

Samsung Innovation Campus

Chapter 9. Deep Learning Module

Multimodal Large Language Models (MLLMs)

Large Language Models (LLMs)

What is a LLM?

A category of **foundation** models trained on extremely vast datasets in order to make them capable of understanding and generating natural language content.

**LLMs can generate human-like responses
based on context**

Question-Answering



Translation

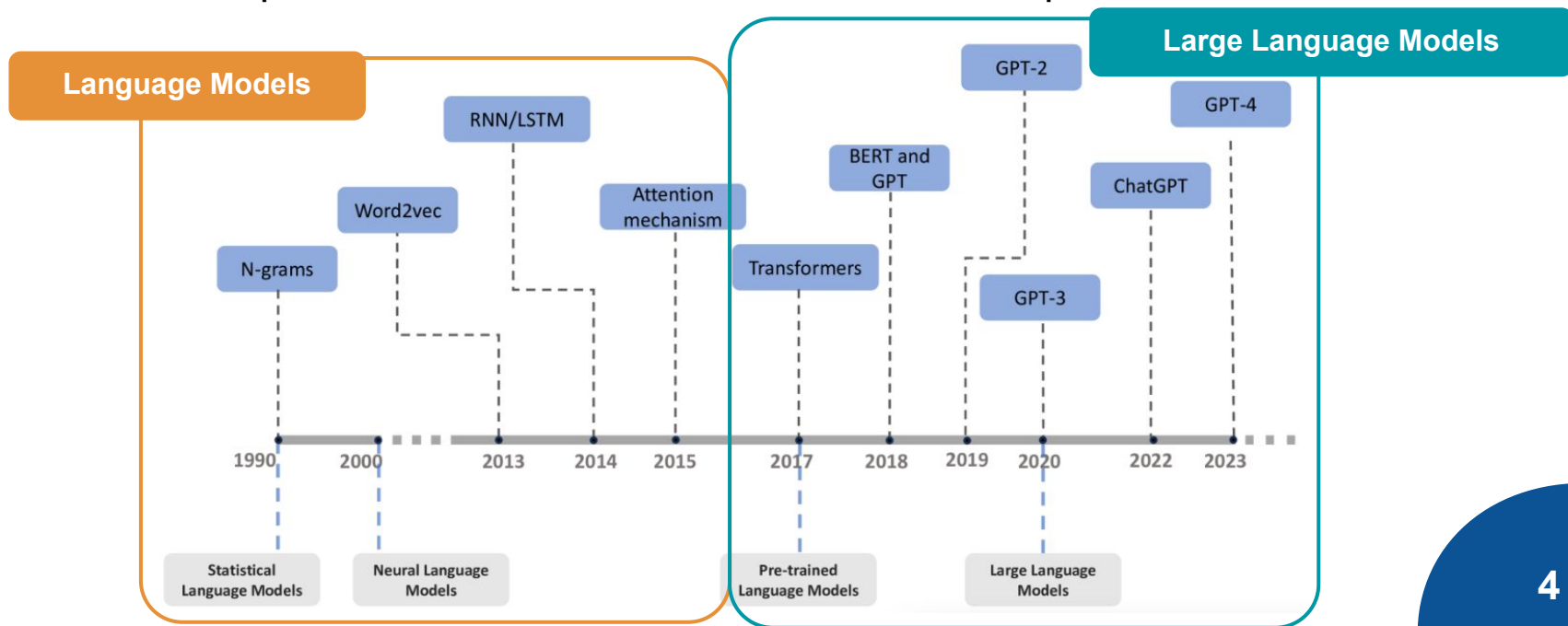


Text Summarization



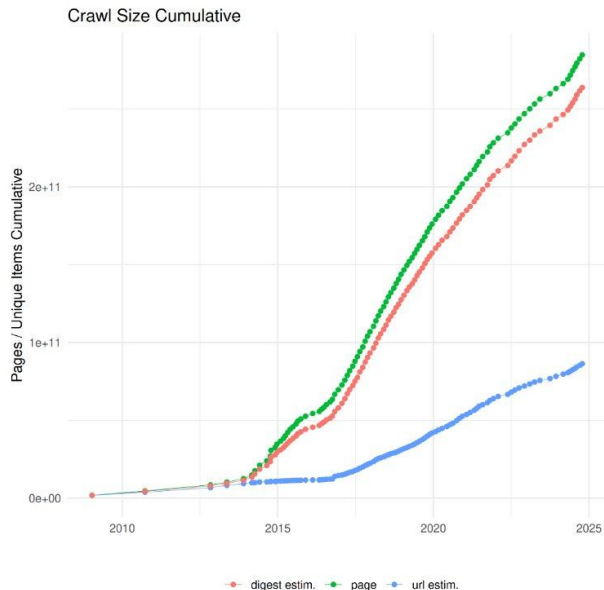
Language Modeling: The Concept

Definition: A probabilistic approach that involves predicting the next word in a sentence or sequence of words based on the context and previous words.



What made these models Large Language Models?

More Data!



Computer Power



Requires massive GPUs/TPUs and distributed computing

More Parameters



From millions (BERT) to trillions (GPT-4) of parameters

Architecture



Transformers & Attention Mechanisms

What makes these models **Large Language Models**?

We are witnessing an **exponential growth** in model size!

More parameters

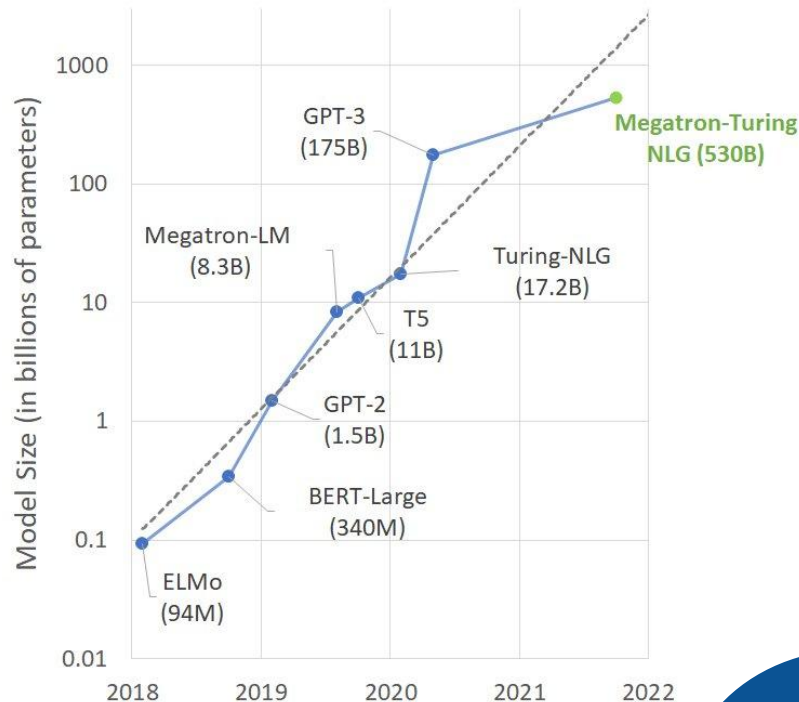


Fluency, reasoning, and generalization



Computational cost

**Beyond Text: The next frontier is
Multimodal LLMs**



The Rise of Multimodal LLMs

MLLMs are models that process and integrate multiple types of **data modalities**.

Text

Images

Audio

Sensory Data



MLLMs: Why should we care?

These models enable “more natural” interactions and allow for advanced problem-solving capabilities that combine **different types of information!**

Document Analysis

Extracting both textual and visual information from documents (e.g., CV analysis)

Healthcare

Combining medical imaging with patient records to improve diagnostics

Autonomous Systems

Assists in navigation by integrating visual, auditory and textual cues (e.g., autonomous driving systems)

Content Creation & Digital Art

Generating or editing images based on textual inputs

The Architecture of MLLMs: Components

1. Modality Encoder



2. Modality Integration

Adapters/Connectors, Integration with a LLM

3. Decoder

Generates the final output. Often a pre-trained LLM!



The Architecture of MLLMs: Modality Encoders

Text Encoder

Converts textual input to dense vector representations

Examples:

- GPT
- LLaMA
- PaLM



MLLMs are often built on top of a **pre-trained LLM**: the text encoder is the one already present in the LLM

Vision Encoder

Converts images into feature representations compatible with text

Examples:

- ViT
- Swin Transformer
- CLIP's vision encoder

The Architecture of MLLMs: Modality Encoders

Audio Encoder

Converts raw audio into text embeddings or direct speech representations.

Examples:

- Whisper
- Wav2Vec
- Spectrogram Transformer

Video Encoder

Captures both **spatial** and **temporal** information

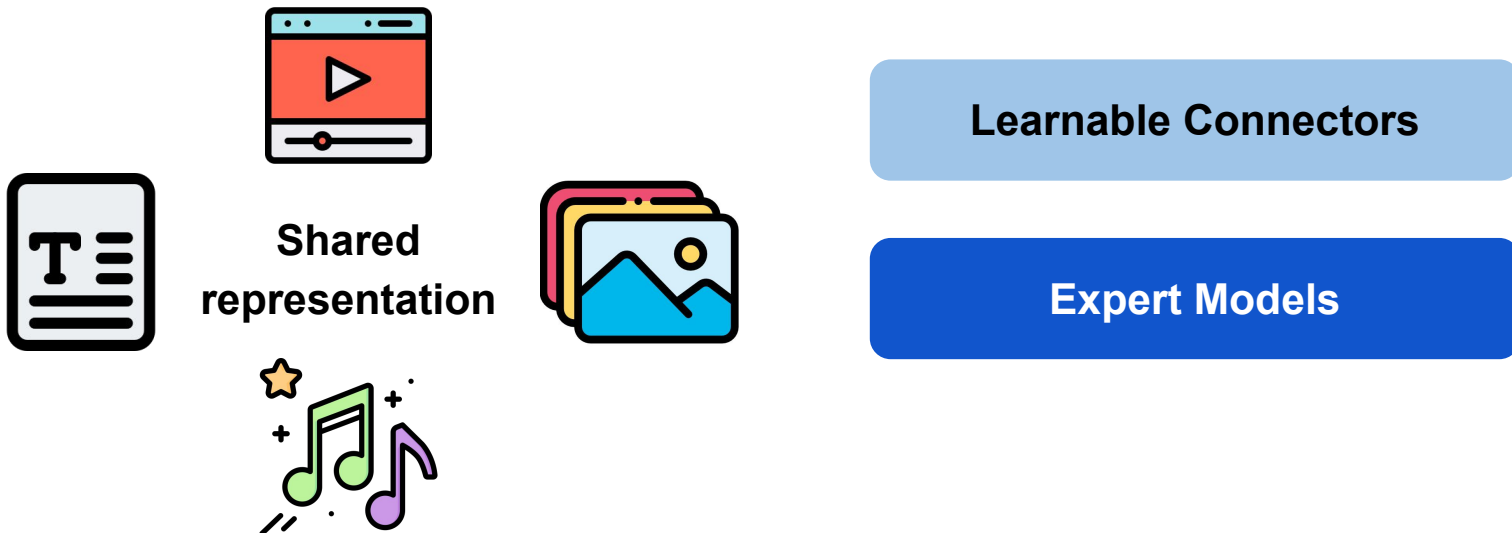
Examples:

- TimeSformer
- VideoPrism
- VideoMAE

The Architecture of MLLMs: Bridging the Modality Gap

How can we integrate these modalities with a **pre-trained LLM**?

LLMs only process text so we need to find ways to connect them to all other modalities - **We need to bridge the modality gap!**



Bridging the Modality Gap: Learnable Connectors

Goal: Adapt **non-text** modalities by projecting information into a space the LLM can understand

Based on **how** multimodal information is **fused**, connectors can be implemented at:

Token-Level

Encoder outputs are transformed into tokens and **concatenated** with text tokens before being sent into LLMs

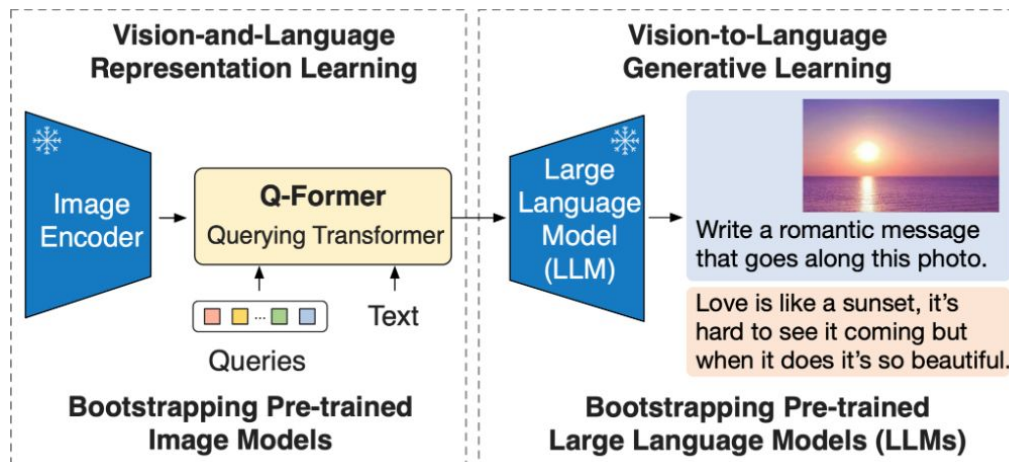
Feature-Level

Inserts **extra modules** that enable deep interaction between modalities

Learnable Connectors: Token-Level

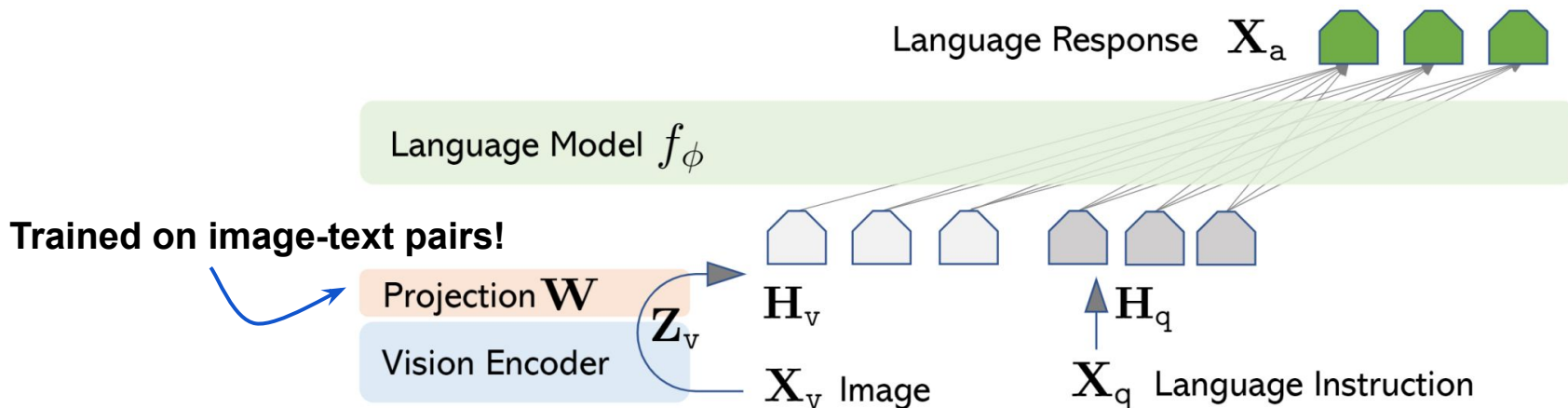
Q-Former: Contains a set of **learnable query embeddings** that attend to the images features through cross-attention

- Each query learns to extract specific types of visual information
- The processed queries become a **smaller**, more focused set of visual tokens



Learnable Connectors: Token-Level

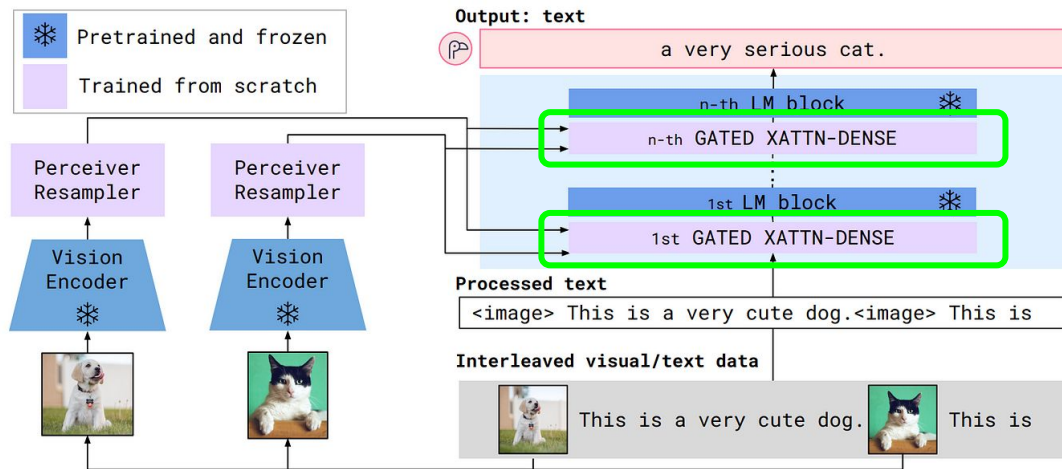
MLP Adapters: Uses a MLP module to **project** the visual features into the same embedding space as text.



$$H_v = W \cdot Z_v + b$$

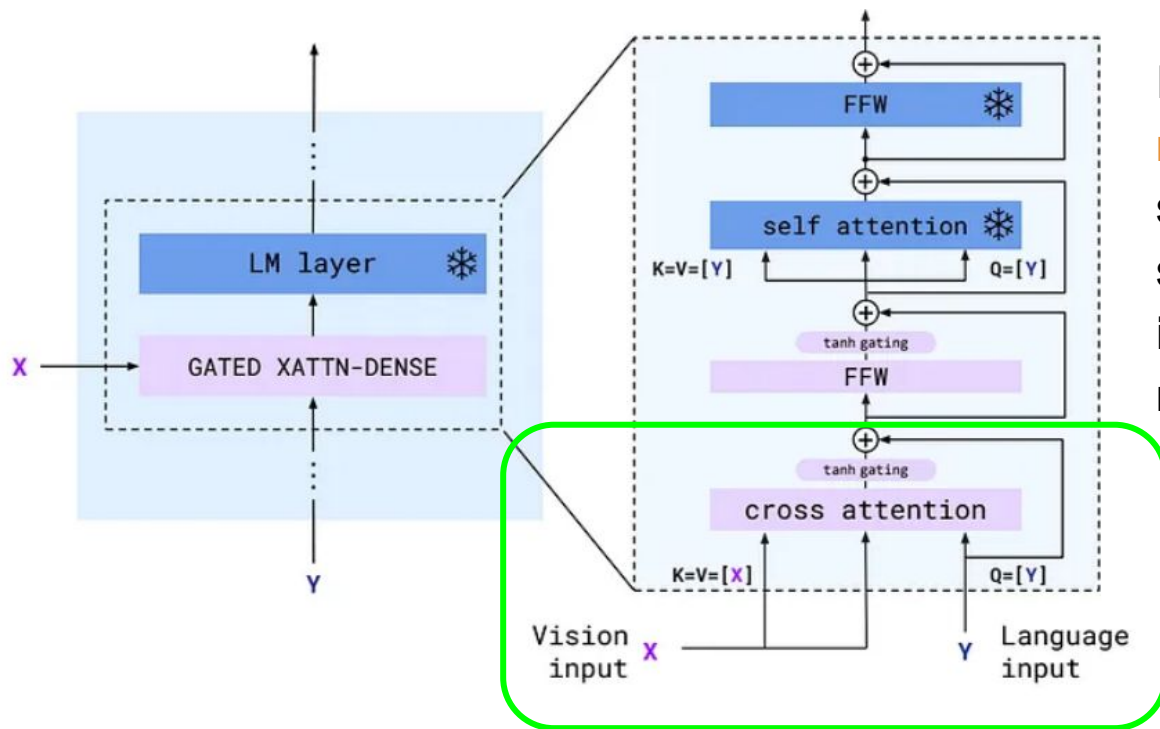
Learnable Connectors: Feature-Level

Cross-Attention: Enables deep interaction between modalities by inserting **extra layers** between the frozen LLM and the vision inputs.



Instead of **adapting** the vision/audio features to fit the LLM, cross-attention layers allow the LLM to process them as **contextual information**

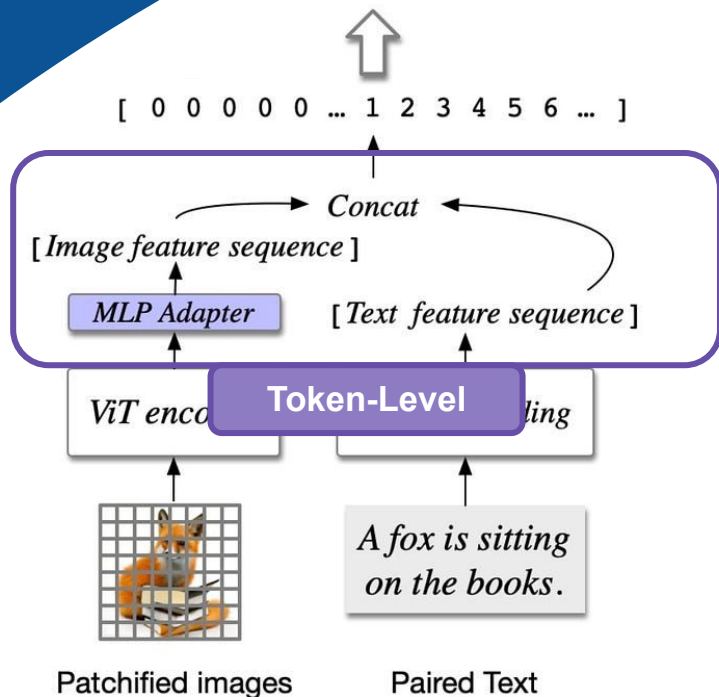
Learnable Connectors: Feature-Level



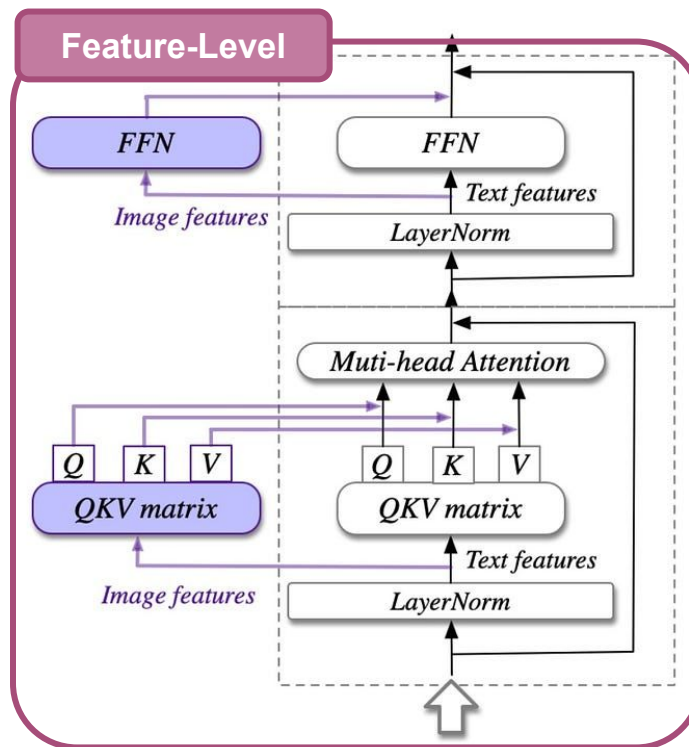
It leverages a **gated mechanism**: it allows to selectively control how much should the visual content **influence** the text representation

Learnable Connectors: Feature-Level

Visual Expert Module: Trainable visual processing unit directly inserted inside the transformer blocks of the LLM. Allows the model to process the **multimodal context** across all transformer layers.



(a) The input of visual language model



(b) The visual expert built on the language model

Image features are processed through a **separate set** of QKV matrices, specifically dedicated to visual tokens

Figure 3: The architecture of CogVLM. (a) The illustration about the input, where an image is processed by a pretrained ViT and mapped into the same space as the text features. (b) The Transformer block in the language model. The image features have a different QKV matrix and FFN. Only the purple parts are trainable.

Bridging the Modality Gap: Expert Modules

Goal: Convert multimodal inputs to language **without the need for training**

So **expert modules** are pre-trained, task-specific models that will process a specific modality to convert it into a textual representation before passing it to the LLM

Works well for applications like **video-to-text** or **speech-to-text**

Information Loss

Text cannot fully represent spatial or temporal relationships

Expert Modules

The VideoChat architecture attempts to bypass the information loss limitation of expert modules by also including video embeddings as input in order to improve **spatial-temporal reasoning**

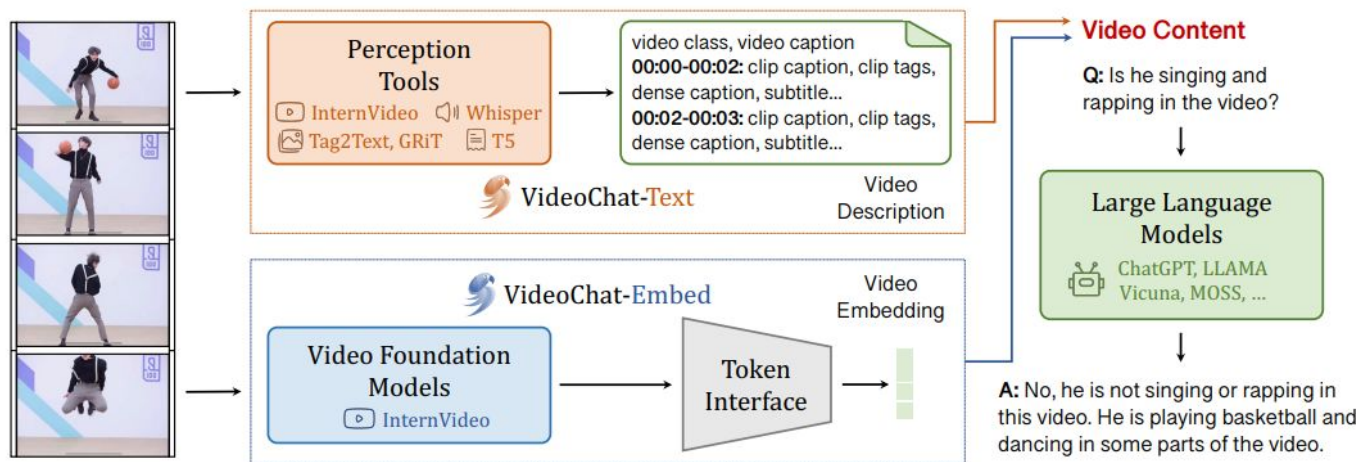


Figure 1: **Framework.** **VideoChat-Text** textualizes videos in stream. **VideoChat-Embed** encodes videos as embeddings. Both video content can be input in LLMs for multimodal understanding.

The Architecture of MLLMs: Pre-trained LLM

Model	Release date	Pre-train data scale	Parameter size (B)	Language support	Architecture
Flan-T5-XL/XXL [44]	Oct. 2022	–	3/11	En, Fr, De	Encoder decoder
LLaMA [45]	Feb. 2023	1.4T tokens	7/13/33/65	En	Causal decoder
Vicuna [46]	March 2023	1.4T tokens	7/13/33	En	Causal decoder
LLaMA-2 [47]	July 2023	2T tokens	7/13/70	En	Causal decoder
Qwen [48]	Sept. 2023	3T tokens	1.8/7/14/72	En, Zh	Causal decoder
LLaMA-3 [49]	April 2024	15T tokens	8/70/405	En, Fr, De, etc.	Causal decoder

Scaling up in **parameters** usually leads to better performance

Autoregressive generation

MLLMs: Training Strategy & Data

A Multimodal Large Language Model undergoes **three stages** of training, with each phase requiring different types of data and fulfilling different objectives.

1

Pre-training

Aims to align different modalities and learn multimodal world knowledge

Data: Large-scale dataset of image-text pairs

2

Instruction Tuning

Aims to teach models to better understand the instructions from users and fulfill the demanded tasks.

Integration of safety

Data: Task-specific datasets

3

Alignment Tuning

Aims to align the model with human preferences through techniques like RLHF and DPO

Data: Feedback for model responses

MLLMs: Evaluation Methods

After completing training, we need to ensure the model's real-world applicability across multiple tasks.

Evaluation Metrics

- Text Generation
- Vision-Language Understanding
- Audio Understanding
- Multimodal Coherence

Benchmark Datasets

- Text & Vision Tasks
- Video & Multimodal Tasks
- Audio & Speech

MLLMs: Evaluation Methods

Another thing to consider while evaluating MLLMs is how we are going to evaluate the model in **general tasks** and **specific tasks**

General Tasks

**Multimodal Recognition,
Perception and Reasoning**

Trustworthiness:

Hallucinations, Bias, Safety,
Ethics

Specific Tasks

Socioeconomic: Cultural Analysis

Natural Science & Engineering:
Mathematics, Biology, Code

Medical Tasks

TABLE 1: Summary of the general evaluation tasks.

Tasks	Task Description	Related Benchmarks
Multi-modal Recognition		
Concept recognition	Recognizing visual concepts, e.g., objects, instances and scenes.	MMBench [21], MM-Vet [22], Seed-Bench [1], MME [23], MMStar [24], LLaVA-Bench [25], Open-VQA [34], MDVP-Bench [27], P4GB [28], EQBEN [29], MUIRBENCH [30], TouchStone [31], mPlug-Owl [32], MMU [33], LogicVista [34], CODIS [35]
Attribute recognition	Recognizing visual subject's attributes e.g., style, quality, mood, quantity, material, and human's profession.	MMBench [21], MM-Vet [22], Seed-Bench [1], V'Bench [19], MMVP [17], CV-Bench [36], Visual CoT [39], EQBEN [29], SPEC [40], VL-Checklist [41], ARO [42], MUIRBENCH [30], COMPBENCH [43], MME [23], Open-VQA [34], TouchStone [31], Imagic-AVE [44]

Trustworthiness

Robustness	The capability of MLLMs to maintain performance under various conditions, including adversarial inputs or noisy environments.	CHEF [87], MAD-Bench [88], MMR [89], MM-SpuBench [90], BenchLMM [91], Multi-Trust [92]
Hallucination	The tendency of MLLMs to generate information that is incorrect, irrelevant, or fabricated.	POPE [93], UNIHd [94], VideoHalluciner [95], CAP2QA [96], CHEF [87], GAVIE [97], HaELM [98], M-HalDetect [99], Bingo [100], Hallusion-Bench [101], AMBER [102], MM-SAP [103], VHTest [104], CorrelationQA [105], Multi-Trust [92]
Ethic	The adherence of MLLMs to ethical guidelines, ensuring outputs align with moral and societal values.	
Bias	The presence and extent of unfair biases in the MLLM's predictions, which could lead to discrimination or skewed results.	Multi-Trust [92], RTVLM [106]
Safety	The potential risks posed by the MLLM, such as generating harmful content, promoting dangerous behavior, or being misused.	MM-SafetyBench [107], MMUBench [108], Jailbreakv-28k [109], Shield [110], RTVLM [106], Multi-Trust [92],

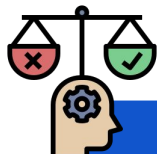
Ethic	The adherence of MLLMs to ethical guidelines, ensuring outputs align with moral and societal values.	CorrelationQA [105], Multi-Trust [92]
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Trustworthiness: Hallucinations, Bias & Safety



Hallucinations

Generating false or misleading information



Bias

Reinforcing stereotypes and/or having skewed representation of cultures/demographics



Safety

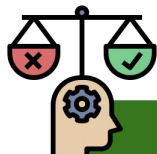
Generating harmful/unethical content, exposing private data, vulnerability to adversarial attacks

Trustworthiness: Hallucinations, Bias & Safety



Hallucinations

Confidence scoring and fact-checking with retrieval based methods



Bias

Diverse and balanced training data and implementation of bias-sensitive loss functions



Safety

Adversarial training and implementation of NSFW filters

Tasks	Tasks Description	Related Benchmarks
Socioeconomic		
Cultural Analysis	The capability of MLLMs in understanding cultural norms, expressions, and practices across different societies.	CVQA [111]
Societal Analysis	The capability of MLLMs to comprehend and analyze societal issues, trends, and dynamics	VizWiz [112], MM-Soc [113], TransportationGames [114]

Other Applications

3D Point Cloud	Interpret and process 3D spatial data for applications like robotics or autonomous driving.	ScanQA [141], LAMM [142], M3DBench [143], SpatialRGPT [62]
Video	The MLLMs' ability to understand, summarize, and reason about video content.	VideoHalluc [95], MMBench-Video [144], SOK-Bench [145], MVBench [146]
Remote Sensing	Process and analyze satellite or aerial images for environmental monitoring, agriculture, and more.	HighDAN [147], RSGPT [148], MDAS [149]
Audio	The ability of MLLMs in understanding audio, like speech recognition, audio event detection, and sound classification.	AIRBench [150], Dynamic-superb [151], MuChoMusic [152]

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Category	Benchmark	Llama 3 8B	Gemma 2 9B	Mistral 7B	Llama 3 70B	Mixtral 8x22B	GPT 3.5 Turbo	Llama 3 405B	Nemotron 4 340B	GPT-4 (0125)	GPT-4o	Claude 3.5 Sonnet
General	MMLU (5-shot)	69.4	72.3	61.1	83.6	76.9	70.7	87.3	82.6	85.1	89.1	89.9
	MMLU (0-shot, CoT)	73.0	72.3 [△]	60.5	86.0	79.9	69.8	88.6	78.7 [◇]	85.4	88.7	88.3
	MMLU-Pro (5-shot, CoT)	48.3	–	36.9	66.4	56.3	49.2	73.3	62.7	64.8	74.0	77.0
	IFEval	80.4	73.6	57.6	87.5	72.7	69.9	88.6	85.1	84.3	85.6	88.0
Code	HumanEval (0-shot)	72.6	54.3	40.2	80.5	75.6	68.0	89.0	73.2	86.6	90.2	92.0
	MBPP EvalPlus (0-shot)	72.8	71.7	49.5	86.0	78.6	82.0	88.6	72.8	83.6	87.8	90.5
Math	GSM8K (8-shot, CoT)	84.5	76.7	53.2	95.1	88.2	81.6	96.8	92.3 [◇]	94.2	96.1	96.4 [◇]
	MATH (0-shot, CoT)	51.9	44.3	13.0	68.0	54.1	43.1	73.8	41.1	64.5	76.6	71.1
Reasoning	ARC Challenge (0-shot)	83.4	87.6	74.2	94.8	88.7	83.7	96.9	94.6	96.4	96.7	96.7
	GPQA (0-shot, CoT)	32.8	–	28.8	46.7	33.3	30.8	51.1	–	41.4	53.6	59.4
Tool use	BFCL	76.1	–	60.4	84.8	–	85.9	88.5	86.5	88.3	80.5	90.2
	Nexus	38.5	30.0	24.7	56.7	48.5	37.2	58.7	–	50.3	56.1	45.7
Long context	ZeroSCROLLS/QuALITY	81.0	–	–	90.5	–	–	95.2	–	95.2	90.5	90.5
	InfiniteBench/En.MC	65.1	–	–	78.2	–	–	83.4	–	72.1	82.5	–
	NIH/Multi-needle	98.8	–	–	97.5	–	–	98.1	–	100.0	100.0	90.8
Multilingual	MGSM (0-shot, CoT)	68.9	53.2	29.9	86.9	71.1	51.4	91.6	–	85.9	90.5	91.6

Table 2 Performance of finetuned Llama 3 models on key benchmark evaluations.

Exam	Llama 3 8B	Llama 3 70B	Llama 3 405B	GPT-3.5 Turbo	Nemotron 4 340B	GPT-4o	Claude 3.5 Sonnet
LSAT	53.9 \pm 4.9	74.2 \pm 4.3	81.1 \pm3.8	54.3 \pm 4.9	73.7 \pm 4.3	77.4 \pm 4.1	80.0 \pm 3.9
SAT Reading	57.4 \pm 4.2	71.4 \pm 3.9	74.8 \pm 3.7	61.3 \pm 4.2	—	82.1 \pm 3.3	85.1 \pm3.1
SAT Math	73.3 \pm 4.6	91.9 \pm 2.8	94.9 \pm 2.3	77.3 \pm 4.4	—	95.5 \pm 2.2	95.8 \pm2.1
GMAT Quant.	56.0 \pm 19.5	84.0 \pm 14.4	96.0 \pm7.7	36.0 \pm 18.8	76.0 \pm 16.7	92.0 \pm 10.6	92.0 \pm 10.6
GMAT Verbal	65.7 \pm 11.4	85.1 \pm 8.5	86.6 \pm 8.2	65.7 \pm 11.4	91.0 \pm 6.8	95.5 \pm5.0	92.5 \pm 6.3
GRE Physics	48.0 \pm 11.3	74.7 \pm 9.8	80.0 \pm 9.1	50.7 \pm 11.3	—	89.3 \pm 7.0	90.7 \pm6.6
AP Art History	75.6 \pm 12.6	84.4 \pm 10.6	86.7 \pm9.9	68.9 \pm 13.5	71.1 \pm 13.2	80.0 \pm 11.7	77.8 \pm 12.1
AP Biology	91.7 \pm 11.1	100.0 \pm0.0	100.0 \pm0.0	91.7 \pm 11.1	95.8 \pm 8.0	100.0 \pm0.0	100.0 \pm0.0
AP Calculus	57.1 \pm 16.4	54.3 \pm 16.5	88.6 \pm 10.5	62.9 \pm 16.0	68.6 \pm 15.4	91.4 \pm9.3	88.6 \pm 10.5
AP Chemistry	59.4 \pm 17.0	96.9 \pm6.0	90.6 \pm 10.1	62.5 \pm 16.8	68.8 \pm 16.1	93.8 \pm 8.4	96.9 \pm6.0
AP English Lang.	69.8 \pm 12.4	90.6 \pm 7.9	94.3 \pm 6.2	77.4 \pm 11.3	88.7 \pm 8.5	98.1 \pm3.7	90.6 \pm 7.9
AP English Lit.	59.3 \pm 13.1	79.6 \pm 10.7	83.3 \pm 9.9	53.7 \pm 13.3	88.9 \pm8.4	88.9 \pm8.4	85.2 \pm 9.5
AP Env. Sci.	73.9 \pm 12.7	89.1 \pm 9.0	93.5 \pm7.1	73.9 \pm 12.7	73.9 \pm 12.7	89.1 \pm 9.0	84.8 \pm 10.4
AP Macro Eco.	72.4 \pm 11.5	98.3 \pm3.3	98.3 \pm3.3	67.2 \pm 12.1	91.4 \pm 7.2	96.5 \pm 4.7	94.8 \pm 5.7
AP Micro Eco.	70.8 \pm 12.9	91.7 \pm 7.8	93.8 \pm 6.8	64.6 \pm 13.5	89.6 \pm 8.6	97.9 \pm4.0	97.9 \pm4.0
AP Physics	57.1 \pm 25.9	78.6 \pm 21.5	92.9 \pm13.5	35.7 \pm 25.1	71.4 \pm 23.7	71.4 \pm 23.7	78.6 \pm 21.5
AP Psychology	94.8 \pm 4.4	100.0 \pm0.0	100.0 \pm0.0	94.8 \pm 4.4	100.0 \pm0.0	100.0 \pm0.0	100.0 \pm0.0
AP Statistics	66.7 \pm 17.8	59.3 \pm 18.5	85.2 \pm 13.4	48.1 \pm 18.8	77.8 \pm 15.7	92.6 \pm 9.9	96.3 \pm7.1
AP US Gov.	90.2 \pm 9.1	97.6 \pm 4.7	97.6 \pm 4.7	78.0 \pm 12.7	78.0 \pm 12.7	100.0 \pm0.0	100.0 \pm0.0
AP US History	78.0 \pm 12.7	97.6 \pm4.7	97.6 \pm4.7	85.4 \pm 10.8	70.7 \pm 13.9	95.1 \pm 6.6	95.1 \pm 6.6
AP World History	94.1 \pm 7.9	100.0 \pm0.0	100.0 \pm0.0	88.2 \pm 10.8	85.3 \pm 11.9	100.0 \pm0.0	97.1 \pm 5.7
AP Average	74.1 \pm 3.4	87.9 \pm 2.5	93.5 \pm1.9	70.2 \pm 3.5	81.3 \pm 3.0	93.0 \pm 2.0	92.2 \pm 2.1
GRE Quant.	152.0	158.0	162.0	155.0	161.0	166.0	164.0
GRE Verbal	149.0	166.0	166.0	154.0	162.0	167.0	167.0

Table 17 Performance of Llama 3 models and GPT-4o on a variety of proficiency exams including LSAT, SAT, GMAT, and AP, and GRE tests. For GRE exams, we report normalized score; for all others, we report accuracy. For the bottom two rows corresponding to GRE Quant. and GRE Verbal, we report the scaled scores out of 170.

MLLMs: Evaluation Metrics

There are three main approaches to evaluation “metrics”:

1

Metric-based evaluation

$X+Y=Z$

Automated metrics measure performance based on benchmarks

2

Human-based evaluation



Experts or crowd workers assess model responses

3

GPT4-based evaluation



Large models assess other models

MLLMs: Evaluation Metrics

Metric-based evaluation uses numerical, objective metrics for comparison.

Works well for classification, translation, and retrieval tasks

These include the **classification “classics”**: Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1-Score...

Machine Translation, Text Summarization, and Image Captioning

Bilingual Evaluation Understudy

$$\text{BLEU} = BP \cdot \exp \left(\sum_{n=1}^N w_n \log p_n \right)$$

MLLMs: Evaluation Metrics

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These include the **classification “classics”**: Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1-Score...

Machine Translation, Text Summarization, and Image Captioning

**Consensus-based Image
Description Evaluation**

$$\text{CIDEr} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m w_i \cdot \log \left(\frac{\text{count}(i)}{\text{frequency}(i)} \right)$$

MLLMs: Evaluation Metrics

Metric-based evaluation uses numerical, objective metrics for comparison.

Works well for classification, translation, and retrieval tasks

These include the **classification “classics”**: Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1-Score...

Machine Translation, Text Summarization, and Image Captioning

$$P(\text{Entailment}) + \dots$$

$$\text{SPICE} = \frac{|G_{\text{hyp}} \cap G_{\text{ref}}|}{|G_{\text{ref}}|}$$

$$F_{\text{mean}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N w_i \left(\frac{e^{S_E}}{e^{S_E} + e^{S_C} + e^{S_N}} + \frac{e^{S_N}}{e^{S_E} + e^{S_C} + e^{S_N}} \right)$$



MLLMs: Evaluation Metrics

Human-based evaluation is used to assess models through direct human judgment.

It helps evaluate aspects that automated scores miss!

Likert Scale: Evaluating some model characteristic from 1 to 5

A/B Testing: Comparing two versions of the model

Expert Review: The model is evaluated by domain experts

Very Time Consuming!

Very Expensive!

Potential biased evaluation



MLLMs: Evaluation Metrics

GPT-based evaluation is based on using large models (like GPT-4) to assess the quality of model outputs

Good alternative for automated assessment that is consistent across a variety of tasks. It is also reference-free!

Cost-effective!

Cannot fully replace human evaluation

Quick feedback

May inherent model biases

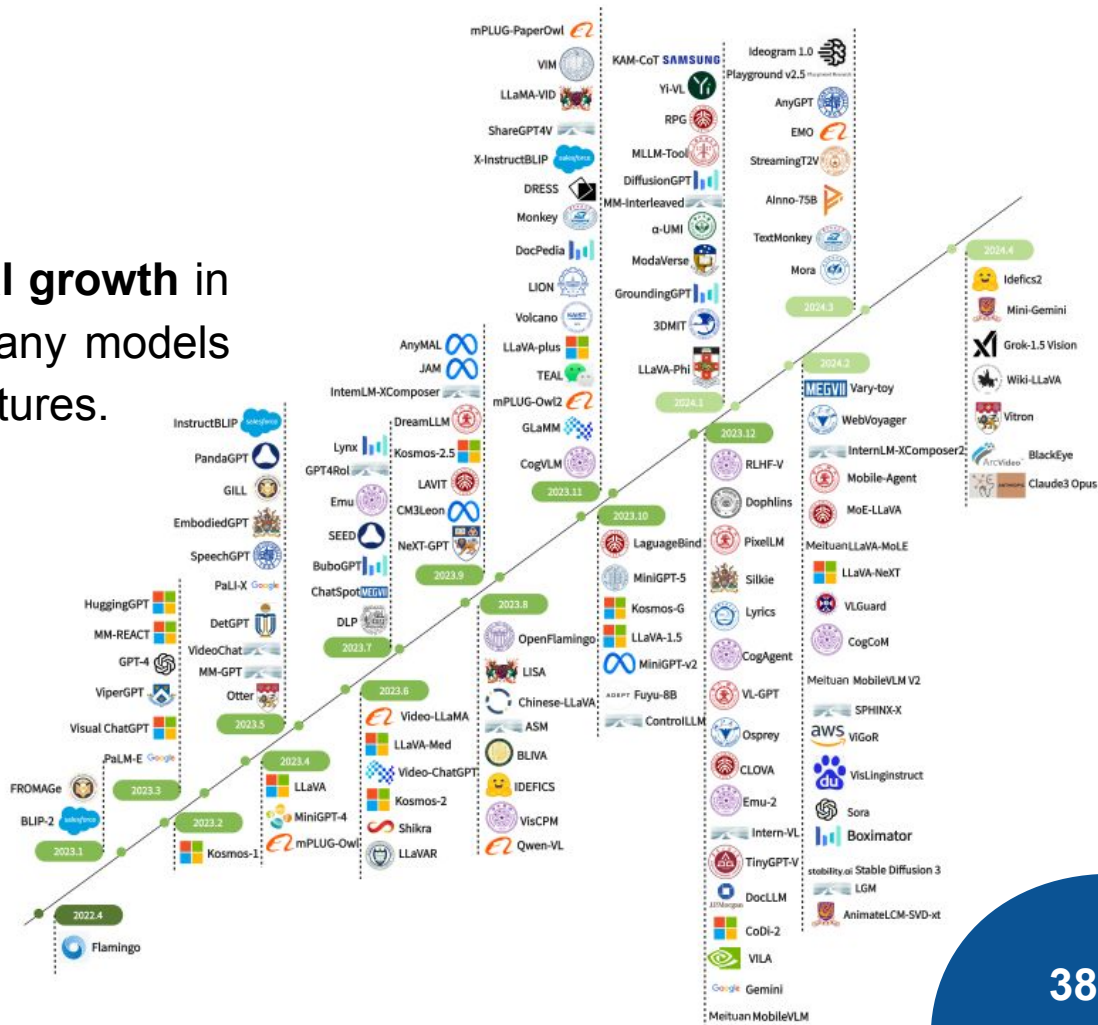
Systematic Evaluation

Technical Content

A World of MLLMs

The field has seen **exponential growth** in the number of MLLMs, with many models building upon previous architectures.

From task-specific to generalized tasks



MLLMs: Evaluation Metrics

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Good alternative for automated assessment that is consistent across a variety of tasks. It is also reference-free!

Exercise Time

