



Technische
Universität
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From ChatGPT to GAIA-1: On Generative Sequence Models in Speech, Language, and Vision

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GAIA-1

New possibilities in autonomous driving R&D

What can GAIA-1 do?

- It allows multimodal prompting with a video, text, and action, and ...
- ... hallucinates a realistic continuation of the video, under text and action constraints

Why is GAIA-1 interesting for autonomous driving?

- *Offline*: Generating „unlimited“ video training/validation data, including some corner cases not seen in GAIA-1 training material
- *Online*: Can it even provide „a number of futures“ for better trajectory planning?

How does GAIA-1 technically work?

- GAIA-1 is a **generative sequence world model** for autonomous driving R&D
- Any video, text, and action **prompts** are individually **tokenized**
- After tokenization, the prompts are conditions into a **recurrently executed world model** ...
- ... which delivers a future image token sequence, ...
- ... which is input to a **recurrently executed diffusion video decoder**, delivering a respective video sequence from it.

GAIA-1: A Generative World Model for Autonomous Driving

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Alex Kendall Jamie Shotton

[1] Hu, Anthony, et al. "GAIA-1: A Generative World Model for Autonomous Driving." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2309.17080* (2023).

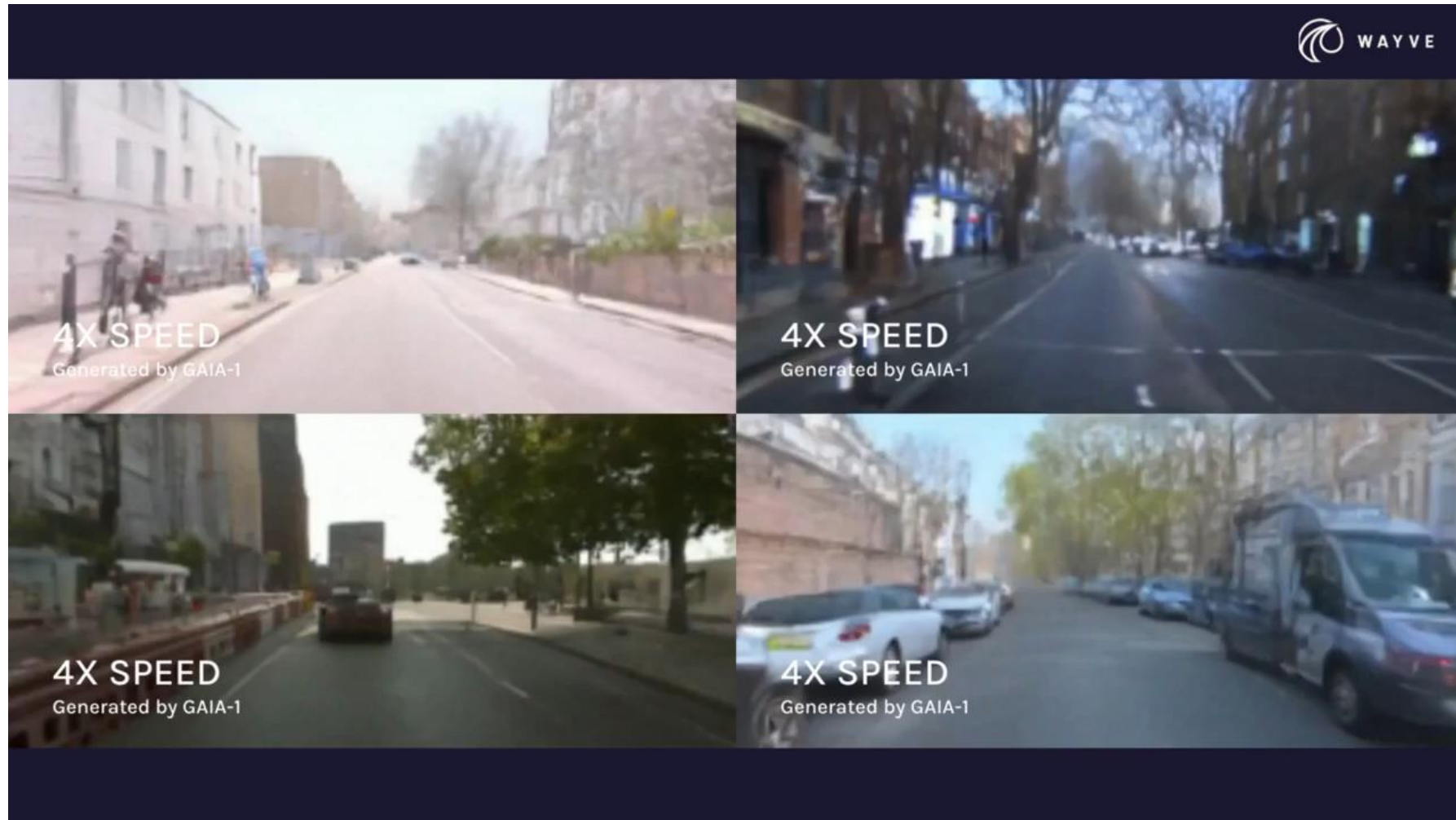
17 June 2023 | Research



Introducing GAIA-1: A Cutting-Edge Generative AI Model for Autonomy

GAIA-1

New possibilities in autonomous driving R&D



<https://youtu.be/5Jx2QgEUZUI>

Overview

From speech to language to vision

GAIA-1 technology observations:

- Text tokenizer, world model, and video decoder are ... **transformer encoder and/or decoder models**
... **executed recurrently to produce output step-by-step**
- The very same recurrent execution of transformer models is also used in ...
... **end-to-end automatic speech recognition** (E2E ASR): ENC/DEC transformer, and in ...
... **large language models** (LLMs, e.g., ChatGPT): DEC transformer

The formulation of the world modeling task in GAIA-1 shares a commonality with the approach frequently used in large language models (LLMs). In both instances, the task is streamlined to focus on predicting the next token. Although this approach is adapted for world modeling in GAIA-1 rather than the traditional language tasks seen in LLMs, it is intriguing to observe that scaling laws [49, 21, 27], analogous to those observed in LLMs, are also applicable to GAIA-1. This suggests the broader applicability of scaling principles in modern AI models across diverse domains, including autonomous driving. *

[Hu, Anthony, et al. "GAIA-1: A Generative World Model for Autonomous Driving." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2309.17080* (2023)]

⇒ Idea of the talk:

Let's explore speech and language tech first, namely:

(Section 1) **E2E ASR**

(Section 2) **LLMs**

(Section 3) **GAIA-1** (finally, knowing transformers already in depth)

* Not wrong, but misleading!

While LLMs have same input and output tokens, **GAIA-1 world model** doesn't: The input is a multimodal token, thereby asking for an **ENC/DEC transformer model** (as in E2E ASR)

1. End-to-End Automatic Speech Recognition (E2E ASR)

Attention-based encoder-decoder (AED) models

Autoregressive decoding of output sequence tokens, token-by-token ...

Token, here: ID for letters/digits/signs (~40), words (~300000),
or for so-called byte-pair encodings (subwords) (30000...50000)

The *entire* feature **sequence** (\mathbf{x}_1^T , from $1 \dots T$) is first encoded into a *hidden* representation **sequence** \mathbf{h}_1^T of same length
⇒ **Streaming not possible**, would require modifications

At each decoder token timestep, the decoder uses the attention function to **gather relevant timesteps from the hidden representation**

AED models perform **sequence-to-sequence mapping**:

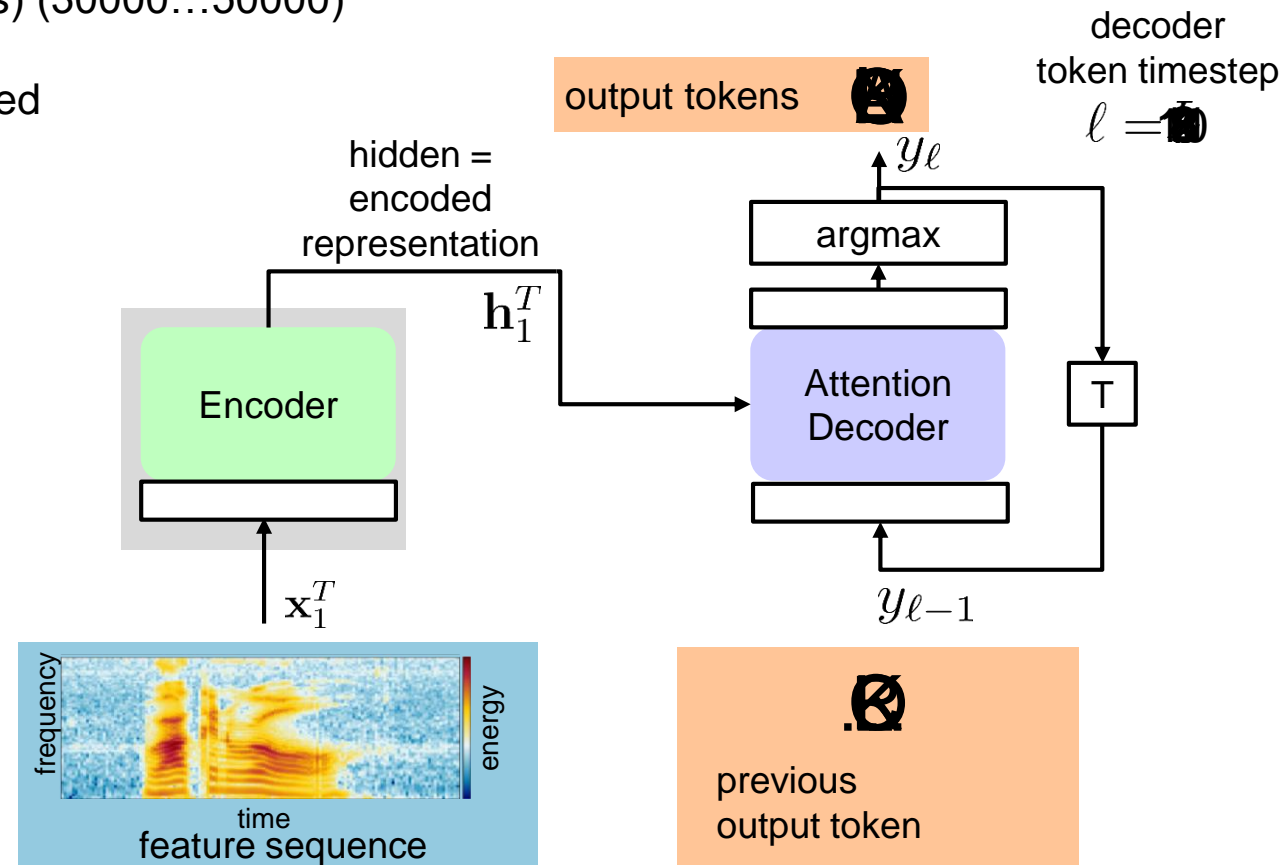
$$\mathbf{x}_1^T \rightarrow \mathbf{h}_1^T \rightarrow y_1, y_2, \dots, y_l, \dots, y_L$$

AED models require **large amounts of training data**, but achieve **state-of-the-art** performance on several datasets

Among the common architectures is the all-attention-based **transformer model**

[Vaswani et al., „Attention is All You Need“, arXiv:1706.03762, 2017]

Decoded output:
ROCK AND ROLL



1. E2E ASR

The **transformer** AED model

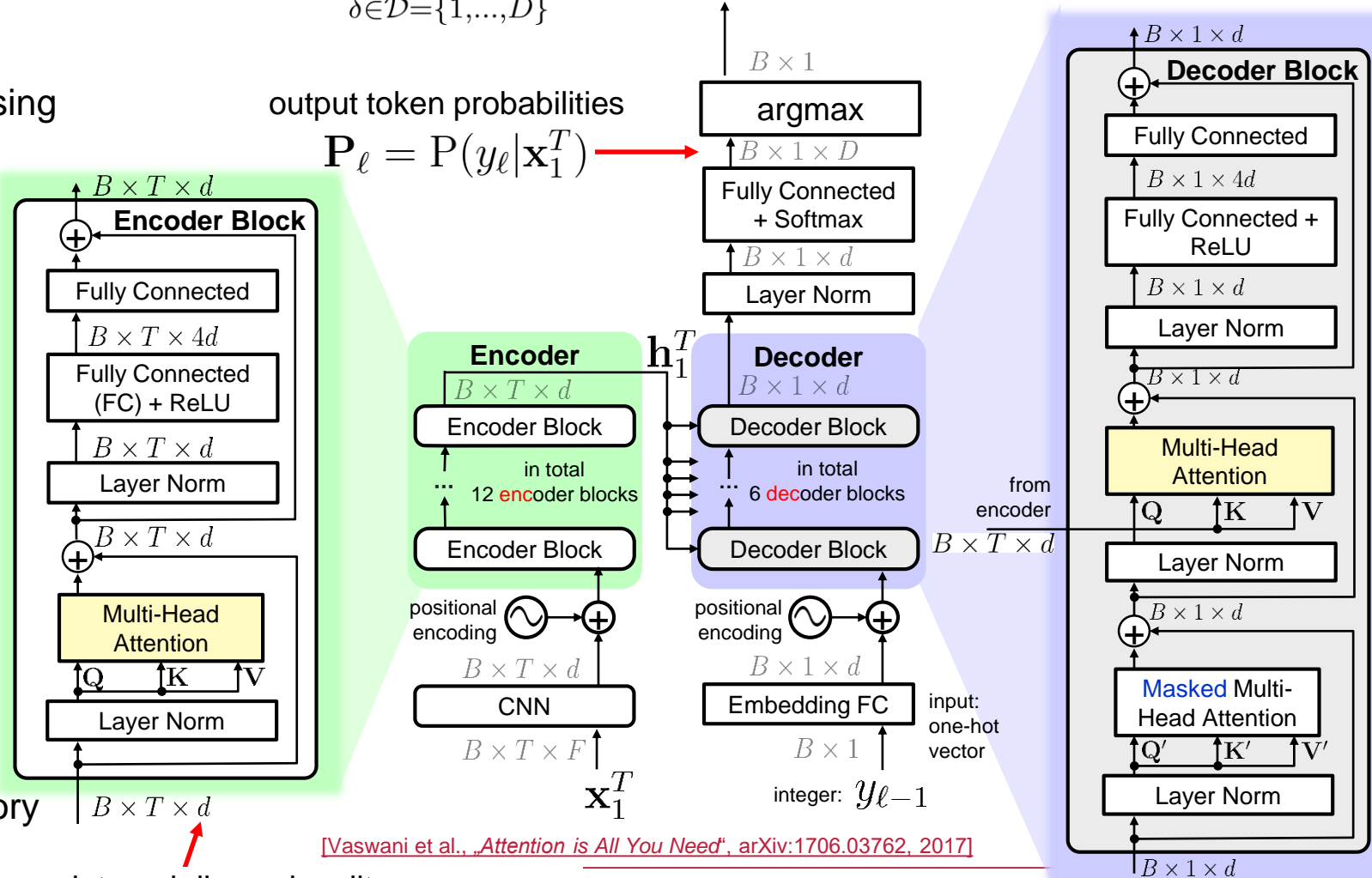
No architectural recurrency at all, bypasses used
 \Rightarrow **very deep models possible**

- **Encoder** consists of encoder blocks using (linear) **self-attention** and (non-linear) FC layers with residual bypasses
- **Decoder** in addition uses **cross attention** (also called: encoder-decoder attention)
- Positional information is lost in the attention layers, therefore, **position needs to be encoded** both in the encoder and decoder input
- **Masked MHA**:
In training, future time steps are masked to zero. **In inference**, previous timesteps are read from internal memory

$$\arg \max_{\delta \in \mathcal{D} = \{1, \dots, D\}} (P_{\ell, \delta}) = y_{\ell}$$

output token probabilities

$$\mathbf{P}_{\ell} = P(y_{\ell} | \mathbf{x}_1^T)$$



internal dimensionality
(not dependent on $\dim(\mathbf{x}_t)$)

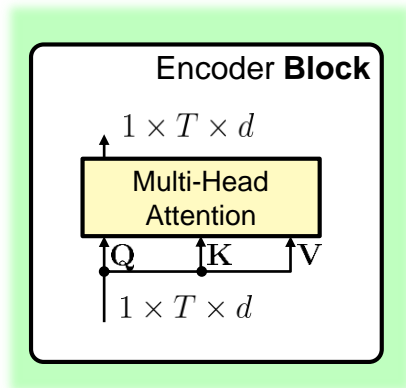
[Vaswani et al., „Attention is All You Need“, arXiv:1706.03762, 2017]

1. E2E ASR

MHA function – Self-attention & cross attention

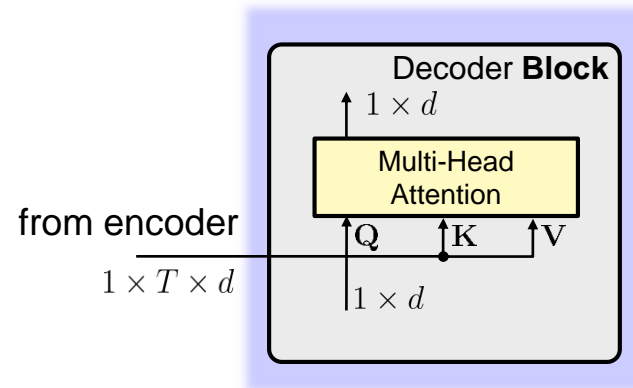
Encoder self-attention:

„Which **encoder frame timesteps** t (input) relate to which **other encoder timesteps** t (input) relevantly?“



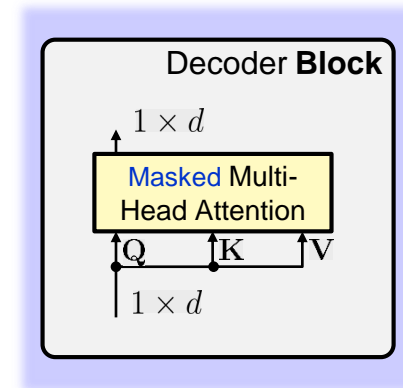
Encoder-decoder cross attention:

„Which **encoder frame timesteps** t (input) are relevant for the current **decoder token timestep** ℓ (output)?“



Decoder masked MHA (self-attention):

„Which **already decoded token timesteps** $1, \dots, \ell - 1$ (previous outputs) are relevant for the **current decoder token timestep** ℓ (output)?“



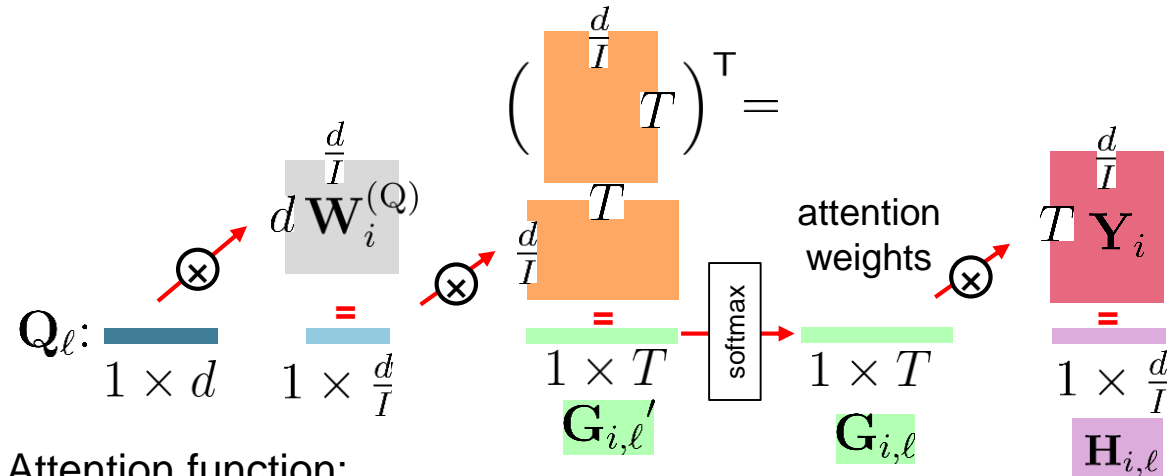
d : dimension of internal representation
both of input features and of tokens

1. E2E ASR

Multi-head attention (MHA) function, **inference** setup

Encoder-decoder (= cross) attention:

„Which **encoder frame timesteps** t (input) are relevant for the current **decoder token timestep** ℓ (output)?“



Attention function:

$$H_{i,l} = \text{softmax} \left(\frac{Q_l W_i^{(Q)} (K W_i^{(K)})^T}{\sqrt{d}} \right) V W_i^{(V)}$$

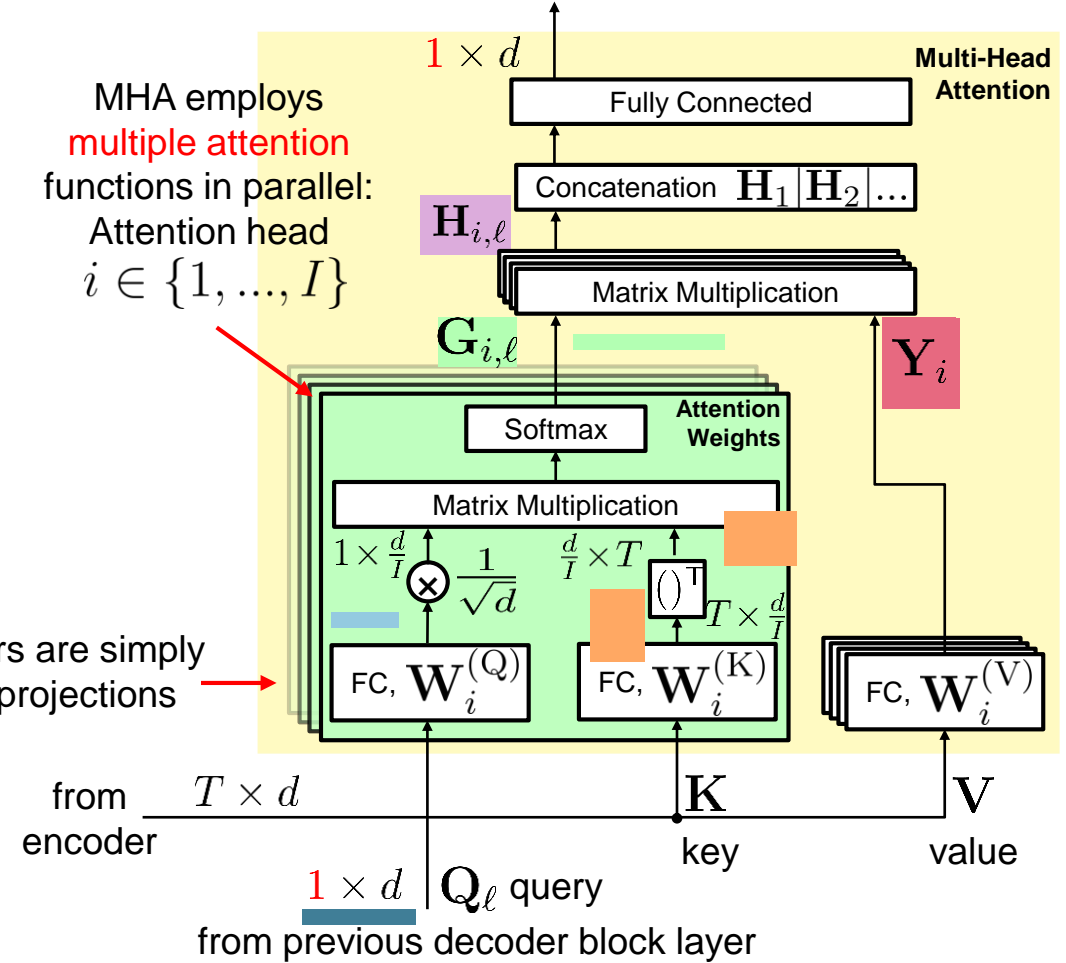
head index \rightarrow $H_{i,l}$

attention weights $G_{i,l}$

value projections Y_i

Attention weights sum up to one over all T input encoder indices: $\sum_t G_{i,l,t} = 1$

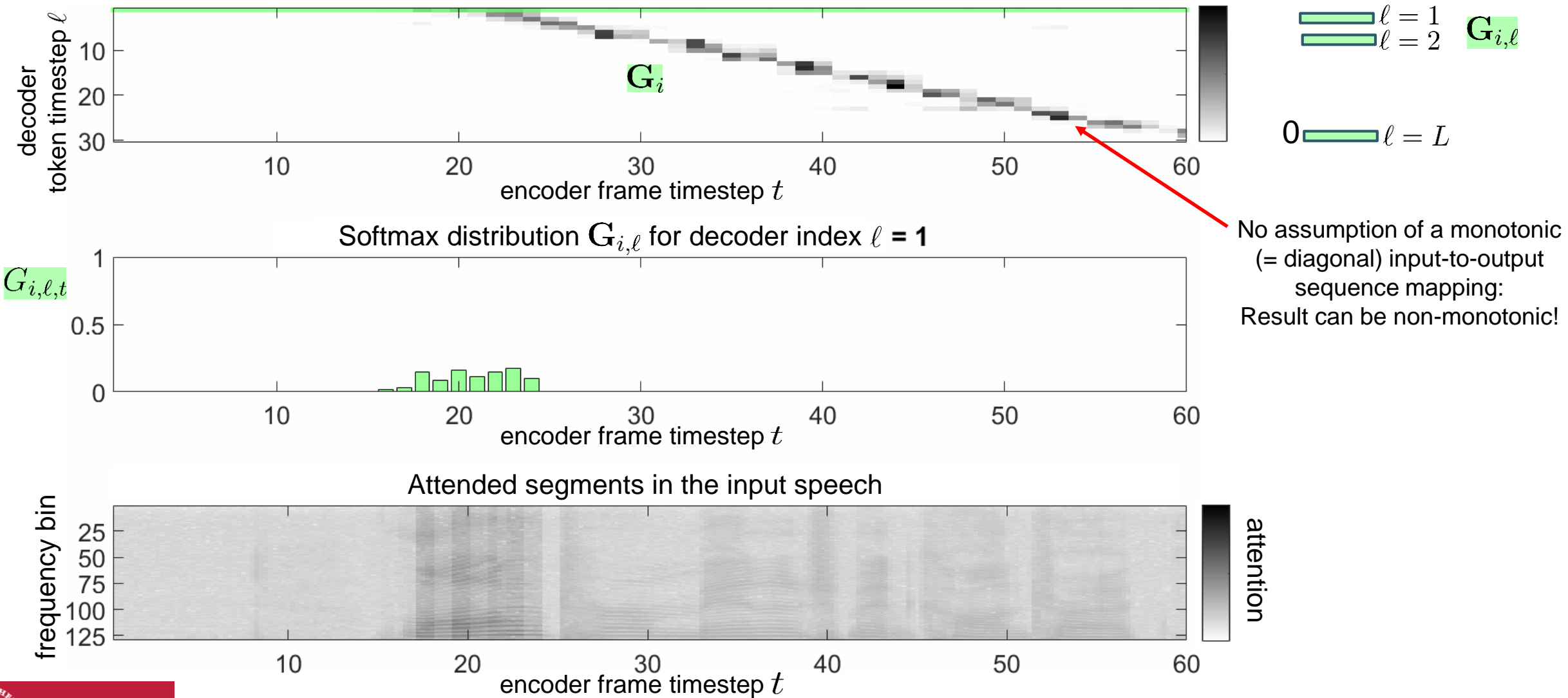
MHA employs **multiple attention** functions in parallel: Attention head $i \in \{1, \dots, I\}$



FC layers are simply linear projections

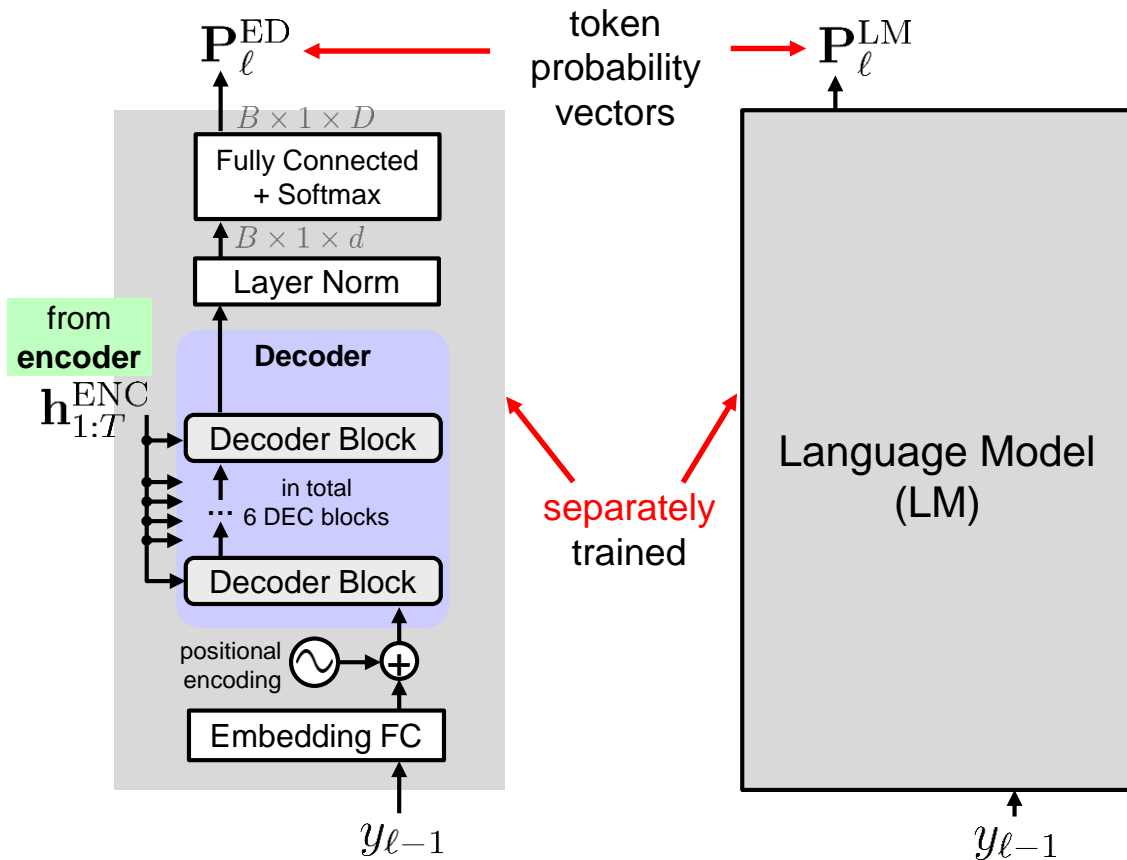
1. E2E ASR

The attention mechanism



1. E2E ASR

... with external **language model (LM)**



Shallow **fusion** = Use of a LM in the context of E2E ASR:

For each decoding time step ℓ :

Combination of output probabilities during inference:

$$\log \mathbf{P}_\ell = \log \mathbf{P}_\ell^{\text{ED}} + \lambda \log \mathbf{P}_\ell^{\text{LM}}$$

~posterior likelihood prior

Final output token decision:

$$y_\ell = \arg \max_{\delta \in \mathcal{D} = \{1, \dots, D\}} (P_{\ell, \delta})$$

output token
probs

The language model weight λ balances the LM contribution

Word error rates with or without external LM:

	Bidirectional		Unidirectional	
	+	⊙	+	⊙
No external LM	17.8	17.6	28.0	26.2
Shallow fusion	15.2	13.9	22.9	21.4

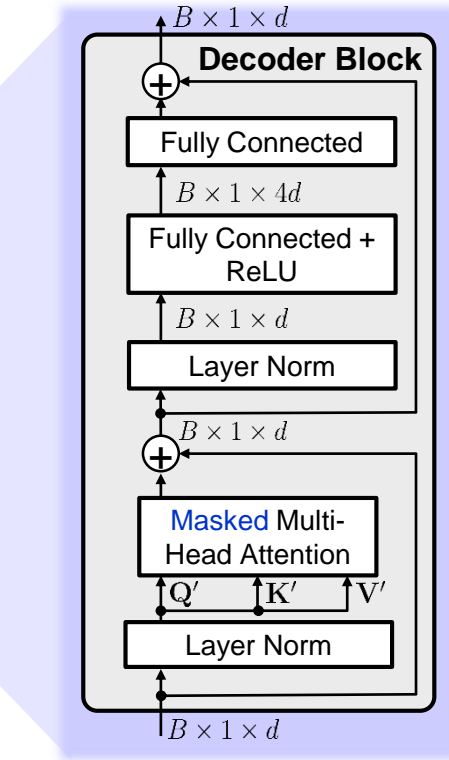
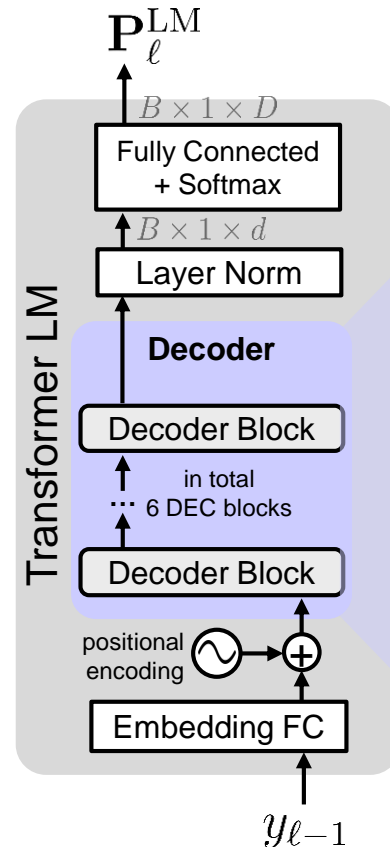
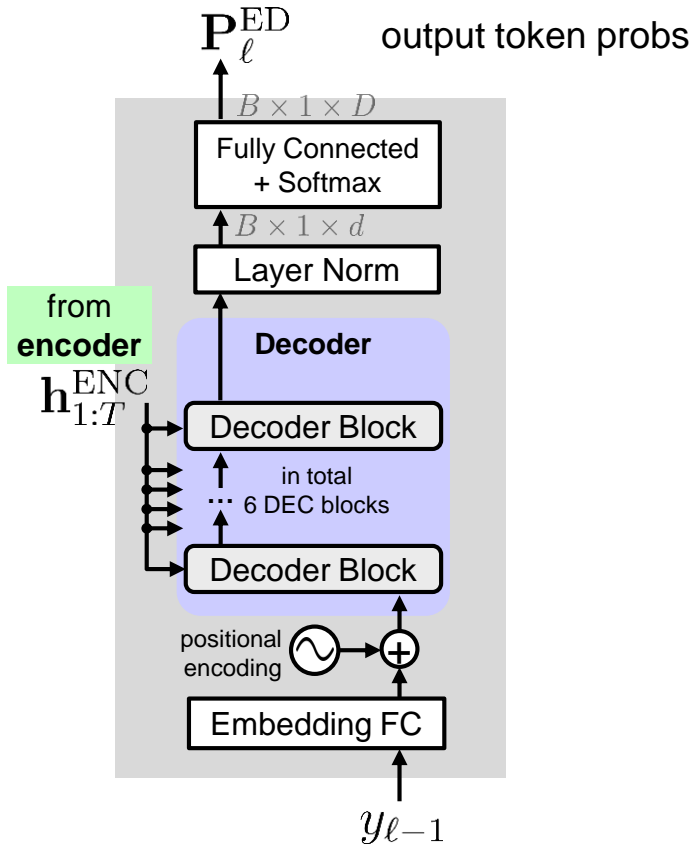
The encoder-decoder ASR transformer model is **trained** on paired data (**audio and text**)

The language model is **trained** on huge amounts of unpaired data (**text only**)

2. Language Model (LM)

A decoder-only model

From now on, in Section 2, we look at LMs only!
And we look on their usefulness standalone!



Removed:
encoder-decoder
multi-head
cross attention!

Kept:
multi-head
self-attention

We show that generating English Wikipedia articles can be approached as a multi-document summarization of source documents. We use extractive summarization to coarsely identify salient information and a neural abstractive model to generate the article. For the abstractive model, we introduce a decoder-only architecture that can scalably attend to very long sequences, much longer than typical encoder-decoder architectures used in sequence transduction. We show that this model can generate fluent, coherent multi-sentence paragraphs and even whole Wikipedia articles. When given reference documents, we show it can extract relevant factual information as reflected in perplexity, ROUGE scores and human evaluations.

Recap: Original transformer
encoder-decoder ASR model [1]

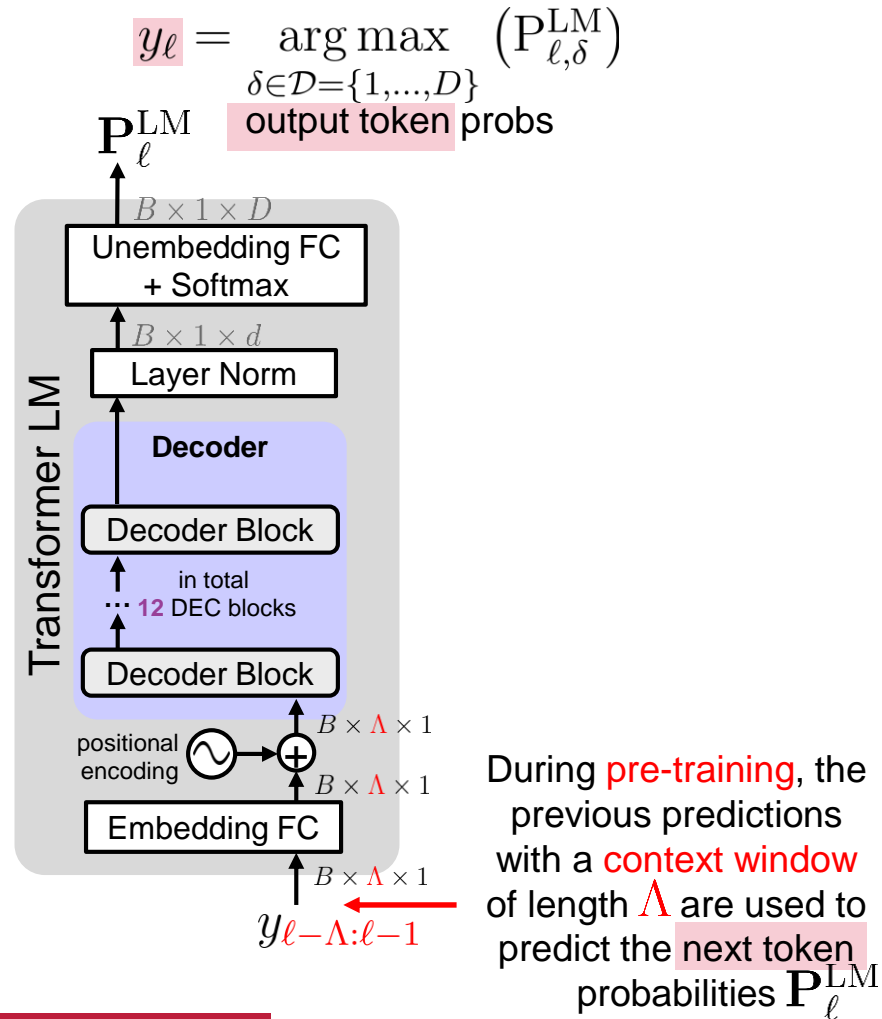
Here: Transformer
language model [2]
using decoder blocks

Transformer decoder block
in decoder-only transformer
language model [2]

[1] Vaswani et al., „Attention is All You Need“, arXiv:1706.03762, 2017

[2] Liu et al., „Generating Wikipedia by Summarizing Long Sequences“. ICLR, 2018

2. Large Language Model (LLM) Generative pre-trained transformer (GPT)



Generative pre-trained transformer (GPT) language model [1]:

Unsupervised pre-training by next token prediction:

Loss function: $J = \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{L}} J_\ell = - \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{L}} \log P_{\ell, \delta = \bar{y}_\ell}^{\text{LM}}$ ← token probability of correct token \bar{y}_ℓ

with the decoding step $\ell \in \mathcal{L} = \{1, 2, \dots, L\}$
and L is the length of the ground truth sequence $(\bar{y}_\ell) = \bar{y}_{1:L}$

The **GPT-1** [1] language model ...

- ... has a context window of length $\Lambda = 512$
- ... uses byte-pair encoding (BPE), the vocabulary size is 40k
- ... consists of 12 decoder blocks with in total 117M parameters
- ... requires **1 month on 8 GPUs for pre-training** ← A lot! But still university-grade...
- ... is pre-trained by publicly available 7000 books
- ... code is published on GitHub:

<https://github.com/openai/finetune-transformer-lm>

[1] Radford et al. "Improving Language Understanding by Generative Pre-Training." (2018).

2. LLM

The rise of GPT: From GPT-1 to GPT4

Only applied in discriminative tasks (i.e., classification)

Also used for generative tasks, e.g., writing stories, neural machine translation

Good performance in zero-shot and few-shot settings

Multi-modal inputs including image and texts

Multi-lingual processing

GPT-1 [1]: 12 dec blocks

- Context window length: $\Lambda = 512$
- Training data: BookCorpus with 7000 books
- #params: 117 million = 1.17×10^8

Generative pre-training ...

GPT-2 [2]: 48 dec blocks

- Context window length: $\Lambda = 1024$
- Training data: BookCorpus and WebText (8M webpages)
- #params: 1.5 billion = 1.5×10^9

... + pre-training with task conditioning ...

GPT-3 [3]: 96 dec blocks

- Context window length: $\Lambda = 2048$
- Training data: Common Crawl (410B tokens) and WebText2 (19B tokens)
- #params: 175 billion = 1.75×10^{11}

... + pre-training as GPT-2 + in-context learning

GPT-4 [4]: ?? dec blocks

- Context window length: $\Lambda = 32768$
- Training data: not written in [4]
- #params: ~100 trillion = 1×10^{14}

[1] Radford et al. "Improving Language Understanding By Generative Pre-training." (2018).

[3] Brown et al. "Language Models Are Few-Shot Learners." in *Proc. of NeurIPS*, virtual, Dec, 2020, 1877-1901.

[2] Radford et al. "Language Models Are Unsupervised Multitask Learners." *OpenAI blog* 1.8 (2019): 9. [4] OpenAI "GPT-4 Technical Report." *arXiv* (2023): 2303-08774.

2. LLM

GPT-4: Multi-modal large language model

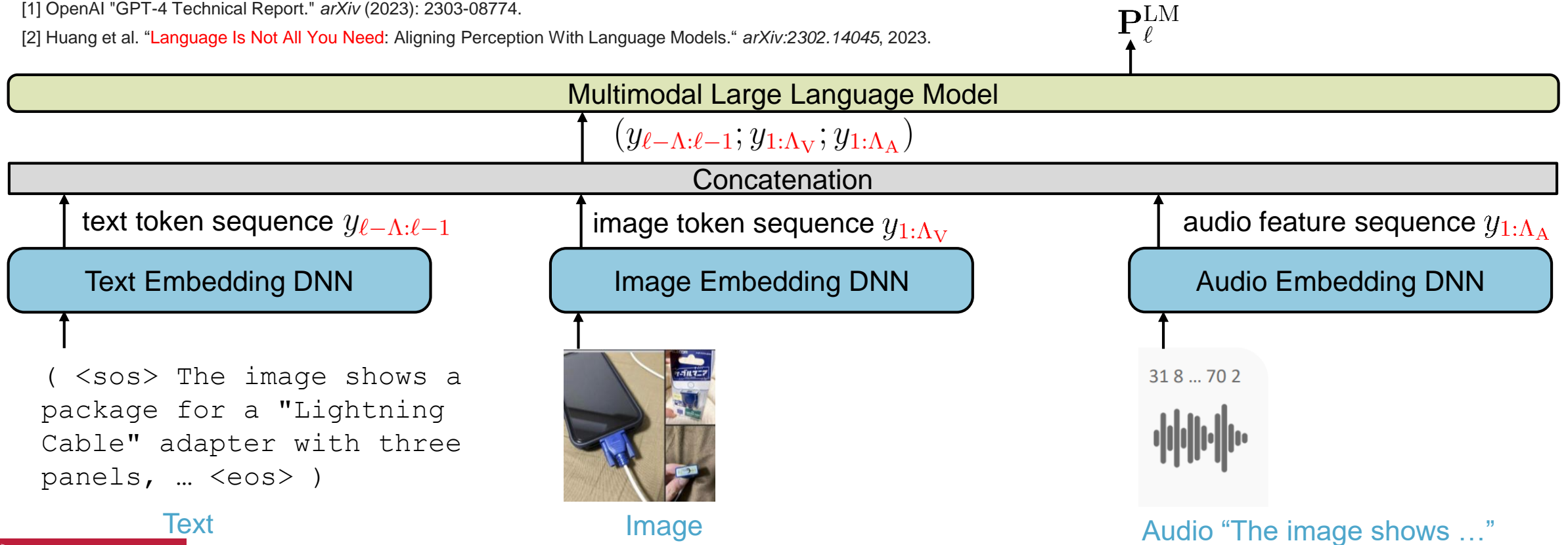
GPT4 can take both **text** and **image** as input.

The technical report from OpenAI [1] doesn't give any details on model architecture and training.

The following technique is based on a different multi-modal large language model (LLM) [2]:

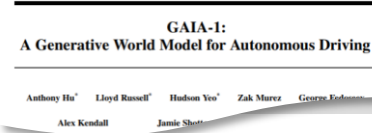
[1] OpenAI "GPT-4 Technical Report." *arXiv* (2023): 2303-08774.

[2] Huang et al. "Language Is Not All You Need: Aligning Perception With Language Models." *arXiv:2302.14045*, 2023.

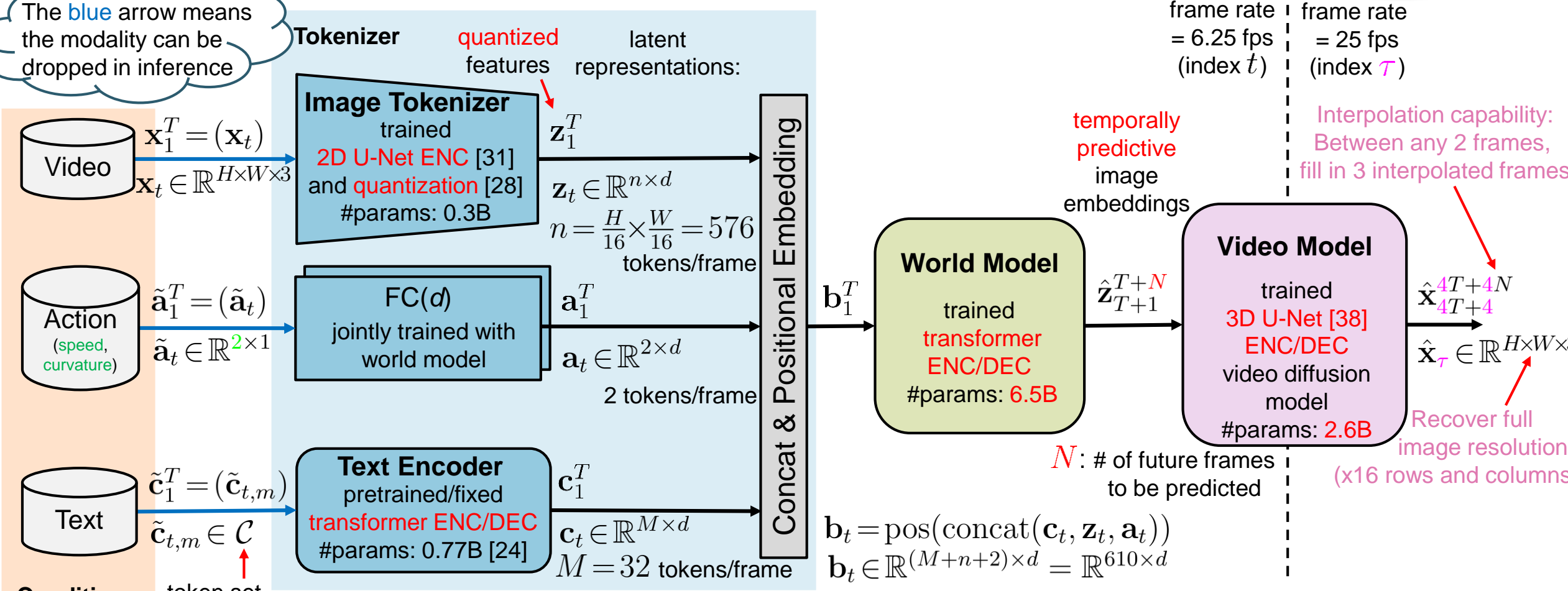


3. Overview of GAIA-1 (Inference)

[1] Hu, Anthony, et al. "GAIA-1: A Generative World Model for Autonomous Driving." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2309.17080* (2023).



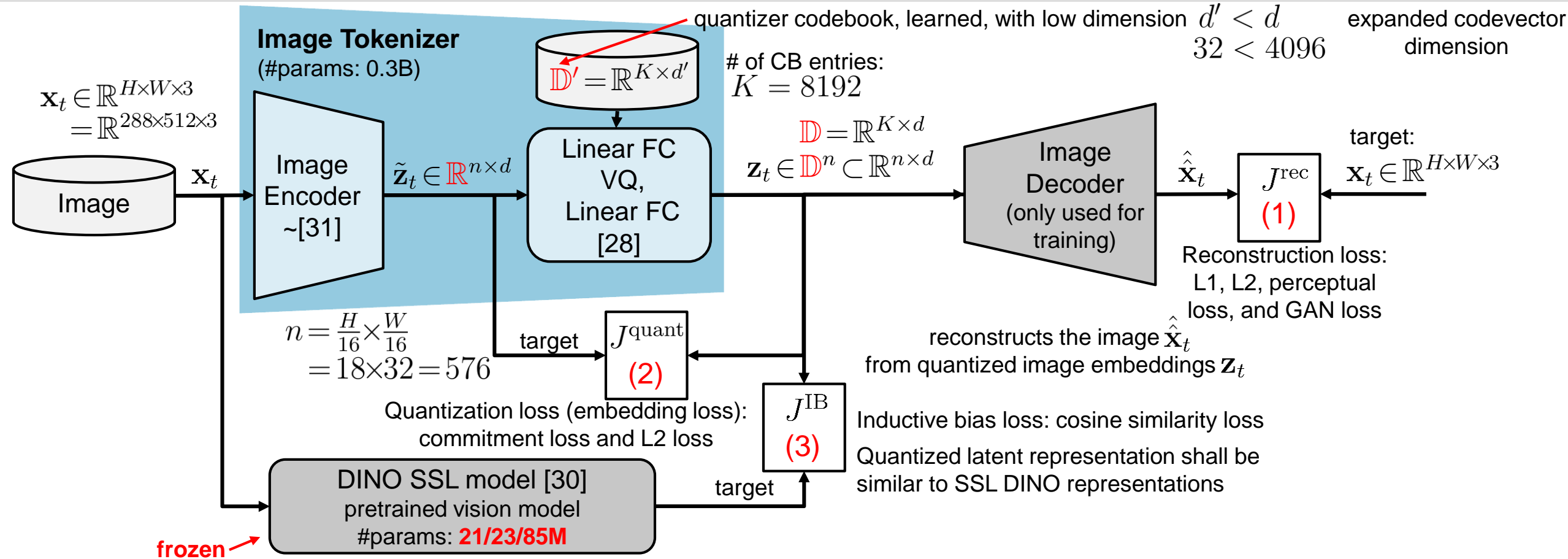
The blue arrow means the modality can be dropped in inference



[24] Raffel et al., "Exploring the Limits of Transfer Learning with a Unified Text-to-Text Transformer". Journal of Machine Learning Research, 2020. Here: **T5-large** model.
 [28] Oord et al., "Neural Discrete Representation Learning". In Proc. of NeurIPS, 2017.
 [31] Ronneberger et al., "U-Net: Convolutional Networks for Biomedical Image Segmentation". In Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention (MICCAI), 2015.
 [38] J. Ho, T. Salimans, A. Gritsenko, W. Chan, M. Norouzi, and D. J. Fleet, "Video Diffusion Models." arXiv, Jun. 22, 2022.

3. GAIA-1 Tokenizer

Image tokenizer (training)



The final loss has 3 components: (1) image reconstruction loss, (2) quantization loss, (3) inductive bias loss

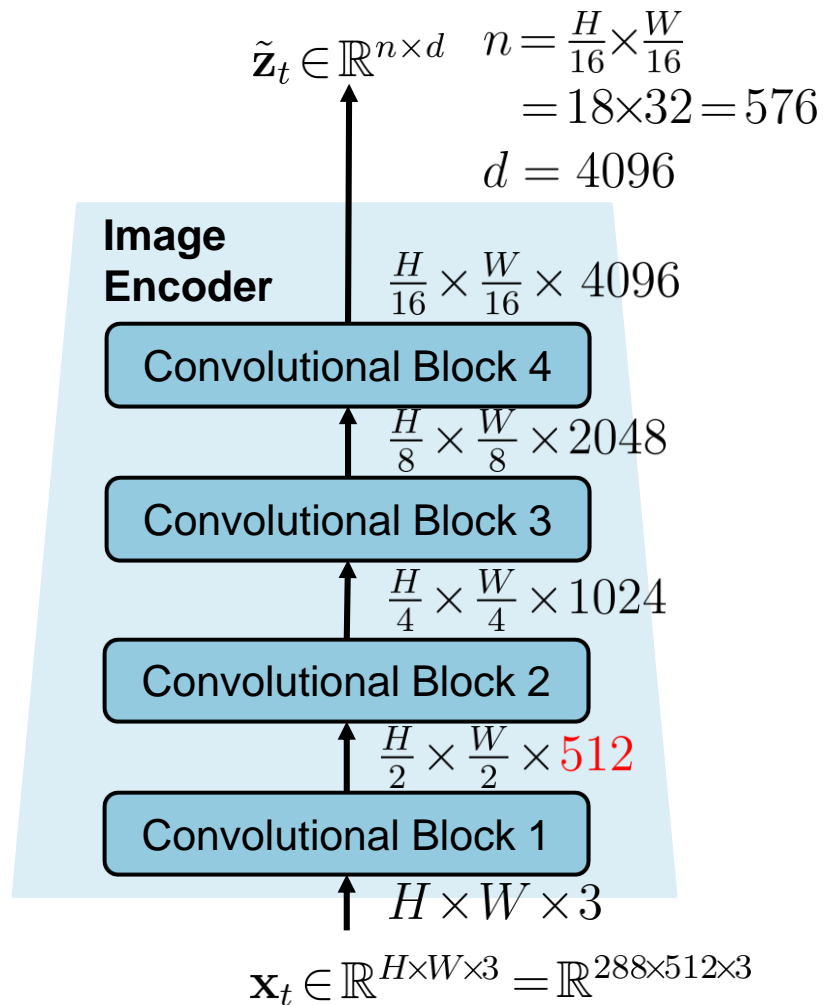
[28] Oord et al., „Neural Discrete Representation Learning“. In Proc. of NeurIPS, 2017.

[31] Ronneberger et al. „U-Net: Convolutional Networks for Biomedical Image Segmentation“. In Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention (MICCAI), 2015.

[30] Caron et al., „Emerging Properties in Self-Supervised Vision Transformers“. In Proc. of ICCV, 2021.

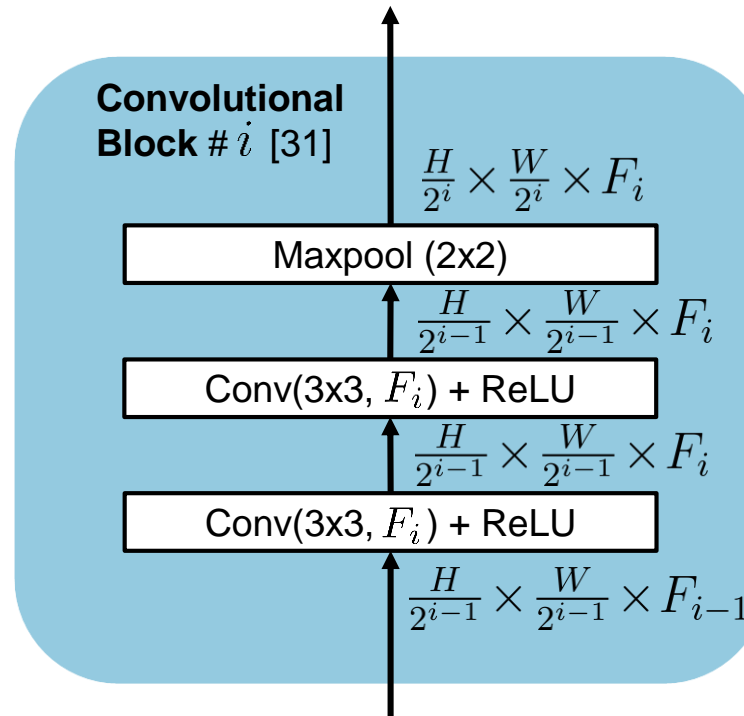
3. GAIA-1 Tokenizer

Image encoder



„The discrete autoencoder is a fully convolutional U-Net structure [31]“

- However, no architecture details to the image encoder in GAIA-1
- Here: Reverse engineering: The output dimension of the 1st convolutional block can be changed from 64 to **512** to match the 0.3B parameters written in GAIA-1



In each convolutional block [31] do:

- Upsample the feature dimension by 2 (except the 1st one)
 $F_i = 2F_{i-1}$
- Downsample each spatial dimension by 2

[31] Ronneberger et al. „U-Net: Convolutional Networks for Biomedical Image Segmentation“. In Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention (MICCAI), 2015.

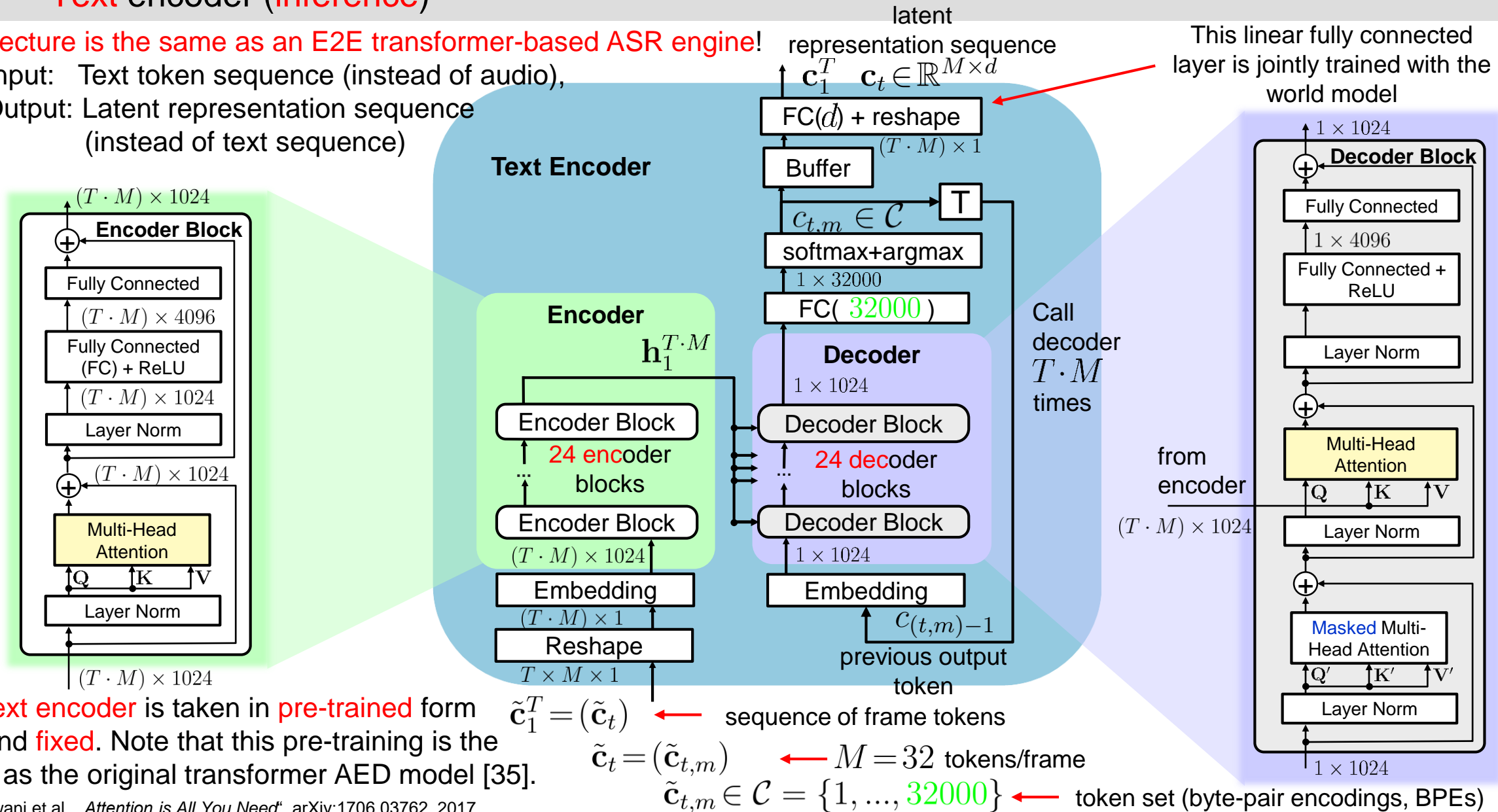
3. GAIA-1 Tokenizer

Text encoder (inference)

Architecture is the same as an E2E transformer-based ASR engine!

But: Input: Text token sequence (instead of audio),

Output: Latent representation sequence (instead of text sequence)



The **text encoder** is taken in **pre-trained** form [24] and **fixed**. Note that this pre-training is the same as the original transformer AED model [35].

$\tilde{c}_1^T = (\tilde{c}_t)$ ← sequence of frame tokens

$\tilde{c}_t = (\tilde{c}_{t,m})$ ← $M = 32$ tokens/frame

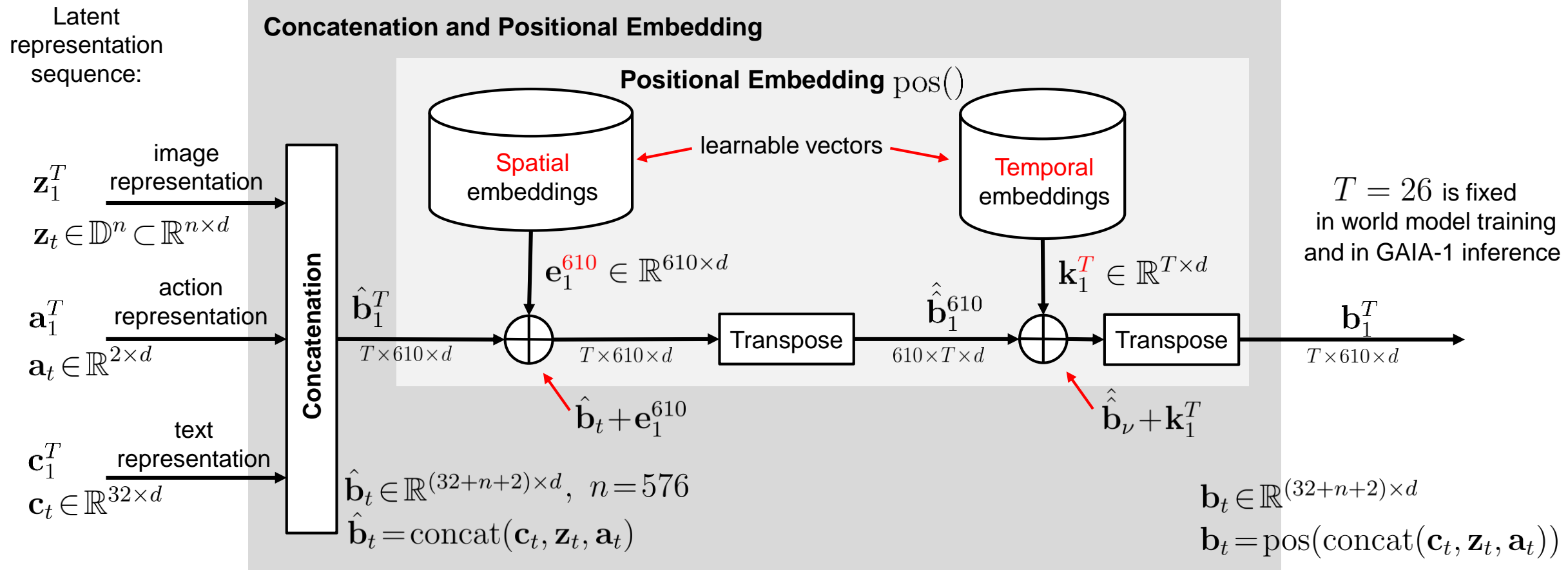
$\tilde{c}_{t,m} \in \mathcal{C} = \{1, \dots, 32000\}$ ← token set (byte-pair encodings, BPEs)

[35] Vaswani et al., „Attention is All You Need“, arXiv:1706.03762, 2017

[24] Raffel et al., “Exploring the Limits of Transfer Learning with a Unified Text-to-Text Transformer”. Journal of Machine Learning Research, 2020. Here: **T5-large** model.

3. GAIA-1 Tokenizer

Concatenation & positional embedding



3. GAIA-1 Video Model (Inference)

The video generation model (3D U-Net) can be conditioned on image embeddings ($\hat{\mathbf{z}}$) and/or on images ($\hat{\mathbf{x}}$, $\underline{\mathbf{x}}$).

When conditioned on image embeddings, it serves as a frame generator

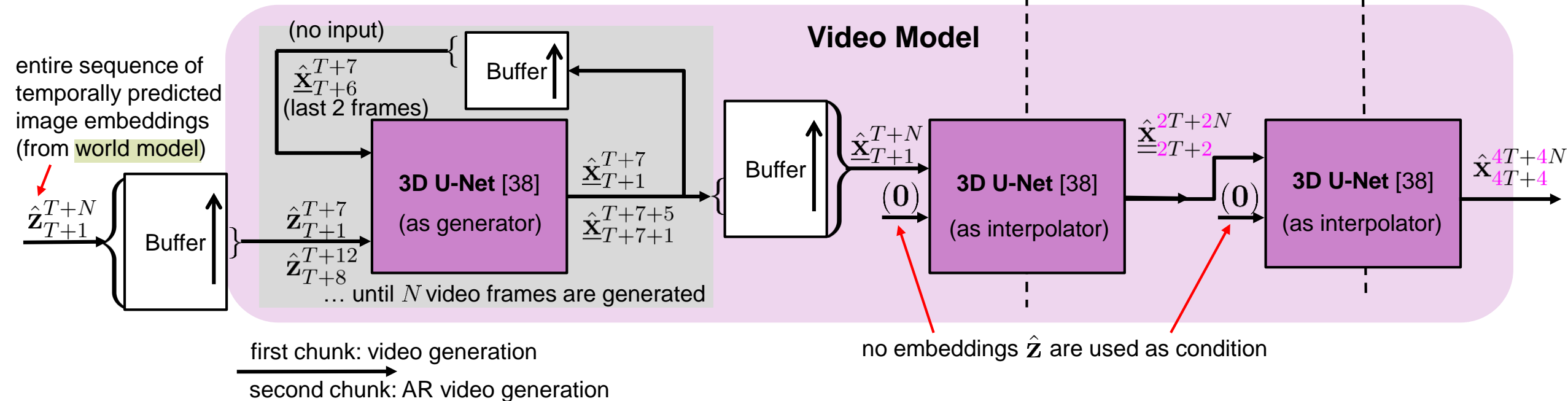
When conditioned on images only, it serves as an interpolator

Operation in chunks of length $T' = 7$:

frame rate = 6.25 fps

frame rate = 12.5 fps

frame rate = 25 fps

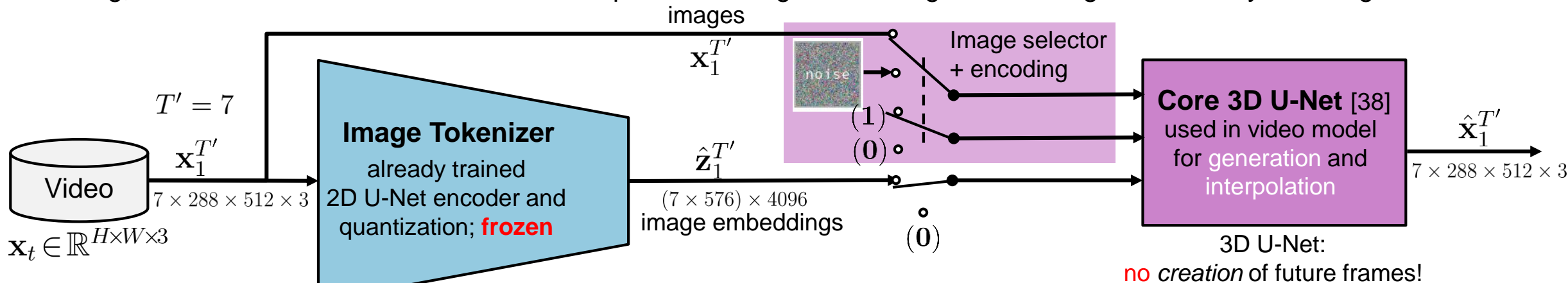


[38] J. Ho, T. Salimans, A. Gritsenko, W. Chan, M. Norouzi, and D. J. Fleet, "Video Diffusion Models." arXiv, Jun. 22, 2022.

3. GAIA-1 Video Model

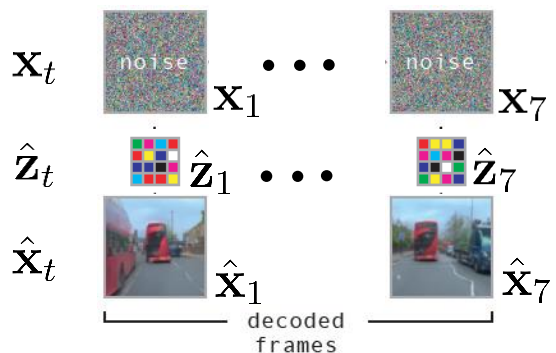
Multitask training of 3D U-Net (in chunks of 7 frames)

In training, the video model is conditioned on a sequence of images and image embeddings encoded by the image tokenizer:

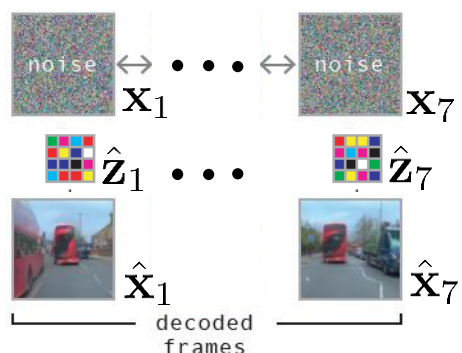


A single **3D U-Net** model is trained on multiple tasks, conditioned on (masked) image embeddings and (masked) images. The selector positions are specified by the training task: (each task is equally represented in training)

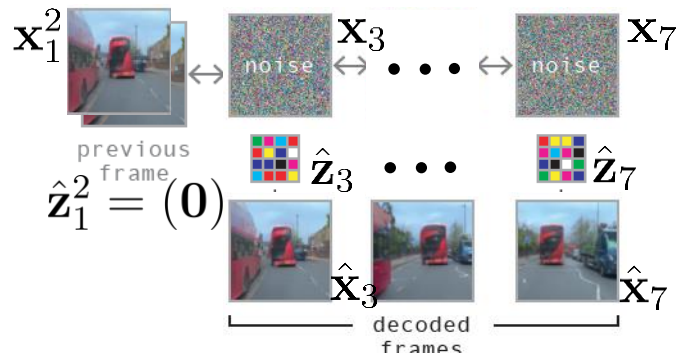
(a) Image generation
(temp. layers deactivated)



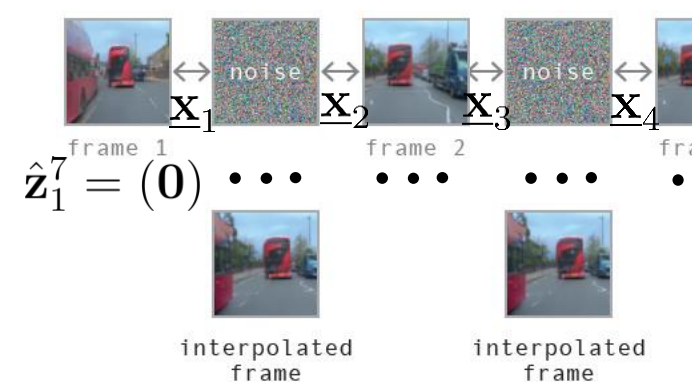
(b) Video generation



(c) Autoregressive video generation
(2 old images and 5 new world model outputs)

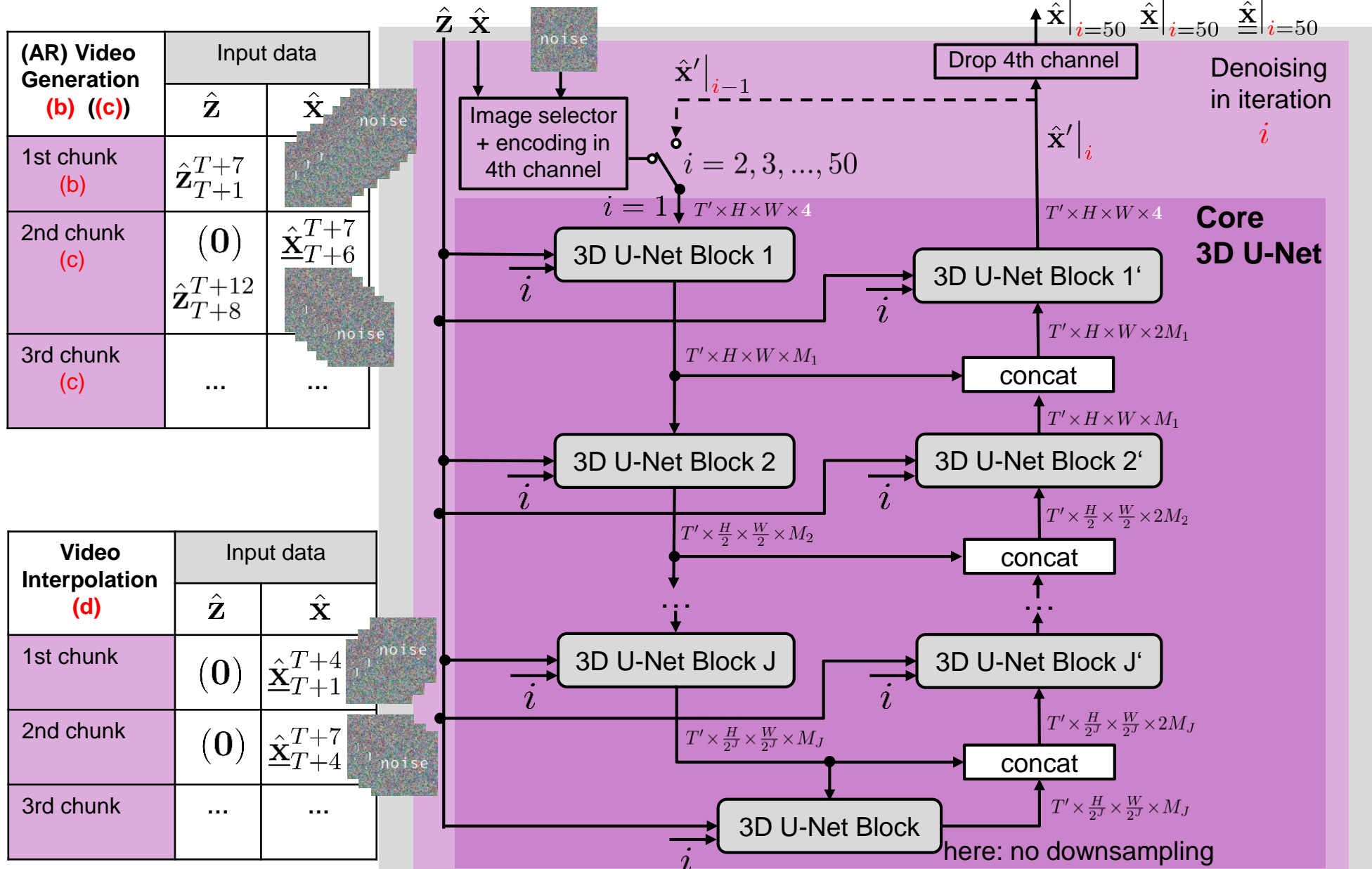


(d) Video interpolation
(every other image and all image tokens are masked)



3. GAIA-1 Video Model 3D U-Net [38]: Image Processing in Chunks of 7 Frames

Video generation process (by **iterative** denoising)



The neural network architecture is a **3D U-Net with factorized spatial and temporal attention layers [38]**

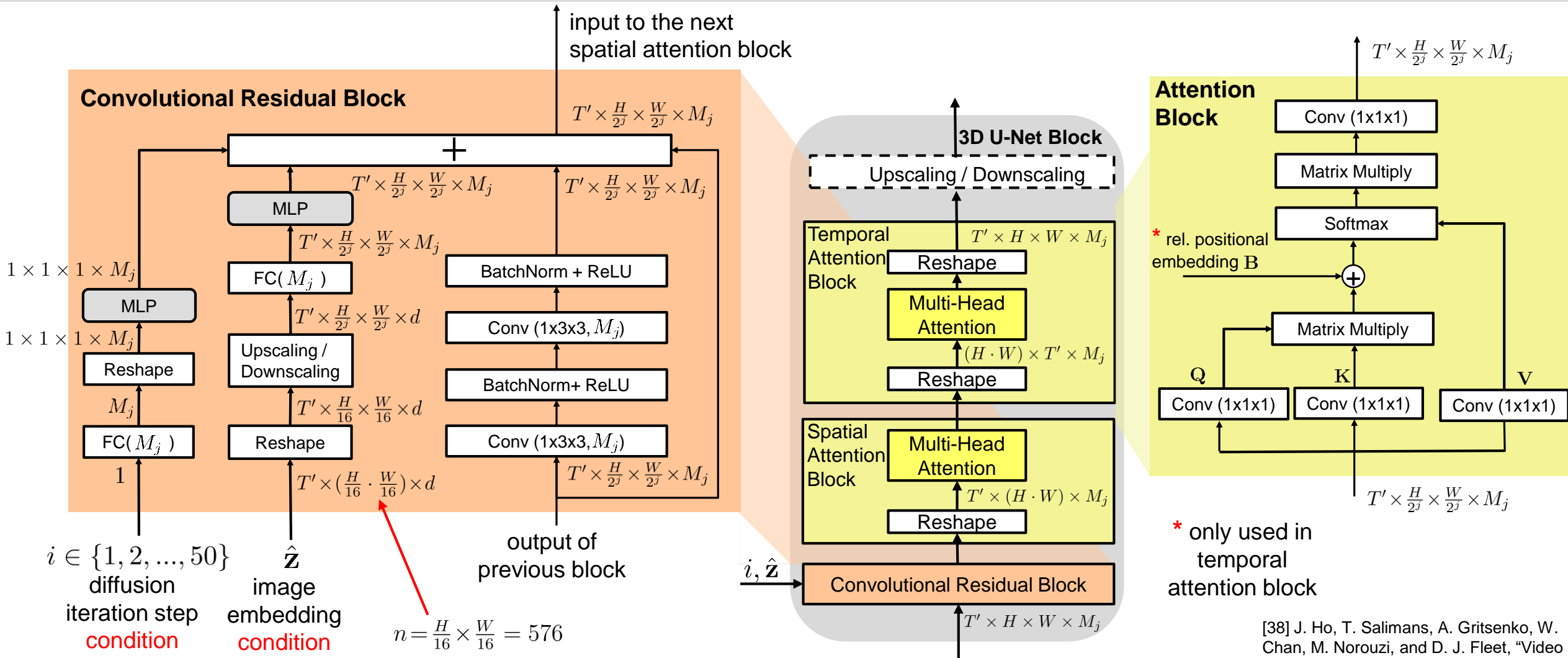
Image/video generation by iterative denoising in 50 steps $i = 1, 2, \dots, 50$

M_j defines the feature dimensionality after a 3D U-Net block and can be configured

[38] J. Ho, T. Salimans, A. Gritsenko, W. Chan, M. Norouzi, and D. J. Fleet, "Video Diffusion Models." arXiv, Jun. 22, 2022.

3. GAIA-1 Video Model 3D U-Net [38]

Building blocks



[38] J. Ho, T. Salimans, A. Gritsenko, W. Chan, M. Norouzi, and D. J. Fleet, "Video Diffusion Models." arXiv, Jun. 22, 2022.

3. GAIA-1 Datasets and Resources

Driving data has been collected in London, UK (2019-2023)

Training data: 4.700 hours at 25Hz (~420 million images)

Data balancing to account for geography and visually distinct weather conditions:

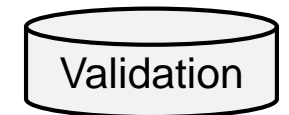
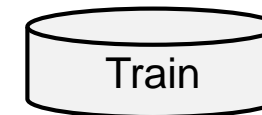
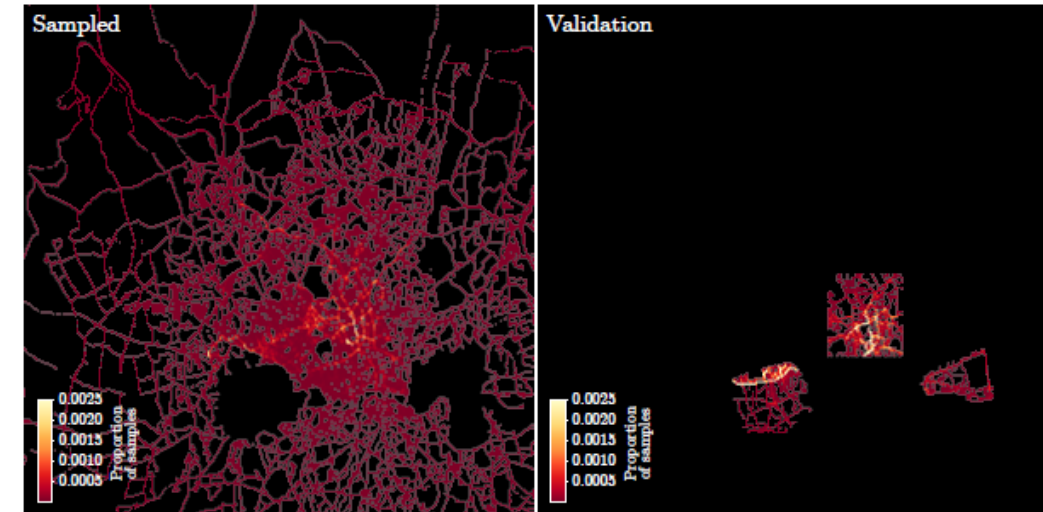
- Tokenizer balanced over latitude, longitude, weather conditions
- World model & video model balanced over latitude, longitude, weather, steering behaviour, speed behaviour

Validation data: 400 hours

Validation within strict predetermined geofences:

- 2 geofences with roads never seen during training
- 1 geofence around the main data collection routes but with runs not used during training

Driving data road map (London)









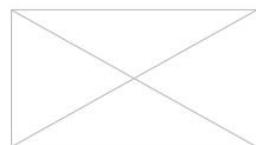

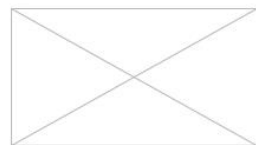



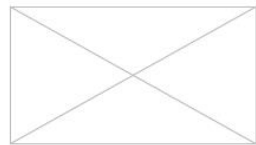

3. GAIA-1 Dataset Sizes

How does GAIA-1 training data compare to typical open access datasets in automotive research?

Name	# images	# annotated images	total length of videos [h]	# frames per second
CamVid	701	701	<1	1.00 - 15.00
KITTI	19,103	19,103	<1	10.00
Cityscapes	150,000	5,000	5	16.67
Waymo Open Perception	230,000	230,000	7	10.00
A2D2	392,556	41,277	<1	30.00
Caltech Pedestrian	1,000,000	250,000	10	30.00
nuScenes	1,200,000	40,000	15	11.67
SODA10M	10,000,000	20,000	27,833	0.10
BDD100K	120,000,000	100,000	1,111	30.00
GAIA-1 train+val	420,000,000	?	4,700 + 400	25.00

← BDD is useful!
Annotations for video attributes, include weather, scene, and time of day.

3. GAIA-1 Further Results ...

MODE	CONTEXT	CONDITIONING	GENERATED FRAMES
Video rollout			
Action-conditioned rollout		Action: Speed: -- Curvature: LEFT	
Text-conditioned rollout		Text: "The traffic light is green"	
Text-conditioned generation		Text: "It is snowing"	
		Text: "It is night"	
Text and action conditioned generation		Text: "We are 15 meters behind a bus" Action: Speed: ACCELERATE Curvature: RIGHT	
Unconditional generation			

Using text or (here:) actions, GAIA-1 can be forced to drive onto the pavement (never seen in training!) →

GAIA-1 knows: Green light means go ahead! →

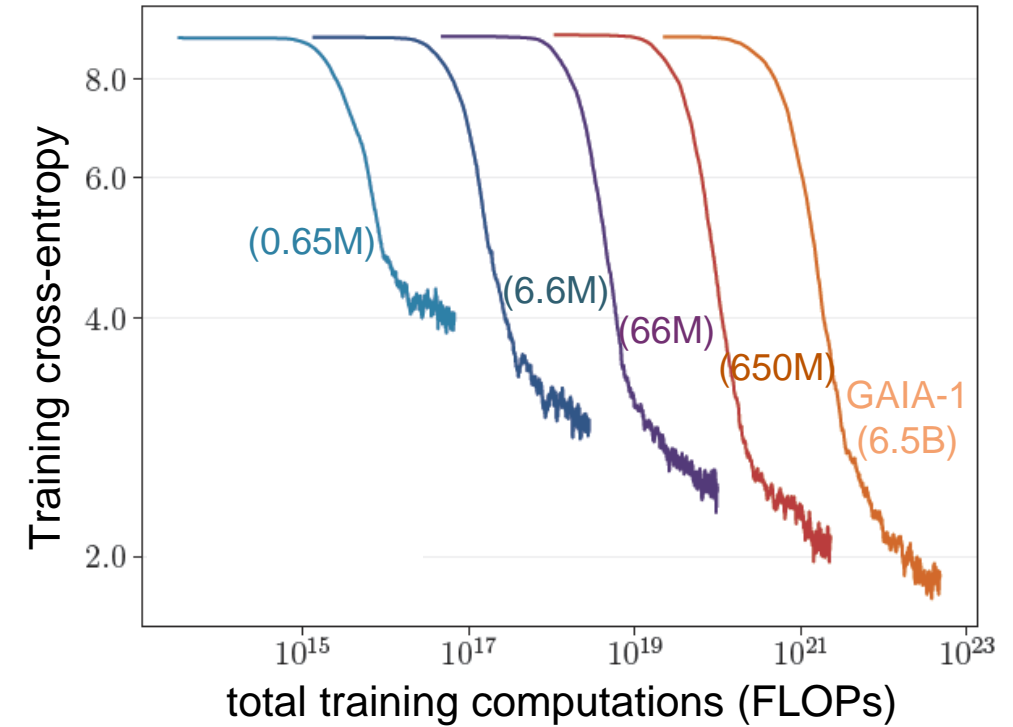
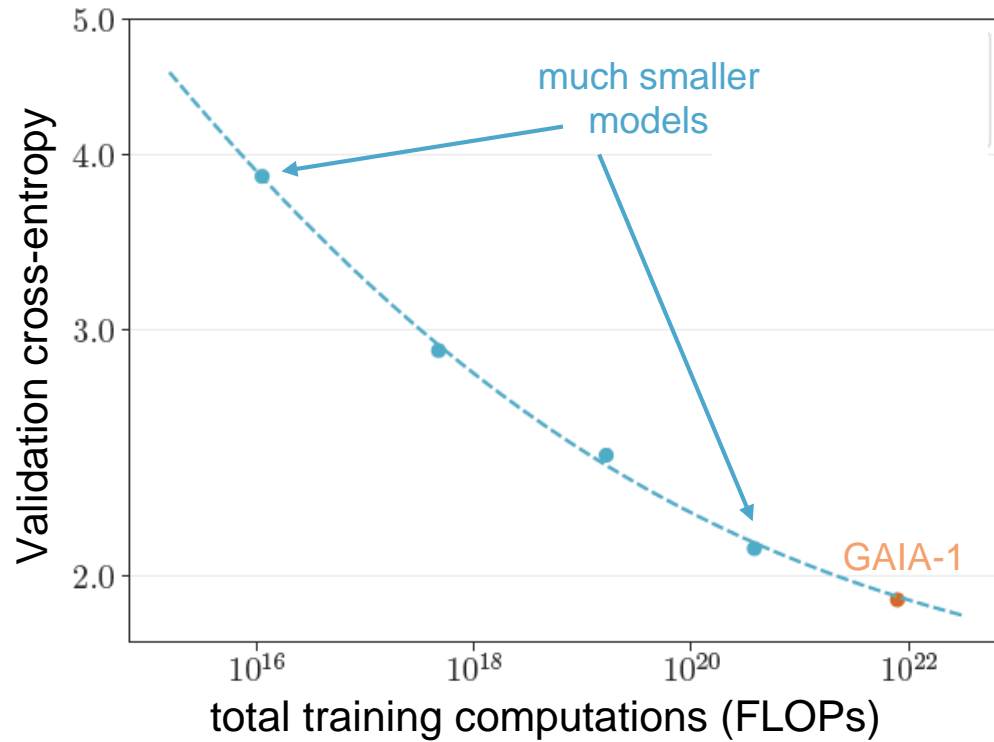
No video prompt, but text conditioning (here: weather, daytime) →

From ChatGPT to GAIA-1: On Generative Sequen

3.

GAIA-1

Scalability: **World model** evaluation with much smaller model size



GAIA-1 world model validation performance is **predictable** from smaller world models

GAIA-1 world model training performance gets **better and better** with a larger world model and the use of more data

[Hu, Anthony, et al. "GAIA-1: A Generative World Model for Autonomous Driving." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2309.17080* (2023)]

Conclusions

ASR: End2end automatic speech recognition achieves SOTA performance with **attention-based encoder-decoder** (AED) models

LLMs: (Large) language models (e.g., ChatGPT) achieve SOTA with **attention-based decoder** models

GAIA-1 achieves impressive results with an **attention-based encoder-decoder** (AED) world model

What we can learn:

Use **standard separately trained tokenizers** for each input modality; discretize patches of input images

Build **multimodal** foundational world models, integrating language and vision

Let the **world model** do the temporal prediction, and ...

... let the **video model** reconstruct the output video in chunks

„Attention is all you need“: It seems to be somewhat true...

[\[Vaswani et al., „Attention is All You Need“, arXiv:1706.03762, 2017\]](#)

Thank you for your attention ...

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Slides on ResearchGate



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