Selective Attention for Context-aware Neural Machine Translation

Sameen Maruf[†], André F. T. Martins[‡], Gholamreza Haffari[†]

[†]Faculty of Information Technology, Monash University, Australia [‡]Unbabel & Instituto de Telecomunicações, Lisbon, Portugal

NAACL-HLT, Minneapolis, June, 2019

Overview



- Proposed Approach
- Experiments and Analyses

2/31



Overview



- Proposed Approach
- 3 Experiments and Analyses





• Most state-of-the-art NMT models translate sentences independently

- Most state-of-the-art NMT models translate sentences independently
- Discourse phenomena are ignored, e.g., pronominal anaphora and coherence, which may have long-range dependency

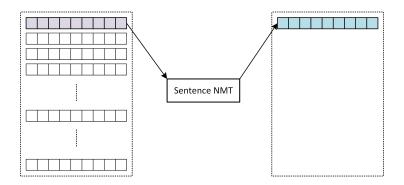
- Most state-of-the-art NMT models translate sentences independently
- Discourse phenomena are ignored, e.g., pronominal anaphora and coherence, which may have long-range dependency
- Most of the works in document NMT focus on using a few previous sentences as context ignoring the rest of the document

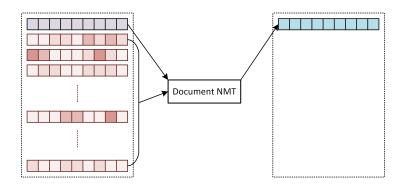
[Jean et al., 2017, Wang et al., 2017, Bawden et al., 2018, Voita et al., 2018, Tu et al., 2018, Zhang et al., 2018, Miculicich et al., 2018]

- Most state-of-the-art NMT models translate sentences independently
- Discourse phenomena are ignored, e.g., pronominal anaphora and coherence, which may have long-range dependency
- Most of the works in document NMT focus on using a few previous sentences as context ignoring the rest of the document

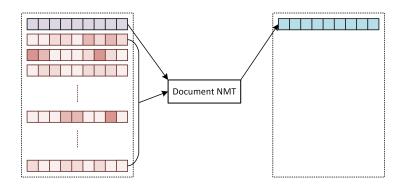
[Jean et al., 2017, Wang et al., 2017, Bawden et al., 2018, Voita et al., 2018, Tu et al., 2018, Zhang et al., 2018, Miculicich et al., 2018]

• The global document context for MT [Maruf and Haffari, 2018]

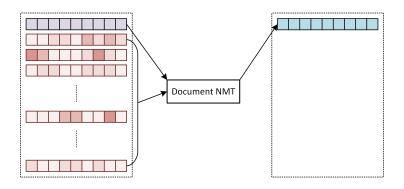




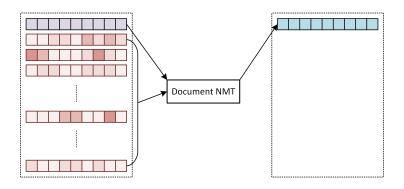
• Soft attention over words in the document context



- Soft attention over words in the document context
- Forms a long-tail absorbing significant probability mass



- Soft attention over words in the document context
- Forms a long-tail absorbing significant probability mass
- Incapable of ignoring irrelevant words



- Soft attention over words in the document context
- Forms a long-tail absorbing significant probability mass
- Incapable of ignoring irrelevant words
- Not scalable to long documents

・ロン ・四 と ・ ヨ と ・ ヨ と … ヨ

This Work

We propose a sparse and hierarchical attention approach for document NMT which:

- identifies the key sentences in the global document context, and
- attends to the key words within those sentences

Overview

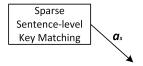


Proposed Approach

3 Experiments and Analyses



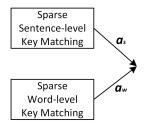
For each query word:



$lpha_s$: attention weights given to sentences in context

▲□▶ ▲圖▶ ▲国▶ ▲国▶ - 国 - のへで

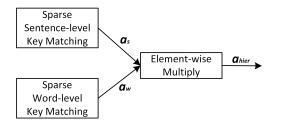
For each query word:



 α_s : attention weights given to sentences in context α_w : attention weights given to words in context

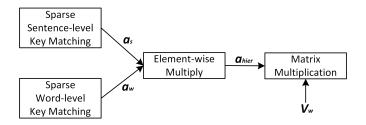
イロト 不得 とくき とくき とうき

For each query word:



 α_s : attention weights given to sentences in context α_w : attention weights given to words in context α_{hier} : re-scaled attention weights of words in context

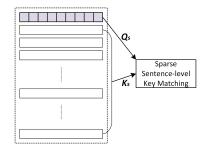
For each query word:



 α_s : attention weights given to sentences in context α_w : attention weights given to words in context α_{hier} : re-scaled attention weights of words in context V_w : from words in context

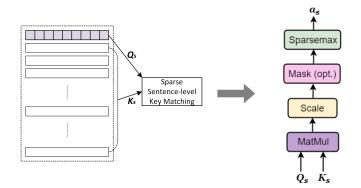
< □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □ > < □

Sparse sentence-level key matching: identify relevant sentences



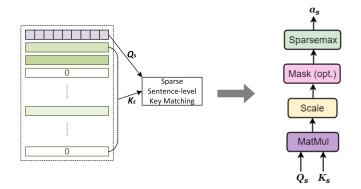
 Q_s : representation of words in current sentence K_s : representation of sentences in context

Sparse sentence-level key matching: identify relevant sentences



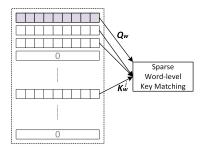
 Q_s : representation of words in current sentence K_s : representation of sentences in context

Sparse sentence-level key matching: identify relevant sentences

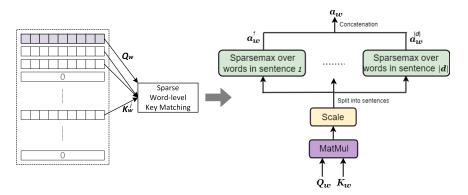


 Q_s : representation of words in current sentence K_s : representation of sentences in context

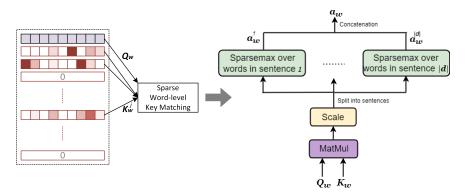
Sparse word-level key matching: identify relevant words in relevant sentences



Sparse word-level key matching: identify relevant words in relevant sentences



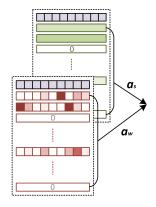
Sparse word-level key matching: identify relevant words in relevant sentences

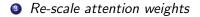


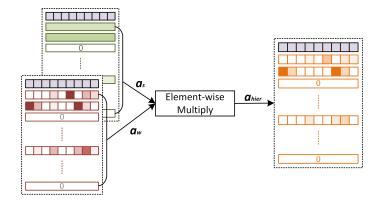
 Q_w : representation of words in current sentence K_w : representation of words in context, a_w , a_w

-

③ *Re-scale attention weights*

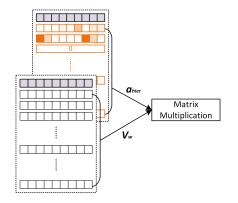






Read the word-level values with the attention weights

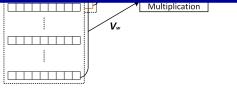
Read the word-level values with the attention weights



9 *Read the word-level values* with the attention weights



Our sparse hierarchical attention module is able to selectively focus on relevant sentences in the document context and then attends to key words in those sentences



イロト イポト イヨト イヨト

Flat Attention over Source Document

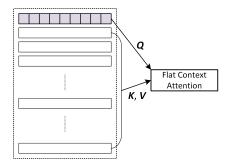
・ロ ・ ・ 一 ・ ・ 注 ト ・ 注 ト ・ 注 ・ つ へ C
13 / 31

Flat Attention over Source Document

• *Soft sentence-level attention* over all sentences in the document context

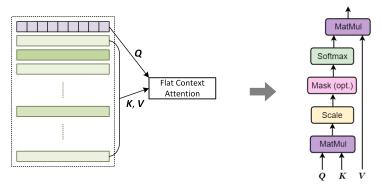
Flat Attention over Source Document

• *Soft sentence-level attention* over all sentences in the document context



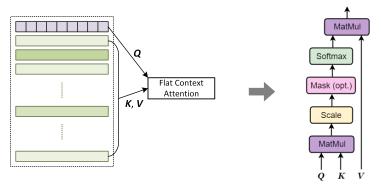
K, V: representation of sentences in context

• *Soft sentence-level attention* over all sentences in the document context



K, V: representation of sentences in context

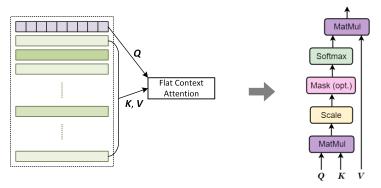
• *Soft sentence-level attention* over all sentences in the document context



K, V: representation of sentences in context

• Comparison to [Maruf and Haffari, 2018]:

• *Soft sentence-level attention* over all sentences in the document context

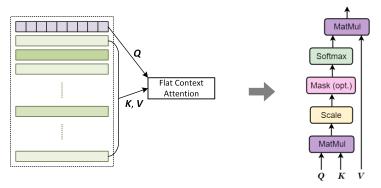


K, V: representation of sentences in context

イロト 不得 とくほと くほとう ほ

- Comparison to [Maruf and Haffari, 2018]:
 - multi-head attention

• *Soft sentence-level attention* over all sentences in the document context

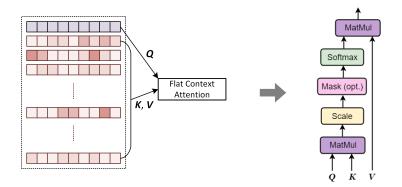


K, V: representation of sentences in context

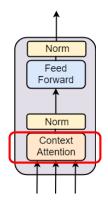
- Comparison to [Maruf and Haffari, 2018]:
 - multi-head attention

• dynamic (┌ः) (२:) (2:) (२:) (२:) (२:) (2:

• Soft word-level attention over all words in the document context



K, V: representation of words in context

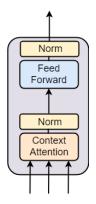


・ロト ・回ト ・ヨト ・ヨト

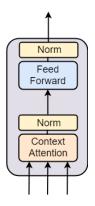
3

15/31

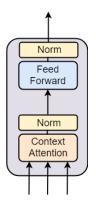
• Hierarchical selective or Flat



• Hierarchical selective or Flat



- Hierarchical selective or Flat
- Monolingual context (source) integrated in encoder



- Hierarchical selective or Flat
- Monolingual context (source) integrated in encoder
- Bilingual context (source & target) integrated in decoder

<ロ > < 部 > < 言 > く 言 > こ > う < ご) く C 16 / 31

Our Models:



Our Models:

- Hierarchical Attention over context
 - sparse at sentence-level, soft at word-level

<ロ> (四) (四) (三) (三) (三) (三)

16/31

• sparse at both sentence and word-level

Our Models:

- Hierarchical Attention over context
 - sparse at sentence-level, soft at word-level
 - sparse at both sentence and word-level
- Flat Attention over context
 - soft at sentence-level
 - soft at word-level

Our Models:

- Hierarchical Attention over context
 - sparse at sentence-level, soft at word-level
 - sparse at both sentence and word-level
- Flat Attention over context
 - soft at sentence-level
 - soft at word-level

Our Settings:

- Offline document MT
- Online document MT

Overview



Proposed Approach



Section 2 Construction 2 Construc



Experimental Setup

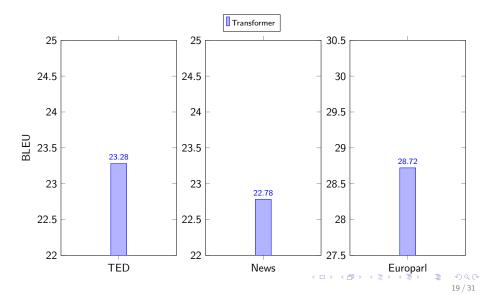
Training/dev/test corpora statistics for En-De:

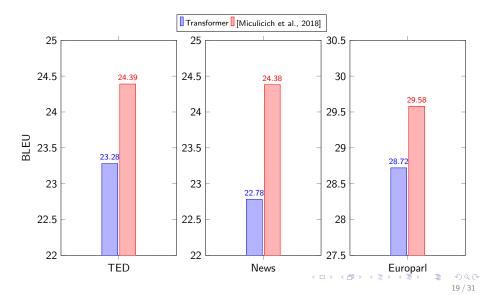
Domain	#Sentences	Document length
TED	0.21M/9K/2.3K	120.89/96.42/98.74
News		38.93/26.78/19.35
Europarl	1.67M/3.6K/5.1K	14.14/14.95/14.06

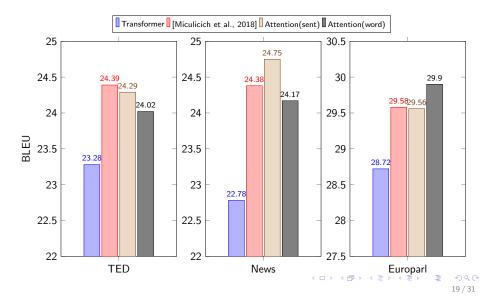
Baselines:

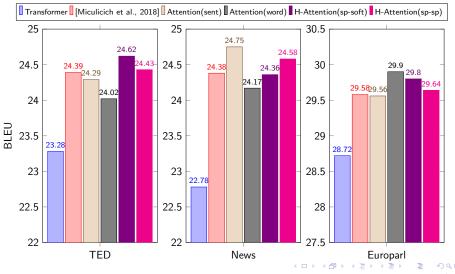
- Context-agnostic baselines (RNNSearch, Transformer)
- Local source context baselines for online document MT:
 - [Zhang et al., 2018] & [Miculicich et al., 2018]

Evaluation Metrics: BLEU, METEOR

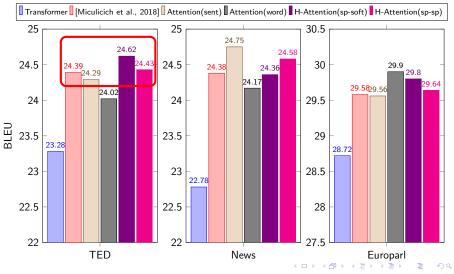




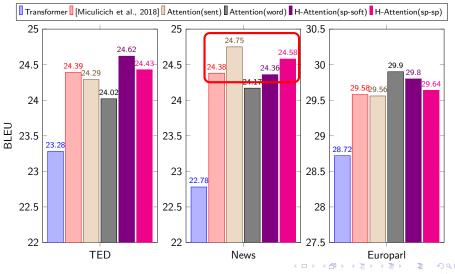




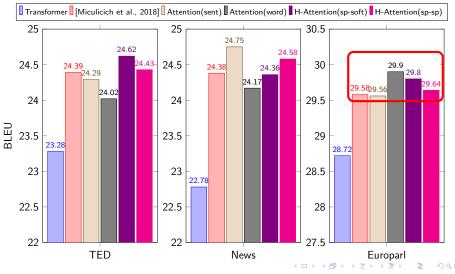
^{19/31}



^{19/31}



^{19/31}



^{19/31}

Analyses

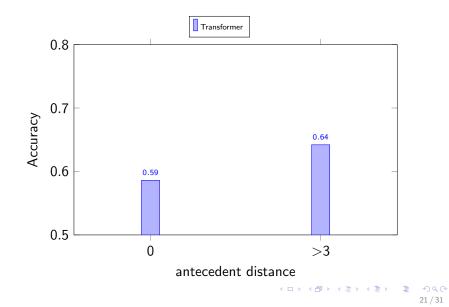
• Automatic evaluation metrics for translation do not assess how well models translate inter-sentential phenomena

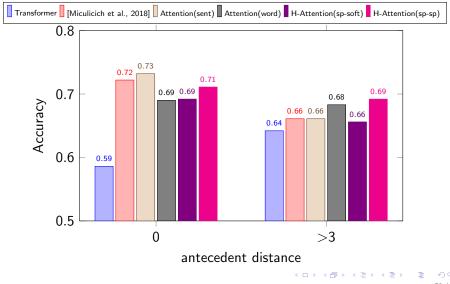
Analyses

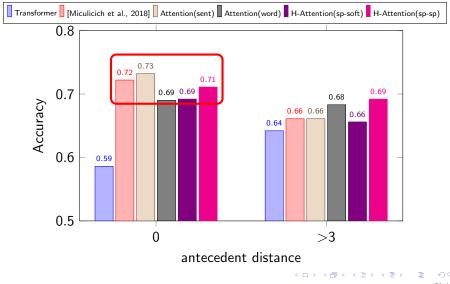
- Automatic evaluation metrics for translation do not assess how well models translate inter-sentential phenomena
- Measure accuracy of translating English pronoun *it* to its German counterparts *es*, *er* and *sie* using a contrastive test set [Müller et al., 2018]

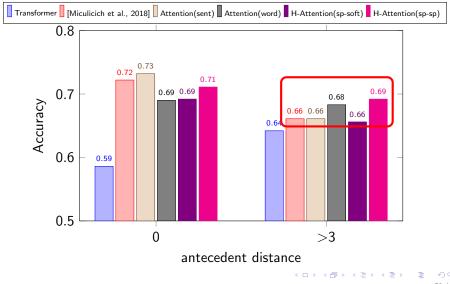
Analyses

- Automatic evaluation metrics for translation do not assess how well models translate inter-sentential phenomena
- Measure accuracy of translating English pronoun *it* to its German counterparts *es*, *er* and *sie* using a contrastive test set [Müller et al., 2018]
- Perform subjective evaluation in terms of adequacy and fluency [Läubli et al., 2018]









Model	#Params	Speed (words/sec.)	
		Training	Decoding
Transformer	50M	5100	86.33
+Attention, <i>sentence</i>	53.7M	3750	83.84
word	53.7M	3100	81.38
+H-Attention	54.2M	2600	74.11

Model	#Params	Speed (words/sec.)	
		Training	Decoding
Transformer	50M	5100	86.33
+Attention, <i>sentence</i>	53.7M	3750	83.84
word	53.7M	3100	81.38
+H-Attention	54.2M	2600	74.11

Model	#Params	Speed (words/sec.)	
		Training	Decoding
Transformer	50M	5100	86.33
+Attention, <i>sentence</i>	53.7M	3750	83.84
word	53.7M	3100	81.38
+H-Attention	54.2M	2600	74.11

◆□ > ◆□ > ◆臣 > ◆臣 > □ 三 の < ⊙

Model	#Params	Speed (words/sec.)	
		Training	Decoding
Transformer	50M	5100	86.33
+Attention, <i>sentence</i>	53.7M	3750	83.84
word	53.7M	3100	81.38
+H-Attention	54.2M	2600	74.11
[Miculicich et al., 2018]	54.8M	1650	76.90

Model	#Params	Speed (words/sec.)	
		Training	Decoding
Transformer	50M	5100	86.33
+Attention, <i>sentence</i>	53.7M	3750	83.84
word	53.7M	3100	81.38
+H-Attention	54.2M	2600	74.11
[Miculicich et al., 2018]	54.8M	1650	76.90

Src: Croatia is their homeland , too .

Tgt: Kroatien ist auch ihre Heimat .

Transformer: Kroatien ist auch seine Heimat .

Our Model: Kroatien ist auch ihr Heimatland .

Src: Croatia is **their** homeland , too . Tgt: Kroatien ist auch **ihre** Heimat . Transformer: Kroatien ist auch **seine** Heimat . Our Model: Kroatien ist auch **ihr** Heimatland .

Head 8: Top sentences with attention to words related to the antecedent s^{j-1} : to name but a few, these include cooperation with the Hague Tribunal, efforts made so far in prosecuting corruption, restructuring the economy and finances and greater commitment and sincerity in eliminating the obstacles to the return of Croatia 's Serbian population .

 s^{j-4} : by signing a border arbitration agreement with its neighbour Slovenia, the new Croatian Government has not only eliminated an obstacle to the negotiating process, but has also paved the way for the resolution of other issues.

Src: Croatia is **their** homeland , too . Tgt: Kroatien ist auch **ihre** Heimat . Transformer: Kroatien ist auch **seine** Heimat . Our Model: Kroatien ist auch **ihr** Heimatland .

Head 8: Top sentences with attention to words related to the antecedent s^{j-1} to name but a few, these include cooperation with the Hague Tribunal, efforts made so far in prosecuting corruption, restructuring the economy and finances and greater commitment and sincerity in eliminating the obstacles to the return of Croatia 's Serbian population .

 s^{j-4} by signing a border arbitration agreement with its neighbour Slovenia, the new Croatian Government has not only eliminated an obstacle to the negotiating process, but has also paved the way for the resolution of other issues.

Src: Croatia is **their** homeland , too .

Tgt: Kroatien ist auch ihre Heimat .

Transformer: Kroatien ist auch seine Heimat .

Our Model: Kroatien ist auch ihr Heimatland .

Head 8: Top sentences with attention to words related to the antecedent s^{j-1} : to name but a few, these include cooperation with the Hague Tribunal, efforts made so far in prosecuting corruption, restructuring the economy and finances and greater commitment and sincerity in eliminating the obstacles to the return of Croatia 's Serbian population .

 s^{j-4} : by signing a border arbitration agreement with its neighbour Slovenia, the new Croatian Government has not only eliminated an obstacle to the negotiating process, but has also paved the way for the resolution of other issues.

Src: Croatia is **their** homeland , too . Tgt: Kroatien ist auch **ihre** Heimat . Transformer: Kroatien ist auch **seine** Heimat .

Our Model: Kroatien ist auch ihr Heimatland .

Head 8: Top sentences with attention to words related to the antecedent s^{j-1} : to name but a few , these include cooperation with the Hague Tribunal , efforts made so far in prosecuting corruption , restructuring the economy and finances and greater commitment and sincerity in eliminating the obstacles to the return of Croatia 's Serbian population .

 s^{j-4} : by signing a border arbitration agreement with its neighbour Slovenia , the new Croatian Government has not only eliminated an obstacle to the negotiating process, but has also paved the way for the resolution of other issues .

Overview

1 The Whys?

Proposed Approach

3 Experiments and Analyses



Summary

Summary

- Proposed a novel and scalable top-down approach to hierarchical attention for document NMT
- Our experiments in two document MT settings show that our approach surpasses context-agnostic and context-aware baselines in majority cases

Summary

- Proposed a novel and scalable top-down approach to hierarchical attention for document NMT
- Our experiments in two document MT settings show that our approach surpasses context-agnostic and context-aware baselines in majority cases

Future Work:

Investigate benefits of sparse attention in terms of better interpretability of context-aware NMT models

References

References I



Jean, S. and Lauly, L. and Firat, O. and Cho, K. (2017). Does Neural Machine Translation Benefit from Larger Context? arXiv:1704.05135.



Wang, L. and Tu, Z. and Way, A. and Liu, Q. (2017). Exploiting Cross-Sentence Context for Neural Machine Translation. Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing.





Voita, E. and Serdyukov, P. and Sennrich, R. and Titov, I. (2018).

Context-aware neural machine translation learns anaphora resolution. Proceedings of ACL 2018.



Tu, Z. and Liu, Y. and Shi, S. and Zhang, T. (2018). Learning to Remember Translation History with a Continuous Cache. Proceedings of TACL 2018.



Zhang, J., Luan, H., Sun, M., Zhai, F., Xu, J., Zhang, M., and Liu, Y. (2018).

Improving the transformer translation model with document-level context. Proceedings of EMNLP 2018.



Miculicich, L., Ram, D., Pappas, N., and Henderson, J. (2018).

Document-level neural machine translation with hierarchical attention networks. Proceedings of EMNLP 2018.

References II



Maruf, S. and Haffari, G. (2018).

Document Context Neural Machine Translation with Memory Networks. Proceedings of ACL 2018.

Neubig, G. and Dyer, C. and Goldberg, Y. and Matthews, A. and Ammar, W. and Anastasopoulos, A. and Ballesteros, M. and Chiang, D. and Clothiaux, D. and Cohn, T. and Duh, K. and Faruqui, M. and Gan, C. and Garrette, D. and Ji, Y. and Kong, L. and Kuncoro, A. and Kumar, G. and Malaviya, C. and Michel, P. and Oda, Y. and Richardson, M. and Saphra, N. and Swayamdipta, S. and Yin, P. (2017). DvNet: The Dynamic Neural Network Toolkit.

Dynet: The Dynamic Neural N



Müller, M. and Rios, A. and Voita, E. and Sennrich, R. (2018).

A large-scale test set for the evaluation of context-aware pronoun translation in neural machine translation. Proceedings of WMT 2018.

Läubli, S. and Sennrich, R. and Volk, M. (2018).

Has machine translation achieved human parity? A case for document-level evaluation. Proceedings of EMNLP 2018.

Implementation and Hyperparameters

Implementation:

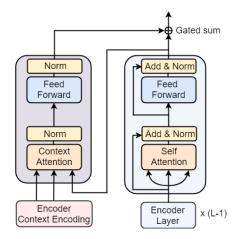
DyNet C++ interface [Neubig et al., 2017], using *Transformer-DyNet* (https://github.com/duyvuleo/Transformer-DyNet)

Parameters	Details
#Layers	4
#Heads	8
Hidden dimensions	512
Feed-forward layer size	2048
Optimizer	Adam (<i>Ir</i> =0.0001)
Dropout (Base model)	0.1
Dropout (Document-level model)	0.2
Label smoothing	0.1

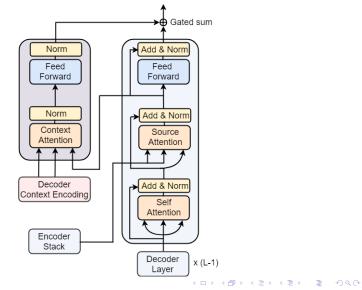
Src/Tgt vocab sizes:

TED 17.1k/23.2k, News 16.9k/23.3k, Europarl 16.6k/25.4k (Joint BPE vocab size 30k)

Monolingual Context Integration in Encoder



Bilingual Context Integration in Decoder



30/31

Src: my **thoughts** are also with the victims . Ref: meine **Gedanken** sind auch bei den Opfern . Transformer: ich **denke** auch an die Opfer . Our Model: meine **Gedanken** sind auch bei den Opfern .

Src: my **thoughts** are also with the victims . Ref: meine **Gedanken** sind auch bei den Opfern . Transformer: ich **denke** auch an die Opfer . Our Model: meine **Gedanken** sind auch bei den Opfern .

Head 2: Top sentences with attention to related words

 s^{j-2} : (FR) Madam President, many things have already been said , but I would like to echo all the words of sympathy and support that have already been addressed to the peoples of Tunisia and Egypt .

 s^{j+4} : it must implement a strong strategy towards these countries .

 s^{j-1} : they are a symbol of hope for all those who defend freedom .