

# TRANSFORMERS

Mariano Rivera



# Useful tutorials

- Vaswani, A., Shazeer, N., Parmar, N., Uszkoreit, J., Jones, L., Gomez, A. N., ... & Polosukhin, I. (2017). Attention is all you need. In Advances in neural information processing systems (pp. 5998-6008).
- Alexander M. Rush. The annotated transformer  
ACL NLP-OSS 2018, <http://nlp.seas.harvard.edu/2018/04/03/attention.html>)
- **Michael Phi, Illustrated Guide to Transformers: Step by Step Explanation,**  
<https://towardsdatascience.com/illustrated-guide-to-transformers-step-by-step-explanation-f74876522bc0>
- Jay Alammar (2018) The Illustrated Transformer,  
<http://jalammar.github.io/illustrated-transformer/>

# Consider the language translation problem



Fig. Jay Alammar (2018)

# Encoder-Decoder solution, seq2seq models

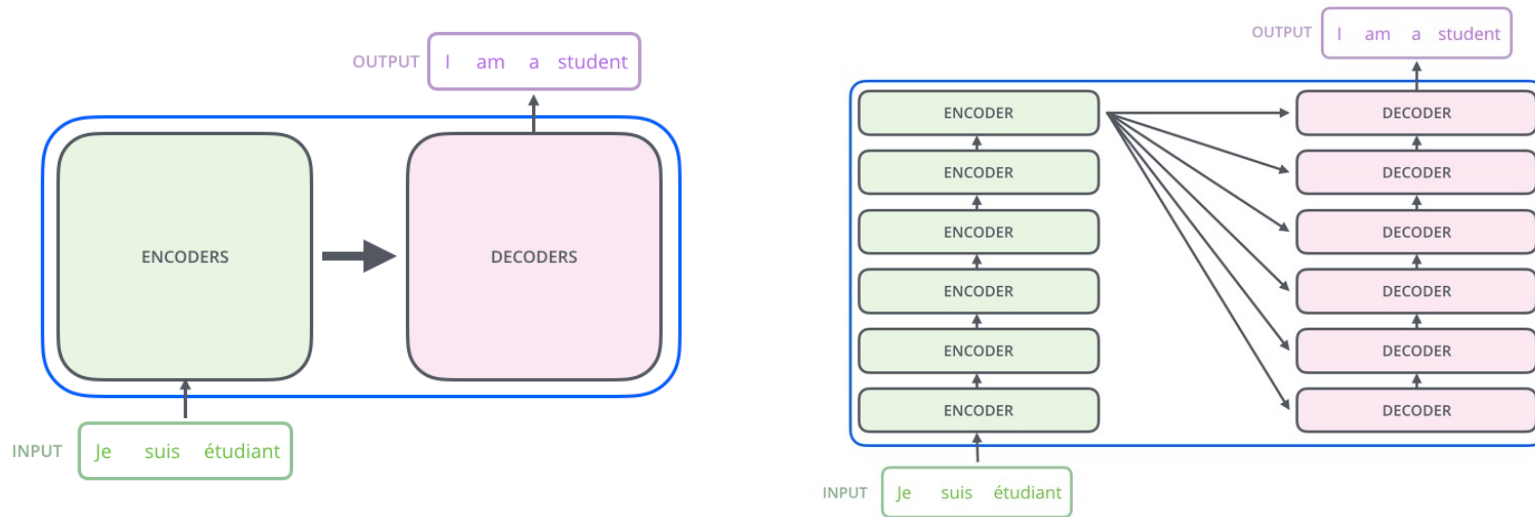
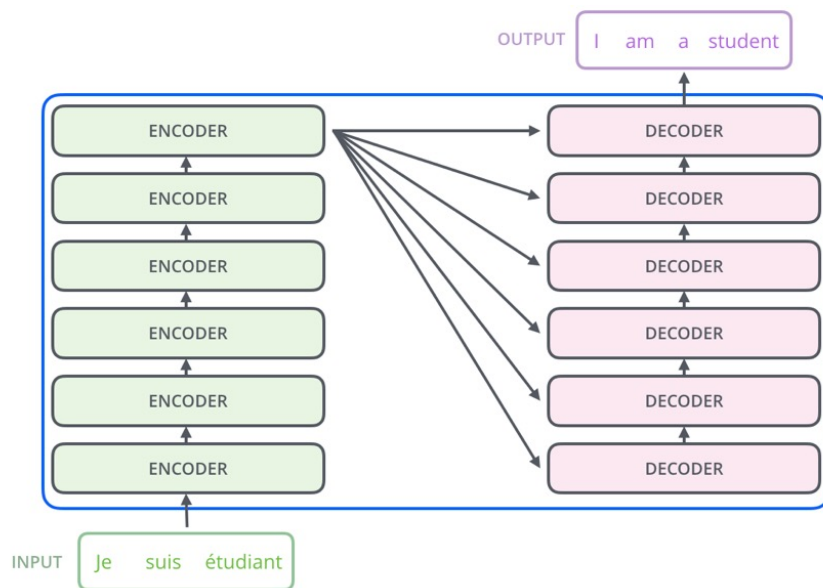
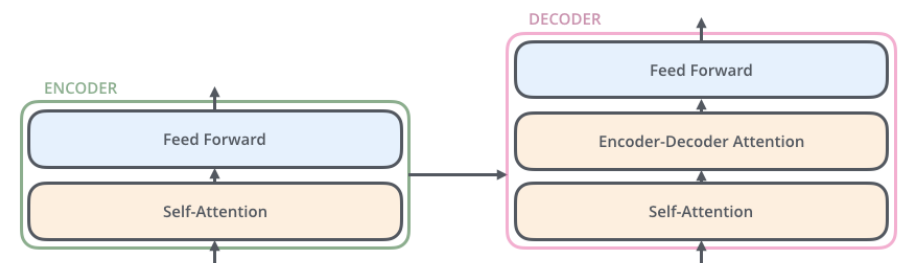


Fig. Jay Alammar (2018)

# Encoder-Decoder with Attention



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# General view

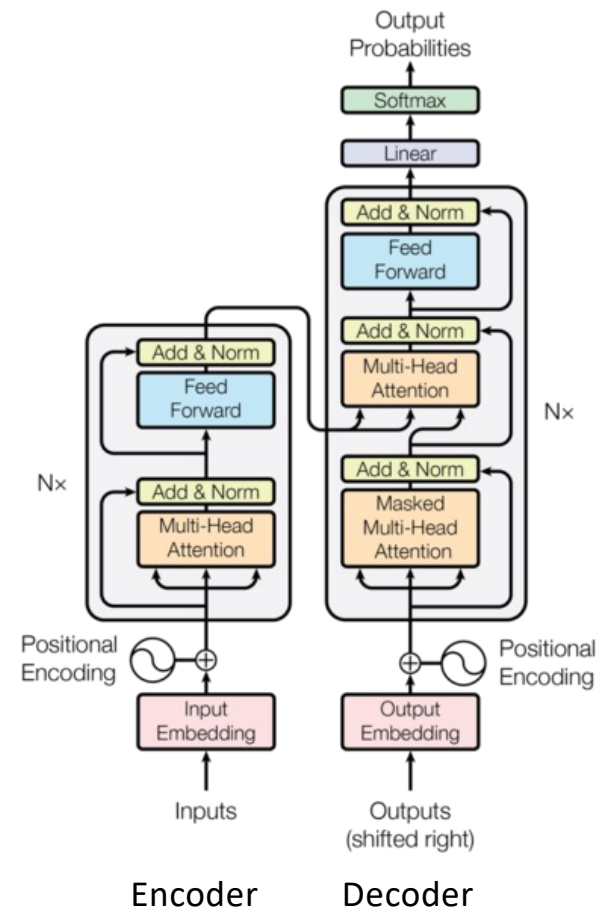
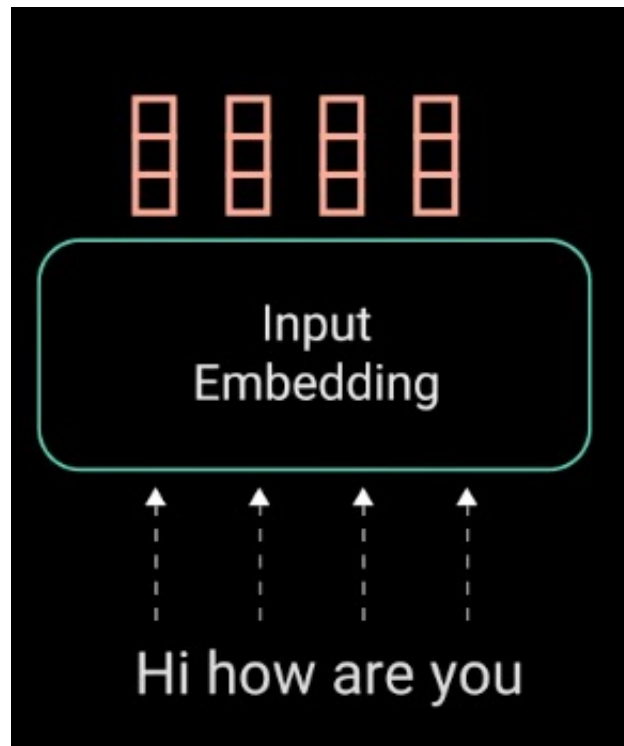


Fig. Rush (2018)

# ENCODER



### **Input Embeddings**

Word embedding layer can be thought of as a lookup table to grab a learned vector representation of each word.

The encoded list is as long as the longest sentence



## Positional Encoding

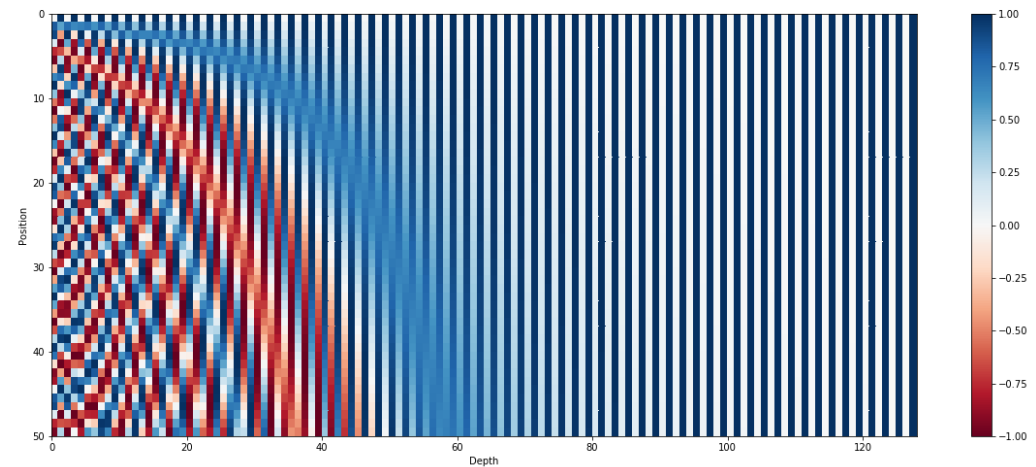
The transformer encoder has no recurrence like recurrent neural networks, we must add information about the positions into the input embeddings.

This is done using positional encoding.

The authors use clever trick using sine and cosine functions.

$$PE_{(pos,2i)} = \sin(pos/10000^{2i/d_{model}})$$

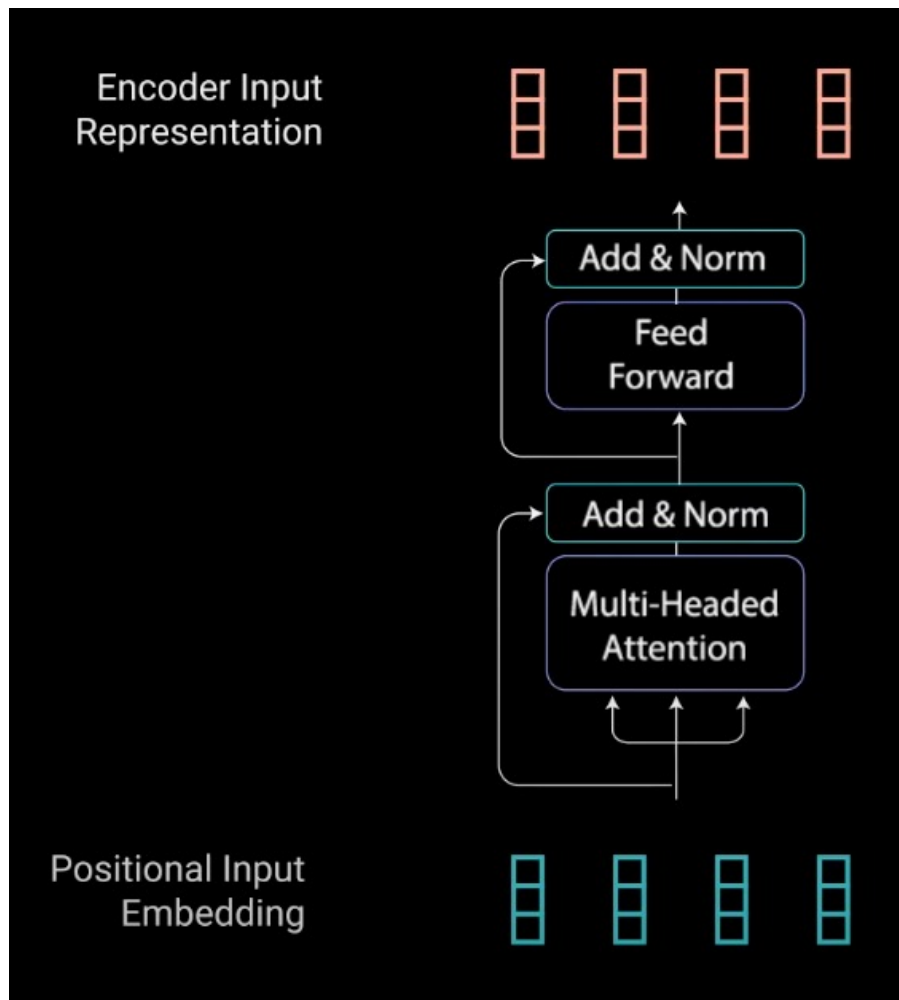
$$PE_{(pos,2i+1)} = \cos(pos/10000^{2i/d_{model}})$$



[Fig. Kazemnejad's Blog](#), 2019

For every odd index on the input vector, create a vector using the cos function.

For every even index, create a vector using the sin function.

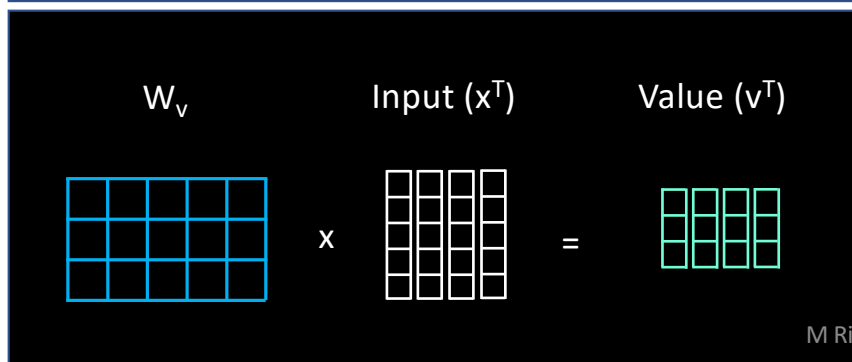
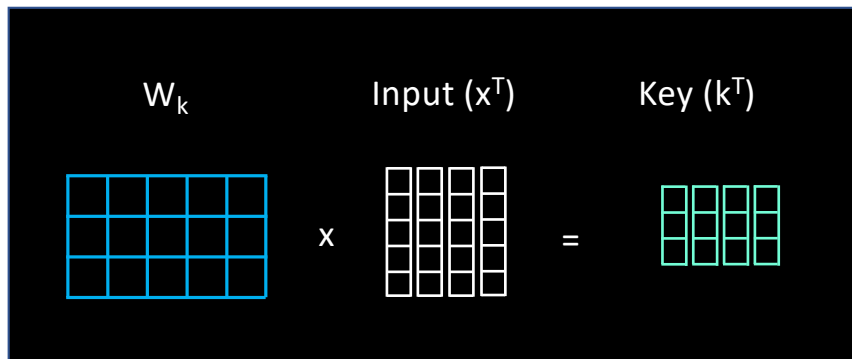
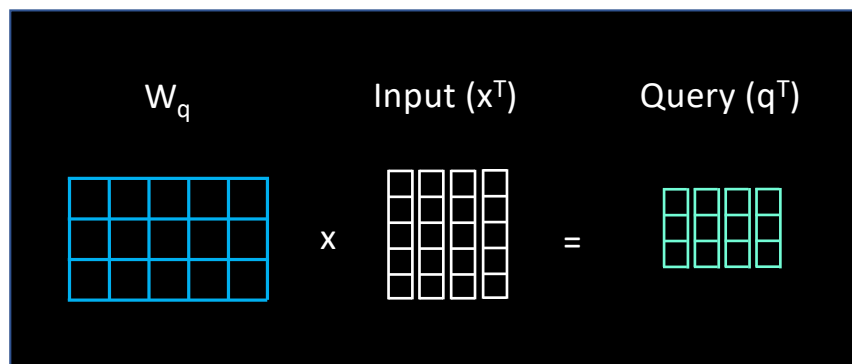


### Encoder Layer

It map all input sequences into an abstract continuous representation that holds the learned information for that entire sequence.

Modules:

- multi-headed attention
- fully connected network
- residual connections around each of the two sublayers followed by a layer normalization.



## Query, Key, and Value Vectors

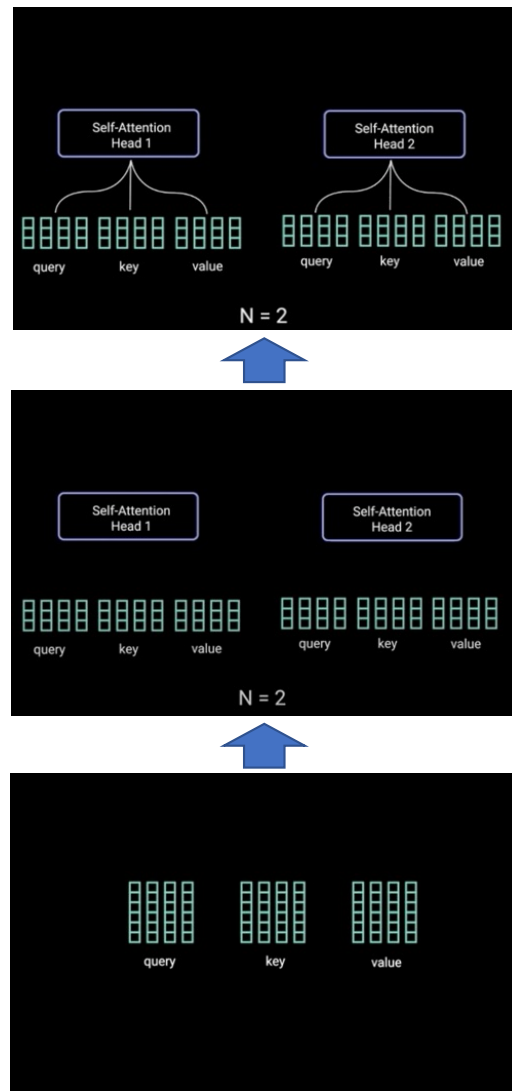
The input is fed into 3 distinct fully connected layers to create the query, key, and value vectors

$$Q = W_q x$$

$$K = W_k x$$

$$V = W_v x$$

“The query key and value concept come from retrieval systems. For example, when you type a query to search for some video on Youtube, the search engine will map your **query** against a set of **keys** (video title, description etc.) associated with candidate videos in the database, then present you the best matched videos (**values**).”



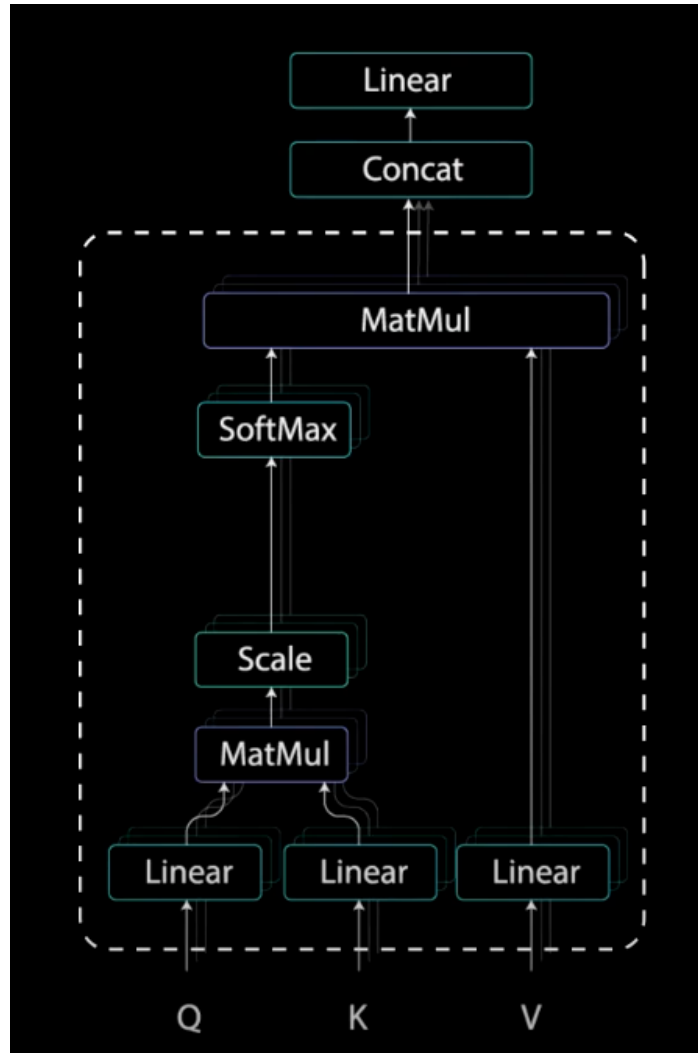
## Computing Multi-headed Attention

Pass the query, key, and value into  $N$  vectors to applying self-attention.

Each self-attention process is called a head.

Each head produces an output vector that gets concatenated into a single vector before going through the final linear layer.

In theory, each head would learn something different therefore giving the encoder model more representation power.

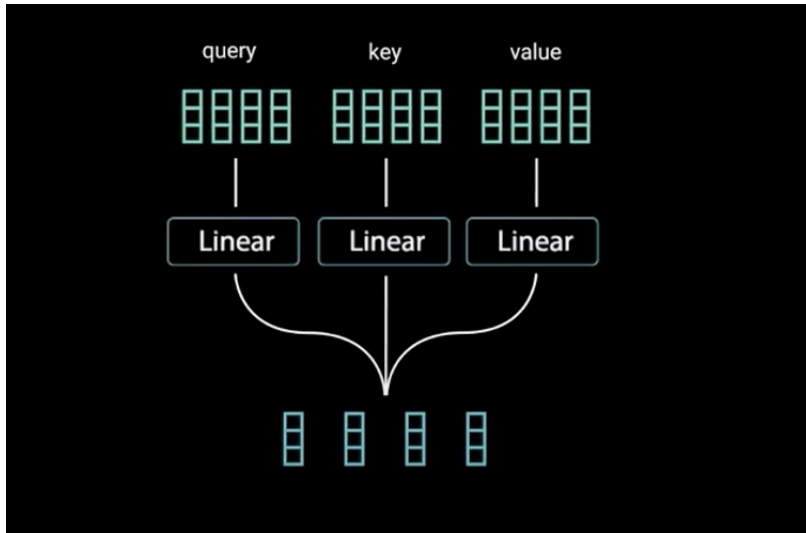


## Multi-Headed Attention

Applies a specific attention mechanism called self-attention.

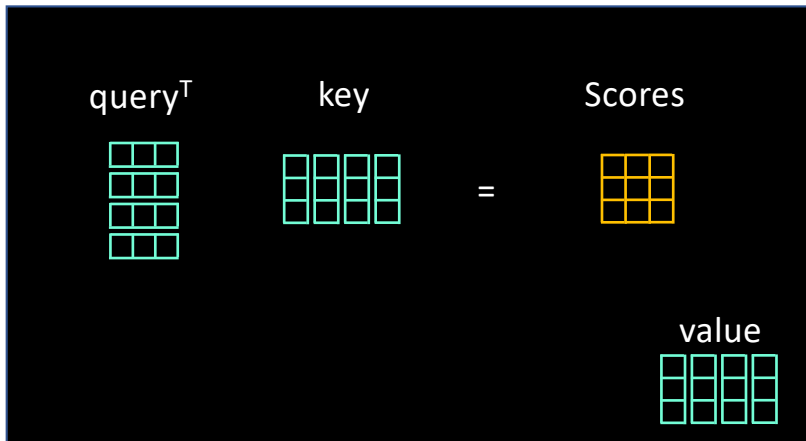
It associates each word in the input to other words.

So in our example, it can learn to associate the word “you”, with “how” and “are”. It’s also possible that the model learns that words structured in this pattern are typically a question so respond appropriately.

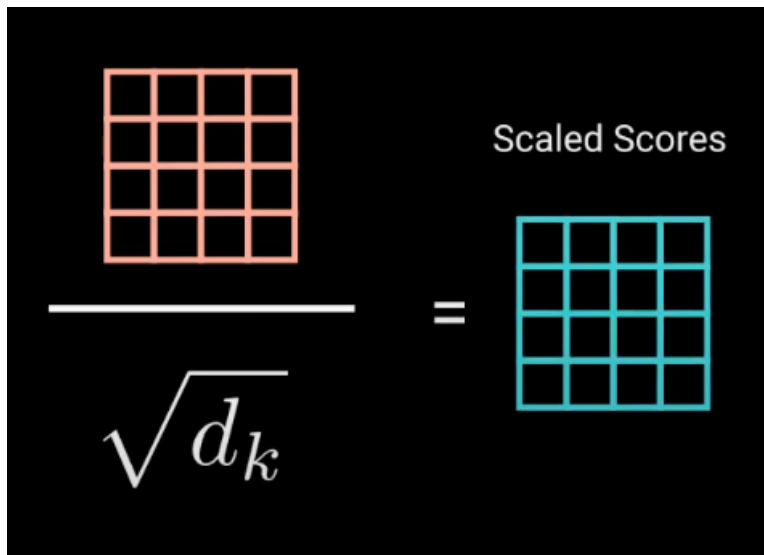


The query, key, and value vector through a linear layer, the queries and keys undergo a dot product matrix multiplication to produce a **Score Matrix**.

**Score Matrix** determines how much focus should a word be put on other words: each word has a score that corresponds to other words in the time-step. The higher the score the more focus.



	Hi	how	are	you
Hi	98	27	10	12
how	27	89	31	67
are	10	31	91	54
you	12	67	54	92



The diagram illustrates the scaling of attention scores. On the left, an orange 4x4 grid represents the attention scores. Below it is a horizontal line, and underneath that is the mathematical expression  $\sqrt{d_k}$ . To the right of the line is an equals sign. To the right of the equals sign is a cyan 4x4 grid, which is labeled "Scaled Scores" above it.

### Scaling Down the Attention Scores

The scores get scaled down by getting divided by the square root of the dimension of query and key.

It allows more stable gradients, as multiplying values can have exploding effects.

$d_k$  is the dimension of the key vectors.

### Attention weights

Softmax(


) =

	Hi	how	are	you
Hi	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.1
how	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.1
are	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.1
you	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3

$$\text{softmax}(x)_i = \frac{\exp(x_i)}{\sum_j \exp(x_j)}$$

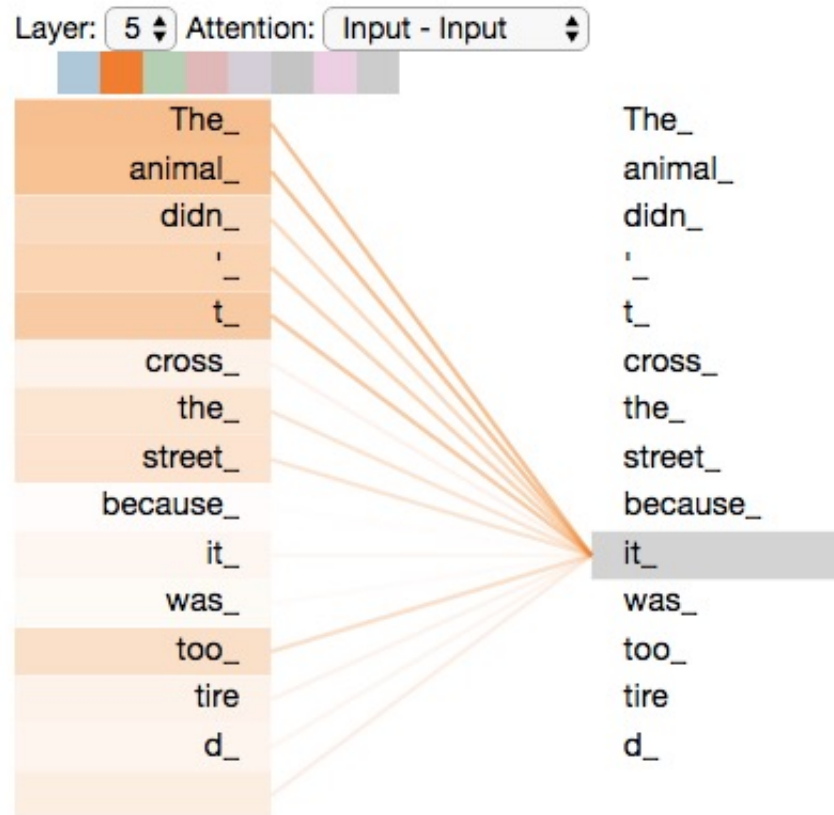
### Softmax of the Scaled Scores

Softmax of the scaled score to get the attention weights: (probability values between 0 and 1).

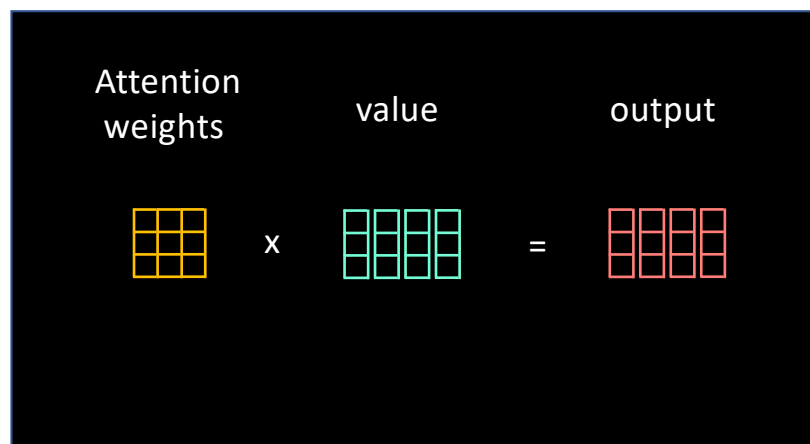
Higher scores get heightened, and lower scores are depressed.

This allows the model to be more confident about which words to attend too.





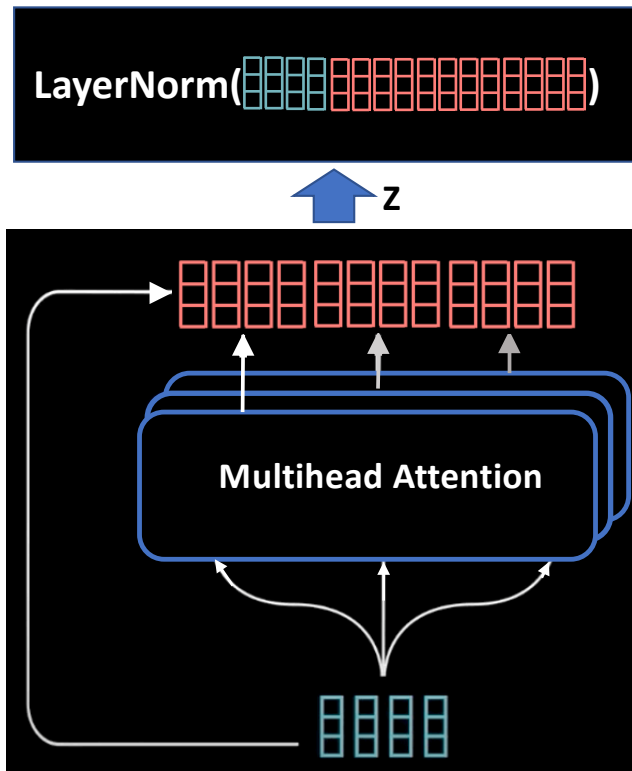
<https://github.com/jessevig/bertviz>



### Multiply Softmax Output with Value vector

Attention weights are multiplied the value vector to get an output vector.

- The higher softmax scores will keep the value of words the model learns is more important.
- The lower scores will drown out the irrelevant words. Then you feed the output of that into a linear layer to process

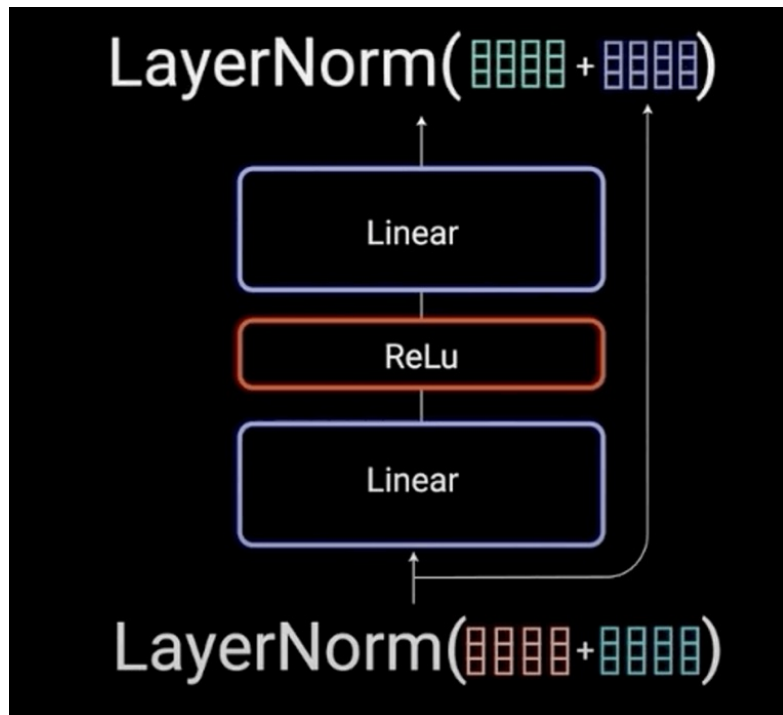


### The Residual Connections, Layer Normalization, and Feed Forward Network

The multi-headed attention output vector is added to the original positional input embedding.

This is called a residual connection.

The output of the residual connection goes through a layer normalization



The normalized residual output gets projected through a pointwise feed-forward network for further processing.

The pointwise feed-forward network is a couple of linear layers with a ReLU activation in between.

The output of that is then again added to the input of the pointwise feed-forward network and further normalized.

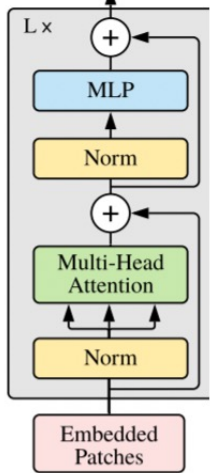
- Residual connections help the network train.
- Layer normalizations stabilize the network reducing the training time.
- Pointwise feedforward layer project the attention outputs to a richer representation.

# Summary

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Transformer Encod



THEN, GIVEN THE SEQUENCE

$t = ['I', 'am', 'student']$

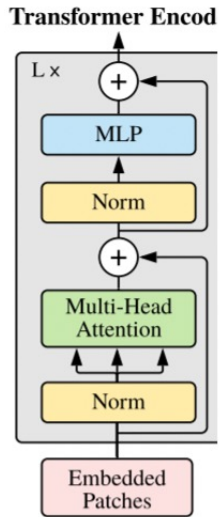
it is transformed to indices in a lexicon

$I = [10, 100, 1521]$

And embedded in vector of dimension  $d_k$

$$x = \left[ \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix} \right] d_k$$

$d_k$  is the dimension of all the vectors in the transformer

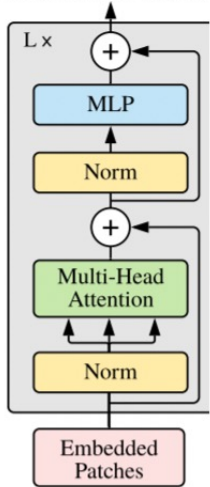


it is important to include positional information into the embedded tokens

Let  $p_t$  the vector of dimension  $d_k$  that codifies the  $t$ -th position, then

$$x_t \leftarrow x_t + p_t$$

Transformer Encod



Next, it is passed to the Attention Head  
for the  $i$ th head we compute

$$q_i = W_q^i x \quad (\text{Query})$$

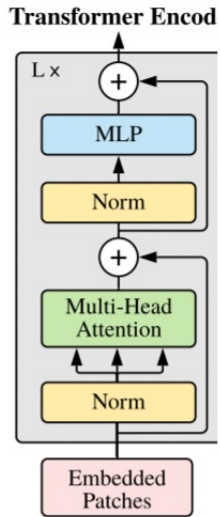
$$k_i = W_k^i x \quad (\text{Key})$$

$$v_i = W_v^i x \quad (\text{Value})$$

Then, we compute the ~~score matrix~~:

$$S_i = q_i^T k = x^T W_q^{iT} W_k^i x$$





The score matrix can be seen as a cross correlation matrix:

$$S^i = \{ X^T, X \} W_q^T W_k$$

Then, it is normalized (scaled):

$$S^i \leftarrow \frac{S^i}{\sqrt{d_k}} \quad \text{the internal vector's dimension}$$

and

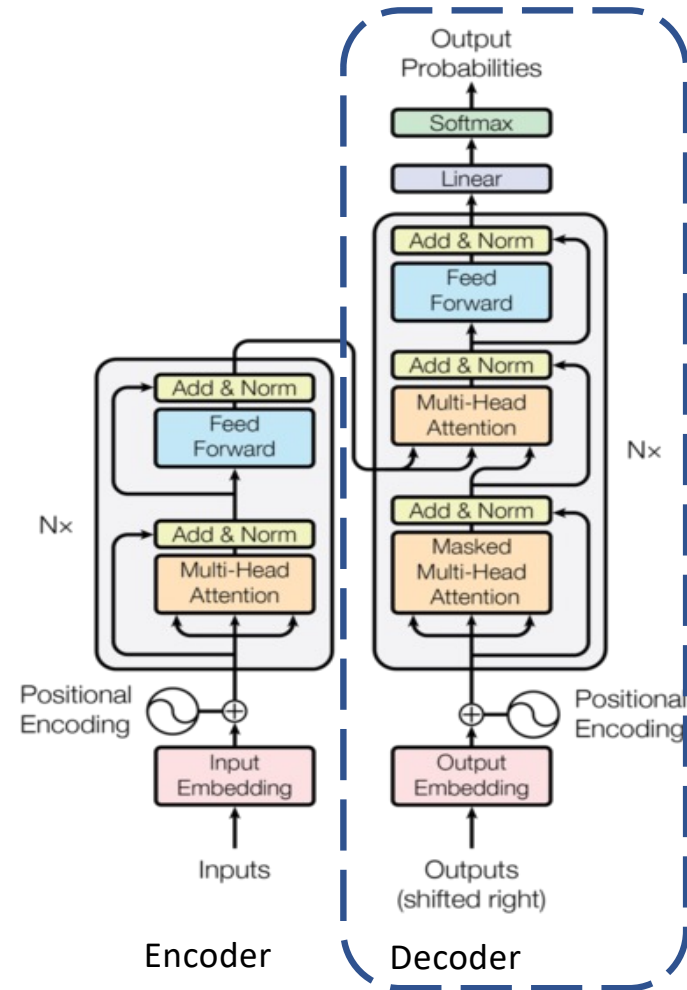
$$A^i = \text{softmax}(S^i) \quad \text{or } \text{per } \text{rengloes}$$

the  $i$ th self attention matrix

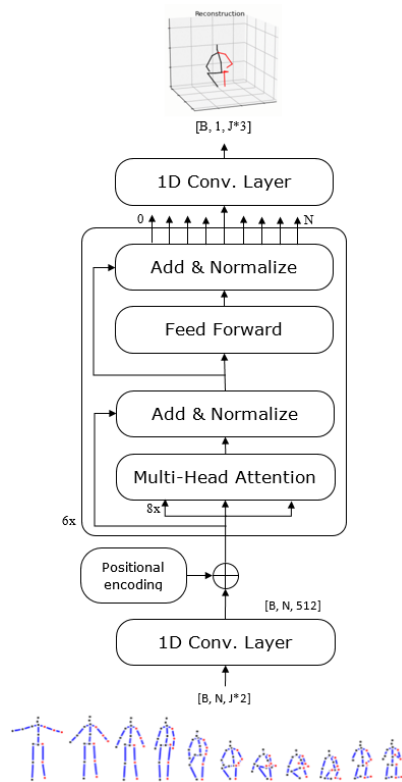


# DECODER

(Beyond the scope and interest of this talk)



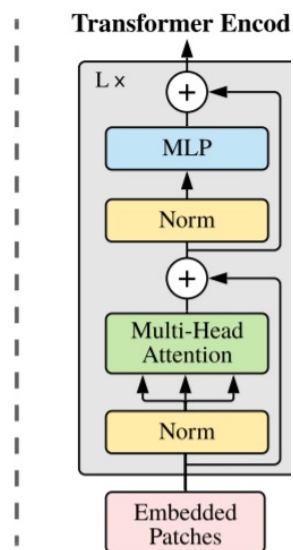
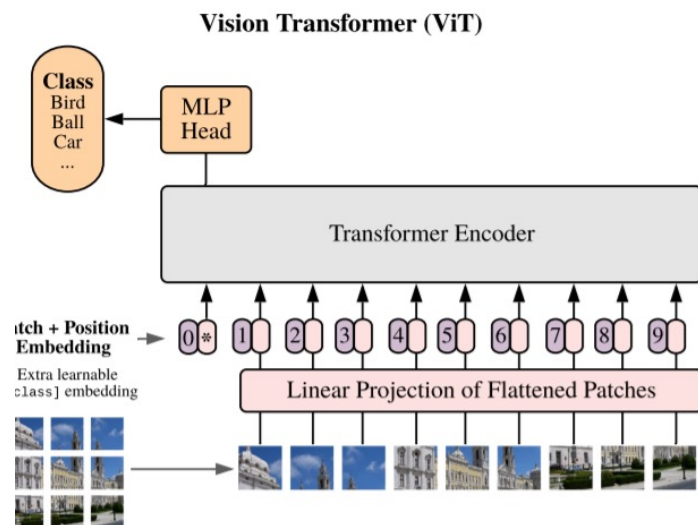
# 3D Human pose estimation



Adrian Llopart, LiftFormer: 3D Human Pose Estimation using attention models. CoRR, [abs/2009.00348](https://arxiv.org/abs/2009.00348) (2020)

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# Visual Transformer: image classification



- Alexey Dosovitskiy et al. An image is worth 16x16 words: transformers for image recognition at scale. **ICLR 2021**.  
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2010.11929v1.p>
- <https://paperswithcode.com/paper/an-image-is-worth-16x16-words-transformers-1>

# TRANSFORMERS

## Conclusion

Growing interest in applying Transformer-based models to vision problems:

Image classification, object detection, action recognition and segmentation, generative modeling, multimodal tasks, video processing (recognition and forecasting), and low-level vision (image super-resolution, image enhancement, and colorization).

An effective use in vision problems is Segment Anything Model (SAM).

Vision Transformers would be the base of “foundation models” for vision tasks

Transformer suffer from the need for large training databases, numerical instabilities, and a large number of parameters.

**Mariano Rivera**

