CAN MULTI-MODAL LLMS PROVIDE LIVE STEP-BY-STEP TASK GUIDANCE?

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ABSTRACT

Multi-modal Large Language Models (LLM) have advanced conversational abilities but struggle with providing live, interactive step-by-step guidance, a key capability for future AI assistants. Effective guidance requires not only delivering instructions but also detecting their successful execution, as well as identifying and alerting users to mistakes, all of which has to happen in real-time. This requires models that are not turn-based, but that can react asynchronously to a video stream, as well as video data showing users performing tasks including mistakes and their corrections. To this end, we introduce LIVECOOK, a new benchmark and dataset built upon CaptainCook4D, which contains user mistakes during task execution. Our dataset and benchmark features densely annotated, timed instructions and feedback messages, specifically including mistake alerts precisely timestamped to their visual occurrence in the video. We evaluate state-of-the-art multi-modal LLMs on the LIVECOOK benchmark and introduce LIVEMAMBA, a streaming multi-modal LLM designed for interactive instructional guidance. This work provides the first dedicated benchmark and a strong baseline for developing and evaluating on live, situated coaching.

1 INTRODUCTION

Multi-modal Large Language Models (LLMs) have recently advanced, enabling AI systems to interact with users more naturally, fluently, and in real-time by processing audio, speech, and visual inputs for conversations about images or videos. However, to be useful as an AI assistant, multi-modal LLMs should be able to guide a user through a task – "live" – by providing interactive step-by-step instructions. This encompasses three key abilities, i) to provide the next instruction, ii) detect if the instruction has been successfully accomplished by the user, iii) if not, then detect any mistakes made by the user and alert the user as soon as possible. Consider an example where a multi-modal LLM guides a user while making, *e.g.*, Bruschetta in Fig. 1. At the stage where the tomatoes are being sliced, an instruction with the desired thickness the tomatoes needs to be provided. Then the model needs to detect whether the user has sliced the tomatoes to the desired thickness, and in the case of a mistake, the model needs to alert the user as soon as it observes the mistake. This calls for the multi-modal LLM to be able to react interactively to events in the video streams. However, current state-of-the-art multi-modal LLMs are still largely limited to turn based interactions [26, 40, 55, 56, 64] – they only produce responses when prompted by the user – or to narration tasks [8, 35].

To address the challenge of live, step-by-step coaching, we introduce the LIVECOOK dataset and benchmark, as currently available large-scale vision-language datasets and benchmarks [12, 22, 52] inadequately capture such interactive scenarios. These existing datasets and benchmarks largely consist of participants recording their daily activities or expert demonstrations, which are insufficient for effectively assessing multi-modal LLMs' ability to provide step-by-step instructions, as they lack the critical scenarios where users make mistakes or diverges from the plan. Therefore, we construct our LIVECOOK benchmark and dataset leveraging the videos from the CaptainCook4D dataset [46], specifically because they contain these vital instances of user errors. Each video within

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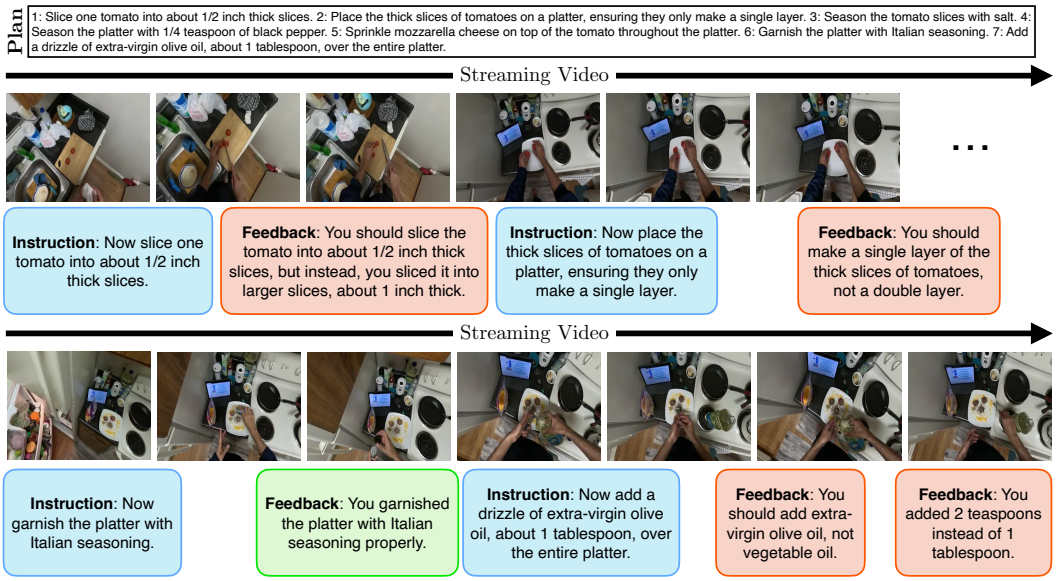

Figure 1: An overview of the step-by-step task guidance scenario in our LIVECOOK benchmark and dataset, where the multi-modal LLM provides instructions and feedback that are sufficient to guide the user towards the goal, *e.g.*, making a tomato mozzarella salad (above).

LIVECOOK is accompanied by a detailed step-by-step plan along with instructions and feedback, timed appropriately according to the recipe and any mistakes made by the user.

Our contributions in detail are, 1. We introduce the LIVECOOK dataset and benchmark[1] by extending the CaptainCook4D dataset [46], with timed instruction and feedback messages. The instruction messages describe the next recipe step to follow and the feedback messages are provided to acknowledge successful instruction completions or mistakes made by the user. They are designed to be sufficient to independently guide the user to complete the given recipe. 2. We introduce the LIVEMAMBA model, an light-weight multi-modal LLM designed to provide interactive instructions and feedback in cooking scenarios. 3. We evaluate state of the art multi-modal LLMs on our LIVECOOK benchmark, highlighting the strong performance of our LIVEMAMBA model in such interactive scenarios.

2 RELATED WORK

Datasets for Procedural Activities. We provide an overview of related datasets and benchmarks in Tab. 1. The Epic-Kitchens [12] dataset consists of ego-centric videos that document unscripted, daily activities within a kitchen environment. The Ego-Exo4D [23] dataset incorporates a considerably diverse array of human activities, as performed by subjects exhibiting with a variety of skill levels. However, the videos in these datasets are not driven by a specific (multi-step) goal (Tab. 1, col 3). Assembly-101 [49] features videos of people with diverse skill levels assembling and disassembling 101 "take-apart" toy vehicles. HowTo100M [44] and COIN [52] provides narrated instructional videos, featuring a variety of activities. The YouCook2 [66] dataset contains cooking videos of diverse recipes. However, the subjects in these datasets are usually experts and the videos do not contain mistakes, unlike our LIVECOOK benchmark and dataset (Tab. 1, col 5). Finally, HoloAssist [57] and WTAG [5] include videos where subjects are provided live feedback by tele-operator, that cover certain mistakes or user queries. But unlike LIVECOOK benchmark and dataset, these feedback are not sufficient to independently guide the subject towards completion of the high-level goal.

Multi-modal Large Language Models. Vision language models have seen amazing progress in recent years following the language modeling breakthroughs. Earlier efforts on contrastive learning of vision and language representations led to CLIP [48] like architectures [27, 30, 31]. However, more recent works have reformulated vision tasks as text generation tasks giving rise to a diverse

[1] https://huggingface.co/qualcomm/qualcomm-interactive-cooking-dataset

Table 1: Comparison to our LIVECOOK dataset and benchmark (Ours): where, *Mult-step Goal Driven* refers to whether the videos are driven by a specific goal (*e.g.*, cooking a recipe); *Step-by-Step Instructions*: whether the videos contain subjects following a set of step-by-step instructions; and *Timed feedback*: whether the subjects receive timed feedback per step that are sufficient to guide the subjects to the goal.

Dataset	Domain	Multi-step Goal Driven	Step-by-Step Instructions	Timed Feedback	Length (hrs)
Epic-Kitchens [12]	Cooking	×	×	×	100
Ego-4D [22]	Daily-life	×	×	×	3670
Ego-Exo4D [23]	Daily-life	×	×	×	1422
Assembly-101 [49]	Toy Assembly	✓	×	×	513
HoloAssist [57]	Obj. manip.	✓	×	×	166
HowTo100M [44]	Diverse	✓	✓	×	134k
COIN [51]	Diverse	✓	✓	×	512
YouCookv2 [66]	Cooking	✓	✓	×	176
WTAG [5]	Cooking	✓	✓	×	10
QEVD [45]	Fitness	×	✓	✓	474
Ours	Cooking	✓	✓	✓	94

array of large multi-modal language models [1, 4, 21, 54, 55, 56] building on the success of large language models (LLMs). Early works in this space like Flamingo [2] leveraged pre-trained language models and vision adapters to align the language and visual representational spaces. Follow up works like Llava [39], InstructBLIP [11] instruction tuned these models to enable excellent multi-modal dialogue capabilities. These works were primarily applied to image data which have since been generalized to videos [3, 28, 33, 36, 43, 63]. While these models can take videos as input, they only enable turn based interaction, *i.e.*, the models usually answer a question or narrate the whole video lacking the ability to interactively respond to events in the video unlike our LIVEMAMBA model.

Streaming Video Large Language Models. Many recent works have started to explore online video understanding with large multi-modal language models. VideoLLM-online [8] proposes a framework to enable online dialogue over videos with LLMs and use it to train models to narrate long streaming videos. ReKV [13] proposes a training free approach to enable existing video language models to solve streaming visual question answering (StreamVQA). Similarly, TimeChat-Online [61], StreamChat [41], LiveCC [9], Flash Vstream [65], StreamMind [14], LION-FS [35] introduce various innovations to make multi-modal language models to work on streaming video tasks. This has also prompted development of many streaming video benchmarks [6, 37, 45, 47, 58, 60]. However, all of the previous benchmarks deal with different forms of VQA where the model is asked questions paired with streaming video in natural settings whereas we deal with multi-step interactive videos where the model needs responds to the visual input without being prompted in a goal-directed setting.

3 LIVECOOK BENCHMARK AND DATASET

Here we introduce the LIVECOOK benchmark and dataset to evaluate the ability of multi-modal LLMs to provide step-by-step instructions, focusing on the cooking domain. The LIVECOOK benchmark and dataset uses the videos from the CaptainCook4D [46] dataset as it contains actions with mistakes. This allows us to create a setup akin to a "non-reactive simulation", where we task the multi-modal LLM to produce the right instruction and feedback at the appropriate time, but the subject is non-compliant. Such a setup still provides us with useful insight into ability of multi-modal LLMs to provide step-by-step task guidance, as fully reactive setups are not possible with offline datasets.

Instruction and Feedback Protocol. The instructions and feedback are annotated using the following protocol, starting from a step-by-step plan. The first instruction of the plan occurs at the beginning of the video. If the user makes a mistake while completing the instruction, our benchmark and dataset contains a corresponding feedback just after it occurs. If an instruction is completed successfully, it is acknowledged. As long as the subject tries to complete the given instruction, irrespective of mistakes, we provide the instruction for the next step. If the user performs actions which are not aligned with the instruction, *e.g.*, performing recipe steps out of order, we update the step-by-step

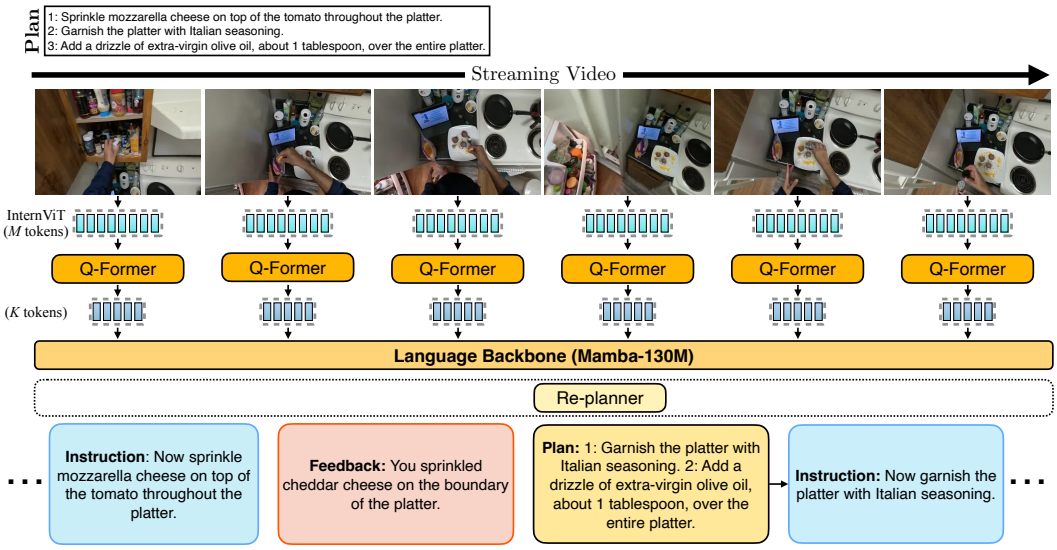

Figure 2: Our LIVEMAMBA model architecture. The input video stream is processed by an InternViT vision head which produces M tokens, and is then reduced to K tokens by a Q-Former. The language backbone produces feedback and invokes the Re-planner if necessary before the next instruction.

plan, *e.g.*, by repeating the instruction (see advanced planning set). Once all the steps are completed, we acknowledge the completion for the whole plan.

Annotation Process. To generate instructions and feedback we leverage the annotations for temporal action segments with action descriptions in the CaptainCook4D dataset. We also leverage the mistake descriptions for the actions containing mistakes. First, we begin by removing noisy mistake annotations and then we annotate the timestamps where those mistakes occur. This allows us to annotate timely feedback for each mistake. We do this for all types of mistakes except `order error` and `missing steps`. Those mistakes reflect the cases where the subject ignores the provided instruction, *i.e.*, they perform a recipe step out of order or ignore the recipe step completely. Such cases require more complex reasoning from the multi-modal LLM, as the model needs to reason using the information of the instructions completed in the past and the remaining future steps. Thus, we propose two sets of our LIVECOOK benchmark and dataset: Main Set and Advanced Planning Set. The training, validation, and testing splits within each set follow the original video recoding split from CaptainCook4D, and the test splits correspond to the LIVECOOK benchmark.

Main Set. This set reflect the case where the user largely follows the given instruction. To build the step-by-step plan for this set we leverage the order of the actions in the video. First we sort the actions by their start time. Normally one action forms one step in the plan. In cases where actions are performed in parallel (compound actions), we group those actions into the same step. In this set, instructions are to be given according to their order in the plan, thus eliminating the need for complex reasoning to provide the next instruction.

Advanced Planning Set. This set targets scenarios where the user diverges from the prescribed sequence, such as performing steps out of order. To construct it, we use the graph-structured recipe for each CaptainCook4D video to determine the correct step order. When the user does not follow the given instruction, we notify them and identify the action being performed based on the initial plan. The future instruction sequence is then updated to reflect this action (examples in the supplementary material). The test split includes only videos where the user diverges from the initial plan at least once. To reduce complexity, we further restrict the test set to videos without compound actions.

4 LIVEMAMBA FOR STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

To deal with the challenge of guiding a user through step-by-step instructions we propose our LIVEMAMBA model. It is a vision-language model with a vision encoder and language model

backbone to produce step-by-step instructions and feedback at the appropriate time-step. Given a plan with a set of step-by-step instructions, the LIVEMAMBA model, shown in Fig. 2, provides the next instruction to the user, waits for the user to complete the instruction or make a mistake and provide a feedback message. To enable this interactive mode of operation, our LIVEMAMBA has the following key novel features: 1. It knows "when to speak", *i.e.*, it is trained to respond at the appropriate time step when the user has successfully completed the provided instruction or has made a mistake. 2. To recognize the diverse set of possible mistakes that could be made by the user, the LIVEMAMBA model is trained using a novel data augmentation scheme during the fine-tuning phase. 3. To provide the next relevant instruction, the LIVEMAMBA model re-plans using an external re-planning module, in case the user diverges from the provided instruction and performs a step out of order. Furthermore, the LIVEMAMBA incorporates a recurrent Mamba-130M [24] language model backbone to enable efficient training and inference over long video streams.

4.1 LIVEMAMBA ARCHITECTURE

The LIVEMAMBA architecture consists of a vision encoder and a light-weight but powerful language backbone. A key consideration of the architecture of our LIVEMAMBA model is efficiency. For real-world application of our LIVEMAMBA model, inference using our model should ideally be possible using compute constrained edge devices such as mobile phones or smart glasses. Reliance on external servers with larger compute capabilities is both costly and comes with additional latency issues. A second key consideration is that the cooking activities in the LIVECOOK benchmark requires recognition of fine-grained actions and small objects, *e.g.*, adding the correct amount of salt, coating a cup vs a bowl with oil. Next, we describe these components in more detail.

Vision Encoder. The vision encoder consists of a InternViT-300M-448px-V2_5 [10] head along with a Q-Former [32] based adapter. As shown in Fig. 2 the InternViT head produces M tokens per input video frame. As we use a light-weight language backbone, we do not want to offload raw visual processing to the language backbone and thus employ a powerful Q-Former with multiple transformer layers. For every input video frame, the Q-Former reduces the M tokens to K tokens which are then input to the language backbone. To generate these K tokens, the Q-Former uses four cross attention layers to gradually blend in the important visual information from the input video frame. These tokens are then used as input to the language backbone, interleaved with the text tokens corresponding to the step-by-step plan, instructions and feedback.

"When-to-Say". To respond at the appropriate timestep, following [8, 45] our LIVEMAMBA model uses two special tokens ¡vision¿ and ¡response¿. The ¡vision¿ token allows the LIVEMAMBA model to interactively ask for the next video frame as input, while ¡response¿ allows the LIVEMAMBA to respond with an instruction or a feedback at the appropriate time.

Iterative Re-planning. To determine the next instruction, we employ the following strategy. If the user executes the current instruction—whether correctly or with errors—the subsequent step from the original plan is issued. On the other hand, if the user diverges from the prescribed sequence and performs an out-of-order step, our LIVEMAMBA invokes an external re-planner (see Fig. 2). The re-planner receives as input the initial step-by-step plan, the set of completed steps, and feedback generated by LIVEMAMBA, and then selects the next optimal step to ensure successful task completion. In yet another scenario, if the intended step is skipped, the re-planner evaluates whether repeating the current instruction is appropriate given the user's progress. Similarly, if a step is completed prematurely, the re-planner determines whether to remove it from the remaining plan. This iterative and selective re-planning mechanism provides two principal advantages. First, it enables selective use of large-scale models with enhanced reasoning capabilities only when necessary; in our implementation, Qwen3-32B [16] serves as the re-planner. Second, it eliminates the need for LIVEMAMBA to internally store and recall the entire plan, allowing it to focus exclusively on delivering accurate and timely feedback (more details in the appendix).

4.2 LIVEMAMBA TRAINING

We now provide details of our training scheme, which is composed of two stages.

Pre-training. This stage aligns the Q-Former's vision embeddings with the language backbone's text embeddings by training only the Q-Former adapter. We use a diverse set of image and video datasets to instill two key visual skills: First, for object grounding, LIVEMAMBA is trained on image datasets like LVIS [25] (for diverse household objects) and on video data using VISOR annotations from EPIC-KITCHENS [12]. Tasks include image/video captioning, object recognition, and bounding box prediction. Second, for fine-grained action understanding, LIVEMAMBA learns action recognition from SSv2 [20] and video narration from EPIC-KITCHENS and Ego4D. Narration helps ground the model to actions in these large-scale egocentric datasets, particularly cooking activities.

Fine-tuning. During the fine-tuning phase the LIVEMAMBA model is trained to provide the appropriate instructions and feedback at the appropriate time, using the ¡vision¿ and ¡feedback¿ special tokens as described above. At this stage, both the Q-Former's based adapter and the language backbone is trained. The LIVEMAMBA needs to recognize the successful completion of instructions and mistakes. To this end, in addition to training on the step-by-step instructions and feedbacks from our LIVECOOK dataset, we apply several augmentations as described below.

4.3 LIVEMAMBA AUGMENTATION

We now provide details of our data augmentation scheme during the fine-tuning phase.

Temporal Augmentation. To maintain temporal accuracy of feedbacks while dealing with long videos in the LIVECOOK benchmark, we introduce temporal jittering during training. Specifically, we jitter the starting timestamp of each instruction by a constant $\pm$K seconds. This temporal jittering deals that fact that predictions by autoregressive models, *e.g.*, our LIVEMAMBA, can accumulate errors. Jittering the starting timestamp of an instruction ensures that the LIVEMAMBA can successfully predict feedbacks irrespective of the previous accumulated error. We find $K = 30$ to work well.

Instruction Completion Augmentation. To help the LIVEMAMBA recognize the successful completion of instructions, we augment our training set by converting videos from the EPIC-KITCHENS and Ego4D datasets to the step-by-step instruction and feedback format of our LIVECOOK dataset. In detail, we consider the action descriptions in the EPIC-KITCHENS dataset and the Ego4D Goal-Step datasets and use a Qwen2.5-8B model [15] to convert these action descriptions to instructions. We provide the instruction at the action start time and feedback message at the action end timestamp. As these datasets do not contain mistakes, feedback messages acknowledge successful completion.

Counterfactual Mistake Augmentation. Recognizing mistakes and providing timely feedback is a key challenge of our LIVECOOK benchmark. To this end, we formulate a novel data augmentation scheme to generate (counterfactual) mistakes in the EPIC-KITCHENS and Ego4D datasets. First, we convert the action description to plausible grounded counterfactual action descriptions. These grounded counterfactual action descriptions are used to generate instructions and thus construct scenarios where the user tries to follow the given instruction but makes a mistake (more details in the appendix). To help recognize divergent mistakes, where the user does not follow the provided instruction, we augment the fine-tuning dataset by swapping instructions between recipe steps. The feeback is constructed to explicitly state that the user did not follow the provided instruction and instead performed a different action. This format of feedback triggers the re-planning module during the inference stage (more details in the appendix).

5 EXPERIMENTS

We use the following metrics to measure both the ability of the models to detect successfully completed instructions and to provide feedback when mistakes occur.

Instruction Completion Accuracy (IC-Acc). IC-Acc measures the proportion of instructions that the model correctly detects as successfully completed by the user. Specifically, this requires that the model provides the correct instruction, the user completes it, and the model identifies this completion. To mitigate temporal annotation noise, we consider a prediction correct if it falls within a small window centered on the ground-truth completion time. In practice, a 30-second window is sufficient: it typically spans the last $\sim$25% of the current step and the first $\sim$25% of the next step in the LIVECOOK benchmark, balancing robustness to noise with accuracy.

Table 2: Zero-shot evaluation on the main set of the LIVECOOK benchmark.

	Instruction	Mistake				
Method	IC-Acc↑	Prec.↑	Rec.↑	F1↑	BERT↑	ROUGE-L↑
LLaVA-NeXT [40]	1.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000	0.000
Video-ChatGPT [43]	1.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000	0.000
VideoChat2 [34]	1.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000	0.000
Video-LLaVA [67, 38]	2.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000	0.000
VideoLLaMA3-7B [62]	1.8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000	0.000
Videollm-online [8]	0.03	0.02	**0.98**	0.04	0.332	0.248
Qwen2-VL-7B [56]	6.3	0.02	0.69	**0.05**	0.377	0.256
Qwen2.5-VL-7B [19]	18.9	**0.18**	0.01	0.02	0.299	0.219
Gemini-2.5-Flash [53]	**23.1**	0.01	0.22	0.02	*0.410*	*0.342*

Table 3: Evaluation of fine-tuned models on LIVECOOK (†indicates models fine-tuned by us).

	Instruction	Mistake				
Method	IC-Acc↑	Prec.↑	Rec.↑	F1↑	BERT↑	ROUGE-L↑
Main Set						
Videollm-online† [8]	7.6	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.434	0.412
LIVEMAMBA (w/o-ICAug)	7.8	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.605	0.542
LIVEMAMBA (w/o-CFAug)	14.3	0.12	0.03	0.05	0.558	0.511
LIVEMAMBA (Ours)	**31.5**	**0.17**	**0.10**	**0.13**	*0.651*	*0.561*
Advanced Planning Set						
LIVEMAMBA (w/o-reP)	10.9	**0.38**	0.10	0.16	0.912	0.901
LIVEMAMBA (Ours)	**12.6**	**0.38**	**0.13**	**0.19**	*0.941*	*0.927*

Table 4: Turn-based evaluation of on the main set of the LIVECOOK benchmark.

	Instruction	Mistake				
Method	IC-Acc↑	Prec.↑	Rec.↑	F1↑	BERT↑	ROUGE-L↑
VideoLLaMA3-7B [62]	17.8	0.08	**0.61**	**0.15**	0.406	0.346
Qwen2-VL-7B [56]	19.4	0.06	0.46	0.11	*0.398*	*0.293*
Qwen2.5-VL-7B [19]	**38.9**	**0.11**	0.04	0.06	0.348	0.230
LIVEMAMBA† (Ours)	**51.0**	**0.22**	0.17	**0.19**	*0.631*	*0.535*

Mistake Detection Precision (Prec.), Recall (Rec.) and F1. To calculate mistake detection Precision, Recall, and F1 scores in our interactive streaming setup, we define: • *Mistake True Positive*: A mistake detected by the model within a small temporal window centered on the timestamp of a ground truth mistake. • *Mistake False Negative*: A ground truth mistake that the model fails to detect within this temporal window. • *Mistake False Positive*: A mistake detected by the model when no corresponding ground truth mistake occurs within the temporal window. • *Mistake True Negative*: An instruction correctly followed by the user (no ground truth mistake) where the model correctly detects no mistake. We use the same temporal window size as in the IC-Acc metric.

Mistake Feedback Fluency (BERT and ROUGE-L). To measure the fluency of the models in providing appropriate feedback, we use the ROUGE-L and BERT scores. We only consider the fluency of feedback provided in case true positive mistake detections. That is, when the feedback is provided within the temporal window of a ground truth feedback as described above. Importantly, these scores are only meaningful when comparing models with similar true positive detection rates, since differences in detection accuracy can confound fluency comparisons. This is because models with lower detection rates produce fewer feedback instances, which can skew the distribution of ROUGE and BERT scores and make fluency appear artificially higher or lower.

5.1 ZERO-SHOT EVALUATION

State of the art multi-modal LLMs are usually limited to turn-based interactions. Applying such models to the streaming setup of the LIVECOOK benchmark is thus highly challenging. Therefore, we need to employ a special online prompting strategy. This strategy involves prompting the model at regular intervals to detect both successful completions of instructions and mistakes. However prompting after every input frame is not computationally feasible. To balance accuracy and compute requirements, we prompt the models at an interval of 5 seconds. (details in the appendix).

On the other hand, streaming multi-modal LLMs such as Videollm-online [8] are targeted at providing online narrations of input video streams. Such models are therefore not directly applicable to our LIVECOOK benchmark. To evaluate, we generate online narrations for each video and stream them with the current instruction to a "helper" LLM (Phi-3-mini-4k-Instruct [18]) that judges completion; if yes we proceed, else it flags mistakes and provides corrective feedback.

We report the zero-shot evaluation results in Tab. 2 for the main set of the LIVECOOK benchmark. Overall, Gemini-2.5-Flash [55] performs best. It can recognize 18.9% of instructions being successfully completed by the user. Models such as VideoLLaMA3-7B [62], Video-LLaVA [38, 67], VideoChat2 [34], Video-ChatGPT [43], LLaVA-NeXT [40] have trouble following instructions. Even when prompted to detect if the person has completed a given instruction these models tend to answer "yes" too early. This highlights a gap in understanding scenes as they unfold in a streaming setup. This is likely an artifact of the question-answer style training scheme of these models where the entire video is always available to the model. Furthermore, Videollm-online [8] predicts narrations which are not fully informative of the action and therefore a mistake is detected very often leading to a very high mistake recall and a very low instruction completion detection accuracy.

Overall, when it comes to mistake detection, none of the zero-shot approaches performs well. Qwen2-VL-7B-Instruct [56] overestimates the occurrence of mistakes, leading to higher recall but low precision. Qwen2.5-VL-7B-Instruct [19] on the other hand is more precise in detecting mistakes, but with low overall F1 score. This weak performance can be attributed to the fact that detecting mistakes in the LIVECOOK benchmark is very challenging due to a variety of reasons. First is the fine-grained nature of many mistakes, *i.e.*, taking 1 teaspoon vs 1 tablespoon or 2 teaspoons of sugar, spilling flour on the kitchen counter etc, requires both fine-grained object recognition and action-recognition abilities. This is made additionally challenging by the fact that the model needs to look out of a diverse set of possible mistakes. Secondly, mistakes need to be detected as soon as they occur (similar to the instruction completions). This again exposes the limitations of current models in understanding scenes as they unfold in a streaming setup.

5.2 EVALUATION OF FINE-TUNED MODELS

Here we evaluate our LIVEMAMBA model fine-tuned on the LIVECOOK dataset. Unlike the zero-shot baselines such as Qwen2.5-VL-7B-Instruct [19] in Tab. 2, our LIVEMAMBA model is fully interactive, *i.e.*, it can decide "when to say" to point out successful completion of instructions and mistakes after every input frame. Thus, it does not require expensive prompting strategies. We also consider two ablations of our LIVEMAMBA model on the main benchmark set: 1. without instruction completion augmentation (w/o-ICAug), 2. without counterfactual augmentation (w/o-CFAug), In case of the advanced planning set, we consider an ablation without an external re-planning module (w/o-rP).

Firstly, in Tab. 3 we see that our LIVEMAMBA model significantly improves performance over the zero-shot models in Tab. 2. We show example predictions of our model in Fig. 3. The weaker performance of the fine-tuned Videollm-online model shows that pre-training only on narration data is not sufficient. Furthermore, the use of our efficient Mamba-130M backbone [24] allows us to use a higher number of embedding tokens per frame (32 vs 10) at similar memory costs compared to transformer based models such as Videollm-online. In addition to the pre-training data, the key reasons for the improved performance of the LIVEMAMBA model is our data augmentation scheme during the fine-tuning phase. The addition of instruction completion augmentation (ICAug) leads to a significant improvement in IC-Acc from 7.8% to 14.3% in the main set along with an improvement in mistake F1 scores. The improvement in mistake F1 score is particularly interesting, as correctly recognizing successful completion of instructions helps the LIVEMAMBA more precisely point out mistakes. Furthermore, the addition of counterfactual mistake augmentation (CFAug) significantly boosts the mistake F1 score from 0.05 to 0.10 in the main set, along with a significant jump in

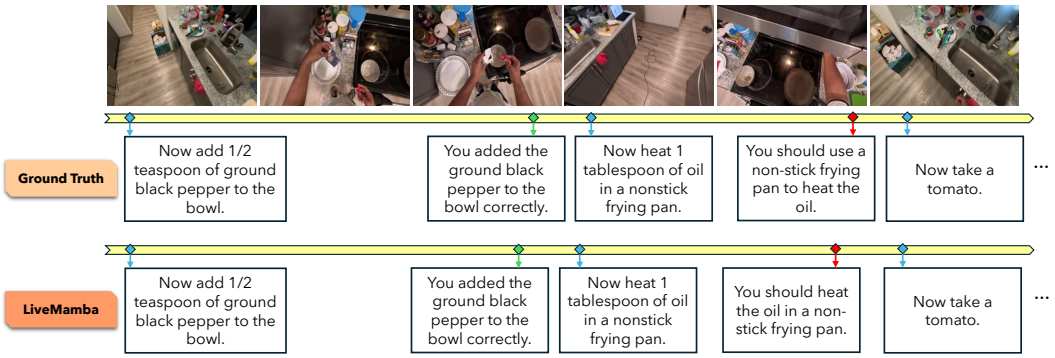

Figure 3: Our LIVEMAMBA is able to successfully recognize the person has added the black pepper as instructed and points out when the person should heat the oil in a non-stick frying pan, in the LIVECOOK benchmark.

feedback fluency. The significant jump in mistake detection accuracy shows that the curation of high quality mistake data is a promising direction for future research. Furthermore, we see that the use of the external re-planning module leads to better performance on the advanced planning set. The external re-planning module helps the LIVEMAMBA select the next instruction in case of divergent mistakes over the complex graph structured recipes in the LIVECOOK benchmark from CaptainCook4D. Also note that, our counterfactual (divergent) mistake augmentation scheme significantly boosts the mistake detection scores in this set. Overall, providing the correct instruction in the advanced planning set remains highly challenging, as shown by the lower IC-Acc scores. Note that, the majority of the mistakes in the advanced planning set are divergent: they point out the intended action given the instruction and the divergent action. Furthermore, the mistake detection scores are calculated only when the provided instruction matches with the groundtruth instruction. Thus, the mistake detection scores are not comparable across the main and advanced planning sets.

5.3 TURN-BASED EVALUATION

The streaming evaluation in Tabs. 2 and 3 tested models on multi-step user guidance, a setup inherently challenging due to error propagation; for instance, failing to detect instruction completion renders subsequent predictions incorrect. While this reflects real-world scenarios where accurate completion detection is vital for task guidance, such difficulty can make it more challenging to measure progress on the LIVECOOK benchmark. Therefore, we also propose a turn-based evaluation, where models are assessed on each recipe step independently. We report the results in Tab. 4 on the main set of the LIVECOOK benchmark. Overall we observe much higher IC-Acc scores compared to the streaming setup of Tabs. 2 and 3. Most significantly, we observe higher mistake precision, recall, F1 scores of our fine-tuned LIVEMAMBA model compared to the zero-shot models. This again shows that fine-tuning on our LIVECOOK dataset along with our data augmentation scheme during fine-tuning allows our LIVEMAMBA model to better recognize mistakes compared to zero-shot baselines. Thus, the turn-based evaluation in Tab. 4 along with the streaming setup in Tabs. 2 and 3 together provide a more detailed picture of progress on the LIVECOOK benchmark.

6 CONCLUSION

We address the challenge of enabling multi-modal LLMs to provide live, interactive step-by-step guidance. To this end, we introduce LIVECOOK dataset and benchmark, featuring densely annotated, timed instructions and feedback, including for mistakes, timestamped to visual occurrences. We also propose LIVEMAMBA, a novel streaming multi-modal LLM designed for this task. LIVEMAMBA utilizes a lightweight Mamba backbone, a "when-to-say" mechanism, novel data augmentation for mistake recognition, and iterative re-planning for adaptive delivery. Evaluations show existing multi-modal LLMs struggle with live task guidance, whereas LIVEMAMBA, establishes a strong baseline, significantly outperforming others in diverse metrics.

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A OVERVIEW

In the following we provide details of the annotation process of our LIVECOOK dataset and benchmark, details of the re-planner used in the LIVEMAMBA model, training details of our LIVEMAMBA model, additional qualitative results from our LIVEMAMBA model, and details of the prompts used for zero-shot evaluation.

B LIVECOOK ANNOTATION DETAILS

Our LIVECOOK dataset and benchmark is built upon the CaptainCook4D dataset [46]. The CaptainCook4D dataset contains 384 videos in total. Each video records a person preparing a dish given a recipe, such as breakfast burritos and tomato mozzarella salad, from an egocentric view. Each video is associated with a graph-structured recipe[1], and annotated with temporal action segments: action descriptions with the corresponding starting time and ending time. If an action contains a mistake, then there is a description of the mistake. However, there is no timestamp annotation for the mistake. The average duration of action segments in CaptainCook4D is about 52.78 seconds , which is about 106 frames if using frame rate as 2. This also motivates us to use a light-weight Mamba based model to encode more frames given the hardware constraint.

The CaptainCook4D dataset includes 7 categories of mistakes: `preparation error`, `technique error`, `measurement error`, `temperature error`, `timing error`, `order error`, and `missing steps`. We annotate the timestamps of the mistakes when they just happened. We remove some noisy mistake annotations in CaptainCook4D, and annotate for all mistake categories except for `order error` and `missing steps`. Tab. 5 shows the numbers of mistake instances per mistake category. Note, we show the mistake statistics here for a complete description of the LIVECOOK dataset and benchmark. This mistake category information is not used in our experiments presented in the paper.

Our LIVECOOK features with a step-by-step plan, and timestamped instructions and feedback for each video recording. In what follows, we describe how we obtain those for the main set and advanced planning set respectively.

B.1 MAIN SET

In the main set (Fig. 4), we assume that the user always tries to follow the given instruction. That is, there is no action order error. Given a video, we first sort the actions by their starting time in ascending order (primary key) and ending time in descending order (secondary key). Based on this order, we build the step-by-step plan. Usually one action description forms one step in the plan. In cases where one action is temporally contained in another action (actions performed in parallel), we group those action descriptions into one step. Accordingly, we create action groups, where one step in the plan corresponds to one action group. The first step in the plan provides the contents for the next instruction to be given.

Given a video, we treat the first action's starting time as the video starting time and the first instruction is given at that time. Once an action finishes, its description is removed from the step-by-step plan. Once all the actions in the current action group finish, the current step in the plan will be empty. We remove the empty step in the plan and give the instruction for the next step. The instruction is a sentence containing all the information in the action descriptions in the step. Once an action finishes successfully, we acknowledge the success via summarizing the description of the just finished action, and using the words like successfully, correctly, properly, and etc. This type of feedback is given at the action's ending time. If an action contains a mistake, we give the feedback regarding the mistake at our annotated timestamp. The feedback is a sentence pointing out the mistake based on the mistake description given in CaptainCook4D. Once all the steps in the initial plan are completed, we output the feedback "`You have finished all the steps.`" to acknowledge the completion. Fig. 4 shows data samples from the main set. Whenever an action finishes, it is removed from the step-by-step plan. The examples show that recognizing mistakes requires fine-grained understanding of user actions and objects in the scene across long time-horizons.

[1]Examples can be found at `https://captaincook4d.github.io/captain-cook/recipe.html`.

Table 5: Mistake category statistics.

Split	Preparation Err.	Technique Err.	Measurement Err.	Temperature Err.	Timing Err.
Main Set					
Training	198	224	159	27	78
Validation	63	79	68	10	37
Testing	110	156	113	17	49
Advanced Planning Set					
Training	182	216	152	27	75
Validation	54	66	55	10	32
Testing	68	85	74	10	26

Table 6: Re-plan statistics on the advanced planning set (averaged over videos requiring re-planning in each split).

Split	Number of Videos Requiring Re-planning	Average Video Length (minutes)	Average Number of Instructions	Average Number of Re-plan Steps
Training	94	12.8	13.2	4.3
Validation	29	13.2	13.6	4.8
Testing	36	12.9	13.4	6.1

B.2 Advanced Planning Set

In the advanced planning set (Figs. 5 and 6), we include cases where the user performs an action diverging from the instruction. Given a video with its associated graph-structured recipe, we append the actions that are not performed in the video (missing steps) to the ordered actions from the main set. We then topologically sort the actions using the Kahn's algorithm [29]. We discard some videos which can not be topologically sorted, because there exist actions in the video but absent from the recipe graph. This (newly) sorted action order is used to build the step-by-step plan. Normally one action description forms one step in the plan. We group consecutive action descriptions into the same step only if there exists a step in the main set's plan containing the exact same action descriptions. Note that the action groups remain consistent with the main set. An important difference to the main set is that, it is possible to have divergence between a step in the plan and the corresponding action group, in case the user does not follow the given instruction.

As in the main set, once the user finishes an action, we remove its description from the plan and remove any empty step; and once all the actions in the current action group are finished, we provide the instruction for the next step. If the action group matches the corresponding step, that is, the user performs actions following the given instruction, we follow the same convention as in the main set. If the user performs an action diverging from the given instruction, we notify the user in the feedback. Specifically, if the action is performed without mistakes but does not follow the instruction, the feedback is given at the action's end time, starting with the sentence "`You did not follow the instruction.`" and describing the action that is performed. If the action performed contains mistakes, the feedback is given when the mistake occurs, starting with the sentence "`You are not following the instruction.`", describing the action that the user is trying to perform based on the initial plan, and pointing out the mistake.

In cases where the current step is not empty after all actions in the current action group finish, that is, the instruction is not followed at all or partially completed, we manually decide whether to keep or remove the current step in the plan based on the actions that the user has performed. This corresponds to the cases that require re-planning as the set of future steps need to be updated. Tab. 6 shows the "re-plan" statistics in our advanced planning set. As can be seen from the table, re-planning is required for about every 2.7 instructions or every 2.6 minutes on average. Figs. 5 and 6 show data samples from the advanced planning set. Note, in Figs. 5 and 6, "Plan" means that the action follows the instruction, and thus once the current step is finished, it is removed from the step-by-step plan. "Re-plan" means that the action diverges from the instruction, and when giving the next instruction, we need to decide whether to (re)instruct the user about the current step or not.

Figure 4: Data samples from the main set. Left: the user prepares spicy tuna avocado wraps. Right: the user prepares spiced hot chocolate.

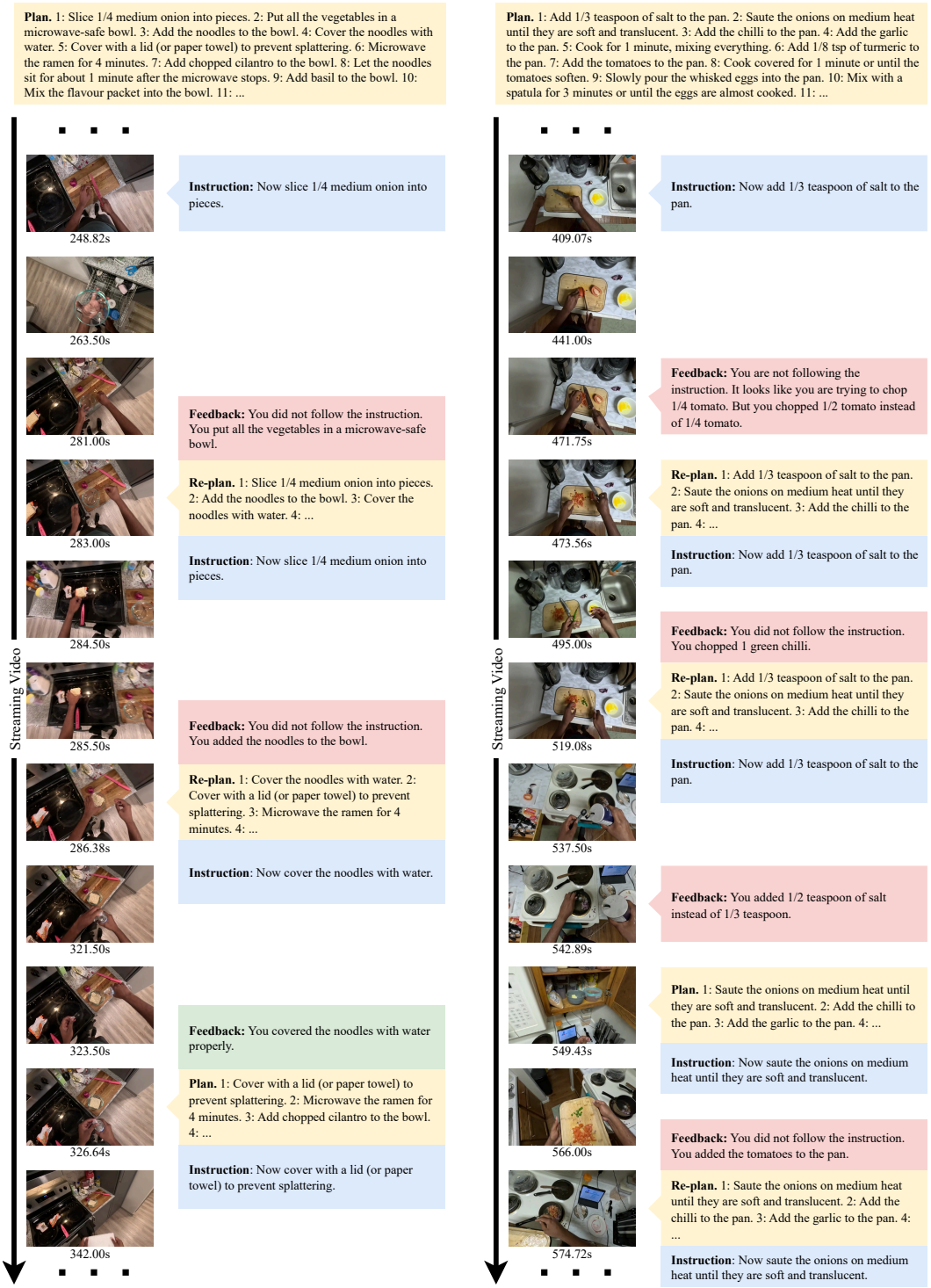

Figure 5: Data samples from the advanced planning set. Left: the user is making ramen. Right: the user is preparing scrambled eggs.

C LIVEMAMBA RE-PLANNER

The re-planner is invoked (during inference) whenever the user does not follow the given instruction. This only occurs in the advanced planning set of the LIVECOOK benchmark. To identify such cases,

Figure 6: Data samples from the advanced planning set. Left: the user is preparing butter corn cup. Right: the user is making coffee.

we train the LIVEMAMBA to add a "`You are not following the instruction.`" or "`You did not follow the instruction.`" prefix to feedback messages in case the user does the follow the given instruction. Note that, during training, the LIVEMAMBA model is trained

using the ground truth sequence of instructions (as the LIVEMAMBA model is trained on a single recipe step at a time) and the re-planner is not used. During inference as we do have have the ground truth sequence of instructions, we use the re-planner to update the step-by-step instruction plan and provide the correct instructions (and feedbacks). We do this in two steps.

First, the re-planner uses the Qwen3-32B [16] model to extract the recipe step performed instead of the instructed recipe step using the following prompt:

Retrieve the performed action

You are an expert cooking instructor. You are observing a user cooking a given recipe step by step.

##INSTRUCTIONS:
Here are the recipe steps: [recipe_steps].
The last instruction that you provided to the person is: [last_instruction]. The person did not follow your instruction and performed a different recipe step by mistake which did not correspond to the provided instruction. So you provided this feedback to the person: [last_feedback]. Which recipe step did the person likely perform instead of the step in the last instruction. RETURN THE RECIPE STEP AS A PYTHON STRING. ENSURE THAT YOU OUTPUT A RECIPE STEP AND DO NOT OUTPUT ANYTHING OTHER THAN A RECIPE STEP.

Secondly, the re-planner determines if the current instruction needs to be repeated, based on the recipe steps and the past steps completed by the person. We use the following prompt for the Qwen3-32B [16] model:

Decide whether repeating the last instruction

You are an expert cooking assistant. You are helping a user to make [recipe_name], according to the following recipe steps: [recipe_steps].

##INSTRUCTIONS:
The user has already completed [past_completed_step_counts] steps: [past_completed_steps]. Decide whether it is appropriate now to ask the user to [last_instructed_action], considering the effect of all the steps that the user performed. Your answer must begin with 'Yes' or 'No', followed by an explanation.

If the answer is "NO", that is, the last instruction is not to be repeated, we find all parent actions of the last action that the user performed from the corresponding recipe graph, and remove those actions from the step-by-step plan if they exist. Otherwise, we do not further update the step-by-step plan.

D LIVEMAMBA: TRAINING DETAILS

We now provide details of our training scheme, which is composed of two stages.

D.1 PRE-TRAINING

This stage aligns the Q-Former's vision embeddings with the language backbone's text embeddings by training only the Q-Former adapter. We use a diverse set of image and video datasets to instill two key visual skills: First, for object grounding, LIVEMAMBA is trained on image datasets like LVIS [25] (for diverse household objects) and on video data using VISOR annotations from EPIC-KITCHENS [12]. Tasks include image/video captioning, object recognition, and bounding box prediction. Second, for fine-grained action understanding, LIVEMAMBA learns action recognition from SSv2 [20] and video narration from EPIC-KITCHENS and Ego4D. Narration helps ground the model to actions in these large-scale egocentric datasets, particularly cooking activities.

In detail, the data follows a question answer format, where the questions are of the following format (following [39]):

LVIS / EPIC-KITCHENS: Grounding Questions

- Please provide the bounding box coordinates for the _____., A: _____
- Where is the _____ located in the image?,A: It is located at _____.
- What are the coordinates of the bounding box encompassing the _____?, A: _____.
- Can you pinpoint the _____ in the image by giving me its bounding box coordinates?, A: Yes, it is at _____.
- Where is the _____ in the image? Give me the bounding box coordinates., A: _____.
- I need the top-left and bottom-right corners of the ¡1¿'s bounding box. What are they?, A: _____.
- Could you identify the _____ in the image and tell me its location using bounding box coordinates?, A: Yes, it is at _____.

- Describe the image concisely., A: _____.
- Provide a brief description of the given image., A: _____.
- Offer a succinct explanation of the picture presented., A: _____.
- Summarize the visual content of the image., A: _____.
- Give a short and clear explanation of the subsequent image., A: _____.
- Share a concise interpretation of the image provided., A; _____.
- Present a compact description of the photo's key features., A: _____.
- Relay a brief, clear account of the picture shown., A; _____.
- Render a clear and concise summary of the photo., A: _____.
- Write a terse but informative summary of the picture., A: _____.
- Create a compact narrative representing the image presented., A: _____.

For action recognition tasks on SSv2 [20], we use the following format:

SSv2: Action Recognition Questions

- Describe the action I performed in this video in detail and name the objects that the I interacts with?, A: _____.
- Can you provide a step-by-step description of the action in the video which includes the specific objects that I touched or manipulated?, A: _____.
- Tell me a description of the action performed by me in the video that includes the names of any items that I interact with., A: _____.
- What action happens in the video and what objects are involved in the action?, A: _____.
- Describe my actions and the objects that I come across., A: _____.

For narration tasks on EPIC-KITCHENS we convert the action descriptions to second person format, *e.g.*, "pick up plate" to "You picked up a plate." For Ego4D, we employ the narrations used by [8].

D.2 Fine-tuning

During the fine-tuning phase the LiveMamba model is trained to provide the appropriate instructions and feedback at the appropriate time, using the ¡vision¿ and ¡feedback¿ special tokens as described above. At this stage, both the Q-Former's based adapter and the language backbone is trained. The LiveMamba needs to recognize the successful completion of instructions and mistakes. To this end, in addition to training on the step-by-step instructions and feedbacks from our LiveCook dataset, we apply several augmentations as described below.

Temporal Augmentation. To maintain temporal accuracy of feedbacks while dealing with long videos in the LIVECOOK benchmark, we introduce temporal jittering during training. Specifically, we jitter the starting timestamp of each instruction by a constant $\pm$K seconds. This temporal jittering deals that fact that predictions by autoregressive models, *e.g.*, our LIVEMAMBA, can accumulate errors. Jittering the starting timestamp of an instruction ensures that the LIVEMAMBA can successfully predict feedbacks irrespective of the previous accumulated error. In practice, we find $K = 30$ to work well.

Instruction Completion Augmentation. To help the LIVEMAMBA recognize the successful completion of instructions, we augment our training set by converting videos from the EPIC-KITCHENS and Ego4D datasets to the step-by-step instruction and feedback format of our LIVECOOK dataset. In detail, we consider the action descriptions in the EPIC-KITCHENS dataset and the Ego4D Goal-Step datasets and use a Qwen2.5-8B model [15] to convert these action descriptions to instructions. We provide the instruction at the action start time and feedback message at the action end timestamp. As these datasets do not contain any mistakes, the feedback messages acknowledge the successful completion of the instruction.

Counterfactual Mistake Augmentation. Recognizing mistakes and providing timely feedback is a key challenge of our LIVECOOK benchmark. To this end, we formulate a novel data augmentation scheme to generate (counterfactual) mistakes in the EPIC-KITCHENS and Ego4D datasets. First, we convert the action description to plausible grounded counterfactual action descriptions. These grounded counterfactual action descriptions are used to generate instructions and thus construct scenarios where the user tries to follow the given instruction but makes a mistake. To help recognize divergent mistakes, where the user does not follow the provided instruction, we augment the fine-tuning dataset by swapping instructions between recipe steps. The feeback is constructed to explicitly state that the user did not follow the provided instruction and instead performed a different action. This format of feedback triggers the re-planning module during the inference stage.

In detail, we utilize the Ego4D goalstep annotations [50] and the FHO annotations [17]. The FHO annotations largely include fine-grained short duration actions while the goalstep annotations include longer-ranged actions more closely aligned with the recipe steps in our LIVECOOK benchmark. To create temporally localized counterfactual mistakes, we first find the FHO actions that are included within each goalstep action. Then we ask Qwen-2.5-32B-Instruct [15] identify the "critical" FHO action for each goalstep action, *e.g.*, for the goalstep action `wash green beans in water`, the critical FHO identified by Qwen-2.5-32B-Instruct is `washes green bean` (from the following FHO actions within the goalstep action: `collects green bean`, `puts green beans on the chopping board`, `puts green beans in cooking pan`, ..., `picks green beans`, `opens tap`, `washes green bean`, ...). We then ask the Qwen-2.5-32B-Instruct to construct two counterfactual actions. Firstly, by changing the noun to an alternative noun in the scene, *i.e.*, `washes green bean` to `washes carrots`. The list of nouns in the scene is generated by identifying objects in the scene using DETR [7]. Secondly, by proposing an alternative verb, *i.e.*, `washes green bean` to `mash green bean`. Then we use this counterfactual action to create an instruction and feedback pair. We use the point-of-no-return timestamp [17] for the mistake feedback.

In case of the EPIC-KITCHENS dataset, most actions are of short duration (¡10 seconds long). We directly use Qwen-2.5-32B-Instruct to construct two counterfactual actions by using an alternative noun in the scene and by an alternative verb as described above. As the actions are short we use the end of action timestamp to generate the (mistake) feedback.

D.3 TRAINING AND INFERENCE HYPERPARAMETERS.

We use input video resolution of 448×448 at 2 fps. The InternViT-300M-448px-V2_5 vision head produces $N = 1025$ tokens (including the CLS token) per input frame. We use the mechanism outlined in VisionZip [59] to reduce the number of tokens to 256. Then, our Q-Former reduces this further to $K = 32$ tokens.

In addition to the vision features, the Mamba-130M language backbone of the LIVEMAMBA model is prompted with the following prompt:

LIVEMAMBA: Interactive Inference (Language Backbone)

You are an expert cooking assistant that is helping a person cook the following step by step recipe: [recipe_steps].
You just provided the following instruction to the person: [last_instruction].
Now watch the video and provide the appropriate success or failure messages.

The LIVEMAMBA model is trained using 8 Nvidia H100 GPUs. We use the AdamW [42] optimizer. During the pre-training phase, we train only the Q-Former and the LIVEMAMBA model is trained using a learning rate of 1×10^{-5} for 200k iterations. We again use a learning rate of 1×10^{-5}, for 120k iterations. During the fine-tuning phase, we train on single recipe steps and clip the maximum length to 3 minutes. During inference, we re-initialize the LIVEMAMBA model after every recipe step.

E LIVEMAMBA RESULTS

In Fig. 7, we show additional qualitative examples of predictions by our LIVEMAMBA model from the main set of the LIVECOOK benchmark. In the top two rows we see that our LIVEMAMBA model is able to successfully recognize that the user has completed complex steps from the step-by-step plans, *e.g.*, rinsing a tomato and cutting tofu into large cubes. In the third row we show an example where the user incorrectly coats a big cup instead of a 6-oz. cup with cooking spray. Our LIVEMAMBA model is able to provide timely feedback in this case.

F ZERO-SHOT EVALUATION

Here we provide the prompts used for zero-shot evaluation. We begin with a more detailed description of the prompting strategy in Section 5.2 of the main paper.

Promoting Strategy. This strategy involves prompting the model at regular intervals to detect both successful completions of instructions and mistakes. However prompting after every input frame is not computationally feasible. To balance accuracy and compute requirements, we prompt the models at an interval of 5 seconds. First, the model is asked if the user has completed the current instruction (obtained from the recipes in the LIVECOOK benchmark). We use the following prompt for the Gemini-2.5-Flash [55], Qwen2.5-VL-7B-Instruct [19], Qwen2-VL-7B-Instruct [56], VideoLLaMA3-7B [62] models:

Gemini-2.5-Flash/ Qwen2x-VL-7B-Instruct / VideoLLaMA3-7B: Check if instruction complete

You are an expert cooking assistant helping a person cook. The person is provided with an instruction and your task is to check if the instruction has been completed.

##INSTRUCTIONS:
The person has been instructed to: [instruction].
If the person has completed the instruction answer "yes" else answer "no". DO NOT OUTPUT ANY OTHER TEXT.

In case of VideoChat2 [34] model, we use the following prompt:

VideoChat2: Check if instruction complete

You are an expert cooking assistant helping a person cook. The person is provided with an instruction and your task is to check if the instruction has been completed. You must check the video content very closely and confirm if the instruction has been completely followed and finished.

##INSTRUCTIONS:
The person has been instructed to: [instruction].
If the person has completed the instruction answer "yes" else answer "no". Answer "yes" ONLY IF the instructed action is completed in the video, otherwise answer "no".

In case of the Video-LLaVA [67, 38], Video-ChatGPT [43], LLaVA-NeXT [40] as they do not accept system messages we use the following simplified prompt:

Video-LLaVA / Video-ChatGPT / LLaVA-NeXT : Check if instruction complete

The person has been instructed to: [instruction].
If the person has completed the instruction answer "yes" else answer "no".

If the model answers "yes", then we move on to the next instruction in the recipe. If not, then we ask the model to check for mistakes.

For VideoLLM-Online – since the model is trained to narrate videos, it can not detect completion and mistakes out of the box. Therefore, we use a helper LLM (Phi-3-mini-4k-Instruct) to help detect completion and mistakes given narrations. We use the following prompts,

VideoLLM-Online: Check if instruction is complete

VideoLLM-Online: Please narrate the video in real-time.
Helper-LLM (Phi-3-mini-4k-Instruct): You are an intelligent chatbot that is judging another system which narrates human cooking videos. Given a high level action instruction and a list of narrations generated from the system, your job is to decide if the narration is correct and shows completion of the instruction. Answer 'yes' if the instruction is completed otherwise output 'no'.
Instruction: [instruction]
Narrations: [videollm-online narrations]

In the offline (turn-based) evaluation scheme used in CaptainCook4D [46], multi-modal LLMs are prompted with sequence of questions per error category to detect mistakes. However, such a scheme is infeasible in case of streaming setups due to high computational costs. Therefore, to enable mistake detection in a single inference step, we design a prompt that concisely explains the possible mistakes that are possible while following a given instruction. The model can then use this information to recognize possible mistakes. In detail, for a given instruction we find similar instructions in the training set and use Qwen-2.5-32B-Instruct [15] to summarize the possible mistakes. The following are some examples:

Instruction: Now place 8-inch flour tortilla on cutting board.

When guiding the user through this step, the cooking instructor should watch out for these potential mistakes:

1. Users might toast or heat the tortilla before placing it on the cutting board.
2. Users may place the tortilla on a plate instead of a cutting board.
3. Users could use an unclean surface instead of a clean cutting board.

Instruction: Now add 1/4 tsp salt to a bowl.

When guiding the user through this step, the cooking instructor should watch out for these potential mistakes:

1. Spilling salt while measuring or adding it.
2. Adding too much salt, specifically 1/2 tsp instead of the required 1/4 tsp.
3. Confusing 1/3 tablespoon with 1/3 teaspoon.
4. Accidentally adding the salt to the pan rather than the bowl.

We then use these "mistake summaries" to prompt the multi-modal LLM. For Gemini-2.5-Flash [55], Qwen2.5-VL-7B-Instruct [19], Qwen2-VL-7B-Instruct [56], VideoLLaMA3-7B [62], VideoChat2 [34] we use the following prompts:

Gemini-2.5-Flash / Qwen2x-VL-7B-Instruct / VideoLLaMA3-7B/ VideoChat2: Check if instruction complete

You are an expert cooking assistant who is observing a person who is provided with step by step instructions for cooking. You should look out for mistakes made by the person.

##INSTRUCTIONS:
The person is trying to complete the following instruction: [instruction].
This is how you can check for mistakes: [mistake summary].
Your task is to check if the person has already made a mistake.
Note that the person may not have completed the provided instruction, that is, the person may have only partially completed the provided instruction.
The answer should be "yes" or "no". In case of yes, please provide a concise feedback to the person describing the mistake (i.e. Yes. ¡feedback¿.). Directly address the person.

In case of Video-LLaVA [67, 38], Video-ChatGPT [43], LLaVA-NeXT [40] models, they do not support complex prompts as they were mainly designed for question answering tasks. They we employ an alternative strategy where we ask the model to narrate the video in 30 second chunks. Then we use the (concatenated) past narrations since the last instruction completion to prompt the model to look for mistakes.

Video-LLaVA / Video-ChatGPT / LLaVA-NeXT : Check if instruction complete

The person has been instructed to: [instruction].
ill now the person has done the following: [past_narrations].
Your task is to check if the person has made a mistake.
The answer should be "yes" or "no". In case of "yes", please provide a feedback to the user describing the mistake. Directly address the person.

For VideoLLM-Online, we use a similar strategy as done in completion detection. We feed VideoLLM-Online's narration to a helper LLM to get mistake detection. We use the following prompts,

VideoLLM-Online: Check if instruction is complete

VideoLLM-Online: Please narrate the video in real-time.
Helper-LLM (Phi-3-mini-4k-Instruct): You are an intelligent chatbot that is judging another system which narrates human cooking videos. Given a high level action instruction and a list of narrations generated from the system, your job is to decide if a mistake has been made.
The user has be instructed to do the following: [instruction]
Till now the person has done the following: [videollm-online narrations]
Your task is to check if the person has made a mistake.
The answer should be yes or no. In case of yes, please provide a feedback to the user describing the mistake. Directly address the person.

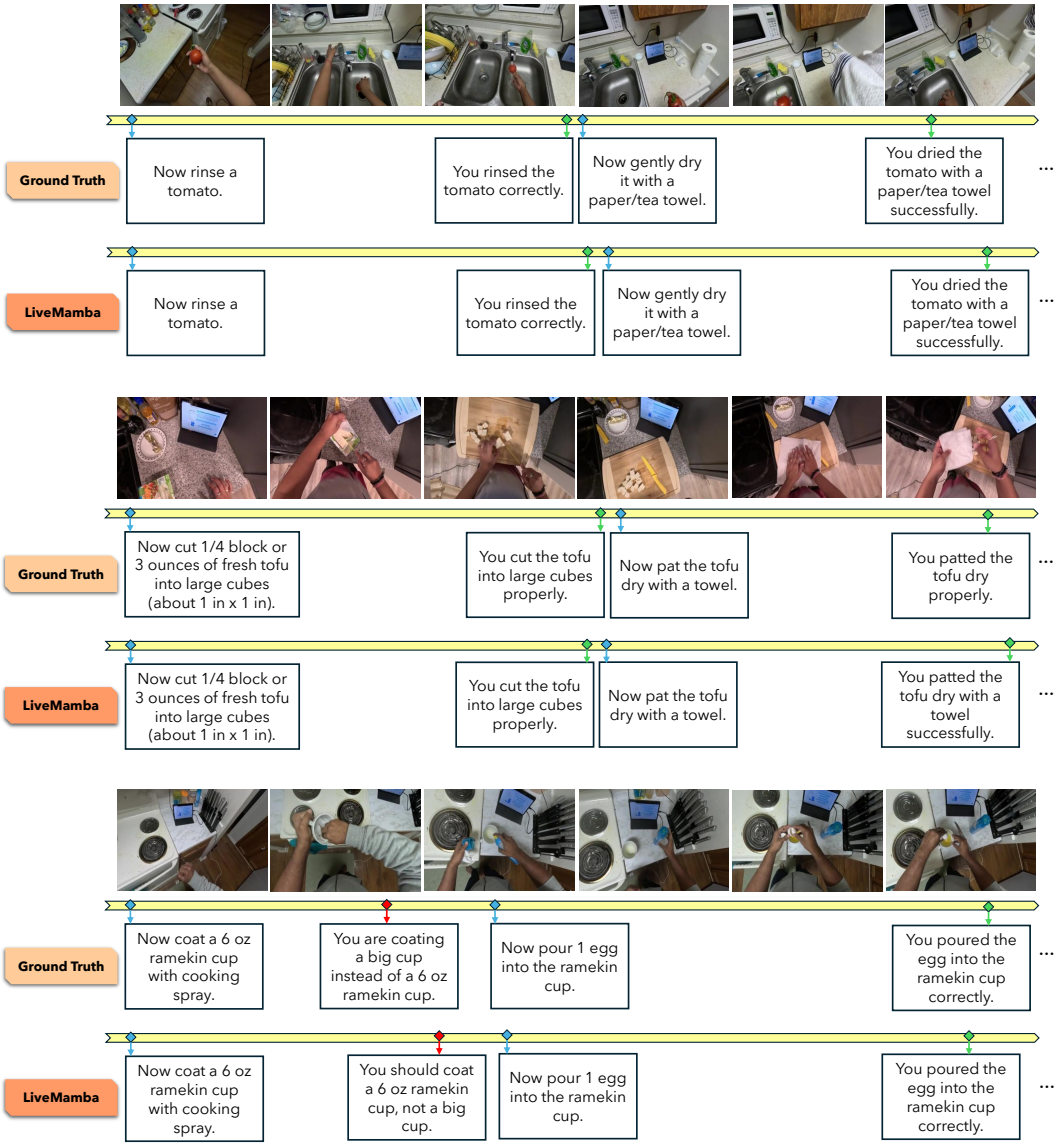

Figure 7: Predictions from our LIVEMAMBA from the main set of the LIVECOOK benchmark.