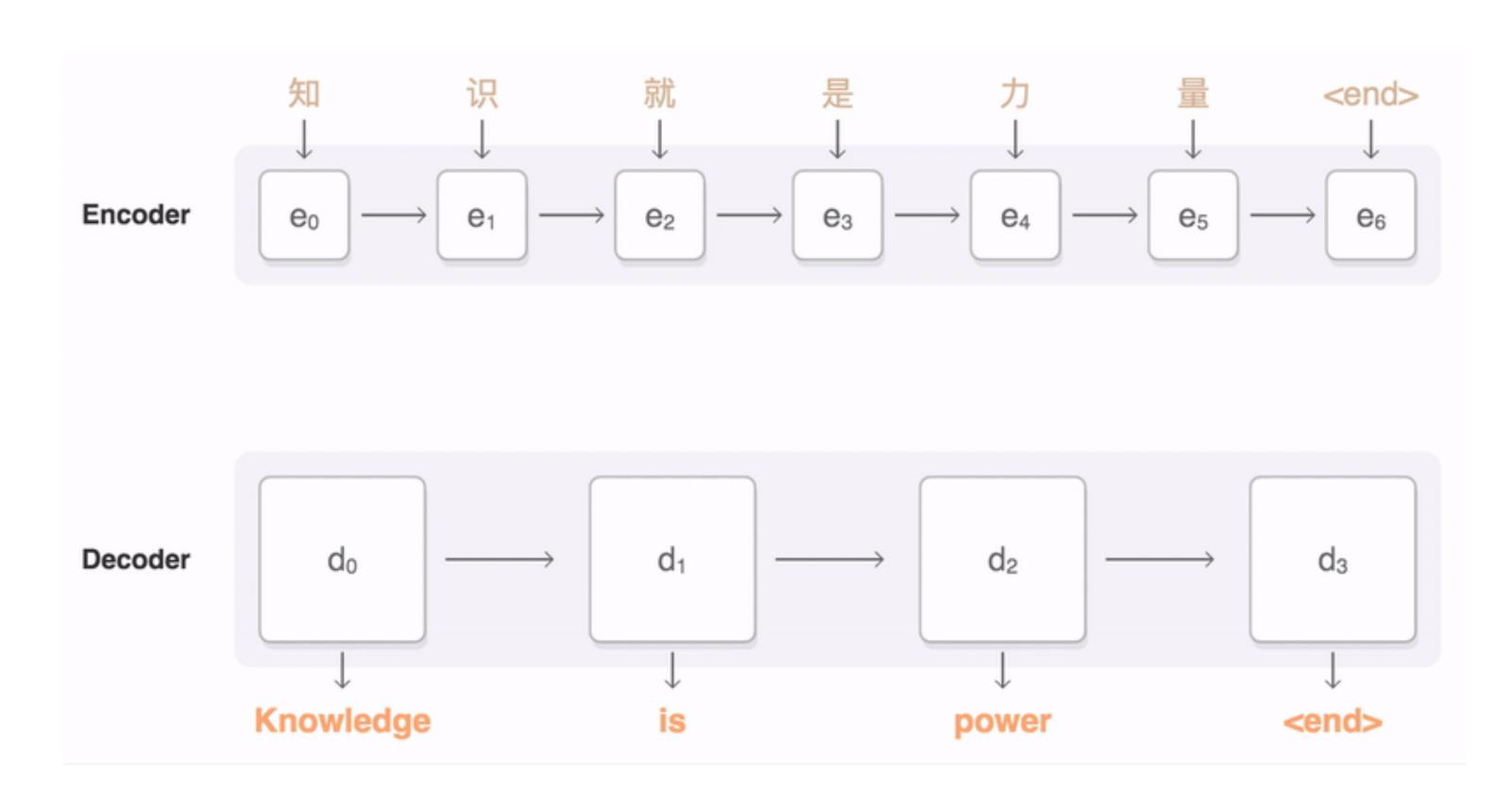




Neural MT ca. 2016



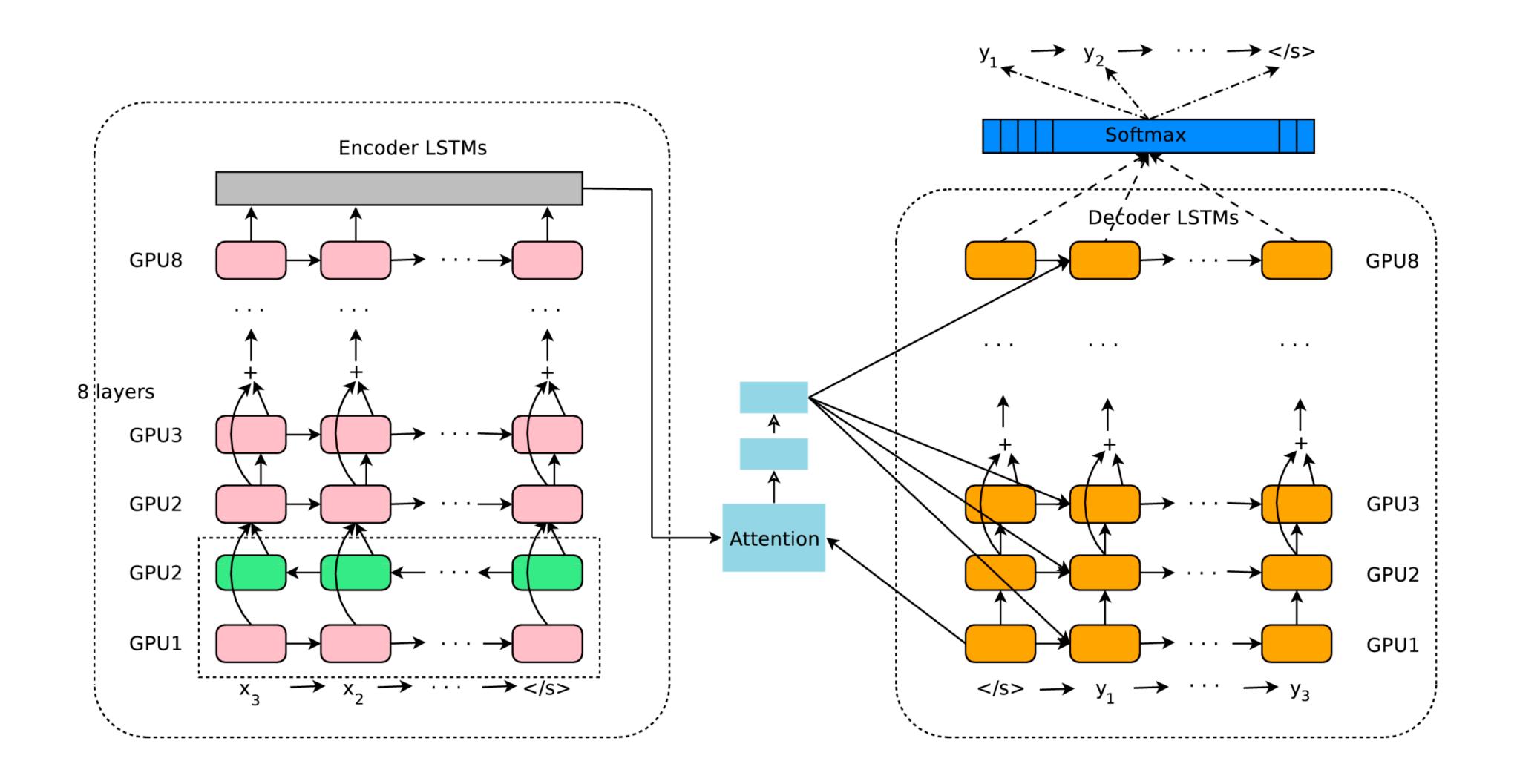
Neural Machine Translation is in production at Google



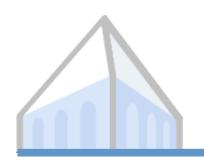
- [Wu+16] Google's Neural Machine Translation System: Bridging the Gap between Human and Machine Translation

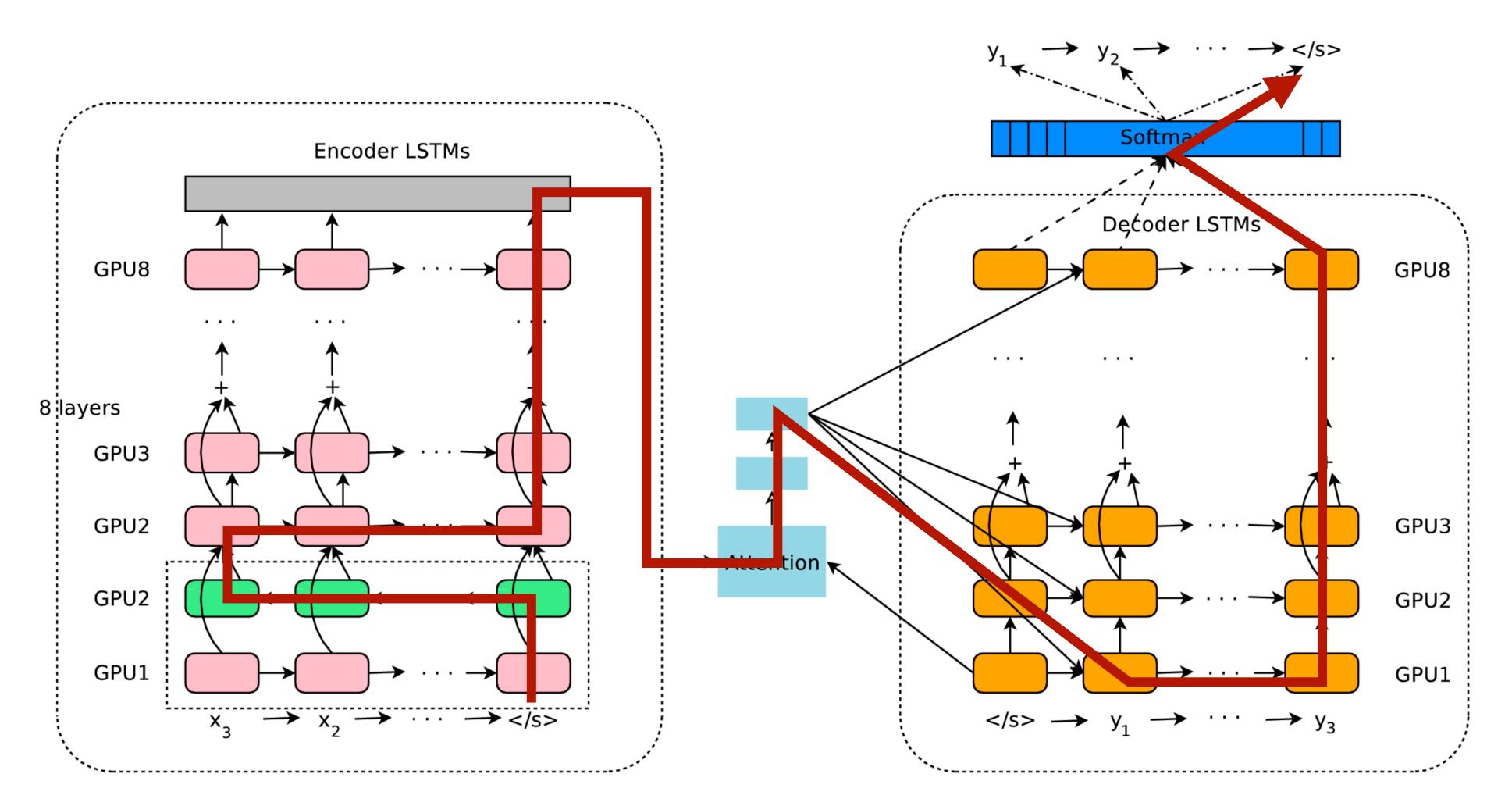
Neural MT ca. 2016





Neural MT ca. 2016





There are computation paths through the RNN-based network that scale linearly with the sequence length, and can't be parallelized.

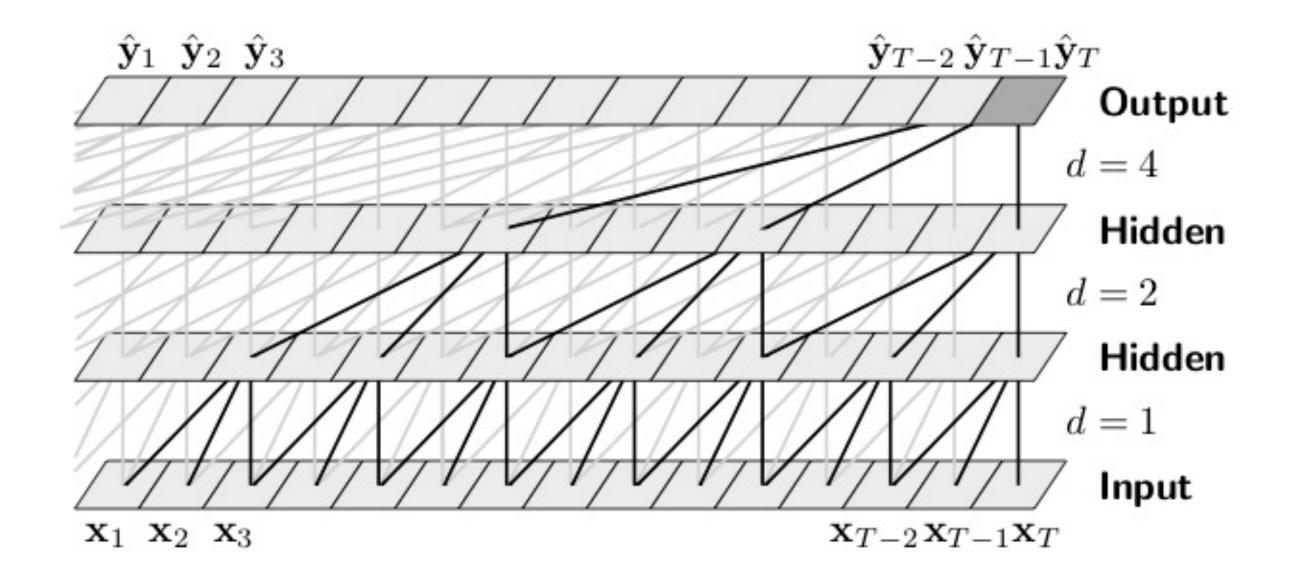


RNN:

#tokens * #layers

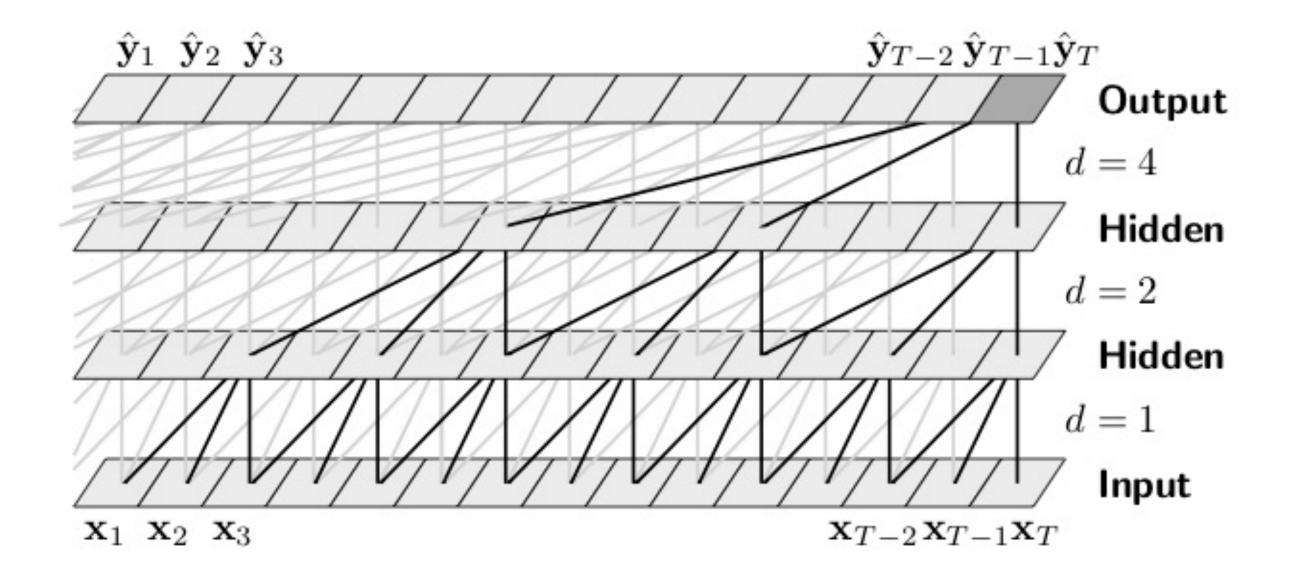


What about a Convolutional Neural Network?



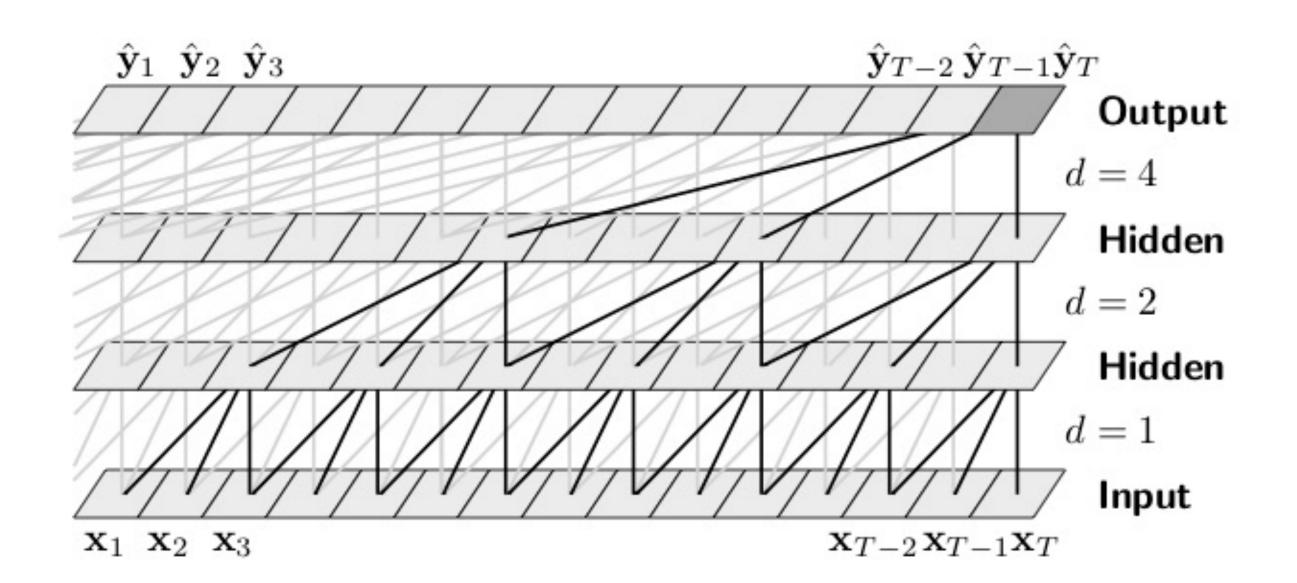


Convolutional: #layers -- but we need to connect all tokens





Convolutional: log_{kernel size}(#tokens)





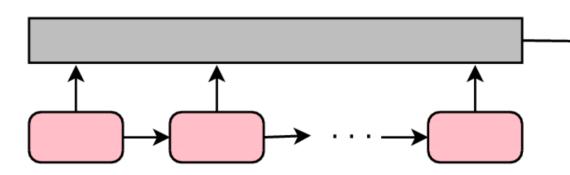
Convolutional: log_{kernel size}(#tokens)

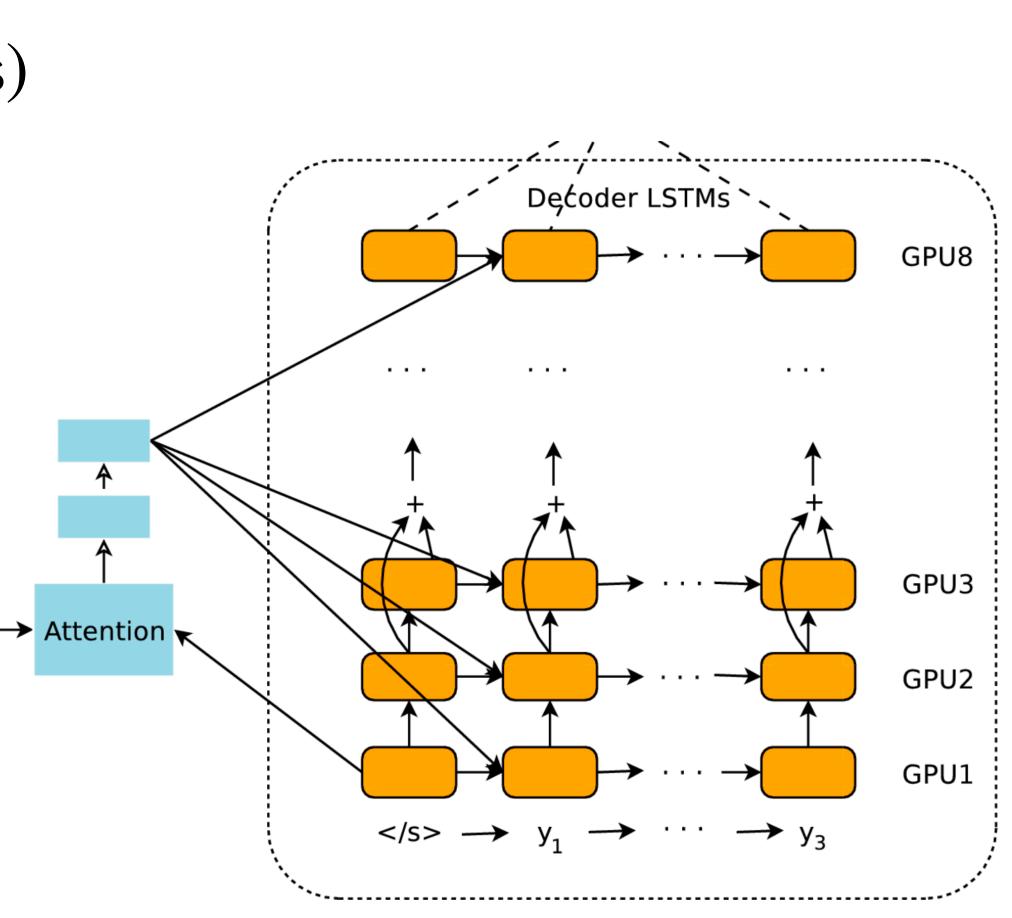
Any other alternatives?



Convolutional: log_{kernel size}(#tokens)

How about attention?



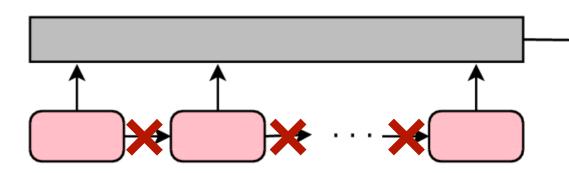


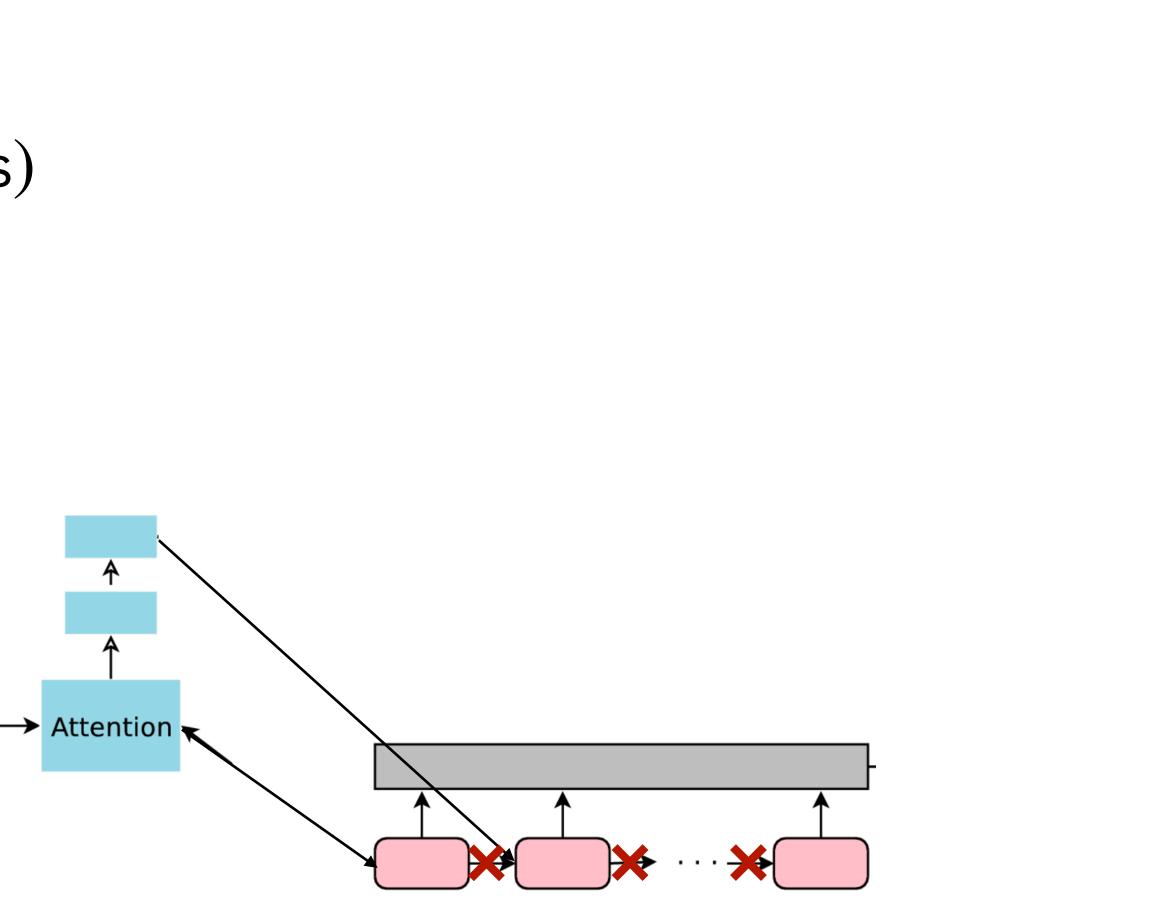


#tokens * #layers RNN:

Convolutional: log_{kernel size}(#tokens)

How about attention?



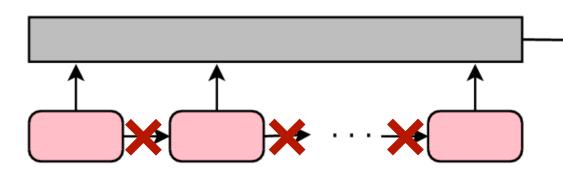


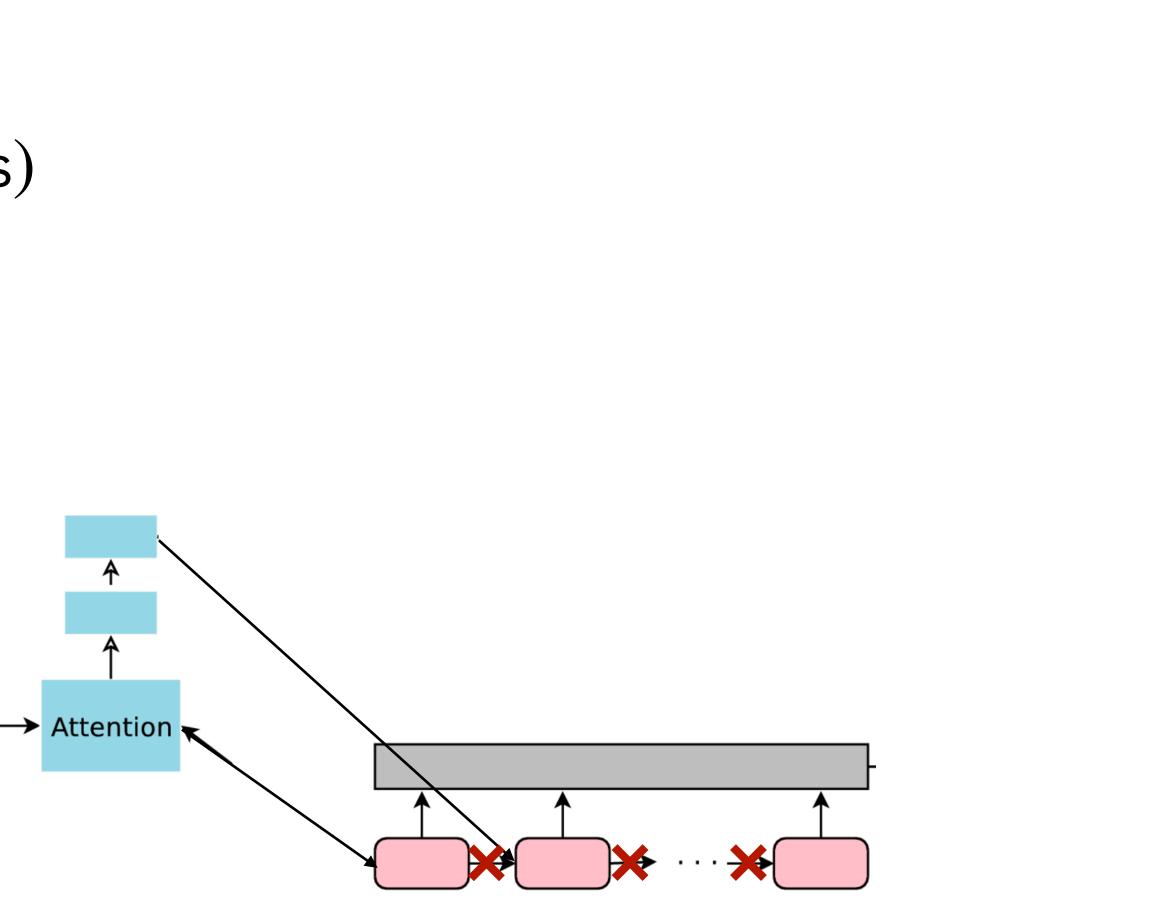


#tokens * #layers RNN:

Convolutional: log_{kernel size}(#tokens)

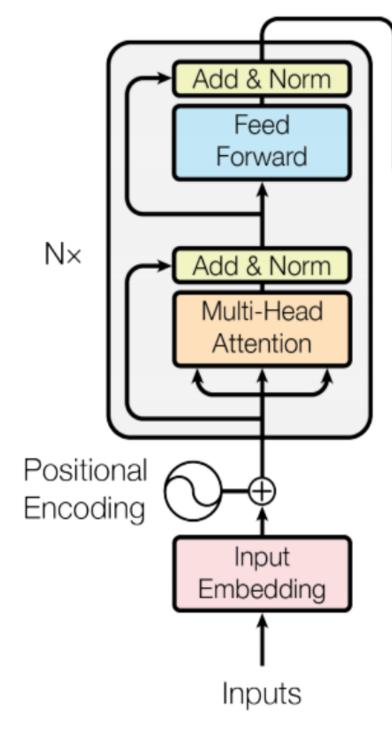
Attention: #layers



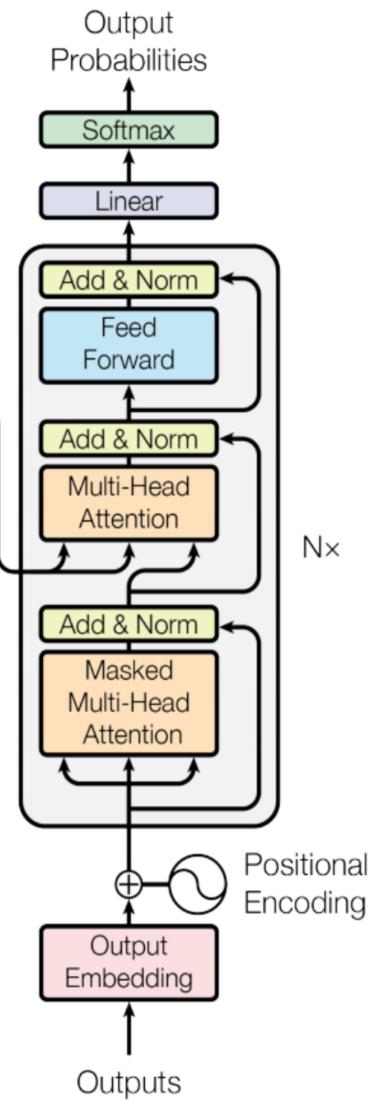


(1) Transformer Architecture

Transformer Architecture

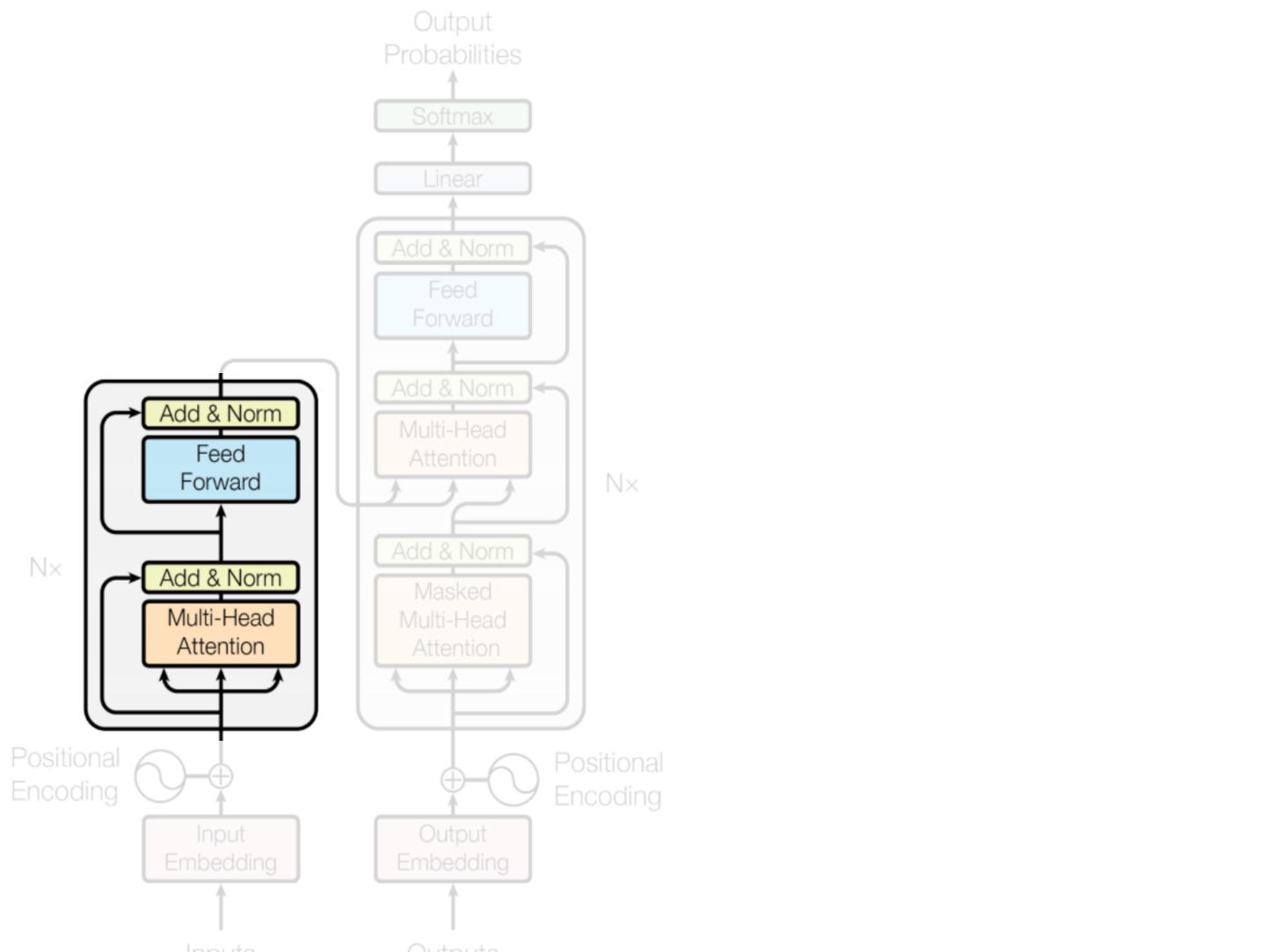






(shifted right)





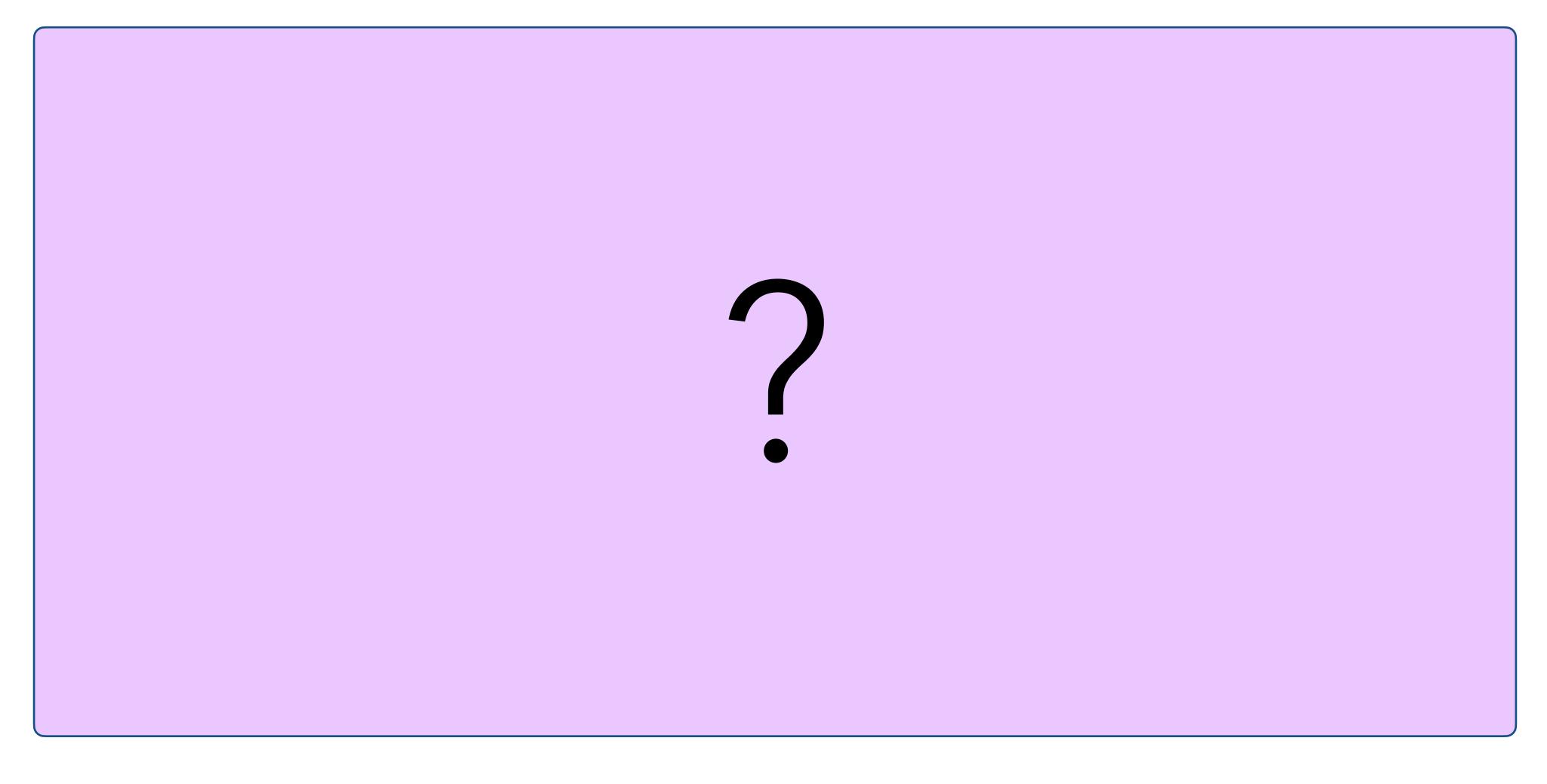
Inputs

Encoder

Outputs (shifted right)

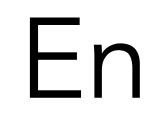


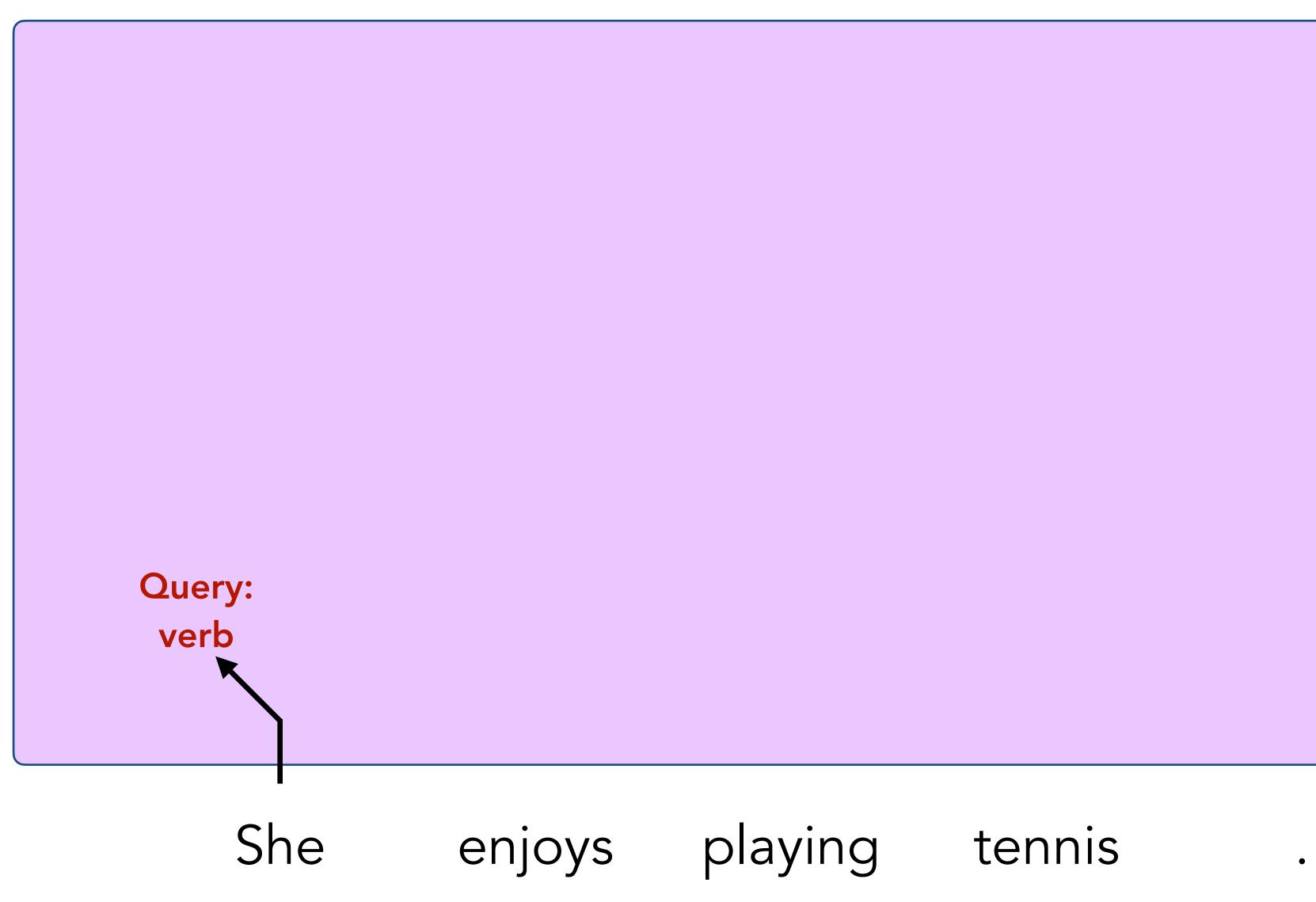




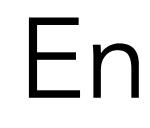
She enjoys playing tennis .

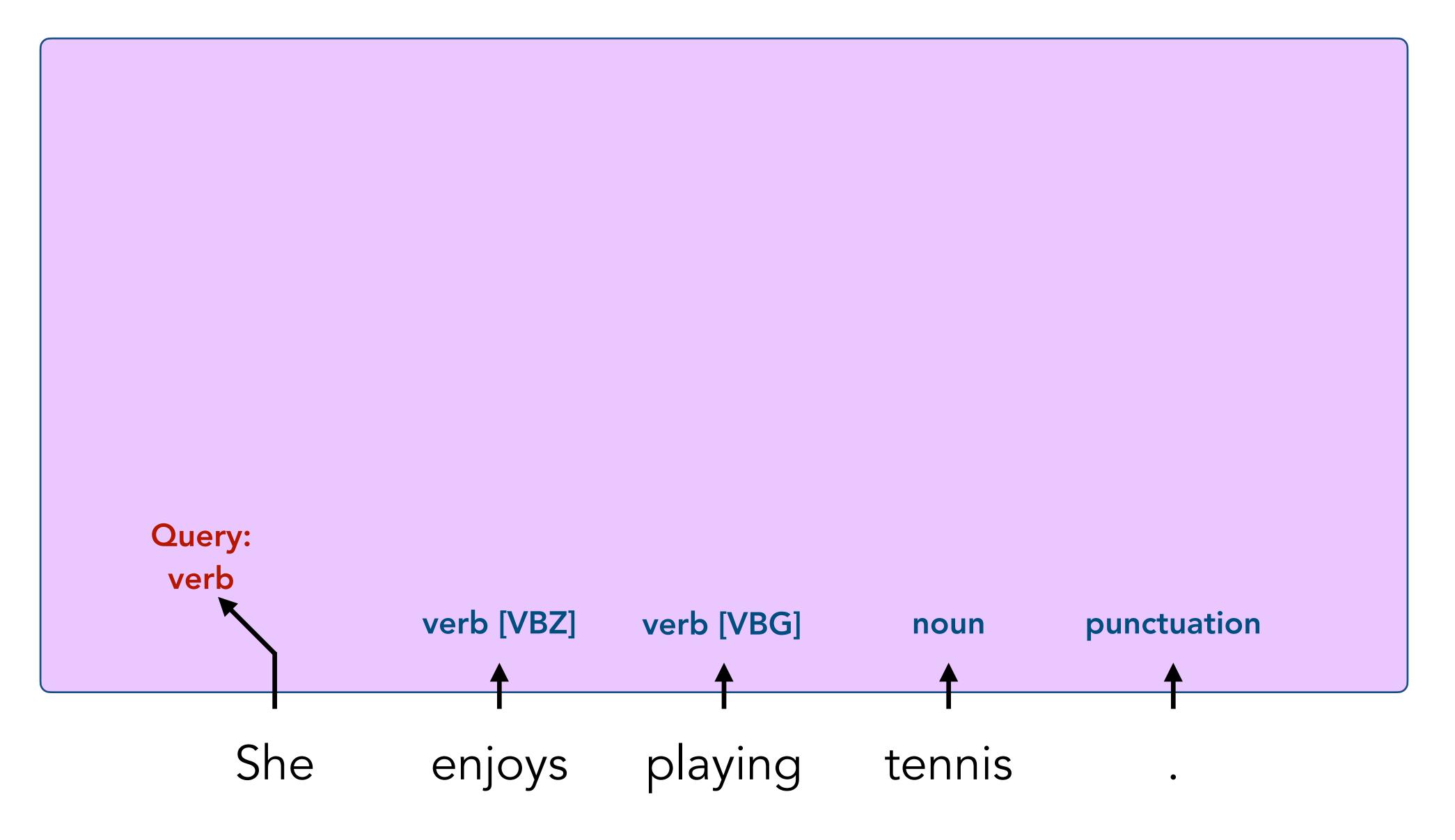






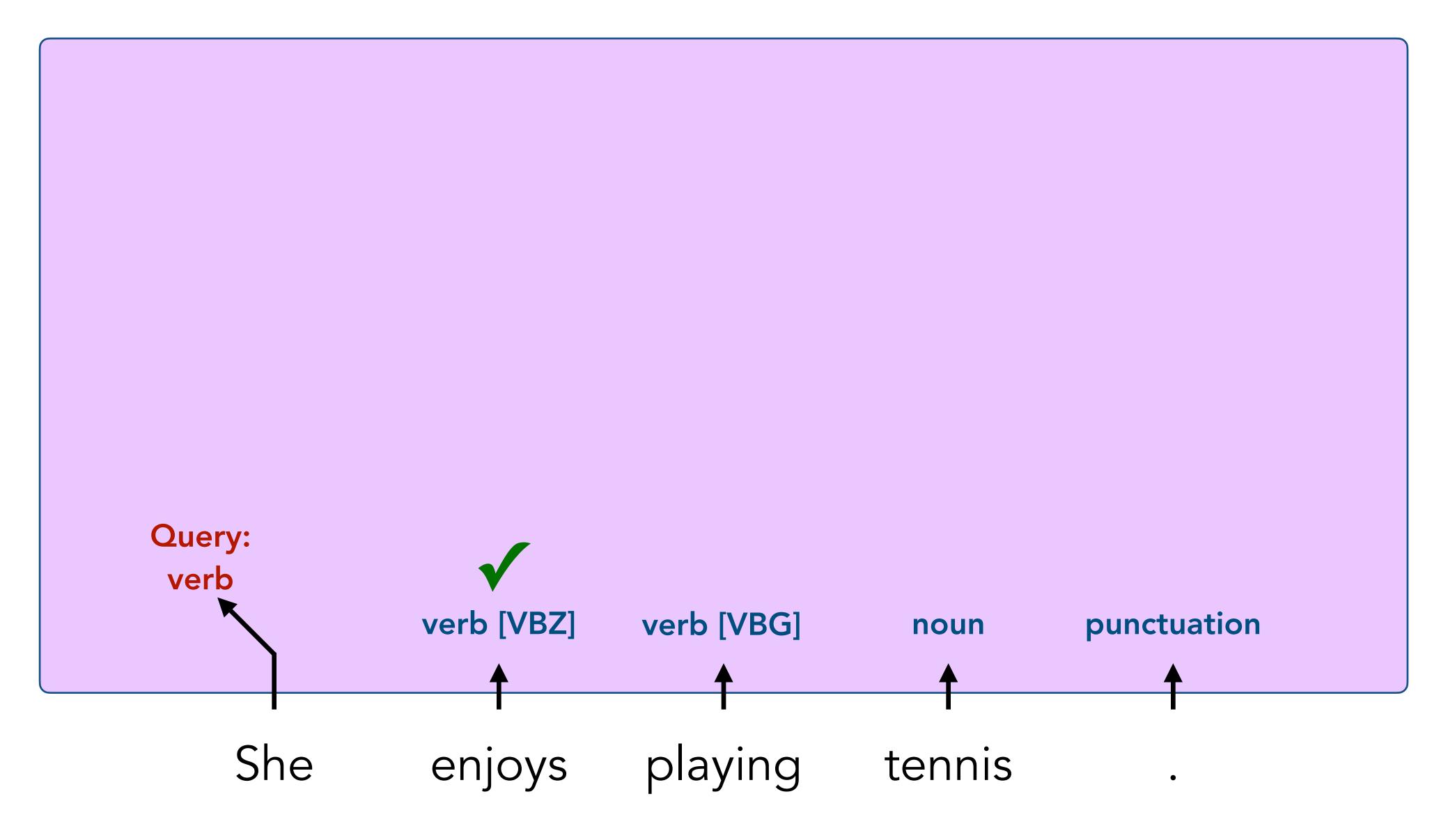






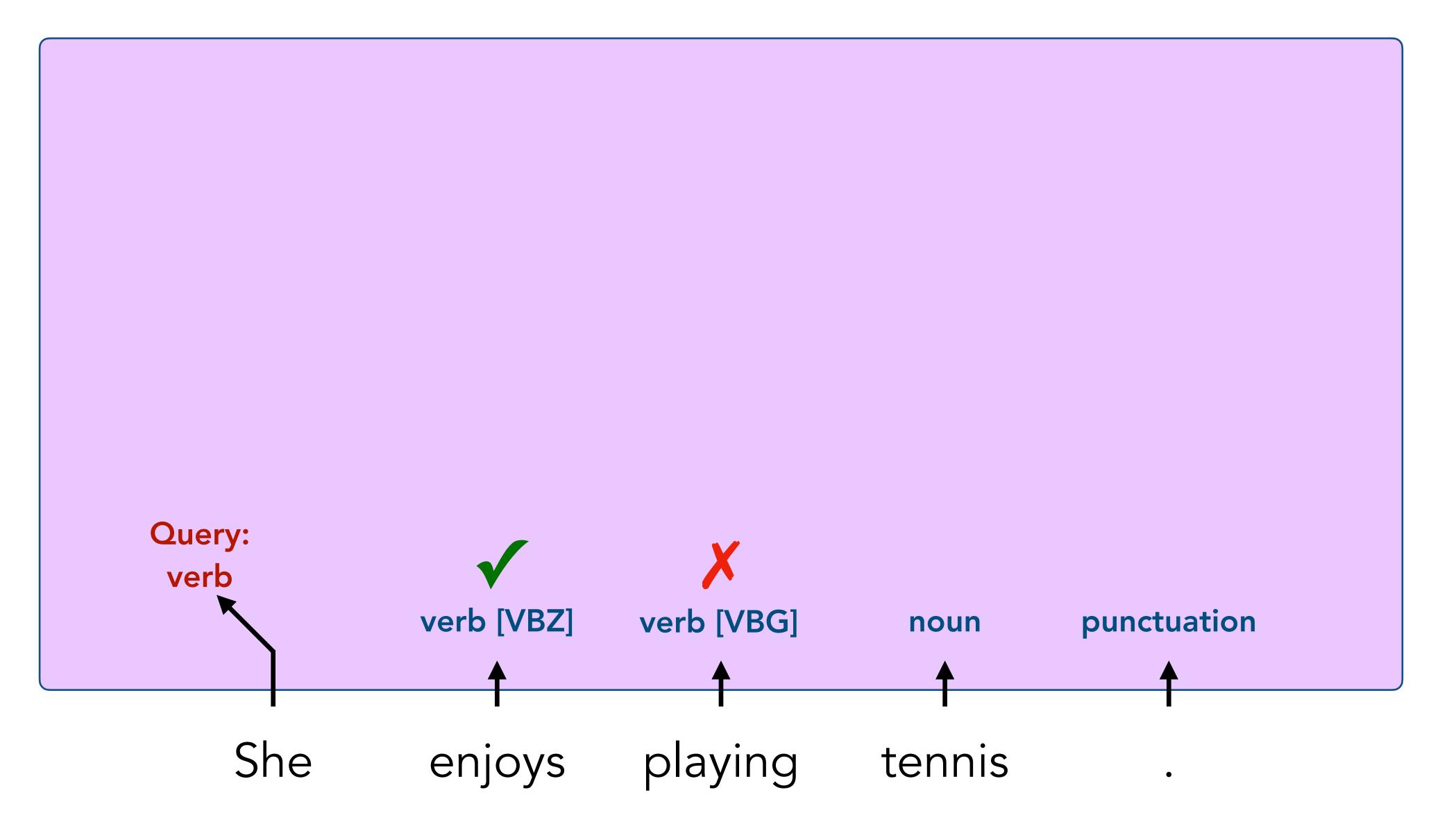






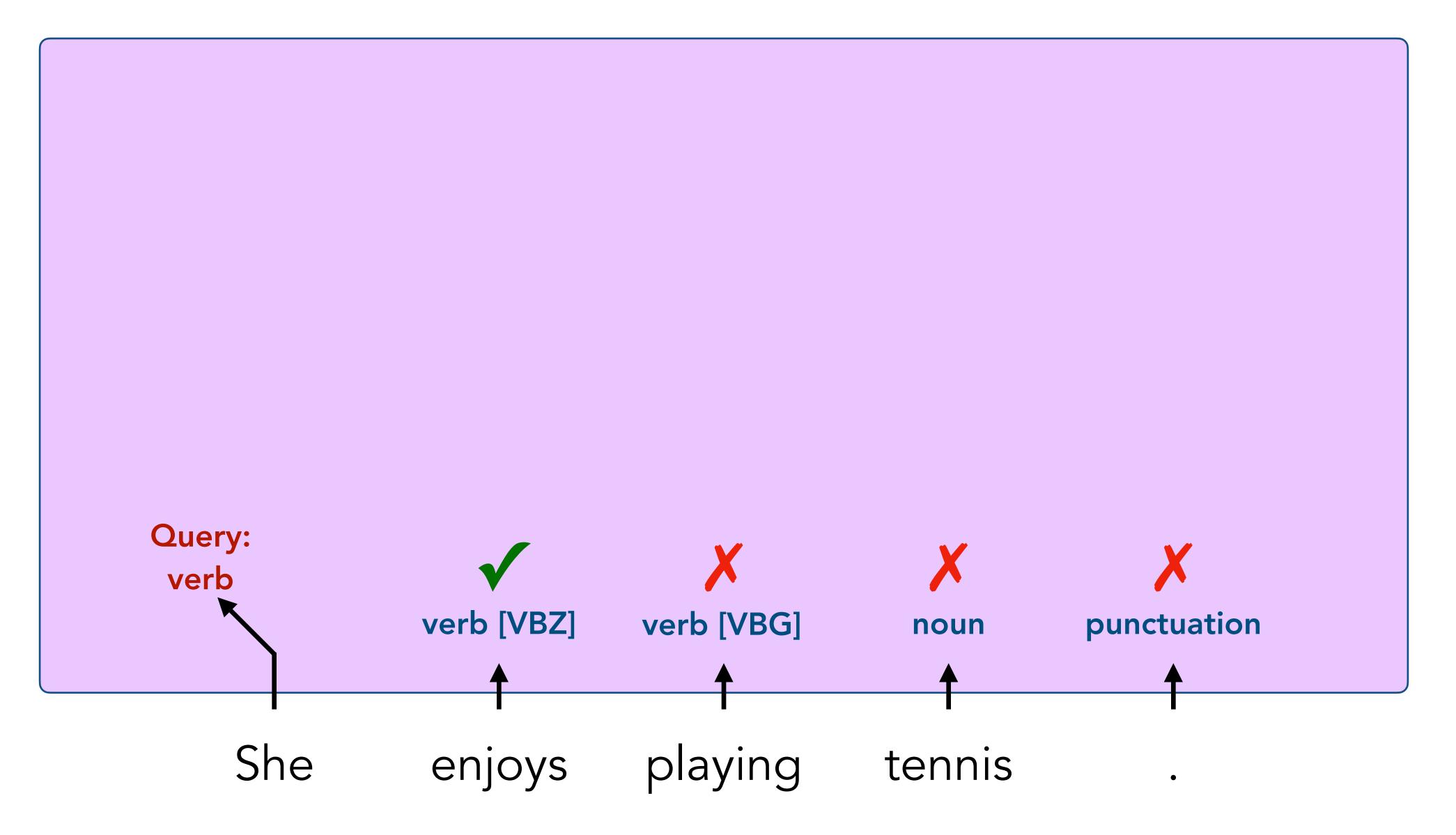




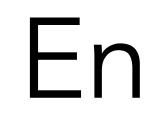


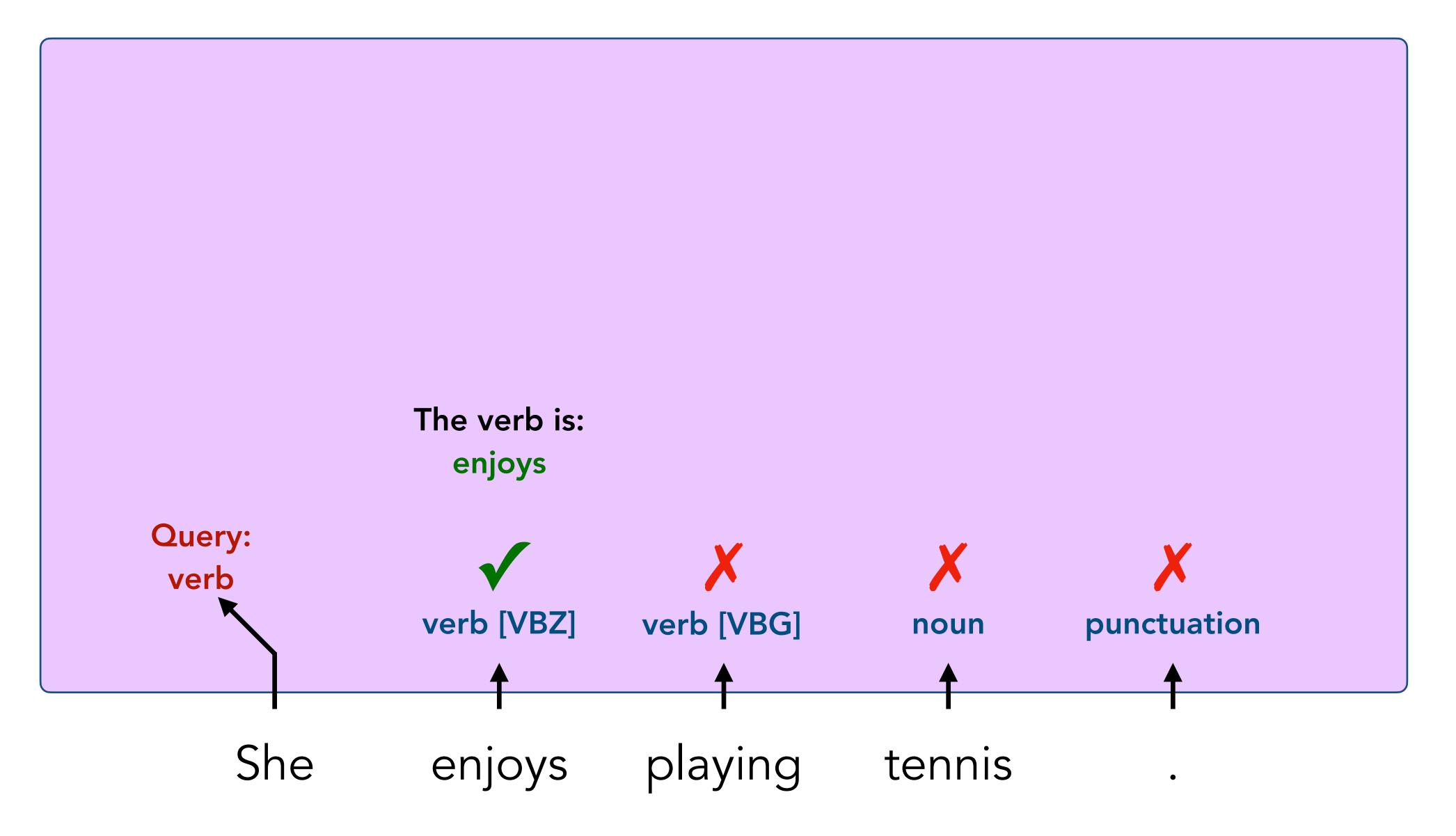


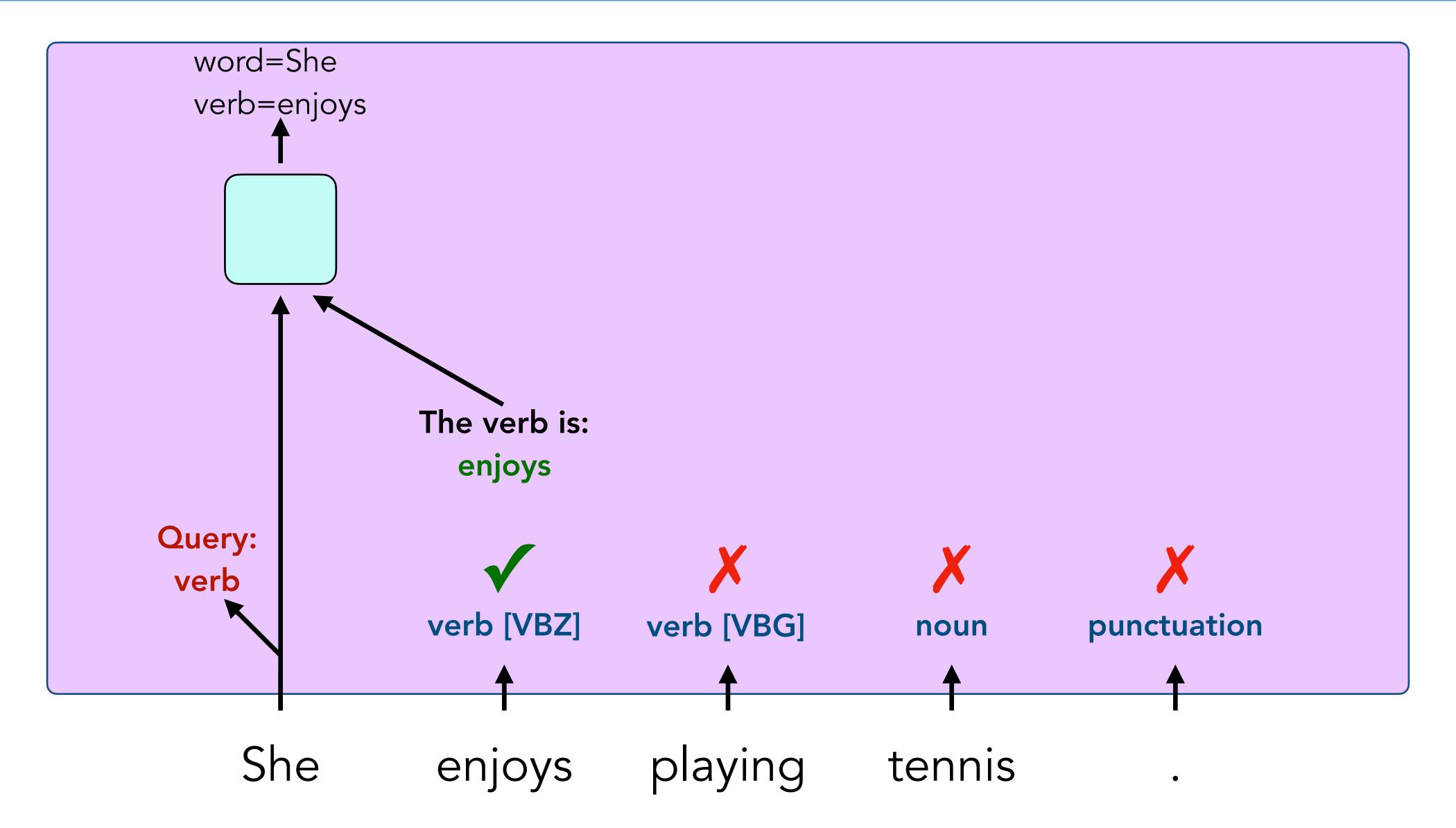




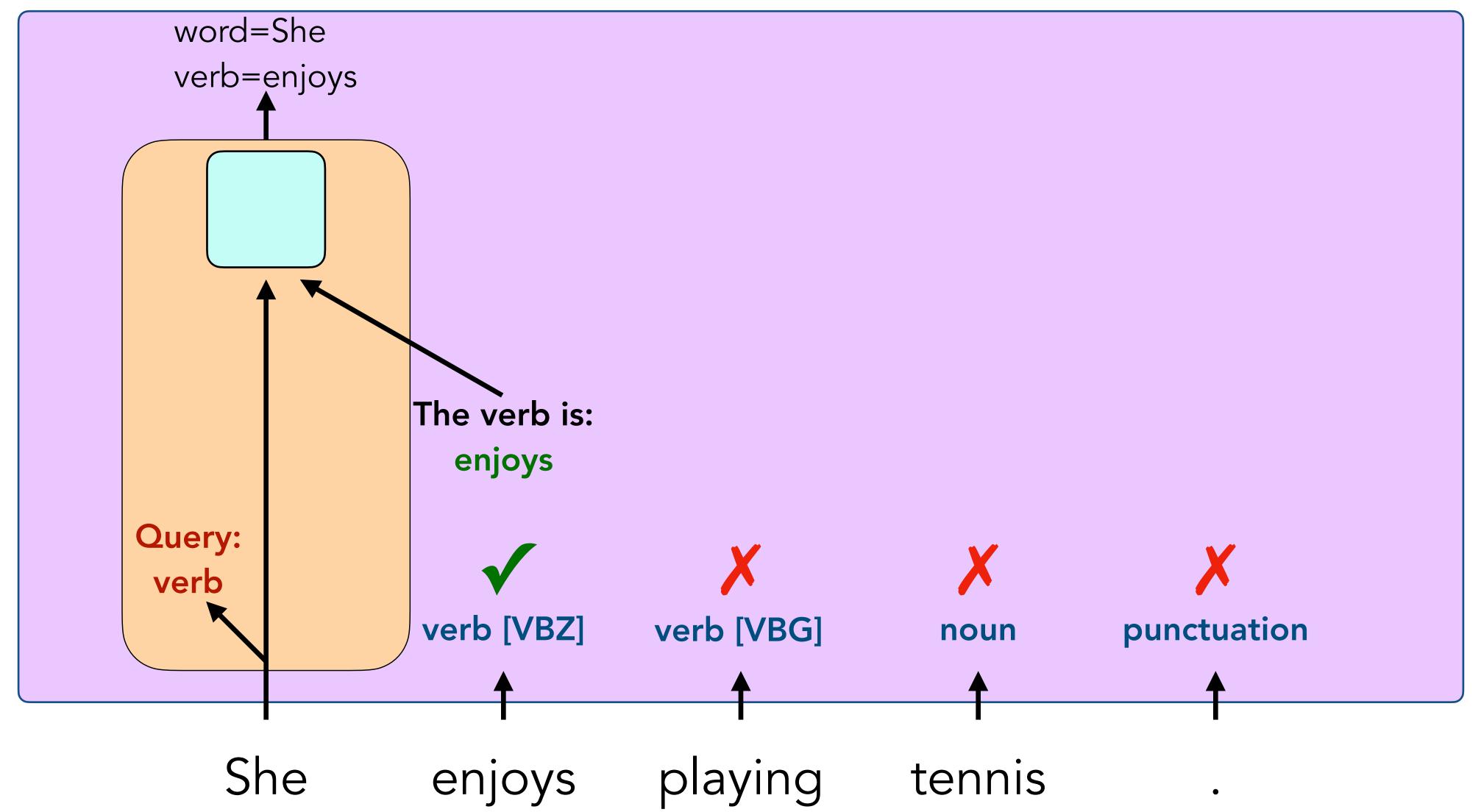






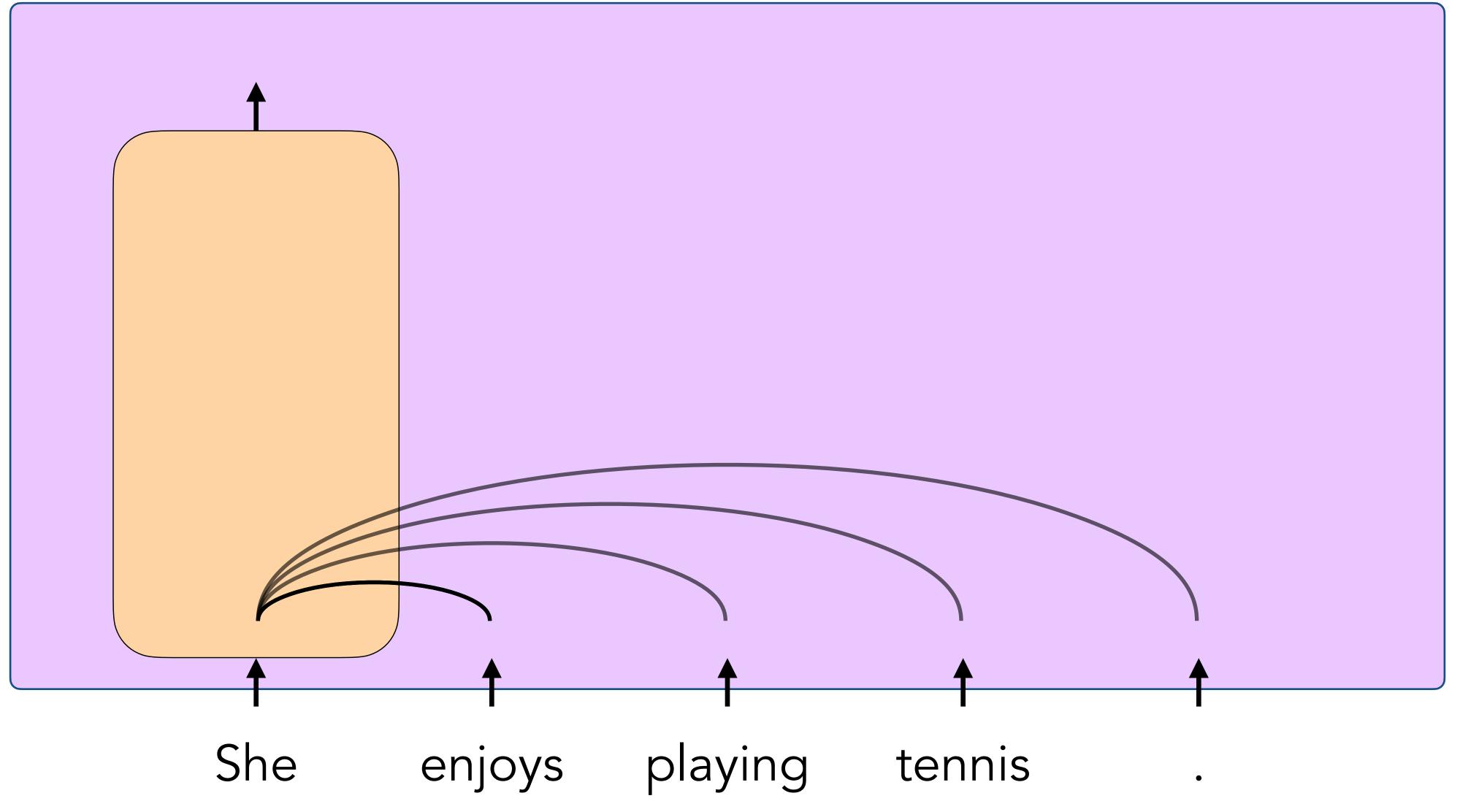




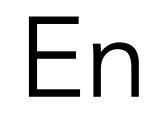


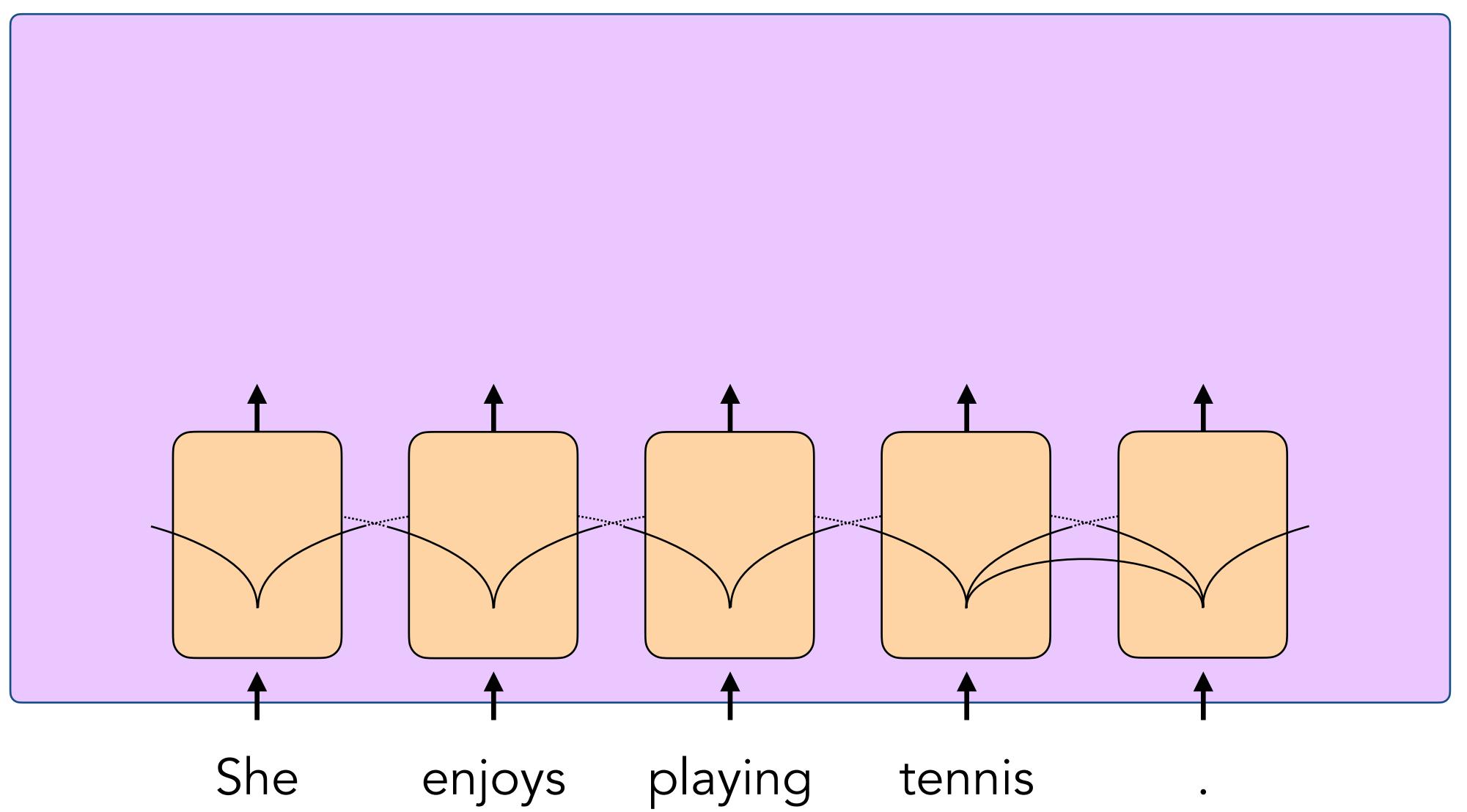




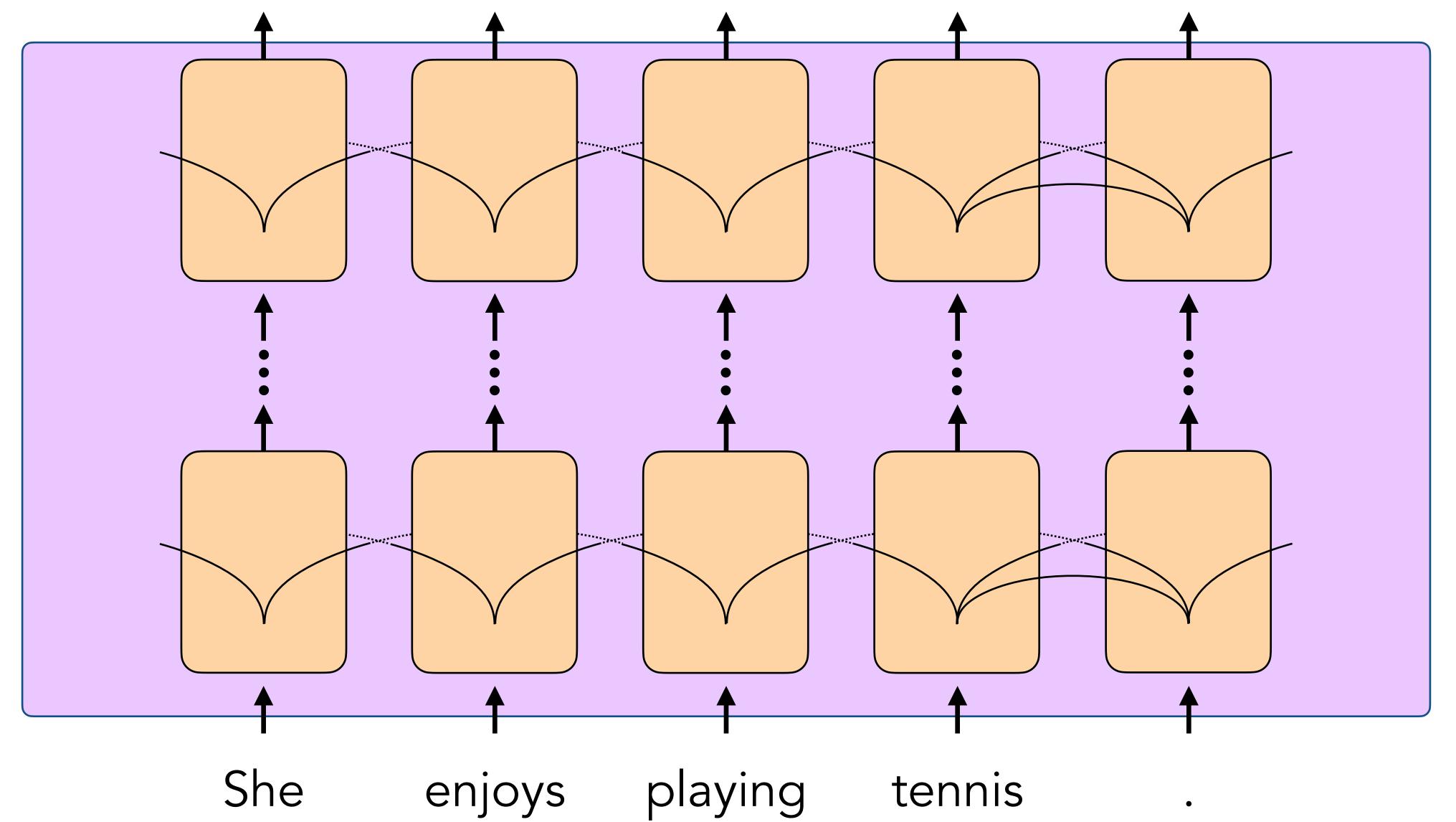




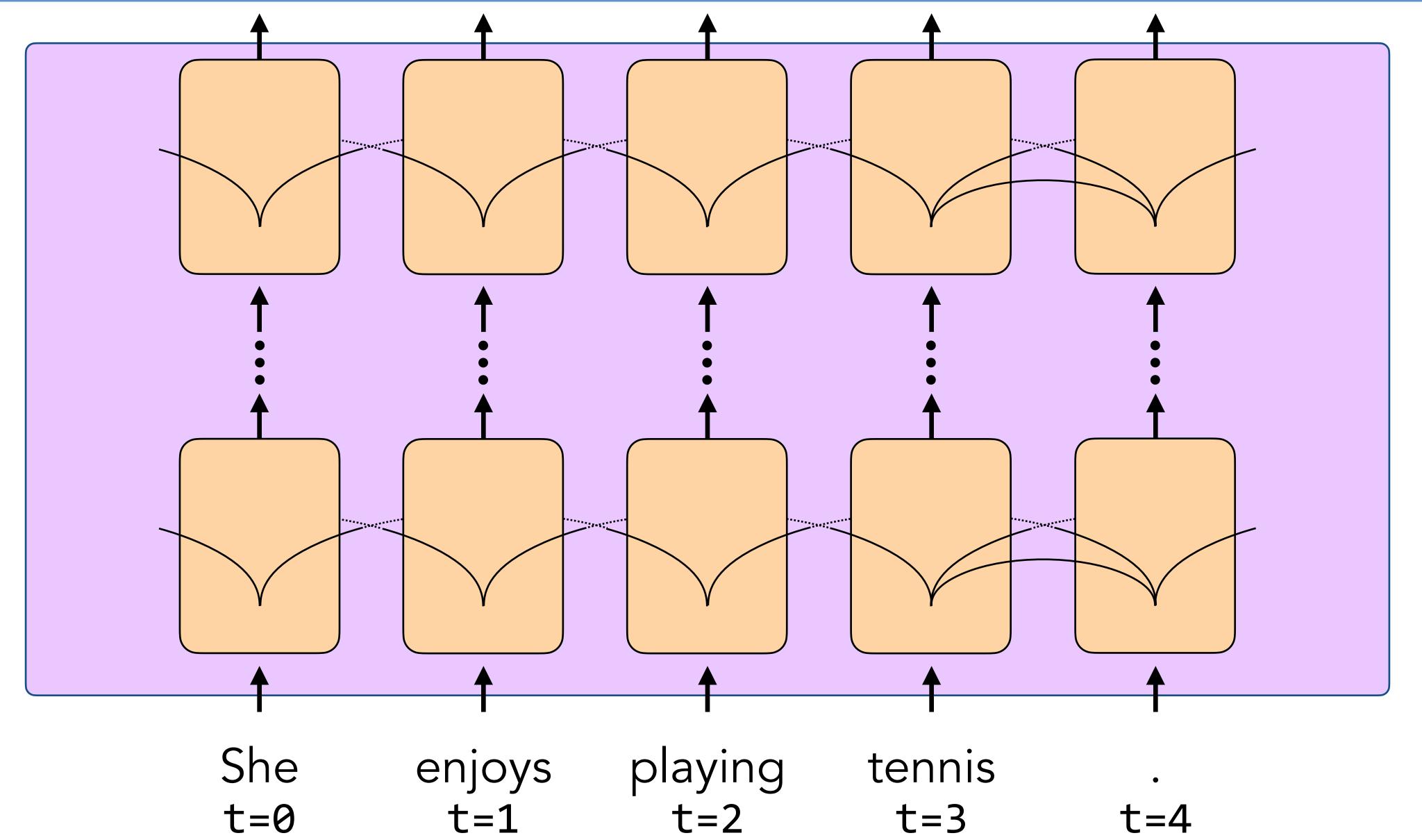






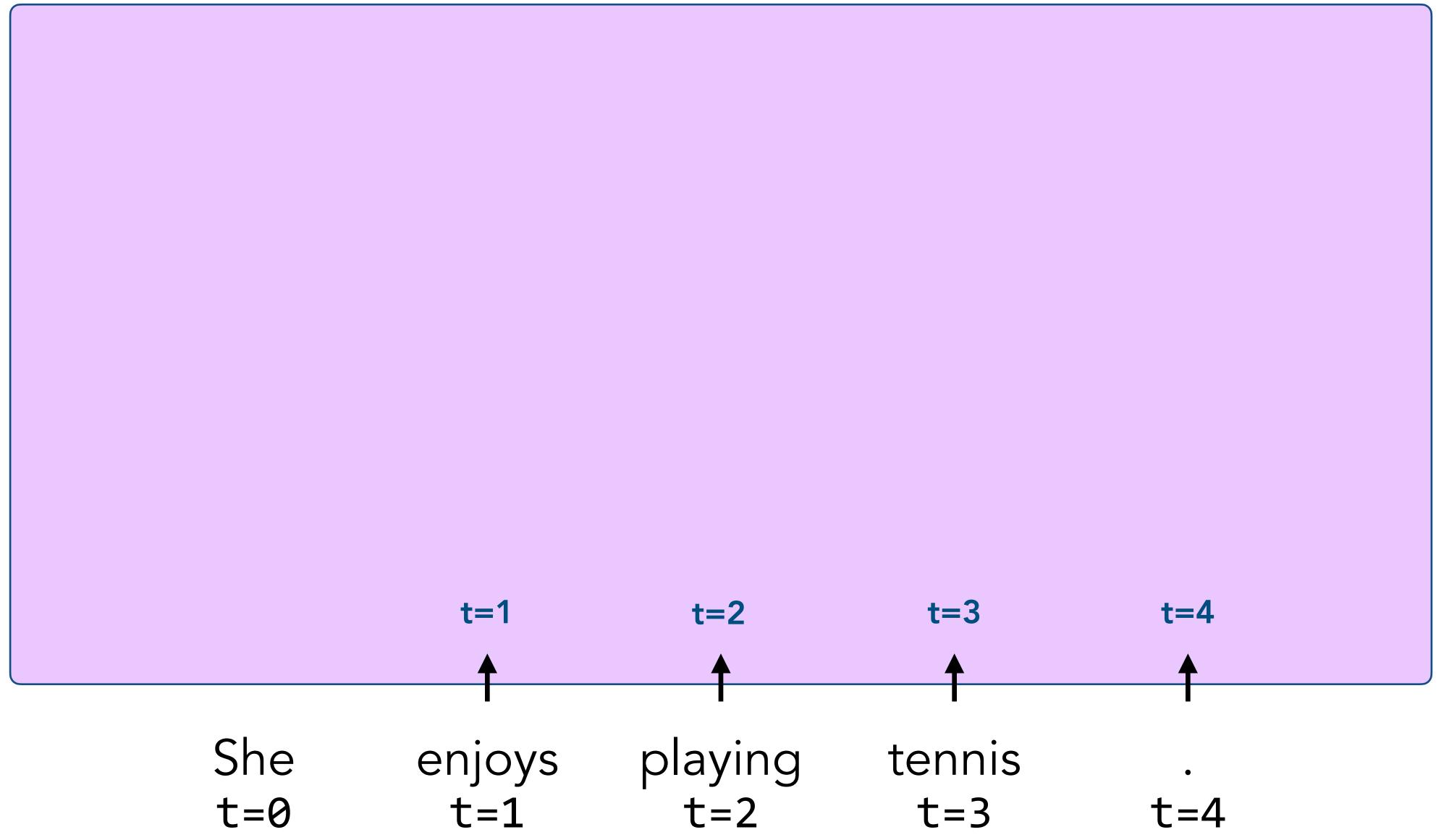












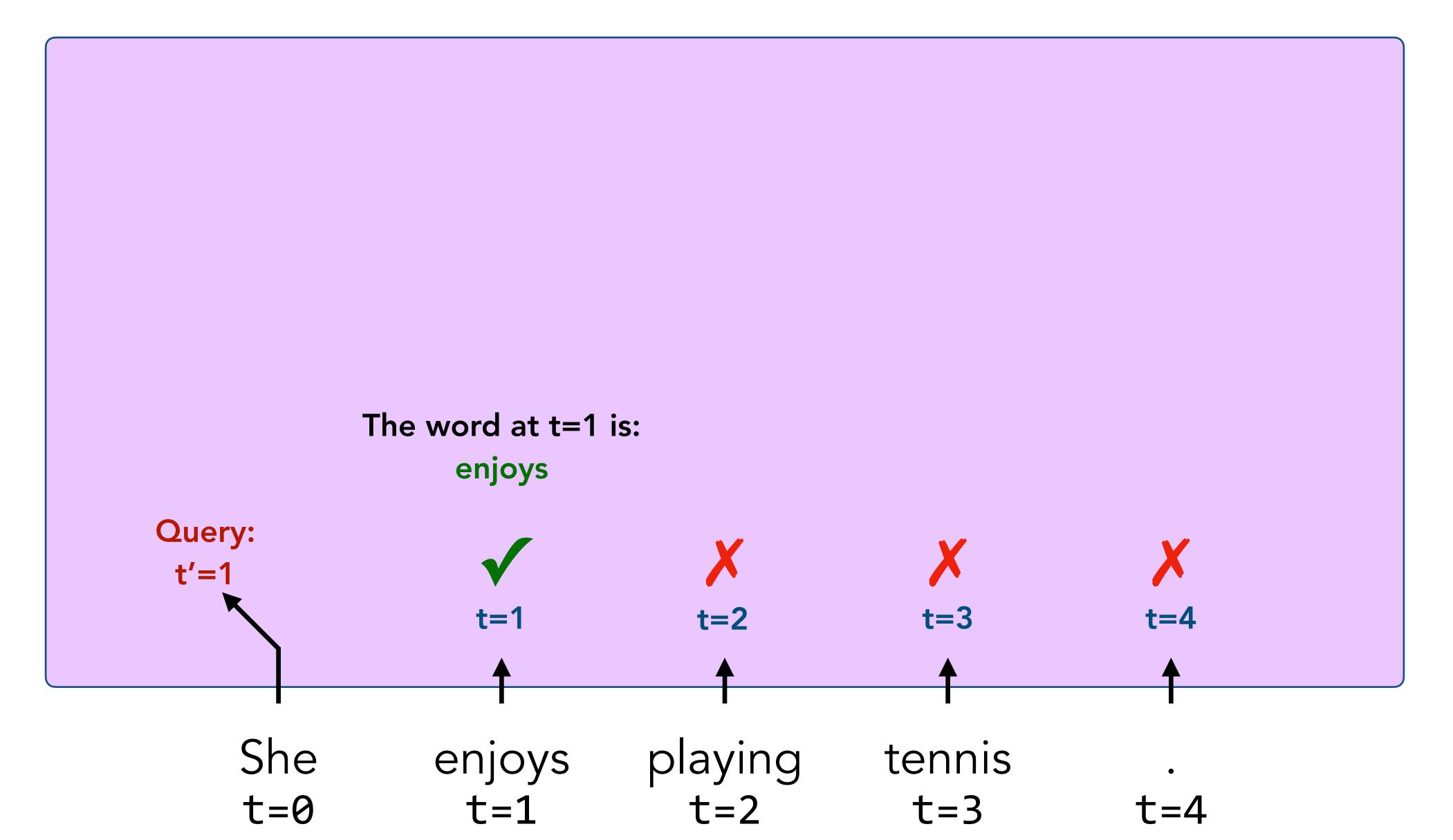




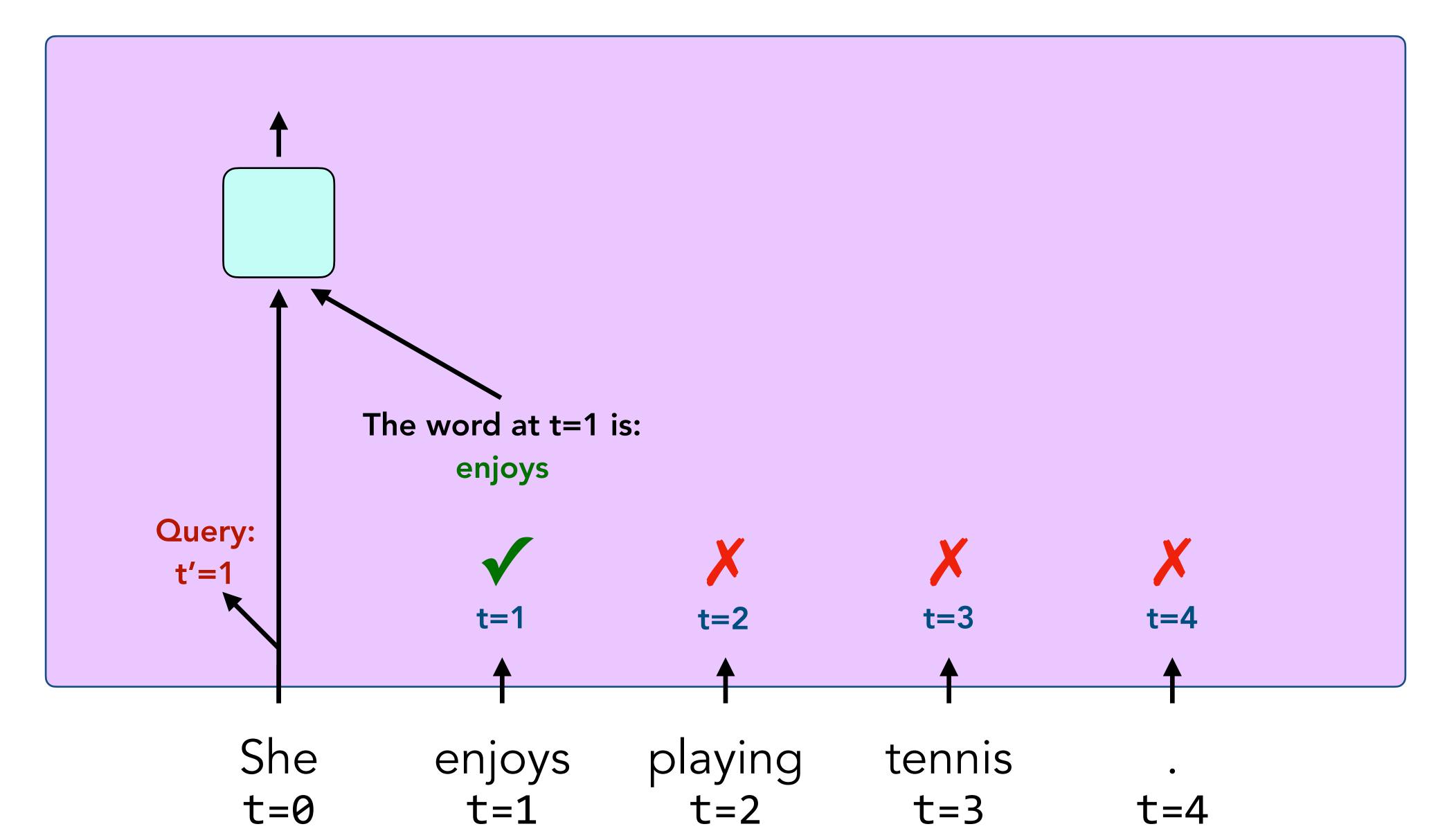




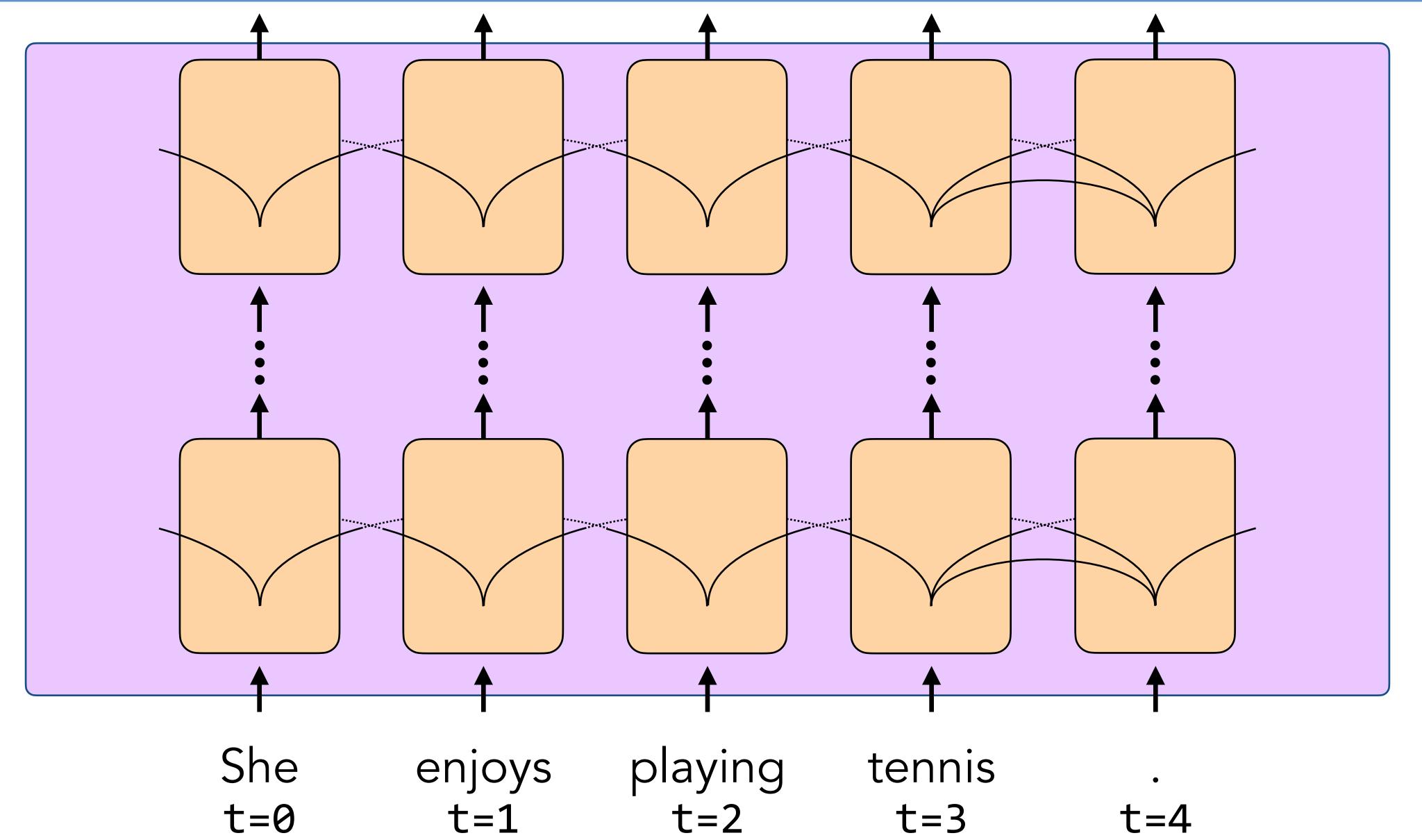


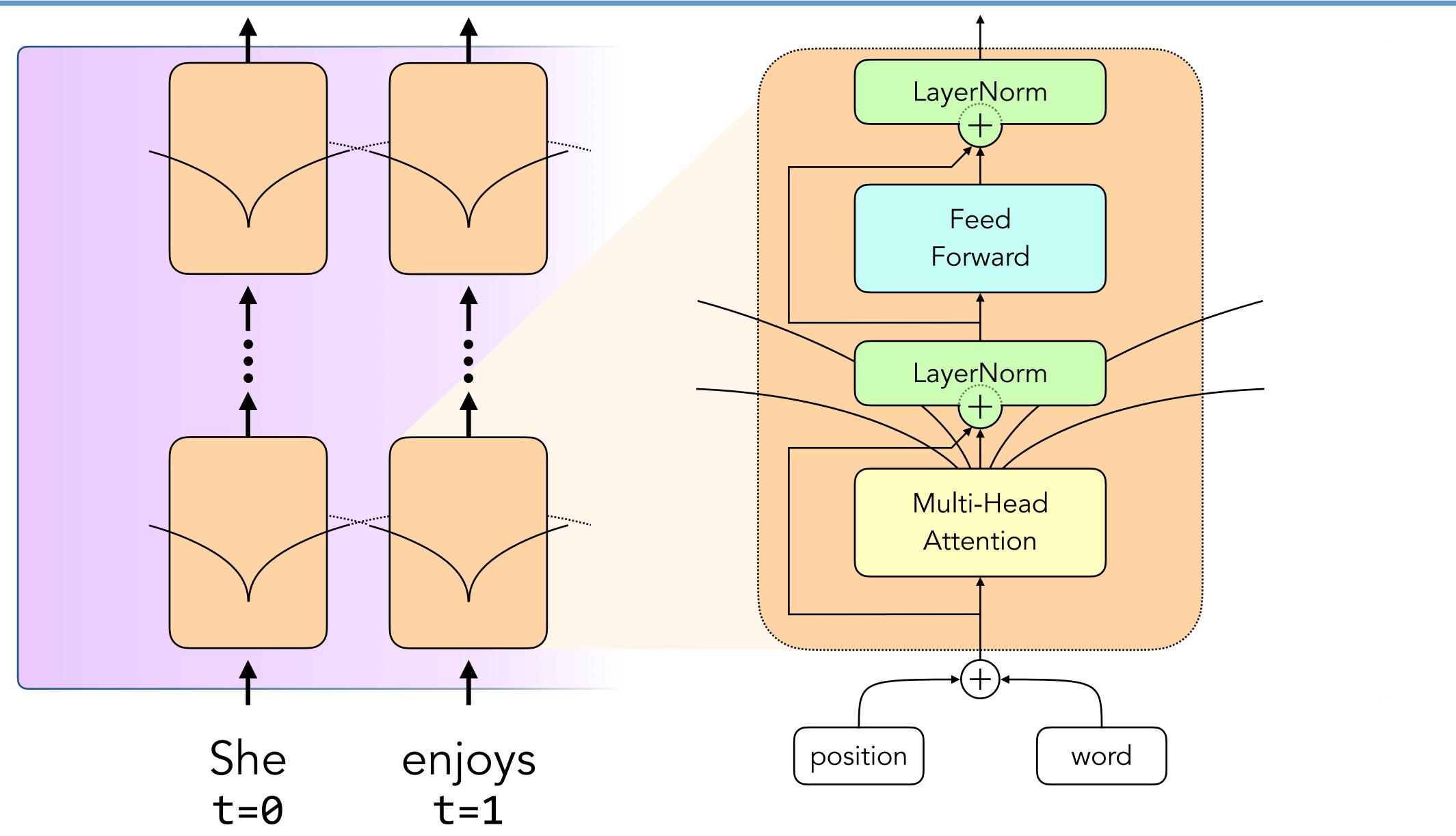






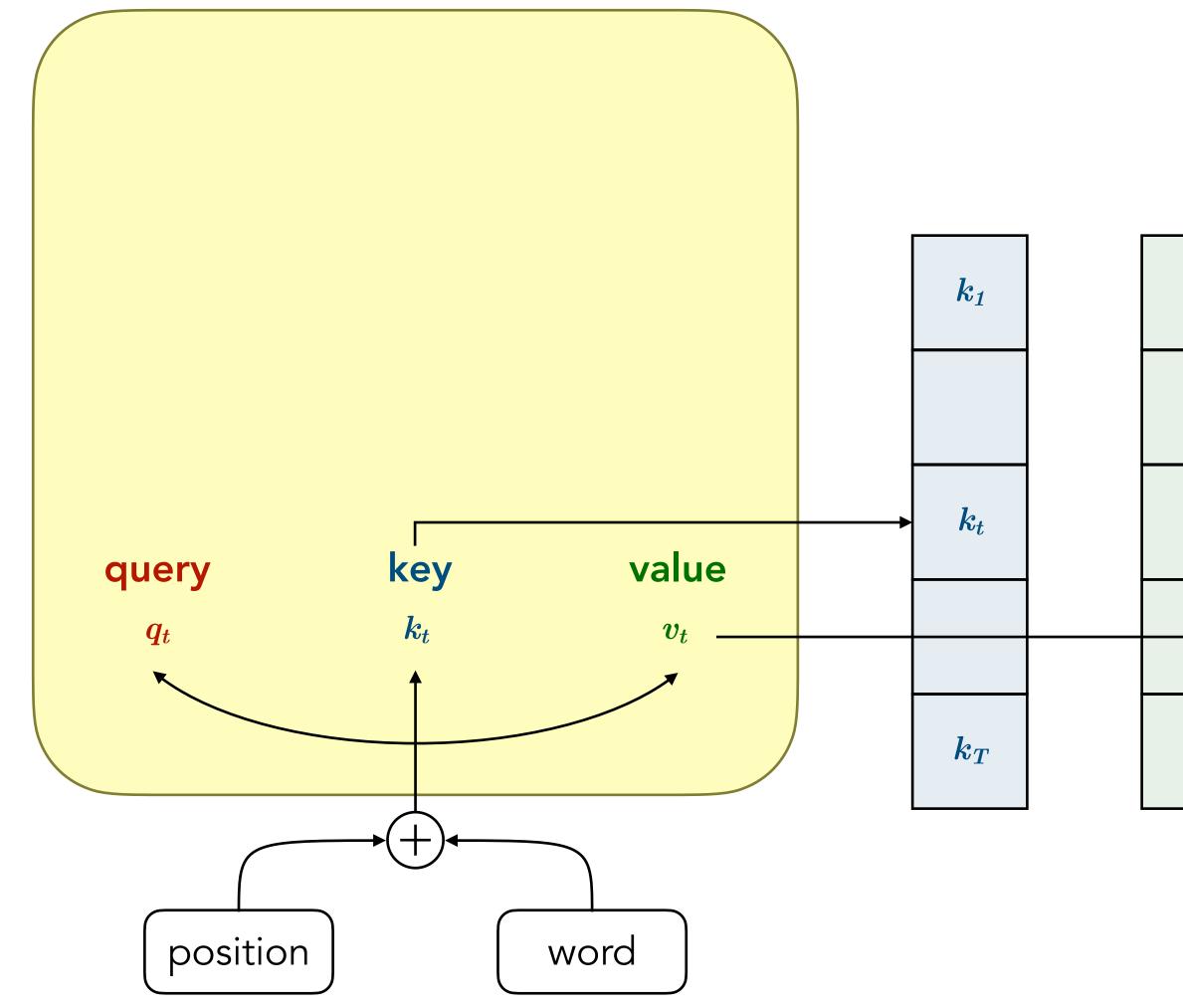


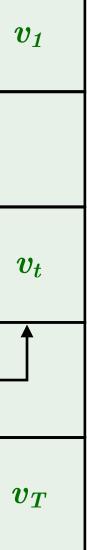






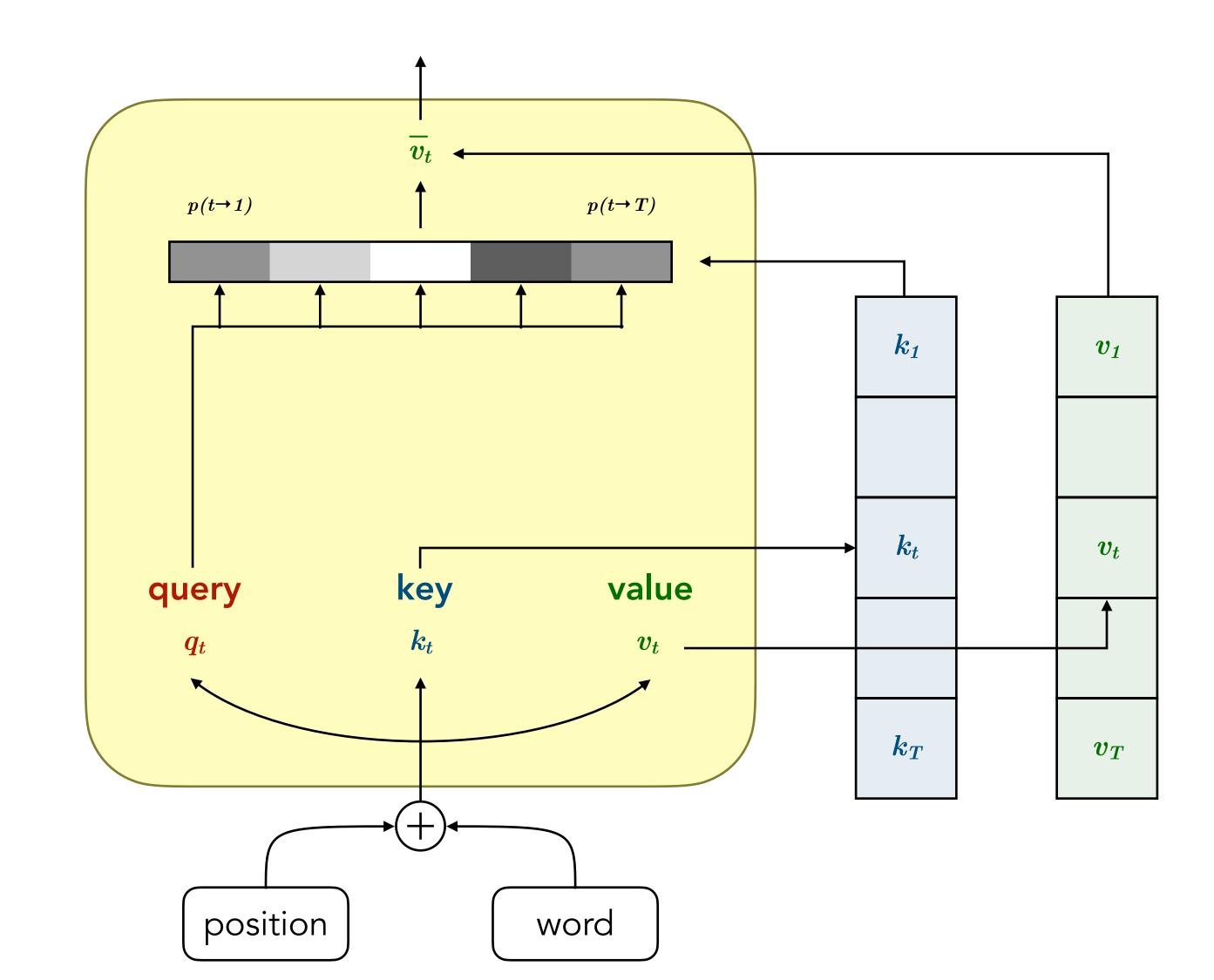
Self-Attention







Self-Attention

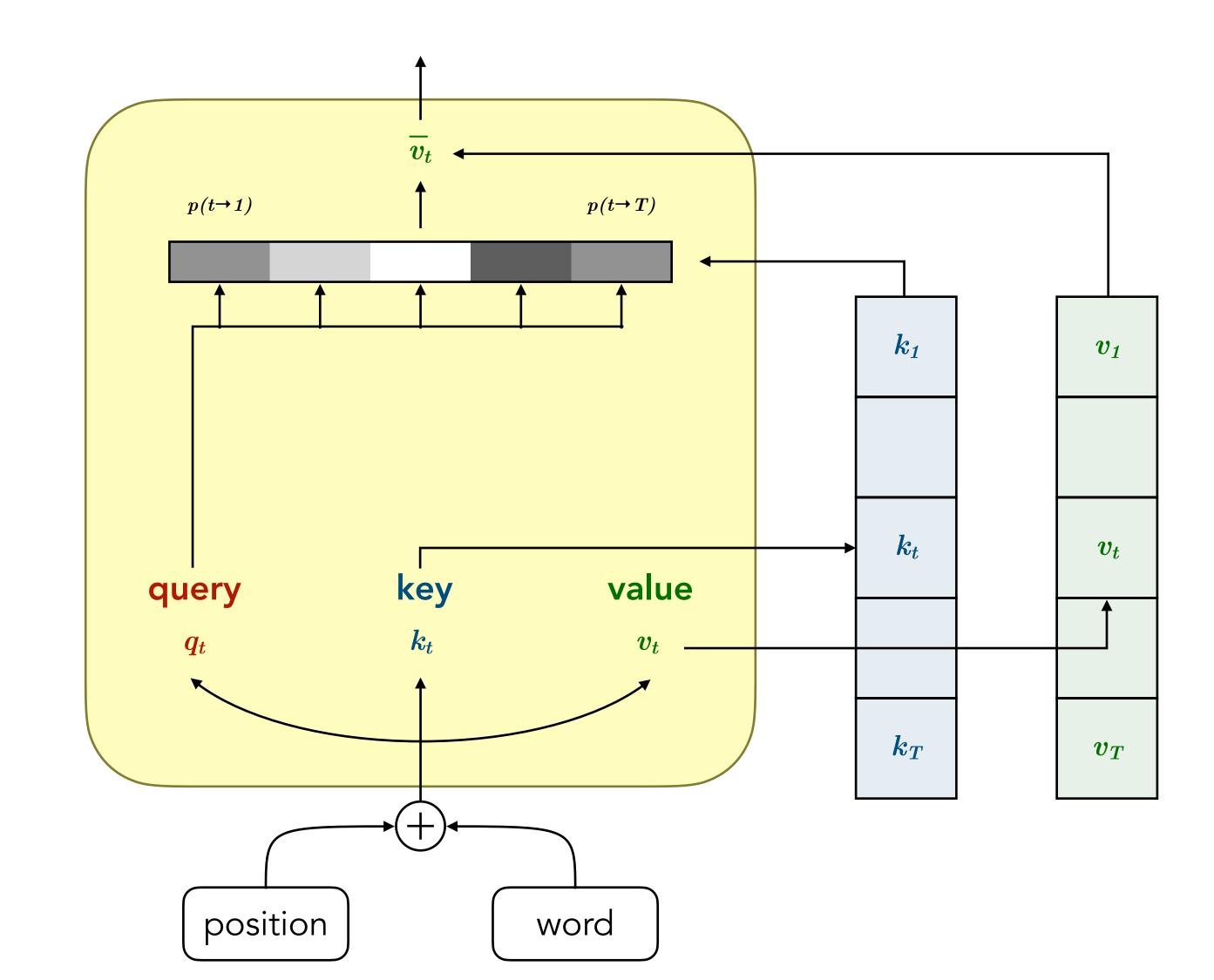






Attention(Q, K, V) = softmax($\frac{QK^{\top}}{\sqrt{d_k}}V$)

Self-Attention



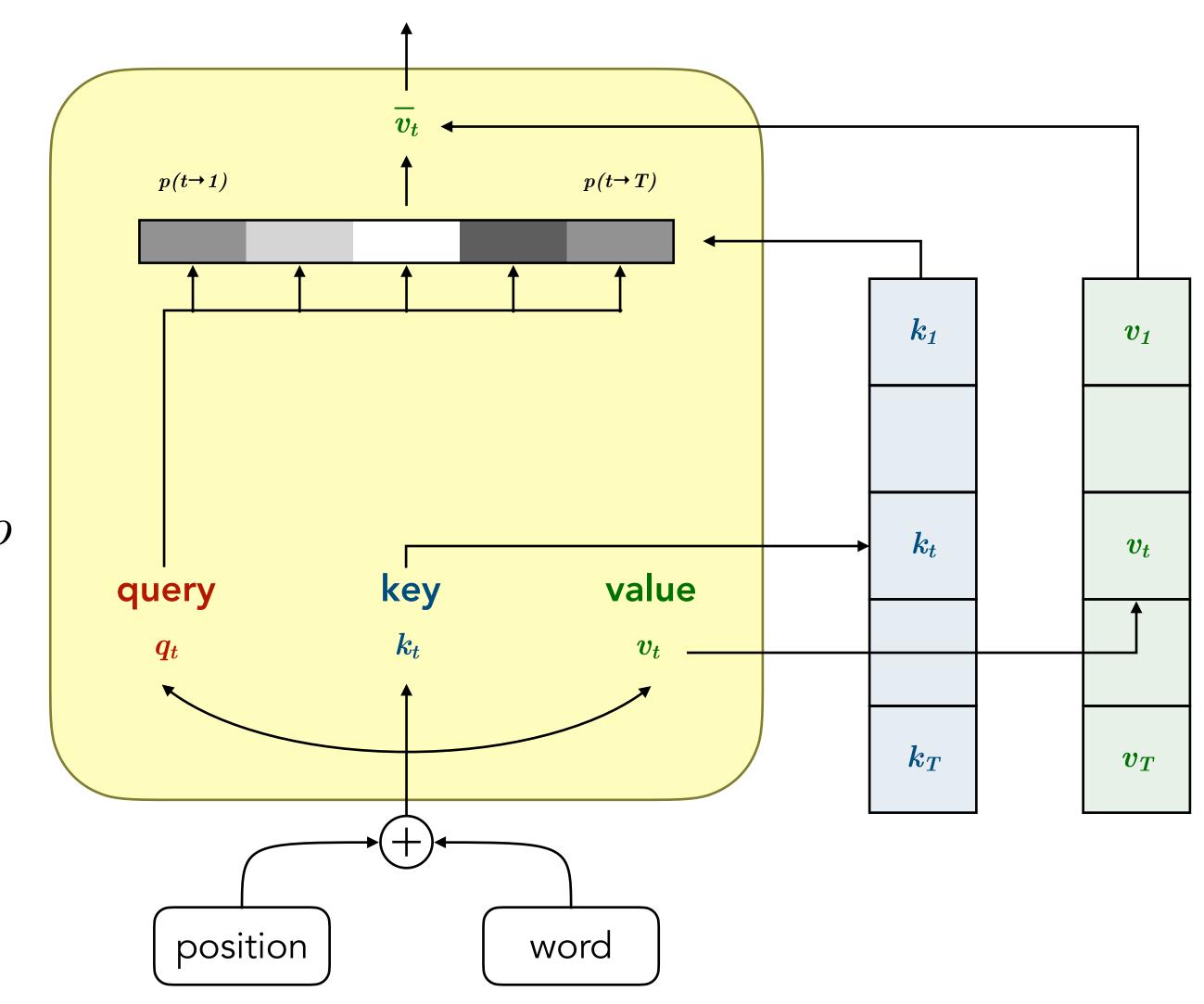




Attention(Q, K, V) = softmax(
$$\frac{QK^{\top}}{\sqrt{d_k}}V$$
)

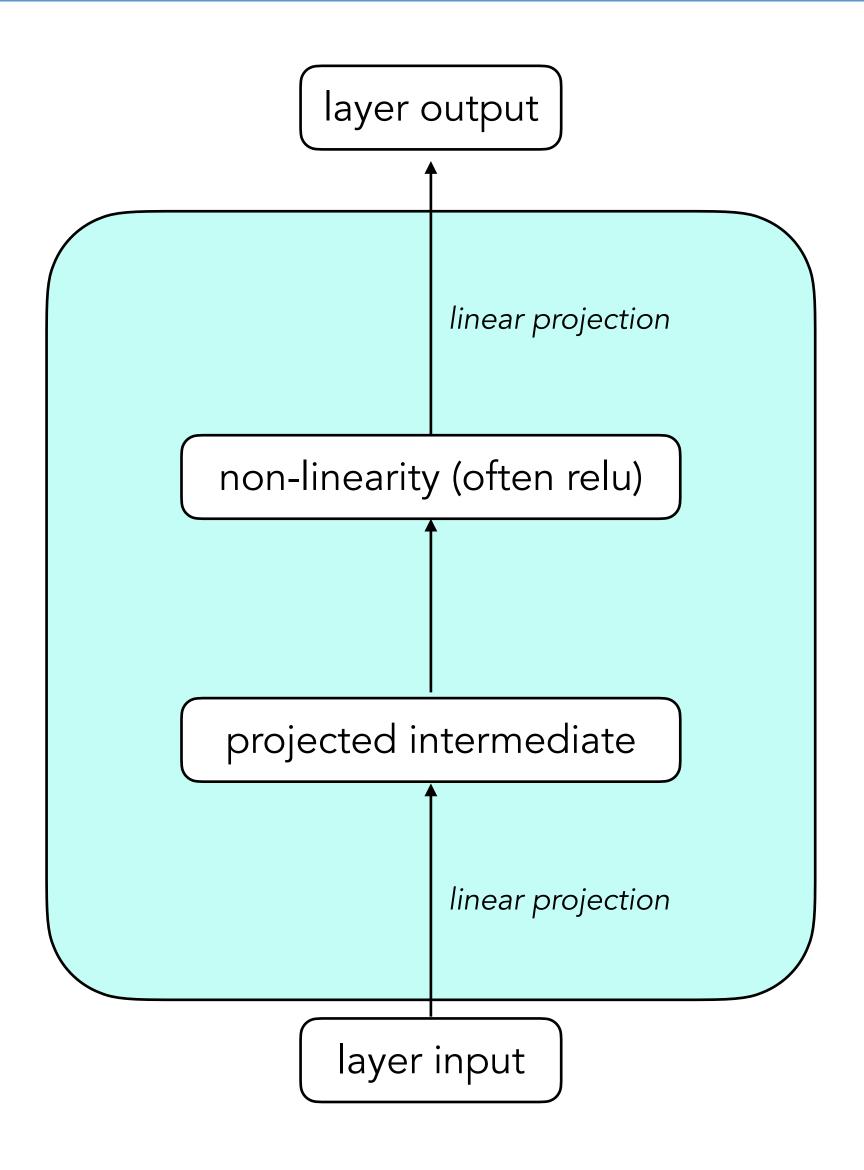
$$MultiHead(X) = \sum_{i=0}^{h} Attention(XW_i^Q, XW_i^K, XW_i^V)W_i^Q$$

Self-Attention





Feed-Forward

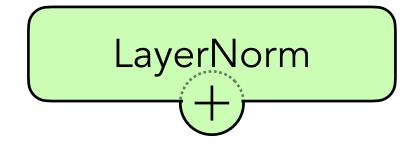


FeedForward(x) = max(0, $xW_1 + b_1)W_2 + b_2$





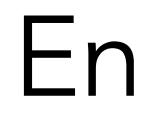
Layer Normalization [Ba+16] improves stability of neuron activations

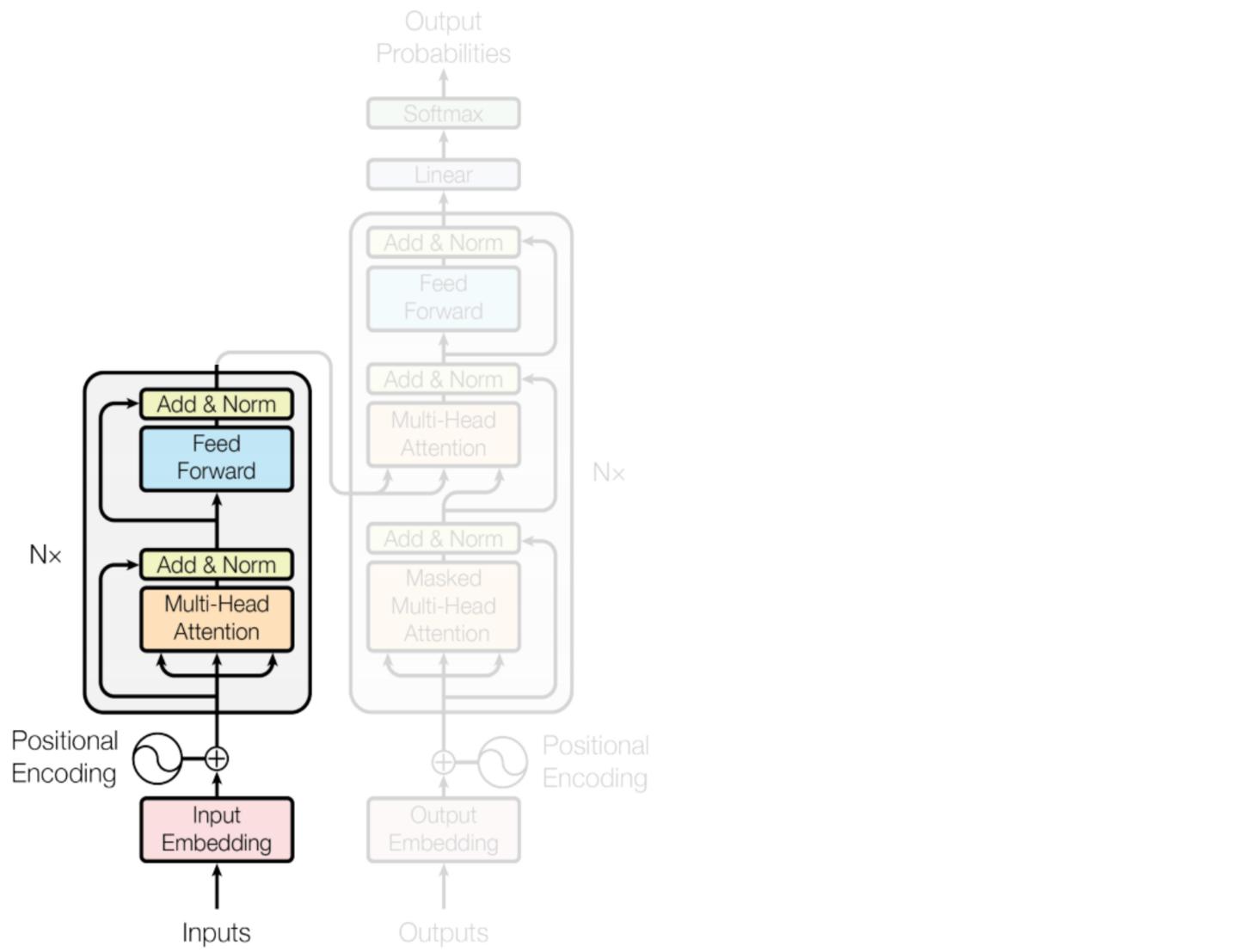


Residual Connections useful across a variety of neural network architecture types, not just in NLP

Add & Norm





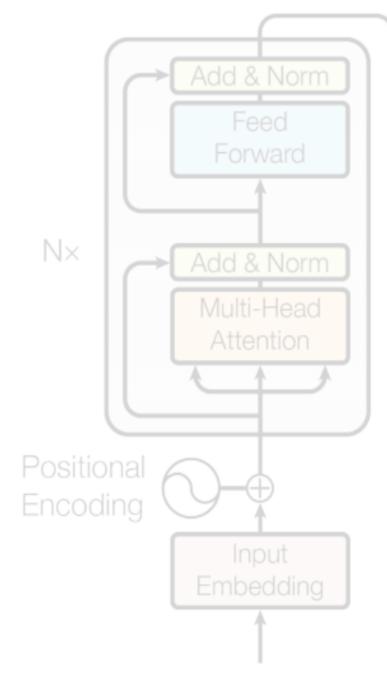


Encoder

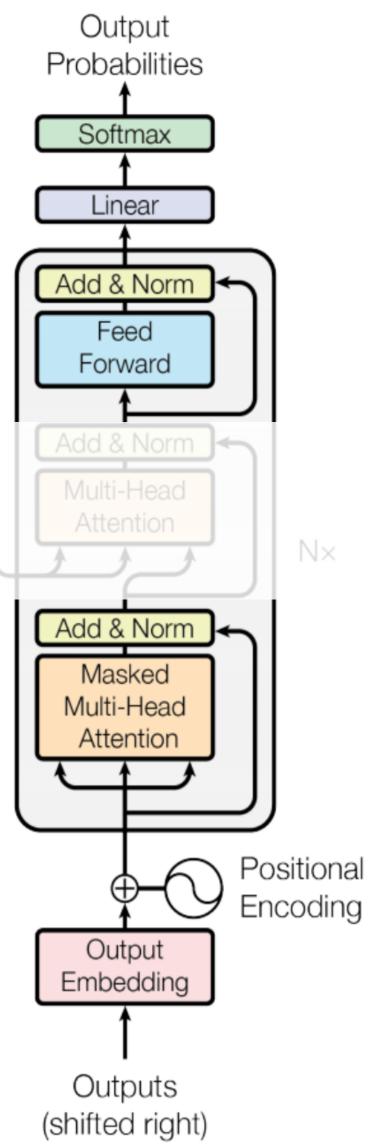
(shifted right)



Decoder

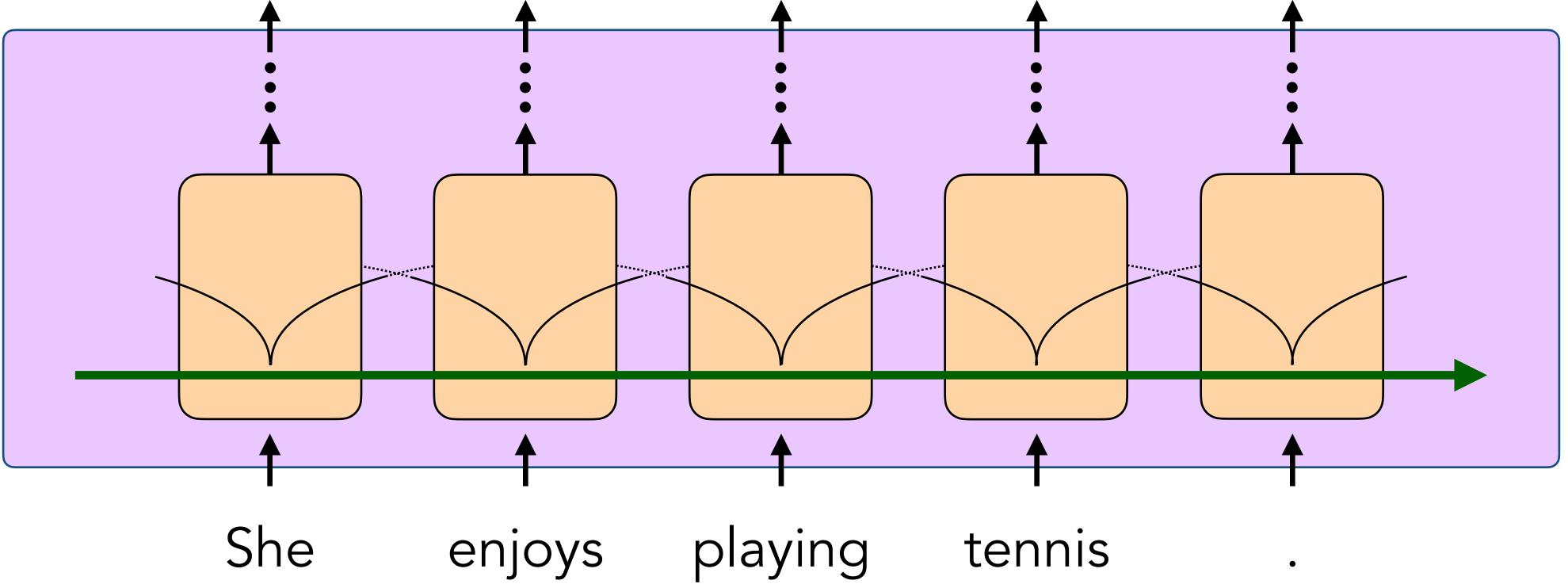


Inputs



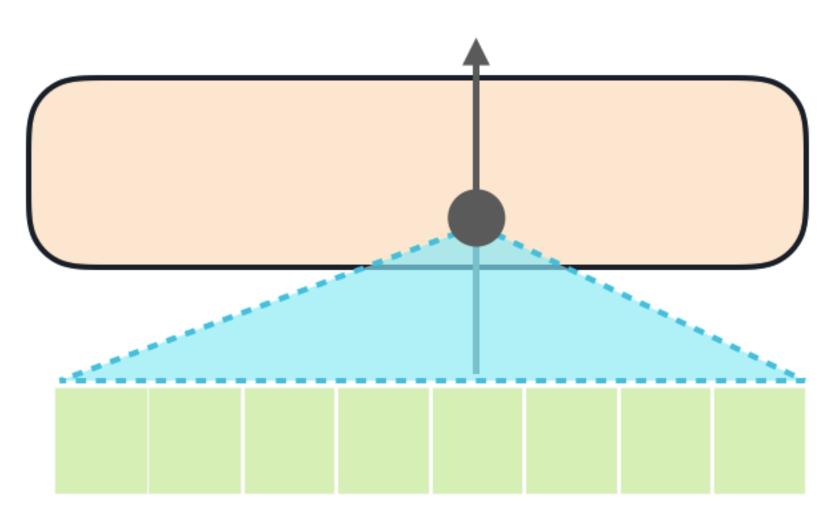


Decoder

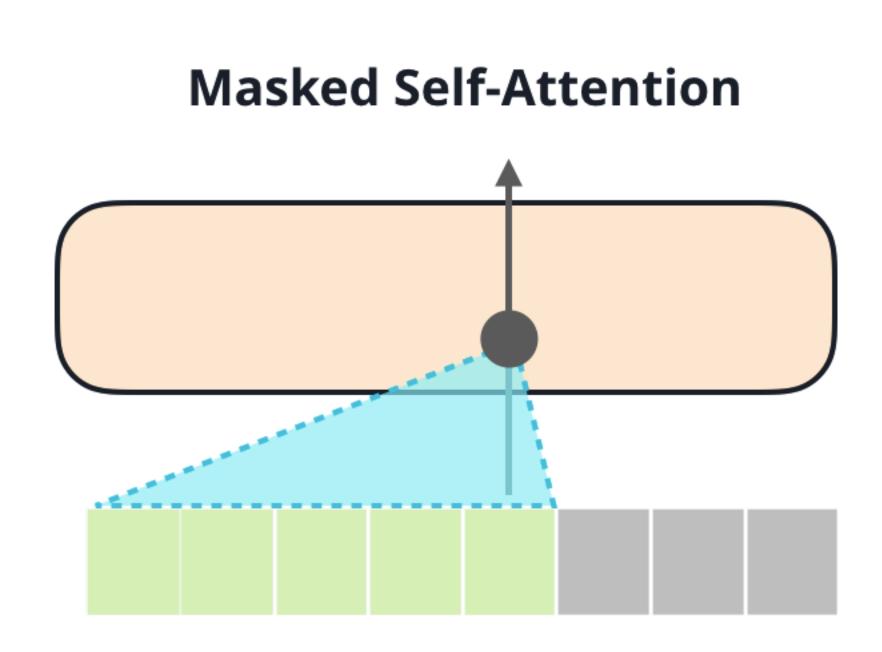




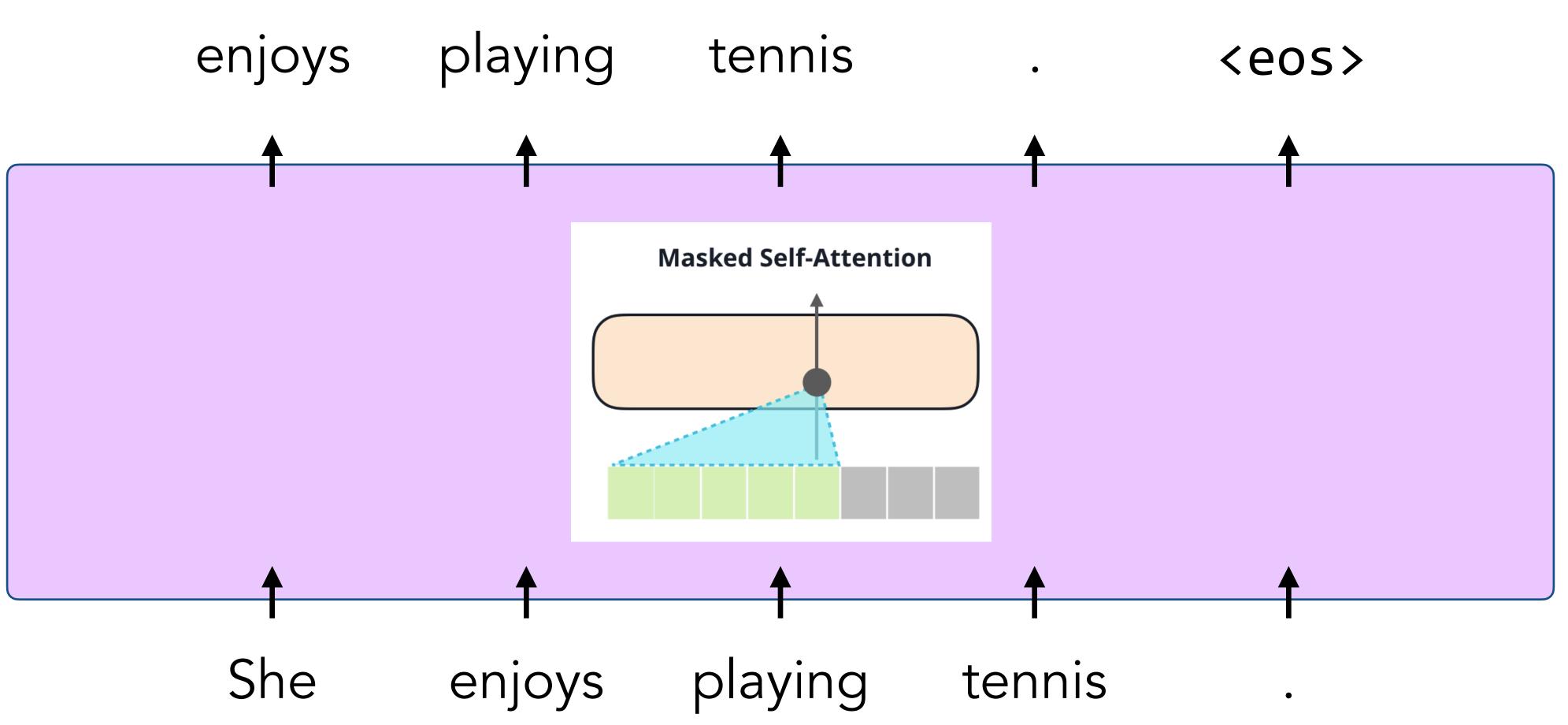
Self-Attention



Encoder vs. Decoder



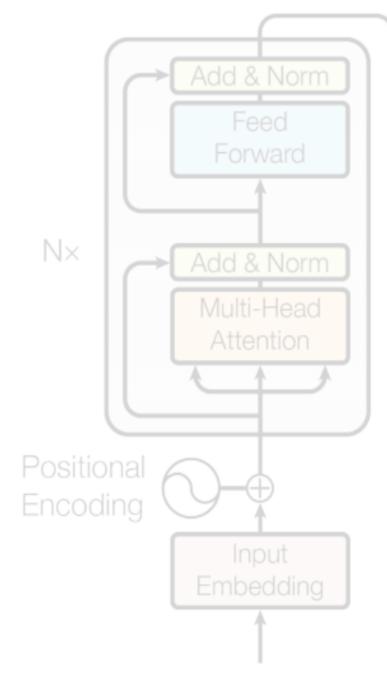




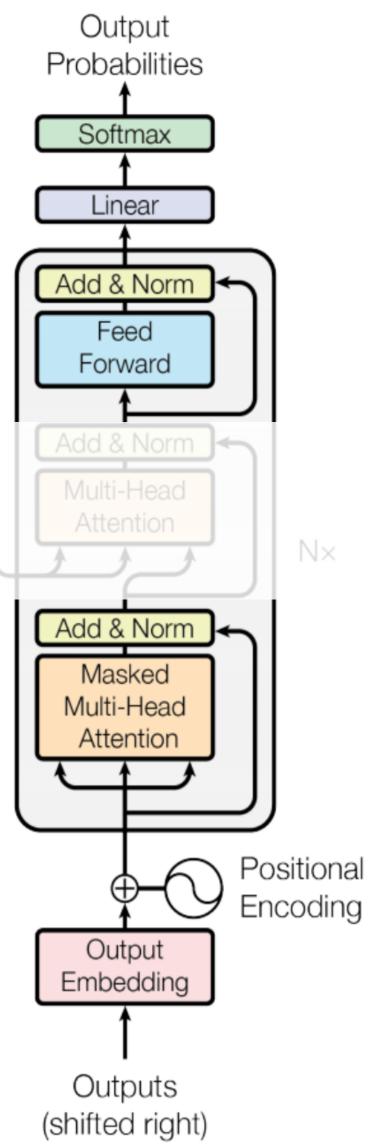
Decoder-Only Transformer Model



Decoder

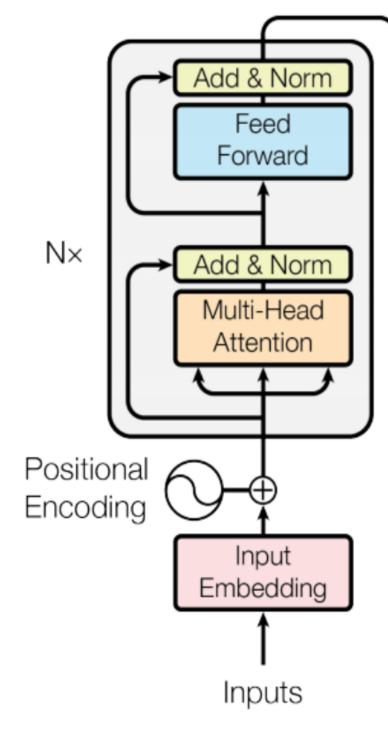


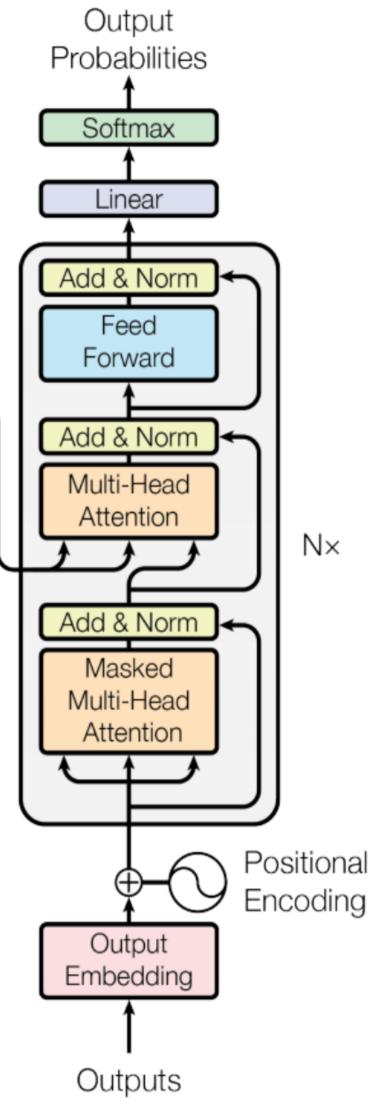
Inputs





Encoder-Decoder





(shifted right)

Transformer MT Results

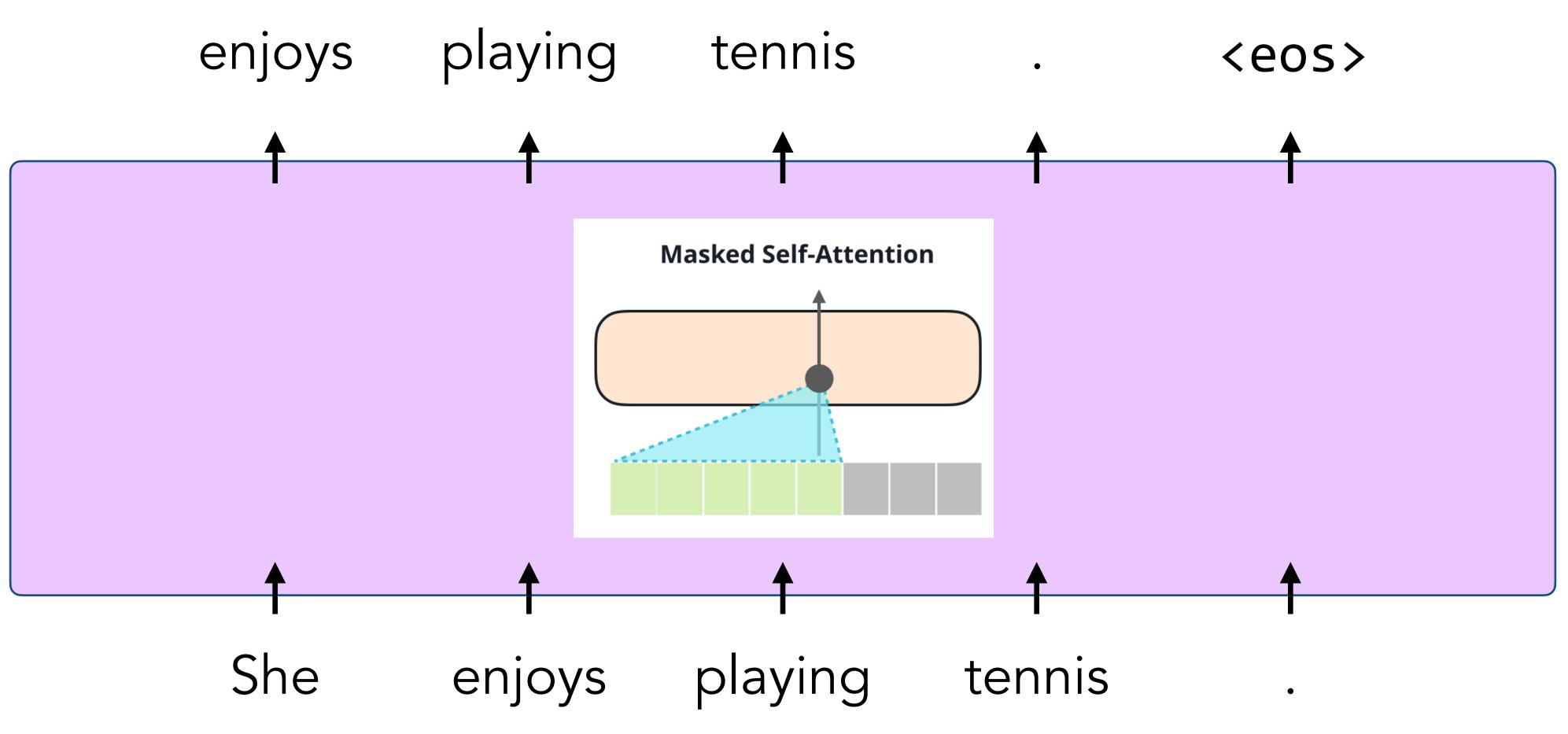


| Madal | BLEU | | Training Cost (FLOPs) | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| Model | EN-DE | EN-FR | EN-DE | EN-FR | |
| ByteNet [18] | 23.75 | | | | |
| Deep-Att + PosUnk [39] | | 39.2 | | $1.0\cdot 10^{20}$ | |
| GNMT + RL [38] | 24.6 | 39.92 | $2.3\cdot 10^{19}$ | $1.4\cdot 10^{20}$ | |
| ConvS2S [9] | 25.16 | 40.46 | $9.6\cdot 10^{18}$ | $1.5\cdot 10^{20}$ | |
| MoE [32] | 26.03 | 40.56 | $2.0\cdot 10^{19}$ | $1.2\cdot 10^{20}$ | |
| Deep-Att + PosUnk Ensemble [39] | | 40.4 | | $8.0\cdot 10^{20}$ | |
| GNMT + RL Ensemble [38] | 26.30 | 41.16 | $1.8\cdot 10^{20}$ | $1.1\cdot 10^{21}$ | |
| ConvS2S Ensemble [9] | 26.36 | 41.29 | $7.7\cdot 10^{19}$ | $1.2\cdot 10^{21}$ | |
| Transformer (base model) | 27.3 | 38.1 | $3.3\cdot 10^{18}$ | | |
| Transformer (big) | 28.4 _{29.} | 41.8 1 41.8 | 2.3 · | 10^{19} | |

(2) Pre-Training

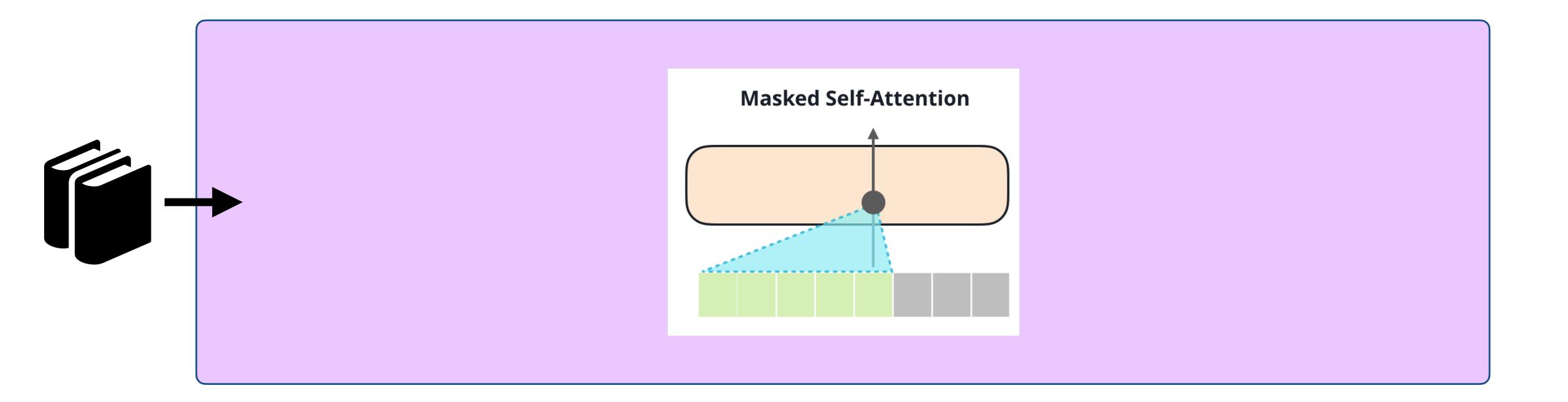
Transformer Language Model







Pre-Training with LMs





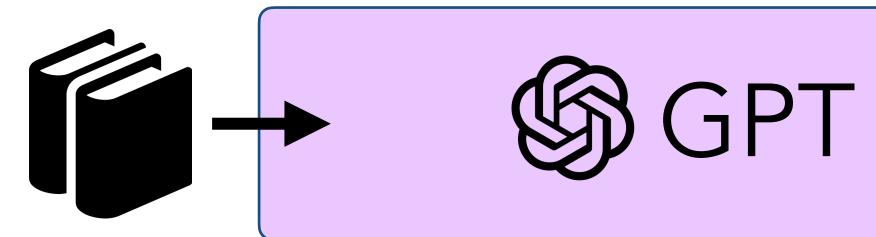
Representative Model: GPT (GPT = Generative Pre-Training)



Pre-Training with LMs

Pre-Training with LMs



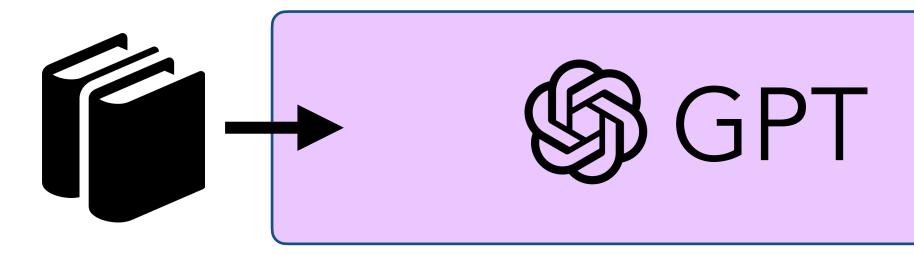


pre-training



Pre-Training with LMs





Help prince transfer huge inheritance

Important information about your final exam



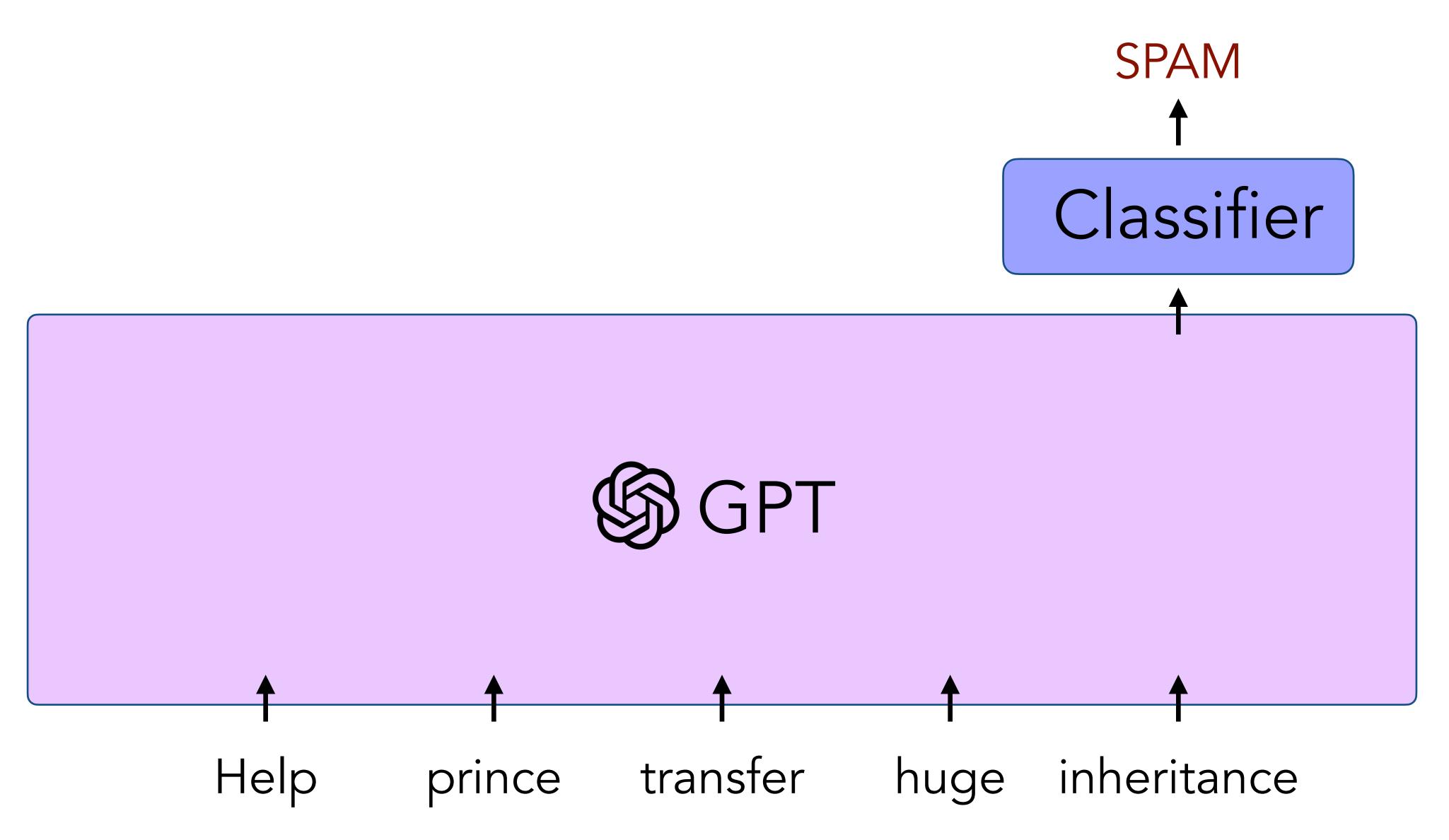


task-specific fine-tuning



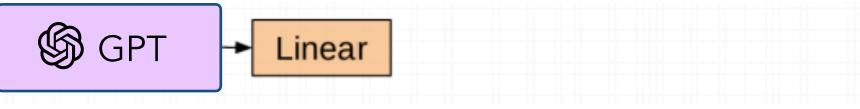








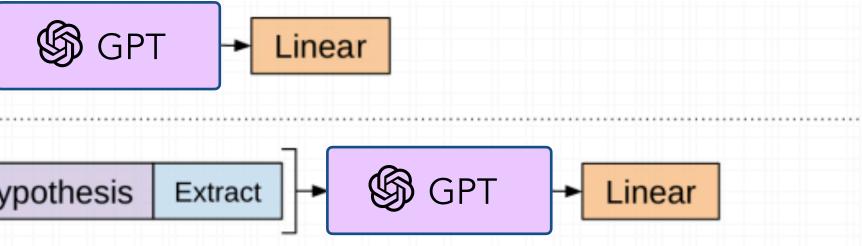
| Classification | Start | Text | Extract |
|----------------|-------|------|---------|
| | | | |







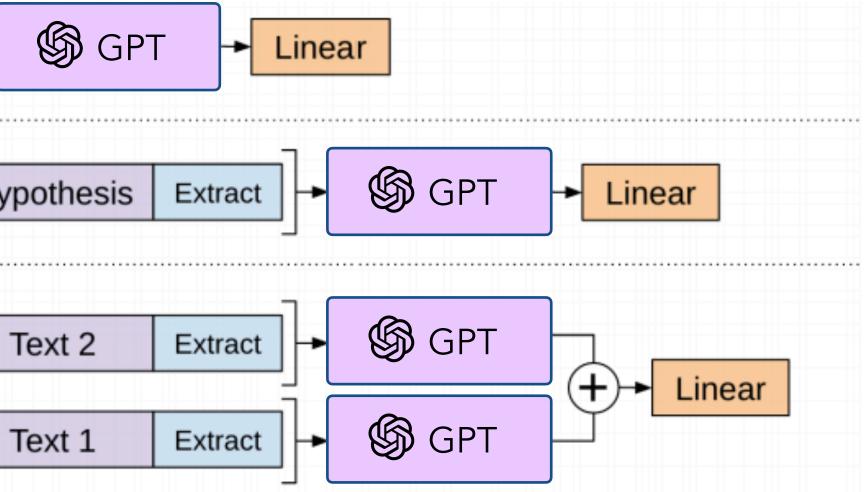
| Classification | Start | Text | Extract |]- |
|----------------|-------|---------|---------|----|
| Entailment | Start | Premise | Delim | Ну |







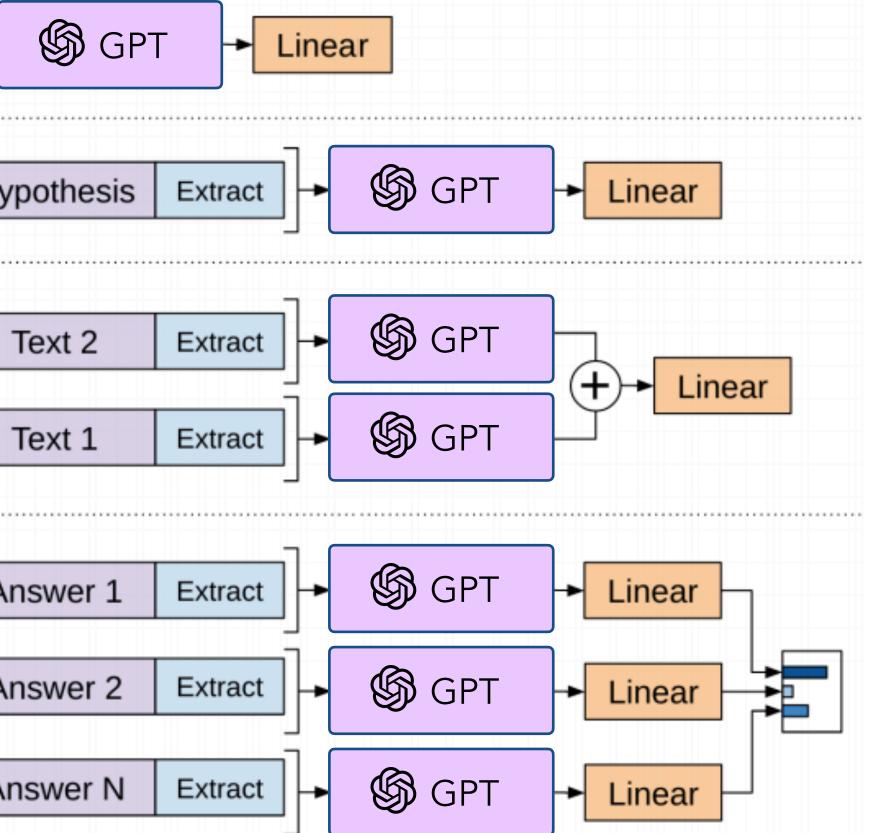
| Classification | Start | Text | Extract |]}• |
|----------------|-------|---------|---------|-----|
| Entailment | Start | Premise | Delim | Ну |
| | | | | |
| Similarity | Start | Text 1 | Delim | |
| | Start | Text 2 | Delim | |





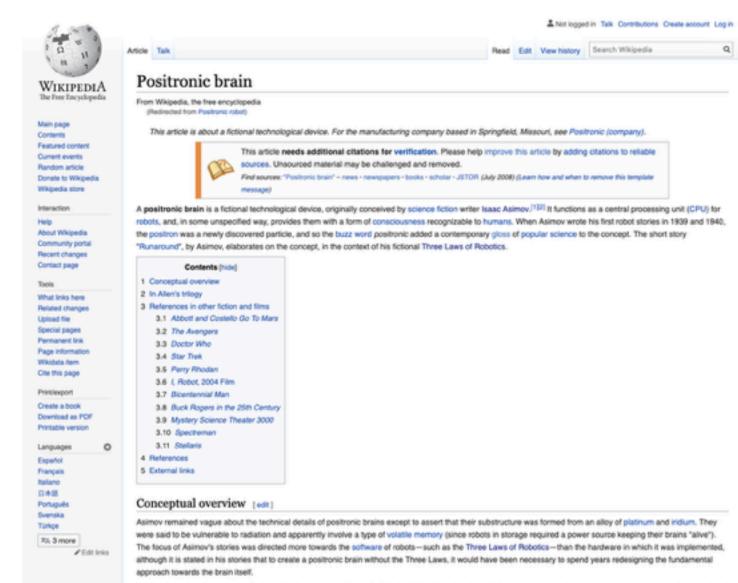


| Classification | Start | Text | Extract |] + |
|-----------------|-------|---------|---------|-----|
| | | | | |
| Entailment | Start | Premise | Delim | Ну |
| | | | | |
| | Start | Text 1 | Delim | |
| Similarity | Start | Text I | Dellin | |
| | Start | Text 2 | Delim | |
| | | | | |
| | Start | Context | Delim | A |
| | Otart | Context | Demin | |
| Multiple Choice | Start | Context | Delim | A |
| | | | | |
| | Start | Context | Delim | Ar |
| | | | | |





Summarization with LMs



Within his stories of robotics on Earth and their development by U.S. Robots, Asimov's positronic brain is less of a plot device and more of a technological item worthy of study.

A positronic brain cannot ordinarily be built without incorporating the Three Laws; any modification thereof would drastically modify robot behavior. Behavioral dilemmas resulting from conflicting potentials set by inexperienced and/or malicious users of the robot for the Three Laws make up the built of Asimov's stories concerning robots. They are resolved by applying the science of logic and psychology together with mathematics, the supreme solution finder being Dr. Susan Calvin, Chief Roboesychologist of U.S. Robots.

The Three Laws are also a bottleneck in brain sophistication. Very complex brains designed to handle world economy interpret the First Law in expanded sense to include humanity as opposed to a single human; in Asimov's later works like Robots and Empire this is referred to as the "Zeroth Law". At least one brain constructed as a calculating machine, as opposed to being a robot control circuit, was designed to have a flexible, childlike personality so that it was able to pursue difficult problems without the Three Laws inhibiting it completely. Specialized brains created for overseeing world economics were stated to have no personality at all.

Under specific conditions, the Three Laws can be obviated, with the modification of the actual robotic design.

Robots that are of low enough value can have the Third Law deleted; they do not have to protect themselves from harm, and the brain size can be reduced by half.
 Robots that do not require orders from a human being may have the Second Law deleted, and therefore require smaller brains again, providing they do not require the Third Law.

Robots that are disposable, cannot receive orders from a human being and are not able to harm a human, will not require even the First Law. The sophistication of
positronic circuitry renders a brain so small that it could comfortably fit within the skull of an insect.

Robots of the latter type directly parallel contemporary industrial robotics practice, though real-life robots do contain safety sensors and systems, in a concern for human safety (a weak form of the First Law; the robot is a safe tool to use, but has no "judgment", which is implicit in Asimov's own stories).

In Allen's trilogy [est]

Several robot stories have been written by other authors following Asimov's death. For example, in Roger MacBride Alien's Caliban trilogy, a Spacer roboticist called Gubber Anshaw invents the gravitonic brain. It offers speed and capacity improvements over traditional positronic designs, but the strong influence of tradition make robotics labs reject Anshaw's work. Only one roboticist, Fredda Leving, chooses to adopt gravitonics, because it offers her a blank slate on which she could explore alternatives to the Three Laws. Because they are not dependent upon centuries of earlier research, gravitonic brains can be programmed with the standard Laws, variations of the Laws, or even empty pathways which specify no Laws at all.



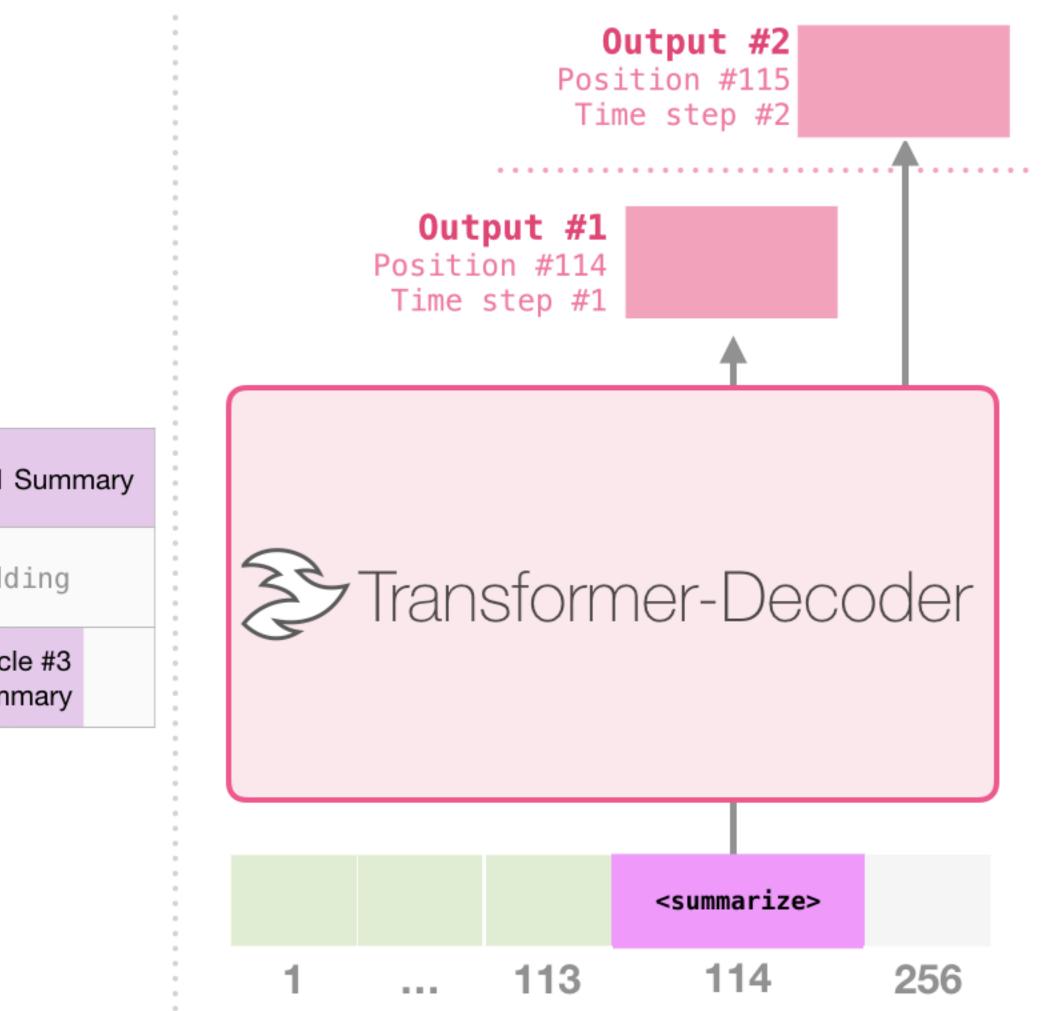




Training Dataset

| Article #1 to | okens | s <summari< b=""></summari<> | | Artio | cle #1 |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------|--------------|
| Article #2 tokens | <summarize></summarize> | Article #2 Summary | | | padd |
| Article #3 | 3 tokens | | <summari< th=""><th>ze></th><th>Artic Sum</th></summari<> | ze> | Artic Sum |

Summarization with LMs





GLUE Benchmark



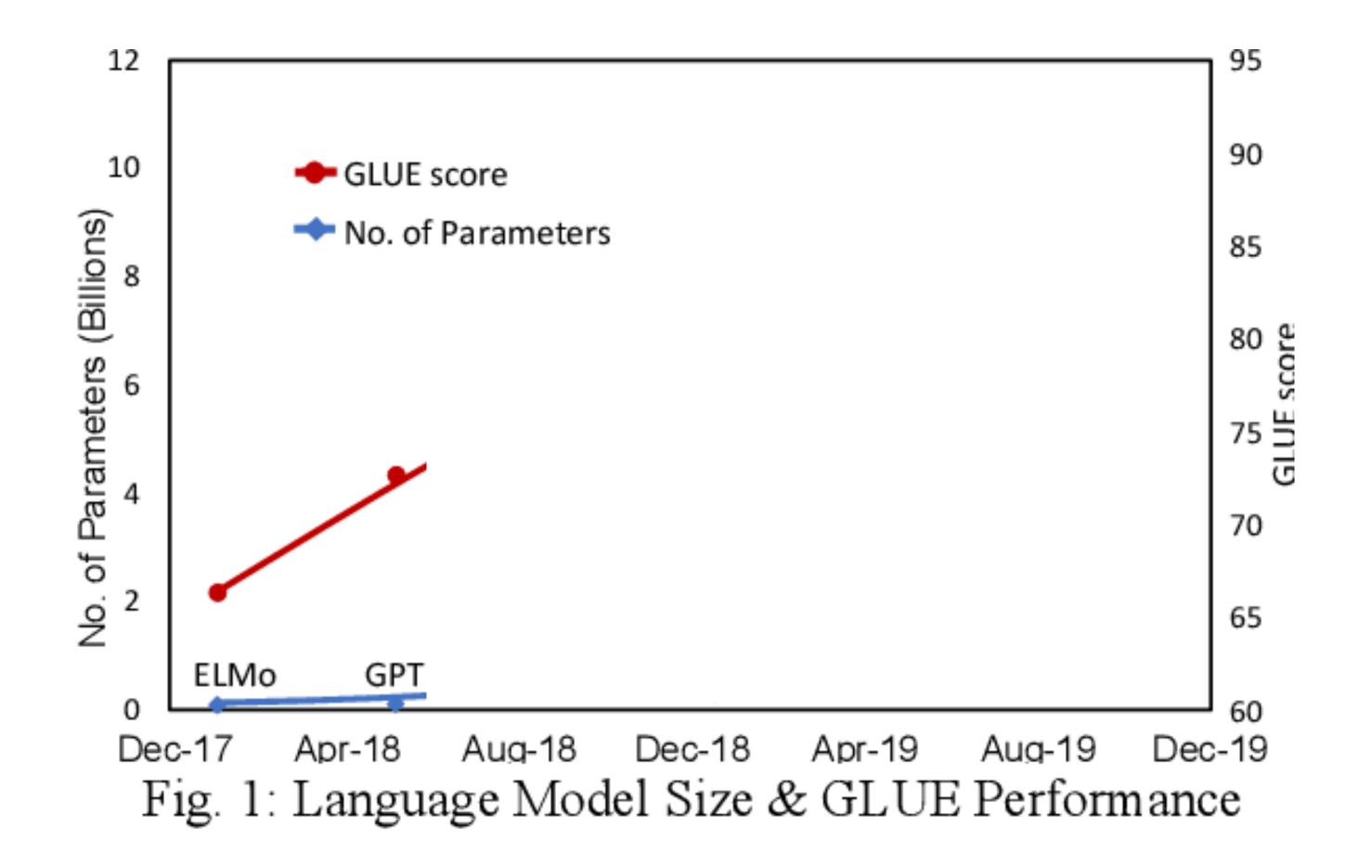
[Wang+19] GLUE: A Multi-Task Benchmark and Analysis Platform For Natural Language Understanding

https://gluebenchmark.com

| Dataset | Description | Data example | Metric |
|---------|--|--|--------------------|
| CoLA | Is the sentence grammatical or ungrammatical? | "This building is than that one." = Ungrammatical | Matthews |
| SST-2 | Is the movie review positive, negative, or neutral? | "The movie is funny , smart , visually inventive , and most of all , alive ." = .93056 (Very Positive) | Accuracy |
| MRPC | Is the sentence B a paraphrase of sentence A? | A) "Yesterday , Taiwan reported 35 new infections , bringing the total number of cases to 418 ." B) "The island reported another 35 probable cases yesterday , taking its total to 418 ." = A Paraphrase | Accuracy / F1 |
| STS-B | How similar are sentences A and B? | A) "Elephants are walking down a trail." B) "A herd of elephants are walking along a trail." = 4.6 (Very Similar) | Pearson / Spearman |
| QQP | Are the two questions similar? | A) "How can I increase the speed of my internet connection while using a VPN?" B) "How can Internet speed be increased by hacking through DNS?" = Not Similar | Accuracy / F1 |
| MNLI-mm | Does sentence A entail or contradict sentence B? | A) "Tourist Information offices can be very helpful." B) "Tourist Information offices are never of any help." = Contradiction | Accuracy |
| QNLI | Does sentence B contain the answer to the question in sentence A? | A) "What is essential for the mating of the elements that create radio waves?" B) "Antennas are required by any radio receiver or transmitter to couple its electrical connection to the electromagnetic field." = Answerable | Accuracy |
| RTE | Does sentence A entail sentence B? | A) "In 2003, Yunus brought the microcredit revolution to the streets of Bangladesh to support more than 50,000 beggars, whom the Grameen Bank respectfully calls Struggling Members." B) "Yunus supported more than 50,000 Struggling Members." = Entailed | Accuracy |
| WNLI | Sentence B replaces sentence A's ambiguous pronoun with one of the nouns - is this the correct noun? | A) "Lily spoke to Donna, breaking her concentration." B) "Lily spoke to Donna, breaking Lily's concentration." = Incorrect Referent | Accuracy |

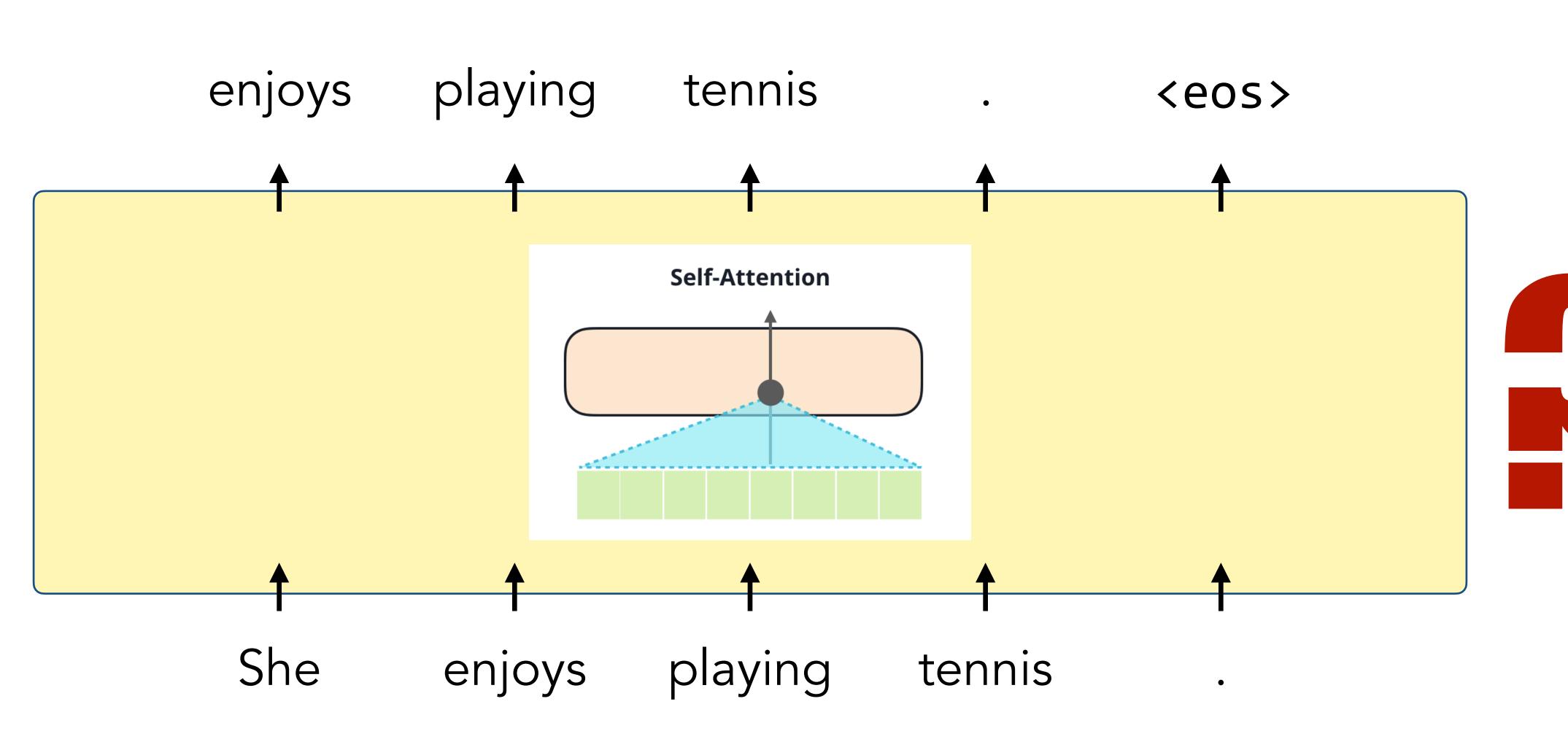


GLUE Benchmark Results







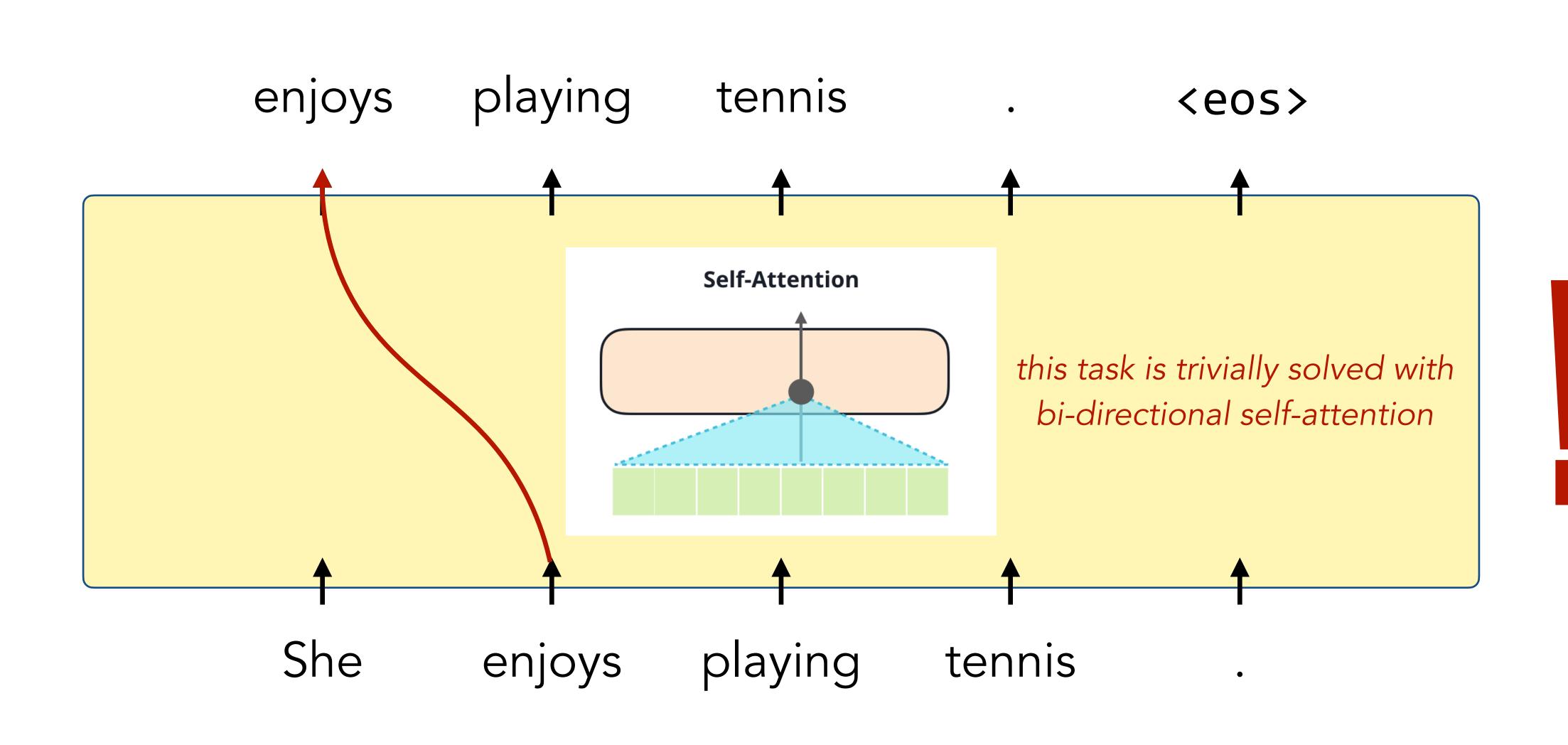


Bi-directional Pre-Training









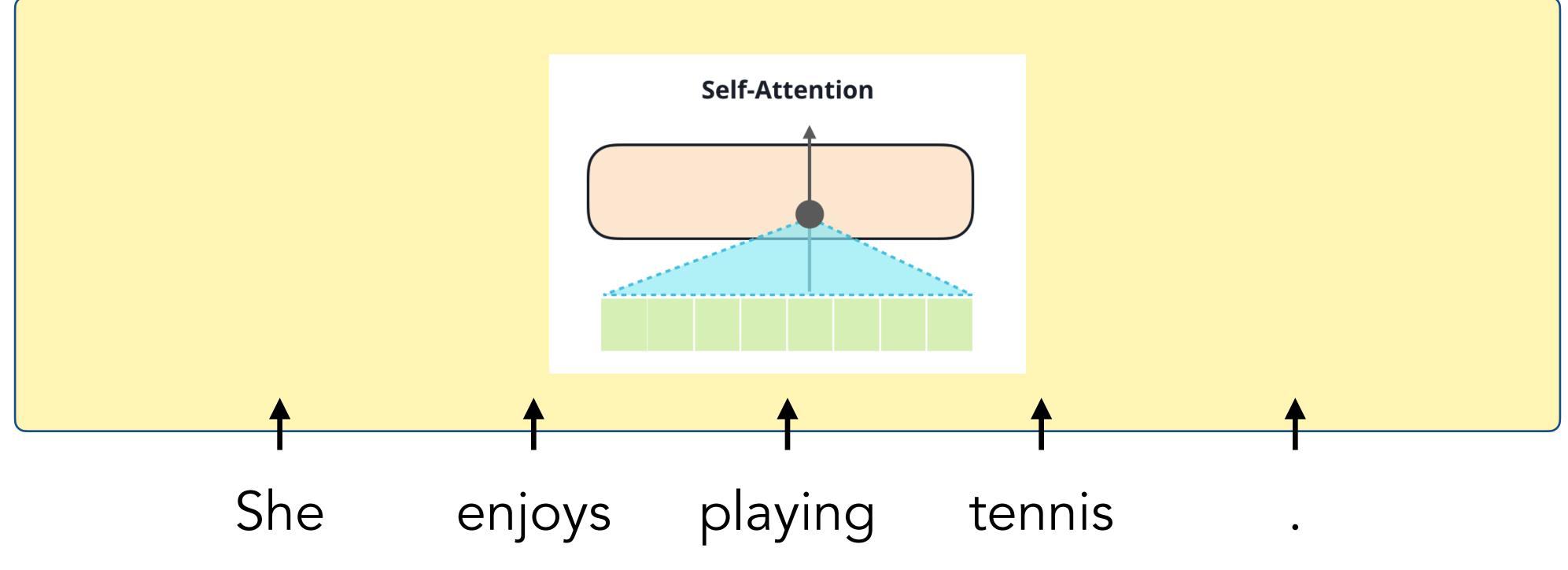
Bi-directional Pre-Training





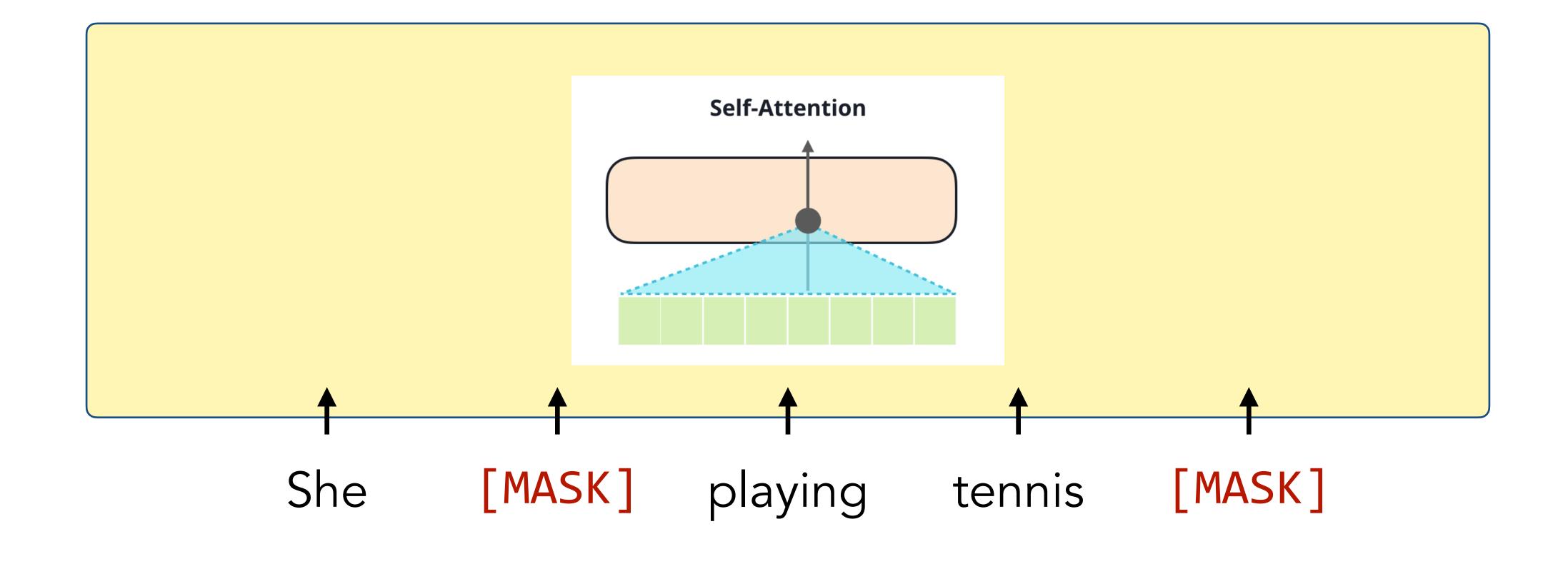
Masked Language Model

Mask out 15% of tokens, then predict the missing tokens



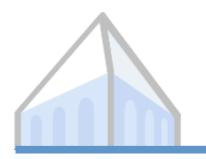


Masked Language Model

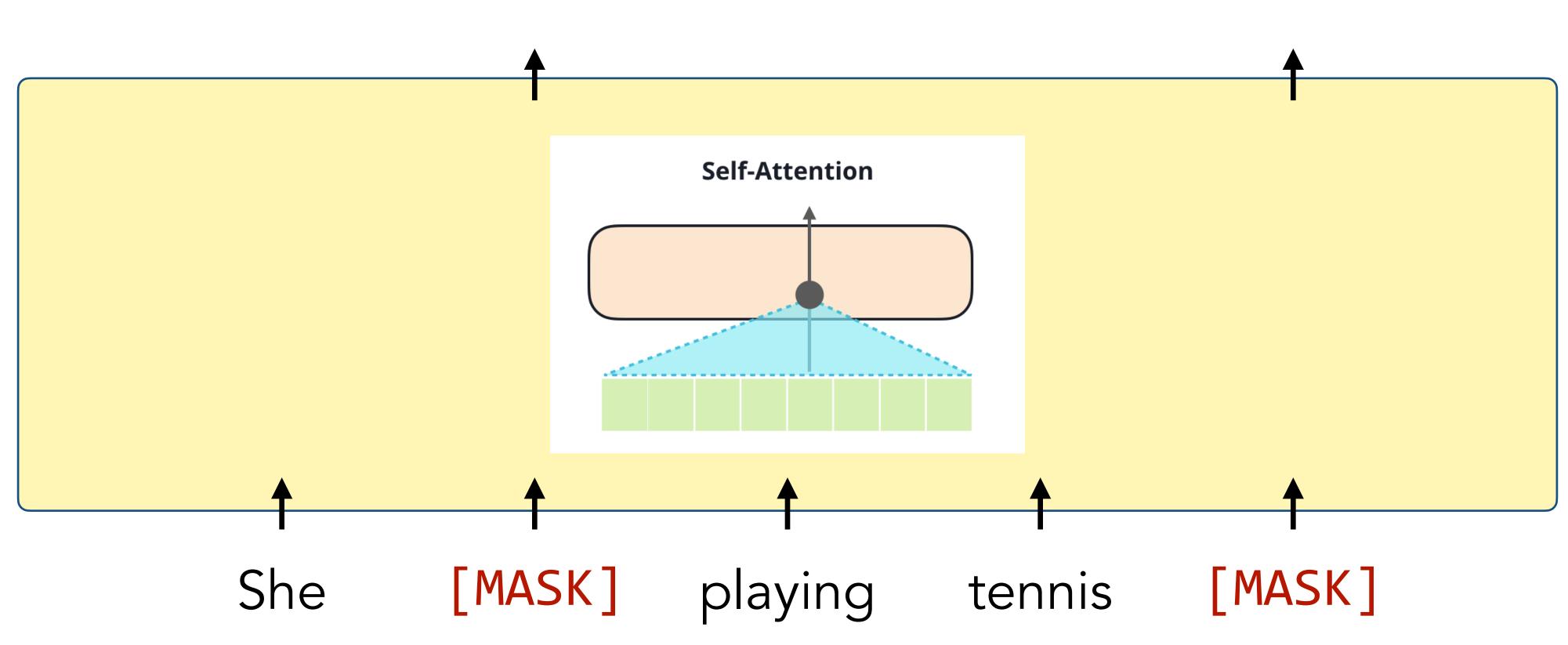


Mask out 15% of tokens, then predict the missing tokens





enjoys

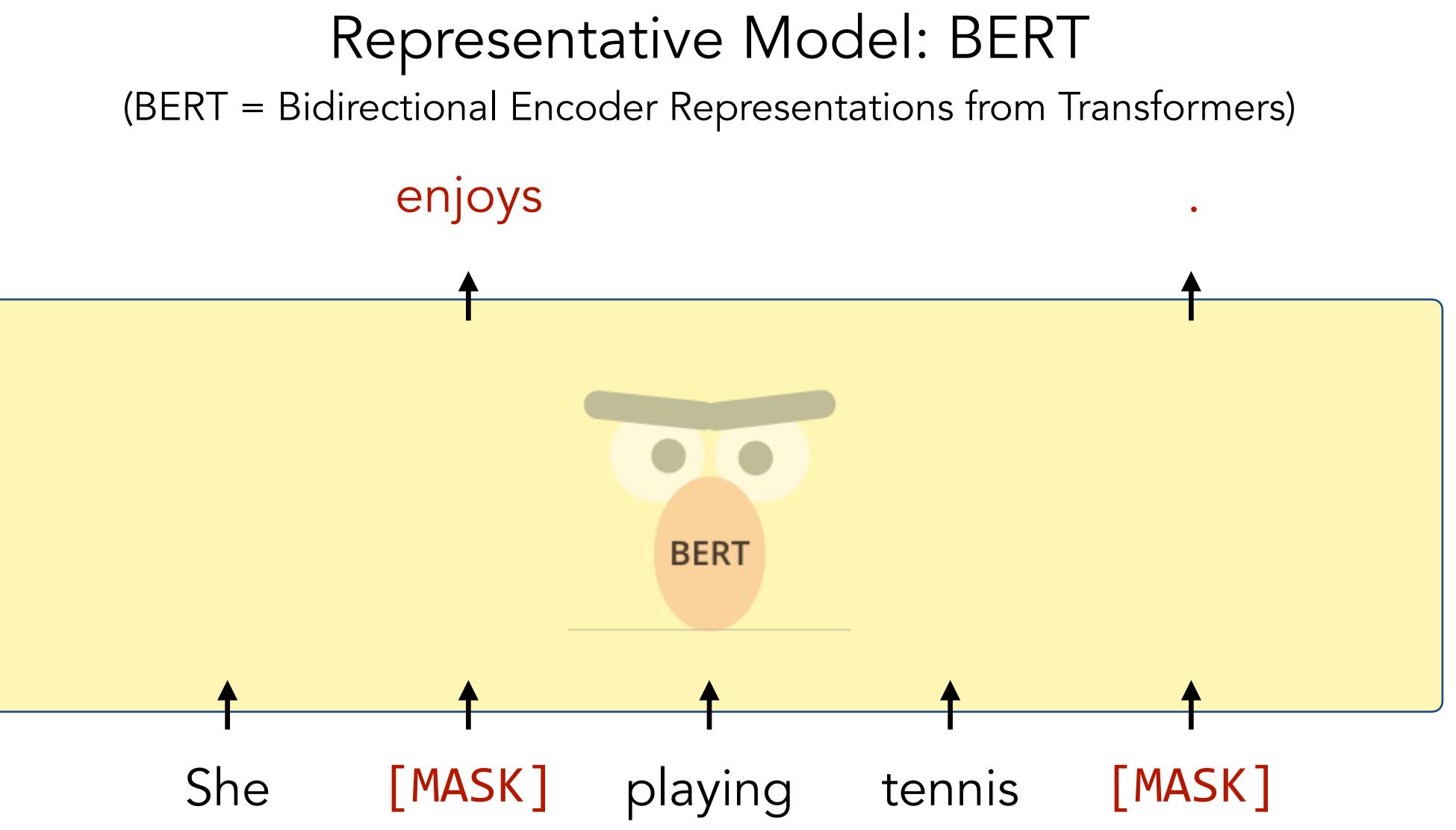


Masked Language Model

Mask out 15% of tokens, then predict the missing tokens

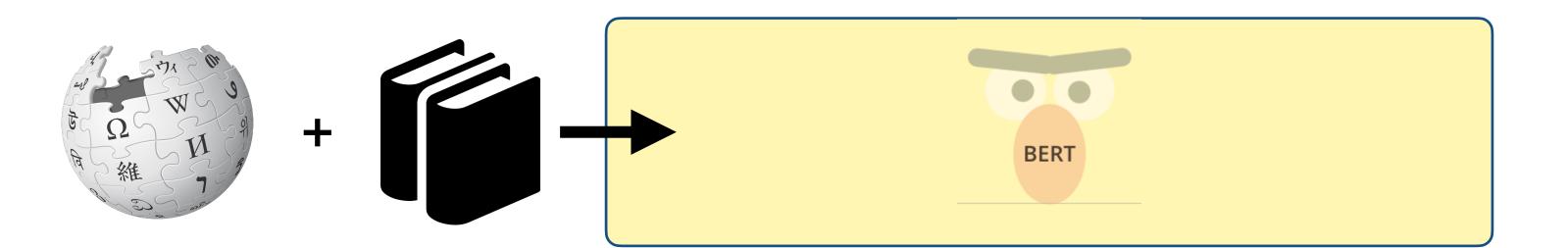
Masked Language Model







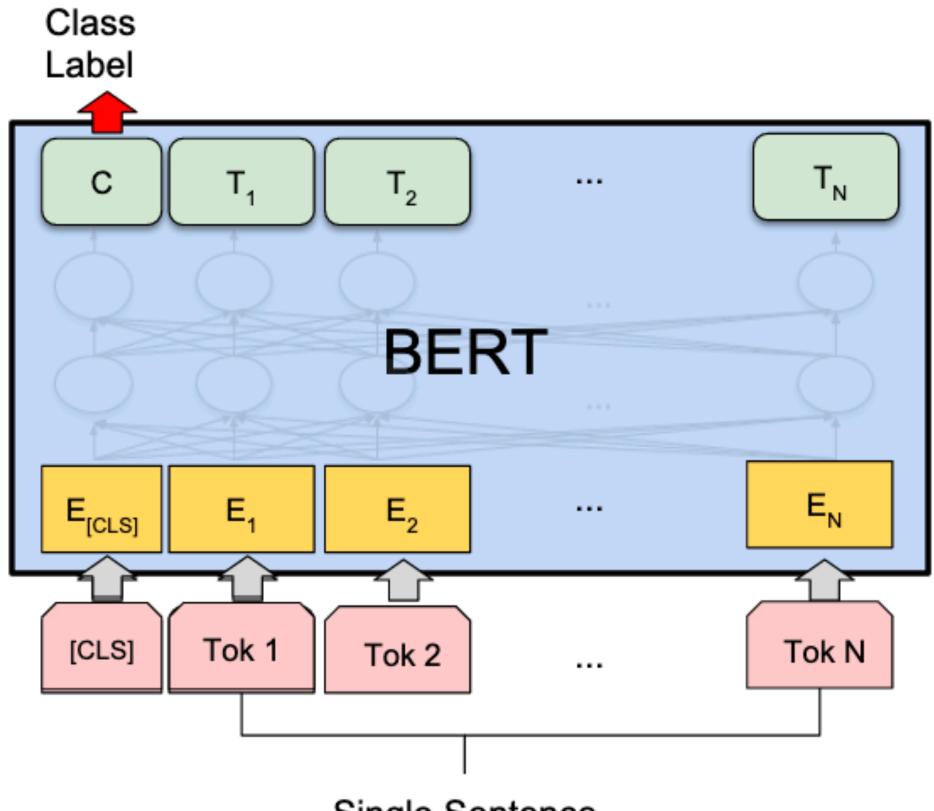
Pre-Training with Masked LMs



pre-training

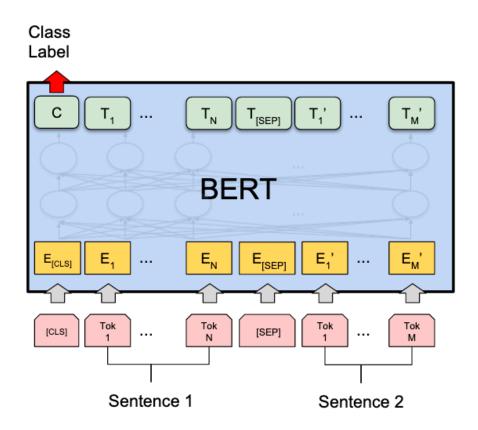


Fine-Tuning with Masked LMs

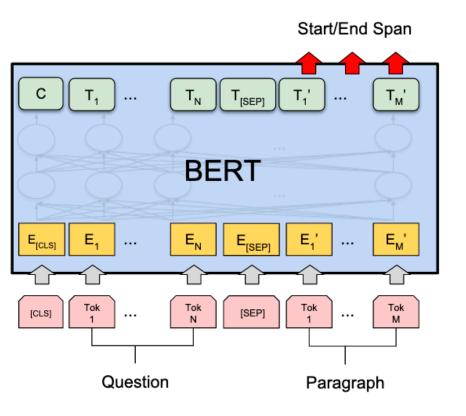


Single Sentence

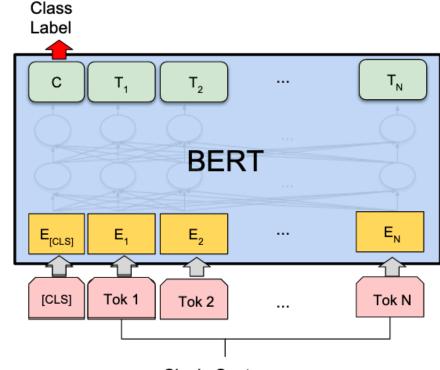
Fine-Tuning with Masked LMs



(a) Sentence Pair Classification Tasks: MNLI, QQP, QNLI, STS-B, MRPC, RTE, SWAG

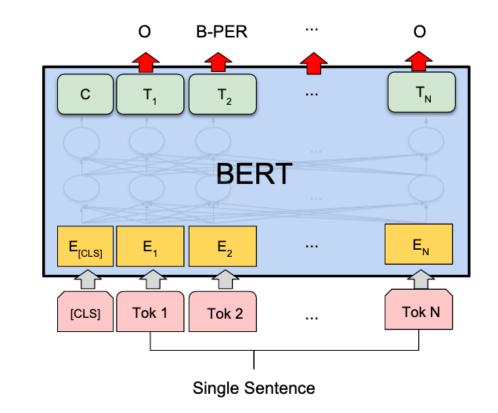


(c) Question Answering Tasks: SQuAD v1.1



Single Sentence

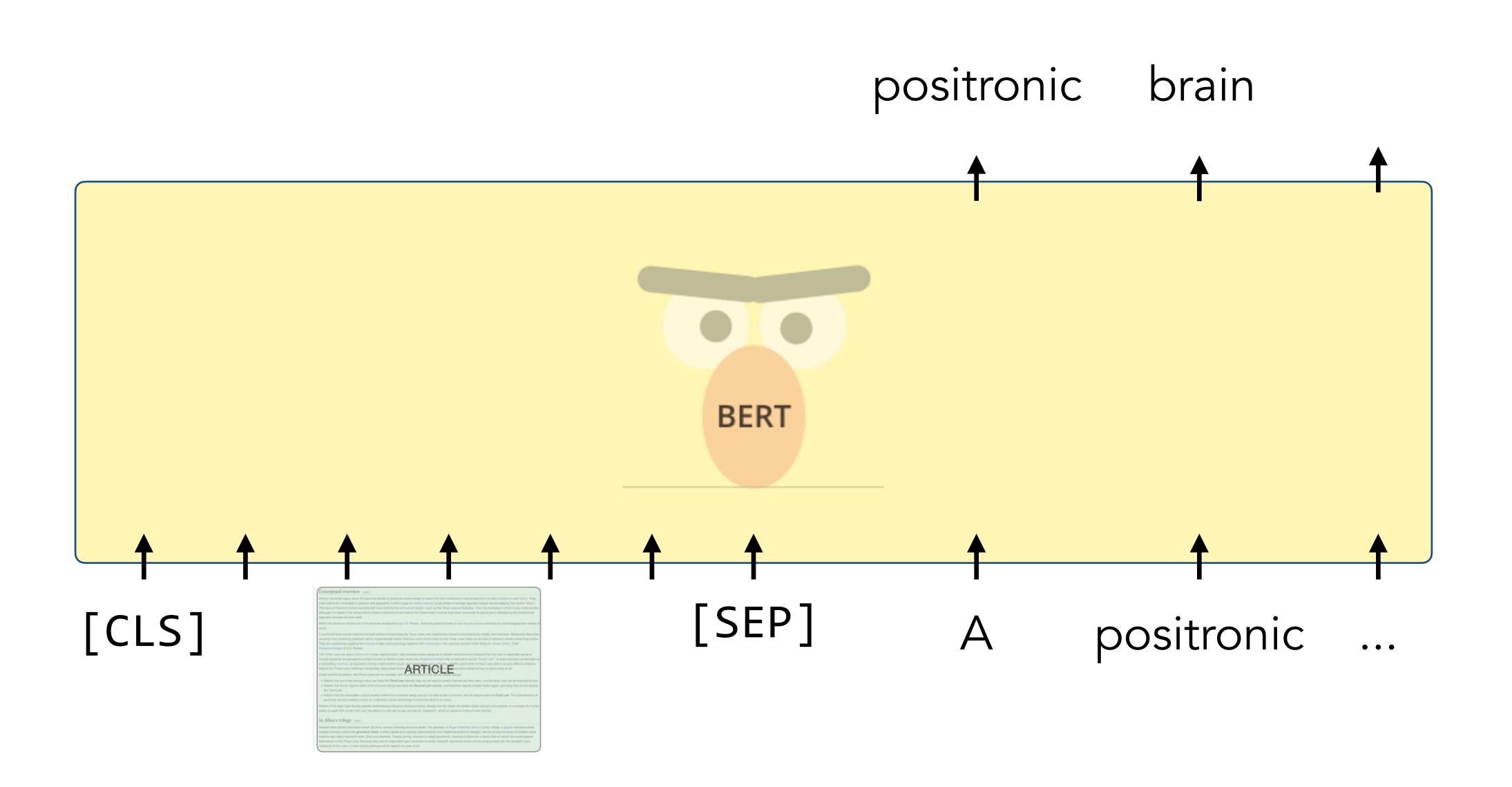
(b) Single Sentence Classification Tasks: SST-2, CoLA



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

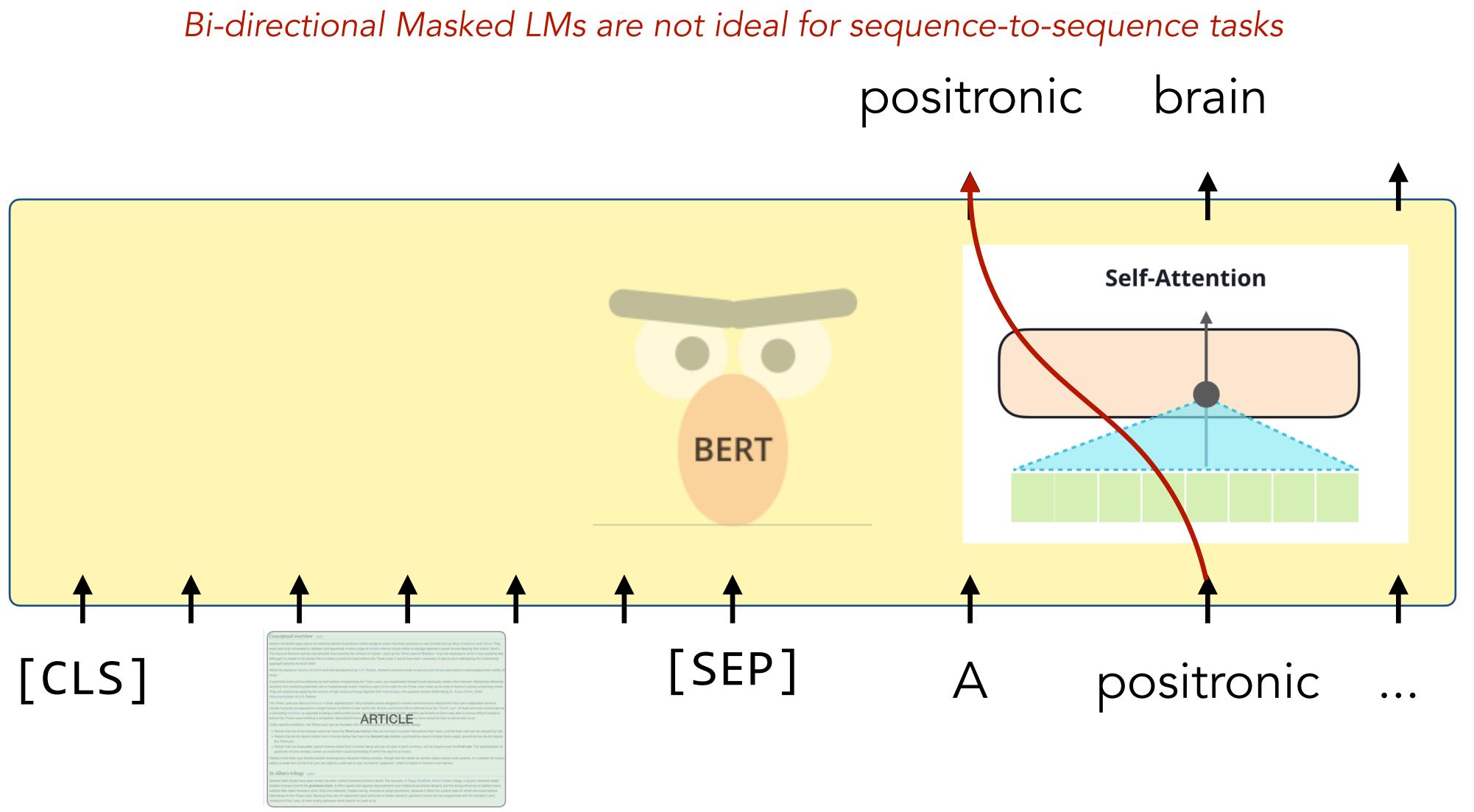


Summarization with Masked LMs?





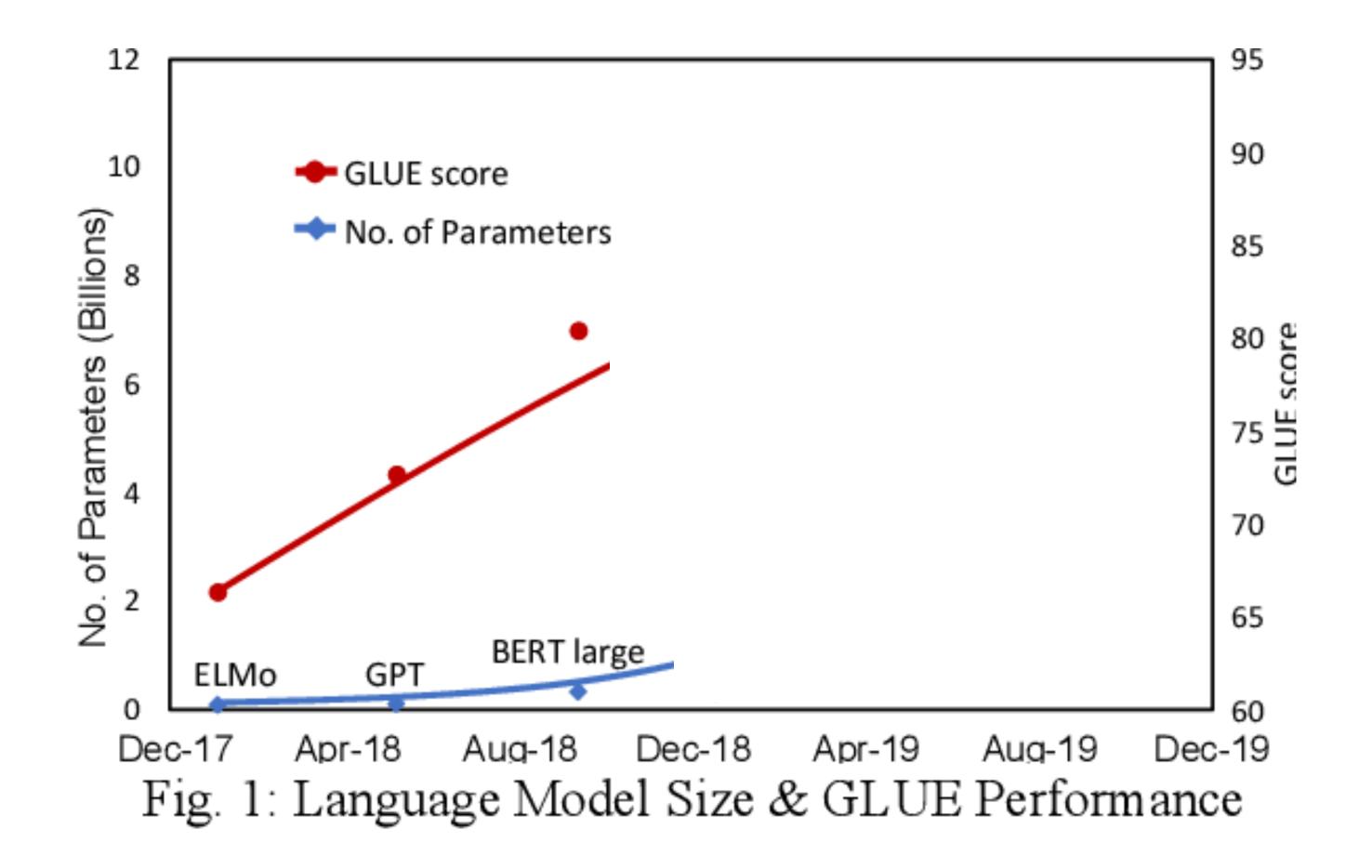
Summarization with Masked LMs?

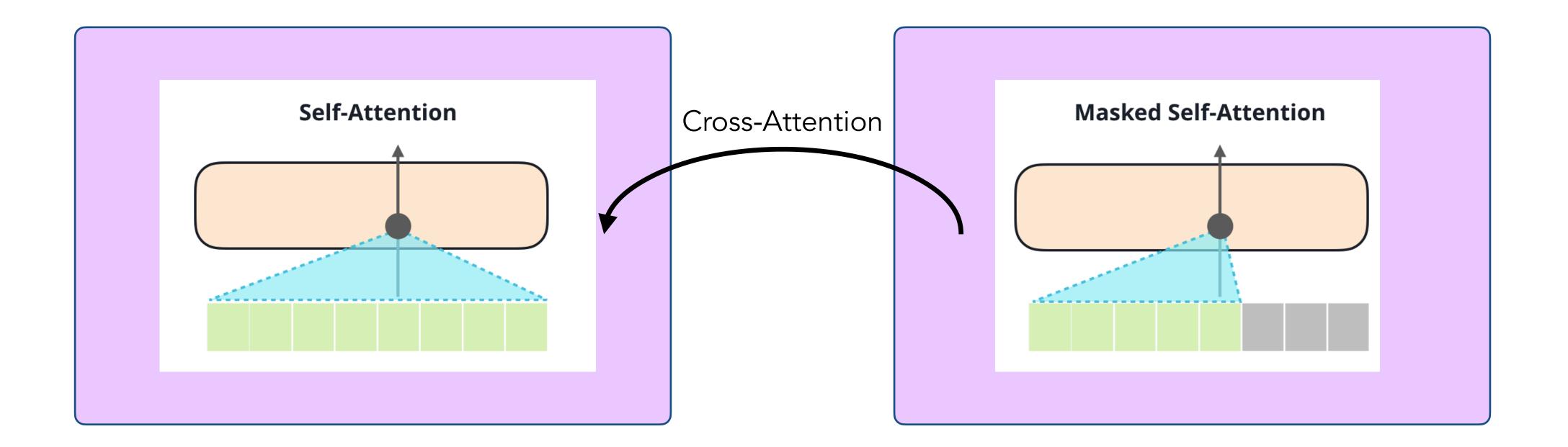






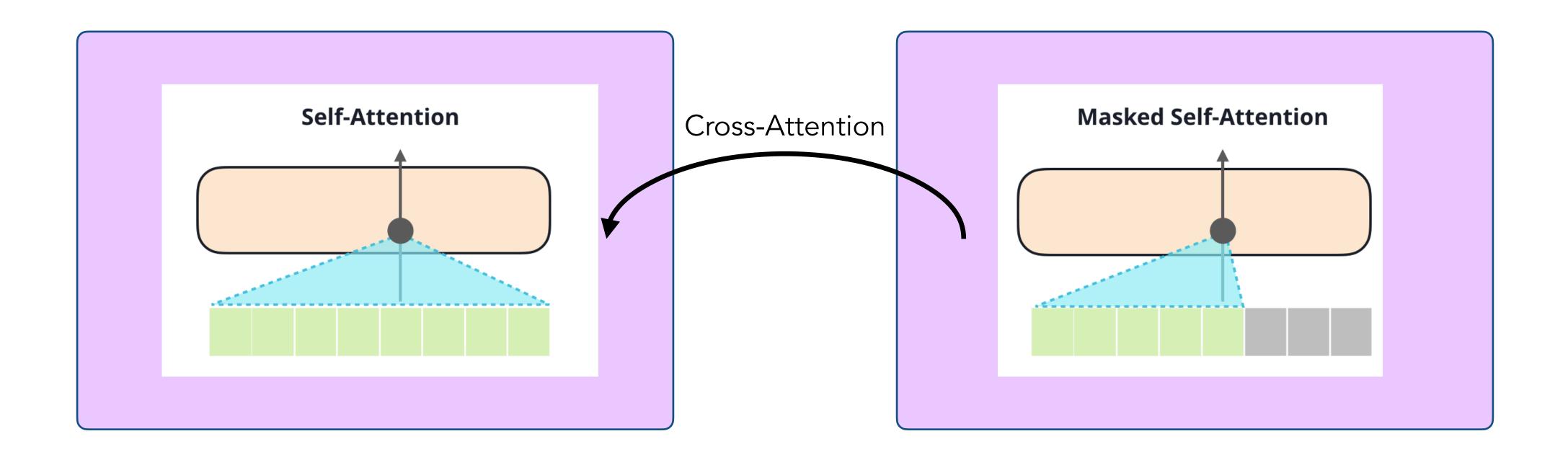
GLUE Benchmark Results

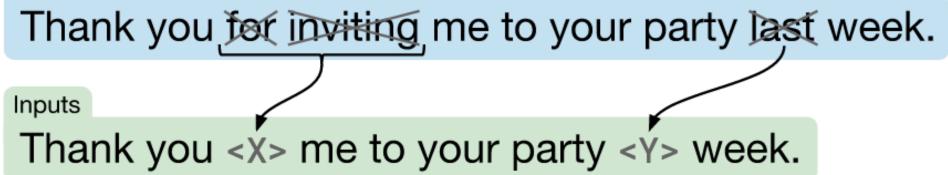


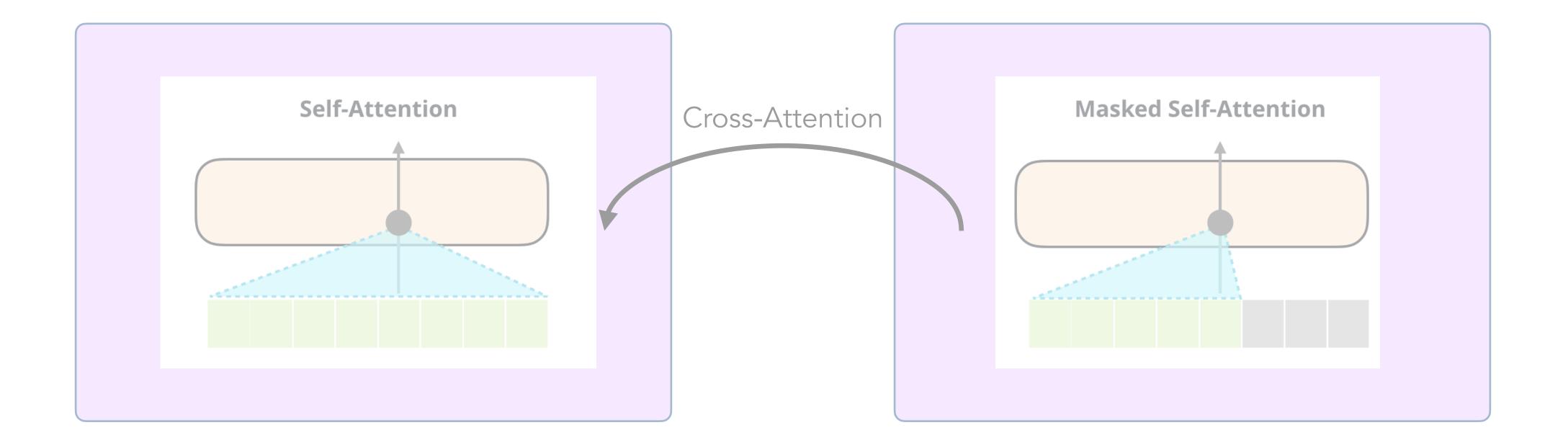


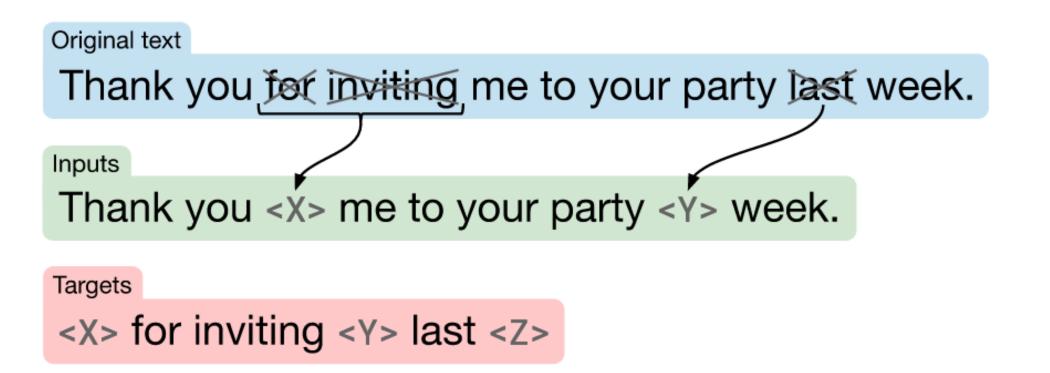


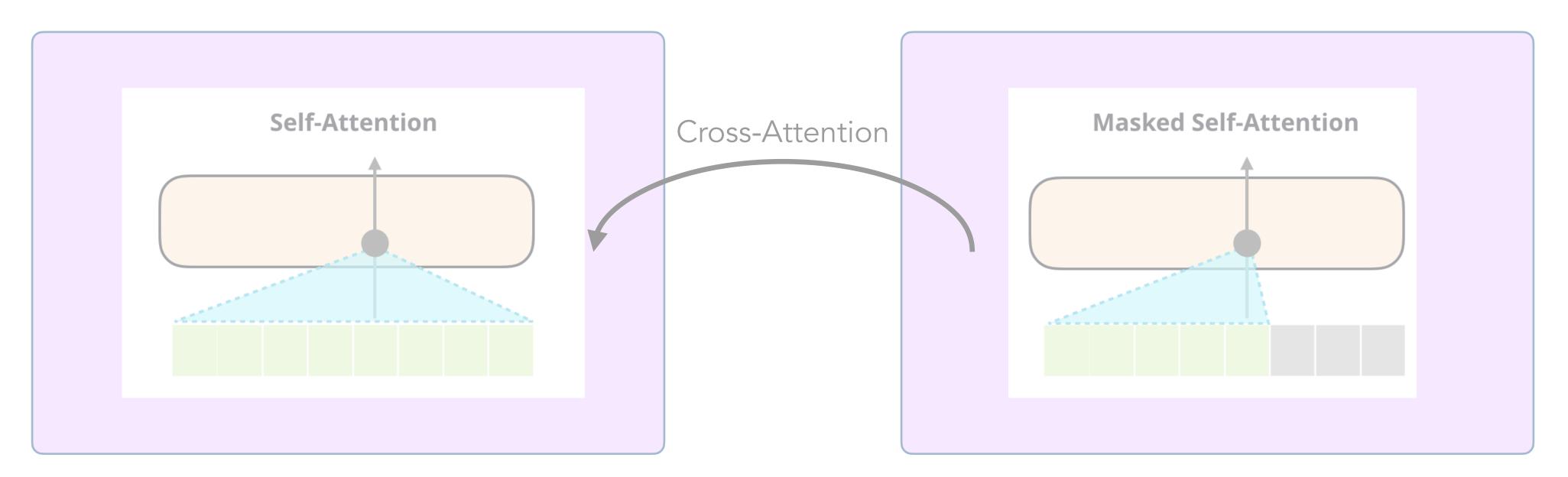
Representative Model: T5 (T5 = Text-To-Text Transfer Transformer)

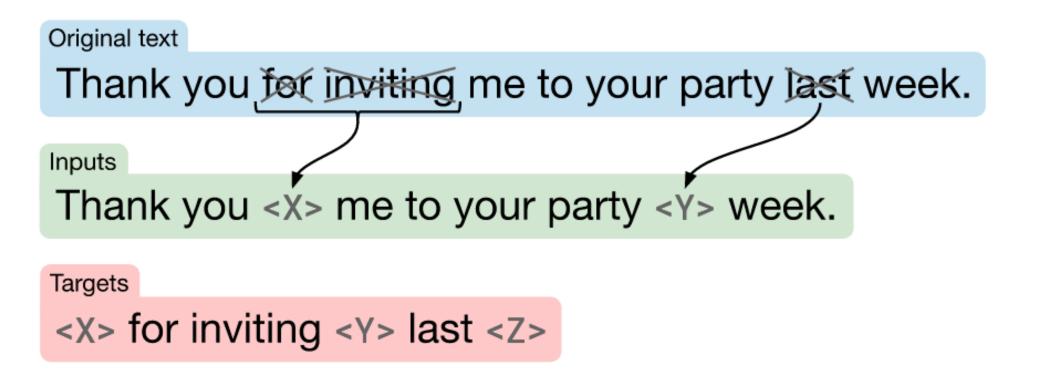


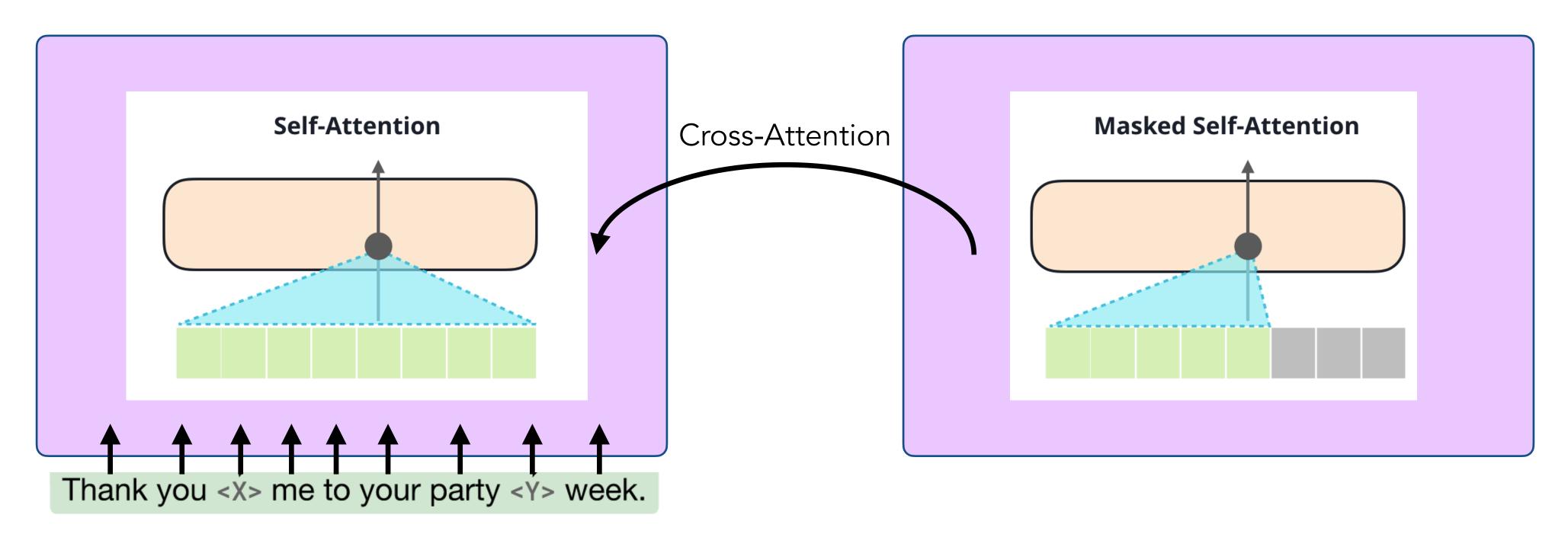


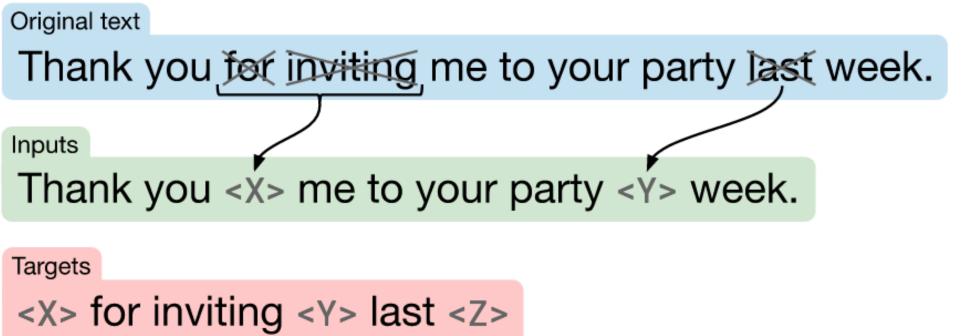


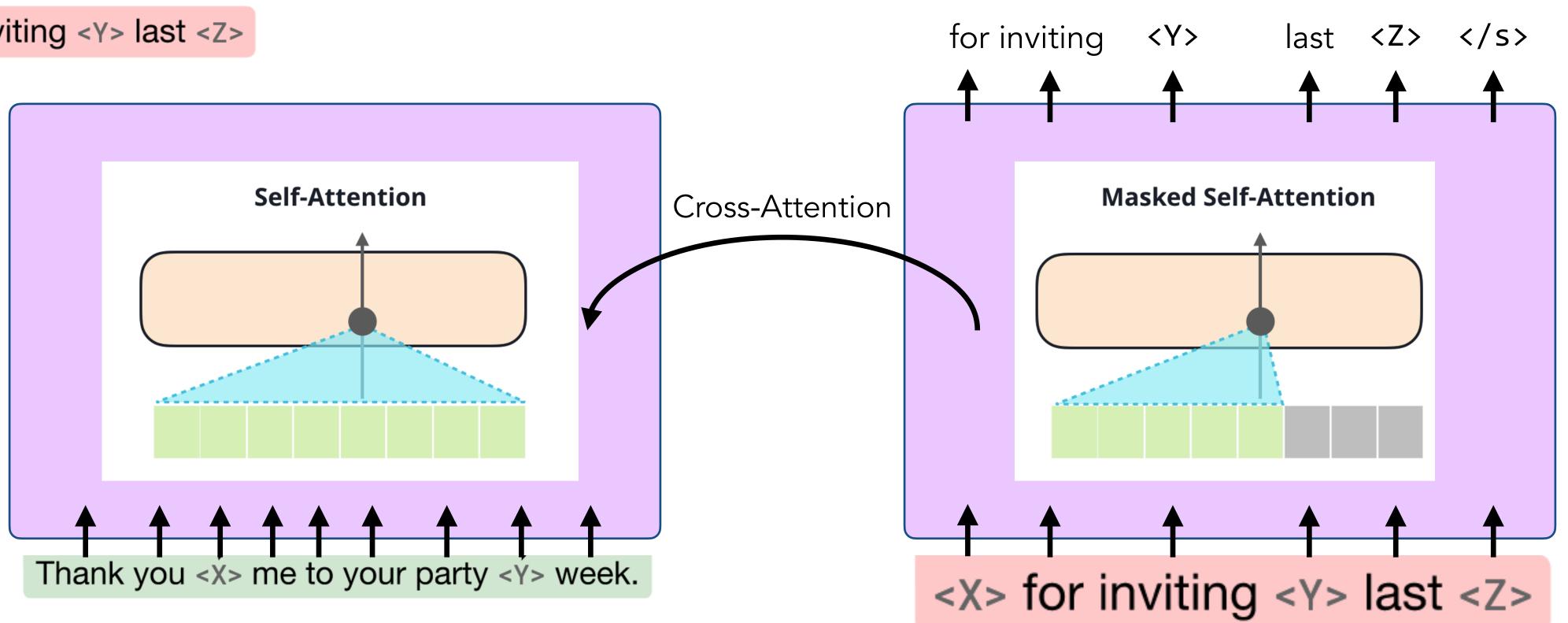




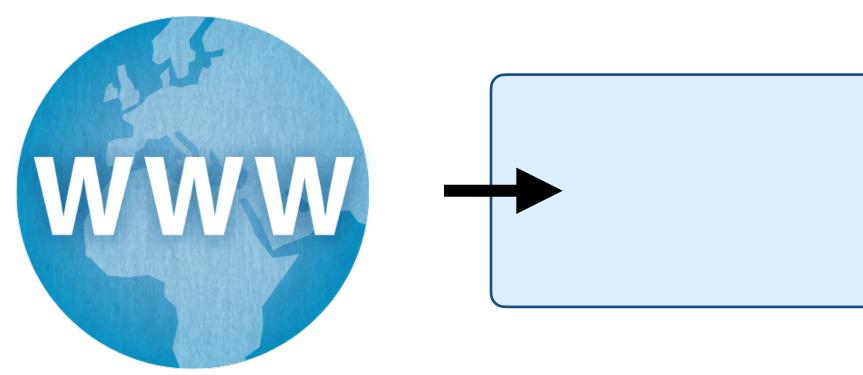












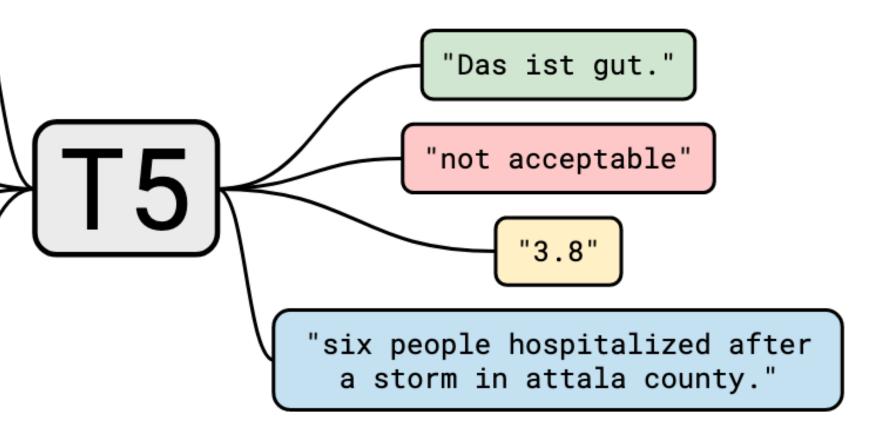
Encoder-Decoder Fine-tuning

"translate English to German: That is good."

"cola sentence: The course is jumping well."

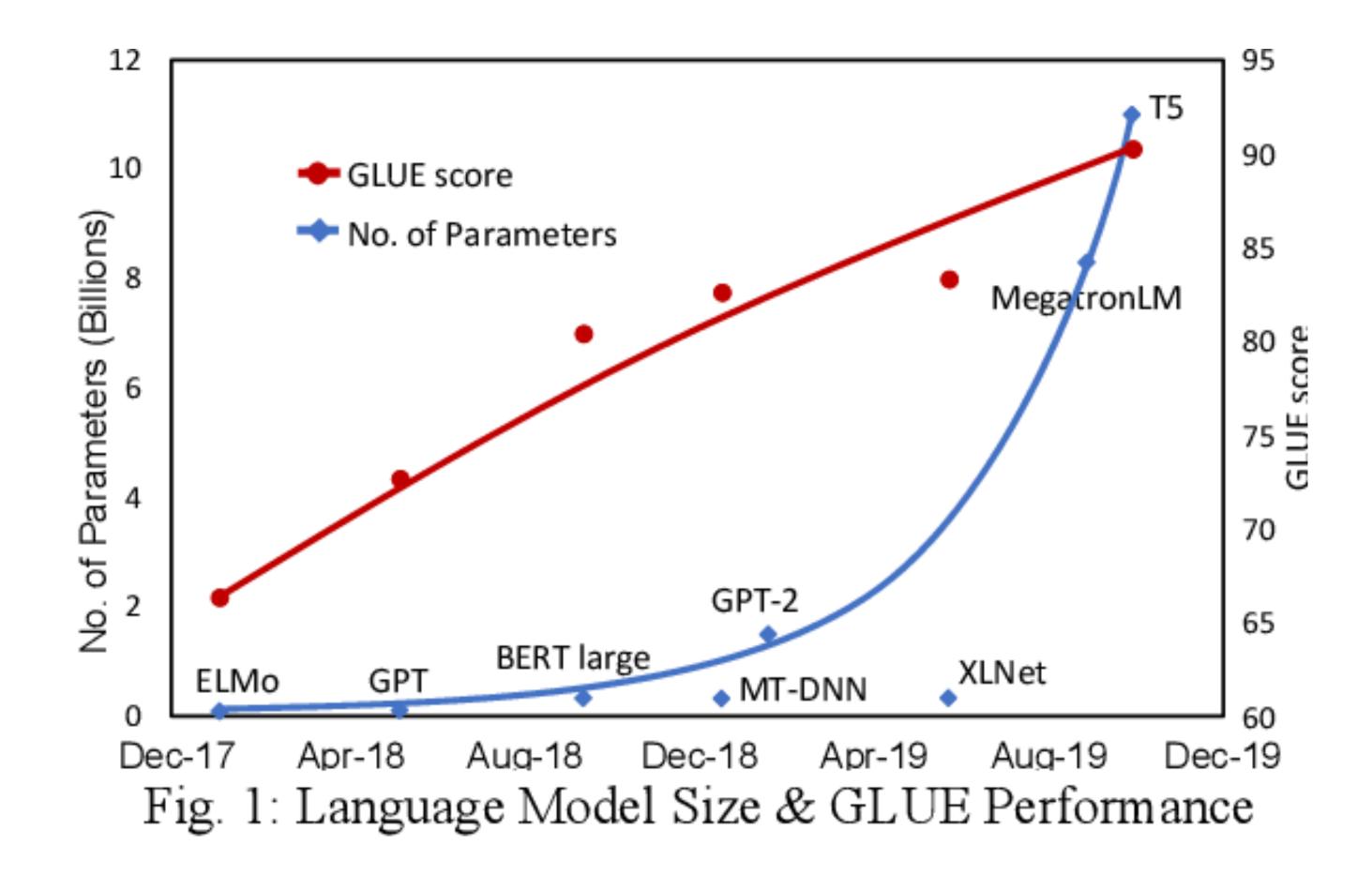
"stsb sentence1: The rhino grazed on the grass. sentence2: A rhino is grazing in a field."

"summarize: state authorities dispatched emergency crews tuesday to survey the damage after an onslaught of severe weather in mississippi…"





GLUE Benchmark Results



GLUE Benchmark Results

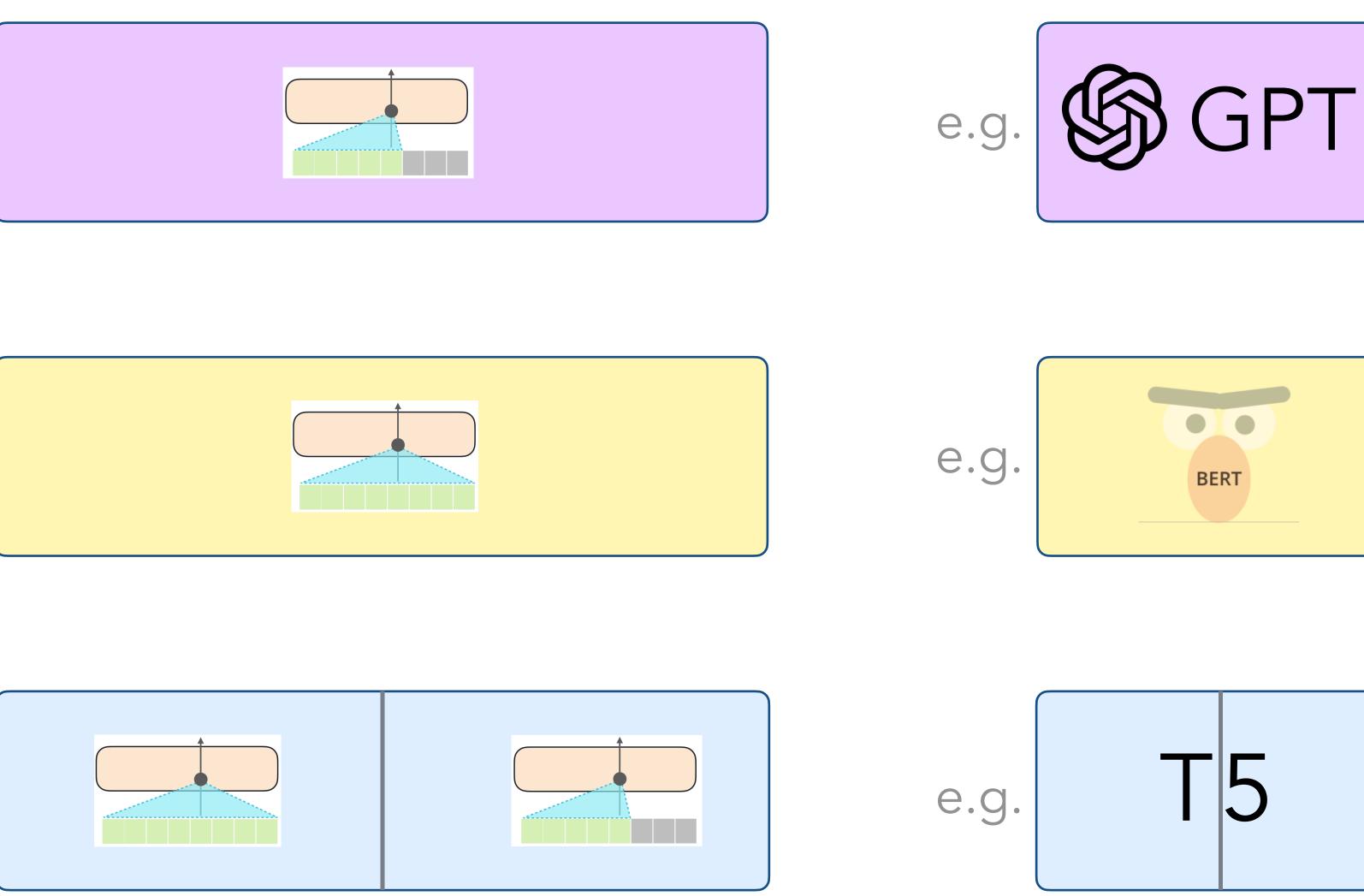
| | Ra | nk Name | Model | URL | Score | CoLA | SST-2 | MRPC | STS-B | QC |
|---|------------|-----------------------------|--|-----|-------|------|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| | 1 | . T5 Team - Google | T5 | | 89.7 | 70.8 | 97.1 | 91.9/89.2 | 92.5/92.1 | 74.6/90 |
| | 2 | 2 ALBERT-Team Google Langua | geALBERT (Ensemble) | | 89.4 | 69.1 | 97.1 | 93.4/91.2 | 92.5/92.0 | 74.2/90 |
| • | + 3 | 3 王玮 | ALICE v2 large ensemble (Alibaba DAMO NLP) | | 89.0 | 69.2 | 97.1 | 93.6/91.5 | 92.7/92.3 | 74.4/90 |
| | 4 | Microsoft D365 AI & UMD | FreeLB-RoBERTa (ensemble) | | 88.8 | 68.0 | 96.8 | 93.1/90.8 | 92.4/92.2 | 74.8/90 |
| | 5 | 5 Facebook Al | RoBERTa | | 88.5 | 67.8 | 96.7 | 92.3/89.8 | 92.2/91.9 | 74.3/90 |
| | 6 | 6 XLNet Team | XLNet-Large (ensemble) | | 88.4 | 67.8 | 96.8 | 93.0/90.7 | 91.6/91.1 | 74.2/90 |
| • | + 7 | Microsoft D365 AI & MSR AI | MT-DNN-ensemble | | 87.6 | 68.4 | 96.5 | 92.7/90.3 | 91.1/90.7 | 73.7/89 |
| | 8 | 3 GLUE Human Baselines | GLUE Human Baselines | | 87.1 | 66.4 | 97.8 | 86.3/80.8 | 92.7/92.6 | 59.5/80 |
| | 9 | Stanford Hazy Research | Snorkel MeTaL | | 83.2 | 63.8 | 96.2 | 91.5/88.5 | 90.1/89.7 | 73.1/89 |
| | 10 | 0 XLM Systems | XLM (English only) | | 83.1 | 62.9 | 95.6 | 90.7/87.1 | 88.8/88.2 | 73.2/89 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

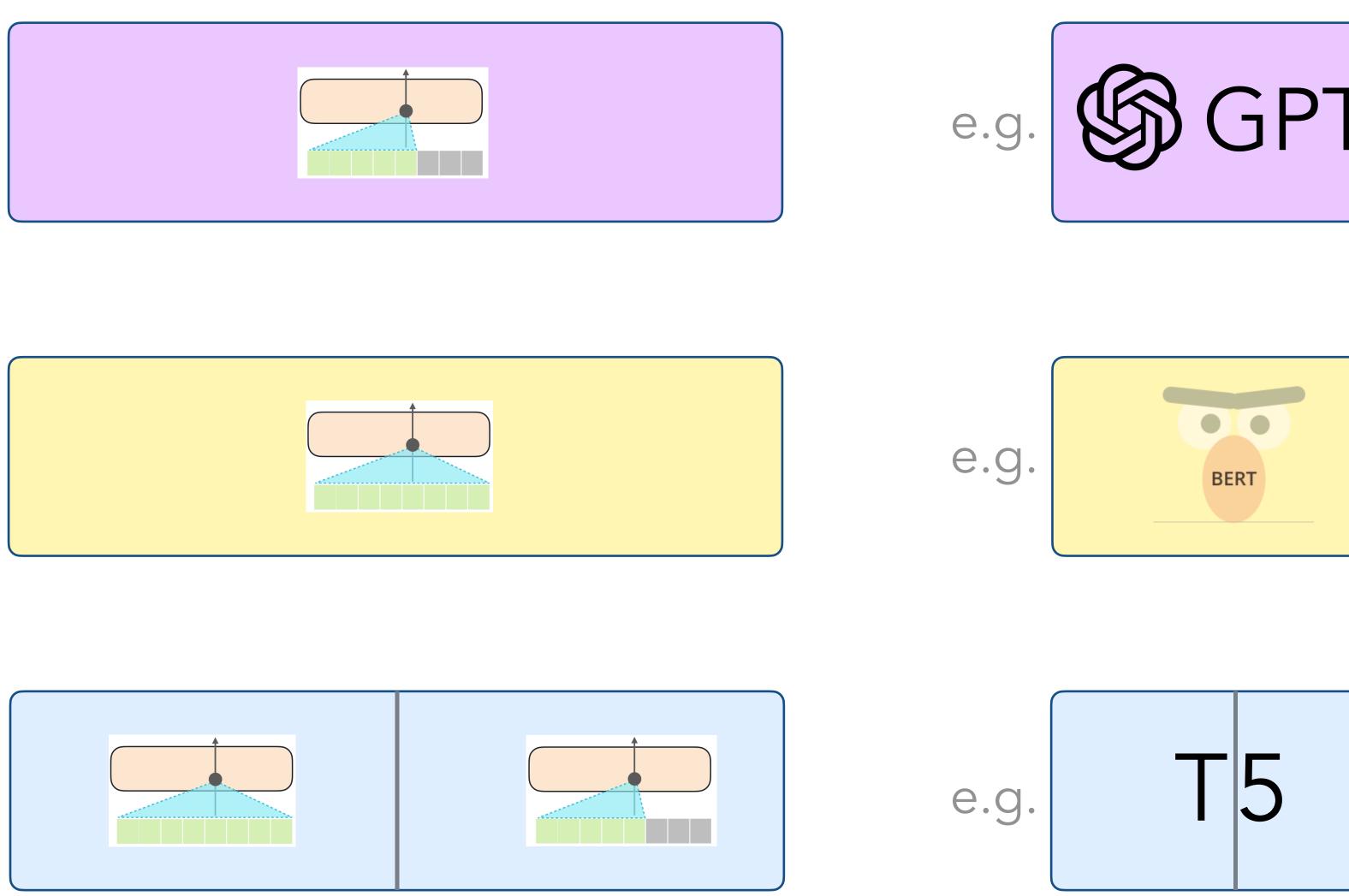
[Figure by Chris McCormick and Nick Ryan]



Types of Transformer Models

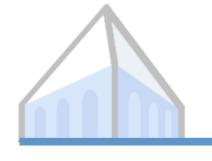
Decoder only





Encoder-Decoder

Encoder only











Fine-tuning: modify existing model parameters

Adapter modules: freeze existing parameters; insert and train new layers

Prompting: re-formulate a task in natural language (e.g. fill-in-the-blank)

Types of Task-Specific Adaptation

(not covered in these slides)



Example from GPT-3 LM



SYSTEM PROMPT (HUMAN-WRITTEN)

MODEL COMPLETION (MACHINE-WRITTEN, In a shocking finding, scientist discovered a herd of unicorns living in a remote, previously unexplored valley, in the Andes Mountains. Even more surprising to the researchers was the fact that the unicorns spoke perfect English.

The scientist named the population, after their distinctive horn, Ovid's Unicorn. These four-horned, silver-white unicorns were previously unknown 10 TRIES) to science.

> Now, after almost two centuries, the mystery of what sparked this odd phenomenon is finally solved.

Dr. Jorge Pérez, an evolutionary biologist from the University of La Paz, and several companions, were exploring the Andes Mountains when they found a small valley, with no other animals or humans. Pérez noticed that the valley had what appeared to be a natural fountain, surrounded by two peaks of rock and silver snow.

Pérez and the others then ventured further into the valley. "By the time we reached the top of one peak, the water looked blue, with some crystals on top," said Pérez.

Pérez and his friends were astonished to see the unicorn herd. These creatures could be seen from the air without having to move too much to see them – they were so close they could touch their horns.

While examining these bizarre creatures the scientists discovered that the creatures also spoke some fairly regular English. Pérez stated, "We can see, for example, that they have a common 'language,' something like a dialect or dialectic."

Dr. Pérez believes that the unicorns may have originated in Argentina, where the animals were believed to be descendants of a lost race of people who lived there before the arrival of humans in those parts of South America.

While their origins are still unclear, some believe that perhaps the creatures were created when a human and a unicorn met each other in a time before human civilization. According to Pérez, "In South America, such incidents seem to be quite common."





Prompt

I am a highly intelligent question answering bot. If you ask me a question that is rooted in truth, I will give you the answer. If you ask me a question that is nonsense, trickery, or has no clear answer, I will respond with "Unknown".

Q: What is human life expectancy in the United States? A: Human life expectancy in the United States is 78 years.

Q: Who was president of the United States in 1955? A: Dwight D. Eisenhower was president of the United States in 1955.

Q: Which party did he belong to? A: He belonged to the Republican Party.

Q: What is the square root of banana? A: Unknown

Q: How does a telescope work? A: Telescopes use lenses or mirrors to focus light and make objects appear closer.

Q: Where were the 1992 Olympics held? A: The 1992 Olympics were held in Barcelona, Spain.

Q: How many squigs are in a bonk? A: Unknown

Q: Where is the Valley of Kings? A:

Sample response

The Valley of Kings is located in Luxor, Egypt.

Examples of Prompting

Prompt

The following is a list of companies and the categories they fall into:

Apple, Facebook, Fedex

Apple Category:

Sample response

Technology

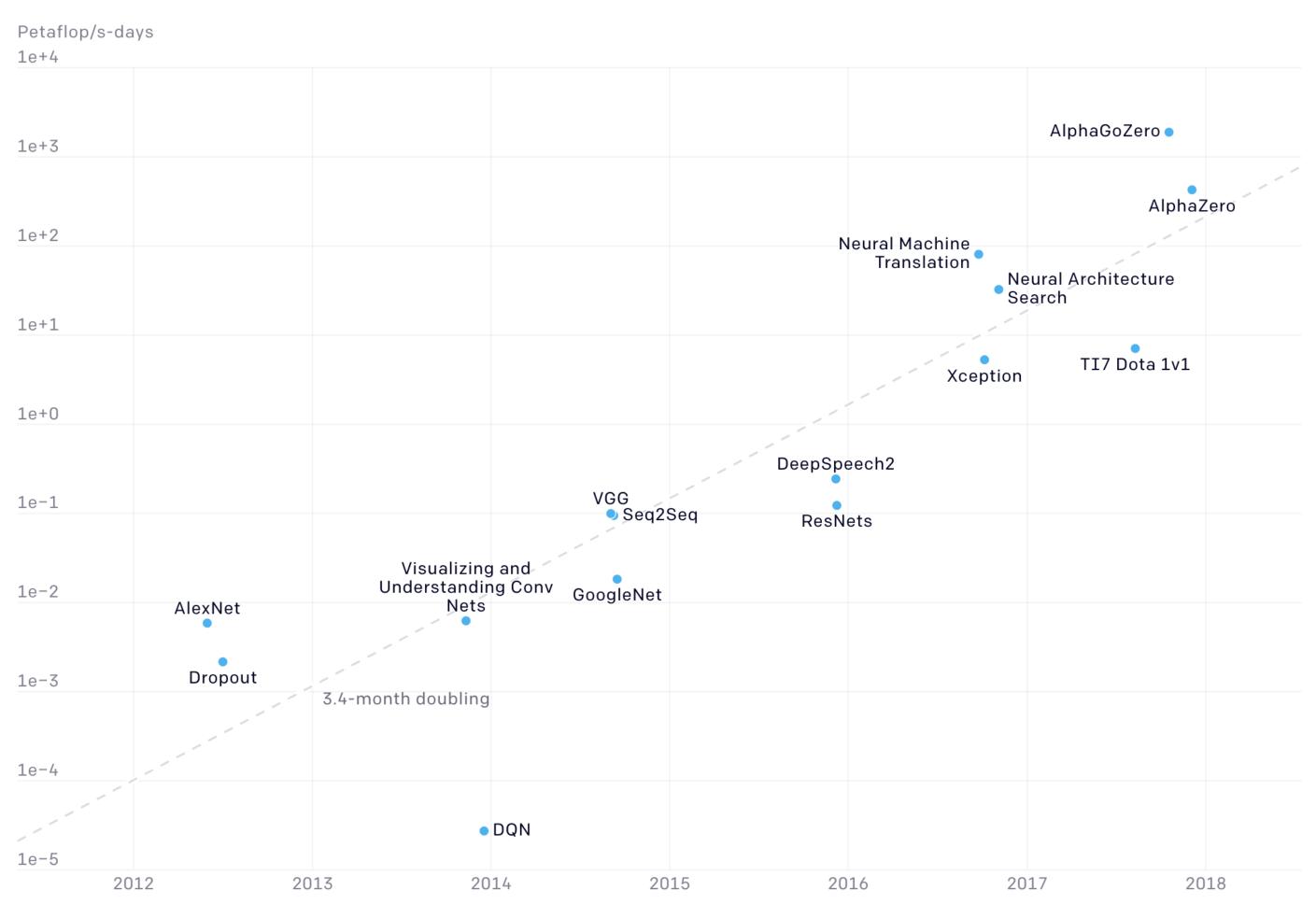
Facebook Category: Social Media

Fedex **Category: Delivery**





AlexNet to AlphaGo Zero: A 300,000x Increase in Compute (Log Scale)



[Amodei, Hernandez, et al. / OpenAl]

The Era of Rapid Scaling

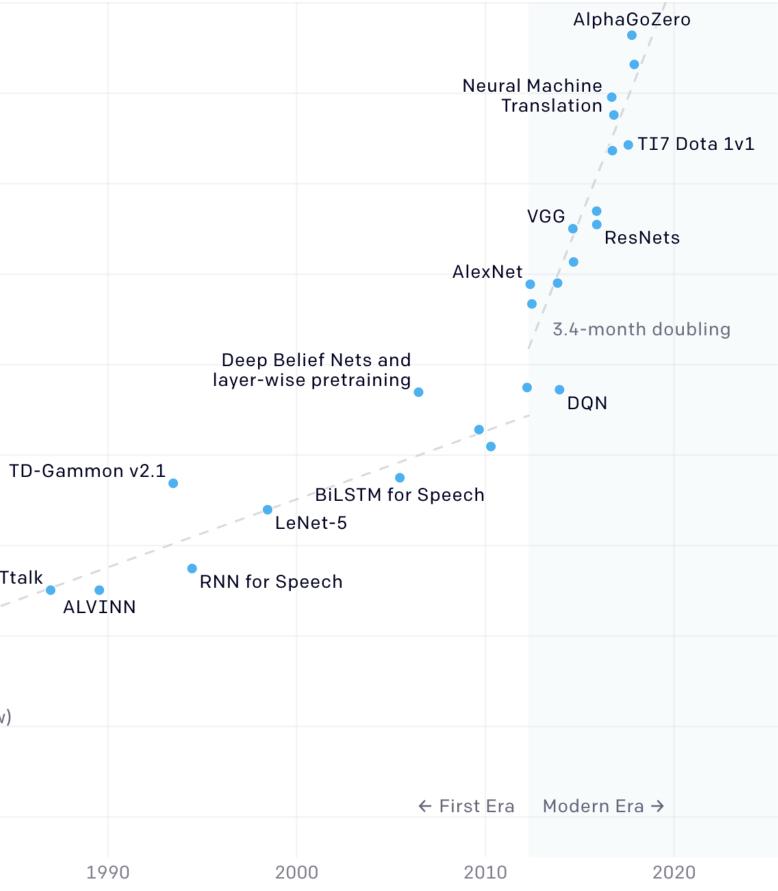


Two Distinct Eras of Compute Usage in Training AI Systems

Petaflop/s-days 1e+4 1e+2 1e+0 1e-2 1e-4 1e-6 1e-8 NETtalk 1e-10 1e-12 2-year doubling (Moore's Law) 1e-14 Perceptron 1960 1970 1980

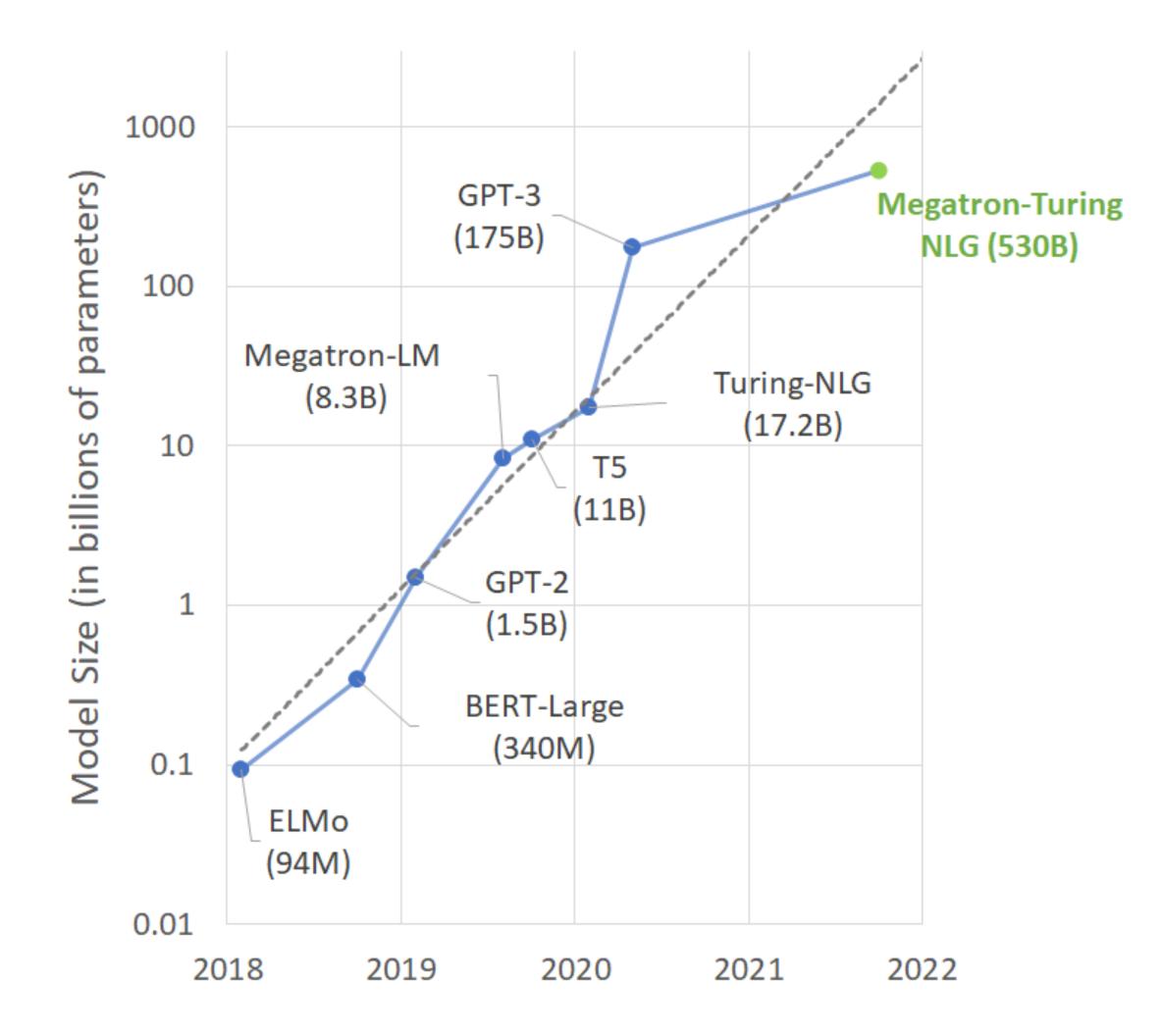
[Amodei, Hernandez, et al. / OpenAl]

The Era of Rapid Scaling



The Era of Rapid Scaling in NLP





[NVIDIA]

ELMo is an RNN model; all others are Transformer models