

---

# MMModal - Multi-Images Multi-Audio Multi-turn Multi-Modal

---

Husein Zolkepli\*

Aisyah Razak<sup>†</sup>

Kamarul Adha<sup>‡</sup>

Ariff Nazhan<sup>§</sup>

## Abstract

Our contribution introduces a groundbreaking multimodal large language model designed to comprehend multi-images, multi-audio, and multi-images-multi-audio within a single multiturn session. Leveraging state-of-the-art models, we utilize the SigLIP encoder for visual inputs and the Whisper Encoder for audio inputs. Notably, this multimodal large language model is bilingual, proficient in understanding both English and Malay simultaneously. We proudly unveil three versions of this model: Qwen1.5 with 0.5B parameters, TinyLlama with 1.1B parameters, and Mistral with 7B parameters. With its ability to navigate diverse modalities and languages, our model represents a significant advancement for the Malaysian context and beyond. All models released at [HuggingFace Mesolitica Multimodal Malaysian LLM](#).

## 1 Introduction

Language models trained with instructions have demonstrated remarkable performance across various domains. However, their limitation in handling only text-based data hampers their applicability. Recent advancements in multimodal pre-training have shown the potential to integrate knowledge from diverse modalities into a unified representation [1–3].

The introduction of OpenAI’s GPT-4 [3], which incorporates LLM with visual understanding capability, marked a milestone in the industry’s progress, demonstrating significant advancements in addressing open-ended visual question-answering (VQA) tasks. Pioneering research initiatives such as LLaVA [2] and MiniGPT-4 [4] provide insightful directions in visual and text understanding capability. Their findings suggest that by incorporating visual encoders into existing LLMs and fine-tuning them using multi-modal instruction-tuning datasets, LLMs can be effectively transformed into multimodal LLMs. While Macaw-LLM [1] introduces the integration of LLM with four different modalities: text, audio, video, and images. They successfully process information from different inputs effectively, enabling seamless information retrieval across domains. Existing dataset for multi-modal instruction made available from [2] primarily supports instruction-following data involving visual content for conversation, detailed description and complex reasoning data.

Despite recent advancements, there remains a lack of current research on multimodal models capable of handling multiple images or audio inputs along with multi-turn dialogue. Moreover, there is a lack of existing multimodal datasets incorporating multi-turn interactions with multiple audio and image inputs, and little consideration has been given to the Malaysian context. To address these gaps, our proposal introduces MModal, a multimodal large language model fine-tuned for multi-modal instruction, integrating image, audio, and text modalities within a single model architecture. Additionally, we present a corpus and employ an adaptive synthetic data generation method tailored to provide access to multi-image, multi-audio, multi-turn datasets with regards to languages in Malay and English.

---

\*husein@mesolitica.com

<sup>†</sup>aisyahrazak171@gmail.com

<sup>‡</sup>kamarul.adha360@gmail.com

<sup>§</sup>ariffnazhn@gmail.com

- **Synthetic Audio Instruction Dataset:** To construct Synthetic Audio Instruction Dataset, our approach involves gathering extracted audio content from YouTube videos. We employed the Whisper Large V3 model for pseudolabeling to transcribe the audio contents from scraped Youtube videos, followed by a post-filtering process based on score thresholds to ensure high-quality datasets. We then utilized the Mixtral-8x7B-Instruct-v0.1 Model to generate multiturn dialogue instruction-following data involving the audio context.
- **Synthetic Visual Malaysian Context Dataset:** We collected images from Malaysian websites along with their descriptions. Through data processing, we converted this information into conversational examples to better incorporate Malaysian context into our model.
- **Synthetic Multi-Images Multi-Audio relationship Dataset:** Our method involved randomly combining images, audios or pairing them together to create a dataset illustrating relationships of different images and audios. We utilized Mistral to generate multiturn dialogues, prompting the model to respond based on the images, audio captions, and descriptions. This enabled us to collect a corpus tailored for focusing on relationships within multi-modal content, encompassing both images and audio.
- **Pretraining Feature Alignment:** Our approach adopts a two-step training procedure to integrate multimodal and multiturn capabilities into our model. The initial step entails pretraining the feature alignment module. Through this process, we align the image and audio features with the pre-trained word embeddings of the Large Language Model (LLM). Specifically, this step involves training the projection layer to ensure alignment between the multi-modal features and textual representations. This alignment facilitates seamless integration of diverse modalities within the model architecture.
- **Finetuned Multi-Images Multi-Audio Multi-turn Model:** After pre-training for feature alignment, the projector module becomes familiar with the visual and embedding space. However, it still lacks the capability to discern the finer details of images and audios, or to respond to human questions and instructions effectively. In the second stage, we utilize generated synthetic Multimodal data to enhance performance and further align the embeddings with the Large Language Model (LLM). This step improves the LLM’s ability to produce more natural and reliable language outputs for multimodal instructions.

## 2 Synthetic Data Generation for Audio Instructions

In our pursuit of creating a comprehensive dataset for multimodal dialogue understanding and generation, we meticulously curated a vast collection of Malaysian and Singaporean YouTube videos, encompassing an impressive 18,500 hours of content. Spanning a myriad of subjects including gaming, economy, politics, religion, movies, and socioeconomy, this corpus offers a rich and diverse source of audiovisual material reflective of the cultural landscape of the region. To extract meaningful textual representations from this wealth of multimedia content, we employed the sophisticated capabilities of OpenAI’s Whisper Large V3 model [5]. By leveraging this state of the art model, we were able to pseudolabel the videos, generating accurate transcriptions that faithfully captured the spoken content within each video. These transcriptions served as the foundation for our generating multi-turn conversations.

Utilizing the transcriptions as contextual prompts, we embarked on the process of simulating dialogue interactions between users and virtual assistants. Leveraging the Mixtral-8x7B-Instruct-v0.1 model [6], specifically tailored for generating conversational responses, we orchestrated dynamic exchanges that mirrored real-world interactions. Through this approach, we sought to capture the nuances of human conversation, including the fluidity of dialogue and the contextual relevance of responses. By intertwining the audio context derived from the YouTube video transcriptions with the conversational capabilities of the model.

Furthermore, to ensure linguistic fidelity and cultural resonance, we employed Neural Machine Translation to post-translate the generated output from the Mixtral-8x7B-Instruct-v0.1 model into the Malay language, thereby enriching the dataset with linguistic diversity and contextual relevance tailored for the Malaysian audience.

In the first step, we create questions from the provided context. This process involves carefully analyzing the context and using advanced techniques to generate relevant questions. These questions

aim to capture the key points and details of the context effectively. Below is the prompt we use to generate the questions,

```
paragraph = 'anda tahu keuntungan boleh lebih tinggi daripada keuntungan kewangan
...',
instruction = f'{paragraph}\n\ngenerate questions based on context above'
mixtral(instruction)
```

In the second step, we repeatedly refine and expand upon the initial questions. This iterative process helps us cover various aspects of the context more thoroughly, resulting in a broader range of questions, the pseudo Python code to generate the synthetic multo-turn as below,

```
def format_prompt(message, history):
    prompt = "<s>"
    for user_prompt, bot_response in history:
        prompt += f"[INST] {user_prompt} [/INST]"
        prompt += f" {bot_response}</s> "
    prompt += f"[INST] {message} [/INST]"
    return prompt

def format_user(history):
    prompt = "<s>"
    for user_prompt, bot_response in history:
        prompt += f"[INST] {user_prompt} [/INST]"
        prompt += f" {bot_response}</s> "
    prompt += f"[INST]"
    return prompt

paragraph = 'anda tahu keuntungan boleh lebih tinggi daripada keuntungan kewangan
...',
initial_question = 'Why might someone consider investing in cryptocurrencies like
    Ethereum instead of traditional financial investments such as real estate?'
prompt = f'{paragraph}\n{initial_question}'
formatted_prompt = format_prompt(question, [])
answer = mixtral(formatted_prompt)

history = [(prompt, answer)]
for _ i in range(N):
    formatted_prompt = format_user(history)
    question = mixtral(formatted_prompt)

    formatted_prompt = format_prompt(question, history)
    answer = mixtral(formatted_prompt)

    history.append((question, answer))
```

An example of generated dataset,

```
{'context': 'anda tahu keuntungan boleh lebih tinggi daripada keuntungan kewangan
rumah maka saya tidak akan mencari dalam akaun saya akan mencari ke dalam
ethereum atau beberapa crypto punks bergantung pada faktor risiko anda kerana
rumah kajang dihantar tidak mengganggu dsr saya sejauh ini jadi sekarang apa
posisi saya untuk mendapatkan kewangan ketiga jadi mungkin setelah melihat
sekeliling saya menemui seorang penjual yang dapat menutupi perhubungan tetapi
bank hanya menerima 70% dari itu saya boleh membayar perbezaan dengan
menggunakan wang ini kerana sekali lagi ia menyusahkan saya dan aset tetapi
jika anda tidak selesai dengan mencari',
'chat': [{'role': 'user',
'content': 'Why might someone consider investing in cryptocurrencies like
    Ethereum instead of traditional financial investments such as real estate?',
'content_ms': 'Mengapakah seseorang mungkin mempertimbangkan untuk melabur dalam
    mata wang kripto seperti Ethereum dan bukannya pelaburan kewangan tradisional
    seperti hartanah?'}],
{'role': 'assistant',
```

```

'content': 'There are several reasons why someone might consider investing in
cryptocurrencies like Ethereum instead of traditional financial investments
such as real estate:\n\n1. Potential for higher returns: Cryptocurrencies
have the potential for much higher returns compared to traditional financial
investments. While the real estate market can be profitable, the potential
for exponential growth in the cryptocurrency market is significantly
higher.\n2. Diversification: Investing in cryptocurrencies can provide a
diversification benefit to an investment portfolio. By investing in a variety
of assets, including cryptocurrencies, investors can spread their risk and
potentially increase their overall returns.\n3. Liquidity: Cryptocurrencies
are generally more liquid than real estate investments. It is easier to buy
and sell cryptocurrencies, and they can be quickly converted into cash.\n4.
Accessibility: Investing in cryptocurrencies is generally more accessible
than investing in real estate. There are fewer barriers to entry, and it is
easier to get started with a smaller amount of money.\n5. Decentralization:
Cryptocurrencies are decentralized, meaning they are not controlled by any
government or financial institution. This can provide a level of independence
and autonomy that is not possible with traditional financial
investments.\n\nHowever, it is important to note that investing in
cryptocurrencies is also riskier than traditional financial investments. The
value of cryptocurrencies can be highly volatile, and there is a risk of
losing all or a significant portion of the investment. Therefore, it is
important to carefully consider your own risk tolerance and financial
situation before investing in cryptocurrencies.',
'content_ms': 'Terdapat beberapa sebab mengapa seseorang mungkin mempertimbangkan
untuk melabur dalam mata wang kripto seperti Ethereum dan bukannya pelaburan
keuangan tradisional seperti hartanah:\n\n1. Potensi untuk pulangan yang
lebih tinggi: Mata wang kripto mempunyai potensi untuk pulangan yang lebih
tinggi berbanding dengan pelaburan keuangan tradisional. Walaupun pasaran
hartanah boleh menguntungkan, potensi pertumbuhan eksponen dalam pasaran mata
wang kripto adalah jauh lebih tinggi.\n2. Kepelbagaian: Melabur dalam mata
wang kripto boleh memberikan manfaat kepelbagaian kepada portfolio pelaburan.
Dengan melabur dalam pelbagai aset, termasuk mata wang kripto, pelabur boleh
menyebarkan risiko mereka dan berpotensi meningkatkan pulangan keseluruhan
mereka.\n3. Kecairan: Mata wang kripto biasanya lebih cair daripada pelaburan
hartanah. Lebih mudah untuk membeli dan menjual mata wang kripto, dan ia
boleh ditukar dengan cepat kepada wang tunai.\n4. Kebolehcapaian: Melabur
dalam mata wang kripto secara umumnya lebih mudah diakses daripada melabur
dalam hartanah. Terdapat lebih sedikit halangan untuk masuk, dan lebih mudah
untuk bermula dengan jumlah wang yang lebih kecil.\n5. Desentralisasi: Mata
wang kripto adalah terdesentralisasi, bermakna ia tidak dikawal oleh
mana-mana kerajaan atau institusi kewangan. Ini boleh memberikan tahap
kebebasan dan autonomi yang tidak mungkin dilakukan dengan pelaburan keuangan
tradisional.\n\nWalau bagaimanapun, adalah penting untuk ambil perhatian
bahawa melabur dalam mata wang kripto juga lebih berisiko daripada pelaburan
keuangan tradisional. Nilai mata wang kripto boleh menjadi sangat tidak
menentu, dan terdapat risiko kehilangan semua atau sebahagian besar
pelaburan. Oleh itu, adalah penting untuk mempertimbangkan dengan teliti
toleransi risiko dan keadaan kewangan anda sendiri sebelum melabur dalam mata
wang kripto.'},
{'role': 'user',
'content': 'mengapa orang menggunakan blockchain untuk mengurus siasia digital',
'content_ms': 'mengapa orang menggunakan blockchain untuk menguruskan siasa
digital'},
{'role': 'assistant',
'content': 'There are several reasons why people use blockchain technology to
manage digital assets:\n\n1. Security: Blockchain technology provides a high
level of security for managing digital assets. The decentralized nature of
blockchain makes it difficult for hackers to manipulate or steal digital
assets.\n2. Transparency: Blockchain provides a transparent record of all
transactions related to a digital asset. This makes it easier to track
ownership and verify the authenticity of the asset.\n3. Accessibility:
Blockchain technology allows for the easy transfer and management of digital
assets, making them accessible to anyone with an internet connection.\n4.
Immutability: Once data is recorded on a blockchain, it cannot be altered or

```

```

deleted. This ensures that the record of ownership and transactions related
to a digital asset is permanent and cannot be tampered with.\n5.
Programmability: Blockchain technology allows for the creation of smart
contracts, which are self-executing contracts with the terms of the agreement
directly written into code. This enables automatic and secure transfer of
digital assets based on predefined conditions.\n6. Interoperability:
Blockchain technology enables the interoperability of different digital
assets and systems, allowing for seamless transfer and exchange of
value.\n\nOverall, the use of blockchain technology for managing digital
assets provides a secure, transparent, and decentralized system that is
accessible to anyone with an internet connection. This makes it an attractive
solution for managing various types of digital assets, including
cryptocurrencies, digital art, and other digital assets.',
'content_ms': 'Terdapat beberapa sebab mengapa orang menggunakan teknologi
blockchain untuk mengurus aset digital:\n\n1. Keselamatan: Teknologi
Blockchain menyediakan tahap keselamatan yang tinggi untuk mengurus aset
digital. Sifat blockchain yang tidak berpusat menyukarkan penggodam untuk
memanipulasi atau mencuri aset digital.\n2. Ketelusan: Blockchain menyediakan
rekod yang telus bagi semua transaksi yang berkaitan dengan aset digital. Ini
memudahkan untuk menjejak pemilikan dan mengesahkan ketulenan aset.\n3.
Kebolehcapaian: Teknologi Blockchain membolehkan pemindahan dan pengurusan
aset digital dengan mudah, menjadikannya boleh diakses oleh sesiapa sahaja
yang mempunyai sambungan internet.\n4. Ketidakbolehubahan: Setelah data
direkodkan pada rantai blok, ia tidak boleh diubah atau dipadamkan. Ini
memastikan rekod pemilikan dan transaksi yang berkaitan dengan aset digital
adalah kekal dan tidak boleh diusik.\n5. Kebolehpenggunaan: Teknologi
Blockchain membolehkan penciptaan kontrak pintar, yang merupakan kontrak yang
dilaksanakan sendiri dengan syarat perjanjian yang ditulis terus ke dalam
kod. Ini membolehkan pemindahan aset digital secara automatik dan selamat
berdasarkan syarat yang telah ditetapkan.\n6. Saling kendali: Teknologi
Blockchain membolehkan kesalingoperasian aset dan sistem digital yang
berbeza, membolehkan pemindahan dan pertukaran nilai yang lancar.\n\nSecara
keseluruhannya, penggunaan teknologi blockchain untuk mengurus aset digital
menyediakan sistem yang selamat, telus dan terpecar yang boleh diakses oleh
sesiapa sahaja yang mempunyai sambungan internet. Ini menjadikannya
penyelesaian yang menarik untuk mengurus pelbagai jenis aset digital,
termasuk mata wang kripto, seni digital dan aset digital lain.']],
'filename': 'output-audio/1-0-0.mp3'}

```

The audio synthetic dataset and implementation published at [mesolitica/malaysian-youtube-audio-instructions](https://mesolitica.com/malaysian-youtube-audio-instructions).

### 3 Synthetic Visual Malaysian Context Dataset

To enhance the dataset for visual question answering (QA) tasks, we embarked on a comprehensive curation process aimed at capturing the essence of Malaysian daily life and surroundings. To achieve this, we meticulously gathered a vast array of local context images that encapsulate the cultural, social, and environmental facets unique to Malaysia. Our dataset spans a broad spectrum of themes, encompassing everything from the tantalizing diversity of Malaysian cuisine to the intricate details of local transportation systems and road infrastructure. Leveraging reputable sources such as [resepichenom.com](https://resepichenom.com), [wapcar.my](https://wapcar.my), and [motomalaysia.com](https://motomalaysia.com), we meticulously collected images depicting iconic Malaysian foods, cars, motorcycles, road signs, and driving scenarios.

Each category was carefully selected to provide a holistic representation of Malaysian life, ensuring that our dataset captures the nuances and intricacies inherent to the local culture. For instance, the images of delectable Malaysian dishes sourced from [resepichenom.com](https://resepichenom.com) offer a glimpse into the rich culinary heritage of the nation, featuring beloved classics and regional specialties alike. Similarly, the inclusion of images showcasing Malaysian vehicles and road signs from [wapcar.my](https://wapcar.my), [motomalaysia.com](https://motomalaysia.com), and MS Wikipedia adds another layer of authenticity, allowing the model to familiarize itself with the unique characteristics of local transportation and traffic regulations.

Furthermore, our dataset extends beyond static imagery to incorporate dynamic elements, such as online driving tests, providing real-world scenarios and challenges that reflect the everyday experiences of Malaysian motorists. By compiling this diverse and extensive collection of visual content, we aim to provide our model with a rich and immersive learning experience, enabling it to understand and interpret Malaysian contexts with greater accuracy and depth. We designed a synthetic question-answering dialogues between assistant and a person about the photo. The answers are based on captions associated with the original data of the image.

An example of generated dataset are as follow,

```
{
  "image": "pic/Yamaha NMAX (2016)_1.jpg",
  "image_url":
    "https://www.motomalaysia.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/yamaha-nmax-2.jpg",
  "conversations": [
    {
      "role": "user",
      "content": "<image>Ini model apa?"
    },
    {
      "role": "assistant",
      "content": "Yamaha NMAX (2016)"
    },
    {
      "role": "user",
      "content": "apa spesifikasi moto tu?"
    },
    {
      "role": "assistant",
      "content": "Manufacturer: Yamaha\nModel: 2016\nGeneration: Yamaha NMAX
        (2016)\n\nType: Scooter\nColour Available: Grey, Red\n\nDimension: 1,955
        x 740 x 1,115 mm\nWheelbase: 1,350 mm\nWeight: 136 kg\nSeat Height: 765
        mm\nGround Clearance: 135 mm\nMeter Display: Digital - Speedometer, Fuel
        Gauge\n\nEngine: 4-Stroke, SOHC\nDisplacement: 155 CC\nNo Of Cylinders:
        1-Cylinder\nCompression Ratio: 10.5 : 1\nBore x Stroke: 58mm x
        58.7mm\nMax Power: 11.1 kW @ 8,000 RPM\nMax Torque: 14.4 Nm @ 6,000
        RPM\nTransmission: Automatic, CVT\nClutch: Dry, centrifugal,
        Shoe\nIgnition System: Transistor Coil Ignition (TCI)\nStarting System:
        Electric Starter\nCooling System: Liquid Cooled\nFuel System: Fuel
        Injection\nFuel Capacity: 6.6 Liters\n\nFeatures:\nType: Underbone\nFront
        Suspension: Telescopic\nRear Suspension: Unit Swing\nFront Brake:
        Disc\nRear Brake: Disc\nFront Tire: 110/70-13\nRear Tire: 130/70-13"
    }
  ]
}
```

The synthetic visual dataset and its implementation can be found on the HuggingFace Collections page under [Multimodal Malaysian LLM dataset](#).

## 4 Synthetic Data Generation for Multi-Images, Multi-Audio Multi-turn Instructions

### 4.1 Synthetic Multi-Images Relationship Instruction

### 4.2 Synthetic Multi-Audio Relationship Instruction

### 4.3 Synthetic Image-Audio Relationship Instruction

### 4.4 Synthetic Multi-Images Multi-Audio in one session Instruction

We have observed that most open-source multimodal models accept only single images in individual multi-turn dialogues. These limitations make it difficult for people to further enhance the models.

To bridge these gaps, we aim to generate a multiple images, audio and dialogue turns that offers fine-grained interactions between multiple images, audio and words, mimicking user-assistant conversations.

We build a script that parse visual and audio context datasets and perform an algorithm that combine each visual context row into another audio context or image context row based on probability which makes our combined data more varied.

Below are the script to combine synthetic visual and audio context dataset:

```
llava_index = set(range(len(llava_en)))
audio_index = set(range(len(audio_en)))
combine = []
llava = set()
audio = set()
for i in tqdm(range(50000)):
    try:
        filename = []
        conversations = []
        for _ in range(random.randint(2, 4)):
            if random.random() > 0.4:
                img_id = random.choice(list(llava_index - llava))
                llava.add(img_id)
                s = llava_en[img_id]
            else:
                audio_id = random.choice(list(audio_index - audio))
                audio.add(audio_id)
                s = audio_en[audio_id]
            filename.extend(s['filename'])
            conversations.extend(s['conversations'])
        combine.append({
            'filename': filename,
            'conversations': conversations
        })
    except Exception as e:
        print(e)
        break
```

An example of combined synthetic visual and audio context datasets:

```
{'filename': ['/home/ubuntu/output-audio/0-3201-1.mp3',
'/home/ubuntu/filtered-llava-images/000000416018.jpg',
'/home/ubuntu/filtered-llava-images/000000128752.jpg',
'/home/ubuntu/filtered-llava-images/000000501015.jpg'],
'conversations': [{'role': 'user',
'content': "<audio>What is Tasha's opinion on the spiciness of the first soup
served?"},
{'role': 'assistant',
'content': 'Based on the conversation, Tasha felt that the first soup served was
too spicy.'},
{'role': 'user', 'content': 'Okay. Mengapa Tasha pandangan begini?'},
{'role': 'assistant',
'content': 'The exact reason for Tasha\'s opinion is not mentioned in the
conversation, but she can be heard saying "Yup. Yes. Ni pedas gila." which
suggests that the first soup served was extremely spicy.'},
{'role': 'user',
'content': 'Okay. Sekarang kita tanya Jane. Okay. Jane, how spicy is your
soup?'},
{'role': 'assistant',
'content': 'Based on the conversation, Jane said "Second pedas" which means that
she found the spiciness of her soup to be less spicy compared to the first
soup.'},
{'role': 'user',
'content': "What implications does the presence of the steering wheel controller
have for the type of game they're playing?\n<image>"},
```

```

{'role': 'assistant',
 'content': 'Given that one of the people in the image is holding a video game
            controller shaped like a steering wheel, it is highly likely that they are
            playing a racing or driving simulation game. The steering wheel controller
            is specifically designed to provide a more immersive and realistic gaming
            experience for games that involve controlling vehicles. This suggests that
            the game they are engaging with is focused on car or vehicle navigation, and
            the participants are actively controlling in-game actions by manipulating
            the steering wheel controller.'},
{'role': 'user',
 'content': 'What factors could affect the flight of this aircraft?\n<image>'},
{'role': 'assistant',
 'content': "Several factors could affect the flight of the British Airways
            jetliner observed in the image. These may include:\n\n1. Weather conditions:
            The plane is flying through a foggy sky, which may impact visibility,
            turbulence, and overall flight conditions. Adverse weather events, such as
            storms or strong winds, could also significantly impact the flight.\n\n2.
            Air traffic: The presence of other aircraft in the airspace could influence
            the flight route, altitude, or speed. Air traffic controllers need to manage
            multiple aircraft in the sky to maintain safety and avoid conflicts.\n\n3.
            Technical issues: Aircraft systems and equipment must function properly to
            ensure a safe and efficient flight. Any technical issues or malfunctions may
            disrupt the flight and require prompt action from the crew.\n\n4. Human
            factors: The skills, experience, and decision-making processes of pilots and
            other crew members can significantly impact the safety, comfort, and
            efficiency of the flight.\n\n5. Regulatory constraints: International
            aviation regulations and guidelines from governing bodies can affect the
            aircraft's flight trajectory, speed, altitude, and other operational
            aspects.\n\nConsidering these factors, the British Airways jetliner needs to
            navigate through the foggy sky efficiently while maintaining safety
            protocols and adhering to aviation regulations."},
{'role': 'user',
 'content': '<image>\nHow would you describe the positioning of the bottles in
            this image?'},
{'role': 'assistant',
 'content': "In the image, there are several bottles positioned in various
            locations. Some bottles are inside the refrigerator, with one being held in
            the person's hand, while others are placed outside of the fridge. The person
            is posing near the open refrigerator, which appears to have quite a few
            bottles arranged in it. The bottles inside the fridge are lined up
            horizontally on different shelves at various heights, indicating that they
            might be chilling until they are ready to be consumed. There are also a
            couple of bottles placed outside the fridge, possibly on a countertop or
            other surfaces within the image. The dining table and a laptop can also be
            seen in the background, but they are not directly related to the positioning
            of the bottles."}]

```

By doing this approach, multimodal model would enhance its capabilities on understanding and reasoning across multiple images, audios and dialogue turns.

The implementation can be found on the Github repository page under [here](#).

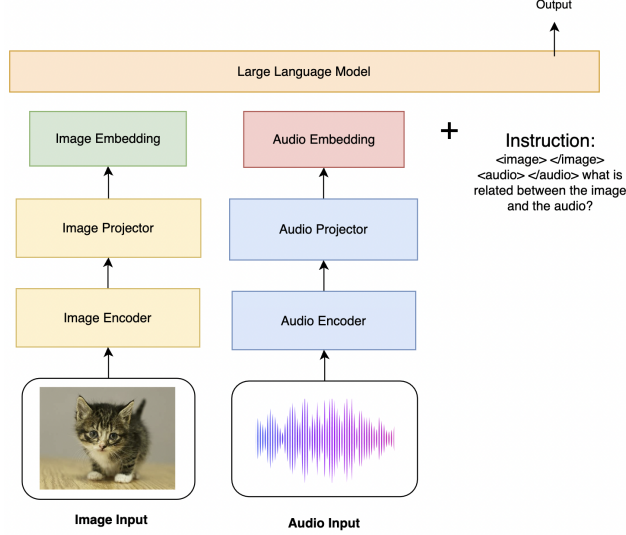
## 5 Finetuning Procedure

MMModal aims to align visual and audio information from pretrained vision and audio encoders with an advanced large language model (LLM). We aim to bridge the gap between the visual and audio encoders and the LLM using a linear projection layer. To create an effective multimodal model, we followed a two-stage training approach exemplified by the works of [4, 7, 8] which have notably produced great results. In the initial stage, the model is pretrained on aligned image-text pairs and audio-text pairs to acquire knowledge of vision and audio language through the alignment projection layer. In the second stage, we fine-tune the pretrained model using a generated multiturn multiaudio images synthetic dataset, incorporating a designed conversational template to enable



model comprehension on multi-images, multi-audio, and multi-images-multi-audio within a single multiturn session.

The visualization below provides an overview of the architecture for MMMModal,



## 5.1 Pretraining for Visual Feature Alignment

During the initial pretraining stage, the primary objective is to equip the model with the ability to understand and generate language based on visual input. This is achieved through exposure to a diverse set of paired image-text data, where the model learns to associate visual information with corresponding textual descriptions. In our work, we utilize the pre-trained SigLip visual encoder to extract visual features for input into the projection layer. This projection layer facilitates the connection of image features into the text embedding space. The output of this projection layer then acts as the input to the Large Language Model, instructing it on how to generate appropriate textual responses based on the visual features provided. Only the linear projection layer is pretrained during the whole pretraining procedure; the pretrained vision encoder and the LLM stay frozen.

In our approach, we adopt the same projection layer as LLAVA, which consists of two hidden layers with GELU activation at the middle. However, we introduce two new tokens, `<image>` and `</image>`, to facilitate the incorporation of visual information. These tokens serve as markers to indicate the beginning and end of projected visual output, enabling seamless integration within the text embedding.

The visualization below illustrates the process of inserting projected visual output between the `<image>` and `</image>` tokens, enhancing the model’s ability to handle multimodal inputs effectively.

The hyperparameters involved in this pretraining stage are detailed below:

Hyperparameter	Value
DeepSpeed	ZeRO-2 Offload
Batch Size	18
Batch Size	1
Learning Rate	1e-4
Warmup Ratio	0.03
Precision	bfloat16

The implementation for visual feature alignment pretraining can be found [here](#)

## 5.2 Pretraining for Audio Feature Alignment

We also want to equip the model with the capability to comprehend and produce language from audio input. This is achieved by exposing the model to a diverse set of paired audio-text datasets, allowing it to learn the correspondence between audio features and corresponding textual descriptions. We utilize the pre-trained Whisper encoder to extract audio features for input into the projection layer. The injected projection layer plays a pivotal role in this process, serving as a bridge between the audio and text domains. The output of this projection layer serves as input to the Large Language Model, guiding it in generating appropriate textual responses based on the audio features provided. It is important to note that while the linear projection layer is trained throughout the entire pretraining procedure, the pretrained audio encoder and the Large Language Model remain static, or "frozen." This ensures that the model focuses specifically on learning the associations between auditory features and textual information without altering the underlying representations learned in the audio encoder or the language model.

In our method, we draw inspiration from LLAVA’s projection layer but introduce modifications to handle longer sequences more efficiently. Instead of using two linear layers, we opt for a convolutional layer with a kernel size of 40 and a stride size of 3 for the first layer. The output is then passed through a linear layer with a GELU activation function at its midpoint. This approach helps us reduce the sequence length by a factor of 3, which is crucial given that the Whisper encoder outputs sequences of length 1500. Additionally, we introduce two new tokens, `<audio>` and `</audio>`, serving as markers for projected audio output, same procedure stated at Visual Feature Alignment.

The visualization below demonstrates the procedure of embedding projected audio output between the `<audio>` and `</audio>` tokens.

The hyperparameters involves in this pretraining stage are detailed below:

Hyperparameter	Value
DeepSpeed	ZeRO-2 Offload
Batch Size	18
Batch Size	1
Learning Rate	1e-4
Warmup Ratio	0.03
Precision	bfloat16

The implementation for audio feature alignment pretraining can be found [here](#)

## 5.3 Instruction Finetuning

Following the initial pre-training alignment phase, the projection layer will be able to generate image and audio features that are effectively aligned with the pretrained Large Language Model text embedding space. However the pretrained LLM may still struggle to provide effective responses to human inquiries and may be unable to comprehend instructions involving multiple images, multiple audio files, and combinations thereof. To address this, we implement a second stage, utilizing the generated synthetic data to enhance performance and refine the alignment between audio, visual embeddings, the LLM, and instructions.

This stage involves fine-tuning the projection layer and the LLM on our collection corpus of generated synthetic data encompassing multiturn, multi-images and multi-audios data. The objective is to enable our multimodal model to process multiple inputs from images or audios and engage in multiturn conversation seamlessly. A significant advancement in our multi-image input capability stems from this fine-tuning procedure.

Throughout fine-tuning, we maintain the visual and audio encoder weights frozen while updating both the pre-trained weights of the projection layer and the LLM. Notably, we also incorporate a mechanism to replace image and audio embeddings based on the position of the image and audio tokens in the text embeddings, ensuring the model’s ability to comprehend audio,image and text information effectively.

The hyperparameters involves in this finetuning stage are detailed below:

Complete fine-tuning 8192 context length implementation at [here](#).

Hyperparameter	Value
DeepSpeed	ZeRO-2 Offload
Batch Size	12
Learning Rate	constant 2e-5
Precision	bfloat16

## 6 Examples

This section presents examples that highlight the model’s capacity to comprehend and produce responses relating to visual and audio input, showcasing the efficacy and potential of our proposed MMModal. These examples clearly demonstrate how the model handles and combines various information modalities, including audio and pictures.

### Multi Images Input Example



User	What is related between image 1 and image 2?
MMModal	Nothing?

### Multi Audio Input Example

Audio 1 Transcription: anda tahu keuntungan boleh lebih tinggi daripada keuntungan kewangan rumah maka saya tidak akan mencari dalam akaun saya akan mencari ke dalam ethereum atau beberapa crypto punks bergantung pada faktor risiko anda kerana rumah kajang dihantar tidak mengganggu dsr saya sejauh ini jadi sekarang apa posisi saya untuk sekali lagi ia menyusahkan saya dan aset tetapi jika anda tidak selesai dengan mencari

Audio 2 Transcription: anda tahu keuntungan boleh lebih tinggi daripada keuntungan kewangan rumah maka saya tidak akan mencari dalam akaun saya akan mencari ke dalam ethereum atau beberapa crypto punks bergantung pada faktor risiko anda kerana rumah kajang dihantar tidak mengganggu dsr say lagi ia menyusahkan saya dan aset tetapi jika anda tidak selesai dengan mencari

User	What is related between audio 1 and audio 2?
MMModal	Nothing?

---

## Images Audio Input Example

---



Audio 1 Transcription: anda tahu keuntungan boleh lebih tinggi daripada keuntungan kewangan rumah maka saya tidak akan mencari dalam akaun saya akan mencari ke dalam ethereum atau beberapa crypto punks bergantung pri itu saya boleh membayar perbezaan dengan menggunakan wang ini kerana sekali lagi ia menyusahkan saya dan aset tetapi jika anda tidak selesai dengan mencari

User

What is related between audio 1 and image 2?

MMMModal

Nothing?

---

## 7 Evaluation

## 8 Future Work

In our future endeavors, we aim to enhance our capabilities by focusing on several key areas. Firstly, we intend to refine our approach to generating synthetic datasets that incorporate multi-images and multi-audio inputs. This will involve expanding the dataset to include more complex relationships between inputs and facilitating comparisons involving more than two inputs. Additionally, we recognize the importance of incorporating a wider range of visual Malaysian context datasets into our model training pipeline. By diversifying our data sources, we can ensure that our model is equipped to handle a broader array of real-world scenarios and contexts, ultimately improving its performance and relevance in practical applications.

## 9 Acknowledgement

Special thanks to Malaysia-AI volunteers especially [Wan Adzhar Faiq Adzlan](#), [Ammar Azman](#), [M. Amzar](#), [Muhammad Farhan](#), [Syafie Nizam](#), [Halim Shukor](#), [Alif Aiman](#), [Azwan Zuharimi](#) and [Haziq Zikry](#) for contributing dataset to train MMMModal.

We would like to express our gratitude to NVIDIA Inception for generously providing us with the opportunity to train our model on the Azure cloud. Their support has played a crucial role in the success of our research, enabling us to leverage advanced technologies and computational resources.

We extend our thanks to the wider research community for their valuable insights and collaborative discussions, which have greatly influenced our work. This paper reflects the collective efforts and contributions from both NVIDIA Inception and the broader research community.

## 10 Conclusion

In this paper, we introduce MMMModal, a multimodal instruction tuned Model (LLM) specifically designed to handle multiple modalities, including images, audio, and text in a multi-turn dialogue setting. Our novel approach focuses on aligning representations from various modality encoders into a unified space. Unlike existing methods, our model effectively able to process multi-turn dialogues and incorporate multiple images or audio inputs in its responses. We provide examples demonstrating the multi-modal understanding capabilities of MMMModal.

## References

- [1] Chenyang Lyu, Minghao Wu, Longyue Wang, Xinting Huang, Bingshuai Liu, Zefeng Du, Shuming Shi, and Zhaopeng Tu. Macaw-llm: Multi-modal language modeling with image, audio, video, and text integration, 2023.
- [2] Haotian Liu, Chunyuan Li, Qingyang Wu, and Yong Jae Lee. Visual instruction tuning, 2023.
- [3] OpenAI, :, Josh Achiam, Steven Adler, Sandhini Agarwal, Lama Ahmad, Ilge Akkaya, Florencia Leoni Aleman, Diogo Almeida, Janko Altschmidt, Sam Altman, Shyamal Anadkat, Red Avila, Igor Babuschkin, Suchir Balaji, Valerie Balcom, Paul Baltescu, Haiming Bao, Mo Bavarian, Jeff Belgum, Irwan Bello, Jake Berdine, Gabriel Bernadett-Shapiro, Christopher Berner, Lenny Bogdonoff, Oleg Boiko, Madelaine Boyd, Anna-Luisa Brakman, Greg Brockman, Tim Brooks, Miles Brundage, Kevin Button, Trevor Cai, Rosie Campbell, Andrew Cann, Brittany Carey, Chelsea Carlson, Rory Carmichael, Brooke Chan, Che Chang, Fotis Chantzis, Derek Chen, Sully Chen, Ruby Chen, Jason Chen, Mark Chen, Ben Chess, Chester Cho, Casey Chu, Hyung Won Chung, Dave Cummings, Jeremiah Currier, Yunxing Dai, Cory Decareaux, Thomas Degry, Noah Deutsch, Damien Deville, Arka Dhar, David Dohan, Steve Dowling, Sheila Dunning, Adrien Ecoffet, Atty Eleti, Tyna Eloundou, David Farhi, Liam Fedus, Niko Felix, Simón Posada Fishman, Juston Forte, Isabella Fulford, Leo Gao, Elie Georges, Christian Gibson, Vik Goel, Tarun Gogineni, Gabriel Goh, Rapha Gontijo-Lopes, Jonathan Gordon, Morgan Grafstein, Scott Gray, Ryan Greene, Joshua Gross, Shixiang Shane Gu, Yufei Guo, Chris Hallacy, Jesse Han, Jeff Harris, Yuchen He, Mike Heaton, Johannes Heidecke, Chris Hesse, Alan Hickey, Wade Hickey, Peter Hoeschele, Brandon Houghton, Kenny Hsu, Shengli Hu, Xin Hu, Joost Huizinga, Shantanu Jain, Shawn Jain, Joanne Jang, Angela Jiang, Roger Jiang, Haozhun Jin, Denny Jin, Shino Jomoto, Billie Jonn, Heewoo Jun, Tomer Kaftan, Łukasz Kaiser, Ali Kamali, Ingmar Kanitscheider, Nitish Shirish Keskar, Tabarak Khan, Logan Kilpatrick, Jong Wook Kim, Christina Kim, Yongjik Kim, Hendrik Kirchner, Jamie Kiros, Matt Knight, Daniel Kokotajlo, Łukasz Kondraciuk, Andrew Kondrich, Aris Konstantinidis, Kyle Kosic, Gretchen Krueger, Vishal Kuo, Michael Lampe, Ikai Lan, Teddy Lee, Jan Leike, Jade Leung, Daniel Levy, Chak Ming Li, Rachel Lim, Molly Lin, Stephanie Lin, Mateusz Litwin, Theresa Lopez, Ryan Lowe, Patricia Lue, Anna Makanju, Kim Malfacini, Sam Manning, Todor Markov, Yaniv Markovski, Bianca Martin, Katie Mayer, Andrew Mayne, Bob McGrew, Scott Mayer McKinney, Christine McLeavey, Paul McMillan, Jake McNeil, David Medina, Aalok Mehta, Jacob Menick, Luke Metz, Andrey Mishchenko, Pamela Mishkin, Vinnie Monaco, Evan Morikawa, Daniel Mossing, Tong Mu, Mira Murati, Oleg Murk, David Mély, Ashvin Nair, Reiichiro Nakano, Rajeev Nayak, Arvind Neelakantan, Richard Ngo, Hyeonwoo Noh, Long Ouyang, Cullen O’Keefe, Jakub Pachocki, Alex Paino, Joe Palermo, Ashley Pantuliano, Giambattista Parascandolo, Joel Parish, Emy Parparita, Alex Passos, Mikhail Pavlov, Andrew Peng, Adam Perelman, Filipe de Avila Belbute Peres, Michael Petrov, Henrique Ponde de Oliveira Pinto, Michael, Pokorny, Michelle Pokrass, Vitchyr Pong, Tolly Powell, Alethea Power, Boris Power, Elizabeth Proehl, Raul Puri, Alec Radford, Jack Rae, Aditya Ramesh, Cameron Raymond, Francis Real, Kendra Rimbach, Carl Ross, Bob Rotsted, Henri Roussez, Nick Ryder, Mario Saltarelli, Ted Sanders, Shibani Santurkar, Girish Sastry, Heather Schmidt, David Schnurr, John Schulman, Daniel Selsam, Kyla Sheppard, Toki Sherbakov, Jessica Shieh, Sarah Shoker, Pranav Shyam, Szymon Sidor, Eric Sigler, Maddie Simens, Jordan Sitkin, Katarina Slama, Ian Sohl, Benjamin Sokolowsky, Yang Song, Natalie Staudacher, Felipe Petroski Such, Natalie Summers, Ilya Sutskever, Jie Tang, Nikolas Tezak, Madeleine Thompson, Phil Tillet, Amin Tootoonchian, Elizabeth Tseng, Preston Tuggle, Nick Turley, Jerry Tworek, Juan Felipe Cerón Uribe, Andrea Vallone, Arun Vijayvergiya, Chelsea Voss, Carroll Wainwright, Justin Jay Wang, Alvin Wang, Ben Wang, Jonathan Ward, Jason Wei, CJ Weinmann, Akila Welihinda, Peter Welinder, Jiayi Weng, Lilian Weng, Matt Wiethoff, Dave Willner, Clemens Winter, Samuel Wolrich, Hannah Wong, Lauren Workman, Sherwin Wu, Jeff Wu, Michael Wu, Kai Xiao, Tao Xu, Sarah Yoo, Kevin Yu, Qiming Yuan, Wojciech Zaremba, Rowan Zellers, Chong Zhang, Marvin Zhang, Shengjia Zhao, Tianhao Zheng, Juntang Zhuang, William Zhuk, and Barret Zoph. Gpt-4 technical report, 2023.
- [4] Deyao Zhu, Jun Chen, Xiaoqian Shen, Xiang Li, and Mohamed Elhoseiny. Minigpt-4: Enhancing vision-language understanding with advanced large language models, 2023.
- [5] Alec Radford, Jong Wook Kim, Tao Xu, Greg Brockman, Christine McLeavey, and Ilya Sutskever. Robust speech recognition via large-scale weak supervision, 2022.

- [6] Albert Q. Jiang, Alexandre Sablayrolles, Antoine Roux, Arthur Mensch, Blanche Savary, Chris Bamford, Devendra Singh Chaplot, Diego de las Casas, Emma Bou Hanna, Florian Bressand, Gianna Lengyel, Guillaume Bour, Guillaume Lample, L  lio Renard Lavaud, Lucile Saulnier, Marie-Anne Lachaux, Pierre Stock, Sandeep Subramanian, Sophia Yang, Szymon Antoniak, Teven Le Scao, Th  ophile Gervet, Thibaut Lavril, Thomas Wang, Timoth  e Lacroix, and William El Sayed. Mixtral of experts, 2024.
- [7] Yucheng Han, Chi Zhang, Xin Chen, Xu Yang, Zhibin Wang, Gang Yu, Bin Fu, and Hanwang Zhang. Chartllama: A multimodal llm for chart understanding and generation, 2023.
- [8] Yuliang Liu, Zhang Li, Biao Yang, Chunyuan Li, Xucheng Yin, Cheng lin Liu, Lianwen Jin, and Xiang Bai. On the hidden mystery of ocr in large multimodal models, 2024.