MMTEB: MASSIVE MULTILINGUAL TEXT EMBEDDING BENCHMARK

Anonymous authors
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ABSTRACT

Text embeddings are typically evaluated on a limited set of tasks, which are constrained by language, domain, and task diversity. To address these limitations and provide a more comprehensive evaluation, we introduce the Massive Multilingual Text Embedding Benchmark (MMTEB) – a large-scale, community-driven expansion of MTEB, covering over 500 *quality-controlled* evaluation tasks across 250+ languages. MMTEB includes a diverse set of challenging, novel tasks such as instruction following, long-document retrieval, and code retrieval, representing the largest multilingual collection of evaluation tasks for embedding models to date. Using this collection, we develop several highly multilingual benchmarks, which we use to evaluate a representative set of models. We find that while large language models (LLMs) with billions of parameters can achieve state-of-the-art performance on certain language subsets and task categories, the best-performing publicly available model is multilingual-e5-large-instruct with only 560 million parameters. To facilitate accessibility and reduce computational cost, we introduce a novel downsampling method based on inter-task correlation, ensuring a diverse selection while preserving relative model rankings. Furthermore, we optimize tasks such as retrieval by sampling hard negatives, creating smaller but effective splits. These optimizations allow us to introduce benchmarks that drastically reduce computational demands. For instance, our newly introduced zero-shot English benchmark maintains a similar ranking order as the full-scale version but at a fraction of the computational cost.[1]

1 INTRODUCTION

Text embeddings are used in many applications, such as semantic search (Reimers & Gurevych, 2019; Muennighoff, 2022; Winata et al., 2023a; 2024b) and classification tasks (Wang et al., 2018; 2019).

Additionally, text embeddings play a crucial role in retrieval-augmented generation (RAG; Borgeaud et al. 2022; Lewis et al. 2021), and often provide significant gains in performance on low- to mid-resource languages, enabling the incorporation of previously inaccessible information.

Despite the wide range of applications, there's a lack of benchmarks that evaluate text embeddings across multiple domains, languages, and tasks. Existing benchmarks tend to focus on specific domains, demarcated by subject (e.g., medical, legal, fiction (Thorne et al., 2018b)), particular tasks (e.g., retrieval (Thakur et al., 2021)), literary type (e.g., fiction, and non-fiction) or form (e.g., spoken and written). Embeddings also tend to focus on a subset of languages (Nørregaard & Derczynski, 2021).

While recent efforts (Thakur et al., 2021; Muennighoff et al., 2023b; Zhang et al., 2022) have aimed to broaden the scope by encompassing more tasks, domains, or selected languages (Wrzalik & Krechel, 2021; Cohan et al., 2020a), a significant gap in language coverage still exists. This work bridges this gap by creating a benchmark that includes a much broader range of low- to mid-resource languages, along with a broader coverage of domains and task categories. To create such an expansive benchmark, we initiated a large-scale, open collaboration. Contributors include native speakers from diverse linguistic backgrounds, NLP practitioners, academic and industry researchers, and enthusiasts.

[1] MMTEB comes with open-source code and a public leaderboard available at Anonymized

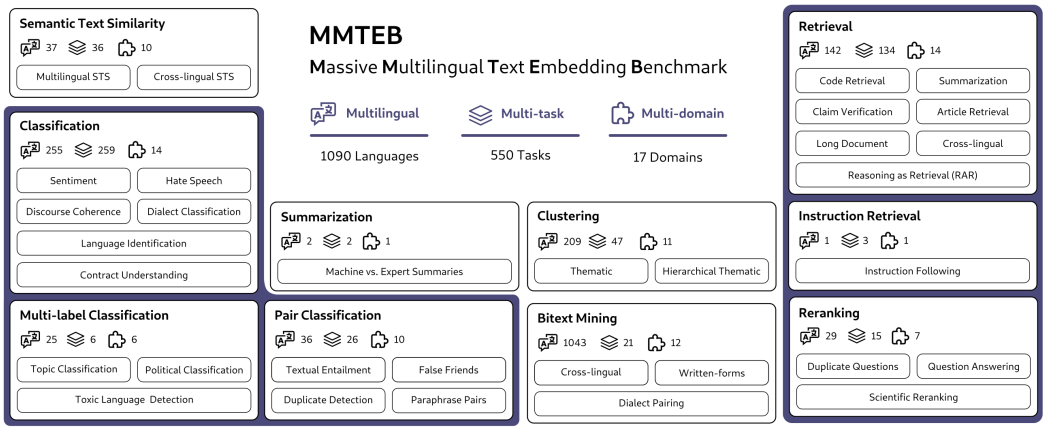


Figure 1: An overview of MMTEB. The boxes represent the overall task categories with a sample of task categories represented within each. Blue borders represent closely-related task categories.

To ensure high-quality submission each dataset required systematic tests, detailed metadata, and a review.

The result of this extensive collaborative effort is MMTEB, the **M**assive **M**ultilingual **T**ext **E**mbedding **B**enchmark, which comprises more than 500 distinct tasks across 10 task categories, covering over 250 languages, and spans a wide array of domains such as fiction, social media, medical texts, and technical programming documentation. It also integrates recent, high-quality benchmarks that test a model's capabilities in following instructions (Weller et al., 2024), embedding long documents (Zhu et al., 2024), solving reasoning tasks (Xiao et al., 2024a; Su et al., 2024), and cross-lingual retrieval (Franco-Salvador et al., 2014). For an overview see Figure 1.

Given the known co-occurrence of limited computational resources and low-resource languages, often referred to as the "low-resource double bind" (Ahia et al., 2021), we made it our goal to make the MMTEB benchmark accessible to low-resource communities. Evaluating models extensively is often resource-intensive. For example, evaluating a single 7B large language model (LLM) on the HELM benchmark consumes over 4,000 GPU hours (Liang et al., 2022). Similarly, the English MTEB (henceforth referred to as `MTEB(classic)`) benchmark requires up to two days of processing on a single A100 GPU even for moderately sized LLMs (Muennighoff et al., 2023b; BehnamGhader et al., 2024). These high resource demands pose a challenge for low-resource language communities that often lack access to powerful computing resources. MMTEB addresses these challenges by both expanding its coverage and optimizing the evaluation process. It significantly reduces the computational cost (3.11 hours on an H100 GPU for a 7B model) while maintaining sensitivity as a benchmark to accurately rank model ability.

2 MMTEB Construction

2.1 Open science effort

To ensure the broad applicability of MMTEB across various domains, we recruited a diverse group of contributors. We actively encouraged participation from industry professionals, low-resource language communities, and academic researchers. To clarify authorship assignment and recognize desired contributions, we implemented a point-based system, similar to Lovenia et al. (2024). To facilitate transparency, coordination was managed through GitHub. A detailed breakdown of contributors and the point system can be found in Appendix A.

2.2 ENSURING TASK QUALITY

To guarantee the quality of the added tasks[2], each task was reviewed by at least one of the main contributors. In addition, we required task submissions to include metadata fields. These fields included details such as annotation source, dataset source, license, dialects, and citation information. A comprehensive description of each field is provided in Appendix B.4.

Furthermore, we ensured that the performance on submitted tasks fell within a reasonable range to avoid trivially low or unrealistically high performance. Therefore we required two multilingual models to be run on the task; Multilingual-e5-small[3] (Wang et al., 2022) and MiniLM-L12.[4] (Reimers & Gurevych, 2019). A task was examined further if the models obtained scores close to a random baseline (within a 2% margin), a near-perfect score, or if both models obtained roughly similar scores. These tasks were examined for flawed implementation or poor data quality. Afterwards, a decision was made to either exclude or include the task. We consulted with contributors who are familiar with the target language whenever possible before the final decision. A task could be included despite failing these checks. For example, scores close to the random baseline might be due to the task's inherent difficulty rather than poor data quality.

2.3 ACCESSIBILITY AND BENCHMARK OPTIMIZATION

As detailed in Section 1, extensive benchmark evaluations often require significant computational resources. This trend is also observed in `MTEB(classic)` (Muennighoff et al., 2023b), where running moderately sized LLMs can take up to two days on a single A100 GPU. Accessibility for low-resource communities is particularly important for MMTEB, considering the common co-occurrence of computational constraints (Ahia et al., 2021).

Below, we discuss three main strategies implemented to make our benchmark more efficient. We additionally elaborate further code optimization in Appendix C.2.

2.3.1 DOWNSAMPLING AND CACHING EMBEDDINGS

The first strategy involves optimizing the evaluation process by downsampling datasets and caching embeddings. Encoding a large volume of documents for tasks such as retrieval and clustering can be a significant bottleneck in evaluation. Downsampling involves selecting a representative subset of the dataset and reducing the number of documents that require processing. Caching embeddings prevents redundant encoding by using already processed documents.

Clustering: In MTEB, clustering is evaluated by computing the v-measure score (Rosenberg & Hirschberg, 2007) on text embeddings clustered using k-means. This process is repeated over multiple distinct sets, inevitably resulting in a large number of documents being encoded. To reduce this encoding burden, we propose a bootstrapping approach that reuses encoded documents across sets. We first encode a 4% subsample of the corpus and sample 10 sets without replacement. Each set undergoes k-means clustering, and we record performance estimates. For certain tasks, this approach reduces the number of documents encoded by $100\times$. In Appendix B.2, we compare both approaches and find an average speedup of 16.11x across tasks, while preserving the relative ranking of models (Average Spearman correlation: 0.96).

Retrieval: For retrieval tasks, the main bottleneck of evaluation process is encoding the entire document collection, which can be in order of millions. To maintain similar scores to the original datasets while reducing the document collection size, we used the TREC pooling strategy (Buckley et al., 2007; Soboroff & Robertson, 2003) which selects documents based on aggregate scores from various models.[5] For each dataset, we retain the top 250 ranked documents per query, a number determined by initial tests that showed minimal differences in absolute scores and no change in relative ranking across a representative model set (see Appendix C.1.2 for more details on the impact

[2]A task consists of a dataset along with an implementation specifying how a model should be evaluated on the dataset.

[3]`https://huggingface.co/intfloat/multilingual-e5-small`

[4]`https://huggingface.co/sentence-transformers/paraphrase-multilingual-MiniLM-L12-v2`

[5]We used a range of models: BM25 for lexical hard negatives, e5-multilinugal-large as the best BERT-large sized multilingual model, and e5-Mistral-Instruct 7B as the largest model and with instruction-based data.

of downsampling). These documents are merged to form a smaller representative collection. This conservative pool, larger than the usual 50-100, ensures broad coverage of potential *hard negatives* for better model differentiation. For datasets with over 1000 queries, we randomly sample 1000. This reduces the document collection size of largest retrieval datasets from over 5 million to a maximum of 250k documents, thus significantly speeding up evaluation while preserving ranking performance.

Bitext Mining: We apply similar optimization to bitext mining tasks. Some datasets, such as Flores (Costa-jussà et al., 2022) share the same sentences across several language pairs (e.g., English sentences are the same in the English-Hindi pair and the English-Bosnian pair). By caching the embeddings, we reduce the number of embedding computations, making it linear in the number of languages instead of quadratic. For the English documents within Flores this results in a reduction of documents needed to be embedded from 410,000 in `MTEB(classic)` to just 1,012 in our proposed benchmark.

2.3.2 Encouraging smaller dataset submissions

The second strategy focused on encouraging contributors to downsample datasets before submission. To achieve this, we used a stratified split based on target categories. This helped us to ensure that the downsampled datasets could effectively differentiate between candidate models. To validate the process, we compared scores before and after downsampling. For details, we refer to Appendix C.1.

2.3.3 Task Selection

To further reduce the computation overhead we seek to construct a task subset that can reliably predict task scores outside the subset.

For task selection, we followed an approach inspired by Xia et al. (2020). We seek to estimate the model $m_i \in M$ scores s_{t,m_i} on an unobserved task t based on scores on observed tasks $s_{j,m_k} \in S, j \neq t$. This allows us to consider the performance of tasks as features within a prediction problem. Thus we can treat task selection as feature reduction, a well-formulated task within machine learning. Note that this formulation allows us to keep the unobserved task arbitrary, representing generalization to unseen tasks (Chollet, 2019).

We used a backward selection method, where one task is left out to be predicted, an estimator[6] is fitted on the performance of all models except one, and the score of the held-out model is predicted. This process is repeated until predicted scores are generated for all models on all tasks. The most predictable task is then removed, leaving the estimators in the task subset group. Optionally, we can add additional criteria to ensure task diversity and language representation. Spearman's rank correlation was chosen as the similarity score, as it best preserved the relative ranking when applied to the `MTEB(classic)`.

2.4 Benchmark construction

From the extensive collection of tasks in MMTEB, we developed several representative benchmarks, including a highly multilingual benchmark, `MTEB(multilingual)`, as well as regional geopolitical benchmarks, `MTEB(europe)` and `MTEB(indic)`. Additionally, we introduce faster versions of `MTEB(classic)` (Muennighoff et al., 2023b), which we refer to as `MTEB(eng)`. MMTEB also integrates domain-specific benchmarks like CoIR for code retrieval (Li et al., 2024) and LongEmbed for long document retrieval (Zhu et al., 2024). MMTEB also introduces language-specific benchmarks, extending the existing suite that includes Scandinavian (Enevoldsen et al., 2024), Chinese (Xiao et al., 2024b), Polish (Poświata et al., 2024), and French (Ciancone et al., 2024). For an overview of the benchmarks, we refer to Appendix H.1.

In the following section, we detail a methodology that we designed to create more targeted and concise benchmarks. This methodology includes: 1) clearly defining the initial scope of the benchmark **(Initial Scope)**, 2) reducing the number of tasks by iterative task selection tasks based on intertask correlation **(Refined Scope)**, and 3) performing a thorough manual review **(Task Selection and Review)**. We provide an overview in Table 1.

[6]We use the term "estimator" to differentiate between the evaluated embedding model. For our estimator, we use linear regression.

Benchmark	Initial Scope	Refined Scope	Task Selection and Review
MTEB(multilingual)	>500	343	131
MTEB(europe)	420	228	96
MTEB(indic)	55	44	23
MTEB(eng)	56	54	40

Table 1: Number of tasks in each benchmark after each filtering step. The initial scope includes tasks relevant to the benchmark goal, notably language of interest. The refined scope further reduced the scope, e.g. removing datasets with underspecified licenses.

In addition to these benchmarks, we provide accompanying code to facilitate the creation of new benchmarks, to allow communities and companies to create tailored benchmarks. In the following, we present MTEB(multilingual) and MTEB(eng) as two example cases. For a comprehensive overview of benchmark construction and the tasks included in each benchmark, we refer to Appendix H.2.

MTEB(multilingual): We select all available languages within MMTEB as the initial scope of the benchmark. This results in 550 tasks. We reduce this selection by removing machine-translated datasets, datasets with under-specified licenses, and highly domain-specific datasets such as code-retrieval datasets. This results in 343 tasks covering >250 languages. Following this selection, we evaluate this subset using a representative selection of models (See Section 3.1) and apply task selection to remove the most predictable tasks. To ensure language diversity and representation across task categories, we avoid removing a task that would eliminate a language from the respective task category. Additionally, we did not remove a task if the mean squared error between predicted and observed scores exceeded 0.5 standard deviations. This is to avoid inadvertantly overindexing to easier tasks. The process of iterative task removal (Section 2.3.3) is repeated until the most predictable held-out task obtained a Spearman correlation of less than 0.8 between predicted and observed scores, or if no tasks were available for filtering. This results in a final selection of 131 diverse tasks. Finally, the selected tasks were reviewed, if possible, by contributors who spoke the target language. If needed, the selection criteria were updated, and some tasks were manually replaced with higher-quality alternatives.

MTEB(eng): Unlike the multilingual benchmarks which target a language group, this benchmark is designed to match MTEB(classic), incorporating computational efficiencies (see Section 2.3) and reducing the intertask correlation using task selection. To prevent overfitting, we intend it as a zero-shot benchmark, excluding tasks like MS MARCO (Nguyen et al., 2016) and Natural Questions (Kwiatkowski et al., 2019), which are frequently used in fine-tuning.

We start the construction by replacing each task with its optimized variant. This updated set obtains a Spearman correlation of 0.97, $p < .0001$ (Pearson 0.99, $p < .0001$) with MTEB(classic) using mean aggregation for the selected models (see Subsection 3.1). The task selection process then proceeds similarly to MTEB(multilingual), ensuring task diversity by retaining a task if its removal would eliminate a task category. Tasks, where the mean squared error between predicted and observed performance exceeds 0.2 standard deviations, are also retained. This process continues until the most predictable held-out task yields a Spearman correlation below 0.9 between predicted and observed scores. The final selection consists of 26 tasks. We compare this with MTEB(classic) (Muennighoff et al., 2023b) in Section 4.1.

3 Experimental Settings

3.1 Models

We select a representative set of models, focusing on multilingual models across various size categories. We benchmark the multilingual LaBSE (Feng et al., 2022), trained on paraphrase corpora, English and multilingual versions of MPNet (Song et al., 2020), and MiniLM (Wang et al., 2021b) model, trained on diverse datasets. We also evaluate the multilingual e5 series models (Wang et al., 2024; 2022) trained using a two-step approach utilizing weak supervision. Additionally, to understand

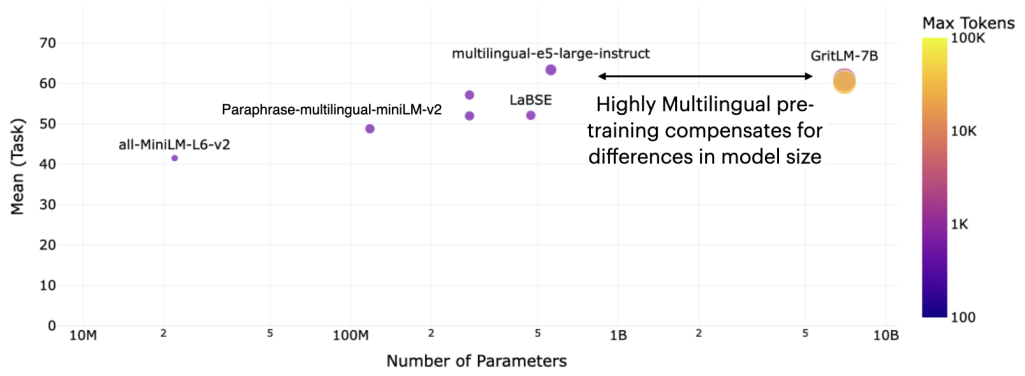


Figure 2: Performance on MTEB(multilingual) according to the number of parameters. We see that the notably smaller model obtains slightly better performance when compared to the 7B models based on Mistral.

the role of scale as well as instruction finetuning, we benchmark the GritLM-7b (Muennighoff et al., 2024) and e5-multilingual-7b-instruct (Wang et al., 2023) which are both based on the Mistral 7B model (Jiang et al., 2023).

Revision IDs, model implementation, and prompts used are available in Appendix G. We ran the models on all the implemented tasks to encourage further analysis of the model results. Results, including multiple performance metrics, runtime, CO2 emissions, model metadata, etc., are publicly available in the versioned results repository.[7]

3.2 Evaluation Scores

For our performance metrics, we report average scores across all tasks, scores per task category, and weighted by task category. We compute model ranks using the Borda count method (Colombo et al., 2022), derived from social choice theory. This method, which is also employed in election systems based on preference ranking, has been shown to be more robust for comparing NLP systems. To compute this score, we consider each task as a preference voter voting for each model, and scores are aggregated according to the Borda Count method. In the case of ties, we use the tournament Borda count method.

3.3 Multilingual performance

While MMTEB includes multiple benchmarks (see Appendix H.1), we select three multilingual benchmarks to showcase. These constitute a fully multilingual benchmark `MTEB(multilingual)` and two targeting languages with varying levels of resources: `MTEB(europe)` and `MTEB(indic)`. The performance of our selected models on these tasks can be seen in Table 2. For performance metrics per task, across domains, etc., we refer to Appendix E.

4 Analysis and Discussion

Table 2 shows the performance across the three presented multilingual benchmarks. Two trends are clearly observable;

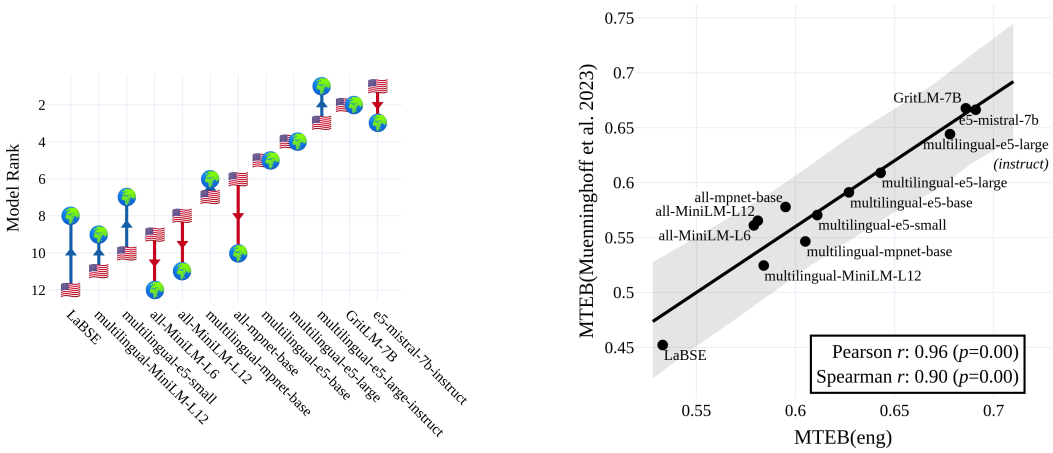
Models trained with instruction-tuning perform significantly better compared to those without it. This is especially clear when comparing the multilingual-e5-large to its instruction-tuned counterpart (multilingual-e5-large-instruct). Instruction tuning increases performance most drastically on bitext mining and clustering, though the effect remains pronounced across all task categories. Notably, this happens despite many tasks using generic prompts for the task category and no model-specific tuning of prompts per task. Surprisingly, multilingual-e5-large(-instruct) models, based on XLM-R

[7] Anonymized URL.

	Rank (↓)	Average Across		Average per Category							
Model (↓)	Borda Count	All	Category	Btxt	Pr Clf	Clf	STS	Rtrvl	M. Clf	Clust	Rrnk
				`MTEB(multilingual)`							
Number of datasets (→)	(132)	(132)	(132)	(13)	(11)	(43)	(16)	(18)	(5)	(17)	(6)
multilingual-e5-large-instruct	1 (1244)	**63.4**	55.3	**80.1**	81.2	**65.0**	**76.7**	58.0	**22.9**	**51.5**	**63.0**
GritLM-7B	2 (1119)	60.9	**53.6**	70.5	80.2	61.9	73.2	**59.1**	21.2	50.4	62.8
e5-mistral-7b-instruct	3 (1100)	60.2	53.1	70.6	**81.4**	60.3	73.9	55.4	22.2	51.4	63.4
multilingual-e5-large	4 (980)	58.7	51.5	71.7	79.3	59.9	73.4	55.0	21.3	43.1	62.6
multilingual-e5-base	5 (811)	57.1	50.0	69.4	77.6	58.2	71.2	53.6	20.2	42.8	59.9
multilingual-mpnet-base	6 (698)	52.0	45.2	52.1	81.6	55.1	69.5	39.3	16.4	41.2	53.2
multilingual-e5-small	7 (654)	55.6	48.8	67.5	76.8	56.5	69.9	50.2	19.1	41.8	60.2
LaBSE	8 (589)	52.1	45.8	76.3	76.1	54.6	65.2	32.9	20.1	39.4	50.4
multilingual-MiniLM-L12	9 (475)	48.8	42.5	44.5	79.4	51.7	66.4	36.2	14.9	39.6	51.0
all-mpnet-base	10 (398)	42.4	36.2	21.2	71.0	47.0	57.1	32.8	16.3	41.1	42.1
all-MiniLM-L12	11 (355)	42.1	36.2	22.9	71.9	46.8	56.6	32.4	14.6	36.8	44.3
all-MiniLM-L6	12 (290)	41.5	35.2	20.1	71.3	46.3	55.6	33.1	15.1	38.3	40.0
				`MTEB(europe)`							
Number of datasets (→)	(74)	(74)	(74)	(7)	(6)	(21)	(9)	(15)	(2)	(6)	(3)
GritLM-7B	1 (680)	60.7	53.4	70.8	89.4	**64.3**	75.5	**57.1**	**17.6**	43.5	**58.9**
multilingual-e5-large-instruct	2 (679)	**61.0**	**53.7**	**76.7**	89.9	63.5	**77.2**	55.5	17.3	**46.0**	57.5
e5-mistral-7b-instruct	3 (643)	59.2	52.2	70.2	**90.7**	62.5	76.0	52.4	15.5	44.5	58.5
multilingual-e5-large	4 (527)	57.1	49.9	69.0	88.7	60.9	75.6	51.3	15.0	36.7	55.2
multilingual-e5-base	5 (438)	55.7	48.9	68.3	87.6	58.3	73.4	50.6	14.9	36.7	53.0
multilingual-mpnet-base	6 (387)	51.2	45.1	55.4	90.6	55.4	74.1	39.3	6.9	34.3	51.6
multilingual-e5-small	7 (347)	53.7	47.5	66.0	86.9	56.5	71.0	46.5	14.0	35.5	53.4
LaBSE	8 (296)	49.8	45.2	72.3	85.0	54.0	65.7	33.8	16.3	33.5	48.8
multilingual-MiniLM-L12	9 (252)	48.4	42.9	51.3	88.8	51.7	72.4	35.5	5.7	32.7	49.2
all-mpnet-base	10 (242)	43.3	37.9	23.6	79.6	48.5	63.0	35.9	10.9	36.0	47.0
all-MiniLM-L12	11 (221)	43.1	37.7	25.6	80.9	48.7	63.5	34.5	7.6	32.3	47.0
all-MiniLM-L6	12 (172)	42.5	36.8	21.8	79.6	47.5	61.8	36.6	8.8	33.5	44.5
				`MTEB(indic)`							
Number of datasets (→)	(23)	(23)	(23)	(4)	(1)	(13)	(1)	(2)	(0)	(1)	(1)
multilingual-e5-large-instruct	1 (224)	**71.8**	**71.5**	**70.3**	**78.5**	**70.9**	**53.7**	**88.7**	-	**47.2**	**91.0**
multilingual-e5-large	2 (190)	64.5	63.7	64.4	73.9	63.1	43.9	87.5	-	23.7	89.7
GritLM-7B	3 (165)	64.6	62.5	60.7	74.1	65.2	27.2	83.2	-	36.1	91.0
multilingual-e5-base	4 (164)	62.5	61.1	61.2	71.0	61.9	41.1	83.3	-	21.6	87.7
e5-mistral-7b-instruct	5 (154)	63.7	62.3	61.6	77.9	63.6	23.0	80.8	-	38.7	90.3
multilingual-e5-small	6 (150)	61.9	60.6	61.2	69.0	61.3	40.8	80.8	-	23.9	87.0
LaBSE	7 (135)	60.7	59.0	63.6	65.2	60.0	52.8	71.6	-	18.8	80.9
multilingual-mpnet-base	8 (127)	57.1	56.4	42.0	82.7	60.2	34.1	69.6	-	24.1	82.2
multilingual-MiniLM-L12	9 (91)	50.0	48.6	23.6	78.9	56.3	19.8	64.1	-	19.4	78.5
all-mpnet-base	10 (52)	36.4	30.9	7.2	58.4	47.2	-2.5	32.3	-	8.9	64.7
all-MiniLM-L12	11 (39)	35.9	31.0	7.8	58.4	46.0	-5.3	32.9	-	7.6	69.2
all-MiniLM-L6	12 (27)	35.1	29.2	6.3	57.4	46.3	-6.3	29.4	-	6.6	64.5

Table 2: The results on three multilingual benchmarks. For each benchmark, we sort the score by rank (based on a Borda count). We additionally supply an average across all tasks, an average per task category and an average weighted by task category. The task categories are shortened as follows: Bitext Mining (Btxt), Pair Classification (Pr Clf), Classification (Clf), Semantic text similarity (STS), Retrieval (Rtrvl), Multilabel Classification (M. Clf), Clustering and Hierarchical Clustering (Clust) and Reranking (Rrnk). We highlight the best score in bold. Note that while Instruction retrieval Weller et al. (2024) is included `MTEB(europe)` and `MTEB(multilingual)`, we leave it out in the average by task category as it is only supported by a subset of the models. For the evaluation of a wider set of models, we refer to the public leaderboard.

Large (Conneau et al., 2019) generally outperform the considerably larger e5-mistral-7b-instruct and GritLM-7B, both of which are based on mistral-7b (Jiang et al., 2023). This effect is notably pronounced for mid-to-low resource languages (<300M speaker; see Appendix E.1) and likely emerges due to differences in pre-training, with Mistral being predominantly pre-trained on English, while XLM-R targets 100 languages. All three models utilize similarly multilingual datasets for fine-tuning. However, GritLM still remains best in class for retrieval on MTEB(multilingual), it has a higher maximum sequence length Figure 2 and outperforms the multilingual-e5-large-instruct on MTEB(code) and MTEB(eng).



(a) Performance Difference of Models on `MTEB(classic)` (flag) and `MTEB(multilingual)` (globe).

(b) The performance on `MTEB(classic)` and `MTEB(eng)`

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Figure 3

Discrepencies in Multilingual benchmarks ranking seem to stem from discrepancies in pre-training. While the multilingual benchmarks obtain seemingly similar performance rankings, we see a few notable discrepancies. These discrepancies seem to mainly stem from a narrow multilingual focus (GritLM-7B, e5-mistral-7b-instruct, multilingual-mpnet-base) during training, resulting in disproportionally higher performance on the targeted (typically mid-high resource or European) languages. These are typically outperformed by the multilingually pre trained XLM-Roberta-based multilingual-e5-large-instruct on lower-resource languages in `MTEB(Europe)` and all languages in `MTEB(Indic)` (see Figure Figure 4), despite being substantially smaller than Mistral-based models, the performance of which steadily decreases and becomes more volatile for languages with increasingly lower number of native speakers. This trade-off is well-known, e.g., demonstrated by Xue et al. (2020).

Besides these, we observe the expected detrimental performance of English models (all-MiniLM-L12, all-MiniLM-L6, all-mpnet-base) applied to non-English languages and a relatively high bitext performance of LaBSE (see Figure Figure 3a).

4.1 MTEB(CLASSIC) VS. ZERO-SHOT MTEB(ENG)

We compare the performance of `MTEB(classic)` and `MTEB(eng)` in Figure 3b obtaining a Spearman correlation of 0.90, $p < 0.0001$ (Pearson 0.96, $p < 0.0001$). For the precise scores, we refer to Subsection H.3. This includes a reduction from 56 to 40 tasks along with optimized task runtime speeding up the runtime on the benchmark (3.11 hours for GritLM-7B and 0.81 hours for all-MiniLM-L12 on an H100). We see that notably, the smaller English models (all-MiniLM-L12, all-MiniLM-L6, all-mpnet-base) perform worse on the new benchmark. This is likely because they were trained on MS MARCO and Natural questions, which were removed as part of the benchmark conversion to a zero-shot benchmark.

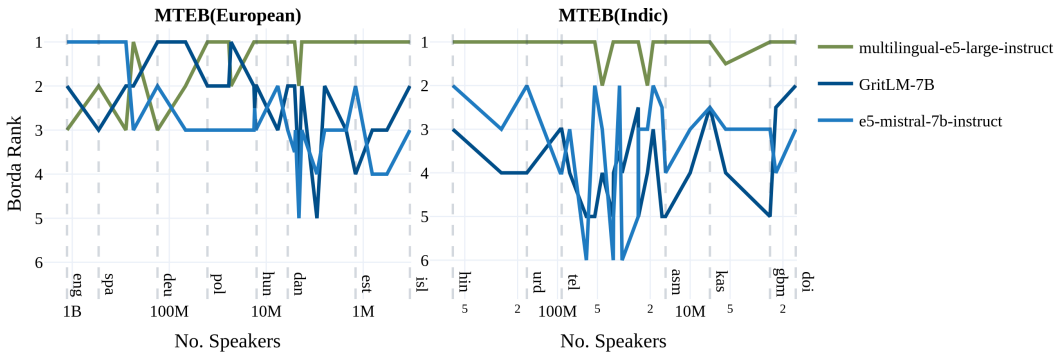

Figure 4: Performance rank of top 3 multilingual models on languages in `MTEB(Indic)` and `MTEB(Europe)` by the number of native speakers. We see that Mistral-based models are outperformed by multilingual-e5-large-instruct on lower-resource languages, despite it having substantially fewer parameters.

5 Related Work

Text embedding benchmarks BEIR (Thakur et al., 2021) pioneered the use of publicly available datasets from diverse information retrieval (IR) tasks and domains and evaluated 10 various retrieval systems. MTEB (Muennighoff et al., 2023b) introduced a comprehensive text embedding benchmark that spans not only IR but also 8 other task types, including clustering and re-ranking. MTEB benchmark covers a total of 58 tasks and 112 languages, though this multilinguality is mainly derived from machine-translated tasks or bitext mining. Its leaderboard has grown in popularity and evolved into the de facto embedding model benchmark that supports over 300 models. MIRACL (Zhang et al., 2022) supports 18 languages from different language families for monolingual retrieval. MINERS (Winata et al., 2024b) is designed to evaluate the ability of multilingual LMs in semantic retrieval tasks including classification and bitext mining tasks in more than 200 languages, including code-switching. Our work extends the number of languages to over 1000 (250 excluding bitext-mining tasks), particularly to cover more low-resource languages. We also expand the MTEB's 8 embedding tasks to 10 and the 58 datasets to over 400, significantly broadening the scope of multilingual benchmarking.

Massive collaborative projects Open research initiatives and participatory approaches to science have been shown to stimulate innovation (Park et al., 2023), reduce negative biases (Gudowsky, 2021; Gomez et al., 2022), and increase diversity of the data sources (Hanley et al., 2020; Singh et al., 2024b). By involving diverse stakeholders, these practices enhance ethical, robust, and reproducible research (Hagerty & Rubinov, 2019). Recently, the field of natural language processing has seen a growing number of community-driven collaborative projects. These can be grouped into several categories. *(a) Model creation*, such as the BLOOM (BigScience Workshop et al., 2023), StarCoder (Li et al., 2023a) and Aya model (Üstün et al., 2024); *(b) Dataset creation*, such as NusaX (Winata et al., 2023b), OpenAssistant (Köpf et al., 2023), NusaWrites (Cahyawijaya et al., 2023c), and Aya dataset (Singh et al., 2024b); *(c) Benchmark creation*, such as BIG-Bench (Srivastava et al., 2023), NusaCrowd (Cahyawijaya et al., 2023a), WorldCuisines (Winata et al., 2024a), SEACrowd (Lovenia et al., 2024), and Eval-Harnesses (Gao et al., 2021; Ben Allal et al., 2022; Biderman et al., 2024); and *(d) Other artifacts*, such as NL-Augmenter (Dhole et al., 2021), or Wikibench annotation tool (Kuo et al., 2024). MMTEB expands upon earlier work within the *Benchmark creation* category. Our effort significantly differs from prior collaborative benchmarks as we focus on text embeddings, use a custom point system to incentivize contributions, and handle all communication openly via GitHub.

6 Conclusion

This work introduced the Massive Multilingual Text Embedding Benchmark (MMTEB), a large-scale open collaboration resulting in a benchmark with more than 500 tasks covering more than 1000 languages. From these, we constructed three multilingual benchmarks: one fully multi-

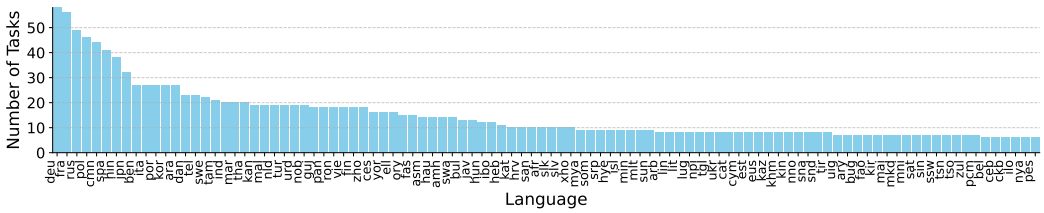

Figure 5: Number of tasks per language. For readability, we remove English (290 tasks) and only plot the 100 languages with the most tasks.

lingual (`MTEB(multilingual)`) and two targeting Indic (`MTEB(indic)`) and European languages (`MTEB(europe)`) respectively. Acknowledging that multiple additional benchmarks can be constructed from the MMTEB additions, we propose a simple approach to constructing new benchmarks. To make these benchmarks accessible to low-resource communities, we introduced several optimizations by downsampling retrieval tasks using hard negative mining and bootstrapping clustering evaluation to re-use encoded documents across sets. This leads to a notable reduction in the number of text samples that need to be embedded.

Our findings indicate that while large (7B) LLM-based embedding models obtain state-of-the-art performance on English benchmark, they are still outperformed in highly multilingual or low-resource settings by smaller models like XLM-R Large, even when accounting for notable improvements like prompt-based embeddings.

LIMITATIONS

English leakage. While MMTEB filters out machine-translated datasets, it permits (human) translations. This inclusion leads to tasks like SIB200ClusteringS2S, where labels from English samples are transferred to their translations, potentially introducing bias towards English or models trained on translated content. Consequently, the benchmark may inadvertently encourage model developers to favor English or translated content by increasing their proportion in pre-training data.

Credit assignment for large-scale collaborations. One of MMTEB's goals was to highlight the benefits of collaboration. The managing group believes the point system successfully defined contribution terms but acknowledges it isn't perfect. For instance, equal points were awarded for dataset submissions regardless of effort—some datasets were readily available, while others needed significant work like reformulation, HTML parsing, and multiple review rounds.

Languages representation. While the benchmark includes over 250 languages and 500 tasks, the distribution is skewed toward high-resource languages (see Figure 5), with low-resource languages being better represented in specific task categories like bitext-mining and classification. We encourage future collaborations to fill these gaps and enhance language diversity in the collection.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

We acknowledge the environmental impact of the benchmark that stems from the compute needed across tasks. As such, emissions tracking is added using codecarbon Courty et al. (2024) to measure kilograms of CO_2-equivalents (CO_2eq) and estimate the carbon footprint per task. The benchmark is a collaborative project and contains datasets of different data quality and origin. Thus, additional efforts are still required to identify and minimize biases in the benchmark datasets.

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APPENDIX TABLE OF CONTENTS

A CONTRIBUTIONS

We list the contributions of every author in Table 3. The possible types of contributions and their associated points are:

- **New dataset:** A new dataset includes creating a new implementation (subclass) of a task using a new dataset. 2 points were awarded for implementing the task and 4 points for each new language introduced by the task.

Github handle	Total	Bug fixes	Review PR	New dataset	Dataset annotations	Paper writing	New task	Coordination	Running Models
Anonymized	-	-	-	–	-	-	-	-	-

Table 3: Contributions by GitHub users. See Table 4 for the mapping between authors and GitHub handles.

GitHub	First name	Last name	Affiliations
Anonymized1	-	-	-
Anonymized2	-	-	-
...	-	-	-

Table 4: Author overview, along with their affiliations and GitHub handles.

- **New task:** An implementation of a new task category such as multi-label classification or instruction retrieval. 2 points were given for a new task, as well as points following adding a new dataset.
- **Annotations:** Many existing datasets were not yet annotated with proper metadata. To encourage high-quality annotations we awarded 1 point for each full dataset annotation.
- **Fixes:** These included bug fixes, usability fixes, speed improvements and more. For these, we typically awarded 2-10 points depending on the size of the contribution.
- **Running Models:** This includes both running and implementing models for MMTEB. We typically awarded 1 point per model run on a full set of relevant tasks. Relevant tasks for a specific model are limited to those pertinent to its language. For instance, a Russian model does not need to be run on French tasks.
- **Review PR:** A large part of ensuring good dataset quality comes from the dataset review. We award 2 points for a review. If a PR had multiple reviewers, 2 points were awarded to each. Often reviewers finalized dataset additions, helped with data formatting, and resolving bugs. In many cases, adding 2 points for review was considered either too low (a perfect PR with little to no corrections) or too high (lengthy discussion examining dataset quality, debugging implementations and more), however on average we believe it was appropriate.
- **Writing:** At this point many of the authors writing the paper already qualified for co-authorship and thus had reasonable experience with the MMTEB point system. Thus, it was generally possible to discuss a reasonable amount of points based on the efforts made in earlier stages.
- **Coordination:** Included Coordination of contributors and initial ideation were given points at the end of the project based on relative effort. These points were given, similar to paper writing, based on relative effort.

A total of 10 points were to be obtained to be invited as a co-author. To see each contribution mapped to specific PRs, see Anonymized, where the name of JSON files corresponds to the PR id.

B Overview and Construction of Tasks

In this appendix, we first provide an overview of existing tasks in MTEB benchmark and newly introduced tasks in our benchmark (Section B.1). We proceed by explaining how the tasks were constructed (Section B.2) from existing datasets. Lastly, we introduce newly constructed datasets specifically designed for MMTEB (Section B.3).

B.1 Introduction to benchmark tasks

Classification First, a train set is constructed by sampling n (8-16) samples for each label. If only a test set is available, a section is split off as a training set. Both sets are then embedded and used to train a logistic regression using a maximum of 100 iterations. Afterwards, performance metrics are calculated. For robustness, this process is repeated 10 times.

Pair classification For two paired texts, the goal is to predict the label. Examples of such tasks include paraphrase detection or duplicate detection. The task is solved by embedding all documents and then computing the distance either using a model-specified metric, cosine, euclidean, dot product, or Manhattan. Using the best binary threshold, performance metrics are computed.

Bitext mining The dataset consists of matching pairs of sentences, and the goal is to find the match. All matching pairs of sentences are embedded, and the closest match is found using cosine similarity, and metrics are reported.

Clustering and hierarchical clustering Clustering starts with a set of documents and an associated set of labels. First we embed all documents, then take subsets of the data of size k for each of 10 consecutive experiments. All the documents are embedded, and a set of size k is sampled from the embedded documents. The embeddings are then clustered using K-means clustering, and performance metrics are calculated between the estimated clusters and labels. If the clustering problem is hierarchical, this procedure is repeated for each level of the hierarchy separately. Hierarchical tasks were formerly either split into multiple tasks, or later levels of the cluster hierarchy were ignored.

Note that this formulation differs from that of MTEB in that the sets are randomly sampled from the embedded documents instead of being specified a-priori. This drastically reduced runtime as one document can be used in multiple subsets without the need to embed it multiple times. The new formulation also allows us to gain a robust estimate of performance with a lower number of documents.

Retrieval Retrieval tasks consist of a corpus, queries, and mapping between the queries and their relevant documents. The goal is to retrieve these relevant documents. Both queries and documents are embedded using the model. We allow these to be embedded differently depending on the model. For each query, the corpus documents are ranked using a similarity score, and performance metrics are calculated based on the reference mapping.

Multi-label classification Classification tasks in MTEB were previously limited to utilizing only one label per document. As such, some, otherwise useful multi-label classification tasks had to be dropped or reformulated. We addressed this by introducing a multi-label classification task type Similarly to our novel clustering task, we down sample training sets for 10 experiments. We limit the training sets to include 8 instances of each unique label, and train a K Nearest-Neighbours classifier. Every classifier is then evaluated on the same test set. We opted for Accuracy, F_1 and Label Ranking Average Precision (LRAP) as evaluation metrics.

Instruction retrieval Instruction retrieval builds on the traditional retrieval task by incorporating detailed instructions alongside the queries. Unlike standard retrieval, where queries are usually brief keywords, instruction retrieval pairs each query with a comprehensive instruction that outlines the criteria for document relevance. These instructions are specific to each query and not generic to the entire dataset. Therefore, the task involves using both the query and its associated instruction to retrieve relevant documents from the corpus. For the main metric, we use Robustness@10.

Reranking Similar to the retrieval task, reranking includes a corpus, query, and a list of relevant and irrelevant reference texts. The aim is to rank the results according to their relevance to the query. References and queries are embedded and references are compared to the query using cosine similarity. The resulting ranking is scored for each query and averaged across all queries, and performance metrics computed. For the main metric, we use MAP@1000.

Semantic text similarity Semantic text similarity (STS) tasks consist of sentence pairs, where the goal is to determine their similarity. Labels are continuous scores, with higher numbers indicating more similar sentences. All sentences are embedded using the model, and the similarity of the pair is computed using various distance metrics, allowing for model-specified similarity metrics. Distances are benchmarked with ground truth similarities using Pearson and Spearman correlations. Spearman correlation based on highest similarity serves as the main metric (Reimers et al., 2016)

B.2 TASK CONSTRUCTION

This section outlines our approach to constructing tasks, primarily from pre-existing data. For details on the newly introduced dataset in MMTEB, we refer to Section B.3.

Task construction from existing datasets consisted of a number of steps to ensure that the task is compatible with formulations in the benchmark and matches our standards: 1. *Dataset preprocessing*: we start by applying minimal additional processing to ensure the data is in the required format. 2. *Dataset size reduction*: to maintain manageable evaluation times, we proceed by reducing dataset size whenever applicable. 3. *Relevance filtering*: To ensure the datasets are relevant for the types of tasks being evaluated, we apply relevance-based dataset filtering. 4. *Differentiation testing*: we assess the task's ability to differentiate between the performance of two candidate models.

For further details on dataset transformations for specific tasks, we refer to the `dataset_transform` method implementation for each task.

Classification and pair classification For both classification tasks, we used existing datasets with minimal adjustments, primarily trimming them down to more manageable sizes. For performance evaluation, we rely on such metrics as F_1 score, accuracy, or average precision. Whenever feasible, we align our choice of the primary metric with those used in related publications. If no specific guidance exists, we default to accuracy for general classification tasks and average precision for pairwise classification. In scenarios with significant class imbalance, the F_1 score is prioritized.

Bitext mining Bitext mining tasks were constructed using established paired datasets. Similar to the classification tasks, the primary focus was on adjusting the dataset sizes to maintain the same model rank while reducing computational load. F_1 scores were chosen to be the primary metric, unless specified otherwise.

Clustering and hierarchical clustering Clustering tasks were derived from existing corpora, such as news articles or encyclopedic entries. The source datasets typically included categories or labels assigned by their original authors or publishers. In some cases, like the SNL and VG datasets (Navjord & Korsvik, 2023), which featured hierarchical labels, we reformulated the tasks from flat to hierarchical clustering.

Retrieval A variety of tasks were integrated as retrieval tasks, including existing retrieval, question-answer, and news datasets. For question-answer datasets, the questions were used as queries, and the answers formed the corpus, with correct answers identified as properly retrieved documents. In news datasets, headlines were treated as queries, and both the full articles were considered part of the corpus, with matched summaries and articles serving as relevant documents. For the primary metric, we use `nDCG@10`, unless otherwise specified by the dataset publication.

Multi-label classification For multi-label classification, we used existing datasets that required minimal adjustments. A critical aspect of these tasks was maintaining the balance of label distributions across the training and evaluation splits. To achieve this, we employed advanced stratification techniques (Szymański & Kajdanowicz, 2017; Sechidis et al., 2011) that consider higher-order relationships between labels, ensuring balanced samples and improved classification quality. For the main metric, we use accuracy.

Instruction Retrieval For instruction retrieval tasks, we incorporated datasets like FOLLOWIR (Weller et al., 2024), which consist of comprehensive narratives created by professional assessors. These datasets were initially developed for TREC shared tasks and included rich, context-heavy queries to evaluate retrieval systems' performance on more intricate retrieval problems.

Reranking For reranking tasks, we adapted datasets covering a range of topics and languages, including academic paper ranking, news articles (Wu et al., 2020b), QA pair relevance from online platforms, and passage ranking (Xie et al., 2023). For the primary metric, we use MAP unless otherwise specified by the dataset publication.

Semantic text similarity For STS tasks, we adapted well-known benchmarks like STSbenchmark (May et al., 2021) and cross-lingual STS datasets from SemEval (Agirre et al., 2015). We also adapted paraphrase datasets in various languages, such as the Russian ParaPhraser (Pivovarova et al., 2017)

and the Finnish Paraphrase Corpus (Kanerva et al., 2021). As the main metric, we use Spearman correlation based on the highest similarity (Reimers et al., 2016).

B.3 NOVEL DATASETS

This section introduces task specifically created as a part of the MMTEB contributions. For information on how existing datasets were adapted to MTEB we refer to Appendix B.

PublicHealthQA: This retrieval task is built on top of a novel dataset containing question-and-answer pairs in Public Health, specifically related to the COVID-19 disease. They are sourced from Q&A pages and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sections of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) websites. They were produced and collected between 2019-12 and 2020-04.

WebLINXReranking: This is a novel HTML reranking task derived from WebLINX, a benchmark for training and evaluating web agents with conversational capabilities (Lù et al., 2024). Whereas the original work introduces a retrieval task with the goal of retrieving HTML elements using a conversational context, we propose the first task with the goal of reranking HTML elements based on their relevance for actions executed in web environments, including clicks, hovers, and text insertions.

WikiClustering: is a multilingual clustering benchmark based on Wikipedia's main topic classifications. The goal is to create a clustering benchmark that works for multiple languages.

To construct a WikiClustering dataset for a given language, we apply the following steps. First, download the wiki dump of the categories, the articles, and the category links. Second, we find the main topic classifications for all articles. The main topic classifications can be found by looking at the category page for the language[8]. We only use the first paragraph of each article to construct a paragraph-to-paragraph (P2P) task similar to other P2P tasks within MTEB. Third, we filter out articles with more than one main topic and remove any topic with only one article associated with it. This step avoids ambiguity in the clustering task. Finally, we sample 2048 articles with associated main topics.

While the WikiClustering benchmark can be extended to any language with main topic classifications, it is currently implemented for the following: Bosnian, Catalan, Czech, Danish, Basque, Manx, Ilokano, Kurdish, Latvian, Minangkabau, Maltese, Scots, Albanian, and Walloon. All code is available on GitHub.

WikipediaRetrievalMultilingual and **WikipediaRerankingMultilingual**: This is a multilingual retrieval and reranking dataset based on succinct queries generated by a strong multilingual LLM grounded in Wikipedia articles. The dataset was made to resemble SQuAD. Sampled Wikipedia articles of a target language were chunked and passed to GPT4-o using the following prompt:

```
"""
Your task is to anticipate possible search queries by users in the form of a question
for a given document.
- The question must be written in {{ language }}
- The question should be formulated concretely and precisely and relate to the
information from the given document
- The question must be coherent and should make sense without knowing the document
- The question must be answerable by the document
- The question should focus on one aspect and avoid using subclauses connected with
'and'
- The question should not be overly specific and should mimic a request of a user who
is just starting to research the given topic
- Do not draw on your prior knowledge

Generate a question in {{ language }} for the following document:
<document>
{{ document }}
```

[8] for details, we refer to https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Main_topic_classificationsforEnglish

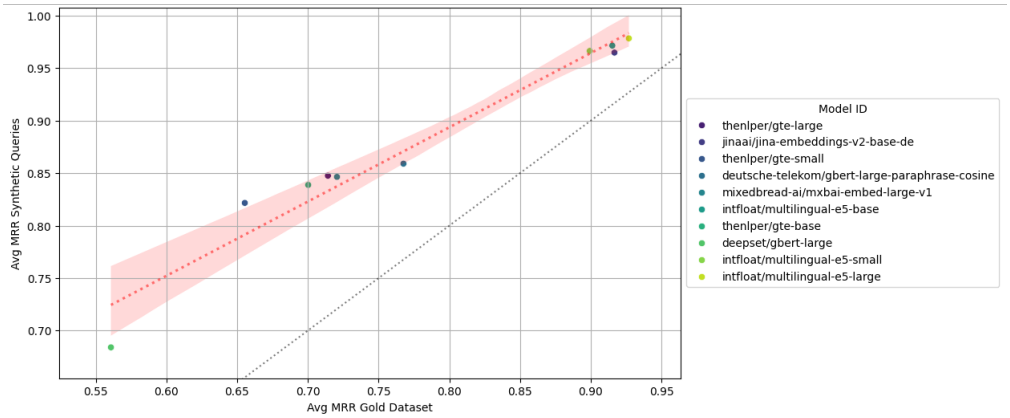

Figure 6: Comparison of MRR on synthetic retrieval and gold (GermanQuAD). The synthetic dataset was generated using GPT4-turbo.

```
</document>

Search query:
"""
```

We filtered articles with less than 9 paragraphs and sampled 1500 articles from the top 100k viewed articles. We then selected a random window of 9 consecutive paragraphs per article and chose the middle one to be the positive context and generated a query for it with gpt-4o. The surrounding 8 paragraphs act as hard negatives. The 9 paragraphs per article are used for the reranking task with one positive and 8 negatives. The one positive, 8 hard negatives, and the remaining corpus as negatives are used in the retrieval task.

These datasets where constructed fro the following languages: "bul-Cyrl", "ben-Beng", "ces-Latn", "dan-Latn", "deu-Latn", "eng-Latn", "fas-Arab", "fin-Latn", "hin-Deva", "ita-Latn", "nld-Latn", "por-Latn", "ron-Latn", "srp-Cyrl", "dan-Latn", "nob-Latn", "swe-Latn".

To estimate the quality of these samples we compare it to the GermanQuAD (Möller et al., 2021) in Figure 6. We obtain a Spearman rank correlation of 0.93 with a 95% CI of [0.69; 1.].

B.4 Task Metadata

Table 5 shows the required metadata to fill before adding a task to the benchmark. We provide a detailed description of each field, along with examples and possible values.

B.4.1 Domains

For our domains, we include the following:

- **Academic**: Scholarly writing and research publications typically found in journals, theses, and dissertations.
- **Blog**: Informal or conversational posts often found on websites or personal pages, covering a wide range of topics.
- **Constructed**: Text or speech that is deliberately invented or constructed, often used for experimental purposes to target specific abilities.
- **Encyclopaedic**: Structured, reference-based texts that provide comprehensive and factual information on a wide range of subjects.
- **Fiction**: Narrative writing based on imaginative content, including novels, short stories, and other forms of storytelling.

Field	Description
Name	A concise name for the task.
Description	A brief explanation of the task's goals and objectives..
Type	The primary task category (e.g., classification, summarization, retrieval).
Category	The general data structure or format of the task. This can be specified using a combination of single-letter codes (e.g., "s" for sentence, "p" for paragraph, "d" for document). For example, "s2s" indicates a sentence-to-sentence task, "s2p" indicates a sentence-to-paragraph task, and "p2p" indicates a paragraph-to-paragraph task.
Task Subtype	A more specific subcategory within the primary task type. This can be used to further refine the task and provide additional context. For example, "Summarization" might have subtypes like "Extractive Summarization" or "Abstractive Summarization".
Reference	A URL or citation to the original source material (e.g., paper, dataset repository).
Evaluation Splits	The specific subsets of the data used for training, validation, and testing.
Evaluation Languages	A list of ISO 639-3 language codes (e.g., "eng", "fra") followed by ISO 15924 script codes (e.g., "Latn", "Cyrl") for each language used in the evaluation. For example: [("eng", "Latn"), ("fra", "Latn")]. If multiple scripts are used within a single language, we specify them as a list (e.g., [("eng", ["Latn", "Grek"])]).
Date	The time period when the data was gathered. Specified as a tuple of two dates.
Main score	The primary metric used to evaluate task performance.
Form	The format of the data (e.g., "spoken", "written")
License	The licensing terms for the dataset (e.g., CC BY-SA, MIT).
Domains	The subject areas or fields covered by the data (e.g., medical, legal, news). One dataset can belong to multiple domains.
Annotation Creators	The type of the annotators. Includes "expert-annotated" (annotated by experts), "human-annotated" (annotated e.g. by mturkers), "derived" (derived from structure in the data), "LM-generated" (generated using a language model) and "LM-generated and reviewed" (generated using a language model and reviewed by humans or experts).
Dialect	The specific dialect or regional variation of the language.
Text Creation	How the text was generated. Includes "found", "created", "human-translated and localized", "human-translated", "machine-translated", "machine-translated and verified", "machine-translated and localized", "LM-generated and verified".
Bibtex Citation	The BibTeX format citation for the dataset.
Number of samples	The total number of data points in the dataset.
Avg. Number of characters	The average character length of the samples in the dataset.

Table 5: Required metadata for adding a new task to MMTEB.

- **Government**: Official documents, reports, and publications produced by governmental bodies.
- **Legal**: Documents and texts relating to laws, legal proceedings, contracts, and legal theory.
- **Medical**: Scientific and clinical literature related to healthcare, treatments, medical research, and patient care.
- **News**: Journalistic content that covers current events, politics, economy, and other topical issues.
- **Non-fiction**: Writing based on factual accounts and real-world subjects, such as biographies, essays, and documentaries.
- **Poetry**: Literary form focused on expressive language, often structured with meter, rhyme, or free verse.
- **Religious**: Texts related to religious teachings, doctrines, sacred scriptures, and spiritual discussions.
- **Reviews**: Critical evaluations of works such as books, movies, music, products, or services.
- **Social**: Written or spoken communication on social media platforms, forums, and other digital environments.
- **Spoken**: Oral communication, including speeches, dialogues, interviews, and recorded conversations.
- **Subtitles**: Textual transcriptions or translations of spoken language in films, videos, or multimedia presentations.
- **Web**: Text content found on websites, covering a wide range of subjects, often hyperlinked and multimedia-enriched.
- **Written**: General term for any form of text-based communication, whether printed or digital.

- **Programming**: Text written in programming languages to instruct computers, often for software development.

Our definition of domain aligns with that of the Universal Dependencies project (Nivre et al., 2016). We do not claim that our definition is neither precise nor comprehensive. However, and include subject fields such as "medical", "legal", and "news" and literary type such as "fiction", "non-fiction". They are not mutually exclusive.

C Benchmark Optimizations

C.1 Speeding Up Tasks

We aim to reduce the total amount of time needed to run the complete set of MTEB task. In particular, we investigate how to drastically reduce runtime on clustering and retrieval tasks while maintaining relative model rankings. This appendix provides full details of the approach described in Section 2.3.2.

C.1.1 Clustering

Task	Spearman	Speedup
Biorxiv P2P	0.9505	31.50x
Biorxiv S2S	0.9890	14.31x
Medrxiv P2P	0.9615	21.48x
Medrxiv S2S	0.9560	8.39x
Reddit S2S	0.9670	11.72x
Reddit P2P	0.9670	22.77x
StackExchange S2S	0.9121	9.55x
StackExchange P2P	0.9670	20.20x
TwentyNewsgroups	1.0000	5.02x
Average	0.9634	16.11x

Table 6: Agreement on model rankings on a selection of English clustering tasks using Spearman's correlation across the scores of 13 models of various sizes.

In the main paper, we present a down-sampled and bootstrapped version of the clustering task. We highlight the main results in Table 6 but refer to. We observe an average speedup across tasks of 16.11x while maintaining the relative ordering of models on the evaluated tasks. The largest average speed-up was seen for e5-large (16.93x), but we expect this effect to be even more pronounced among 7b or larger models.

9 single-level English clustering tasks are evaluated on 13 models across various sizes. A fraction of the documents are sampled and stratified by their target categories. At the same time, we wish to maintain robustness of the evaluation, i.e. the fast approach should be able to determine highly similar model ranking to that from the original approach. As such, we investigate the extent of agreement between the original clustering task and ours in each task on the model rankings.

The model ranking is determined from the mean of V-measure scores from evaluations, where a higher mean gives a higher model rank. Spearman's rank correlation score is then calculated based on the ranks from ours and the original approach. We additionally calculate the significant model rank which is determined by computing the significance of the given model's V-measure bootstrapped distribution based on its mean of V-measure scores using our approach against that of the original approach. Significant *S* is then calculated based on the significant ranks from our and the original approach.

To find a balance between speedup and the robustness of the approach, 4% of the dataset is chosen as the fraction to down-sample to, with the exception of RedditS2S and StackExchange where $n\_samples = 32768$. Table 7 shows that all evaluated datasets have very high significant Spearman's rank scores between our and the original approach. Figure 7 reports the distribution of V-measure

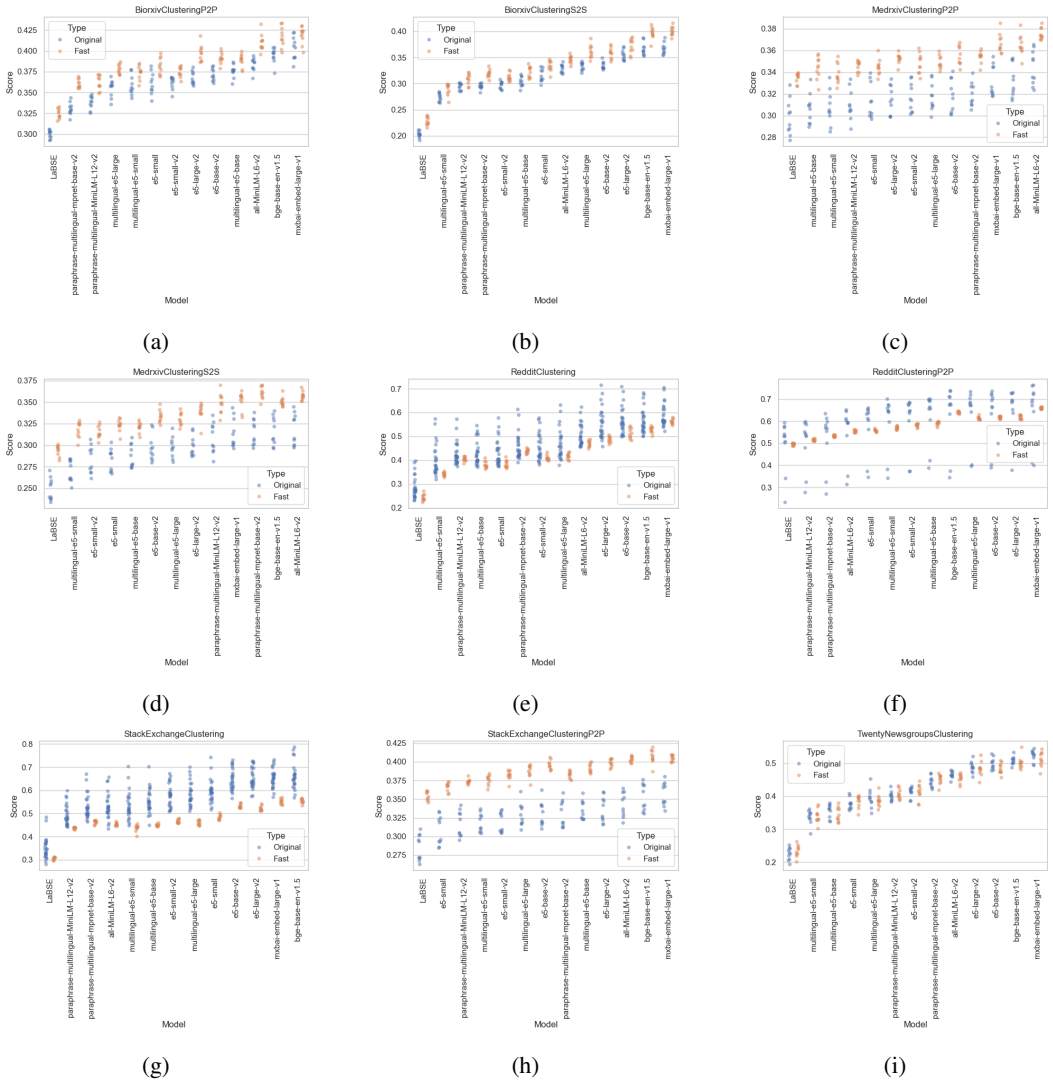

Figure 7: Distribution of scores per task across models.

Task	Sig. S
Biorxiv P2P	0.9390
Biorxiv S2S	0.9679
Medrxiv P2P	0.8200
Medrxiv S2S	0.9510
Reddit S2S	0.9790
Reddit P2P	0.7370
StackExchange S2S	0.9486
StackExchange P2P	0.9497
TwentyNewsgroups	0.9832
Average	0.9195

Table 7: Agreement on model rankings on English clustering tasks using significant Spearman's rank correlation with selected models of various sizes.

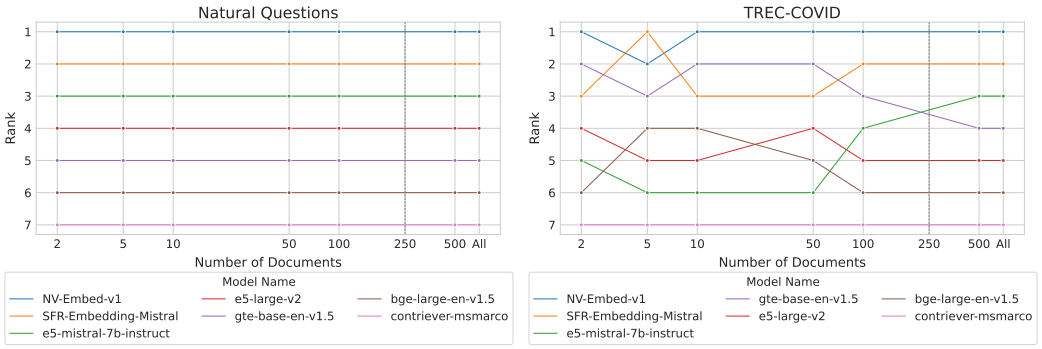

Figure 8: Ranking of different models on subsampled versions of the datasets using hard negatives. We see that NQ can be reduced to just two documents per query (relevant + 1 hard negative) while still maintaining the rank while TREC-COVID is less stable.

scores obtained from evaluation per model in each dataset for the ClusteringFast and the original approach. There is generally strong agreement between the rankings from both approaches. We also observe that the ClusteringFast approach often (5 out of 9 datasets) produces a smaller spread (i.e. smaller variance) in its V-measure distributions. Reddit P2P has the lowest significant Spearman score among this set. It also has the lowest average character length for its documents.

C.1.2 Retrieval

In this section we provide details about the method used to downsample retrieval datasets.

To ensure the downsampling kept the efficacy of the evaluation we aimed to examine several axes: (1) a wide range of models to be sure that the evaluation task could still properly rank the models - just as if it were not downsampled (2) that this method works for retrieval datasets that are sparsely judged *and* densely judged and (3) seeing if it was possible to use hard negatives from a smaller set of models due to the computational expense to gather these hard negatives on the full datasets.[9]

To meet these goals we chose NQ (for sparse relevance annotations, one per query) and TREC-COVID (for dense judgements, > 500 per query). To test using a small set of hard negatives, we gather the hard negatives with e5-large-v2 only. We evaluate a wide range of models for this analysis, including the current state-of-the-art and some of the previous state-of-the-art: NV-Embed-v1 (Lee et al., 2024), SFR-Embedding-Mistral (Rui Meng, Ye Liu, Shafiq Rayhan Joty, Caiming Xiong, Yingbo Zhou, Semih Yavuz, 2024), e5-mistral-7b-instruct (Wang et al., 2023), e5-large-v2 (Wang et al., 2022),

[9]We also tested whether ensuring that the ground truth relevant document is present in these hard negatives made a difference - we found that it did not, as most models ranked the ground truth in the top N, so manually including it was little help as it was already included.

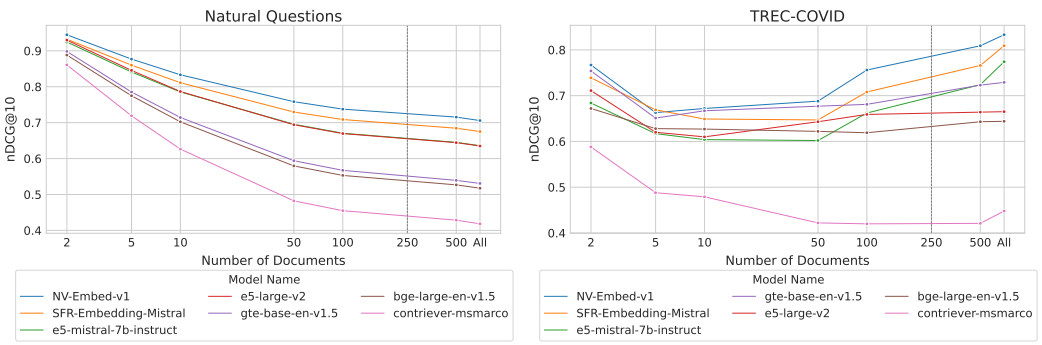

Figure 9: Absolute scores of different models on subsampled versions of the datasets using hard negatives. NQ has 1 relevant document per query while TREC-COVID has 500+ relevant documents per query which is why we see NQ scores gradually increasing whereas TREC-COVID scores vary.

gte-base-en-v1.5 (Li et al., 2023b), bge-large-en-v1.5 (Xiao et al., 2023), and contriever-msmarco (Izacard et al., 2021). We then evaluated the models on versions of the datasets with N hard negatives documents per query where $N \in \{2, 5, 10, 50, 100, 500, \text{all}\}$. We then compared the absolute scores and the relative rank positions to see what settings best retain the difficulty of the original task.

Ability to rank models correctly For a good evaluation, it must be able to rank models correctly and determine the best model. For this we examine how the ranking of the models change when we lower the number of hard negatives. For NQ the rank remains stable even with just one hard negatives (Figure 8). For TREC-COVID the ranking becomes unstable starting at 100 hard negatives, continuing to change as the number gets smaller.

Keeping the absolute score similar In an ideal case the scores for the task should remain similar and not trend towards perfect scores, remaining useful. We see that scores go very high when there are only a few hard negatives for NQ (Figure 9). For TREC-COVID it is more stable, but we see some wider swings with smaller documents. Overall, the scores are relatively similar at 100+ hard negatives.

Summary Overall, we see that staying above 100 hard negatives gives similar absolute scores while maintaining the ranking ability. Thus we opted for a conservative 250 documents per query to keep these characteristics.

C.2 Code Optimizations

We here document the major code optimizations within MTEB not related to dataset scores, task reformulation

Dataset loading One important issue identified was about loading multilingual and cross-lingual datasets composed of numerous small files in their repositories. Even for total dataset sizes under 10MB, loading could take hours due to significant overhead from managing a high number of network requests and the improper opening and closing of gzipped files. In collaboration with the datasets team (Lhoest et al., 2021), we addressed these problems with two-side implementation improvements: the datasets library optimized the loading of a large number of requested files, and we restructured the datasets and our codebase to leverage the benefits of the newer implementation. This ultimately reduced loading times by almost a factor of 100, bringing the largely cross-lingual dataset bitext-mining loading to under a minute.

Deduplication Upon in-depth scrutiny of all datasets, cases with repeated samples were identified and deduplicated (e.g. MindSmallReranking). As this led to a change in scores, a second version of the task was introduced to maintain compatible scores with existing benchmarks. To move the optimizations to existing MTEB tasks we implement a local cache to avoid encoding a sample twice.

D TASK OVERVIEW

D.1 TASKS

To get an overview of the all the tasks implemented in MMTEB we refer to the automatically updated tables in the documentation[10], which include the available metadata for all of the task, including license, task category, domains, etc.

D.2 LANGUAGES

Additionally, the top 100 languages in ISO 639-3 language codes and their respective task counts are in Table 8.

Language	BitextMining	Classification	Clustering	InstructionRetrieval	MultilabelClassification	PairClassification	Reranking	Retrieval	STS	Speed	Summarization	Sum
eng	16	143	16	3	1	8	8	91	13	2	1	302
deu	6	14	7	0	1	6	2	18	4	0	0	58
fra	7	13	8	0	1	5	3	14	4	0	1	56
rus	5	13	6	0	2	4	2	16	4	0	0	52
pol	4	11	4	0	1	4	0	18	4	0	0	46
cmn	4	10	4	0	0	3	4	10	9	0	0	44
spa	4	13	4	0	1	2	2	12	4	0	0	42
hin	9	12	2	0	0	1	2	10	2	0	0	38
code	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	37
jpn	5	8	3	0	0	1	3	13	2	0	0	35
kor	4	8	1	0	1	2	1	9	3	0	0	29
ara	2	12	0	0	0	2	1	9	2	0	0	28
ben	7	9	2	0	0	1	2	6	1	0	0	28
por	4	9	1	0	2	2	1	5	3	0	0	27
ita	5	9	1	0	1	2	1	5	3	0	0	27
tel	7	7	2	0	0	0	1	5	2	0	0	24
dan	5	9	2	0	1	0	1	5	0	0	0	23
swe	4	8	3	0	1	1	1	4	0	0	0	22
ind	6	7	1	0	0	1	1	4	1	0	0	21
tam	7	7	2	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	21
tha	4	8	1	0	0	1	1	6	0	0	0	21
mar	7	6	2	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	20
zho	2	2	1	0	0	1	1	13	0	0	0	20
fin	3	5	1	0	1	1	2	5	1	0	0	19
kan	6	7	2	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	19
mal	7	7	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	19
nld	6	6	1	0	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	19
nob	4	7	5	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	19
tur	4	7	1	0	0	2	0	3	2	0	0	19
urd	7	8	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	19
guj	6	6	2	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	18
pan	6	6	2	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	18
ron	5	6	1	0	1	0	1	3	1	0	0	18
vie	5	6	1	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	18
fas	1	4	0	0	0	1	2	9	0	0	0	17

[10]For the latest version see Anonymized

yor	4	5	3	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	16
ces	4	5	2	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	16
ell	3	6	1	0	1	2	0	3	0	0	0	16
swa	1	7	2	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	15
ory	5	4	2	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	15
amh	3	6	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	14
hau	4	5	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	14
asm	5	3	2	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	14
bul	3	4	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	13
jav	4	7	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	13
ibo	3	5	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	12
hun	5	3	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	12
slk	3	4	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	12
heb	4	5	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	11
afr	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	10
hrv	4	3	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	10
kat	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	10
slv	3	4	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	10
xho	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	10
san	5	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	10
hye	3	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	9
isl	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	9
mlt	2	2	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	9
mya	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	9
som	3	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	9
srp	4	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	9
sun	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	9
min	3	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
kin	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8
arb	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	8
cat	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
est	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	8
eus	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
kaz	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
khm	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
lin	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
lit	4	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
lug	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
npi	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
sna	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
snd	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
tgl	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
tir	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
ukr	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
cym	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
nno	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
ary	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	7
pcm	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
tso	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
kir	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
mkd	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
sin	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
ssw	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
tsn	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
zul	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
uig	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
fao	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	7
bug	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
mai	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7

mni	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
sat	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
twi	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
bod	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6
ceb	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6
ckb	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6
ilo	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6

Table 8: The top 100 languages across all MMTEB tasks in ISO 639-3 language codes and their respective task counts.

D.3 EXAMPLES

Table 9 and Table 10 provide examples for each new task type introduced in MMTEB. For examples of bitext mining, classification, clustering, pair classification, reranking, retrieval, STS, and summarization datasets, we refer to the MTEB paper Muennighoff et al. (2023b).

Dataset	Query	OG Instructions	Short query	Relevant Document
Robust04	Who is involved in the Schengen agreement to eliminate border controls in Western Europe and what do they hope to accomplish?	Relevant documents will contain any information about the actions of signatories of the Schengen agreement such as: measures to eliminate border controls (removal of traffic obstacles, lifting of traffic restrictions); implementation of the information system data bank that contains unified visa issuance procedures; or strengthening of border controls at the external borders of the treaty area in exchange for free movement at the internal borders. Discussions of border crossovers for business purposes are not relevant.	Find documents that answer this question on Schengen agreement actions.	... Schengen Space Concerning the mission traditionally performed by PAF–overseeing border traffic–the new directorate must fit into a Europe of immigration. The interior minister is therefore asking DICILC to step up its control of crossborder traffic, "particularly at the future external borders of the Schengen space." Originally scheduled in February 1994 but constantly postponed, the implementation of the agreements signed in Schengen by nine European countries (the Twelve, minus Great Britain, Ireland, and Denmark), provides for the free circulation of nationals within the space common to the territories of their nine countries...

Table 9: Instruction Retrieval examples.

E FULL RESULTS

During this work, multiple models were evaluated on more than >500 tasks, with multiple tasks containing multiple language subsets covering more than 1000 languages. This makes a comprehensive overview unreasonable. While we have supplied scores aggregated across task types, we realize that readers might be interested in examining scores for their specific language, domain of interest, and task. To ensure that such aggregation is available and easily accessible, we make all results available on the public and versioned results repository [11]. These results include time of run, evaluation time, and a wide set of performance metrics pr. language subset, CO2 emission, version number, and more.

[11] Anonymized for the specific version of the repository used for this work see commit id Anonymized

Dataset	Text	Label
Maltese News Categories	Hi kellha 82 sena Id-dinja mużikali fl-Italja tinsab f'luttu wara l-mewt tal-attriċi u kantanta popolari Milva, li fis-snin 70 kienet meqjusa "ikona" fost it-Taljani. Milva kienet kisbet suċċess kbir, fl-istess epoka ta' Mina u Ornella Vanoni. Milva arġet numru kbir ta' albums tul il-karriera tagha u adet sehem f'Sanremo gal xejn anqas minn 15-il darba; iżda qatt ma rebet il-festival. Hi kellha 82 sena, u telqet mix-xena tal-ispettaklu eżatt 10 snin ilu.	[culture(2), international(10)]

Table 10: Multilabel Classification examples.

```python
import mteb
from mteb.task_selection import results_to_dataframe

tasks = mteb.get_tasks(
    task_types=["Retrieval"],
    languages=["eng", "fra"],
    domains=["legal"]
)

model_names = [
    "intfloat/multilingual-e5-small",
    "intfloat/multilingual-e5-base",
    "intfloat/multilingual-e5-large",
]

models = [mteb.get_model_meta(name) for name in model_names]

results = mteb.load_results(models=models, tasks=tasks)

df = results_to_dataframe(results)
```

Figure 10: Simple example of how to obtain all scores on English (eng) and French (fra) retrieval tasks within the Legal domain for a set of models.

To make these detailed results subject to easy analysis, we have added functionality for loading and aggregating these results within the `mteb` package. It is, for instance, possible to retrieve the scores for specific models on all English (eng) and French (fra) retrieval tasks within the Legal domain using the code snippet in Figure 10

We refer to the documentation[12] for the latest version of this code.

E.1 Performance per Number of Speakers

F New Metrics

F.1 Abstention for retrieval and reranking tasks

In addition to the existing ranking metrics used for Retrieval and Reranking tasks (Muennighoff et al., 2023b), we propose to assess score calibration through the evaluation of model abstention ability, using the implementation of Gisserot-Boukhlef et al. (2024).

[12] Anonymized

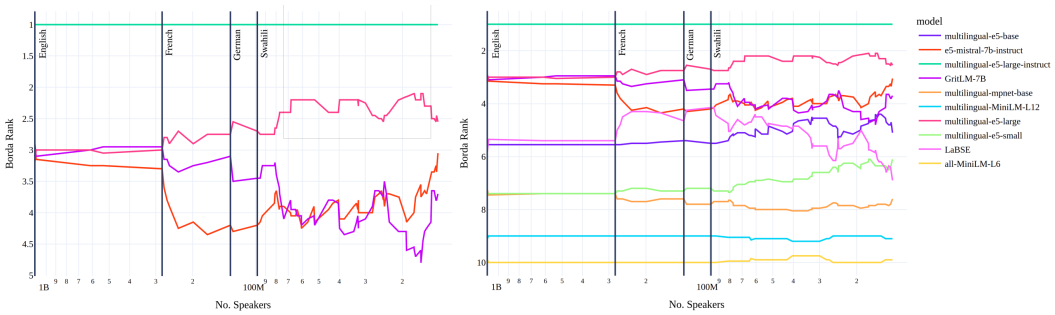

Figure 11: Models' rank on the `MTEB(multilingual)` by the total number of speakers of a language. *Trendlines represent moving average with a window size of 10*

Intuitively, a model abstains on a given instance $(q, d_1, \cdots, d_k)$ (one query and k candidate documents) if $c\,(q, d_1, \cdots, d_k) < \tau$, where c is a confidence function[13] and τ is a threshold regulating abstention likelihood. Therefore, to evaluate abstention capacity on a given test set $\mathcal{S}$, an approach consists of making τ vary to achieve several abstention rates. In the case of effective abstention, the metric score increases with the abstention rate.

More formally, models' ability to abstain is evaluated by computing the normalized area under the metric-abstention curve ($n\mathsf{AUC}$). Given a confidence function c, a metric function m[14] and a labeled test dataset $\mathcal{S}$, $n\mathsf{AUC}$ is computed as follows:

1. **Multi-thresholding:** Given a model f and dataset $\mathcal{D}$, we define a set of abstention thresholds $\tau_1, \ldots, \tau_n$, such that $\tau_1 < \cdots < \tau_n$. For each threshold τ_i, we construct a corresponding sub-dataset $\mathcal{S}_i \subseteq \mathcal{D}$ by applying the abstention criterion. We then evaluate the model f on each sub-dataset $\mathcal{S}_i$ using the metric function m. To quantify the model's performance across these thresholds, we compute the area under the metric-abstention curve, denoted as AUC_{model}.
2. **Compute lower-bound:** Since AUC_{model} depends on the model's raw performance without abstention, we compute the effective lower bound AUC^{-}. This corresponds to the area under the curve when the metric remains constant as abstention increases, representing the baseline where abstention does not improve the metric.
3. **Compute upper-bound:** To establish the upper bound, AUC^{+}, we evaluate an oracle model that has access to the true labels. The oracle can selectively retain the best instances at each abstention rate, yielding the theoretical maximum area under the metric-abstention curve. This represents the optimal model performance under abstention.
4. **Compute normalized AUC:** Finally, we compute the normalized area under the curve, denoted $n\mathsf{AUC}_{model}$, by scaling AUC_{model} between the lower and upper bounds:

$$n\mathsf{AUC}_{model} = \frac{\mathsf{AUC}_{model} - \mathsf{AUC}^{-}}{\mathsf{AUC}^{+} - \mathsf{AUC}^{-}}$$

.

G MODELS

Models used for task selection along with their revision IDs can be found in Table 11. Code for running the models, including prompts, is available within MTEB's model registry available at Anonymized. Unless otherwise specified within the model implementation, the prompt is available in the file Anonymized. As some debugging happened during the running of the models, multiple

[13] In our implementation, we rely on three simple confidence functions all taking the instance's query-document cosine similarity scores as input: the maximum score, the standard deviation of scores and the difference between the highest and second highest scores.

[14] We utilize the metrics initially implemented for the evaluation of Retrieval and Reranking MTEB tasks (Muennighoff et al., 2023b).

Name in Paper	HF Name	Revision ID
GritLM-7B	GritLM/GritLM-7B	13f00a0e36500c80ce12870ea513846a066004af
e5-mistral-7b-instruct	intfloat/e5-mistral-7b-instruct	07163b72af1488142a360786df853f237b1a3ca1
multilingual-e5-base	intfloat/multilingual-e5-base	d13f1b27baf31030b7fd040960d60d909913633f
multilingual-e5-large	intfloat/multilingual-e5-large	4dc6d853a804b9c8886ede6dda8a073b7dc08a81
multilingual-e5-large-instruct	intfloat/multilingual-e5-large-instruct	baa7be480a7de1539afce709c8f13f833a510e0a
multilingual-e5-small	intfloat/multilingual-e5-small	e4ce9877abf3edfe10b0d82785e83bdcb973e22e
LaBSE	s-t/LaBSE	e34fab64a3011d2176c99545a93d5cbddc9a91b7
all-MiniLM-L12	s-t/all-MiniLM-L12-v2	a05860a77cef7b37e0048a7864658139bc18a854
all-MiniLM-L6	s-t/all-MiniLM-L6-v2	8b3219a92973c328a8e22fadcfa821b5dc75636a
all-mpnet-base	s-t/all-mpnet-base-v2	84f2bcc00d77236f9e89c8a360a00fb1139bf47d
multilingual-MiniLM-L12	s-t/paraphrase-multilingual-MiniLM-L12-v2	bf3bf13ab40c3157080a7ab344c831b9ad18b5eb
multilingual-mpnet-base	s-t/paraphrase-multilingual-mpnet-base-v2	79f2382ceacceacdf38563d7c5d16b9ff8d725d6

Table 11: Model name as it appears in the paper, its name on Huggingface Hub, and their associated revision IDs. Note: s-t stands for sentence-transformers.

versions of MTEB were used. Due to the computational cost of running these large models on the vast amount of datasets, it was deemed unfeasible to run all the models using the exact same version. However, for each task, all models were run on the same version of the specific task. Model results can be found in JSON format in the results repository; these include additional performance metrics, model metadata, CO_2 emission, time of run, and exact version of MTEB used: Anonymized.

H Benchmark Construction and Overview

H.1 Benchmark creation

The following section introduces benchmarks created as a part of the MMTEB open contribution, which aren't introduced within the main article. MTEB additionally includes a variety of benchmark including the language-specific, notably the original English MTEB, `MTEB(eng)` (Muennighoff et al., 2023b), the Scandinavian embedding benchmark `MTEB(scandinavian)` (Enevoldsen et al., 2024), the French benchmark `MTEB(fra)` (Ciancone et al., 2024), the German benchmark `MTEB(deu)` (Wehrli et al., 2024), the Korean benchmark `MTEB(kor)`, the Chinese benchmark (Xiao et al., 2024b), the Polish benchmark `MTEB(pol)` (Poświata et al., 2024). Along with these MTEB also include an instruction based retrieval based benchmark `MTEB(Retrieval w/Instructions)` (Weller et al., 2024), a benchmark for law `MTEB(law)`, the bitext section of the MINER benchmark `MINERSBitextMining` target at low resource languages (Winata et al., 2024b), and the CoIR benchmark for code retrieval `CoIR` (Li et al., 2024). For this benchmark, we refer to their associated paper and pull requests.

For an up to date overview of maintained benchmarks please see the benchmark registry[15].

MTEB(rus) (Snegirev et al., 2024): Although Russian has approximately 258 million speakers world-wide, it was almost completely absent from the original benchmark and represented only in few multilingual datasets (e.g., MassiveIntentClassification). To address this problem, we included a number of Russian datasets in the new multilingual benchmark. For this, we selected popular Russian time-tested and community-tested datasets representing the main MMTEB tasks. Additionally, we performed data cleaning and automatic filtering, where necessary, and formatted datasets in the MMTEB format. The final Russian part includes 18 datasets covering 7 main tasks: Classification (7 datasets), Clustering (3 datasets), MultiLabelClassification (2 tasks), PairClassification (1 task), Reranking (1 task), Retrieval (2 tasks), and STS (2 tasks). This dataset was manually constructed.

RAR-b: The Reasoning as Retrieval Benchmark (RAR-b) (Xiao et al., 2024a) evaluates reasoning-level understanding abilities stored in embedding models, and assesses whether correct answers to reasoning questions can be retrieved as top similar to queries, under w/ and w/o instruction settings. The benchmark provides insights into whether representations of nuanced expressions are aligned and well-encoded by current embedding models, going beyond the established reliance on evaluating with STS or traditional topical-level IR tasks.

The benchmark puts together 17 tasks made from 15 datasets (with reasoning questions from 12 datasets and 3 extra datasets to enlarge the corpus), covering 1) commonsense reasoning: WinoGrande,

[15] Anonymized

PIQA, SIQA, αNLI, HellaSwag, ARC-Challenge, Quail, CSTS (Sakaguchi et al., 2021; Bisk et al., 2020; Sap et al., 2019; Bhagavatula et al., 2020; Zellers et al., 2019; Clark et al., 2018; Rogers et al., 2020; Deshpande et al., 2023), 2) temporal reasoning (Tan et al., 2023), 3) spatial reasoning: SpartQA (Mirzaee et al., 2021), 4) numerical reasoning: GSM8K, MATH (Hendrycks et al., 2021b; Cobbe et al., 2021; Yu et al., 2023), and 5) symbolic reasoning: HumanEvalPack and MBPP (Husain et al., 2019; Austin et al., 2021; Chen et al., 2021; Muennighoff et al., 2023a). The comprehensive assessment provides an early checkpoint for abilities envisioned to be necessary for next-generation embedding models (Xiao et al., 2024a).

MTEB(europe): We begin by selecting 56 official languages of the European Union, along with languages recognized by Schengen-area countries, such as Norwegian Bokmål, Icelandic, Romani, and Basque. This initial selection results in 420 tasks. We then reduce this selection by filtering out machine-translated datasets, datasets with unclear licenses, and highly specialized datasets (e.g., code retrieval datasets). Additionally, we remove tasks such as `AfriSentiClassification`, which, while containing European languages, primarily target African or Indic languages. After these exclusions, 228 tasks remain. Next, we run a representative selection of models (see Section [3.1]) and iteratively filter out the most predictable tasks (see Section [2.3.3]). To preserve language diversity and ensure fair representation across task categories, we avoid removing any task if it would eliminate a language from a particular task category. Furthermore, we retain tasks where the mean squared error between predicted and observed performance exceeds 0.5 standard deviations. This process continues until the most predictable tasks yield a Spearman correlation of less than 0.8 between predicted and observed scores, or until no further tasks can be removed. Ultimately, this results in a final selection of 96 tasks. Finally, contributors proficient in the target languages review the selected tasks, replacing some manually with higher-quality alternatives if necessary.

MTEB(indic): This benchmark is constructed similarly to the previous European benchmark but focuses on a set of Indic languages[16]. Initially, we selected 55 tasks. After manual filtering, 44 tasks remain, and following task selection and review, the final benchmark contains 23 tasks.

H.2 Benchmark task overview

The following tables give an overview of the tasks available within constructed benchmarks. For more information about the specific tasks, we refer to the task metadata available through the mteb package [17].

- Table 12 and Table 13: Gives an overview of the ‘MTEB(multilingual)‘ benchmark
- Table 14: Gives an overview of the ‘MTEB(europe)‘ benchmark
- Table 15: Gives an overview of the ‘MTEB(indic)‘ benchmark
- Table 16: Gives an overview of the ‘MTEB(eng)‘ benchmark
- Table 17: Gives an overview of the ‘MTEB(code)‘ benchmark

H.3 Performance on `MTEB(eng)`

Table 18 show the performance of our representative set of model on `MTEB(eng)`.

H.4 Performance on `MTEB(code)`

Table 19 show the performance of our representative set of model on `MTEB(code)`.

[16]The following iso639-3 codes: `asm, awa, ben, bgc, bho, doi, gbm, gom, guj, hin, hne, kan, kas, mai, mal, mar, mni, mup, mwr, nep, npi, ori, ory, pan, raj, san, snd, tam, tel, urd`

[17]Anonymized

Type	Name	Languages	Domains	Sample creation	Annotations creators	Nb samples
BitextMining	BUCC.v2 Zweigenbaum et al. (2017)	['cmn', 'deu', 'eng', ...]	['Written']	human-translated	human-annotated	35000
	BibleNLPBitextMining Akerman et al. (2023)	['aai', 'aak', 'aau', ...]	['Religious', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	-
	BornholmBitextMining Derczynski & Kjeldsen	['dan']	['Web', 'Social', 'Fiction', ...]	created	expert-annotated	500
	DiaBlaBitextMining González et al. (2019)	['eng', 'fra']	['Social', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	11496
	FloresBitextMining Goyal et al. (2022)	['ace', 'acm', 'acq', ...]	['Non-fiction', 'Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	-
	IN22GenBitextMining Gala et al. (2023)	['asm', 'ben', 'brx', ...]	['Web', 'Legal', 'Government', ...]	created	expert-annotated	518144
	IndicGenBenchFloresBitextMining Singh et al. (2024a)	['asm', 'awa', 'ben', ...]	['Web', 'News', 'Written']	human-translated and localized	expert-annotated	58696
	NTREXBitextMining Federmann et al. (2022)	['afr', 'amh', 'arb', ...]	['News', 'Written']	human-translated and localized	expert-annotated	3826252
	NollySentiBitextMining Shode et al. (2023)	['eng', 'hau', 'ibo', ...]	['Social', 'Reviews', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	1640
	NorwegianCourtsBitextMining Tiedemann & Thottingal (2020)	['nno', 'nob']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	228
	NusaTranslationBitextMining Cahyawijaya et al. (2023c)	['abs', 'bbc', 'bew', ...]	['Social', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	50200
	NusaXBitextMining Winata et al. (2023b)	['ace', 'ban', 'bbc', ...]	['Reviews', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	5500
	Tatoeba community (2021)	['afr', 'amh', 'ang', ...]	['Written']	found	human-annotated	88877
Classification	AfriSentiClassification Muhammad et al. (2023)	['amh', 'arq', 'ary', ...]	['Social', 'Written']	found	derived	18222
	AmazonCounterfactualClassification O'Neill et al. (2021)	['deu', 'eng', 'jpn']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	3872
	BulgarianStoreReviewSentimentClassfication Georgieva-Trifonova et al. (2018)	['bul']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	182
	CSFDSKMovieReviewSentimentClassification ?	['slk']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	CataloniaTweetClassification Zotova et al. (2020)	['cat', 'spa']	['Social', 'Government', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	4026
	CyrillicTurkicLangClassification Goldhahn et al. (2012)	['bak', 'chv', 'kaz', ...]	['Web', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	CzechProductReviewSentimentClassification Habernal et al. (2013)	['ces']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	DBpediaClassification Zhang et al. (2015)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	DalajClassification Volodina et al. (2021)	['swe']	['Non-fiction', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	888
	EstonianValenceClassification Pajupuu et al. (2023)	['est']	['News', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	818
	FilipinoShopeeReviewsClassification Riego et al.	['fil']	['Social', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2048
	FinancialPhrasebankClassification Malo et al. (2014)	['eng']	['News', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	2264
	GreekLegalCodeClassification Papaloukas et al. (2021)	['ell']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2048
	GujaratiNewsClassification	['guj']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	1318
	IndicLangClassification Madhani et al. (2023)	['asm', 'ben', 'brx', ...]	['Web', 'Non-fiction', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	30418
	IndonesianIdClickbaitClassification William & Sari (2020)	['ind']	['News', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	2048
	IsiZuluNewsClassification Madodonga et al. (2023)	['zul']	['News', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	752
	ItaCaseholdClassification Licari et al. (2023)	['ita']	['Legal', 'Government', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	221
	KorSarcasmClassification Kim & Cho (2019)	['kor']	['Social', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	2048
	KurdishSentimentClassification Badawi et al. (2024)	['kur']	['Web', 'Written']	found	derived	1987
	MacedonianTweetSentimentClassification Jovanoski et al. (2015)	['mkd']	['Social', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	1139
	MasakhaNEWSClassification Adelani et al. (2023b)	['amh', 'eng', 'fra', ...]	['News', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	6242
	MassiveIntentClassification FitzGerald et al. (2022)	['afr', 'amh', 'ara', ...]	['Spoken']	human-translated and localized	human-annotated	151674
	MultiHateClassification R"ottger et al. (2021)	['ara', 'cmn', 'deu', ...]	['Constructed', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	11000
	NepaliNewsClassification Arora (2020)	['nep']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	NordicLangClassification Haas & Derczynski (2021)	['dan', 'fao', 'isl', ...]	['Encyclopaedic']	found	derived	3000
	NusaParagraphEmotionClassification Cahyawijaya et al. (2023b)	['bbc', 'bew', 'bug', ...]	['Non-fiction', 'Fiction', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	5700
	NusaX-senti Winata et al. (2022)	['ace', 'ban', 'bbc', ...]	['Reviews', 'Web', 'Social', ...]	found	expert-annotated	4800
	OdiaNewsClassification Kunchukuttan et al. (2020)	['ory']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	PAC Łukasz Augustyniak et al. (2022)	['pol']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	derived	3453
	PoemSentimentClassification Sheng & Uthus (2020)	['eng']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	104
	PolEmo2.0-OUT	['pol']	['Written', 'Social']	found	derived	494
	PunjabiNewsClassification Kunchukuttan et al. (2020)	['pan']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	157
	ScalaClassification Nielsen (2023)	['dan', 'nno', 'nob', ...]	['Fiction', 'News', 'Non-fiction', ...]	created	human-annotated	8192
	SentimentAnalysisHindi Parida et al. (2023)	['hin']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	SinhalaNewsClassification de Silva (2015)	['sin']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	SiswatiNewsClassification Madodonga et al. (2023)	['ssw']	['News', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	80
	SlovakMovieReviewSentimentClassification Stef'anik et al. (2023)	['svk']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	SwahiliNewsClassification Davis (2020)	['swa']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	SwissJudgementClassification Niklaus et al. (2022)	['deu', 'fra', 'ita']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	-
	ToxicConversationsClassification cjadams et al. (2019)	['eng']	['Social', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2048
	TswanaNewsClassification Marivate et al. (2023)	['tsn']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	487
	TweetTopicSingleClassification Antypas et al. (2022)	['eng']	['Social', 'News', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	-
Clustering	AlloProfClusteringS2S.v2 Lefebvre-Brossard et al. (2023)	['fra']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2556
	ArXivHierarchicalClusteringP2P	['eng']	['Academic', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	ArXivHierarchicalClusteringS2S	['eng']	['Academic', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	BigPatentClustering.v2 Sharma et al. (2019)	['eng']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	BiorxivClusteringP2P.v2	['eng']	['Academic', 'Written']	created	derived	53787
	CLSClusteringP2P.v2 Li et al. (2022)	['cmn']	['Academic', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	HALClusteringS2S.v2 Ciancone et al. (2024)	['fra']	['Academic', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2048
	MasakhaNEWSClusteringS2S Adelani et al. (2023b)	['amh', 'eng', 'fra', ...]	['News', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	80
	MedrxivClusteringP2P.v2	['eng']	['Academic', 'Medical', 'Written']	created	derived	37500
	PlscClusteringP2P.v2	['pol']	['Academic', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	RomaniBibleClustering	['rom']	['Religious', 'Written']	human-translated and localized	derived	-
	SIB200ClusteringS2S Adelani et al. (2023a)	['ace', 'acm', 'acq', ...]	['News', 'Written']	human-translated and localized	expert-annotated	197788
	SNLHierarchicalClusteringP2P Navjord & Korsvik (2023)	['nob']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Non-fiction', 'Written']	found	derived	1300
	StackExchangeClustering.v2 Geigle et al. (2021)	['eng']	['Web', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	SwednClusteringP2P Monsen & J"onsson (2021)	['swe']	['News', 'Non-fiction', 'Written']	found	derived	-
	WikiCitiesClustering Foundation	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	derived	1
	WikiClusteringP2P.v2	['bos', 'cat', 'ces', ...]	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	created	derived	28672

Table 12: The tasks included in `MTEB(Multilingual) (part 1)`.

Type	Name	Languages	Domains	Sample creators	Annotations creators	Nb samples*
InstructionRetrieval	Core17InstructionRetrieval Weller et al. (2024)	['eng']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	19939
	News21InstructionRetrieval Weller et al. (2024)	['eng']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	30985
	Robust04InstructionRetrieval Weller et al. (2024)	['eng']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	47596
MultilabelClassification	BrazilianToxicTweetsClassification Leite et al. (2020)	['por']	['Constructed', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	2048
	CEDRClassification Sboev et al. (2021)	['rus']	['Web', 'Social', 'Blog', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	1882
	KorHateSpeechMLClassification Lee et al. (2022)	['kor']	['Social', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	2037
	MalteseNewsClassification Chaudhary et al. (2024)	['mlt']	['Constructed', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	2297
	MultiEURLEXMultilabelClassification Chalkidis et al. (2021)	['bul', 'ces', 'dan', ...]	['Legal', 'Government', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	115000
PairClassification	ArmenianParaphrasePC Malajyan et al. (2020)	['hye']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	1470
	CTKFactsNLI Ullrich et al. (2023)	['ces']	['News', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	375
	OpusparcusPC Creutz (2018)	['deu', 'eng', 'fin', ...]	['Spoken', 'Spoken']	created	human-annotated	-
	PawsXPairClassification Yang et al. (2019)	['cmn', 'deu', 'eng', ...]	['Web', 'Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	human-translated	human-annotated	14000
	PpcPC Dadas (2022)	['pol']	['Fiction', 'Non-fiction', 'Web', ...]	found	derived	1000
	RTE3 Giampiccolo et al. (2007)	['deu', 'eng', 'fra', ...]	['News', 'Web', 'Encyclopaedic', ...]	found	expert-annotated	1923
	SprintDuplicateQuestions Shah et al. (2018)	['eng']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	101000
	TERRa Shavrina et al. (2020)	['rus']	['News', 'Web', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	307
	TwitterURLCorpus Lan et al. (2017)	['eng']	['Social']	found	human-annotated	51534
	XNLI Conneau et al. (2018)	['ara', 'bul', 'deu', ...]	['Non-fiction', 'Fiction', 'Government', ...]	created	expert-annotated	19110
	indonli Mahendra et al. (2021)	['ind']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Web', 'News', ...]	found	expert-annotated	-
Reranking	AlloprofReranking Lefebvre-Brossard et al. (2023)	['fra']	['Web', 'Academic', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	27355
	RuBQReranking Rybin et al. (2021)	['rus']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	38998
	T2Reranking Xie et al. (2023)	['cmn']	-	found	expert-annotated	103330
	VoyageMMarcoReranking Clavié (2023)	['jpn']	['Academic', 'Non-fiction', 'Written']	found	derived	-
	WebLINXCandidatesReranking Lù et al. (2024)	['eng']	['Academic', 'Web', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	-
	WikipediaRerankingMultilingual Foundation	['ben', 'bul', 'ces', ...]	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	LM-generated and verified	LM-generated and reviewed	240000
Retrieval	AILAStatutes Bhattacharya et al. (2020)	['eng']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	derived	50 - 82
	ArguAna Boteva et al. (2016)	['eng']	['Medical', 'Written']	found	derived	1406 - 8674
	BelebeleRetrieval Bandarkar et al. (2023)	['acm', 'afr', 'als', ...]	['Web', 'News', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	338378 - 183488
	CovidRetrieval	['cmn']	['Medical']	found	derived	949 - 100001
	HagridRetrieval Kamalloo et al. (2023)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	496 - 496
	LEMBPasskeyRetrieval Zhu et al. (2024)	['eng']	['Fiction', 'Written']	found	derived	-
	LegalBenchCorporateLobbying Guha et al. (2023)	['eng']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	derived	340 - 319
	MIRACLRetrievalHardNegatives Zhang et al. (2023)	['ara', 'ben', 'deu', ...]	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	11076 - 2449382
	MLQARetrieval Lewis et al. (2019)	['ara', 'deu', 'eng', ...]	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	158029 - 138636
	SCIDOCS Cohan et al. (2020b)	['eng']	['Academic', 'Written', 'Non-fiction']	found	derived	1000 - 25657
	SpartQA Xiao et al. (2024a)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	derived	3594 - 1592
	StackOverflowQA Li et al. (2024)	['eng']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	1994 - 19931
	StatcanDialogueDatasetRetrieval Lu et al. (2023)	['eng', 'fra']	['Government', 'Web', 'Written']	found	derived	661 - 11814
	TRECCOVID Roberts et al. (2021)	['eng']	['Medical']	created	human-annotated	50 - 171332
	TempReasonL1 Xiao et al. (2024a)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	derived	4000 - 12504
	TwitterHjerneRetrieval Holm (2024)	['dan']	['Social', 'Written']	found	derived	78 - 262
	WikipediaRetrievalMultilingual	['ben', 'bul', 'ces', ...]	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	LM-generated and verified	LM-generated and reviewed	24000 - 216000
	WinoGrande Xiao et al. (2024a)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	derived	1267 - 5095
STS	FaroeseSTS Snæbjarnarson et al. (2023)	['fao']	['News', 'Web', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	729
	FinParaSTS Kanerva et al. (2021)	['fin']	['News', 'Subtitles', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	1000
	GermanSTSBenchmark May (2021)	['deu']	['News', 'Subtitles', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	1379
	IndicCrosslingualSTS Ramesh et al. (2022)	['asm', 'ben', 'eng', ...]	['News', 'Non-fiction', 'Web', ...]	created	expert-annotated	3072
	JSICK Yanaka & Mineshima (2022)	['jpn']	['Web', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	1986
	SICK-R Dadas et al. (2020)	['eng']	['Academic']	found	derived	9927
	STS12 Agirre et al. (2012)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'News', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	3108
	STS13 Agirre et al. (2013)	['eng']	['Web', 'News', 'Non-fiction', ...]	created	human-annotated	1500
	STS14 Bandhakavi et al. (2014)	['eng']	['Blog', 'Web', 'Spoken']	created	derived	3750
	STS15 Biçici (2015)	['eng']	['Blog', 'News', 'Web', ...]	created	human-annotated	3000
	STS17 Cer et al. (2017)	['ara', 'deu', 'eng', ...]	['News', 'Web', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	5346
	STS22.v2 Chen et al. (2022)	['ara', 'cmn', 'deu', ...]	['News', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	3958
	STSB ?	['cmn']	['News', 'Web', 'Written']	found	derived	1361
	STSBenchmark May (2021)	['eng']	['News', 'Web', 'Written']	found	derived	1379
	STSES Agirre et al. (2015)	['spa']	['Written']	found	derived	155
	SemRel24STS Ousidhoum et al. (2024)	['afr', 'amh', 'arb', ...]	['Spoken', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	7498

Table 13: The tasks included in `MTEB(Multilingual)` (part 2). *For the number of samples, are given the total number of samples all languages included, for Retrieval tasks are given the (number of queries - number of documents).

Type	Name	Languages	Domains	Sample creation	Annotation creators	Nb Samples*
BitextMining	BUCC.v2 Zweigenbaum et al. (2017)	['cmn', 'deu', 'eng', ...]	['Written']	human-translated	human-annotated	35000
	BibleNLPBitextMining Akerman et al. (2023)	['aai', 'aak', 'aau', ...]	['Religious', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	-
	BornholmBitextMining Derczynski & Kjeldsen	['dan']	['Web', 'Social', 'Fiction', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	500
	DiaBlaBitextMining González et al. (2019)	['eng', 'fra']	['Social', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	11496
	FloresBitextMining Goyal et al. (2022)	['ace', 'acm', 'acq', ...]	['Non-fiction', 'Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	-
	NTREXBitextMining Federmann et al. (2022)	['afr', 'amh', 'arb', ...]	['News', 'Written']	human-translated and localized	expert-annotated	3826252
	NorwegianCourtsBitextMining Tiedemann & Thottingal (2020)	['nno', 'nob']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	228
Classification	AmazonCounterfactualClassification O'Neill et al. (2021)	['deu', 'eng', 'jpn']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	3872
	BulgarianStoreReviewSentimentClassfication Georgieva-Trifonova et al. (2018)	['bul']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	182
	CBD Ogrodniczuk & Lukasz Kobyliński (2019)	['pol']	['Written', 'Social']	found	human-annotated	1000
	CSFDSKMovieReviewSentimentClassification ?	['slk']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	CzechProductReviewSentimentClassification Habernal et al. (2013)	['ces']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	DBpediaClassification Zhang et al. (2015)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	DalajClassification Volodina et al. (2021)	['swe']	['Non-fiction', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	888
	EstonianValenceClassification Pajupuu et al. (2023)	['est']	['News', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	818
	FinancialPhrasebankClassification Malo et al. (2014)	['eng']	['News', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	2264
	GreekLegalCodeClassification Papaloukas et al. (2021)	['ell']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2048
	ItaCaseholdClassification Licari et al. (2023)	['ita']	['Legal', 'Government', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	221
	MassiveScenarioClassification FitzGerald et al. (2022)	['afr', 'amh', 'ara', ...]	['Spoken']	human-translated and localized	human-annotated	151674
	MultiHateClassification R"ottger et al. (2021)	['ara', 'cmn', 'deu', ...]	['Constructed', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	11000
	NordicLangClassification Haas & Derczynski (2021)	['dan', 'fao', 'isl', ...]	['Encyclopaedic']	found	derived	3000
	PoemSentimentClassification Sheng & Uthus (2020)	['eng']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	104
	PolEmo2.0-OUT	['pol']	['Written', 'Social']	NaN	NaN	494
	ScalaClassification Nielsen (2023)	['dan', 'nno', 'nob', ...]	['Fiction', 'News', 'Non-fiction', ...]	created	human-annotated	8192
	SwissJudgementClassification Niklaus et al. (2022)	['deu', 'fra', 'ita']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	-
	ToxicChatClassification Lin et al. (2023)	['eng']	['Constructed', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	1164
	ToxicConversationsClassification cjadams et al. (2019)	['eng']	['Social', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2048
	TweetSentimentClassification Barbieri et al. (2022)	['ara', 'deu', 'eng', ...]	['Social', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2048
Clustering	AlloProfClusteringS2S.v2 Lefebvre-Brossard et al. (2023)	['fra']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2556
	BigPatentClustering.v2 Sharma et al. (2019)	['eng']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	BiorxivClusteringP2P.v2	['eng']	['Academic', 'Written']	created	derived	53787
	HALClusteringS2S.v2 Ciancone et al. (2024)	['fra']	['Academic', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2048
	RomaniBibleClustering	['rom']	['Religious', 'Written']	human-translated and localized	derived	-
	SIB200ClusteringS2S Adelani et al. (2023a)	['ace', 'acm', 'acq', ...]	['News', 'Written']	human-translated and localized	expert-annotated	197788
	WikiCitiesClustering Foundation	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	derived	-
	WikiClusteringP2P.v2	['bos', 'cat', 'ces', ...]	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	created	derived	28672
InstructionRetrieval	Core17InstructionRetrieval Weller et al. (2024)	['eng']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	19939
	News21InstructionRetrieval Weller et al. (2024)	['eng']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	30985
	Robust04InstructionRetrieval Weller et al. (2024)	['eng']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	47596
MultilabelClassification	MalteseNewsClassification Chaudhary et al. (2024)	['mlt']	['Constructed', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	2297
	MultiEURLEXMultilabelClassification Chalkidis et al. (2021)	['bul', 'ces', 'dan', ...]	['Legal', 'Government', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	115000
PairClassification	CTKFactsNLI Ullrich et al. (2023)	['ces']	['News', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	375
	OpusparcusPC Creutz (2018)	['deu', 'eng', 'fin', ...]	['Spoken', 'Spoken']	created	human-annotated	-
	PSC Ogrodniczuk & Kope'c (2014)	['pol']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	1078
	RTE3 Giampiccolo et al. (2007)	['deu', 'eng', 'fra', ...]	['News', 'Web', 'Encyclopaedic', ...]	found	expert-annotated	1923
	SprintDuplicateQuestions Shah et al. (2018)	['eng']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	101000
	XNLI Conneau et al. (2018)	['ara', 'bul', 'deu', ...]	['Non-fiction', 'Fiction', 'Government', ...]	created	expert-annotated	19110
Reranking	AlloprofReranking Lefebvre-Brossard et al. (2023)	['fra']	['Web', 'Academic', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	27355
	WebLINXCandidatesReranking Lù et al. (2024)	['eng']	['Academic', 'Web', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	-
	WikipediaRerankingMultilingual Foundation	['ben', 'bul', 'ces', ...]	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	LM-generated and verified	LM-generated and reviewed	240000
Retrieval	AlloprofRetrieval Lefebvre-Brossard et al. (2023)	['fra']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2316 - 2556
	ArguAna Boteva et al. (2016)	['eng']	['Medical', 'Written']	found	derived	1406 - 8674
	BelebeleRetrieval Bandarkar et al. (2023)	['acm', 'afr', 'als', ...]	['Web', 'News', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	338378 - 183488
	HagridRetrieval Kamalloo et al. (2023)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	496 - 496
	LEMBPasskeyRetrieval Zhu et al. (2024)	['eng']	['Fiction', 'Written']	found	derived	NaN
	LegalBenchCorporateLobbying Guha et al. (2023)	['eng']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	derived	340 - 319
	LegalQuAD Hoppe et al. (2021)	['deu']	['Legal', 'Written']	found	derived	200 - 200
	SCIDOCS Cohan et al. (2020b)	['eng']	['Academic', 'Written', 'Non-fiction']	found	NaN	1000 - 25657
	SpartQA Xiao et al. (2024a)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	derived	3594 - 1592
	StackOverflowQA Li et al. (2024)	['eng']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	1994 - 19931
	StatcanDialogueDatasetRetrieval Lu et al. (2023)	['eng', 'fra']	['Government', 'Web', 'Written']	found	derived	661 - 11814
	TempReasonL1 Xiao et al. (2024a)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	derived	4000 - 12504
	TwitterHjerneRetrieval Holm (2024)	['dan']	['Social', 'Written']	found	derived	78 - 262
	WikipediaRetrievalMultilingual	['ben', 'bul', 'ces', ...]	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	LM-generated and verified	LM-generated and reviewed	24000 - 216000
	WinoGrande Xiao et al. (2024a)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	derived	1267 - 5095
STS	FinParaSTS Kanerva et al. (2021)	['fin']	['News', 'Subtitles', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	1000
	SICK-R Dadas et al. (2020)	['eng']	['Academic']	found	derived	9927
	SICK-R-PL Dadas et al. (2020)	['pol']	['Web', 'Written']	human-translated and localized	human-annotated	4906
	STS12 Agirre et al. (2012)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'News', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	3108
	STS14 Bandhakavi et al. (2014)	['eng']	['Blog', 'Web', 'Spoken']	created	derived	3750
	STS15 Biçici (2015)	['eng']	['Blog', 'News', 'Web', ...]	created	human-annotated	3000
	STS17 Cer et al. (2017)	['ara', 'deu', 'eng', ...]	['News', 'Web', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	5346
	STSBenchmark May (2021)	['eng']	['News', 'Web', 'Written']	found	derived	1379
	STSES Agirre et al. (2015)	['spa']	['News', 'Web', 'Written']	found	derived	155

Table 14: The tasks included in `MTEB(Europe)`. The language column shows all the languages of the task. When running the tasks we limit it to the languages specified in the benchmark. * For the number of samples, are given the total number of samples all languages included, for Retrieval tasks are given the (number of queries - number of documents).

Type	Name	Languages	Domains	Sample creation	Annotation creators	Nb samples*
BitextMining	IN22ConvBitextMining Gala et al. (2023)	['asm', 'ben', 'brx', ...]	['Social', 'Spoken', 'Fiction', ...]	created	expert-annotated	760518
	IN22GenBitextMining Gala et al. (2023)	['asm', 'ben', 'brx', ...]	['Web', 'Legal', 'Government', ...]	created	expert-annotated	518144
	IndicGenBenchFloresBitextMining Singh et al. (2024a)	['asm', 'awa', 'ben', ...]	['Web', 'News', 'Written']	human-translated and localized	expert-annotated	58696
	LinceMTBitextMining Aguilar et al. (2020)	['eng', 'hin']	['Social', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	8059
Classification	BengaliSentimentAnalysis Sazzed (2020)	['ben']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2048
	GujaratiNewsClassification	['guj']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	1318
	HindiDiscourseClassification Dhanwal et al. (2020)	['hin']	['Fiction', 'Social', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	2048
	IndicLangClassification Madhani et al. (2023)	['asm', 'ben', 'brx', ...]	['Web', 'Non-fiction', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	30418
	MTOPIntentClassification Li et al. (2021)	['deu', 'eng', 'fra', ...]	['Spoken', 'Spoken']	created	human-annotated	19680
	MalayalamNewsClassification Kunchukuttan et al. (2020)	['mal']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	1260
	MultiHateClassification R"ottger et al. (2021)	['ara', 'cmn', 'deu', ...]	['Constructed', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	11000
	NepaliNewsClassification Arora (2020)	['nep']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	PunjabiNewsClassification Kunchukuttan et al. (2020)	['pan']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	157
	SanskritShlokasClassification Arora (2020)	['san']	['Religious', 'Written']	found	derived	96
	SentimentAnalysisHindi Parida et al. (2023)	['hin']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	TweetSentimentClassification Barbieri et al. (2022)	['ara', 'deu', 'eng', ...]	['Social', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2048
	UrduRomanSentimentClassification Sharf (2018)	['urd']	['Social', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
Clustering	SIB200ClusteringS2S Adelani et al. (2023a)	['ace', 'acm', 'acq', ...]	['News', 'Written']	human-translated and localized	expert-annotated	197788
PairClassification	XNLI Conneau et al. (2018)	['ara', 'bul', 'deu', ...]	['Non-fiction', 'Fiction', 'Government', ...]	created	expert-annotated	19110
Reranking	WikipediaRerankingMultilingual Foundation	['ben', 'bul', 'ces', ...]	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	LM-generated and verified	LM-generated and reviewed	240000
Retrieval	BelebeleRetrieval Bandarkar et al. (2023)	['acm', 'afr', 'als', ...]	['Web', 'News', 'Written']	created	expert-annotated	338378 - 183488
	XQuADRetrieval Artetxe et al. (2019)	['arb', 'deu', 'ell', ...]	['Web', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	14199 - 2880
STS	IndicCrosslingualSTS Ramesh et al. (2022)	['asm', 'ben', 'eng', ..]	['News', 'Non-fiction', 'Web', ...]	created	expert-annotated	3072

Table 15: The tasks included in `MTEB(Indic)`. The language column shows all the languages of the task. When running the tasks we limit it to the Indic languages specified in the benchmark. * For the number of samples, are given the total number of samples all languages included, for Retrieval tasks are given the (number of queries - number of documents).

Type	Name	Languages	Domains	Sample creation	Annotation creators	Nb samples*
Classification	AmazonCounterfactualClassification O'Neill et al. (2021)	['eng']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	3872
	Banking77Classification Casanueva et al. (2020)	['eng']	['Written']	found	human-annotated	3080
	ImdbClassification Maas et al. (2011)	['eng']	['Reviews', 'Written']	found	derived	25000
	MTOPDomainClassification Li et al. (2021)	['eng']	['Spoken', 'Spoken']	created	human-annotated	19680
	MassiveIntentClassification FitzGerald et al. (2022)	['eng']	['Spoken']	human-translated and localized	human-annotated	151674
	MassiveScenarioClassification FitzGerald et al. (2022)	['eng']	['Spoken']	human-translated and localized	human-annotated	151674
	ToxicConversationsClassification cjadams et al. (2019)	['eng']	['Social', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	2048
	TweetSentimentExtractionClassification Maggie (2020)	['eng']	['Social', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	3534
Clustering	ArXivHierarchicalClusteringP2P	['eng']	['Academic', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	ArXivHierarchicalClusteringS2S	['eng']	['Academic', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	BiorxivClusteringP2P.v2	['eng']	['Academic', 'Written']	created	derived	53787
	MedrxivClusteringP2P.v2	['eng']	['Academic', 'Medical', 'Written']	created	derived	37500
	MedrxivClusteringS2S.v2	['eng']	['Academic', 'Medical', 'Written']	created	derived	37500
	StackExchangeClustering.v2 Geigle et al. (2021)	['eng']	['Web', 'Written']	found	derived	2048
	StackExchangeClusteringP2P.v2 Geigle et al. (2021)	['eng']	['Web', 'Written']	found	derived	74914
	TwentyNewsgroupsClustering.v2 Lang (1995)	['eng']	['News', 'Written']	found	derived	59545
PairClassification	SprintDuplicateQuestions Shah et al. (2018)	['eng']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	101000
	TwitterSemEval2015 Xu et al. (2015)	['eng']	['Social', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	16777
	TwitterURLCorpus Lan et al. (2017)	['eng']	['Social', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	51534
Reranking	AskUbuntuDupQuestions Wang et al. (2021a)	['eng']	['Web', 'Programming']	found	human-annotated	7581
	MindSmallReranking Wu et al. (2020a)	['eng']	['News', 'Written']	found	expert-annotated	-
Retrieval	ArguAna (Boteva et al., 2016)	['eng']	['Medical', 'Written']	found	derived	1406 - 8674
	CQADupstackGamingRetrieval (Hoogeveen et al., 2015)	['eng']	['Web', 'Written']	found	derived	1595 - 45301
	CQADupstackUnixRetrieval Hoogeveen et al. (2015)	['eng']	['Programming', 'Web', 'Written']	found	derived	1072 - 47382
	ClimateFEVERHardNegatives Diggelmann et al. (2021)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	1000 - 47416
	FEVERHardNegatives Thorne et al. (2018a)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	1000 - 163698
	FiQA2018 Thakur et al. (2021)	['eng']	['Written']	found	human-annotated	648 - 57638
	HotpotQAHardNegatives Yang et al. (2018)	['eng']	['Web', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	1000 - 225621
	SCIDOCS Cohan et al. (2020b)	['eng']	['Academic', 'Written', 'Non-fiction']	found	derived	1000 - 25657
	TRECCOVID Roberts et al. (2021)	['eng']	['Medical']	found	expert-annotated	50 - 171332
	Touche2020 Potthast et al. (2022)	['eng']	['Academic']	found	human-annotated	49 - 382545
STS	BIOSSES Soğancıoğlu et al. (2017)	['eng']	['Medical']	found	derived	100
	SICK-R Dadas et al. (2020)	['eng']	['Academic']	found	derived	9927
	STS12 Agirre et al. (2012)	['eng']	['Encyclopaedic', 'News', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	3108
	STS13 Agirre et al. (2013)	['eng']	['Web', 'News', 'Non-fiction', ...]	created	human-annotated	1500
	STS14 Bandhakavi et al. (2014)	['eng']	['Blog', 'Web', 'Spoken']	created	derived	3750
	STS15 Biçici (2015)	['eng']	['Blog', 'News', 'Web', ...]	created	human-annotated	3000
	STS17 Cer et al. (2017)	['ara', 'deu', 'eng', ...]	['News', 'Web', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	5346
	STS22.v2 Chen et al. (2022)	['cmn', 'deu', 'eng', ...]	['News', 'Written']	found	human-annotated	3958
	STSBenchmark May (2021)	['eng']	['News', 'Web', 'Written']	found	derived	1379
Summarization	SummEvalSummarization.v2 Fabbri et al. (2020)	['eng']	['News', 'Written']	created	human-annotated	100

Table 16: The tasks included in `MTEB(eng)`. The language column shows all the languages of the task. When running the tasks we limit it to the languages specified in the benchmark. * For the number of samples, are given the total number of samples all languages included, for Retrieval tasks are given the (number of queries - number of documents).

Type	Name	Languages	Domains	Sample creation	Annotations creators	Nb Samples*
Retrieval	AppsRetrieval Hendrycks et al. (2021a)	['eng', 'python']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	3765 - 8765
	COIRCodeSearchNetRetrieval Husain et al. (2019)	['go', 'java', 'javascript', 'php']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	52561 - 1003765
	CodeEditSearchRetrieval Muennighoff et al. (2023a)	['c', 'c++', 'go', 'java']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	13000 - 13000
	CodeFeedbackMT Zheng et al. (2024)	['eng']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	13277 - 66383
	CodeFeedbackST Li et al. (2024)	['eng']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	31306 - 156526
	CodeSearchNetCCRetrieval Li et al. (2024)	['go', 'java', 'javascript', 'php']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	52561 - 1005474
	CodeSearchNetRetrieval Husain et al. (2019)	['go', 'java', 'javascript', 'php']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	6000 - 6000
	CodeTransOceanContest Yan et al. (2023)	['c++', 'python']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	221 - 1008
	CodeTransOceanDL Yan et al. (2023)	['python']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	180 - 816
	CosQA Huang et al. (2021)	['eng', 'python']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	500 - 20604
	StackOverflowQA Li et al. (2024)	['eng']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	1994 - 19931
	SyntheticText2SQL Meyer et al. (2024)	['eng', 'sql']	['Programming', 'Written']	found	derived	5851 - 105851

Table 17: The tasks included in `MTEB(Code)`. * For the number of samples, are given the total number of samples all languages included, for Retrieval tasks are given the (number of queries - number of documents).

	Rank	Average Across		Average by Category					
	Borda Count	All	Category	Pair Clf.	Clf.	STS	Retrieval	Clustering	Reranking
model									
e5-mistral-7b-instruct	1 (393)	67.0	67.2	88.4	75.2	83.6	54.8	51.4	49.8
GritLM-7B	2 (384)	66.4	66.7	87.3	77.0	82.5	53.2	50.8	49.6
multilingual-e5-large-instruct	3 (357)	65.2	65.6	86.2	73.2	84.3	51.0	49.9	48.7
multilingual-e5-large	4 (270)	62.1	62.4	84.7	72.8	80.6	49.0	42.8	44.7
all-mpnet-base-v2	5 (211)	56.0	58.1	83.0	56.6	72.2	41.9	46.6	48.4
multilingual-e5-base	6 (211)	60.2	60.9	83.6	70.0	79.1	46.1	42.2	44.3
paraphrase-multilingual-mpnet-base-v2	7 (188)	57.3	58.8	81.7	68.6	79.8	34.1	43.5	45.2
all-MiniLM-L12-v2	8 (172)	54.7	57.0	82.5	55.8	70.7	40.7	44.6	47.5
all-MiniLM-L6-v2	9 (149)	54.4	56.7	82.4	55.4	70.4	39.8	44.9	47.1
multilingual-e5-small	10 (147)	58.4	59.3	82.7	67.7	77.6	43.7	40.8	43.2
paraphrase-multilingual-MiniLM-L12-v2	11 (109)	55.1	57.0	80.0	64.4	77.5	32.8	41.7	45.4
LaBSE	12 (49)	48.6	51.7	78.9	66.8	70.2	16.8	36.1	41.3

Table 18: Performance on `MTEB(eng)` across task categories.

Model	Rank Borda Count	Average Across All	Average by Language						
			C++	Go	Java	JavaScript	PHP	Python	Ruby
GritLM-7B	1 (88)	73.6	73.1	83.8	84.9	81.7	77.8	86.4	83.8
e5-mistral-7b-instruct	2 (74)	69.2	68.3	83.0	80.9	79.4	75.6	83.6	81.1
multilingual-e5-large-instruct	3 (65)	65.0	56.4	74.7	74.7	71.7	71.6	79.1	74.9
multilingual-e5-large	4 (63)	61.7	46.8	73.4	72.2	66.6	69.1	75.7	73.4
multilingual-e5-base	5 (55)	57.5	48.9	73.2	71.0	66.1	67.8	75.2	72.7
multilingual-e5-small	6 (53)	58.4	48.4	70.6	67.9	65.2	66.6	73.6	68.1
all-mpnet-base-v2	7 (44)	56.4	46.3	67.4	62.2	63.1	61.7	69.0	65.7
all-MiniLM-L6-v2	8 (34)	52.7	48.1	64.4	57.4	62.2	60.4	68.1	66.6
all-MiniLM-L12-v2	9 (27)	50.2	46.8	68.1	57.3	63.6	62.7	68.7	67.8
LaBSE	10 (11)	28.8	27.6	40.6	36.6	42.3	34.8	43.9	42.2

Table 19: Performance on `MTEB(Code)` across task categories. Because all code-related tasks are for retrieval, metrics by category are omitted.