

# BERT & Beyond

CS 490A, Fall 2021

Applications of Natural Language Processing

[https://people.cs.umass.edu/~brenocon/cs490a\\_f21](https://people.cs.umass.edu/~brenocon/cs490a_f21)

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# Administrivia

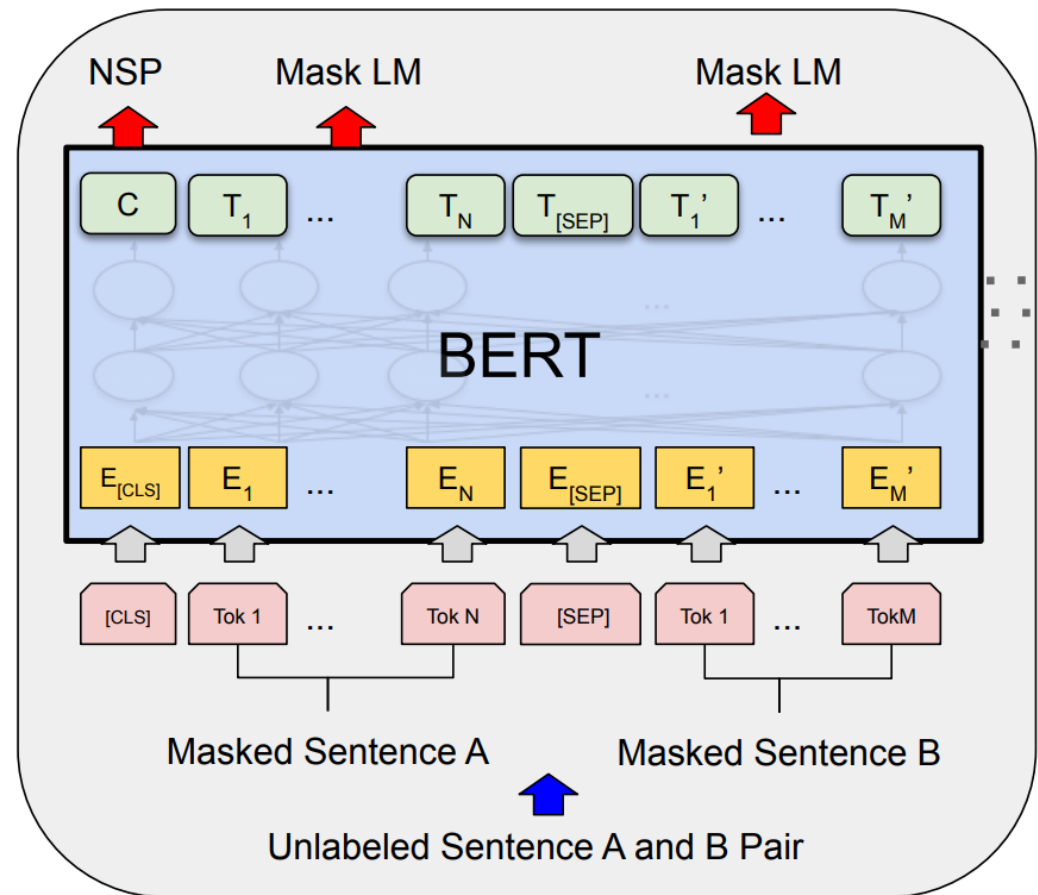
- Project Progress Report due **Monday**, 11/22
- Hugging Face (transformers) tutorial **tomorrow**, 11/19, @ 11am on Zoom
- HW4 will be released next week



# BERT: Bidirectional Encoder Representations for Transformers

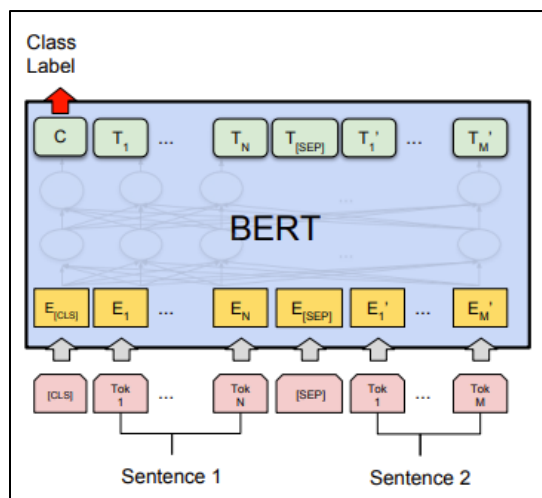
Devlin et al. 2019

# Pre-Training

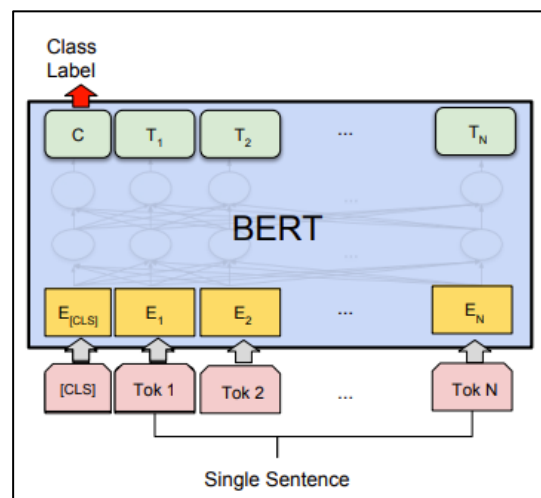


# Fine-Tuning

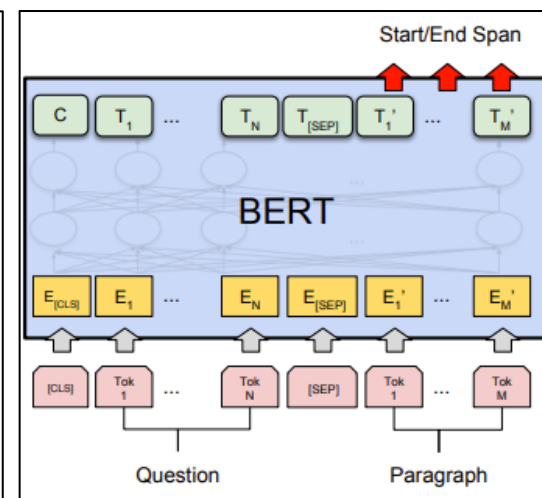
## Sentence Pair Classification



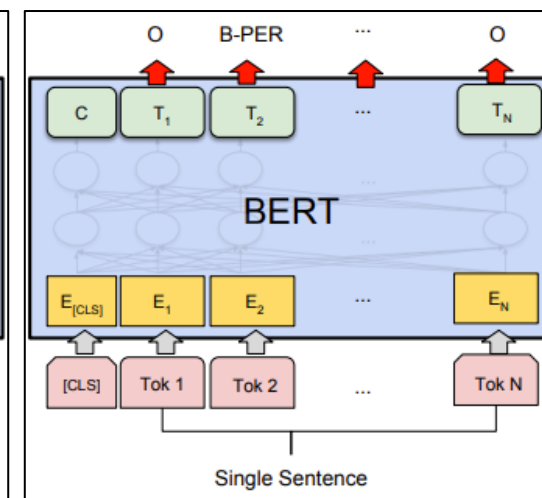
## Single Sentence Classification



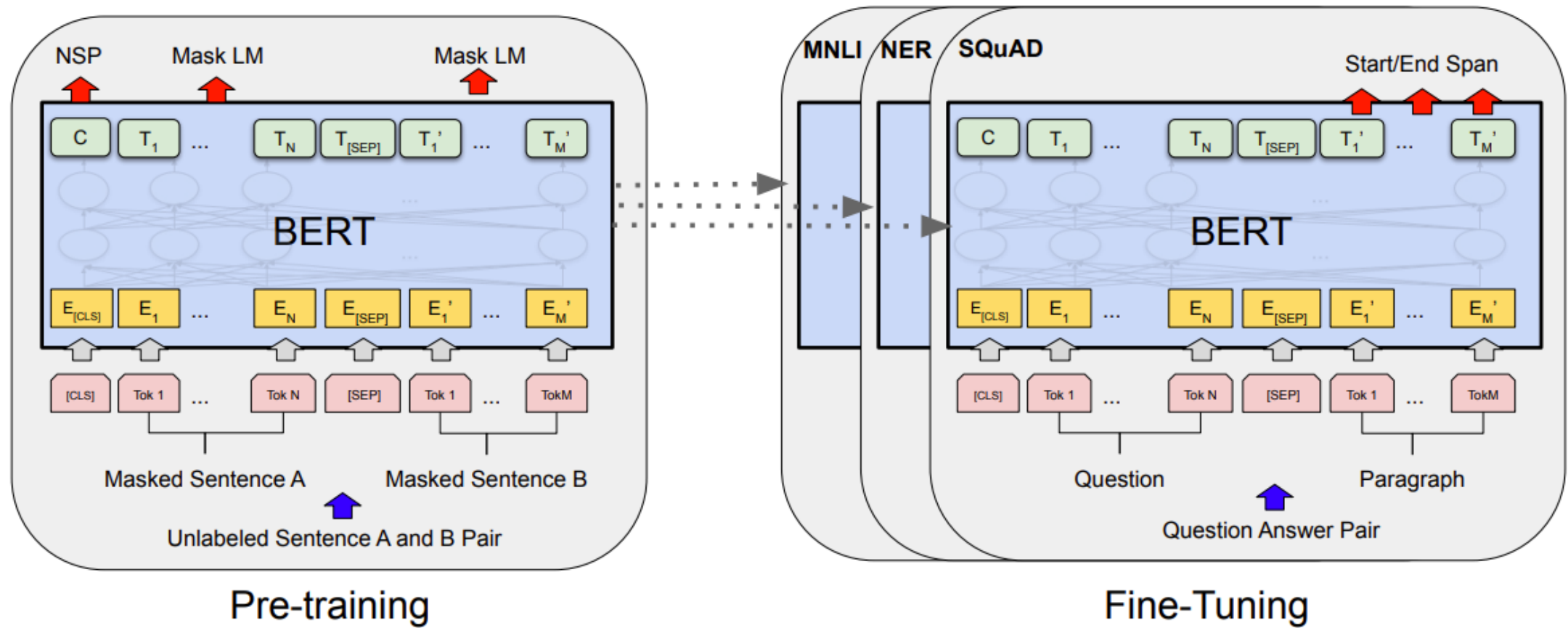
## Question Answering



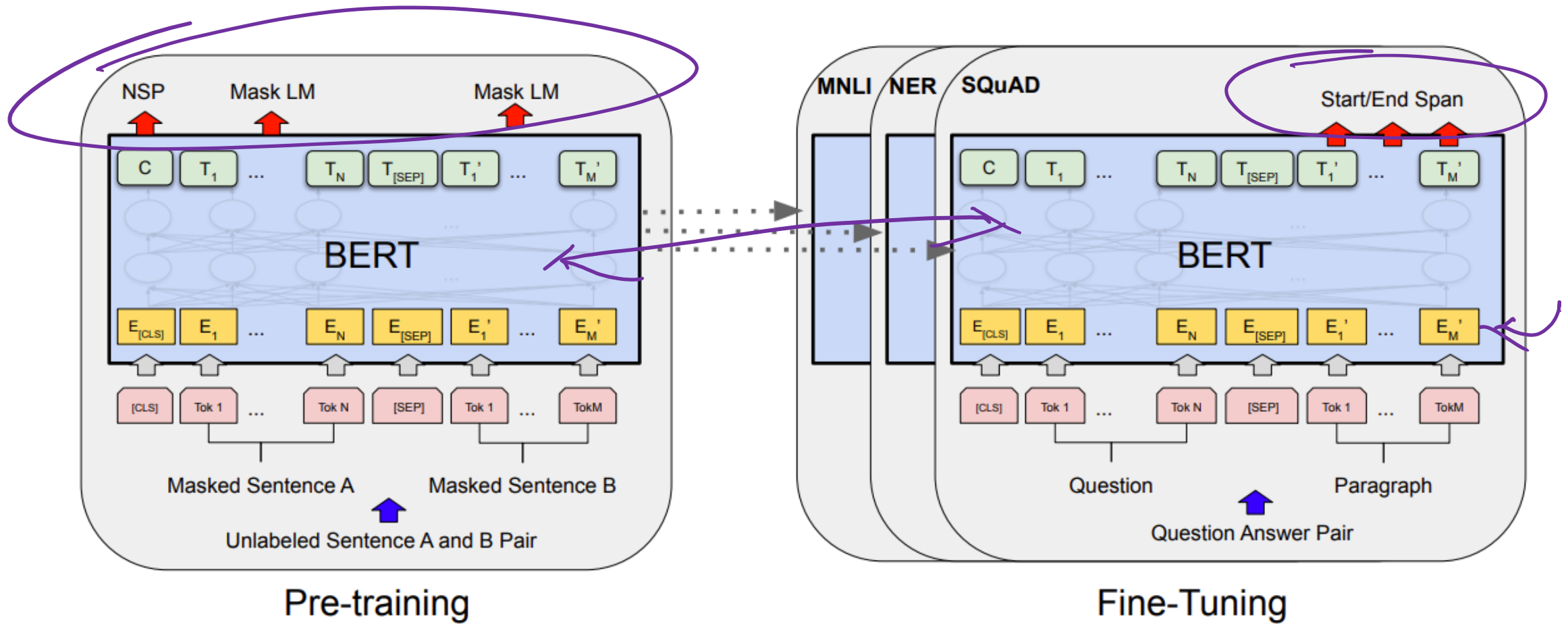
## Single Sentence Tagging



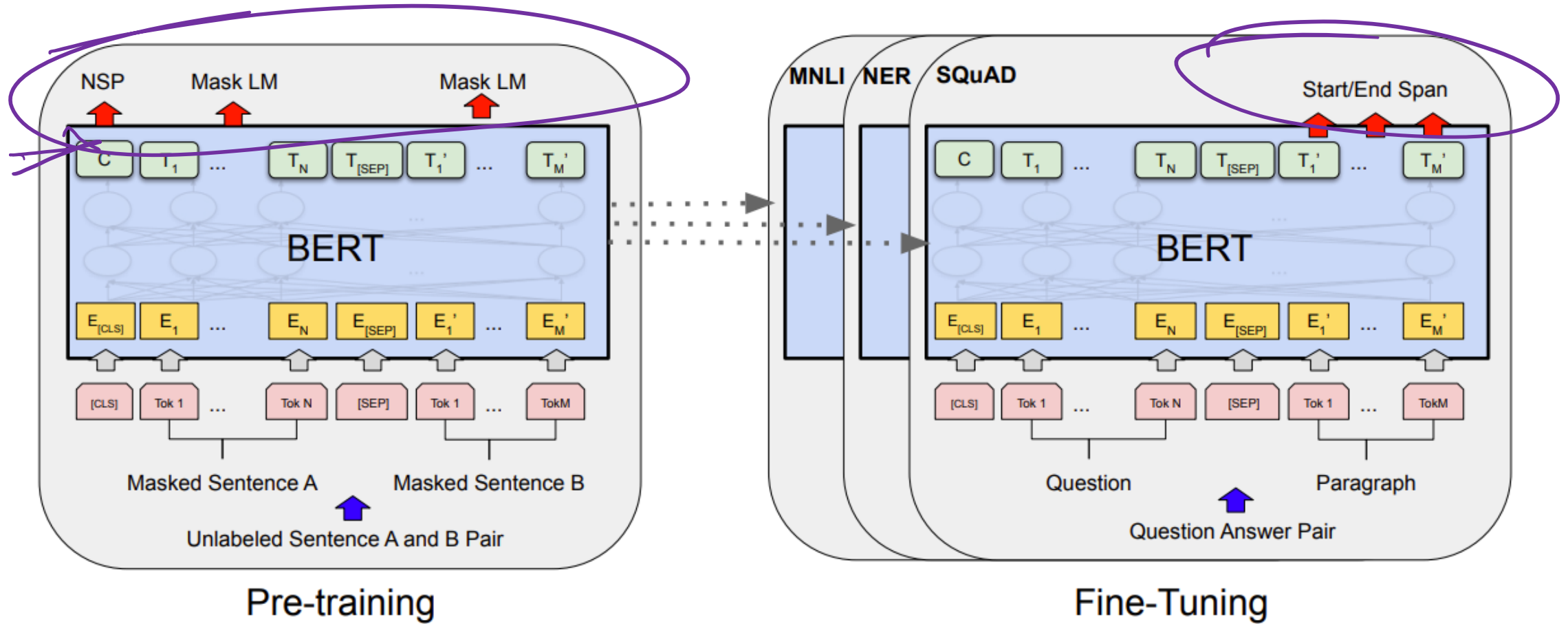
# Pre-Training vs. Fine-Tuning



# Same internal architecture



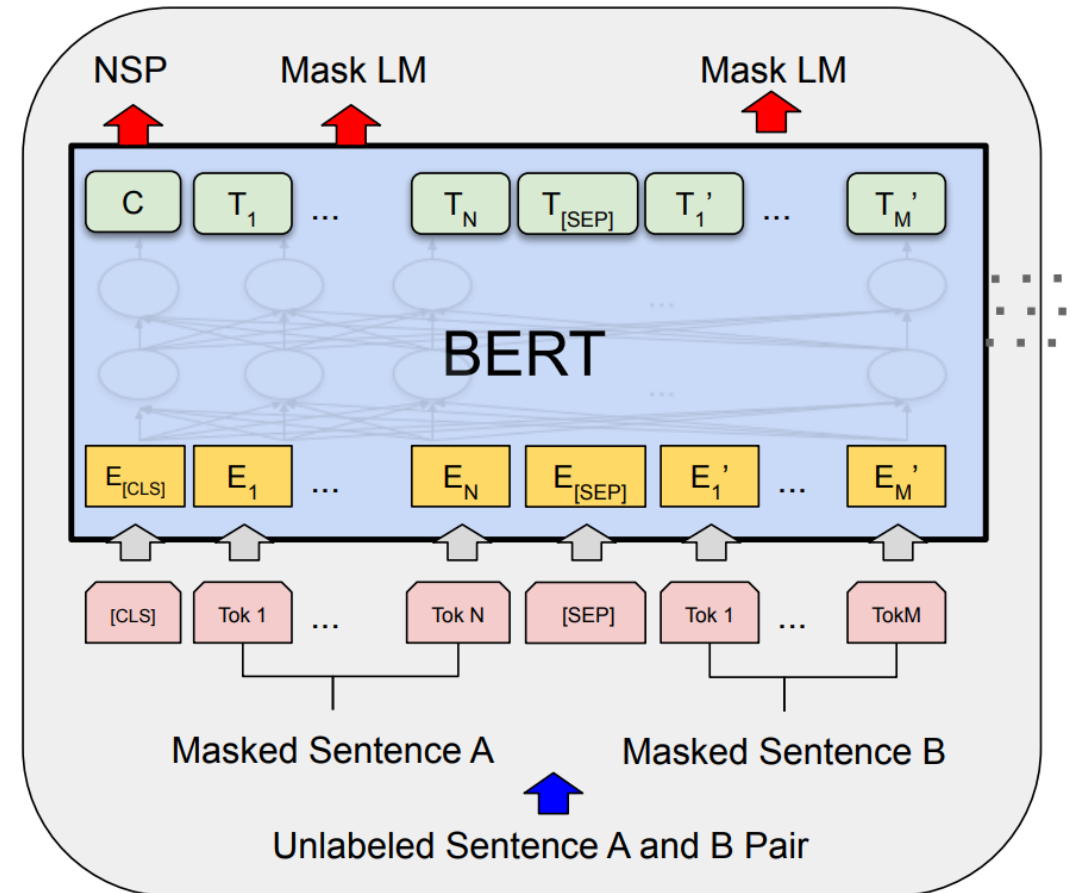
# Different output layers & loss functions





# Pre-Training BERT Tasks

- (1) Masked Language Model
- (2) Next Sentence Prediction



# Masked Language Model Procedure

Example: my dog is hairy

- 80% of the time: Replace the word with the [MASK] token  
my dog is [MASK]
- 10% of the time: Replace the word with a random word  
my dog is apple
- 10% of the time: Keep the word unchanged  
my dog is hairy

# Masked Language Model Procedure

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**Bidirectional language modeling**

my dog is [MASK]

- 10% of the time: Replace the word with a random word

my dog is **apple**

- 10% of the time: Keep the word unchanged

my dog is **hairy**

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Example: my dog is hairy

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**Bidirectional language modeling**

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- 10% of the time: Replace the word with a random word

**Mitigate mismatch between**

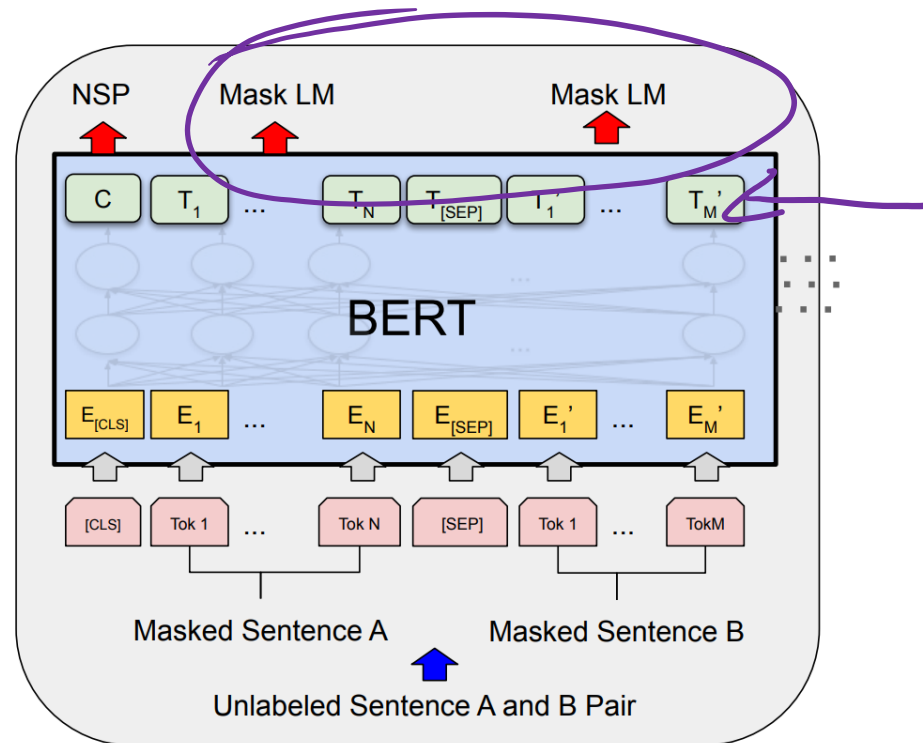
**pre-training & fine-tuning**

- 10% of the time: Keep the word unchanged

my dog is hairy

# Pre-Training BERT: MLM

**Idea:** Predict vocab ID of masked tokens from final embeddings



# Masked Language Model Head

1. Transform  $T_i$  into a vector with `vocab_size` dimensions

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Loss Function: cross-entropy of distribution from 2

**Only use masked tokens to calculate loss!**

# Cross-Entropy

True distribution  $\boldsymbol{p}$  and estimating distribution  $\boldsymbol{q}$

$$H(p, q) = \sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log q(x)$$

# Cross-Entropy

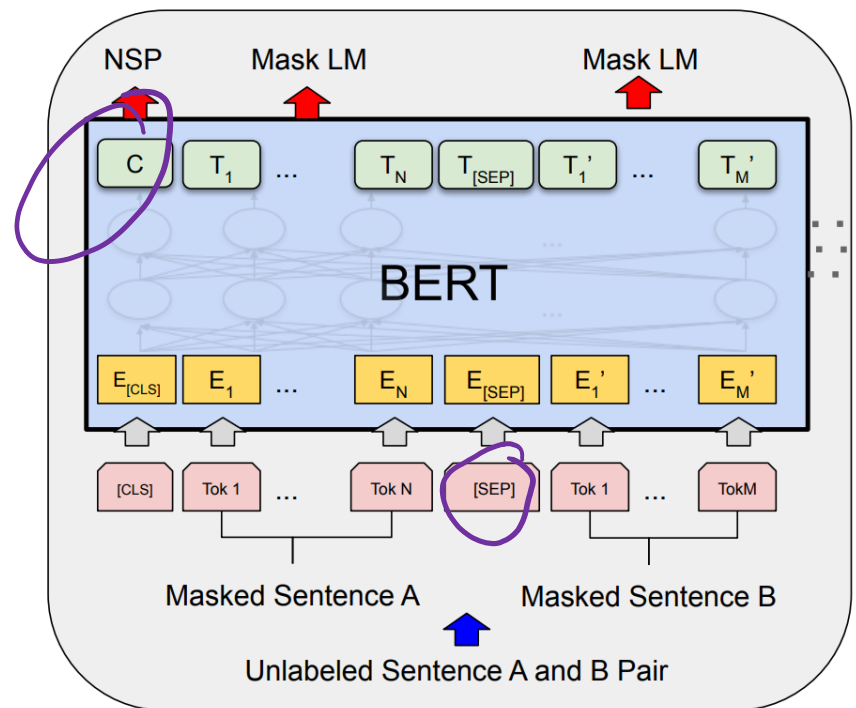
True distribution  $\mathbf{p}$  and estimating distribution  $\mathbf{q}$

$$H(p, q) = \sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log q(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} H(p, q) &= p(x_{true}) \log q(x_{true}) \\ &= \log q(x_{true}) \end{aligned}$$

# Pre-Training BERT: NSP

**Idea:** Predict whether sentence B follows sentence A using the final embedding of the [CLS] token



# Next Sentence Prediction Head

1. Transform  $C$  into a vector with 2 dimensions

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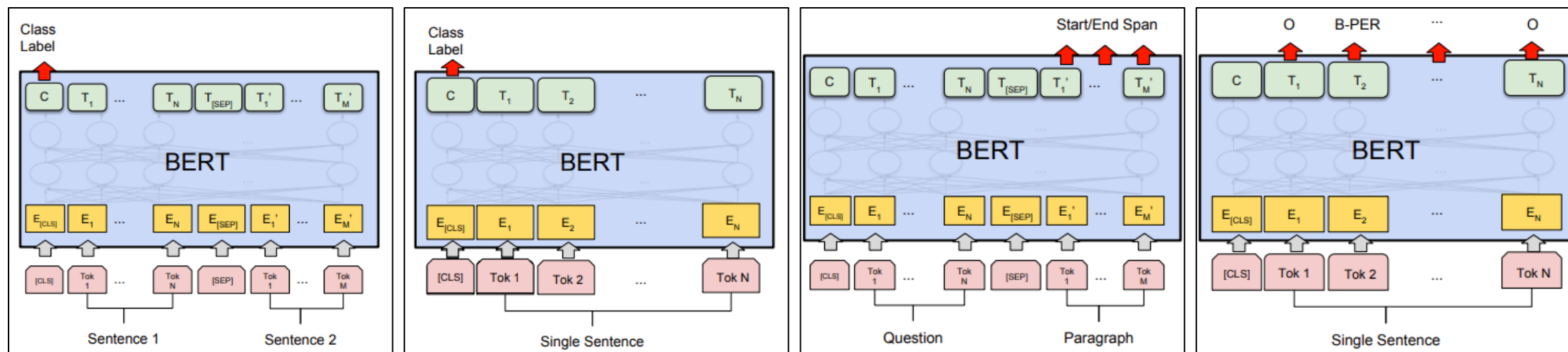
*This is just a binary classification task!*



# Fine-Tuning

Use pre-trained **model parameters** for initialization

**Change pre-training output layers** of BERT to suit task



# Huge gains for many tasks!

## GLUE Results

System	MNLI-(m/mm) 392k	QQP 363k	QNLI 108k	SST-2 67k	CoLA 8.5k	STS-B 5.7k	MRPC 3.5k	RTE 2.5k	Average
Pre-OpenAI SOTA	80.6/80.1	66.1	82.3	93.2	35.0	81.0	86.0	61.7	74.0
BiLSTM+ELMo+Attn	76.4/76.1	64.8	79.8	90.4	36.0	73.3	84.9	56.8	71.0
OpenAI GPT	82.1/81.4	70.3	87.4	91.3	45.4	80.0	82.3	56.0	75.1
BERT <sub>BASE</sub>	84.6/83.4	71.2	90.5	93.5	52.1	85.8	88.9	66.4	79.6
BERT <sub>LARGE</sub>	<b>86.7/85.9</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>92.7</b>	<b>94.9</b>	<b>60.5</b>	<b>86.5</b>	<b>89.3</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>82.1</b>

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MNLI = Multi-genre Natural Language Inference

<b>Premise</b>	A woman selling bamboo sticks talking to two men on a loading dock.
<b>Entailment</b>	There are <b>at least</b> three <b>people</b> on a loading dock.
<b>Neutral</b>	A woman is selling bamboo sticks <b>to help provide for her family</b> .
<b>Contradiction</b>	A woman is <b>not</b> taking money for any of her sticks.

# Huge gains for many tasks!

## GLUE Results

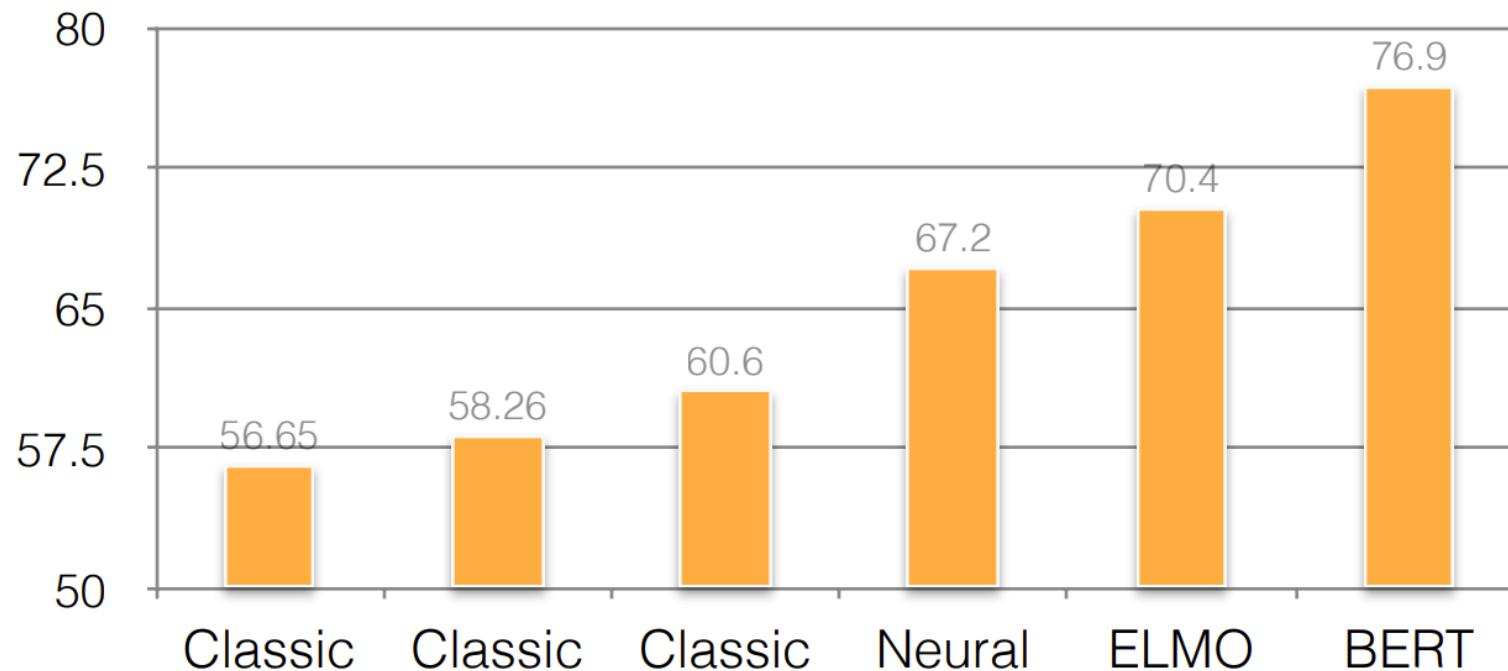
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## CoLA = Corpus of Linguistic Acceptability

Included	Morphological Violation	(a)	*Maryann should leaving.
	Syntactic Violation	(b)	*What did Bill buy potatoes and _?
	Semantic Violation	(c)	*Kim persuaded it to rain.
Excluded	Pragmatical Anomalies	(d)	*Bill fell off the ladder in an hour.
	Unavailable Meanings	(e)	*He <sub>i</sub> loves John <sub>i</sub> . ( <i>intended</i> : John loves himself.)
	Prescriptive Rules	(f)	Prepositions are good to end sentences with.
	Nonce Words	(g)	*This train is arrivable.

# Huge gains for many tasks! Coreference Resolution

“**I** voted for **Nader** because **he** was most aligned with **my** values,” **she** said.

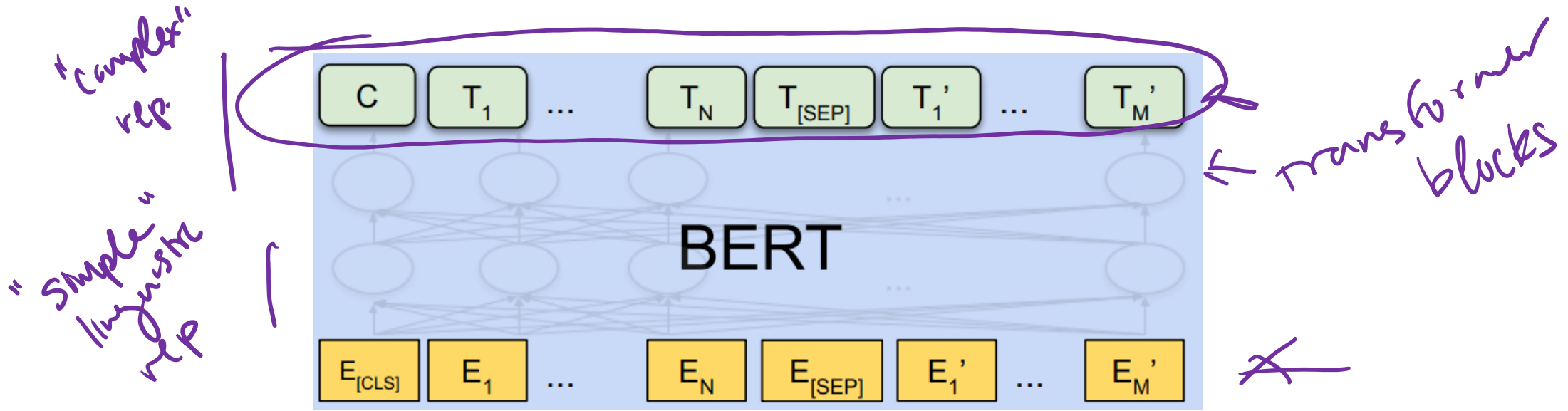


From slide of [Bamman \(2021\)](#)

Using BERT

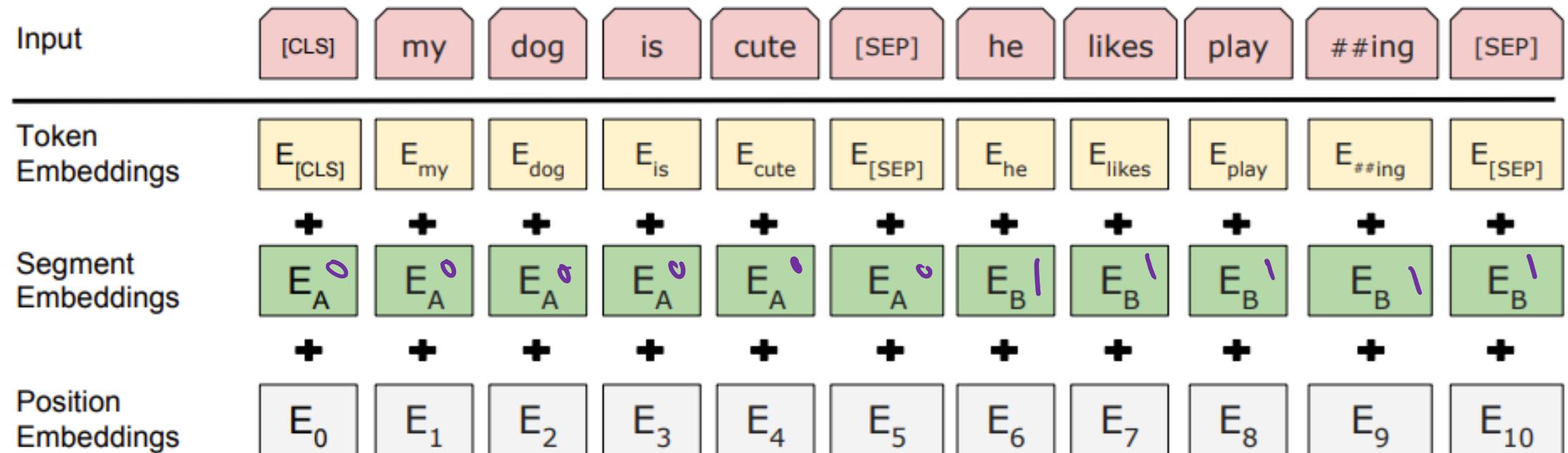
# BERT "Internal" Features

Internal token-level embeddings are 768 dimensions  
One for encoding layer, one for each hidden layer (12)



# Building Initial Token Embeddings

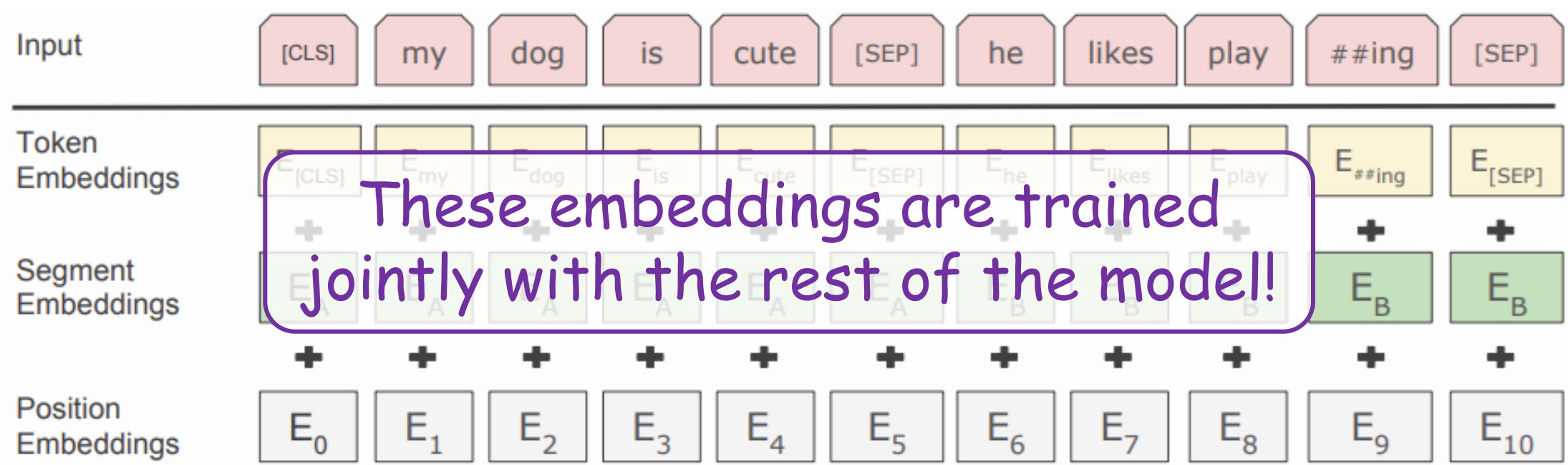
The input token embeddings  $E_i$  are the sum of 3 embeddings encoding token, segment, and position information





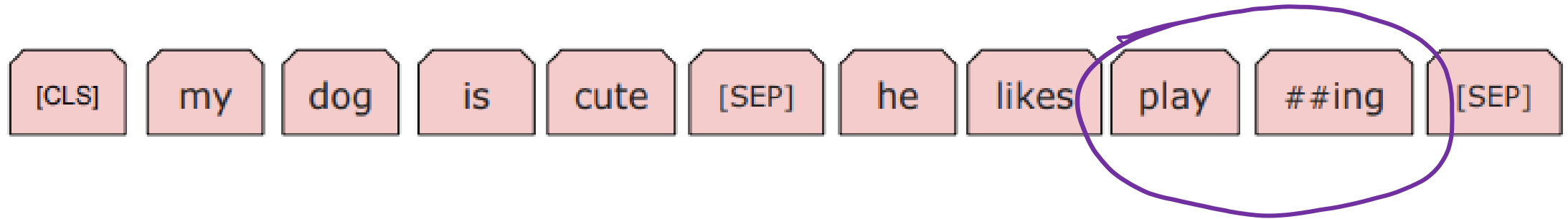
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# BERT (Sub)Tokens

BERT tokens do **not** strictly correspond to word tokens



# Subword-Based Tokenization

**the dog fetched the stick**

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**Word-Based:** the, dog, fetched, the, stick

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**Character-Based:** t, h, e, \_, d, o, g, \_, f, e, t, c, h, e, d, \_,  
t, h, e, \_, s, t, i, c, k

# Subword-Based Tokenization

**the dog fetched the stick**

**Word-Based:** the, dog, fetched, the, stick

**Token-Based:** the, dog, fetch, ##ed, the, stick

**Character-Based:** t, h, e, \_, d, o, g, \_, f, e, t, c, h, e, d, \_,  
t, h, e, \_, s, t, i, c, k

# Class Activity

[colab.research.google.com/drive/1v3iustM3huxMVSItknowzWGwdrQpZoco](https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1v3iustM3huxMVSItknowzWGwdrQpZoco)

# WordPiece

**Goal:** Given a training corpus and number of desired tokens  $D$ , select  $D$  wordpieces (i.e., subtokens) so that the training corpus is minimally segmented



# WordPiece

**Goal:** Given a training corpus and number of desired tokens **D**, select **D** wordpieces (i.e., subtokens) so that the training corpus is minimally segmented

**Top-Down:** Break the starting vocabulary into smaller components until there are only **D**

# Alternative: Byte Pair Encoding (BPE)

Used by GPT-2 and RoBERTa

**Goal:** Using a training corpus build a set of **D** subtokens to  
tokenized the training corpus

# Alternative: Byte Pair Encoding (BPE)

**Initial:** The symbol vocabulary is the set of characters in the training corpus.

**Do:** For the most frequent 2-symbol sequence (A, B) in the training corpus, create a new symbol AB and replace all instances of with (A, B) with AB.

**End:** When there are D symbols.

# After BERT: RoBERTa

Same BERT architecture, but with different pre-training

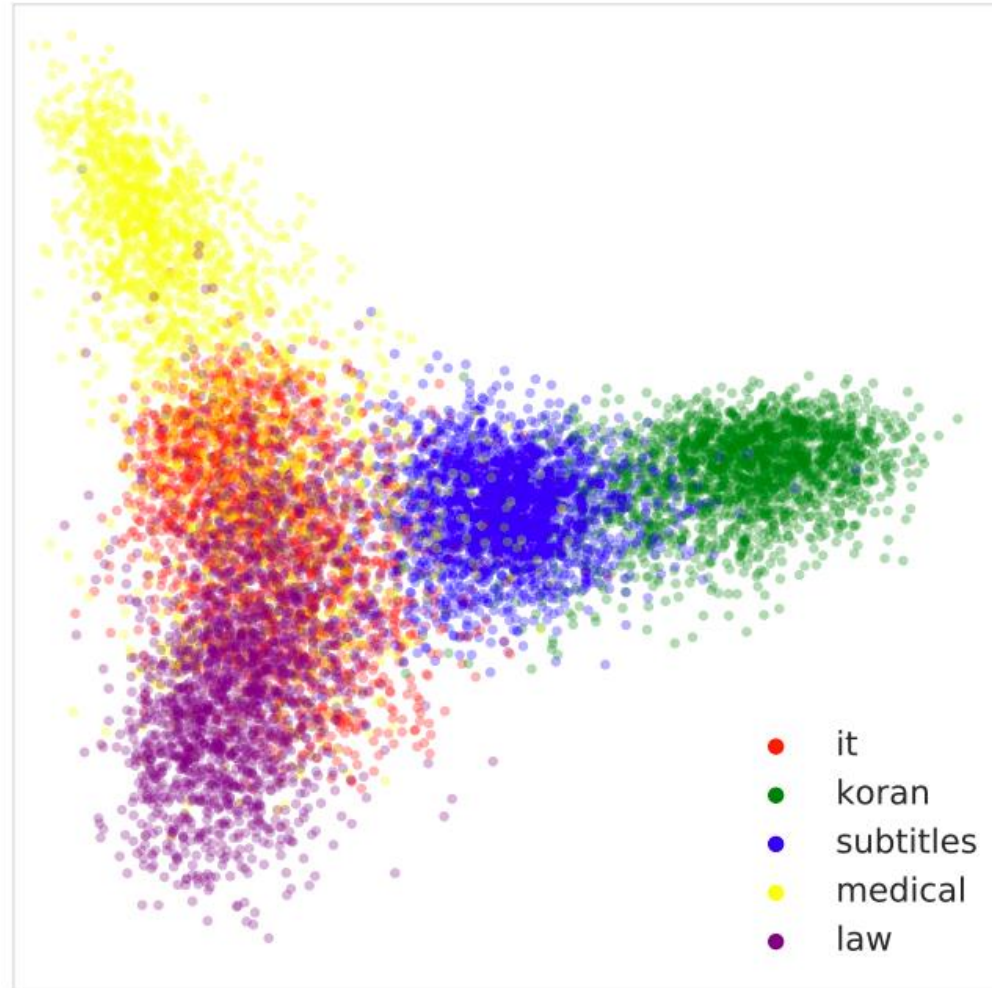
- Drop the Next Sentence Prediction pre-training task
- Use a BPE-based subtokenization method
- Pre-train with more data for a longer duration

# After BERT: RoBERTa

Same BERT architecture, but with different pre-training

Model	data	bsz	steps	SQuAD (v1.1/2.0)	MNLI-m	SST-2
RoBERTa						
with BOOKS + WIKI	16GB	8K	100K	93.6/87.3	89.0	95.3
+ additional data (§3.2)	160GB	8K	100K	94.0/87.7	89.3	95.6
+ pretrain longer	160GB	8K	300K	94.4/88.7	90.0	96.1
+ pretrain even longer	160GB	8K	500K	<b>94.6/89.4</b>	<b>90.2</b>	<b>96.4</b>
BERT <sub>LARGE</sub>						
with BOOKS + WIKI	13GB	256	1M	90.9/81.8	86.6	93.7
XLNet <sub>LARGE</sub>						
with BOOKS + WIKI	13GB	256	1M	94.0/87.8	88.4	94.4
+ additional data	126GB	2K	500K	94.5/88.8	89.8	95.6

# BERT representations reflect domain



# Trouble with raw embeddings

A few dimensions will dominate similarity measures such as cosine similarity and Euclidean distance

