Supplementary Material for MM1: Methods, Analysis & Insights from Multimodal LLM Pre-training

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A Dataset Details

A.1 Interleaved Image-Text Data

Following a process similar to OBELICS [14], we construct a dataset of 500M interleaved image-text documents, containing 1B images and 500B text tokens. These 500M documents are built from a collection of 3B HTML files described in Sec. A.2. From each of the HTML files, we extract the text body layer and all the tags. We remove documents that have no images or more than 30 images. We then download the images and insert them at their original positions in the text. Finally, we perform **image filtering** and **image de-duplication** to remove low-quality and repetitive images.

During image filtering, we remove images that have corrupted bytes and/or header, aspect ratio less than 1/2 or greater than 2, are too small (less than 100px) or too large (larger than 10,000px), or if their URL contains *logo*, *button*, *icon*, *plugin* or *widget*. During image de-duplication, we remove images whose URL or MD5 hash have appeared more than 10 times in the dataset. Additionally, when an image appears multiple times on a single page, we only retain its first appearance.

A.2 Text-Only Data

From an initial Web corpus of 150B English HTML files, we perform boilerplate removal to arrive at the HTML representing the main content. We then follow similar processes as GPT-3 [4] and CCNet [35] to filter out documents that are too short, contain profanity, or are otherwise considered low-quality documents. We de-duplicate the data using exact-hash matching and LSH-based near-duplicate detection. Using these methods, we arrive at 3B HTML files.

Datasets	Size	Prompting Strategy
Text-only SFT	13k	-
LLaVA-Conv [20] LLaVA-Complex [20] ShareGPT-4V [5]	57k 77k 102k	_
VQAv2 [9] GQA [10] OKVQA [24] OCRVQA [28] DVQA [11] ChartQA [25] AI2D [12] DocVQA [27] InfoVQA [26]	83k 72k 9k 80k 200k 18k 3k 39k 24k	"Answer the question using a single word or phrase."
A-OKVQA [29]	66k	"Answer with the option's letter from the given choices directly."
COCO Captions [6] TextCaps [31]	83k 22k	Sample from a pre-generated prompt list, <i>e.g.</i> , "Provide a brief description of the given image."
SynthDog-EN [13]	500k	Sample from a pre-generated prompt list, <i>e.g.</i> , "Please transcribe all the text in the picture."
Total	$ 1.45\mathrm{M} $	-

Table 1: List of datasets used for supervised fine-tuning.

A.3 Visual Instruction Tuning Data

Our final SFT data mixture contains a variety of datasets, mostly follow LLaVA-1.5 [18] and LLaVA-NeXT [19]. Specifically,

- To encourage the model to provide long-form detailed responses and perform conversations, we follow previous work, use the existing GPT-4 generated data (LLaVA-Conv and LLaVA-Complex [20]) and the existing GPT-4V generated data (ShareGPT-4V [5]) for model training. We also experimented with LAION-GPT4V, but did not observe further performance improvement, thus not included in the final mixture.
- To enhance the model with better vision-language (VL) understanding capability, we use a variety of academic task oriented VL datasets. These datasets are either in the form of image captioning, or in the form of VQA with short answers. Specifically,
 - For natural images: VQAv2 [9], GQA [10], OKVQA [24], A-OKVQA [29], and COCO Captions [6];
 - For text-rich images: OCRVQA [28], and TextCaps [31];
 - For document and chart understanding: DVQA [11], ChartQA [25], AI2D [12], DocVQA [27], InfoVQA [26], and SynthDog-En [13];
- To enhance the model's text-only instruction following capability, we also blend in a small amount of text-only SFT data.

The academic task oriented image captioning and VQA datasets are formatted into the instruction-following format, following LLaVA-1.5 [18], with detailed prompts summarized in Table 1.

В Training Details

B.1 Pre-training

Batch Size and Composition. For simplicity, all MM1 models are pre-trained with the same batch size of 512 and maximum decoder sequence length of 4096. We allow up to 16 images per input sequence, with each image resulting in 144 tokens as input to the decoder. Note that this results in roughly 1M text tokens and 1M image tokens per batch. Each input sequence is sampled from one of three types of input sources: (1) interleaved, (2) packed image-text pairs, or (3) text-only data, with sampling probability 45%, 45%, and 10%, respectively. When packing image-text pairs or interleaved documents along the sequence dimension, we modify the self-attention masks to prevent tokens from attention across example boundaries. For image-text pairs in particular, this was critical for maintaining strong few-shot performance.

Note that our sampling/mixing procedure is performed once offline and stored as a fixed deterministic snapshot of our pre-training mixture. This means, with the exception of our ablations on the pre-training mixture itself, all models in this paper are trained on the same examples in the same order. We found this was critical to ensure internal reproducibility of our results, as initial experiments showed that different random seeds in the input pipeline could have non-negligible impact on resulting models.

Learning Rate Schedule. For multimodal pre-training, MM1 employs a standard cosine learning rate decay schedule with an initial linear warmup of 2000 steps. The learning rate is then decayed to 10% of its peak value over the course of 2e5 training steps. We perform gradient clipping with max norm 1 and use the AdamW optimizer with an implementation that decouples the learning rate and weight decay. For MM1-30B, we also add a zloss term with scale 1e-4, as we observed this improves training stability, similar to [36].

The predicted optimal (peak) learning rates for each of the main LLM sizes stud-

Ν	Pred. η	Pred. λ
1.2B	8.6e-5	5.0e-6
2.9B	5.9e-5	3.5e-6
6.4B	4.2e-5	2.5e-6
30B	2.2e-5	1.3e-6

Table 3: Predicted optimal peak learning rate η and weight decay λ for MM1 model sizes.



Fig. 1: Optimal weight decay as a function of model size for the grid searches described in Sec. B.1. The x-axis is the number of (nonembedding) LLM parameters and the y-axis is weight decay.

ied in this work are shown in Table 3. For simplicity, for the actual MM1 3B,

$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	Model	Shot	Captioning			Visual Question Answering			
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$			COCO	NoCaps	TextCaps	VQAv2	TextVQA	VizWiz	OKVQA
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	MM1-3B Model Comparisons								
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Flamingo-3B [1]	0^{\dagger}	73.0	—	-	49.2	30.1	28.9	41.2
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		4	85.0	—	_	53.2	32.7	34.0	43.3
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		8 16	90.6 95.3	_	_	$55.4 \\ 56.7$	$32.4 \\ 31.8$	$\frac{38.4}{43.3}$	$44.6 \\ 45.6$
MM1-3B 4 112.3 99.7 84.1 57.9 45.3 38.0 48.6 8 114.6 104.7 88.8 63.6 44.6 46.4 48.4 16 116.8 107.6 91.6 60.9 46.1 53.8 50.5	ММ1-3В	0	73.5	55.6	63.3	46.2	29.4	15.6	26.1
8 114.6 104.7 88.8 63.6 44.6 46.4 48.4 16 116.8 107.6 91.6 60.9 46.1 53.8 50.5		4	112.3	99.7	84.1	57.9	45.3	38.0	48.6
		8 16	114.6	104.7	88.8	63.6	44.6	46.4	48.4
MM1 0D M. J. I. Communications	MM1 CD M. J.J.C.	10	110.8	107.0	91.0	60.9	40.1	03.8	50.5
MM1-7B Model Comparisons									
0' 40.0* 30.8 25.4 50.9 25.9 35.5 38.4 4 93.0* 81.3 60.0 55.4 27.6 36.9 45.4		0' 4	46.0* 93.0*	36.8 81.3	25.4 60.0	50.9 55.4	25.9 27.6	35.5 36.9	38.4 45.4
IDEFICS-9B [14] $\begin{array}{c} 4 \\ 8 \end{array}$ 97.0* 86.8 63.2 56.4 27.5 40.4 47.7	IDEFICS-9B [14]	8	97.0*	86.8	63.2	56.4	27.5	40.4	47.7
$16 99.7^* 89.4 67.4 57.0 27.9 42.6 48.4$		16	99.7*	89.4	67.4	57.0	27.9	42.6	48.4
0^{\dagger} 79.4 51.8 31.8 28.8 44.7		0^{\dagger}	79.4	_	_	51.8	31.8	28.8	44.7
Flamingo-9B [1] 4 93.1 56.3 33.6 34.9 49.3	Flamingo-9B [1]	4	93.1	-	-	56.3	33.6	34.9	49.3
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	8 [-]	8	99.0	-	—	58.0	33.6	39.4	50.0
$10 \\ 102.2 39.4 \\ 33.3 \\ 43.0 \\ 30.8 \\ 102.2 \\ 1$		- <u>10</u> 	102.2	-	_	59.4	33.0	43.0	50.8
0' 52.9 - 34.4 42.8 Emu2.14B [33] 4 58.4 - 41.3 -	Emu2-14B [33]	0' 4	_	_	_	52.9 58.4	_	34.4 41.3	42.8
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Emuz 14D [00]	8	_	—	-	59.0	-	43.9	—
0 76.3 61.0 64.2 47.8 28.8 15.6 22.6		0	76.3	61.0	64.2	47.8	28.8	15.6	22.6
MM1-7B 4 109.8 96.2 84.5 60.6 44.4 37.4 46.6	MM1-7B	4	109.8	96.2	84.5	60.6	44.4	37.4	46.6
8 116.3 106.6 88.2 63.6 46.3 45.3 51.4 16 118.6 111.1 02.1 65.2 46.0 52.2 52.0		8 16	116.3	106.6	88.2	63.6	46.3	45.3	51.4
MM1 20B Model Comparisons	MM1 20B Model C	lomnari	110.0	111.1	95.1	05.2	40.9	00.2	32.9
$\frac{1}{1000} \frac{1}{1000} \frac{1}{1000} \frac{1}{1000} \frac{1}{10000} \frac{1}{10000000000000000000000000000000000$	MM1-30D Model C	onpuri	01.0*	65.0	50.0	<u> </u>	20.0	20.0	45.0
0^{+} 91.8" 65.0 56.8 60.0 30.9 36.0 45.2 4 110.3* 99.6 72.7 63.6 34.4 40.4 52.4		0' 4	91.8 ⁺⁺ 110.3*	05.0 99.6	56.8 72.7	60.0 63.6	30.9 34.4	36.0 40.4	45.2 52.4
IDEFICS-80B [14] 8 114.3* 105.7 77.6 64.8 35.7 46.1 55.1	IDEFICS-80B [14]	8	114.3^{*}	105.7	77.6	64.8	35.7	46.1	55.1
$16 116.6^* 107.0 81.4 65.4 36.3 48.3 56.8$		16	116.6*	107.0	81.4	65.4	36.3	48.3	56.8
0^{\dagger} 84.3 56.3 35.0 31.6 50.6		0^{\dagger}	84.3	_	_	56.3	35.0	31.6	50.6
Flamingo-80B [1] 4 103.2 63.1 36.5 39.6 57.4	Flamingo-80B [1]	4	103.2	-	_	63.1	36.5	39.6	57.4
8 108.8 65.6 37.3 44.8 57.5	8 [-]	8 16	108.8	_	_	65.6 66.8	37.3	44.8	57.5 57.8
	Emu2-37B [33]			_	_	22.2	26.2	40.4	26.7
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		4	_	_	_	67.0	48.2	54.6	53.2
Emu2-37B [33] 8 67.8 49.3 54.7 54.1		8	—	—	_	67.8	49.3	54.7	54.1
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		_ 16_	-	-	-	68.8	50.3	57.0	57.1
0 70.3 54.6 64.9 48.9 28.2 14.5 24.1		0	70.3	54.6	64.9	48.9	28.2	14.5	24.1
MM1-30B 4 117.9 103.8 87.5 68.8 48.1 41.7 54.9	MM1-30B	4	117.9	103.8	87.5	68.8	48.1	41.7	54.9
125.1 111.0 92.9 70.9 49.4 49.9 58.3 16 125.3 116.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.6 57.9 50.0 97.9 59.3 16.0 97.6 71.9 50.0 97.9 50.0 97.0 97.0 97.0 97.0 97.0 97.0 97.0 9		$\frac{3}{16}$	125.1 125.3	116.0	92.9 97.6	70.9	$\frac{49.4}{50.6}$	$\frac{49.9}{57.9}$	59.3

Table 2: Complete MM1 pre-training few-shot evaluation results. (*) IDEFICS includes PMD in its training data (includes COCO). (†) These models included two text-only demonstrations in their "0" prompt, whereas MM1 does not.



Fig. 2: 8-shot average for grid searches over peak learning rate (y-axis) and weight decay (x-axis) for different LLM sizes. Black cells correspond to settings we did not run a corresponding experiment for.

7B, and 30B models, we used η equal to 6e-5, 4e-5, and 2e-5, respectively. Finally, we fix the peak LR of the randomly initialized vision-language connector of MM1 to η =8e-5 for all model sizes. For future versions of MM1, we plan on incorporating techniques similar to [37] to avoid the need to conduct costly hyperparameter searches.

Learning Rate and Weight Decay Grid Searches. The individual grid search results corresponding to the final curve fit in Figure ?? are shown in Figure 2. We train grid search models for $5e^4$ steps, as [36] found this does not alter the conclusions. We can apply the same procedure that was used for predicting optimal learning rate to predict weight decay values, as shown in Figure 1. The blue circles correspond to actual data points from the grid search with sampling probability (and darkness of color) proportional to their 8-shot average performance. The corresponding predictions for each of the main model sizes in this work are shown in Table 3.

B.2 Supervised Fine-tuning (SFT)

The model is fine-tuned for 10k steps with batch size 256 and sequence length 2048. We employ the AdaFactor optimizer with peak learning rate 1e-5 and

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cosine decay to 0. We experimented different learning rates; empirically, the value of 1e-5 is optimal. During SFT, we keep both the image encoder and the LLM *unfrozen*, as empirically, we observe that finetuning the whole model achieves better performance.

C Evaluation Details

C.1 Pre-training Evaluation

Few-shot prompts are randomly sampled perdataset from the training set if available, otherwise the validation set (ensuring the query example does not appear in any of the shots). Outputs are generated with greedy decoding until the model emits the EOS token or any additional stop tokens that can be specified on a per-task basis. The additional stop token for captioning tasks is just the newline character, and for VQA tasks we also include ".", ",", and "Question" as valid stop tokens. For postprocessing VQA predictions, we use the same logic as OpenFlamingo¹ [2]. For captioning tasks, we report CIDEr score [34] using the nlg-eval package [30]. All of our multimodal pretraining evaluations are implemented in an internal fork of EleutherAI's lm-evaluation-harness [8]

Dataset	Evaluation Split
COCO	Karpathy test
NoCaps	val
TextCaps	val
VQAv2	testdev
TextVQA	val
VizWiz	testdev
OKVQA	val

Table 4: Splits used for pretraining evaluation. Note that, unlike the main pre-training results, all pre-training ablations use the validation splits for VQAv2 and VizWiz.

C.2 SFT Evaluation Benchmarks

We evaluate our SFT models on a collection of both traditional academic VL benchmarks and recent benchmarks specifically designed for MLLMs. For academic VL benchmarks, we include VQAv2 [9], TextVQA [32], and the image subset of ScienceQA [23]. For recent MLLM benchmarks, we include POPE [16], MME [7], MMBench [21], SEED-Bench [15], LLaVA-Bench-in-the-Wild [20], MM-Vet [39], MathVista [22], and the recent popular MMMU [40]. For all the benchmarks, we use greedy decoding to generate the responses. For MM-Vet and LLaVA-Bench-in-the-Wild, which use GPT-4 for evaluation, we run the evaluation 3 times, and report the average.

C.3 SFT Evaluation Meta-Average

In the process of SFT ablation, we synthesize all benchmark results into a single meta-average number to simplify comparisons. Because the evaluation metrics of different datasets may have different ranges, we normalize with respect to a baseline configuration. This is achieved by initially standardizing the results for

¹ Specifcally, the implementation of VQAMetric (commit 60a5fd6).



Fig. 3: SFT ablations. (a) The impact of pre-training data mixture on SFT results. Here, x/y/z means that x% of the data is interleaved, y% is captions, and z% is pure text. tks: the number of image tokens. (b) The impact of different vision-language connectors on SFT results. For both (a) and (b), we first pre-train MM1-3B with the ablated setting, and then perform SFT on the pre-trained models. (c) Freezing or unfreezing the image encoder during SFT.

each task; that is, we adjust every metric by dividing it by its respective baseline, followed by averaging across all metrics. To elaborate, we establish our baseline using the performance metrics of a compact MM1 model, which is trained on 224×224 image resolution and employs attention pooling with 64 image queries.

C.4 Additional SFT Ablations

In this section, we perform SFT ablations. This section is analogous to Section 3 of the main text; here, we perform SFT on the same checkpoints and evaluate if similar lessons hold true on SFT evaluations, instead of pre-training evaluations. Furthermore, we also study whether to keep the image encoder frozen or not during SFT. For all of these ablations, we train MM1-3B-Chat.

Pre-training data mixture ablations. In Figure 3a, we compare the SFT performance with different weights for pre-training data. Pre-training with captiononly data gives the best performance across the SFT evaluation metrics. This corroborates **Data lesson 1**: caption data still lifts zero-shot performance for SFT evaluations. However, the SFT metrics do not measure few-shot performance, so the impact of the interleaved data is not noticeable in this table.

Visual-language connector ablations. In Figure 3b, we evaluate different visual-language connector configurations. As can be seen, if a low number of image tokens is used, average pooling gives similar results as C-Abstractor. When the number of image tokens is increased, the C-Abstractor configuration gives the best results. Overall, the impact of the choice of visual-language connector appears to not have a very significant impact on final test performance. Our final models use the C-Abstractor architecture.

Image encoder ablations. In Figure 3c, we study whether to keep the image encoder frozen or not during SFT. The results show that at lower image resolutions, a frozen image encoder results in better performance than an unfrozen image encoder (+2.2 points). However, at higher resolutions (*i.e.*, 1344px), it is beneficial to unfreeze the image encoder (+2.9 points). This is likely because the pre-training is performed at the base resolution without any interpolation or image sub-divisions.

C.5 Implementation Details for Few-shot MM1-30B-Chat

Our fine-tuned model can utilize in-context examples to achieve even stronger performance. Interestingly, the performance goes up when increasing the number of examples. We demonstrate this with MM1-30B-Chat.

One challenge for few-shot inputs arises due to the use of sub-image decomposition. While this strategy lifts zero-shot performance, it significantly increases the effective number of tokens consumed per image. Using 5 sub-images per input image as MM1-30B-Chat does, processing a 4-shot example where every example contains just one source image already yields 20 effective images. Representing every image with 144 tokens therefore requires 2,880 tokens for images alone, quickly exhausting limited language model context. To mitigate this limitation, we propose a new *mixed-resolution* approach. Specifically, for K in-context examples, we only encode the last N images at a high resolution via sub-image decomposition, the remaining K - N in-context examples are processed at lower resolution. This makes in-context examples much less expensive to encode and allows to increase the number of in-context examples within a fixed token budget, further increasing performance. In our implementation, we set N = 3.

We demonstrate the effectiveness of our proposed strategy using the Math-Vista benchmark. Using in-context learning with chain-of-thought, the performance of MM1-30B-Chat improves from 39.4 (0-shot) to 41.9 (4-shot, with all in-context examples using full sub-image decomposition). Applying our mixedresolution approach allows to encode additional in-context examples, enabling up to 8-shot chain of thought, further improving the performance to 44.4. This illustrates that our MM1-Chat model retains in-context learning capabilities inherited from its pre-training regimen, and that our strategy of mixed decomposition is effective at further increasing few-shot performance within a restricted context length.

D Qualitative Examples

In this section, we share qualitative examples of MM1 predictions.



Fig. 4: Examples testing MM1 counting, OCR and scientific knowledge capabilities. Images and prompts are from COCO 2014 validation set [17] and [38].



Fig. 5: Examples testing MM1 against adversarial prompts and image-prompt alignment. Images and prompts are from COCO 2014 validation set [17], [38] and [3].



Fig. 6: Examples testing MM1 ability to perceive image aesthetics and compare multiple images. Images and prompts are from COCO 2014 validation set [17] and [38].



Fig. 7: Following [38], we tested MM1 on task-oriented scenarios such as operating machines and navigating. Images and prompts are from [38].



Fig. 8: Examples testing MM1 ability at extracting information from graphics. The right part shows an example of confusion, highlighted in red. Images and prompts are from [38].



Fig. 9: Examples testing MM1 ability at reasoning across images and texts. Images are from COCO 2014 validation set [17] and MMMU dev set [40].



Fig. 10: Examples testing MM1 ability to follow instructions across multiple images (top). Examples testing MM1 at following a style or a task across few shots (bottom). Images are from COCO 2014 validation set [17] and from the authors.

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