

# From Multimodal LLM to Human-level AI

***Modality, Instruction, Reasoning, Efficiency and Beyond***

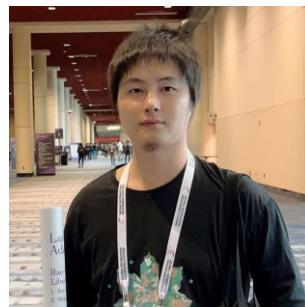


<https://mllm2024.github.io/CVPR2024/>



CC BY 4.0 DEED

Attribution 4.0 International



**Hao Fei**

*National University of Singapore*



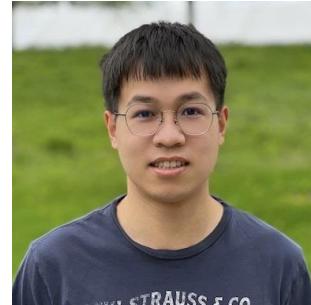
**Yuan Yao**

*National University of Singapore*



**Ao Zhang**

*National University of Singapore*



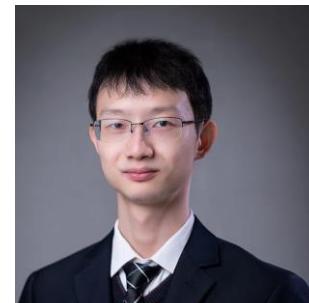
**Haotian Liu**

*University of Wisconsin-Madison*



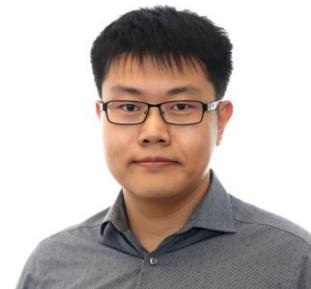
**Fuxiao Liu**

*University of Maryland, College Park*



**Zhuosheng Zhang**

*Shanghai Jiao Tong University*



**Hanwang Zhang**

*Nanyang Technological University*



**Shuicheng Yan**

*Kunlun 2050 Research, Skywork AI*

## ✳ Part-IV

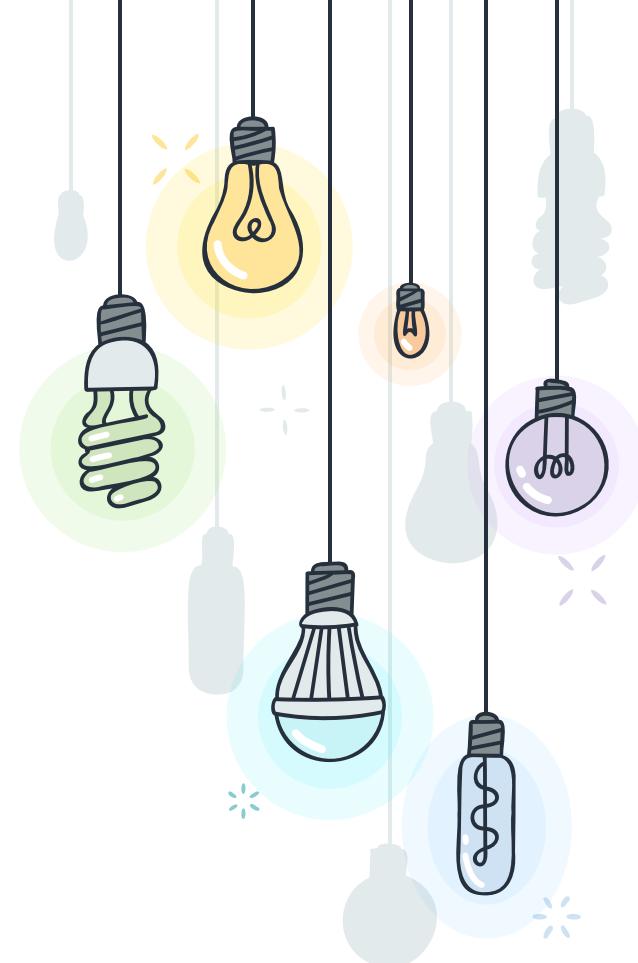
# Multimodal Instruction Tuning

**Haotian Liu**

Ph.D.

*University of Wisconsin, Madison*

<https://hliu.cc>

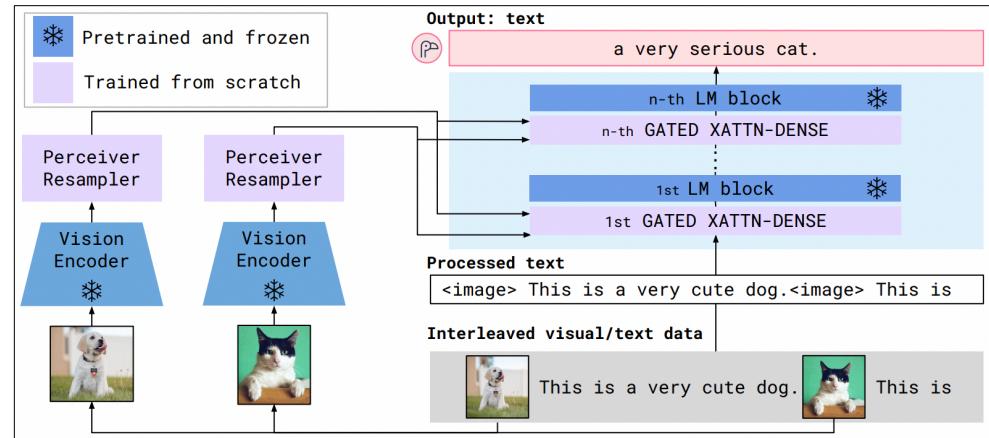
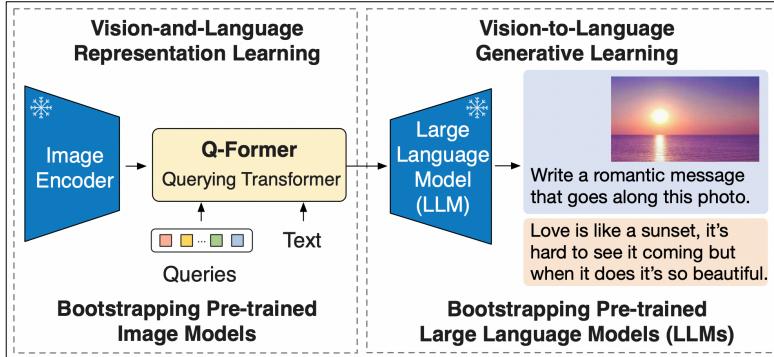


# Table of Content

---

- + Motivations
- + Multimodal Instruction Tuning Framework
  - ✗ Framework
  - ✗ Training Paradigms
- + Multimodal Instruction Tuning Data Construction
  - ✗ Pretraining Data
  - ✗ Instruction Tuning Data
  - ✗ Existing Datasets

# Why Multimodal Instruction Tuning?



- 👉 Pretrained models aligns multiple modalities, can understand basic information from different modalities, and sometimes perform simple question-answering.
- 👉 Cannot follow complex instructions, and often require **task-specific** fine-tuning for it to perform well on downstream tasks.

[Wang et al. 2022] GIT: A Generative Image-to-text Transformer for Vision and Language

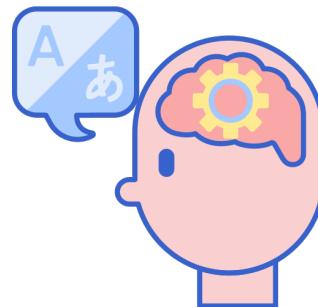
[Li et al. 2023] Blip-2: Bootstrapping language-image pre-training with frozen image encoders and large language models

[Alayrac et al. 2022] Flamingo: a visual language model for few-shot learning

# Why Multimodal Instruction Tuning?

- From Single-Purpose to General-Purpose

-  Traditional vision models are **task-specific**, which requires training and using multiple models for different tasks and **restrict the potential synergies from diverse tasks**;
-  These vision models typically have a pre-defined and fixed interface, leading to **limited interactivity and adaptability in following users' task instructions**.
-  Multimodal Instruction Tuning allows multimodal models to **generalize to unseen tasks by following new instructions**, thus boosting **zero-shot** performance.



# Instruction Tuning is NOT multitask learning

- Multitask learning (with task tokens)

## Training



INPUT: <image><tok\_task\_1=short\_cap>  
OUTPUT: <generated short descriptions>

INPUT: <image><tok\_task\_2=yes\_no>  
OUTPUT: yes/no

## Testing

Only with <tok\_task\_1>, <tok\_task\_2>...

Does not work with <new\_task=long\_cap>

- Instruction tuning (with natural language task instructions)

## Training



INPUT: <image>Describe this image  
briefly.  
OUTPUT: <generated short descriptions>

INPUT: <image>Is this xxx?  
OUTPUT: yes/no

## Testing

INPUT: <image>Describe this image in detail.  
OUTPUT: <long descriptions>

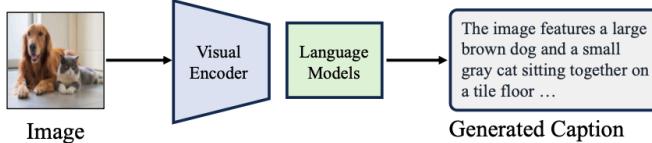
Generalizes to new instructions zero-shot.

# Why Multimodal Instruction Tuning?

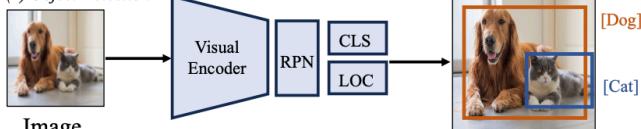
- From Single-Purpose to General-Purpose

(a). Traditional Task Paradigm for Computer Vision

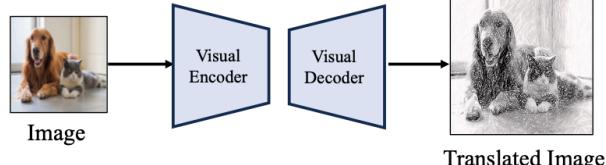
(1) Image Captioning



(2) Object Detection

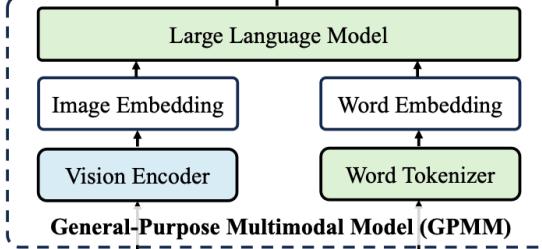


(N) Image Translation



(b). Instruction-based Task Paradigm for Computer Vision

**Answer 1:** The image features a large brown dog and a small gray cat sitting together on a tile floor, and both animals appear to be relaxed...  
**Answer 2:** There are two objects in the picture, including one cat <BOX1> and one dog <BOX2>.  
.....  
**Answer N:** Here is the modified picture in sketch style <IMAGE>.



**Question 1:** Describe the image concisely.  
**Question 2:** Detect all objects with bounding boxes.  
.....  
**Question N:** Modify the picture into Sketch style.

Image

Task Instruction in Language

[1] Visual Instruction Tuning towards General-Purpose Multimodal Model: A Survey. 2023

[2] A Survey on Multimodal Large Language Models. 2024

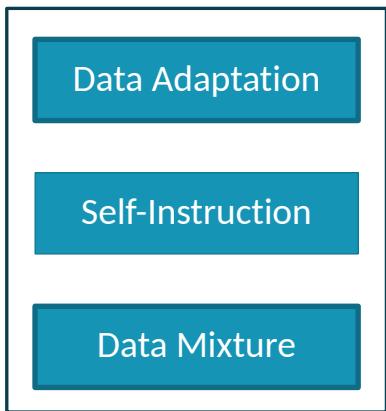
# 1

## Multimodal Instruction Tuning Framework

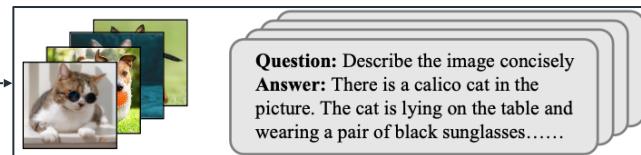


# MLM Instruction Tuning Framework

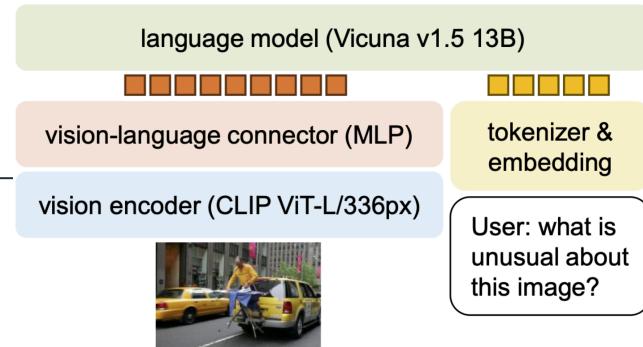
## Data Construction



## Visual Instruction-following data



## Visual Instruction Tuning Framework Example: LLaVA-1.5



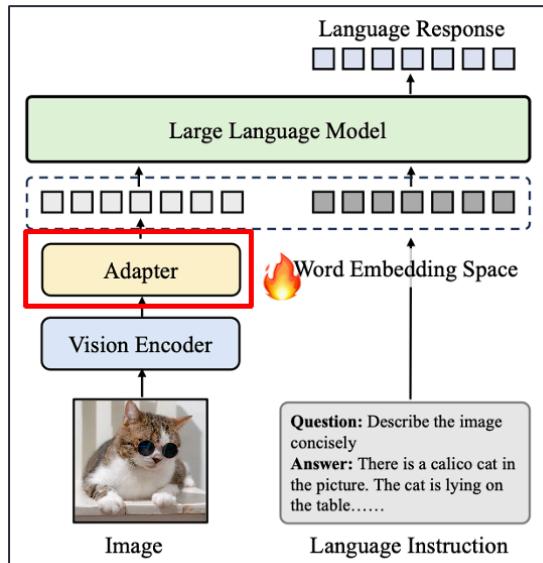
Popular MLLMs: LLaVA, MiniGPT4, LLaVA-NeXT, ViP-LLaVA, LLaVA-UHD, MiniCPM, Qwen-VL, CogAgent, InternVL, mPLUG-OWL, Monkey, MiniGemini, LLaVA-HR, SPHINX, DeepSeek-VL, MoAI

# Training Paradigms



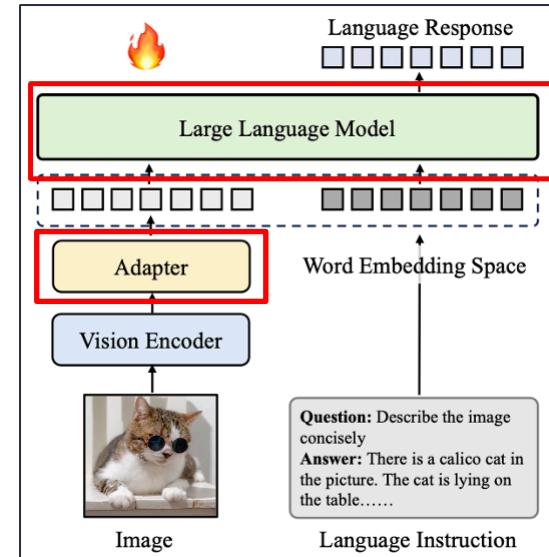
## Stage1: Pretraining Stage

- + Align different modalities, provide world knowledge



## Stage2: Instruction Tuning Stage

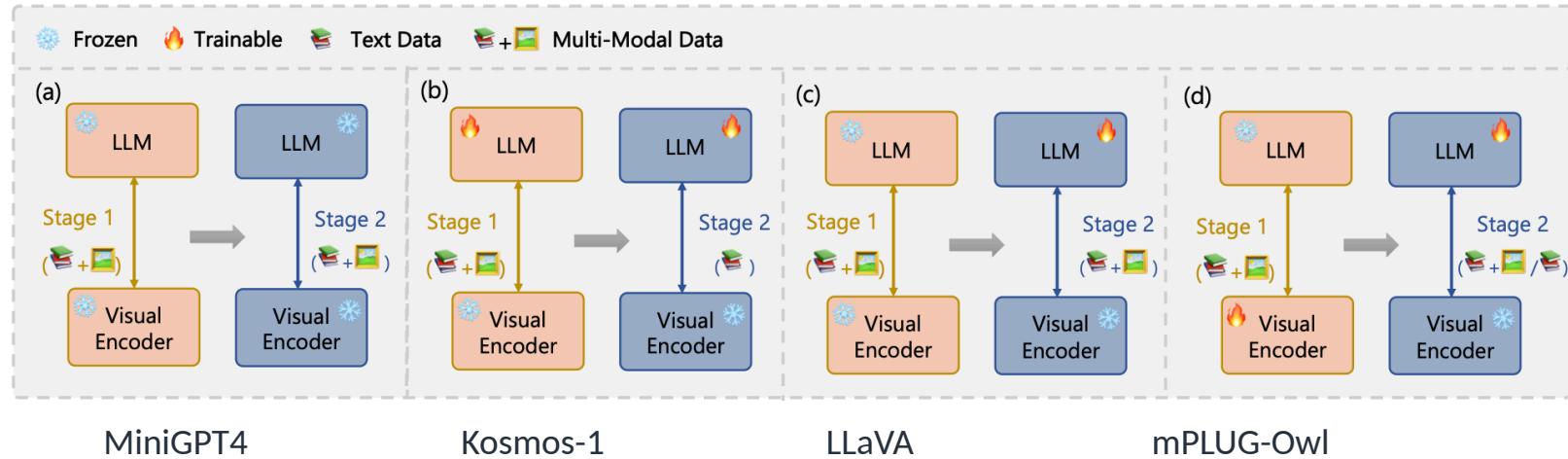
- + Teach models to better understand the instructions from users and fulfill the demanded tasks.



- [1] MMC: Advancing Multimodal Chart Understanding with Large-scale Instruction Tuning. NAACL 2024.  
[2] Visual Instruction Tuning. NeurIPS 2023.

# Training Paradigms

👉 Training paradigms of popular multimodal large language models.



[1] mPLUG-Owl: Language Models with Multimodality. 2023.

[2] Visual Instruction Tuning. NeurIPS 2023.

[3] MINIGPT-4: ENHANCING VISION-LANGUAGE UNDERSTANDING WITH ADVANCED LARGE LANGUAGE MODELS. 2023.

[4] Language Is Not All You Need: Aligning Perception with Language Models. 2023.

1.5

## Another Perspective of Multimodal Instruction Tuning



How can we create such  
multimodal models that follow  
human's intent?

How can we create such  
multimodal models that follow  
human's intent **efficiently**?

How can we create such  
**multimodal** models that follow  
human's intent **efficiently**?

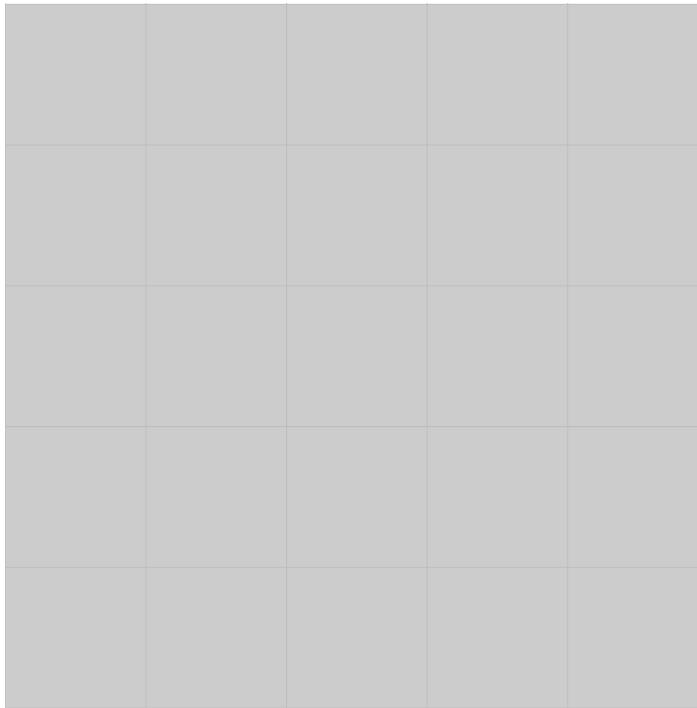
How can we create such  
multimodal models that follow  
human's intent efficiently?

How can we make an instruction-following LLM **multimodal** efficiently?

# LLM “learns” a foreign language efficiently.

- LLaMA is almost trained on English tokens solely.
- LLaMA learns foreign languages with 52K conversations
  - E.g. Chinese, Japanese, etc.
  - ~1 hour training

# Multimodal learning as a translation problem



# Multimodal learning as a translation problem



		llama lava		
llama lava glasses	llama lava glasses	llama lava glasses	Glasses	
	llama lava	llama lava		
	llama lava	llama lava	llama lava	
	llama feet	llama feet		

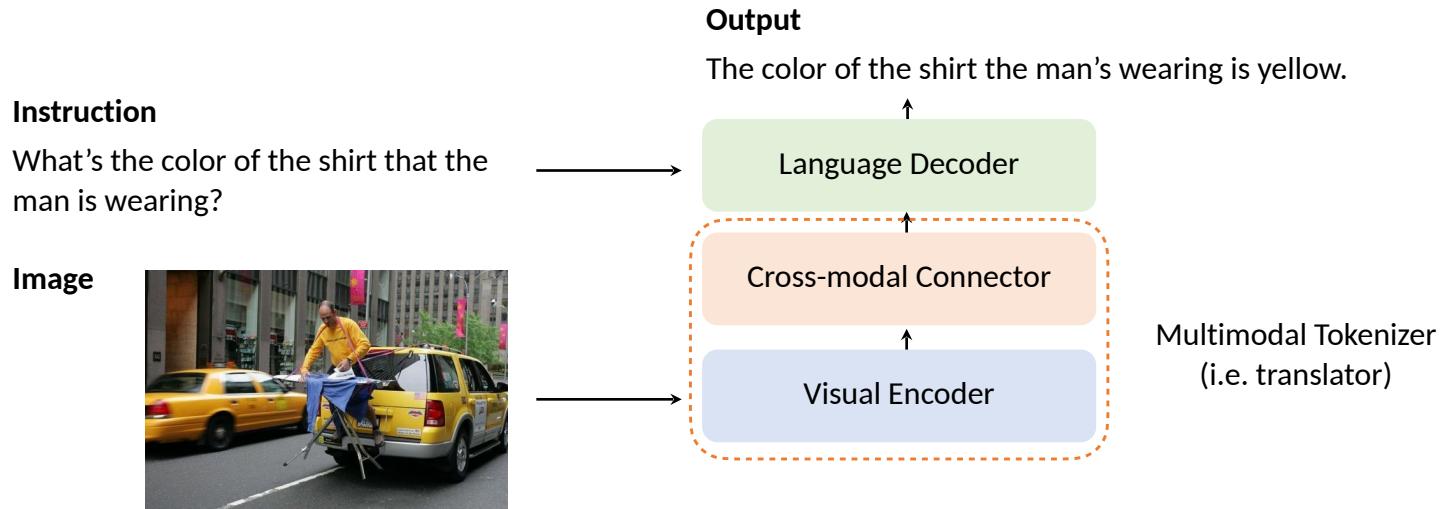
Q: What's in the image?

A: A llama that's made of lava.

Q: What's special of this image?

A: The llama is wearing glasses.

# Multimodal learning as a translation problem



LLM “learns” a **visual** foreign language efficiently.

# Some questions are still hard

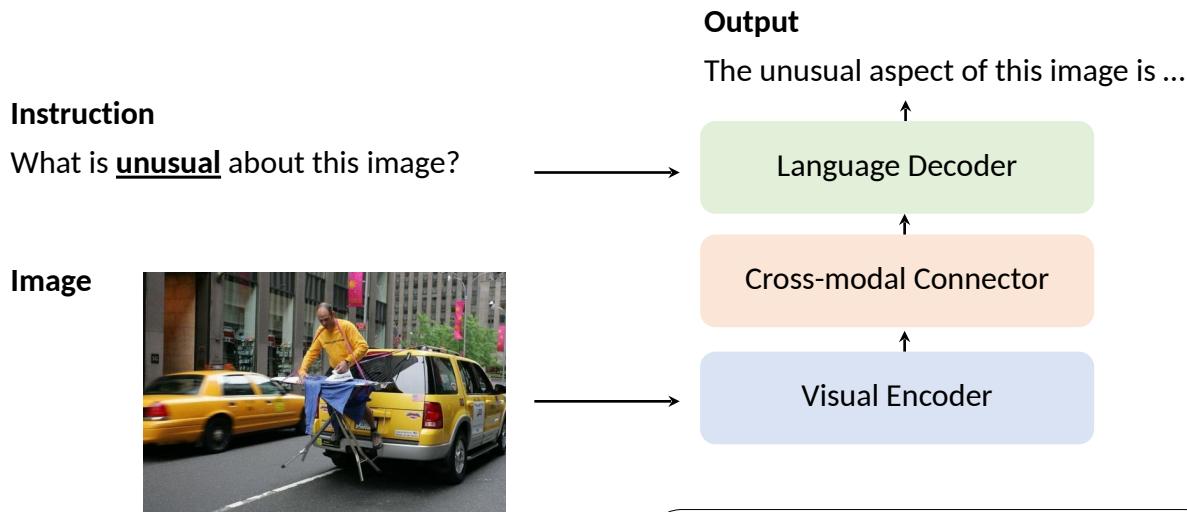


		llama lava		
llama lava glasses	llama lava glasses	Glasses		
	llama lava	llama lava		
	llama lava	llama lava	llama lava	
	llama feet	llama feet		

Q: Is the llama facing left or right?

A: Hmm...

# Still struggles to follow complex visual instructions



**What do we need?**

Tuning the model for following  
multimodal instructions

2

## Multimodal Instruction Tuning Data Generation

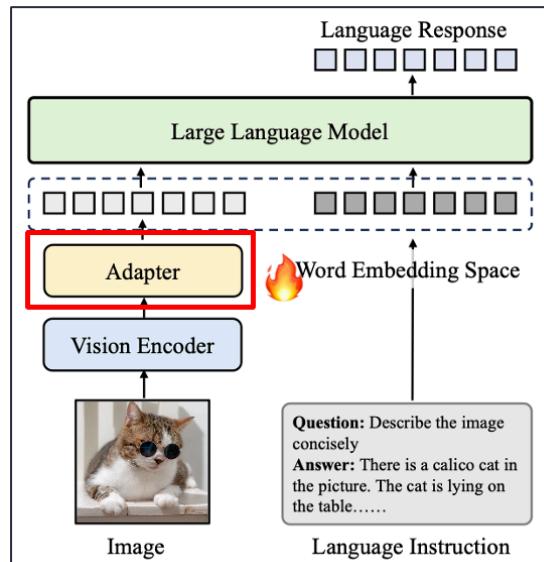


# Pretraining Data



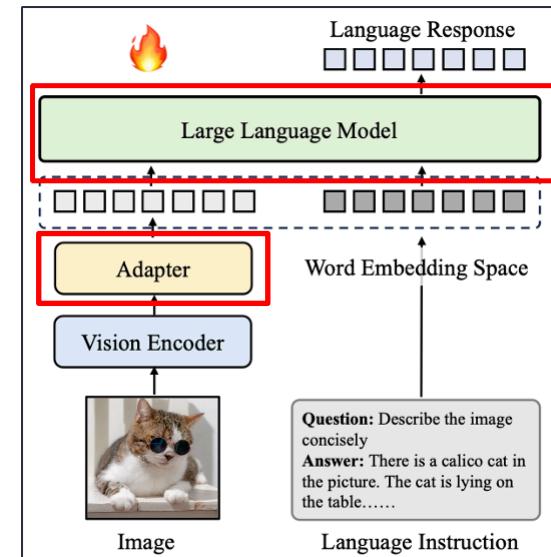
## Stage1: Pretraining Stage

- + Align different modalities, provide world knowledge



## Stage2: Instruction Tuning Stage

- + Teach models to better understand the instructions from users and fulfill the demanded tasks.



[1] MMC: Advancing Multimodal Chart Understanding with Large-scale Instruction Tuning. NAACL 2024.

[2] Visual Instruction Tuning. NeurIPS 2023.

# Pretraining Data (Paired)

## ❖ Coarse-gained Image-text

Data volume is **large**, the captions are **shorts** and **noisy**.

## ❖ Fine-gained Image-Text

High quality, **longer** and **more accurate descriptions**, fine-gained alignment between different modalities.

Dataset	Samples	Taxonomies
CC-3M	3.3M	Coarse-grained Image-Text
CC-12M	12.4M	Coarse-grained Image-Text
LAION-5B	5.9B	Coarse-grained Image-Text
SBU-Captions	1M	Coarse-grained Image-Text
ShareGPT4V-PT	1.2M	Fine-grained Image-Text
LVIS-Instruct4V	111k	Fine-grained Image-Text
<u>ALLaVA</u>	709k	Fine-grained Image-Text
MSR-VTT	200k	Video-Text
<u>WavCaps</u>	24k	Audio-Text
MMC-Instruction	600k	Chart-Text

# ✳️ Pretraining Data

## ❖ ShareGPT4V



**COCO:** Young children standing on a platform waiting for a train to arrive.  
Adults and children watching a train slowly leave.  
A family near a railroad track watching the train pass.  
People waiting on a platform as a train pulls up.  
A train station with a green chain on the tracks and children waiting for it to go by.

**LLaVA:** At a train station, a group of people, including both young children and adults, are standing on a platform waiting for a train to arrive. The train is already present on the tracks, partially visible on the right side of the image. Some of the people watch the train closely, while others seem to be patiently anticipating its departure.

**ShareGPT4V:** The image captures a moment at a train station. A **green** train is on the tracks, moving away from the platform labeled "**Platform 2**". The train's motion is observed by people standing on the platform, their attention drawn to the departing vehicle.

A **red** signal stands on the tracks, its vibrant color contrasting with the green of the train. Signs are prominently displayed around the platform. One warns "**Beware of Trains**", a cautionary reminder of the powerful machines that frequent these tracks. Another sign advises "**Please Use The Footbridge To Cross The Line. If You Require Assistance Please Ask The Station Staff**", guiding passengers to safely navigate the station.

The sky above is a **clear blue**, providing a serene backdrop to the bustling activity of the station. **In the distance, trees can be seen**, adding a touch of nature to this man-made setting. The image is a snapshot of everyday life at a train station, capturing both its routine operations and its inherent charm.

Coarse-gained Image-text

Coarse-gained Image-text

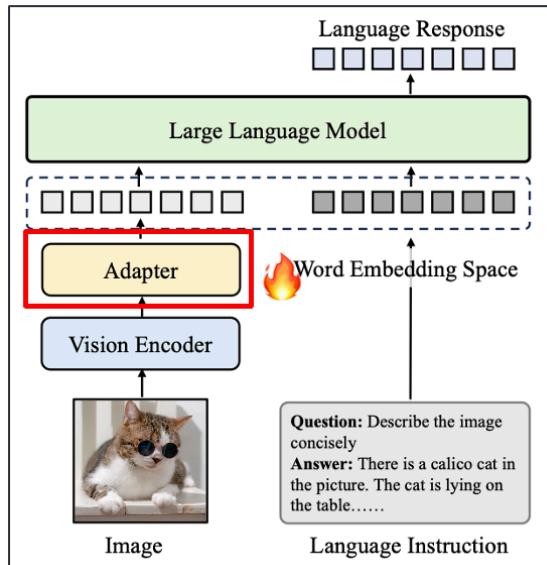
Fine-gained Image-text

# Instruction Data Generation



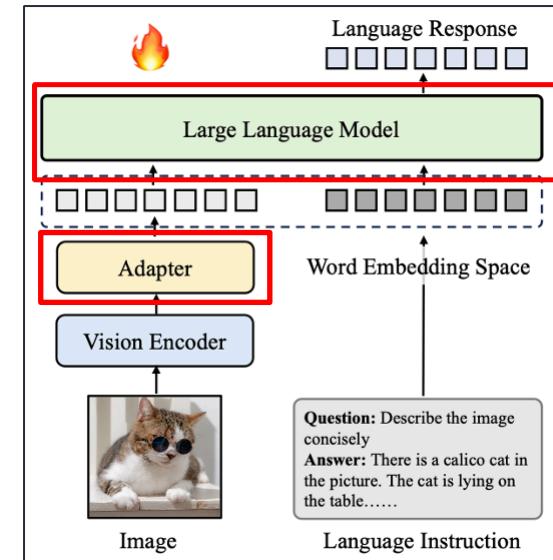
## Stage1: Pretraining Stage

- + Align different modalities, provide world knowledge



## Stage2: Instruction Tuning Stage

- + Teach models to better understand the instructions from users and fulfill the demanded tasks.



[1] MMC: Advancing Multimodal Chart Understanding with Large-scale Instruction Tuning. NAACL 2024.  
[2] Visual Instruction Tuning. NeurIPS 2023.

# Instruction Data Generation

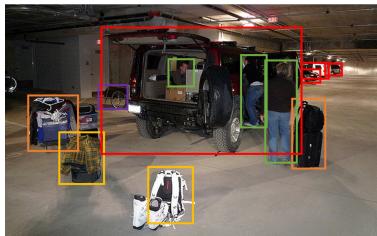
Image



Context (caption)

A group of people standing outside of a black vehicle with various luggage.

Context (bbox)



person: [0.68, 0.24, 0.77, 0.69], person: [0.63, 0.22, 0.68, 0.51],  
person: [0.44, 0.23, 0.48, 0.34], backpack: [0.38, 0.69, 0.48, 0.91],  
....

# Instruction Data Generation

## ❖ Self Instruction

First, Translate images into **dense captions and bounding boxes**. Second, prompt **text-only GPT-4**.

Bounding boxes,  
dense Captions

**Prompt:**

Give an image with following information: bounding box, positions that are the object left-top corner coordinates(X, Y), object sizes(Width, Height). Highly overlapping bounding boxes may refer to the same object.

**bounding box:**

elephant heard on rocks X: 73 Y: 80 Width: 418 Height: 418  
woman wearing long dress X: 176 Y: 298 Width: 35 Height: 83  
group of green chairs X: 153 Y: 326 Width: 95 Height: 126  
an orange bucket on the ground X: 91 Y: 341 Width: 38 Height: 36  
a group of white umbrellas X: 99 Y: 82 Width: 112 Height: 28  
a man in an orange shirt X: 204 Y: 265 Width: 31 Height: 47  
a woman wearing a yellow dress X: 169 Y: 298 Width: 47 Height: 76  
...



Task Descriptions



**Task:** image captioning, Image Sentiment Analysis, Image Quality Assessment, Object Interaction Analysis, Object Attribute Detection, Multi-choice VQA ...

Generation  
Requirement



Come up with 20 diverse instructions for all the tasks above with different language styles and accurate answers. The instructions should contain interrogative sentence and declarative sentences. The answers should be less than 30 words. Each task should have less than 3 instructions.

Output from GPT4

**GPT4 OUTPUT Example:****Instruction:**

Craft a brief narrative about the baby elephant and adult elephant.

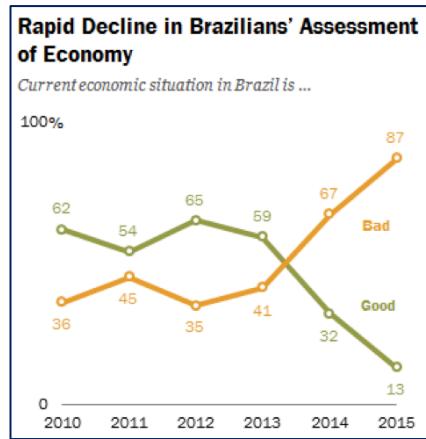
**Answer:**

A baby elephant is depicted behind an adult elephant, possibly seeking protection.

# Instruction Data Generation

## ❖ Existing Data

The answers of existing VQA and caption datasets are usually **concise**, directly using these datasets for instruction tuning **may limit the output length of MLLMs.**



## Question:

Which year has the most divergent opinions about Brazil's economy?

## Answer:

2015

[1] ChartQA: A Benchmark for Question Answering about Charts with Visual and Logical Reasoning. ACL 2022 Findings.

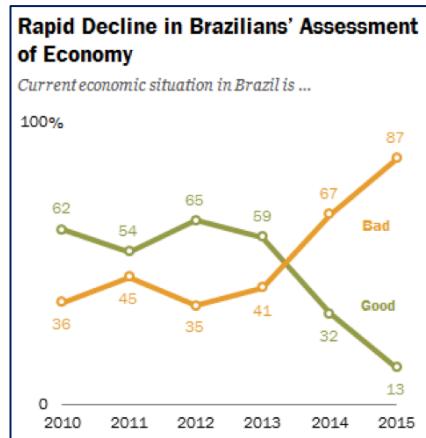
# Instruction Data Generation

## ❖ Existing Data

The answers of existing VQA and caption datasets are usually **concise**, directly using these datasets for instruction tuning **may limit the output length of MLLMs**.

## ❖ Data Adaptation

Declares **short and brief** for short-answer data in the instruction.



## Question:

Which year has the most divergent opinions about Brazil's economy?  
**A short answer to the question is:**

## Answer:

2015

[1] ChartQA: A Benchmark for Question Answering about Charts with Visual and Logical Reasoning. ACL 2022 Findings.

# Instruction Data Generation



User

Can you tell me what I can cook with these?



With the variety of food items stored in the refrigerator, you can prepare several meals. For example, you can create a fruit salad using the strawberries, blueberries, and carrots. Additionally, ...

before



**Directly training with VQA-v2 data (short answer) with our conversation data. The model refuses to provide natural answers.**

# Instruction Data Generation

## Visual input example, Different Format Prompts:



Normal prompt	What is the color of the shirt that the man is wearing?	→ Yellow
Response	The man is wearing a yellow shirt.	
Ambiguous prompt	Q: What is the color of the shirt that the man is wearing? A:	
Response	The man is wearing a yellow shirt.	→ Yellow

# Instruction Data Generation

## Visual input example, Different Format Prompts:



Normal prompt      What is the color of the shirt that the man is wearing?

Response            The man is wearing a yellow shirt.

Ambiguous prompt    Q: What is the color of the shirt that the man is wearing? A:

Response            The man is wearing a yellow shirt.

Formatting prompt    What is the color of the shirt that the man is wearing? **Answer the question using a single word or phrase.**

Response            Yellow.



# Existing Instruction Tuning Dataset

Dataset	Size	Modalities	Constructions
LLaVA-Instruct-158k	158k	Image, Text	ChatGPT-generated
LRV-Instruction	400k	Image, Text	GPT4-generated
MMC-Instruction	600k	Chart, Text	GPT4-generated/adapted
Clotho-Detail	3.9k	Text, Audio	GPT4-generated
MACAW-LLM	119k	Image, Video, Text	GPT-3.5-turbo-generated
MIMIC-IT	2.8M	Image, Video, Text	ChatGPT-generated
StableLLaVA	126k	Image, Text	StableDiffusion & ChatGPT-generated
LAMM	196k	Image, PointCloud, Text	GPT4-generated
VIGC-LLaVA	1.8M	Image, Text	Model-generated
X-LLM	10k	Image, Video, Text	ChatGPT-generated

# Summary

- How we teach multimodal models:



Pretraining:

A dictionary to teach LLM to understand (vocabularies from) a new modality



Instruction tuning (short answer VQA):

Small puzzles to effectively/efficiently injects new domain knowledge



Instruction tuning (natural conversation VQA):

Real-world applications to practice the skills

