

# Regularized Low-Rank Adaptation for Few-Shot Organ Segmentation

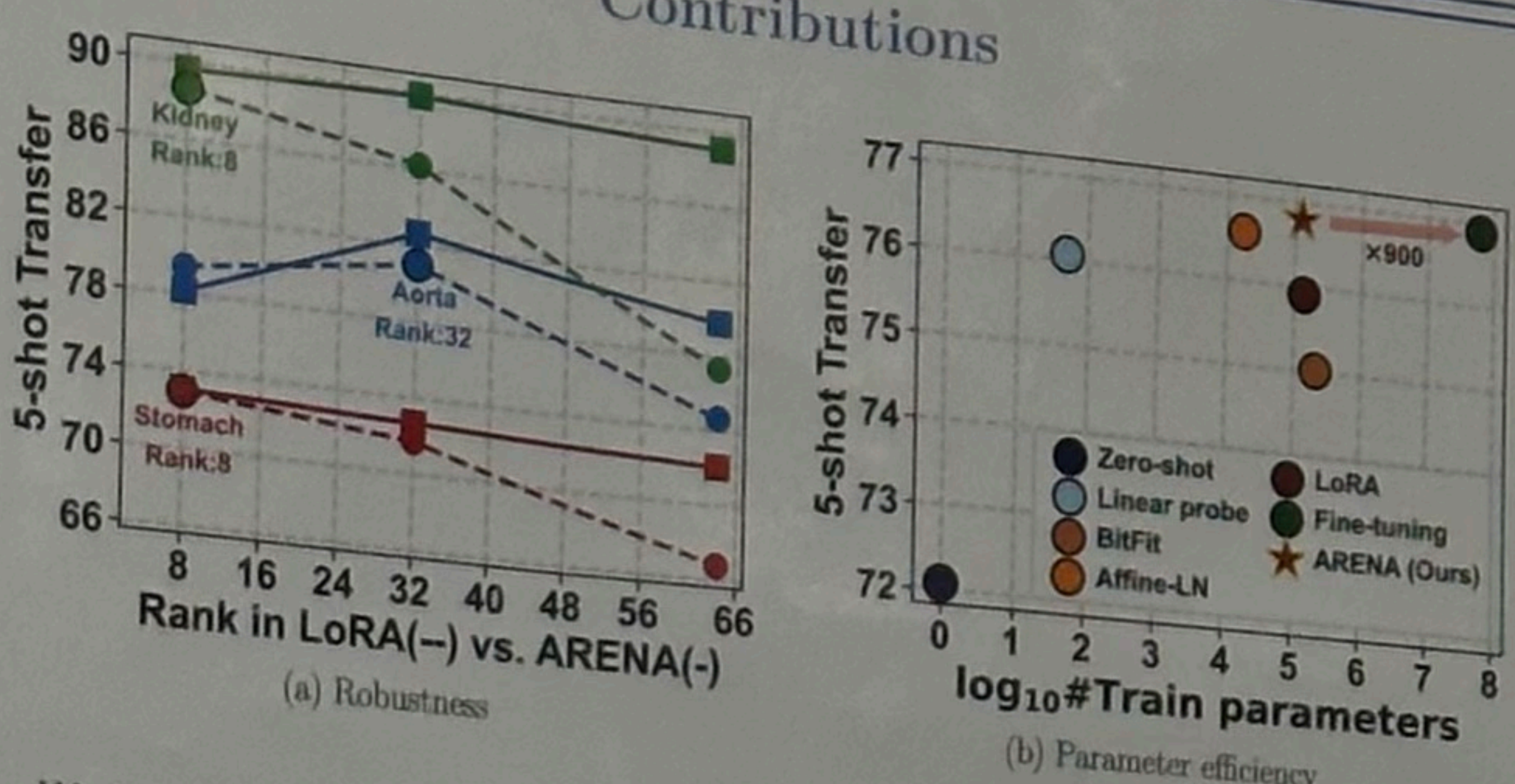
Ghassen Baklouti<sup>1, 2</sup>, Julio Silva-Rodríguez<sup>1</sup>, Jose Dolz<sup>1, 2</sup>, Houda Bahig<sup>2</sup> and Ismail Ben Ayed<sup>1, 2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup> ÉTS Montréal and <sup>2</sup> Centre de Recherche du Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (CRCHUM)  
ghassen.baklouti.1@ens.etsmtl.ca

## Low Rank Adaptation

- Idea.** Freeze  $W_0$  and approximate the incremental updates  $\Delta W$  as the product of two low-rank matrices,  $A$  and  $B$ .
- Limitation.** Standard LoRA operates with a fixed rank throughout optimization; The optimal rank selection often vary across different downstream tasks, limiting its flexibility.

$$W = W_0 + \Delta W = W_0 + BA, \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}, B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times r}, r \ll \min(m, n). \quad (1)$$

## Contributions

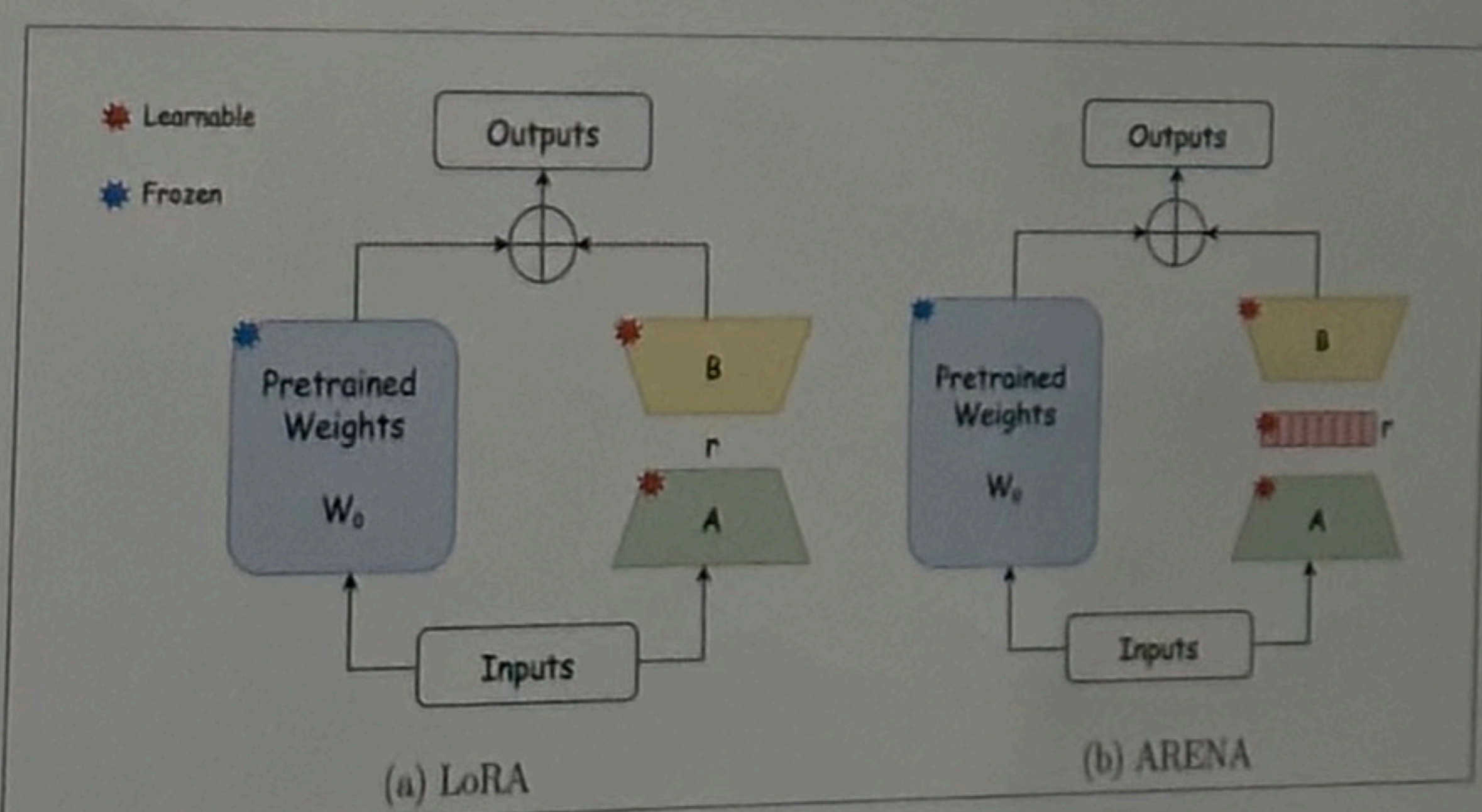


- We highlight **standard LoRA limitations** regarding rank selection in few-shot regimes; The optimal rank varies substantially across tasks.
- We propose **ARENA** (Adaptive Rank Segmentation), which models low-rank updates via SVD and integrates an  $l_1$  sparsity regularizer; Proximal updates shrink small singular values, enabling **automatic, task-specific rank discovery**; Our framework is **loss agnostic**.
- We provide **comprehensive experiments** in realistic clinical settings, covering 14 organs (9 base across two datasets and 5 novel), and demonstrate consistent gains.

## Methods

- SVD-like factorization.** We express LoRA updates in singular-value form.

$$W = W_0 + \Delta W = W_0 + B \text{Diag}(v) A \quad (2)$$



- Rank Control.** We impose an  $l_1$  regularization on the gating vector  $v$  to promote sparsity; The effective rank is given by the number of non-zero entries in  $v$ .

$$\mathcal{L}(A, B, v) + \lambda \|v\|_1 \quad (3)$$

- Dynamic Adaptation – block coordinate descent.**

- Step 1–Update  $(A, B)$ .** With  $v$  fixed, we optimize  $A$  and  $B$  via gradient descent.

$$A^{(t+1)} = A^{(t)} - \eta \nabla_A \mathcal{L}(A, B, v), \quad B^{(t+1)} = B^{(t)} - \eta \nabla_B \mathcal{L}(A, B, v) \quad (4)$$

- Step 2–Update  $v$ .** With  $(A, B)$  fixed, we update  $v$  via proximal steps for the  $l_1$  penalty.

$$v^{(t+1)} = \xi(v^{(t)} - \rho \nabla_v \mathcal{L}(A, B, v), \eta \lambda) \quad (5)$$

where  $\xi(\cdot, \tau)$  is the soft thresholding operator

$$\xi(x, \tau) := \begin{cases} x - \tau, & x > \tau \\ 0, & -\tau \leq x \leq \tau \\ x + \tau, & x < -\tau \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

## Experimental Results

- Transferability to new tasks in TotalSegmentator.** Each method is compared with decoder fine-tuning.

Method	MYO	LA	RA	LV	RV	Avg.
Linear probe	51.98	38.99	40.35	53.27	31.08	43.13
BitFit [3]	51.53	39.01	40.19	53.27	31.03	43.01
Affine-LN [1]	51.68	38.82	40.08	53.34	31.06	40.41
FFT	52.03	43.98	49.91	51.22	33.03	46.03
LoRA [2]	41.83	36.53	45.67	43.42	37.05	40.90
AdaLoRA [4]	50.28	43.59	37.35	48.53	38.73	43.70
<b>ARENA (Ours)</b>	<b>48.32</b>	<b>51.97</b>	<b>54.38</b>	<b>50.65</b>	<b>43.69</b>	<b>49.80</b>

- Transferability to base tasks in TotalSegmentator.** Average is reported over 9 organs (Spl, lKid, Gall, Eso, Liv, Pan, Sto, Duo, Aor).

Method	Gall	Eso	Liv	Pan	Aor	Avg.
Zero-shot	77.18	36.73	93.04	78.15	63.35	72.08
Linear probe	78.15	45.98	92.69	78.31	69.06	76.87
BitFit [3]	71.11	50.00	92.38	78.36	73.43	75.02
Affine-LN [1]	74.95	50.65	93.04	78.81	76.71	76.78
FFT	73.52	45.74	93.87	80.34	80.18	76.90
LoRA [2]	77.93	48.02	92.81	75.80	79.43	75.91
AdaLoRA [4]	78.11	43.76	92.98	78.35	66.49	74.96
<b>ARENA (Ours)</b>	<b>79.14</b>	<b>49.48</b>	<b>93.09</b>	<b>78.24</b>	<b>78.17</b>	<b>78.80</b>

- Generalization across datasets (FLARE'22).** Average is reported over 9 organs (Spl, lKid, Gall, Eso, Liv, Pan, Sto, Duo, Aor).

Method	Gall	Eso	Liv	Pan	Aor	Avg.
LoRA [2]	54.59	73.59	93.98	82.72	91.15	74.88
<b>ARENA (Ours)</b>	<b>55.71</b>	<b>75.04</b>	<b>94.91</b>	<b>83.61</b>	<b>91.52</b>	<b>76.81</b>

Method	Gall	Eso	Liv	Pan	Aor	Avg.
LoRA [2]	55.06	73.98	94.05	83.17	91.42	76.65
<b>ARENA (Ours)</b>	<b>55.4</b>	<b>75.00</b>	<b>95.06</b>	<b>83.59</b>	<b>91.6</b>	<b>76.37</b>

## References

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