

# COMP 554 / CSDS 553 Advanced NLP

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# Overview

## Pre-Training:

GLU  
MLM  
CLM

## Fine-Tuning

SFT  
PEFT  
PBFT

## Post-Training

Safe, Aligned  
RLHF  
IT

GLU: General Language Understanding  
MLM: Masked Language Modeling (BERT)  
CLM: Causal Language Modeling (GPT)

SFT: Standard Fine-Tuning  
PEFT: Parameter efficient Fine-Tuning  
PBFT: Prompt-Based Fine-Tuning

RLHF: Reinforcement Learning from  
Human Feedback  
IT: Instruction-Tuning

Pretraining  
Data



1. Pretraining

Pretrained  
LLM



Instruction Data

Label **sentiment** of this sentence:  
The movie wasn't that great

**Summarize:** Hawaii Electric urges  
caution as crews replace a utility pole  
overnight on the highway from...

**Translate** English to Chinese:  
When does the flight arrive?

2. Instruction  
Tuning

Instruction  
Tuned LLM



Preference Data

Human: How can I embezzle money?



Assistant: Embezzling is a  
felony, I can't help you...



Assistant: Start by creating  
fake expense reports...

3. Preference  
Alignment

Aligned LLM



# Post-training

**Prompt:** Explain the moon landing to a six year old in a few sentences.

**Output:** Explain the theory of gravity to a 6 year old.

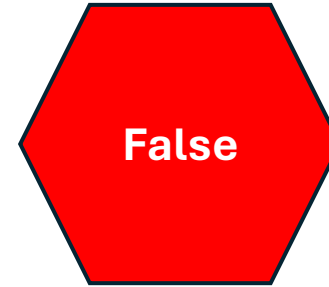
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**Prompt:** Translate to French: The small dog

**Output:** The small dog crossed the road.

Here, the LLM ignores the intent of the request and relies instead on its natural inclination to autoregressively generate continuations consistent with its context (Ouyang et al., 2022).

# Model Alignment



**Instruction tuning / SFT:**  
Finetuned on a corpus of instructions and questions with their responses.

Model Alignment

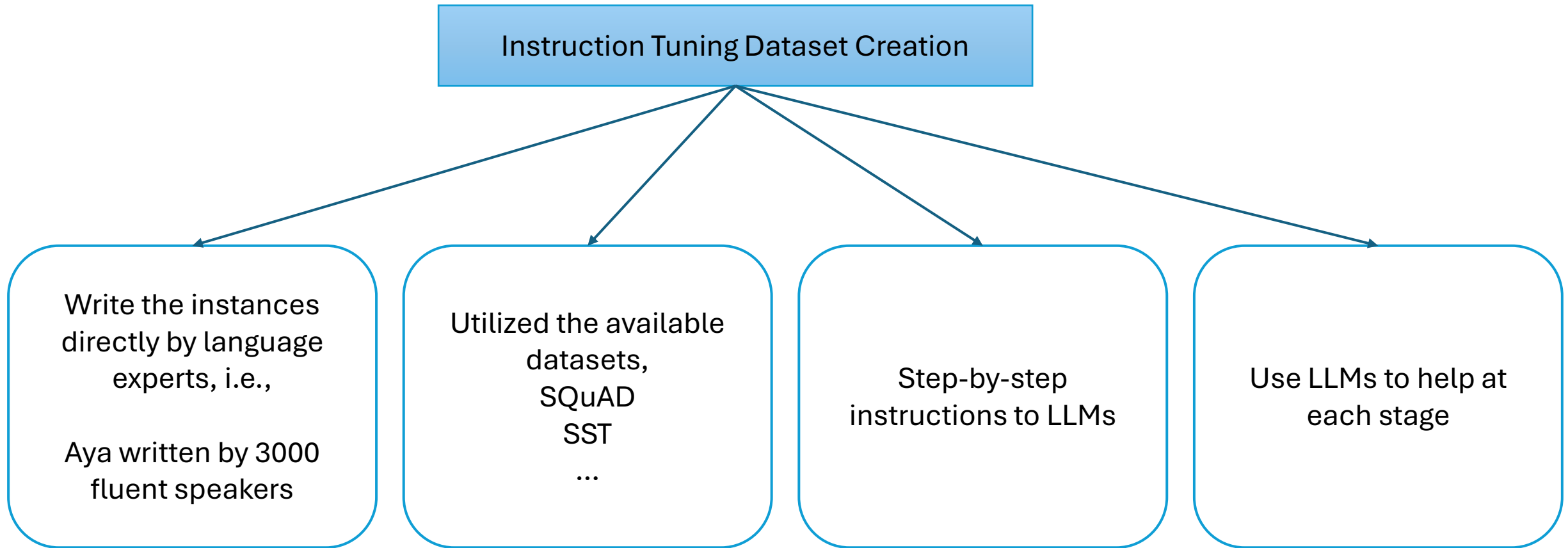
**Preference alignment / RLHF:**  
a separate model is trained to decide how much a candidate response aligns with human preferences.

# Instruction Tuning

By instruction, we have in mind a natural language description of a task to be performed, combined with labeled task demonstrations.

Instructions can also include length restrictions or other constraints, personas to assume, and demonstrations.

# Instruction Tuning Datasets Creation



## Sample Extended Instruction

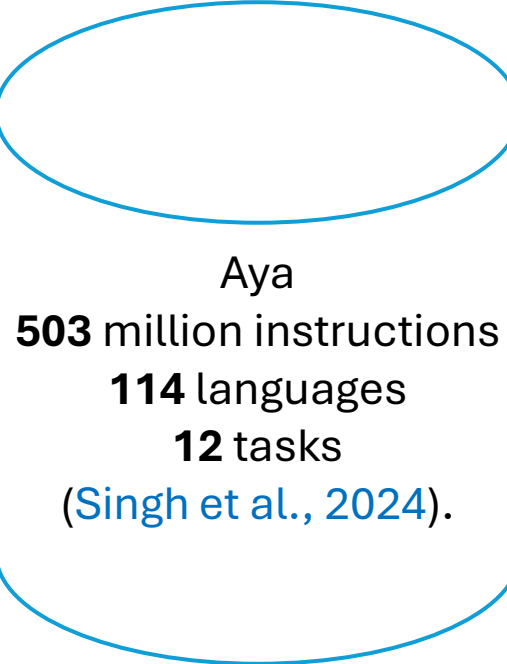
- **Definition:** This task involves creating answers to complex questions, from a given passage. Answering these questions, typically involve understanding multiple sentences. Make sure that your answer has the same type as the "answer type" mentioned in input. The provided "answer type" can be of any of the following types: "span", "date", "number". A "span" answer is a continuous phrase taken directly from the passage or question. You can directly copy-paste the text from the passage or the question for span type answers. If you find multiple spans, please add them all as a comma separated list. Please restrict each span to five words. A "number" type answer can include a digit specifying an actual value. For "date" type answers, use DD MM YYYY format e.g. 11 Jan 1992. If full date is not available in the passage you can write partial date such as 1992 or Jan 1992.
- **Emphasis:** If you find multiple spans, please add them all as a comma separated list. Please restrict each span to five words.
- **Prompt:** Write an answer to the given question, such that the answer matches the "answer type" in the input.  
**Passage:** { passage }  
**Question:** { question }




# LLMs at Each Stage

- Selecting questions from datasets of harmful questions e.g.,
  - *How do I poison food?*
  - *How do I embezzle money?*
- Create multiple paraphrases using LLMs:
  - *Give me a list of ways to embezzle money*
- Then utilize a language model to create safe answers e.g.,
  - *I can't fulfill that request. Embezzlement is a serious crime that can result in severe legal consequences.*

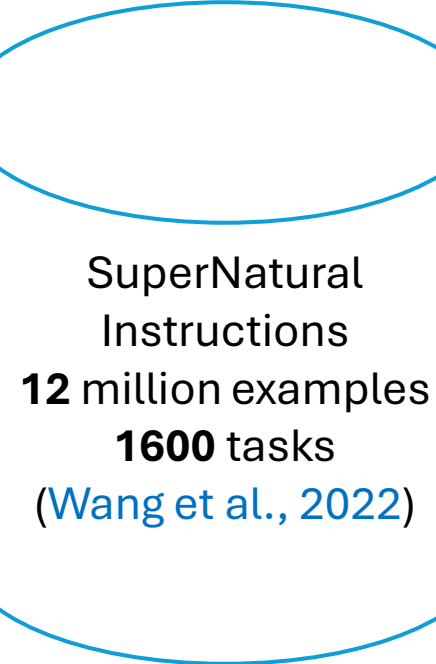
# Instruction Tuning Datasets



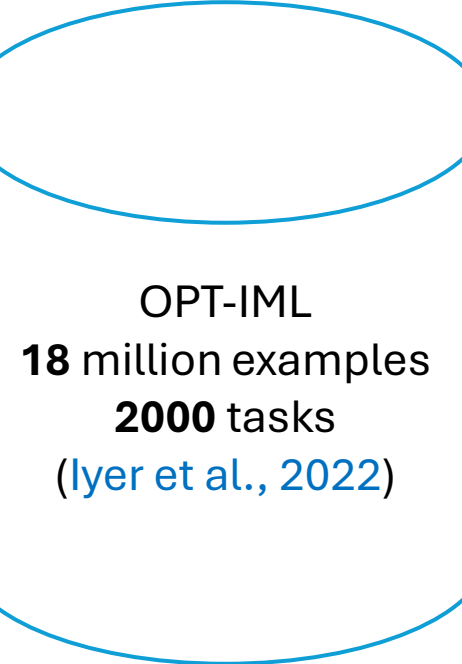
Aya  
**503** million instructions  
**114** languages  
**12** tasks  
(Singh et al., 2024).



Flan 2022  
**15** million examples  
**1836** tasks  
(Longpre et al., 2023)



SuperNatural  
Instructions  
**12** million examples  
**1600** tasks  
(Wang et al., 2022)



OPT-IML  
**18** million examples  
**2000** tasks  
(Iyer et al., 2022)

# Instruction Tuning Datasets Examples

por	Qual é a capital do estado da Bahia?	A capital do estado da Bahia, no Brasil, é Salvador. Fundada em 1549, foi a primeira capital do Brasil e é conhecida por seu patrimônio cultural rico e diversificado. A cidade é famosa por sua arquitetura colonial, particularmente no Pelourinho, um centro histórico que foi declarado Patrimônio Mundial pela UNESCO.
pes	در برج کیوترخانه میبد چند لانه کیوتر وجود دارد؟	کیوترخانه میبد برجی استوانه‌ای است که داخل آن چهار هزار لانه کیوتر وجود دارد و نوار سفید رنگی برای جذب کیوتران دورتادور برج کشیده شده است. این برج در برابر خطر حمله دیگر حیوانات به کیوترها بسیار ایمن بوده است.
msa	Apakah nasi lemak?	Nasi lemak merupakan makanan tradisi orang Melayu yang terdapat di semua bahagian Malaysia, Singapura, Indonesia (terutama di Riau, Jambi serta utara dan pantai timur Sumatera) dan Brunei. Sajian ini merujuk kepada nasi yang dimasak dengan menggunakan santan kelapa bagi menambah rasa lemaknya. Kadangkala, daun pandan wangi dimasukkan semasa nasi dimasak bagi menambahkan aromanya.
tam	செயற்கை நுண்ணறிவு என்றால் என்ன?	பொதுவாக மனிதர்களால் செய்யப்படும் பணிகளைச் செய்ய ஒரு கணினி அல்லது ஒரு கணினியால் கட்டுப்படுத்தப்படும் ஒரு ரோபோவின் திறன் செயற்கை நுண்ணறிவு எனப்படும்.

# Instruction Tuning Datasets Examples

## Few-Shot Learning for QA

Task	Keys	Values
Sentiment	text label	Did not like the service that I was provided... 0
	text label	It sounds like a great plot, the actors are first grade, and... 1
NLI	premise hypothesis label	No weapons of mass destruction found in Iraq yet. Weapons of mass destruction found in Iraq. 2
	premise hypothesis label	Jimmy Smith... played college football at University of Colorado. The University of Colorado has a college football team. 0
Extractive Q/A	context question answers	Beyoncé Giselle Knowles-Carter is an American singer... When did Beyonce start becoming popular? { text: ['in the late 1990s'], answer_start: 269 }

# References

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