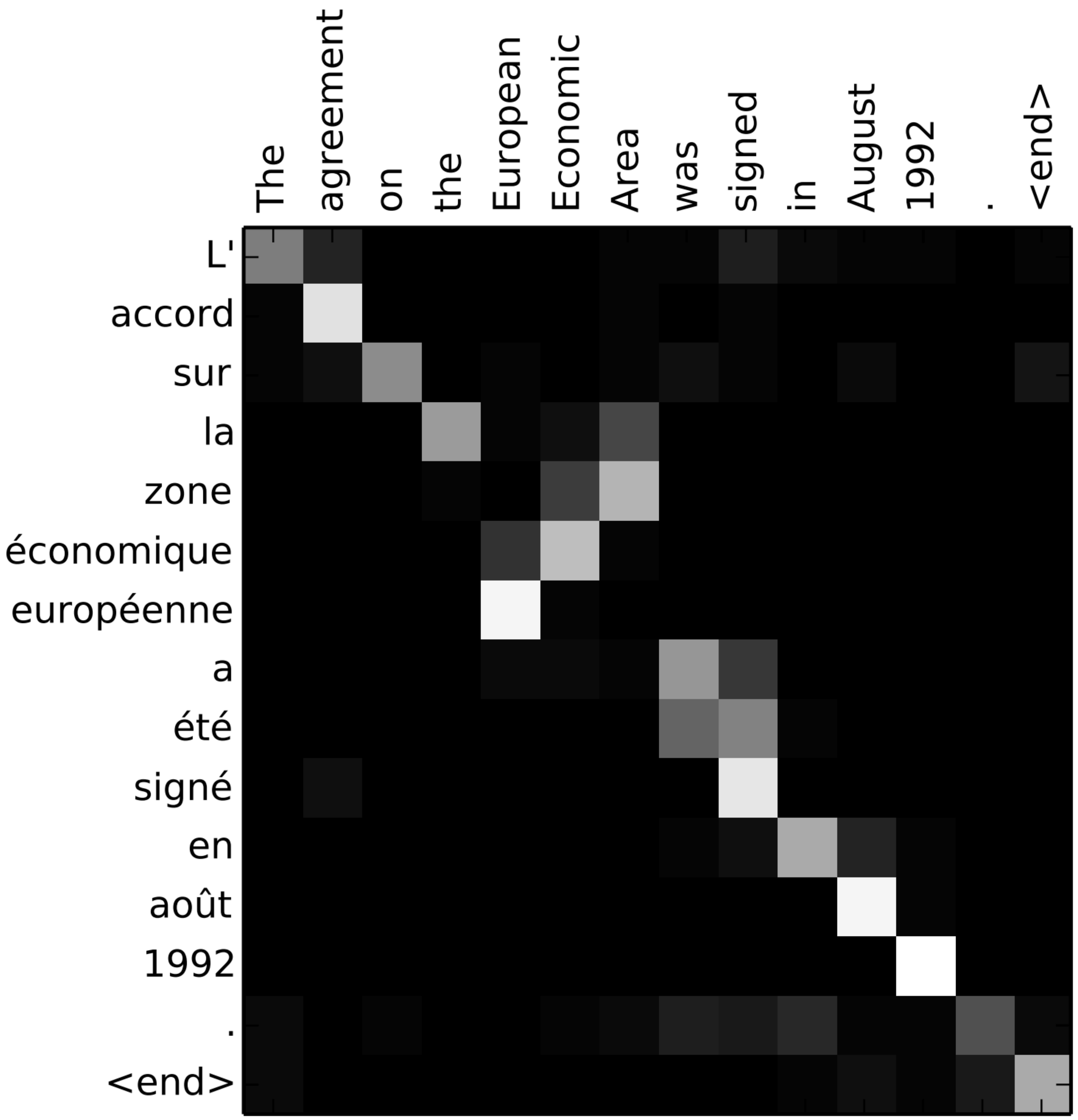
Attention

Attention

- Encoder hidden states capture contextual source word identity
- Decoder hidden states are now mostly responsible for selecting what to attend to
- Doesn’t take a complex hidden state to walk monotonically through a sentence and spit out word-by-word translations



Neural MT

Results: WMT English-French

- 12M sentence pairs

Classic PBMT system: ~**33** BLEU, uses additional target-language data

PBMT + rerank w/LSTMs: **36.5** BLEU (long line of work here; Devlin+ 2014)

Sutskever+ (2014) seq2seq single: **30.6** BLEU (input reversed)

Sutskever+ (2014) seq2seq ensemble: **34.8** BLEU

Luong+ (2015) seq2seq ensemble with attention and rare word handling: **37.5** BLEU

- But English-French is a really easy language pair and there's *tons* of data for it! Does this approach work for anything harder?

Results: WMT English-German

- 4.5M sentence pairs

Classic phrase-based system: **20.7** BLEU

Luong+ (2014) seq2seq: **14** BLEU

Luong+ (2015) seq2seq ensemble with rare word handling: **23.0** BLEU

- Not nearly as good in absolute BLEU, but BLEU scores aren't really comparable across languages

- French, Spanish = easiest
  German, Czech = harder
  Japanese, Russian = hard (grammatically different, lots of morphology…)

MT Examples

src	In einem Interview sagte Bloom jedoch , dass er und Kerr sich noch immer lieben .
ref	However , in an interview , Bloom has said that he and *Kerr* still love each other .
best	In an interview , however , Bloom said that he and *Kerr* still love .
base	However , in an interview , Bloom said that he and **Tina** were still <unk> .

- best = with attention, base = no attention
- NMT systems can hallucinate words, especially when not using attention — phrase-based doesn't do this

Luong et al. (2015)

MT Examples

src	Wegen der von Berlin und der Europäischen Zentralbank verhängten strengen Sparpolitik in Verbindung mit der Zwangsjacke , in die die jeweilige nationale Wirtschaft durch das Festhal-ten an der gemeinsamen Währung genötigt wird , sind viele Menschen der Ansicht , das Projekt Europa sei zu weit gegangen
ref	The *austerity imposed by Berlin and the European Central Bank , coupled with the straitjacket* imposed on national economies through adherence to the common currency , has led many people to think Project Europe has gone too far .
best	Because of the strict *austerity measures imposed by Berlin and the European Central Bank in connection with the straitjacket* in which the respective national economy is forced to adhere to the common currency , many people believe that the European project has gone too far .
base	Because of the pressure **imposed by the European Central Bank and the Federal Central Bank with the strict austerity** imposed on the national economy in the face of the single currency , many people believe that the European project has gone too far .

- best = with attention, base = no attention

Luong et al. (2015)

Handling Rare Words

- Words are a difficult unit to work with: copying can be cumbersome, word vocabularies get very large
- Character-level models don't work well
- Compromise solution: use thousands of "word pieces" (which may be full words but may also be parts of words)

Input: _the **_eco tax** _port i co _in _Po nt - de - Bu is ...

Output: _le _port ique **_éco taxe** _de _Pont - de - Bui s

- Can achieve transliteration with this, subword structure makes some translations easier to achieve

Sennrich et al. (2016)

Byte Pair Encoding (BPE)

- Start with every individual byte (basically character) as its own symbol

```
for i in range(num_merges):
  pairs = get_stats(vocab)
  best = max(pairs, key=pairs.get)
  vocab = merge_vocab(best, vocab)
```

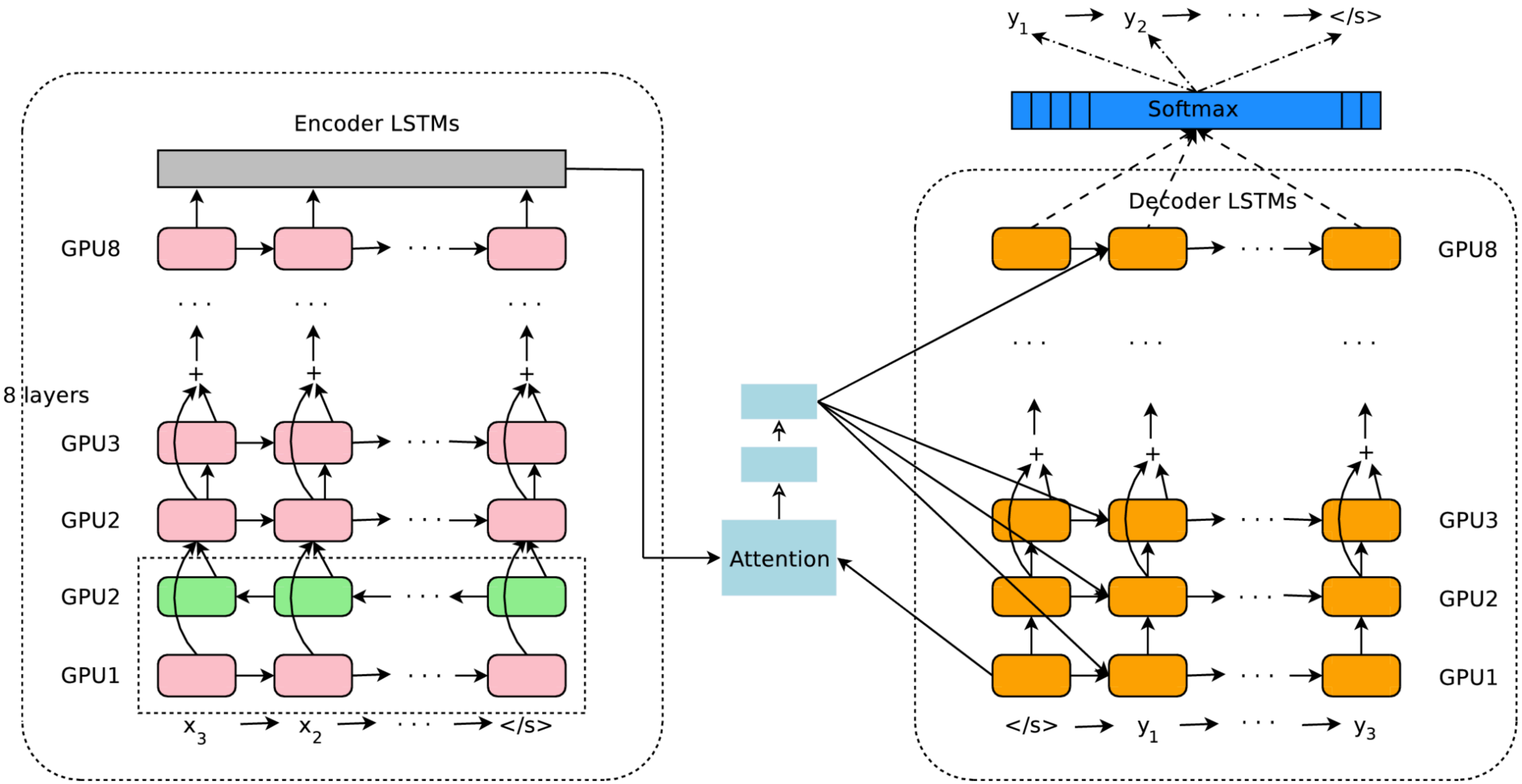
- Count bigram character cooccurrences
- Merge the most frequent pair of adjacent characters

- Doing 8k merges => vocabulary of around 8000 word pieces. Includes many whole words

- Most SOTA NMT systems use this on both source + target

Sennrich et al. (2016)

Google's NMT System



- 8-layer LSTM encoder-decoder with attention, word piece vocabulary of 8k-32k

Wu et al. (2016)

Google's NMT System

English-French:

Google's phrase-based system: 37.0 BLEU

Luong+ (2015) seq2seq ensemble with rare word handling: 37.5 BLEU

Google's 32k word pieces: 38.95 BLEU

English-German:

Google's phrase-based system: 20.7 BLEU

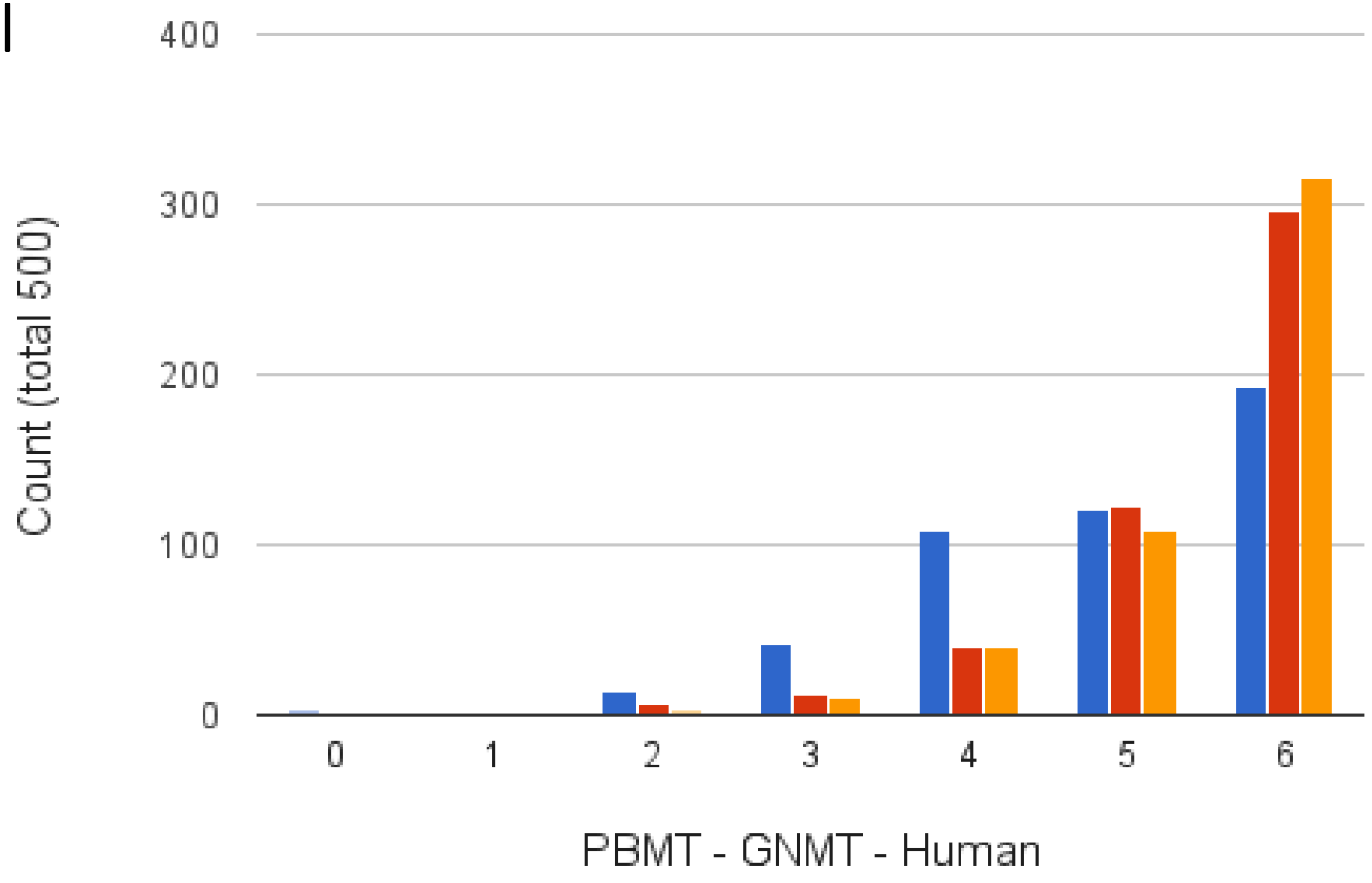
Luong+ (2015) seq2seq ensemble with rare word handling: 23.0 BLEU

Google's 32k word pieces: 24.2 BLEU

Wu et al. (2016)

Human Evaluation (En-Es)

- Similar to human-level performance *on English-Spanish*



Wu et al. (2016)

Google's NMT System

Source	She was spotted three days later by a dog walker trapped in the quarry	
PBMT	Elle a été repéré trois jours plus tard par un promeneur de chien piégé dans la carrière	6.0
GNMT	Elle a été repérée trois jours plus tard par un traîneau à chiens piégé dans la carrière.	2.0
Human	Elle a été repérée trois jours plus tard par une personne qui promenait son chien coincée dans la carrière	5.0

Gender is correct in GNMT but not in PBMT

"sled"

"walker"

Wu et al. (2016)

QA Intro

Combinatory Categorial Grammar

Combinatory Categorial Grammar

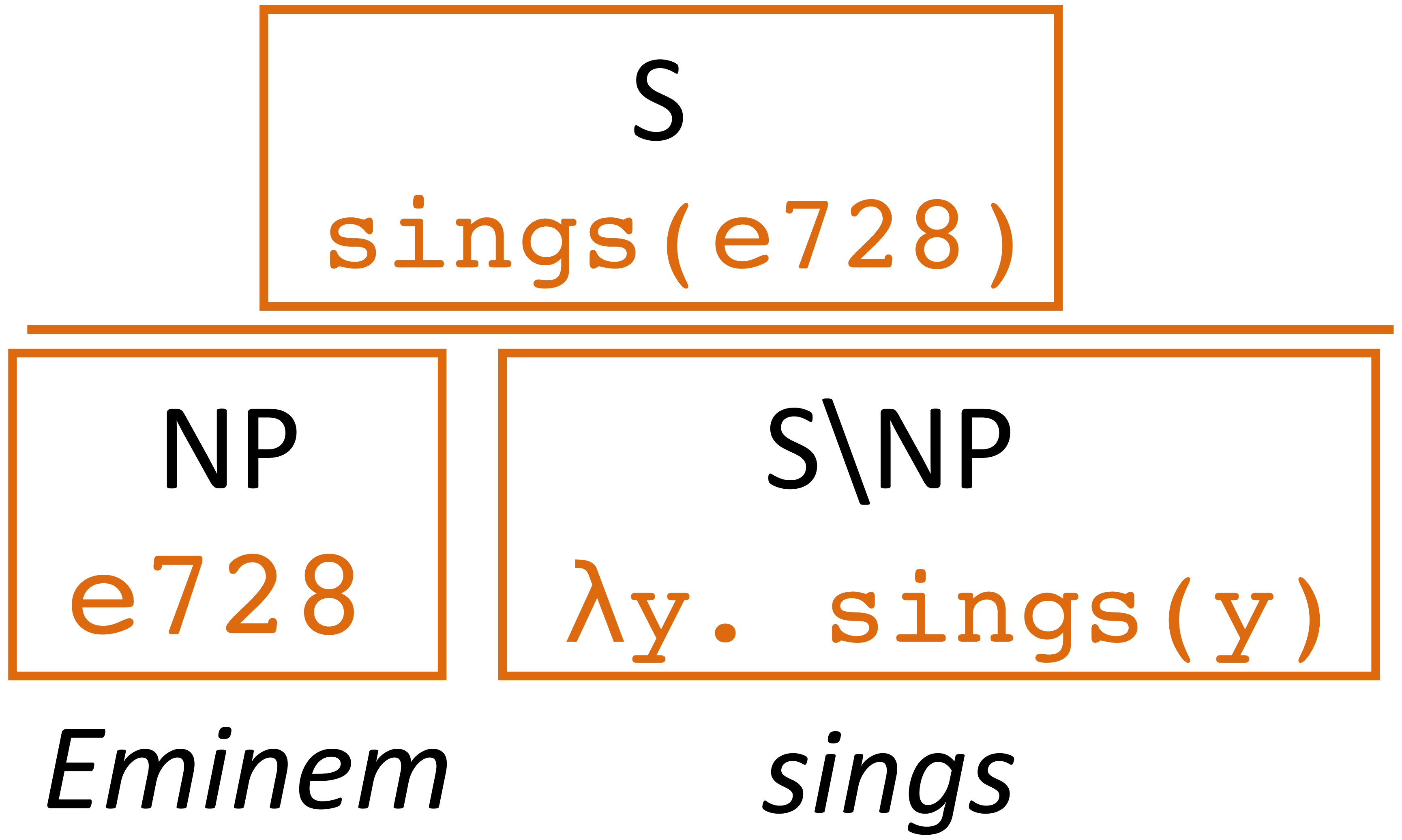
- Steedman+Szabolcsi (1980s): formalism bridging syntax and semantics

- Parallel derivations of syntactic parse and lambda calculus expression

- Syntactic categories (for this lecture): S, NP, "slash" categories

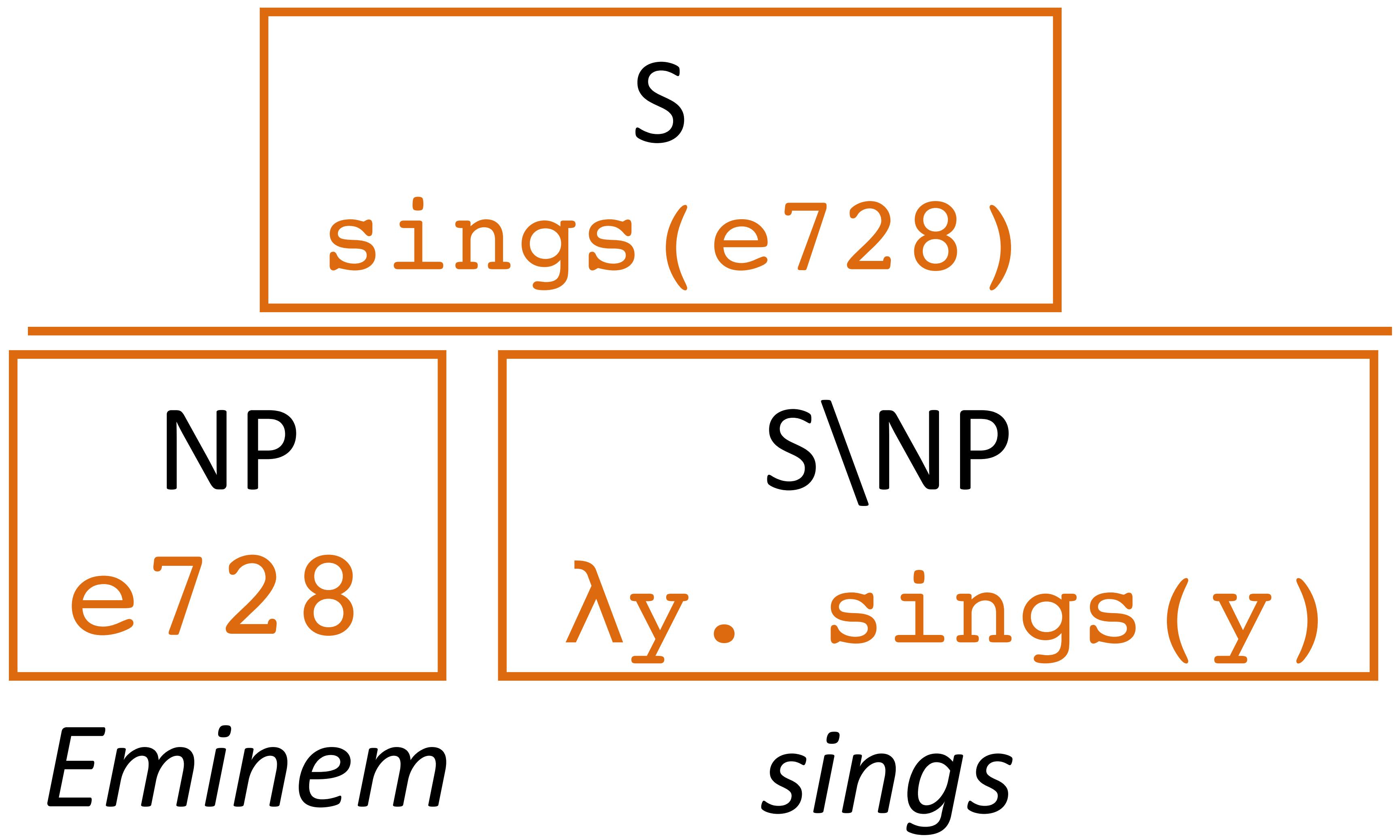
- S\NP: "if I combine with an NP on my left side, I form a sentence" — verb

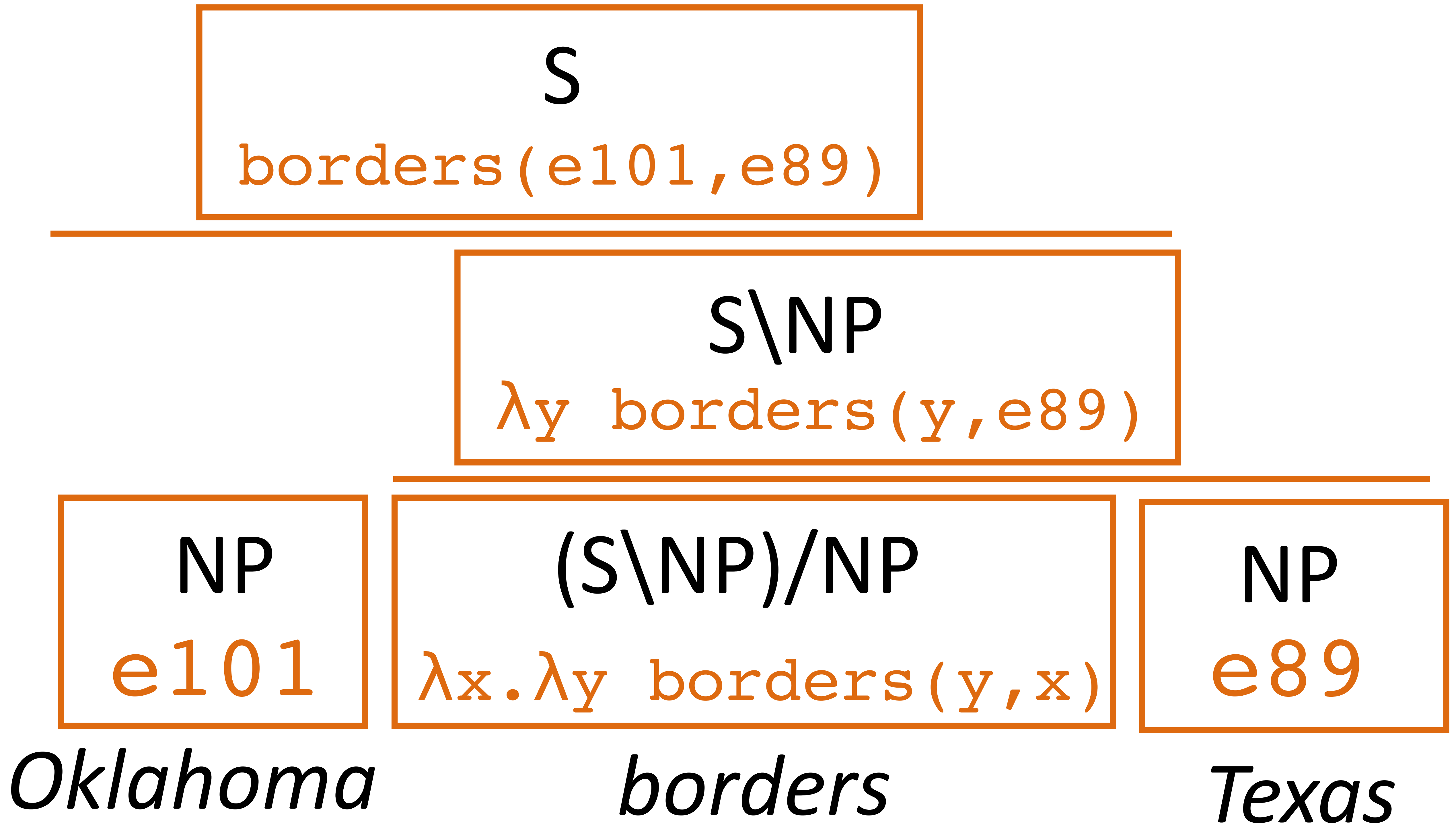
- When you apply this, there has to be a parallel instance of function application on the semantics side



Combinatory Categorial Grammar

- Steedman+Szabolcsi 1980s: formalism bridging syntax and semantics
- Syntactic categories (for this lecture): S, NP, "slash" categories
  - S\NP: "if I combine with an NP on my left side, I form a sentence" — verb
  - (S\NP)/NP: "I need an NP on my right and then on my left" — verb with a direct object





CCG Parsing

$$
\begin{array}{cccc}
\text{What} & \text{states} & \text{border} & \text{Texas} \\
\hline
(S/(S\backslash NP))/N & N & (S\backslash NP)/NP & NP \\
\lambda f.\lambda g.\lambda x.f(x) \wedge g(x) & \lambda x.state(x) & \lambda x.\lambda y.borders(y,x) & texas \\
\end{array}
$$

$$
\frac{(S\backslash NP)/NP \;\; \lambda x.\lambda y.borders(y,x) \qquad NP \;\; texas}{(S\backslash NP) \;\; \lambda y.borders(y, texas)} >
$$

- "What" is a ***very*** complex type: needs a noun and needs a S\NP to form a sentence. S\NP is basically a verb phrase (*border Texas*)

Zettlemoyer and Collins (2005)

CCG Parsing

$$
\begin{array}{cccc}
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$$

$$
\frac{(S/(S\backslash NP))/N \quad N}{S/(S\backslash NP)} > \qquad \frac{(S\backslash NP)/NP \quad NP}{(S\backslash NP)} >
$$

$$
S/(S\backslash NP) \qquad\qquad (S\backslash NP)
$$

$$
\lambda g.\lambda x.state(x) \wedge g(x) \qquad\qquad \lambda y.borders(y, texas)
$$

$$
\xrightarrow{\hspace{6em}} >
$$

$$
S
$$

$$
\lambda x.state(x) \wedge borders(x, texas)
$$

- “What” is a ***very*** complex type: needs a noun and needs a S\NP to form a sentence. S\NP is basically a verb phrase (*border Texas*)
- *What* in this case knows that there are two predicates (*states* and *border Texas*). This is not a general thing

Zettlemoyer and Collins (2005)

CCG Parsing

- These question are *compositional*: we can build bigger ones out of smaller pieces

  What states border Texas?

  What states border states bordering Texas?

  What states border states bordering states bordering Texas?

- In general, answering this does require parsing and not just slot-filling

Training CCG Parsers

- Training data looks like pairs of sentences and logical forms

What states border Texas	`λx. state(x) ∧ borders(x, e89)`
What borders Texas	`λx. borders(x, e89)`

…

- Unlike PCFGs, we don't know which words yielded which fragments of CCG
- Requires an "unsupervised" approach like Model 1 for word alignment

Zettlemoyer and Collins (2005)

Seq2seq Semantic Parsing

Semantic Parsing as Translation

"what states border Texas"

↓

```
lambda x ( state ( x ) and border ( x , e89 ) ) )
```

- Write down a linearized form of the semantic parse, train seq2seq models to directly translate into this representation
- What are some benefits of this approach compared to grammar-based?
- What might be some concerns about this approach? How do we mitigate them?

Jia and Liang (2016)

Handling Invariances

"what states border Texas" *"what states border Ohio"*

- Parsing-based approaches handle these the same way
  - Possible divergences: features, different weights in the lexicon
- Can we get seq2seq semantic parsers to handle these the same way?
- Key idea: do data augmentation by synthetically creating more data from a single example

Semantic Parsing as Translation

GEO
x: *"what is the population of iowa ?"*
y:
```
_answer ( NV , (
  _population ( NV , V1 ) , _const (
    V0 , _stateid ( iowa ) ) ) )
```

ATIS
x: *"can you list all flights from chicago to milwaukee"*
y:
```
( _lambda $0 e ( _and
   ( _flight $0 )
   ( _from $0 chicago :  _ci )
   ( _to $0 milwaukee :  _ci ) ) )
```

Overnight
x: *"when is the weekly standup"*
y:
```
( call listValue ( call
    getProperty meeting.weekly_standup
    ( string start_time ) ) )
```

- Prolog
- Lambda calculus
- Other DSLs

- Handle all of these with uniform machinery!

Jia and Liang (2016)

Semantic Parsing as Translation

	GEO	ATIS
Previous Work		
Zettlemoyer and Collins (2007)		**84.6**
Kwiatkowski et al. (2010)	88.9	
Liang et al. (2011)[2]	91.1	
Kwiatkowski et al. (2011)	88.6	82.8
Poon (2013)		83.5
Zhao and Huang (2015)	88.9	84.2
Our Model		
No Recombination	85.0	76.3
ABSENTITIES	85.4	79.9
ABSWHOLEPHRASES	87.5	
CONCAT-2	84.6	79.0
CONCAT-3		77.5
AWP + AE	88.9	
AE + C2		78.8
AWP + AE + C2	**89.3**	
AE + C3		83.3

- Three forms of data augmentation all help
- Results on these tasks are still not as strong as hand-tuned systems from 10 years ago, but the same simple model can do well at all problems

Jia and Liang (2016)

Applications

- GeoQuery (Zelle and Mooney, 1996): answering questions about states (~80% accuracy)
- Jobs: answering questions about job postings (~80% accuracy)
- ATIS: flight search
- Can do well on all of these tasks if you handcraft systems and use plenty of training data: these domains aren't that rich

Next Time

- QA from raw text: how do we answer a question about a passage?
- Neural networks for QA
- Final project discussion