

000 001 002 003 004 005 REVISITING MULTILINGUAL DATA MIXTURES 006 IN LANGUAGE MODEL PRETRAINING 007 008 009

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ABSTRACT

027 The impact of different multilingual data mixtures in pretraining large language
028 models (LLMs) has been a topic of ongoing debate, often raising concerns about
029 potential trade-offs between language coverage and model performance (*i.e.*, the
030 curse of multilinguality). In this work, we investigate these assumptions by training
031 1B and 3B parameter LLMs on diverse multilingual corpora, varying the number
032 of languages from 25 to 400. Our study challenges common beliefs surrounding
033 multilingual training. First, we find that combining English and multilingual data
034 does not necessarily degrade the in-language performance of either group, provided
035 that languages have a sufficient number of tokens included in the pretraining corpus.
036 Second, we observe that using English as a pivot language (*i.e.*, the language with
037 the highest data proportion) yields benefits across language groups, and contrary
038 to expectations, selecting a pivot language from within a specific group does
039 not consistently improve performance for languages within that language branch.
040 Lastly, we do not observe a significant “*curse of multilinguality*” as the number
041 of training languages increases in models at this scale. Our findings suggest
042 that multilingual data, when balanced appropriately, can enhance language model
043 capabilities without compromising performance, even in low-resource settings.¹
044

1 INTRODUCTION

045 Recent advances in large language models (LLMs) have demonstrated impressive performance across
046 a wide range of non-English languages, including many that are considered low-resource (Yang
047 et al., 2025; Team et al., 2025; Grattafiori et al., 2024; Üstün et al., 2024; OpenAI et al., 2024).
048 These models are typically pretrained on data from over 100 high- and mid-resource languages,
049 leveraging the broad availability of multilingual content on the web. Despite this progress, the impact
050 of multilingual data composition on model training remains a subject of active debate, particularly
051 regarding potential trade-offs between total language coverage and model performance in different
052 languages (Alastruey et al., 2025). Practitioners often face difficult trade-offs: Should they include
053 more languages in the pretraining data mixture or concentrate resources to prioritize performance
054 in fewer languages? For greater multilingual generalization, should they include pivot languages
055 from different language families or merely from high-resource global languages? Could curriculum
056 learning among pivot languages also lead to greater multilingual generalization?

057 While previous studies tried to address these questions, they have generally been limited in scope,
058 either by the number of languages considered or by the scale of the models used. For instance, one
059 study investigates the so-called *curse of multilinguality* using relatively small models with 45M
060 parameters (Chang et al., 2024). Another recent work explores scaling laws for multilingual language
061 models and proposes an optimal sampling ratio for multilingual data (He et al., 2024). However, this
062 work focuses on only 23 languages and similarly small models (85M parameters). Other studies have
063 discussed multilingual data mixtures for task training (Wang et al., 2020) or instruction-tuning (Üstün
064 et al., 2024), but it is unknown to what extent their intuitions would extend to pretraining.

065 In this work, we study the impact of multilingual data composition in training large-scale LLMs.
066 Specifically, we train a series of 1B and 3B parameter models on corpora of 100B tokens containing
067 up to 400 languages, allowing us to systematically explore the effects of language count, diversity,

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054 and token distribution. Our experiments challenge several prevailing propositions about multilingual
 055 training. We summarize our key findings as follows:

056 **Findings #1: More English data does not necessarily hurt multilingual performance.** We show
 057 that varying the proportion and absolute amount of English data in the training mix does not harm
 058 multilingual performance, as long as a sufficient number of multilingual tokens are included in the
 059 pretraining mixture. The reverse is also true, as increasing the number of multilingual tokens does not
 060 harm English performance as long as there are sufficient English tokens in the pretraining mixture.
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062 **Findings #2: Typological boundaries are not barriers to transfer.** Contrary to the prevailing
 063 wisdom that family-specific pivots are most effective (He et al., 2024; Bagheri Nezhad & Agrawal,
 064 2024), we find that using English as a pivot language² provides benefits across **distinct linguistic**
 065 **groups**. Selecting a high-resource pivot language from within a specific language branch (*e.g.*,
 066 Russian for Slavic languages) does not consistently enhance performance across languages in that
 067 branch. Given that English has the most diverse and highest quality data on the web, this evidence
 068 shows the unique advantage of leveraging a high-resource language to improve performance in other
 069 languages, regardless of their **specific linguistic branch or structural typology**.

070 **Findings #3: Curriculum learning fails to mitigate negative interference.** Prior work has shown
 071 training on multiple languages simultaneously can degrade performance in both high- and low-
 072 resource languages, a phenomenon coined as negative interference (Wang et al., 2020). Although
 073 curriculum learning has been proposed as a potential solution to this problem (Zhang et al., 2021;
 074 Kumar et al., 2021; Choi et al., 2023), our results show that staging the introduction of languages
 075 during training neither reduces negative interference nor improves performance on non-English
 076 languages.

077 **Findings #4: Increasing the number of training languages does not always lead to performance**
 078 **degradation.** The *curse of multilinguality* suggests that expanding language coverage reduces model
 079 performance in both monolingual and cross-lingual settings (Chang et al., 2024; Blevins et al., 2024;
 080 Pfeiffer et al., 2022; Conneau et al., 2020). We find the *curse of multilinguality* arises not from simply
 081 adding more languages, but from the finite capacity of models and data distributions that amplify the
 082 impact of noisy, low-resource languages.

083 Collectively, our findings offer practical guidance for designing more effective multilingual pretraining
 084 strategies and contribute to the development of stronger, more inclusive multilingual LLMs.

085 2 EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

086 **Model.** We train decoder-only Transformer models (Vaswani, 2017) based on the LLaMA architecture
 087 (Touvron et al., 2023), in two sizes: 1.1 and 3 billion parameters (1.1B and 3B). The model sizes
 088 are determined by varying the number of layers, hidden dimensions, and attention heads. Detailed
 089 configuration and training parameters are provided in Appendix A.

090 **Pretraining Data.** We use two corpora in our experiments. For experiments involving 30 languages,
 091 we use the multilingual version of the C4 corpus (mC4; Xue et al., 2021; Raffel et al., 2019).³ For
 092 experiments involving a larger set of up to 1,834 languages, we use the FineWeb2 corpus (Penedo
 093 et al., 2025). All data are tokenized using the Mistral-Nemo-Base-2407 tokenizer,⁴ which has a
 094 vocabulary size of $|\mathcal{V}| = 131,000$ tokens. Models are trained on $D = 100$ to $D = 225$ billion
 095 tokens. We selected the **Mistral-Nemo-Base-2407** tokenizer because it is a state-of-the-art tokenizer
 096 designed specifically for multilingual pretraining, covering a wide range of scripts and languages
 097 (over 100), and representing them more fairly than other publicly available tokenizers (Apertus Project
 098 et al., 2025).

099 **Evaluation.** We evaluate our models by measuring their language modeling loss on a held-out
 100 validation set that is distinct from the pretraining data. In addition, we perform *downstream task*
 101 *evaluations* using a suite of multilingual benchmarks. For each model, we aggregate results by

102 ²Historically, *pivot* languages are used as intermediary languages for *many-to-many* translation. In the
 103 context of this work we refer to pivot languages as those that are highly represented in pretraining data and
 104 whose presence serves as a catalyst for multilingual generalization.

105 ³<https://huggingface.co/datasets/allenai/c4>

106 ⁴<https://huggingface.co/mistralai/Mistral-Nemo-Base-2407>

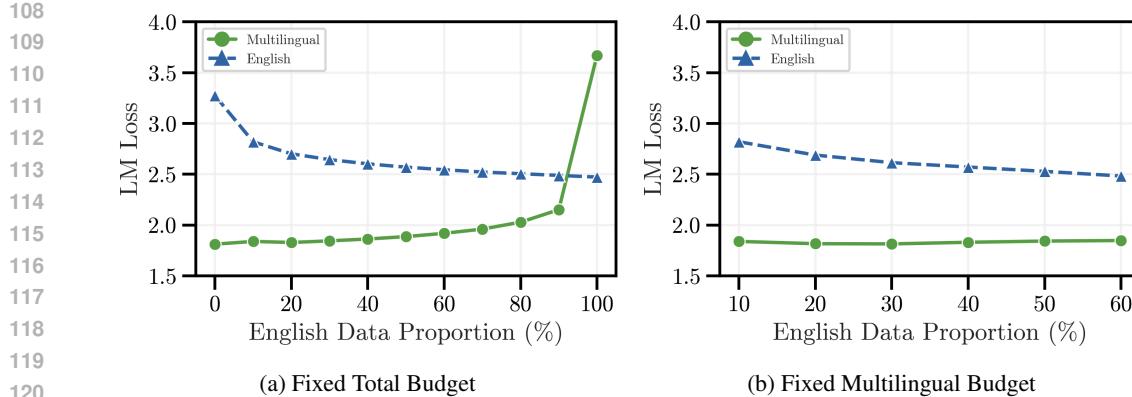


Figure 1: Validation *LM loss* for **English** and weighted average *LM loss* of non-English languages (**Multilingual**) across different proportions of English in the pretraining data for **1.1B** models. **(a)** In a **Fixed Total Budget**, increasing English data ($\geq 50\%$) leads to a performance drop in other languages. **(b)** In a **Fixed Multilingual Budget**, increasing English data (up to 60%) does not have a negative effect on other languages.

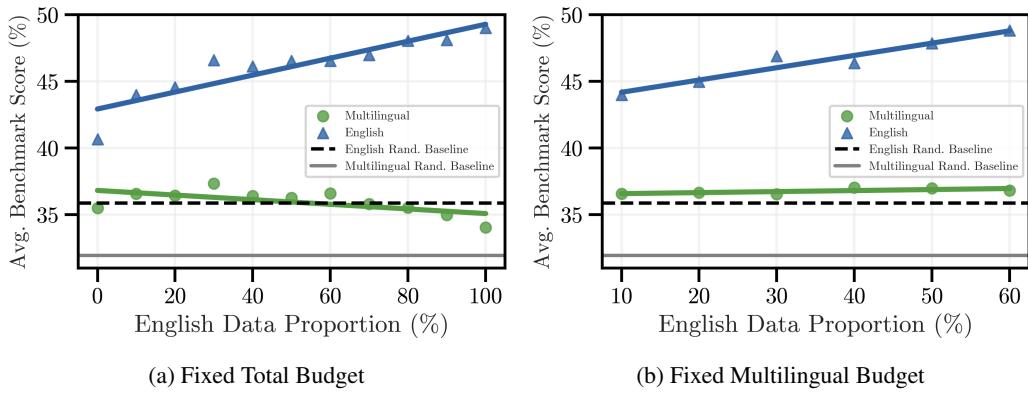


Figure 2: Aggregated *benchmark performance* for **English** and weighted average of non-English (**Multilingual**) across different proportions of English in the training data for **1.1B** models. The dashed lines represent the random baselines for each language group. **(a)** In a **Fixed Total Budget**, increasing English data ($\geq 50\%$), does not hurt downstream performance on the **Multilingual** group. **(b)** In a **Fixed Multilingual Budget**, we see that increasing English data has a negligible impact on the **Multilingual** group’s performance.

language to obtain a comprehensive score for every model-language pair. Details of the benchmark suite and the aggregation procedure are provided in Appendix B.

3 ASSUMPTION #1: ENGLISH HURTS MULTILINGUALITY

English serves as the dominant pivot language for LLMs due to the abundance, diversity, and quality of English data available on the web. Simultaneously, due to the prevalence of LLM applications in English, maintaining English performance is often prioritized when training multilingual models by increasing the total proportion of English data, potentially at the expense of multilingual performance (Chung et al., 2023; Xue et al., 2021; 2022).

Assumption 1: More English data comes at the cost of performance in other languages.

In this experiment, we investigate how the amount of English pretraining data influences performance in non-English languages. We train models of 1.1B and 3B parameters using data in 30 languages

162 from the mC4 corpus, systematically varying the proportion of English data from 0% to 100%. The
 163 selected languages represent diverse language families and data resource levels (Table 3). We use
 164 temperature sampling with $\tau = 3.3$ (details in Appendix A.3). When deciding on the data budget for
 165 these experiments, we consider two settings to disentangle the impact of data composition from the
 166 total amount of data seen during training:

167 *Fixed Total Budget*: The total pretraining budget is held constant at 100B tokens. Increasing the
 168 proportion of English reduces the amount of non-English (multilingual) data. This setup explores the
 169 trade-off between English and multilingual data under a constrained data regime.

170 *Fixed Multilingual Budget*: The amount of non-English data is fixed at 90B tokens with English data
 171 added on top, leading to a growing total data size (up to 225B tokens). This setup explores the effect
 172 of increasing English data without reducing multilingual coverage, simulating an unconstrained data
 173 regime (where multilingual data may be available in smaller quantities in web data than English data).

174
 175 **Results.** Figure 1a shows the final validation loss for English and non-English languages for the
 176 **1.1B** model for the *Fixed Total Budget* setting. As expected, increasing the proportion of English
 177 data leads to a lower validation loss for English. For non-English languages, validation loss remains
 178 relatively stable up to approximately 40% English data. Beyond this point, performance begins
 179 to degrade, indicating that allocating more capacity to English at the expense of other languages
 180 negatively impacts multilingual learning.

181 In contrast, under the *Fixed Multilingual Budget* setting (Figure 1b), we observe that multilingual
 182 performance remains largely unaffected—even when English comprises up to 60% of the dataset.
 183 These results suggest that, provided there is sufficient data to support learning robust multilingual
 184 representations, adding more English data does not interfere with performance on other languages. A
 185 similar pattern holds for the 3B models, as shown by the results in Appendix Figure 7.

186 Figure 2b presents the benchmark results for this experiment. In both the *Fixed Total Budget* and *Fixed*
 187 *Multilingual Budget* settings, we observe that increasing the proportion of English data consistently
 188 improves downstream task a in English. Mirroring the same patterns as for the loss, this increase
 189 does not degrade performance on other languages. Furthermore, Figure 8 shows results for the 3B
 190 models (see Appendix C), which exhibit a similar trend.

191 **Takeaway:** Contrary to common belief, increasing the amount of English data in the training of
 192 LLMs does not necessarily degrade their multilingual capabilities, provided that the training set
 193 also contains a sufficient quantity of multilingual tokens. In other words, it is possible to support
 194 additional languages while still maintaining strong performance in English.

197 4 ASSUMPTION 2: “STAY IN THE LANGUAGE BRANCH”

198 Previous research suggests that cross-lingual transfer is generally more effective between languages
 199 that belong to the same language family (Muller et al., 2023; He et al., 2024; Bagheri Nezhad &
 200 Agrawal, 2024; Xu et al., 2025). This implies that, if the pattern holds consistently, selecting a pivot
 201 language from within the same family is likely to yield greater transfer benefits than choosing one
 202 from a different family.

203
 204 **Assumption 2:** Languages within the same linguistic branch offer the strongest boost to
 205 multilingual generalization.

206 In this experiment, we investigate the impact of using various types of pivot languages in a training
 207 corpus with multiple language families. A pivot language is defined as an intermediary language in a
 208 pretraining set for more effectively learning languages with less available data.

209 We compare using English as a pivot language for all languages, and selecting a pivot language from
 210 within the same language family for certain languages. Specifically, we train a 1.1B model on a
 211 subset of *Slavic* and *Cyrillic-script* languages under three different conditions: (1) English as the pivot
 212 language, (2) Russian as the pivot language, and (3) a uniform combination of English and Russian as
 213 pivots. The *Slavic* set includes Belarusian, Ukrainian, Macedonian, Bulgarian, Mongolian, Serbian,
 214

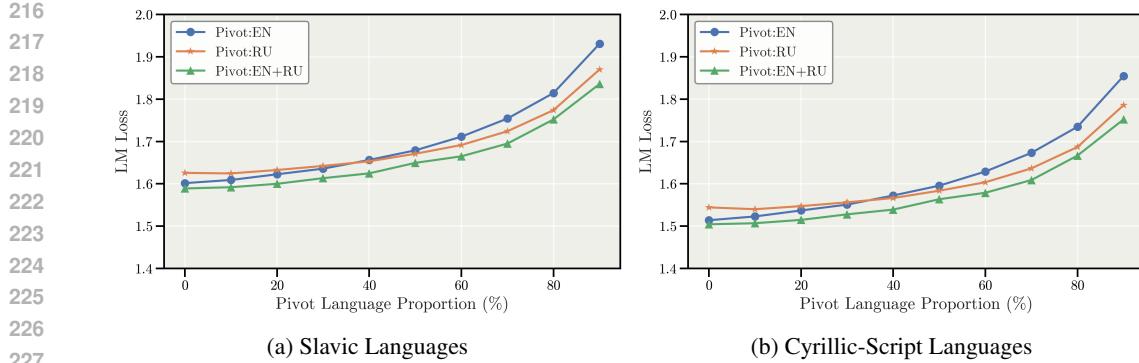


Figure 3: Weighted average of validation LM loss for (a) *Slavic* and (b) *Cyrillic-script* languages when we have English, Russian, or English+Russian as a pivot language in the training data mix. Having a combination of Russian and English as pivots leads to the best performance for both groups of languages (Model size = 1.1B).

Polish, Czech, and Slovak. The *Cyrillic-script* set comprises Belarusian, Ukrainian, Macedonian, Bulgarian, Kyrgyz, Tajik, Kazakh, Mongolian, Serbian, and Uzbek (see Table 4 for details).

Results. Figure 3 presents the weighted average loss across both language groups. We observe that as the proportion of training data assigned to the pivot language increases (and the complement proportion for non-pivot languages decreases), the loss for non-pivot languages remains relatively stable at first. However, as less data is allocated to them, their loss eventually rises, as expected. Up to a 50% allocation to the pivot language, English and Russian perform comparably. However, beyond this threshold—particularly at 60% or more, Russian proves slightly more effective as a pivot, yielding lower loss for the remaining languages. One possible explanation is that when pivot allocation is relatively low, non-pivot languages still benefit from having access to their own training data. But in extremely low-resource conditions, these languages gain more from leveraging similarities with a strong pivot language. Another factor is that English training data is often more diverse and standardized, with broad domain coverage. This richness may make English a strong pivot up to a certain point, after which typological proximity favors Russian. Notably, combining *both* English and Russian as joint pivots yields the lowest overall loss, suggesting a complementary effect: English contributes wide coverage, while Russian offers closer linguistic ties to many of the target languages. The detailed per-language loss values are provided in Figure 9 in Appendix C.

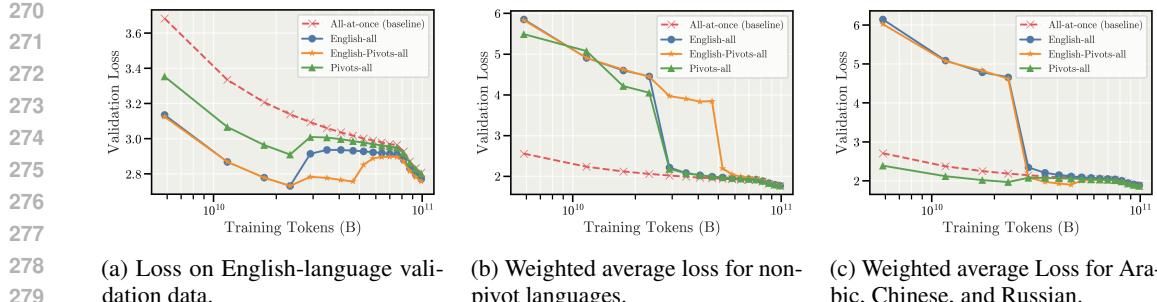
Takeaway: English can serve as a broadly effective pivot language, but in very low-resource settings, typological similarity becomes increasingly important. Using multiple pivots that balance breadth and proximity provides the most consistent benefits across language families.

5 ASSUMPTION 3: MULTILINGUAL CURRICULUM LEARNING REDUCES NEGATIVE INTERFERENCE

Prior research has explored using curriculum learning (a “general-to-specific” data scheduling approach) to improve pretraining (Dubey et al., 2024; DataBricks, 2024; Apertus Project et al., 2025; Martins et al., 2025). In multilingual training, previous work suggests that the order in which languages are introduced during training can influence model performance and potentially reduce competition between languages (Choi et al., 2023; Ranaldi et al., 2024; Allemand et al., 2025).

Assumption 3: Curriculum-based language introduction mitigates negative interference.

To investigate the dynamics of cross-lingual competition and knowledge transfer in multilingual language models, we designed a series of controlled *curriculum learning* experiments. Our goal is to understand how the timing and order of language inclusion during training influence model performance. We design four experimental setups:



(a) Loss on English-language validation data. (b) Weighted average loss for non-pivot languages. (c) Weighted average Loss for Arabic, Chinese, and Russian.

Figure 4: LM loss on the validation set for 3B models as a function of consumed training tokens, shown separately for (a) English, (b) non-English, and (c) pivot languages under different curriculum strategies.

All-at-once baseline: The model is trained on the full multilingual dataset from the outset. This setup, common in many multilingual LLMs (e.g., Apertus Project et al., 2025) serves as a control to benchmark the effects of curriculum-based training strategies.

English-all: For the first 25% of training, the model is exposed only to English. After this phase, training proceeds on the full multilingual dataset. This allows us to isolate the impact of early single-language pretraining on subsequent multilingual generalization and interference.

English-Pivots-all: Training is divided into three phases (1) 0–25%: Only English data is used. (2) 25–50%: We introduce three additional high-resource languages—Arabic, Chinese, and Russian—alongside English as pivot languages. These four languages were chosen to represent four distinct scripts: Latin, Arabic, Han, and Cyrillic, respectively. This intermediate stage allows us to explore early competition between strong languages with differing orthographic and typological properties. (3) 50–100%: The model is trained on the full multilingual dataset. This progressive inclusion strategy enables a controlled examination of cross-lingual interactions and competition under varying degrees of language diversity.

Pivots-all: For the first 25% of training, the model is trained using our 4 pivot languages. After this phase, training continues on the full multilingual dataset. This allows us to isolate the impact of early high-resource pretraining on subsequent multilingual generalization and interference.

Results. Figure 4 presents the results of our curriculum learning experiments. When examining English loss, we find that introducing English early in training—either alone (*English-all*) or alongside pivot languages (*English-pivots-all*)—leads to lower final loss for English. Notably, transitioning between curriculum stages (*i.e.*, adding new languages in successive phases) temporarily increases the loss for previously seen languages. This suggests a short-term “forgetting” effect, where the model learns new languages at the cost of temporarily degrading performance on earlier ones, before eventually recovering and integrating all knowledge across the languages.

For the other three pivot languages (Figure 4c), the curriculum that begins with English and subsequently introduces the pivots (*Pivots-all*) achieves the lowest average loss midway through training. However, as additional languages are introduced, the loss increases, ultimately converging to the same level as other runs. As with English, we observe a forgetting effect at each transition.

When analyzing the average loss across other non-English languages (Figure 4b), we observe that while different curriculum regimes begin at different starting points and follow distinct learning trajectories, they all converge to a similar final loss by the end of training. This consistency indicates that curriculum order primarily affects learning dynamics, but not final multilingual performance.

Although curriculum learning appears to benefit English, further analysis reveals that this improvement is largely attributable to data quantity. Specifically, we find a strong correlation between the number of English tokens in the training mix and the model’s performance on English. In other words, models exposed to more English data achieve lower loss. Consequently, the *English-pivots-all* setup attains the lowest English loss primarily because it includes the largest proportion of English data in its curriculum. **Validation loss for each language is depicted in Figures 11 and 12 in Appendix E.**

324 **Takeaway:** Curriculum learning shapes the trajectory of multilingual training but does not reduce
 325 interference or improve final performance. Observed gains for English under certain curricula are
 326 explained by the data distribution rather than curriculum structure.
 327

328 6 ASSUMPTION 4: THE “CURSE OF MULTILINGUALITY” 329

331 Prior work has shown that, for a fixed model capacity, adding more languages during pretraining
 332 initially improves cross-lingual transfer, particularly for low-resource languages. However, beyond
 333 a certain point, both monolingual and cross-lingual performance begin to degrade. This trade-off
 334 is commonly referred to as the *curse of multilinguality* (Conneau et al., 2020; Pfeiffer et al., 2022;
 335 Blevins et al., 2024; Chang et al., 2024).
 336

337 **Assumption 4:** Adding more languages to a pretraining mixture reduces performance.
 338

339 We revisit this assumption by training language models with varying numbers of languages and
 340 analyzing the impact on both high- and low-resource languages.
 341

# Languages	LM Loss ↓		Benchmark Performance ↑	
	Natural Dist.	Temp. Sampling	Natural Dist.	Temp. Sampling
25	2.678	2.675	50.13 ± 1.868	43.24 ± 1.874
50	2.678	2.681	49.41 ± 1.868	43.80 ± 1.878
100	2.682	2.687	49.29 ± 1.865	43.76 ± 1.872
200	2.680	2.696	49.11 ± 1.864	42.38 ± 1.870
400	2.678	2.707	49.64 ± 1.871	42.12 ± 1.854

350 Table 1: English validation loss and benchmark performance (%) when increasing languages cov-
 351 erage from 25 to 400 (3B model). English represents 40% of the training data in all runs (40B
 352 tokens). Increasing the number of languages, while keeping English data fixed, does not hurt English
 353 performance. Per-benchmark values are provided in Table 9.
 354

355 Practically, we train 3B parameter models on 100B tokens from the FineWeb-2 corpus. In all
 356 settings, English accounts for 40% of the training data, while the number of non-English languages is
 357 systematically increased—from 25 to 400. We experiment with the top-25, 50, 100, 200, and 400
 358 most frequent languages in FineWeb-2 under two distributions: (1) the *natural distribution* and (2)
 359 *temperature sampling* with $\tau = 3.3$. We then evaluate how increasing linguistic diversity in the
 360 non-English data subset affects English and non-English performance. Details of the training data
 361 distribution are provided in Table 8.
 362

363 **Results.** Table 1 summarizes English validation loss and average downstream performance across
 364 these configurations. Two main observations emerge. First, for a fixed number of languages and
 365 a fixed English share, English performance is consistently stronger under the natural distribution
 366 than under temperature sampling. In this case, English benefits from cross-lingual transfer with
 367 high-resource, typologically related languages (e.g., German, French), which receive more data under
 368 the natural distribution (we further investigate this effect in Appendix D). Second, even when scaling
 369 up to 400 languages, English performance remains largely stable—particularly under the natural
 370 distribution, suggesting that English performance is not determined by the sheer number of languages
 371 included in the training process. In other words, the key factor is not how many languages are present,
 372 but how the training data is distributed among them.
 373

374 Building on this insight, we show in Figures 5a and 5c the weighted average LM validation loss for
 375 the top-25, 50, 100, and 200 language groups (excluding English) under the two distributions. The
 376 x-axis denotes language groups used for evaluation, while the y-axis indicates language groups used
 377 for training. Because the total data budget is fixed at 100B tokens, adding more languages necessarily
 378 reduces the relative share of data for previously included ones. Under the natural distribution, however,
 379 performance remains stable as languages are added. In contrast, under temperature sampling we
 380 observe up to a ~ 0.1 increase in loss when expanding from 25 to 400 languages. This effect is
 381

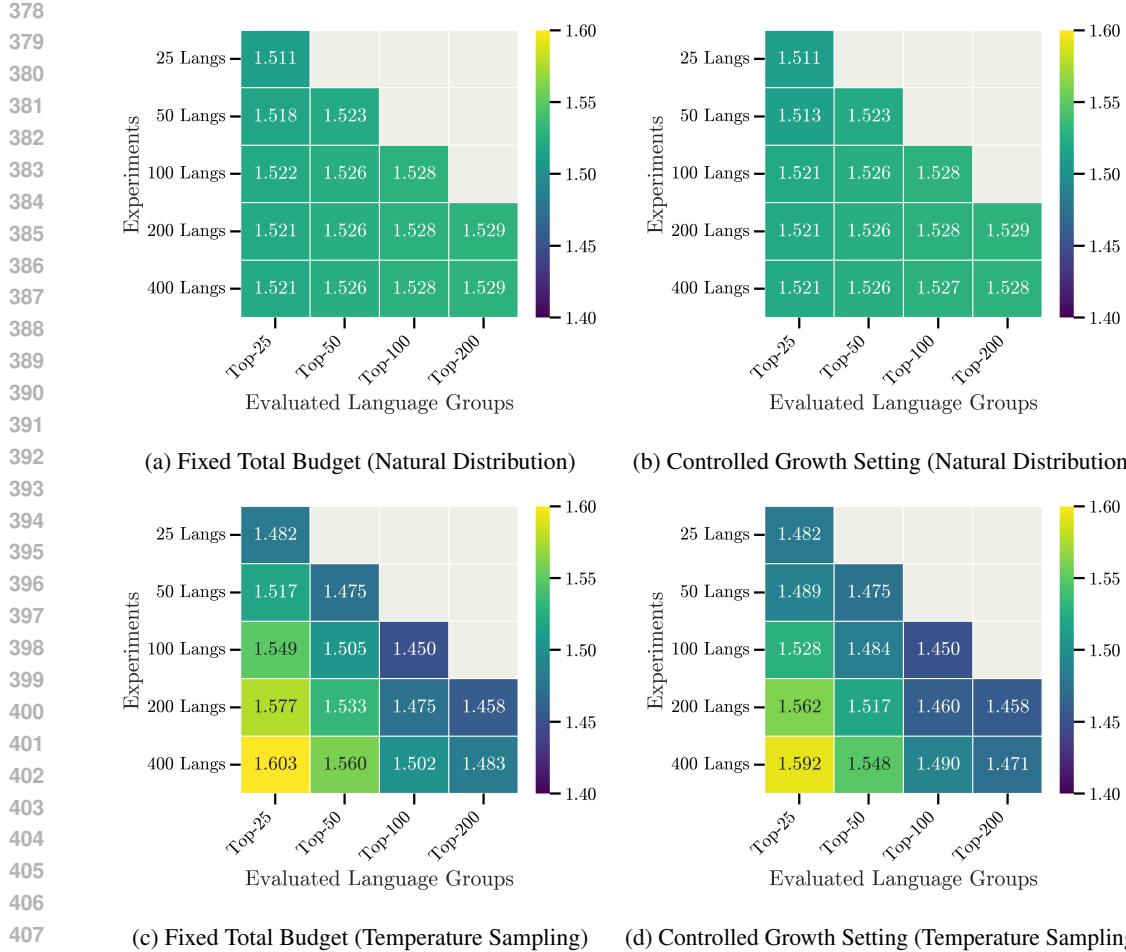


Figure 5: Average validation LM loss for different language groups (x -axis) across various *curse of multilinguality* experiments that include more languages in the pretraining mixture (y -axis). Increasing the number of languages does not necessarily degrade the performance of languages included in previous experiments, provided that the amount of training data (in tokens) for those languages remains the same. (English is excluded from these evaluations)

expected, since temperature sampling reduces the allocation of mid- and high-resource languages more aggressively, amplifying the effect of including low-resource ones.

To disentangle the effect of adding new languages from the effect of reducing data for existing ones, we also run a controlled setting where the data for the original set of languages remains fixed across two consecutive runs. For example, when increasing from 25 to 50 languages, the first 25 languages receive the same amount of training data as before; the same approach is applied when scaling from 50 to 100, 100 to 200, and 200 to 400 languages. Figures 5b and 5d report the results. Once again, under the natural distribution, performance remains stable, and we also observe a smaller relative degradation for the temperature sampling setting.

Taken together, these results suggest that the *curse of multilinguality* is not primarily about the number of languages added, but instead reflects limitations in model capacity and the quality and distribution of multilingual data. Under the natural distribution, the phenomenon is better described as a *curse of capacity*: models have a finite ability to absorb tokens, and beyond a certain point, additional data yields diminishing or even negative returns, a constraint not unique to multilingual models. Under temperature sampling, the issue more closely resembles a *curse of data quality*: oversampling very low-resource languages introduces more noisy data into training, which hurts performance.

432 **Takeaway:** The *curse of multilinguality*, while measurable, likely arises not from simply adding
 433 more languages, but from (1) the finite capacity of models and (2) data distributions that too strongly
 434 amplify the impact of languages represented by lower-quality data.

436 7 RELATED WORK

439 **Pretraining Data Mixture.** Prior work has explored the impact of pretraining data composition
 440 on the performance of large language models (LLMs) (Gu et al., 2024; Zhao et al., 2024b; Xie
 441 et al., 2023; Albalak et al., 2023; Held et al., 2025; Apertus Project et al., 2025). Several studies
 442 have proposed algorithms to optimize domain weights using proxy models, thereby improving the
 443 generalization ability of LLMs (Xie et al., 2024; Fan et al., 2023). Another approach formulates the
 444 identification of high-performing data mixtures as a regression problem (Liu et al., 2024).

445 In the multilingual setting, temperature-based sampling has traditionally been used to balance
 446 representation across languages (Devlin et al., 2019; Xue et al., 2021). However, this heuristic method
 447 can lead to overfitting on low-resource (tail) languages. To address this, Chung et al. (2023) proposes
 448 a sampling method that ensures more uniform coverage of high-resource (head) languages while
 449 capping repetition on low-resource languages. Additionally, He et al. (2024) investigates scaling
 450 laws specific to multilingual LLMs, providing further insight into optimal data mixture strategies.
 451 **Additionally, several approaches address data mixture optimization within the context of multilingual**
 452 **continual pretraining** (Ji et al., 2024; Li et al., 2025).

453 **Curse of Multilinguality & Negative Interference.** The curse of multilinguality, introduced
 454 by Conneau et al. (2020), describes the phenomenon where, under a fixed model capacity, adding more
 455 languages initially improves cross-lingual performance—especially for low-resource languages—but
 456 eventually leads to degradation in both monolingual and cross-lingual performance. Most previous
 457 investigations into this phenomenon have been limited in scale, in terms of both model size and
 458 language coverage. For instance, Pfeiffer et al. (2022) studies this trade-off using a 270M parameter
 459 bidirectional model trained on 75 languages, proposing a modular architecture to mitigate interference.
 460 Recently, Chuang et al. (2025) shows that the curse of multilinguality breaks with larger count of
 461 parameters for multimodal embedding tasks.

462 Blevins et al. (2024) introduces a cross-lingual expert language model, in which separate models
 463 are trained on subsets of the multilingual corpus to reduce competition among languages. Similarly,
 464 Chang et al. (2024) explores this effect using monolingual and multilingual models (up to 45M
 465 parameters) trained across 250 languages and derives optimal sampling ratios. Wang et al. (2020)
 466 examines the phenomenon of negative interference in multilingual LMs and introduces a meta-
 467 learning algorithm that improves cross-lingual transfer and alleviates interference effects. Alastryuey
 468 et al. (2025) challenge the prevailing assumption that cross-lingual interference depends on language
 469 family, showing instead that it is primarily related to script.

470 **Impact of Pivot Languages.** The role of *pivot* languages in improving monolingual and cross-
 471 lingual performance of multilingual LLMs has been studied before. Several works have demonstrated
 472 the benefits of using a pivot language for machine translation (Kim et al., 2019; Zou et al., 2022;
 473 Gaikwad et al., 2024; Mohammadshahi et al., 2024). Zhang et al. (2024) shows that using English
 474 as a pivot for cross-lingual instruction tuning, by first interpreting instructions in English before
 475 generating responses in the target language, can be highly effective. Pivot languages have also been
 476 used to improve alignment in multilingual representation spaces (Zhao et al., 2024a). **Investigating**
 477 **the mechanics of this transfer, Wendler et al. (2024) show that models leverage the pivot language’s**
 478 **internal circuits to process other languages. The efficacy of this cross-lingual transfer is tied to data**
 479 **distribution: it is more pronounced when models are trained using imbalanced language mixtures,**
 rather than in a balanced setting (Schäfer et al., 2024).

480 **Curriculum Learning (CL) for LLMs.** Curriculum Learning (CL), a data-centric training strategy
 481 inspired by human learning processes, has been studied for improving the performance of LLMs (Nair
 482 et al., 2024; Kim & Lee, 2024; Li et al., 2021). Several studies have demonstrated the effectiveness
 483 of CL in multilingual machine translation (Zhang et al., 2021; Kumar et al., 2021; Zhou et al., 2021;
 484 Choi et al., 2023). Ranaldi et al. (2024) applies the CL paradigm during the instruction-tuning phase
 485 of multilingual LLMs and reports notable improvements. Additionally, Yoo et al. (2024) proposes a
 code-switching-based CL strategy to enhance cross-lingual transfer capabilities in LLMs.

486

8 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

488 Our study investigates the influence of data mixture composition on multilingual large language model
 489 (LLM) pretraining, leveraging 1.1B and 3B models across up to 400 languages. Our findings challenge
 490 prevailing assumptions about multilingual pretraining, offering direct guidance for multilingual data
 491 mixture design. First, we demonstrated that the quantity and proportion of high-resource English
 492 data do not inherently compromise multilingual performance, provided a sufficient number of non-
 493 English tokens are present. This finding suggests practitioners should prioritize ensuring an adequate
 494 absolute volume of diverse, high-quality multilingual content over strictly reducing the high-resource
 495 component. Second, and contrary to suggestions that family-specific pivots are most effective, we
 496 established that English consistently serves as a high-quality pivot language, providing cross-lingual
 497 transfer benefits across linguistic groups.
 498

499 We also provided new insights into core challenges of multilingual scaling: negative interference
 500 and the “*curse of multilinguality*.” Our results showed that staging the introduction of languages
 501 through curriculum learning does not mitigate negative interference (Wang et al., 2020) or improve
 502 non-English performance, suggesting that interference is a fundamental problem related to the
 503 fixed capacity of models, and not merely one that can be fixed through different data curricula.
 504 Furthermore, our findings refine the understanding of the “*curse of multilinguality*”(Chang et al.,
 505 2024), demonstrating that performance degradation arises not from the simple count of languages
 506 added, but from the finite capacity of models and data distributions that amplify the impact of noisy,
 507 low-resource languages. Although prior studies (Conneau et al., 2020) mentioned the capacity
 508 limitation in multilingual modeling, this work distinguishes itself by conducting a comprehensive
 509 and integrated analysis of the phenomenon across its various facets.
 510

511 Collectively, these findings translate into the following practices for training multilingual LLMs.
 512 First, adopting regimes taking into account the order of languages such as curriculum learning offer
 513 no demonstrable benefit over a well-mixed approach. Second, given the resilience to high English
 514 proportions, focus resource investment on scaling and cleaning low-resource data rather than on
 515 costly data balancing operations. Third, do not limit language coverage arbitrarily, as the curse
 516 is primarily a function of quality and quantity of the multilingual data, not language count. Our
 517 evidence implies that future efforts to break the curse should focus on including adequate high-quality
 518 data for each language. While these principles were established on 1.1B and 3B parameter models,
 519 future work must validate these trade-offs on larger models models to explore how increased model
 520 capacity potentially alters the non-linear relationship between data composition, interference, and
 521 performance.
 522

523

LIMITATIONS

524 Despite employing larger models and more data than prior work, our study remains far below the
 525 scale of frontier models such as Meta AI (2025); Guo et al. (2025), as operating at that scale would
 526 have prevented us from running the number of experiments necessary to draw reasonable conclusions
 527 within our computational constraints. Furthermore, we were unable to explore the impact of post-
 528 training and the effects of various data sampling strategies for the same reason. Lastly, the choice
 529 of our tokenizer may limit performance on lower-resource languages. We selected a pre-existing
 530 tokenizer that supported the greatest number of languages in our study, as training a tokenizer
 531 to support 1,834 languages is practically infeasible without substantially increasing the model’s
 532 vocabulary size and the associated GPU memory requirements.
 533

534

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1038 A LANGUAGE MODEL TRAINING

1041 Here we provide details about training the language models used in our experiments.

1043 Model	1044 Arch.	1045 Layers	1046 Hidden	1047 Attn. Heads	1048 RoPE θ	1049 Vocab
1.1B	LLaMA	24	1536	16	500,000	131,000
3B	LLaMA	28	2496	24	500,000	131,000

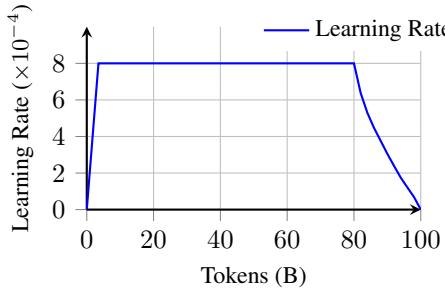
1047 Table 2: Overview of the architectural configurations for different model sizes.

1049 Our experiments focus on models with 1.1 and 3 billion parameters (1.1 and 3B). All models follow
 1050 the LLaMA architecture Touvron et al. (2023). The model size is determined by adjusting the number
 1051 of layers, hidden sizes, and the number of attention heads (Details in Table 2).

1053 A.1 TRAINING HYPERPARAMETERS

1055 We train our models using HuggingFace’s Nanotron trainer.⁵ The key training hyperparameters are as
 1056 follows:

- 1058 • **Learning Rate.** We use a learning rate of 8×10^{-4} with linear warmup over the first 4% of
 1059 training. A “1-sqrt” decay schedule (Hägele et al., 2024) is applied during the final 20%, as
 1060 shown in Figure 6.
- 1061 • **Optimizer.** All experiments use AdamW with $\beta = (0.9, 0.95)$ (Loshchilov, 2017).
- 1063 • **Weight Decay.** We set the weight decay parameter to $\lambda = 0.1$ for regularization.
- 1064 • **Batch Size.** The micro-batch size is fixed at 5 across all runs.



1077 Figure 6: Learning rate schedule over tokens with warmup and decay.

1078 ⁵<https://github.com/huggingface/nanotron>

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A.2 HARDWARE SETUP

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Training is performed on a large-scale cluster. Each node is equipped with 4 NVIDIA Grace-Hopper H100 GPUs (96 GB memory each).

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- **1B models.** We train our 1B models on 22 nodes (or 88 GPUs) over around 15h per 100B tokens. This gives a global batch size of 440 examples.
- **3B models.** We train our 3B models on 64 nodes (or 256 GPUs) for around 18h per 100B tokens. Therefore our runs have a global batch size of 640 examples.

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A.3 SAMPLING METHODS

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Let \mathcal{L} be the set of languages in the dataset, and let $\pi^{\text{natural}} \in \Delta_{|\mathcal{L}|}$ represent the natural distribution of these languages, defined as:

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$$\pi_l^{\text{natural}} = \frac{\omega_l}{\sum_{l' \in \mathcal{L}} \omega_{l'}}$$

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where ω_l denotes the number of words (or tokens) for language l in the dataset. In this work, we use the number of words as a proxy for language frequency, a common practice when presenting statistics for highly multilingual datasets Penedo et al. (2025). We implement the following sampling strategies:

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- **Natural Sampling.** This method samples according to the natural distribution π^{natural} , directly reflecting language frequencies in the dataset. Typically, this distribution is highly imbalanced, with a few languages dominating the cumulative share of data.
- **Temperature Sampling.** This method adjusts the natural distribution using a temperature parameter τ to create a less skewed distribution:

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$$\pi_l^{\text{temp}, \tau} = \frac{\omega_l^{1/\tau}}{\sum_{l' \in \mathcal{L}} \omega_{l'}^{1/\tau}}$$

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By tuning τ , the distribution can be shifted towards uniformity, thereby reducing imbalance among languages.

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Figures 10 and 11 present the training data distribution for experiments described in Section 3.

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B BENCHMARK SETUP

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We evaluate our models using HuggingFace’s Lighteval codebase (Habib et al., 2023).⁶

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B.1 BENCHMARKS

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We select 10 standard multilingual benchmarks to evaluate our models on various downstream tasks.

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- **Belebele:** A multilingual reading comprehension dataset containing passages and corresponding questions in many languages. It evaluates models’ ability to understand text and answer related questions (Bandarkar et al., 2024).
- **XCodah:** A multilingual adaptation of CODAH for adversarially-authored commonsense reasoning tasks, testing robustness in natural language understanding (Lin et al., 2021a; Chen et al., 2019).
- **XCSQA:** A multilingual version of CommonsenseQA, consisting of multiple-choice questions that require reasoning about everyday concepts and their relations (Lin et al., 2021a; Talmor et al., 2019).
- **XCOPA:** A multilingual adaptation of the COPA dataset for evaluating cross-lingual causal commonsense reasoning, covering multiple languages to test reasoning transfer across linguistic boundaries (Ponti et al., 2020).

⁶<https://huggingface.co/docs/lighteval/en/index>

- **XStoryCloze**: A multilingual extension of the StoryCloze Test, where models must choose the most coherent ending to short narratives, testing story comprehension and commonsense reasoning (Mostafazadeh et al., 2017; Lin et al., 2021b).
- **XWinogrande**: A multilingual version of WinoGrande, containing sentences with ambiguous pronouns. It measures models’ ability to resolve coreference using contextual and commonsense cues (Sakaguchi et al., 2021; Muennighoff et al., 2022; Tikhonov & Ryabinin, 2021).
- **MMLU**: A multilingual adaptation of MMLU, evaluating model performance across a wide spectrum of tasks and domains (Hendrycks et al., 2021; Dac Lai et al., 2023).
- **INCLUDE**: A large-scale benchmark covering 44 languages, designed to evaluate multilingual LLMs in realistic language environments with a focus on knowledge and reasoning (Romanou et al., 2024).
- **Exams**: A benchmark of standardized test questions across subjects and educational levels, used to assess reasoning and problem-solving abilities in exam-like conditions (Hardalov et al., 2020).
- **M3Exams**: A multilingual exam-style benchmark that extends Exams across different languages, subjects, and difficulty levels (Zhang et al., 2023).

B.2 AGGREGATIONS

We aggregate benchmark results to compute a language-specific score for each model. Let \mathcal{T}_l be the set of benchmarks (or tasks) containing a split for language l . The aggregated score for a model m per language l is defined as:

$$s_l^m = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}_l|} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}_l} s_{t,l}^m$$

where s_l^m is the score of a model m on the split l of a task t . To mitigate biases arising from varying numbers of benchmarks per language, we compute a language-specific random baseline ζ_l . This baseline helps assess whether a given aggregated score significantly outperforms random predictions. Specifically, we calculate the random baseline for each language as the average of the individual random baselines across all tasks that include language l :

$$\zeta_l = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}_l|} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}_l} \zeta_t$$

C PIVOT ABLATION

Table 3 presents the languages included in the experiments described in Section 3. The set of languages analyzed in the experiments of Section 4 is listed in Table 4.

Figures 7 and 8 present the validation loss and average benchmark scores for English and non-English (“Multilingual”) languages for **3B** models. Consistent with our observations for the 1.1B models, we find that under the Fixed Total Budget setting, increasing the proportion of English data ($\geq 50\%$), leads to a decline in performance for other languages. In contrast, under the Fixed Multilingual Budget setting, increasing the share of English data (up to 60%) does not adversely affect the performance of non-English languages.

D CROSS-LINGUAL TRANSFER

To examine how non-English languages influence English performance under the *Fixed Total Budget* setting, we train models on data spanning 1,834 languages while systematically varying the share of data allocated to each. Specifically, we partition the languages from the FineWeb-2 dataset into two groups:

Target Languages. A set of 45 high- and mid-resource languages that we aim for the model to perform well on.

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1199	Language	Language Family	Script
1200	Arabic	Afro-Asiatic (Semitic)	Perso-Arabic
1201	Bulgarian	Indo-European (Slavic)	Cyrillic
1202	Bengali	Indo-European (Indo-Aryan)	Bengali
1203	Catalan	Indo-European (Romance)	Latin
1204	German	Indo-European (Germanic)	Latin
1205	Greek	Indo-European (Hellenic)	Greek
1206	English	Indo-European (Germanic)	Latin
1207	Spanish	Indo-European (Romance)	Latin
1208	Estonian	Uralic (Finnic)	Latin
1209	Basque	Language Isolate	Latin
1210	Persian (Farsi)	Indo-European (Iranian)	Perso-Arabic
1211	Finnish	Uralic (Finnic)	Latin
1212	French	Indo-European (Romance)	Latin
1213	Hindi	Indo-European (Indo-Aryan)	Devanagari
1214	Haitian Creole	Creole (French-based)	Latin
1215	Indonesian	Austronesian	Latin
1216	Italian	Indo-European (Romance)	Latin
1217	Japanese	Japonic	Kanji & Kana (CJK)
1218	Korean	Koreanic	Hangul (CJK)
1219	Burmese	Sino-Tibetan	Burmese
1220	Portuguese	Indo-European (Romance)	Latin
1221	Russian	Indo-European (Slavic)	Cyrillic
1222	Swahili	Niger-Congo (Bantu)	Latin
1223	Tamil	Dravidian	Tamil
1224	Telugu	Dravidian	Telugu (Brahmic)
1225	Thai	Kra–Dai (Tai)	Thai
1226	Turkish	Turkic	Latin
1227	Urdu	Indo-European (Indo-Aryan)	Perso-Arabic
1228	Vietnamese	Austroasiatic	Vietnamese (Latin-based)
1229	Chinese (Mandarin)	Sino-Tibetan	Hanzi (CJK)

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Table 3: Languages used in experiments discussed in Section 3.

1242	Language	Language Family	Script
1243	English	Indo-European (Germanic)	Latin
1244	Russian	Indo-European (Slavic)	Cyrillic
1245	Ukrainian	Indo-European (Slavic)	Cyrillic
1246	Belarusian	Indo-European (Slavic)	Cyrillic
1247	Serbian	Indo-European (Slavic)	Cyrillic
1248	Macedonian	Indo-European (Slavic)	Cyrillic
1249	Bulgarian	Indo-European (Slavic)	Cyrillic
1250	Polish	Indo-European (Slavic)	Latin
1251	Czech	Indo-European (Slavic)	Latin
1252	Slovak	Indo-European (Slavic)	Latin
1253	Tajik	Indo-European (Iranian)	Cyrillic
1254	Uzbek	Turkic	Cyrillic
1255	Kyrgyz	Turkic	Cyrillic
1256	Kazakh	Turkic	Cyrillic
1257	Mongolian	Mongolic	Cyrillic

Table 4: Languages used in experiments discussed in Section 4.

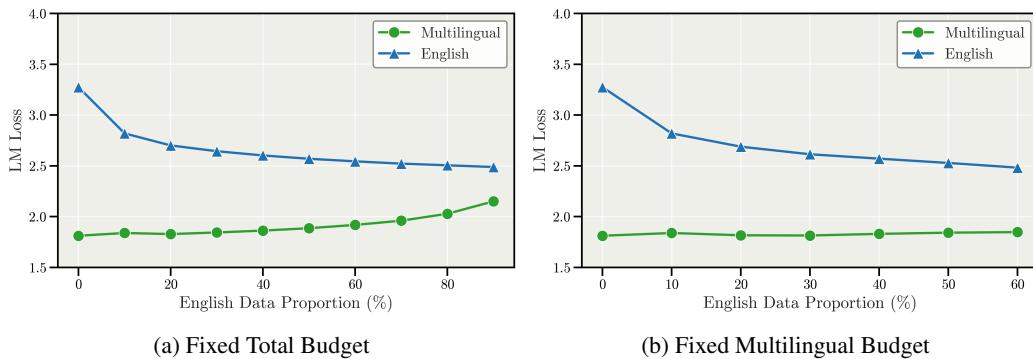


Figure 7: Validation LM loss for **English** and weighted average LM loss of non-English (**Multilingual**) across different proportions of English in the training data for **3B** models. (a) In a **Fixed Total Budget**, increasing English data ($\geq 50\%$), leads to a performance drop in other languages. (b) In a **Fixed Multilingual Budget**, increasing English data (up to 60%) does not have a negative effect on other languages.

Tail Languages. The remaining 1,789 low-resource languages, which the model is expected to support only as a secondary objective.

The full lists of target and tail languages are provided in Appendix D.1. Importantly, we exclude English from the training data to neutralize its dominant influence and allow for a clearer analysis of cross-linguistic interactions. We train 3B-parameter models by varying the proportion of tail-language data in the training mix, ranging from 6% to 33%, and evaluate the impact on performance across the target language set.

Figure 10a presents the effect of adjusting the balance between the top-25 high-resource languages (in FineWeb-2) and the remaining languages on English validation loss. Although English is not part of the training data, we observe that its validation loss decreases as more tokens from high-resource languages are included, and increases when more tokens from lower-resource languages are introduced. This effect is likely due to the close linguistic proximity of several high-resource languages (e.g., German, French) to English, which provides beneficial transfer.

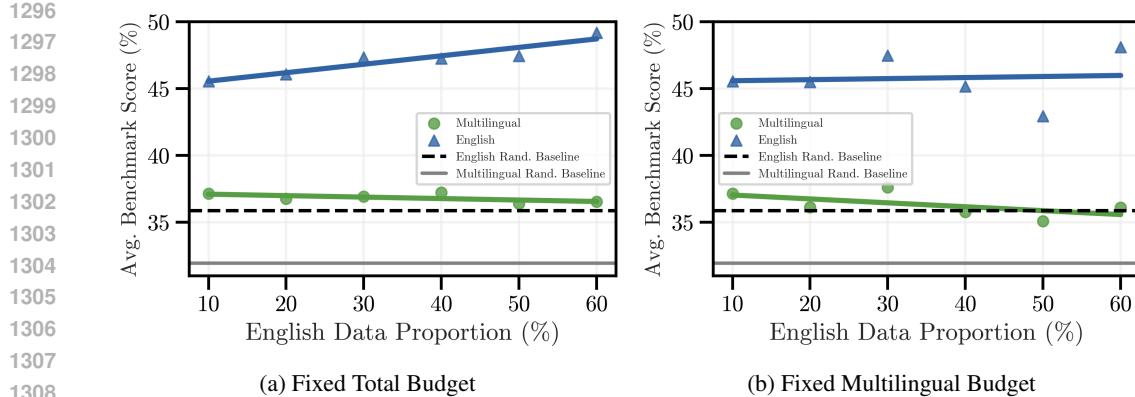


Figure 8: Aggregated benchmark performance for **English** and weighted average of non-English (**Multilingual**) across different proportions of English in the training data for 3B models. The dashed lines represents the random baselines for each language group. **(a)** In a **Fixed Total Budget**, increasing English data ($\geq 50\%$), does not hurt downstream performance on *other* group. **(b)** In a **Fixed Multilingual Budget**, we see that increasing English data has a negligible impact on the *other* group's performance.

Supporting this interpretation, we find that English performance is most strongly correlated with Romance, Slavic, and Germanic languages, with Pearson correlation coefficients of 0.78, 0.85, and 0.80, respectively (Table 5). Figure 10b shows the same pattern in benchmark results: English benefits from the presence of related high-resource languages. Together, these findings highlight a positive interaction between English and typologically related high-resource languages, which enhances English performance even when it is excluded from training.

D.1 TARGET AND TAIL LANGUAGES

The target languages used in the Curse of Multilinguality experiments are as follows: German, Russian, French, Japanese, Spanish, Mandarin Chinese, Italian, Dutch, Polish, Portuguese, Czech, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Turkish, Swedish, Persian (Farsi), Korean, Hungarian, Arabic, Greek, Romanian, Danish, Finnish, Thai, Ukrainian, Slovak, Norwegian Bokmål, Bulgarian, Catalan, Croatian, Latin, Serbian, Hindi, Slovenian, Lithuanian, Estonian, Hebrew, Latvian, Tosk Albanian, Icelandic, Macedonian, Galician, Basque, Malayalam, Romansh, Swiss German. Tail languages contain the rest of the languages from the FineWeb-2 corpus.

Tables 6 and 7 present detailed information about the language families and scripts included in the FineWeb-2 dataset.

E CURRICULUM LEARNING

Figures 11 and 12 show the validation loss for each language for the experiments described in Section 5.

F CURSE OF MULTILINGUALITY

Using a fixed total data budget, Table 15 reports the validation loss for 50 languages trained under natural distribution and temperature sampling conditions. The models used for this analysis are detailed in Section 6.

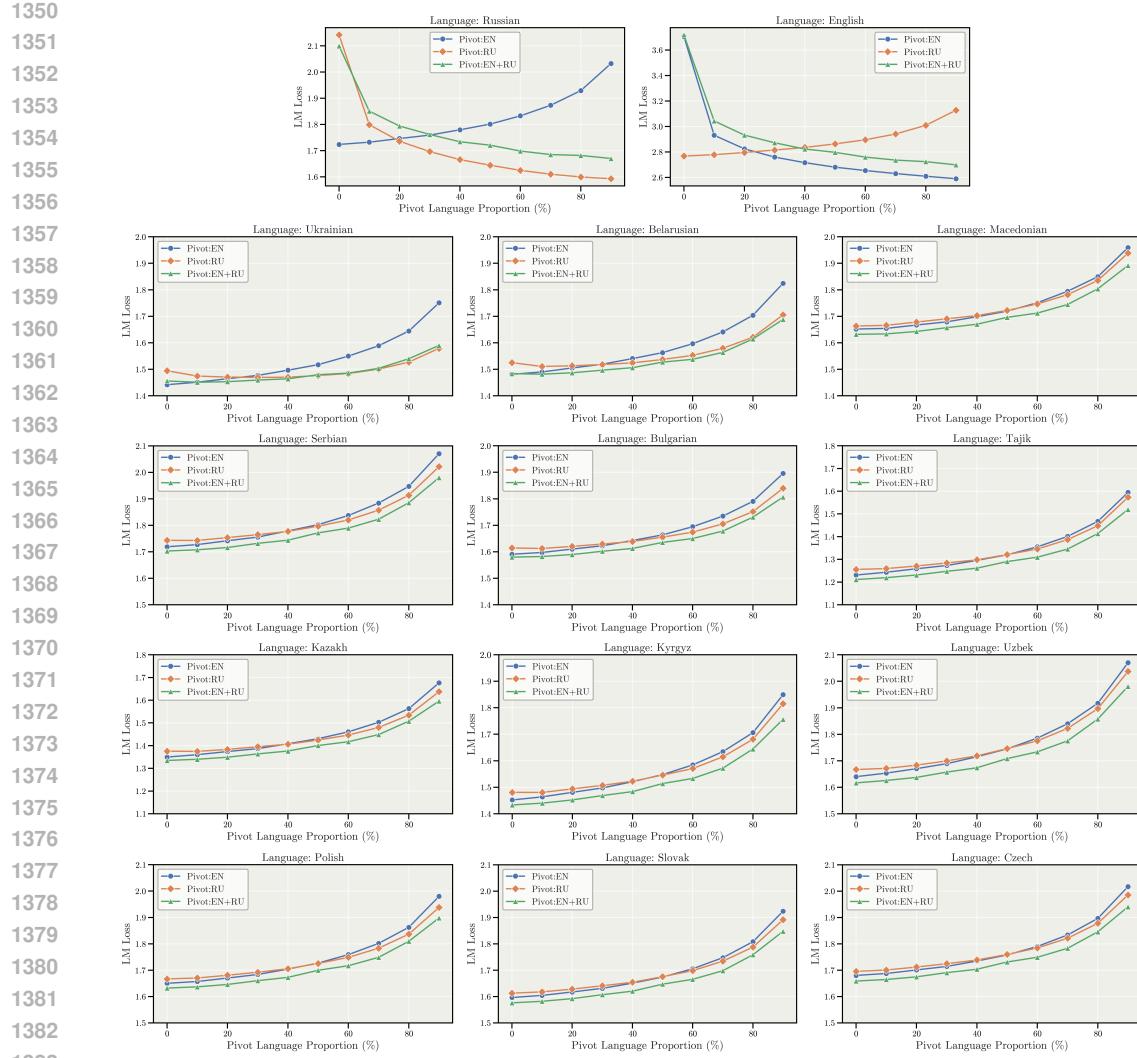


Figure 9: Validation LM loss for each language in the experiments described in Section 4, using English, Russian, or a combination of English and Russian as the pivot language in the training mix. The combination of English and Russian yields the best performance for most languages (model size: 1.1B).

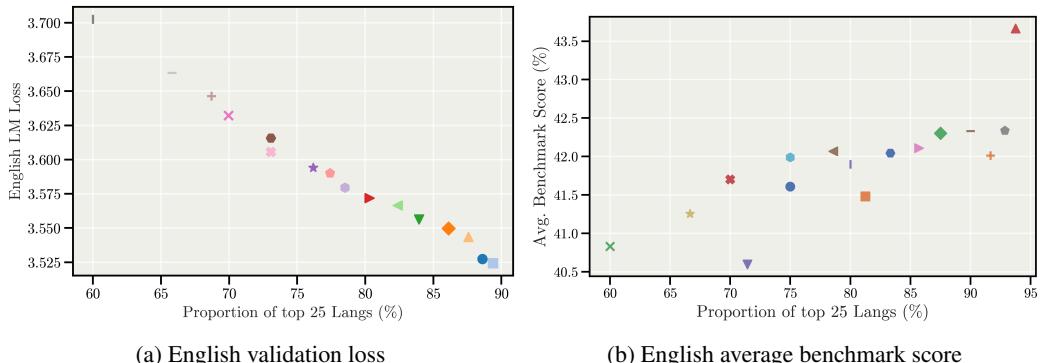


Figure 10: English (a) validation LM loss and (b) average benchmark score across different proportions of the top 25 languages (model size: 3B). Increasing token allocation for tail languages reduces validation loss in English and improves English accuracy.

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Language Family	Pearson Correlation
Slavic	0.853
Germanic	0.808
Romance	0.785
Malayo-Sumbawan	0.683
Semitic	0.521
Creoles and Pidgins	-0.578
Kuki-Chin	-0.759
Bantu	-0.776
Greater Central Philippine	-0.827
Mixtec	-0.832
Celebic	-0.872
Cariban	-0.895
Panoan	-0.897
Oti-Volta	-0.899
Western Mande	-0.915
Zapotecan	-0.919
Mayan	-0.925
Brahmaputran	-0.939
Northern Luzon	-0.945
Chinantecan	-0.952
Oceanic	-0.962
Algonquian	-0.963
Quechuan	-0.980
Central Malayo-Polynesian	-0.985
Maweti-Guarani	-0.985
Tucanoan	-0.992

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Table 5: Pearson correlation (r) between English validation loss and each language family, retaining only results with $p < 0.05$ and sorted in descending order of r .

	Script	# Languages
1458	Latn	1639
1459	Cyrl	56
1460	Arab	30
1461	Deva	29
1462	Ethi	9
1463	Thai	7
1464	Cans	6
1465	Beng	5
1466	Mymr	5
1467	Hani	5
1468	Telu	3
1469	Hebr	3
1470	Grek	3
1471	Tibt	3
1472	Tfng	2
1473	Armn	2
1474	Orya	2
1475	Geor	2
1476	Syrc	2
1477	Looo	2
1478	Knda	2

Table 6: Scripts and the number of languages each one supports. Sixteen other scripts are present in the FineWeb-2 dataset, each supporting one language.

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Language Family	# Languages
Bantu	73
Oceanic	67
Mayan	24
Turkic	22
Indic	22
Creoles and Pidgins	20
Germanic	17
Tucanoan	16
Greater Central Philippine	15
Romance	15
Semitic	14
Mixtec	13
Slavic	13
Zapotecan	12
Central Malayo-Polynesian	12
Iranian	11
Oti-Volta	11
Malayo-Sumbawan	11
Kuki-Chin	10
Northern Luzon	10
Celebic	9
Quechuan	9
Maweti-Guarani	9
Dravidian	8
Brahmaputran	8
Panoan	8
Western Mande	8
Cariban	8
Algonquian	8
Chinantecan	7

Table 7: Top language sub-families in FineWeb-2 and their number of associated languages. The classification is according to Dryer & Haspelmath (2013). Labels for 768 languages in FineWeb-2 were not available.

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1516 1517	Num PT Langs	Variant	Top 25 lang B Tokens (Prop.)	Top 50 lang B Tokens (Prop.)	Top 100 lang B Tokens (Prop.)	Top 200 lang B Tokens (Prop.)
1518 1519 1520 1521	50	Natural	55.77 (0.56)	-	-	-
		Temp.	40.15 (0.40)	-	-	-
		Natural – C	60.08 (0.56)	-	-	-
		Temp. – C	60.08 (0.40)	-	-	-
1522 1523 1524	100	Natural	55.07 (0.55)	59.33 (0.59)	-	-
		Temp.	30.51 (0.30)	45.65 (0.46)	-	-
		Natural – C	55.77 (0.55)	60.08 (0.59)	-	-
		Temp. – C	40.15 (0.30)	60.08 (0.46)	-	-
1525 1526 1527 1528	200	Natural	54.98 (0.55)	59.23 (0.59)	59.99 (0.60)	-
		Temp.	25.28 (0.25)	37.83 (0.38)	49.79 (0.50)	-
		Natural – C	55.07 (0.55)	59.33 (0.59)	60.08 (0.60)	-
		Temp. – C	30.51 (0.25)	45.65 (0.38)	60.08 (0.50)	-
1529 1530 1531	400	Natural	54.97 (0.55)	59.22 (0.59)	59.98 (0.60)	60.07 (0.60)
		Temp.	22.07 (0.22)	33.03 (0.33)	43.47 (0.43)	52.46 (0.52)
		Natural – C	54.98 (0.55)	59.23 (0.59)	59.99 (0.60)	60.08 (0.60)
		Temp. – C	25.28 (0.22)	37.83 (0.33)	49.79 (0.43)	60.08 (0.52)

1532
1533 Table 8: Total number of tokens (in billions) and the corresponding proportions contributed by the
1534 top-25, 50, 100, and 200 languages. *Num PT Langs* refers to the total number of languages included
1535 during pretraining. *Natural* and *Temp.* represent natural sampling and temperature-based sampling,
1536 respectively, both conducted with a fixed token budget of 100B tokens. *Natural-C* and *Temp.-C*
1537 denote the same sampling strategies applied under the Controlled Growth setting, which uses a total
1538 of 90B tokens. English is excluded from the token counts and proportions.

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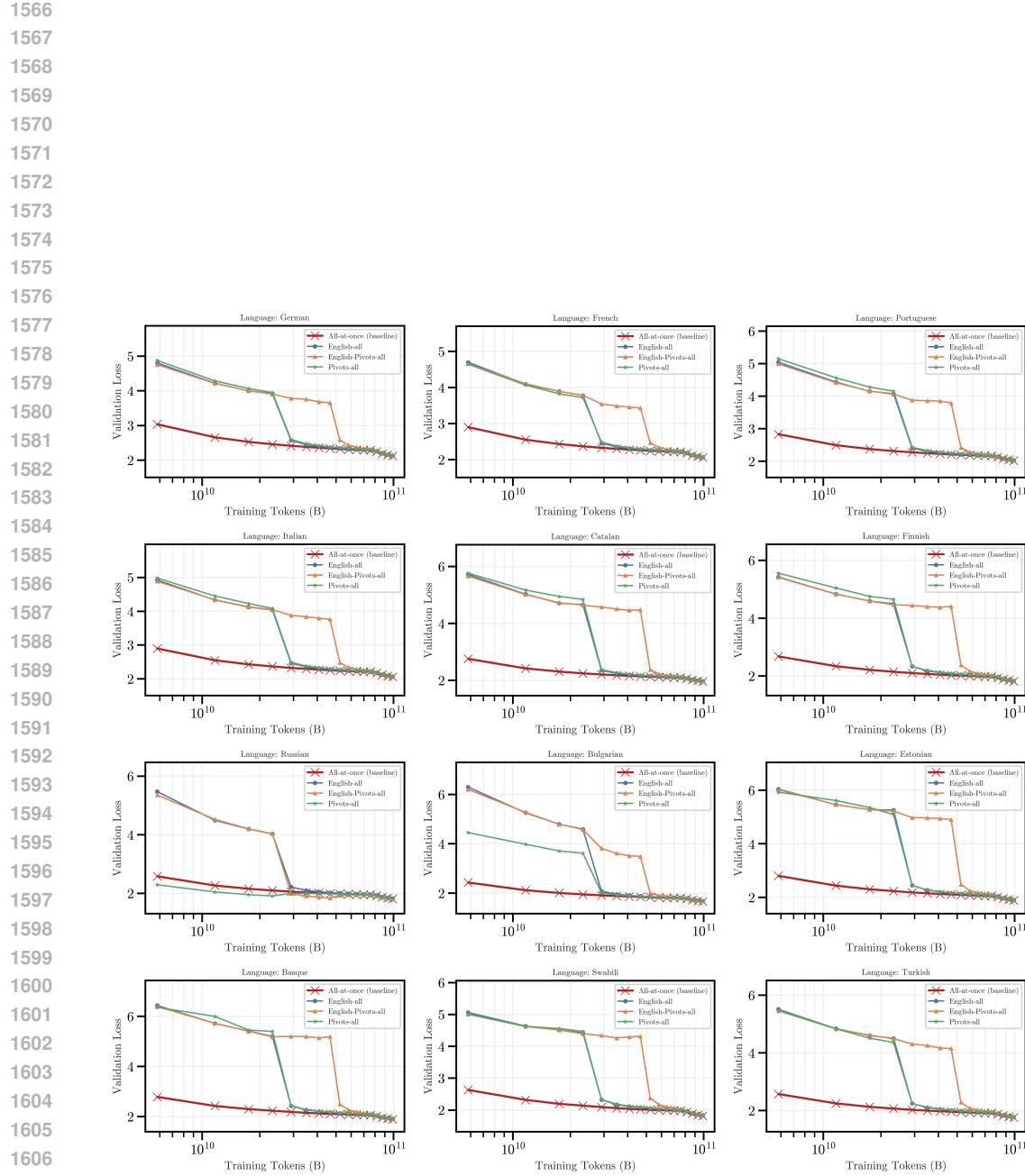
1546 1547	Num PT Langs	Variant	BB	M3E	MMMLU	PAWS-X	XCSQA	XCodah	XCopa	XSC	XWG
1548 1549	25	Natural	38.22	38.70	30.75	49.60	35.70	51.67	66.80	75.10	65.60
		Temp.	33.67	33.20	27.52	45.70	31.20	37.33	62.00	63.60	54.90
1550 1551	50	Natural	37.44	38.60	30.91	49.00	33.00	51.67	67.00	73.60	66.50
		Temp.	32.33	33.50	27.51	55.90	31.60	38.00	61.80	65.30	55.80
1552 1553	100	Natural	37.67	37.60	30.72	50.40	34.10	51.67	69.40	74.80	65.10
		Temp.	32.22	33.90	26.75	55.20	30.90	38.67	61.20	63.20	54.60
1554 1555	200	Natural	37.44	37.20	30.54	54.00	31.80	52.33	66.20	75.00	65.40
		Temp.	31.67	32.80	27.07	43.70	28.80	37.33	62.00	62.40	55.40
1556 1557	400	Natural	37.33	38.60	30.61	55.20	35.30	53.33	68.60	73.80	64.20
		Temp.	31.22	29.70	26.78	55.40	24.70	34.67	57.20	62.30	56.50

1558 Table 9: Benchmark scores (%) for English with varying number and sampling of 25–400 languages
1559 during pretraining. *Num PT Langs* refers to the total number of languages included during pretraining.
1560 *Natural* and *Temp.* represent natural sampling and temperature-based sampling, respectively, both
1561 conducted with a fixed token budget of 100B tokens. *BB*, *M3E*, *XSC*, and *XWG* denote the results for
1562 BeleBele, M3Exams, XStoryCloze, and XWinogrande respectively.

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1608 Figure 11: Validation LM loss (model size: 3B) for each language in the “Curriculum Learning”
1609 experiments described in Section 5 (Part 1).

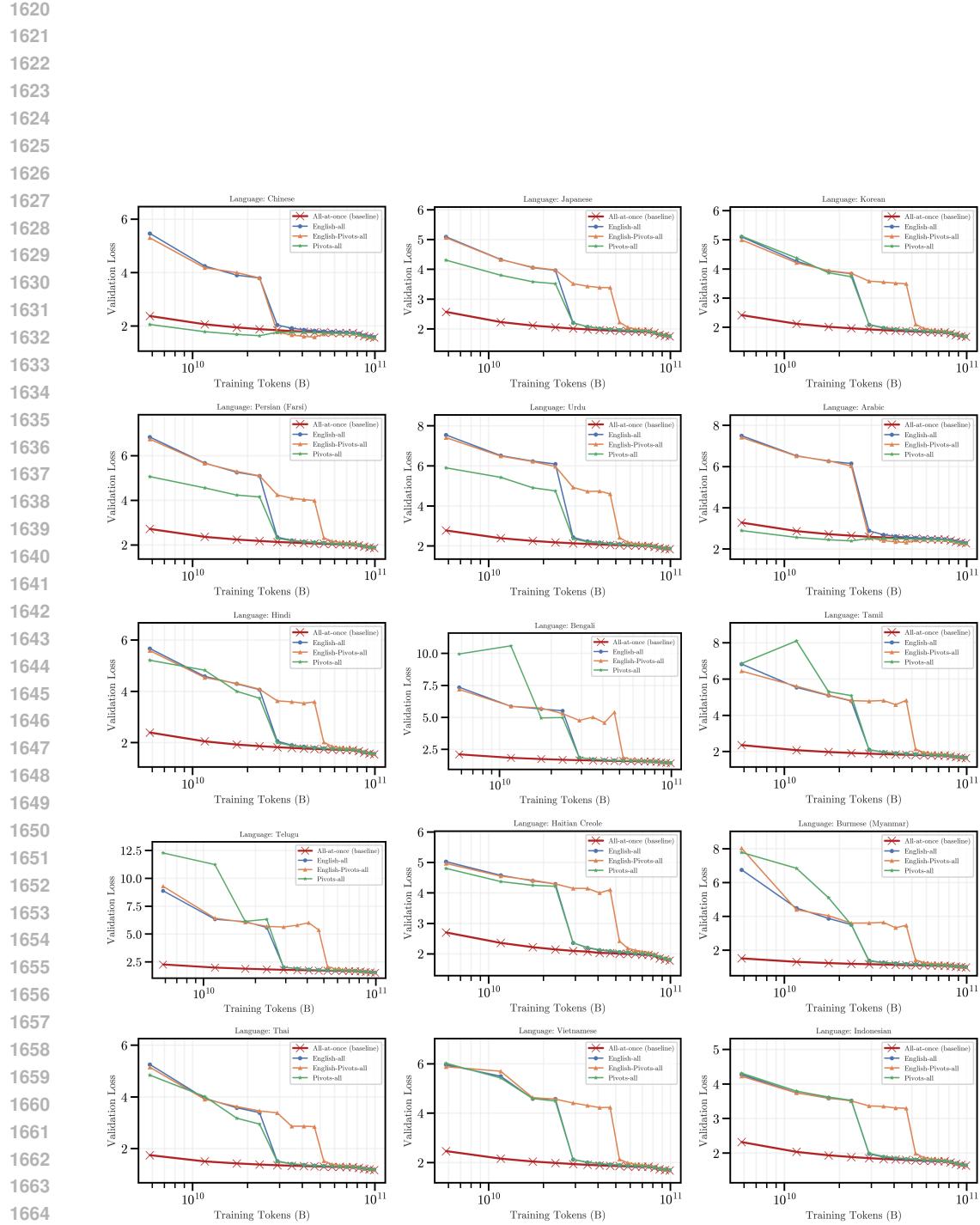


Figure 12: Validation LM loss (model size: 3B) for each language in the “Curriculum Learning” experiments described in Section 5 (Part 2).

1674	Language	en=0%	en=10%	en=20%	en=30%	en=40%	en=50%	en=60%	en=70%	en=80%	en=90%	en=100%
1675	ar	3810.73 (3.8%)	3360.93 (3.4%)	2987.49 (3.0%)	2614.06 (2.6%)	2286.44 (2.3%)	1867.18 (1.9%)	1434.04 (1.5%)	1143.22 (1.1%)	762.15 (0.8%)	381.07 (0.4%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1676	bg	2855.74 (2.9%)	2669.73 (2.3%)	2319.76 (2.3%)	2029.79 (2.0%)	1713.45 (1.7%)	1449.88 (1.4%)	1113.49 (1.2%)	856.72 (0.9%)	571.15 (0.6%)	285.57 (0.3%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1677	bn	2044.77 (2.0%)	1850.78 (1.9%)	1645.14 (1.6%)	1439.50 (1.4%)	1226.56 (1.2%)	1028.21 (1.0%)	789.67 (0.8%)	613.28 (0.6%)	408.85 (0.4%)	204.43 (0.2%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1678	ca	2434.91 (2.4%)	2245.24 (2.2%)	1995.77 (2.0%)	1746.30 (1.7%)	1460.95 (1.5%)	1247.36 (1.2%)	957.97 (1.0%)	730.47 (0.7%)	486.98 (0.5%)	243.49 (0.2%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1679	de	6587.51 (6.6%)	6186.77 (6.2%)	5499.35 (5.5%)	481.19 (4.8%)	3952.51 (4.0%)	3437.09 (3.4%)	2639.69 (2.7%)	1976.25 (2.0%)	1317.50 (1.3%)	658.75 (0.7%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1680	el	3498.77 (3.5%)	3132.17 (3.1%)	2784.15 (2.8%)	2436.13 (2.4%)	2099.26 (2.1%)	1740.09 (1.7%)	1363.39 (1.4%)	1049.63 (1.0%)	699.75 (0.7%)	349.88 (0.3%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1681	en	0.00 (0.0%)	10002.43 (10.0%)	20004.86 (20.0%)	30007.30 (30.0%)	40009.73 (40.0%)	50012.16 (50.0%)	57614.35 (60.0%)	70017.02 (70.0%)	80019.46 (80.0%)	90021.89 (90.0%)	100024.32 (100.0%)
1682	es	7665.65 (2.0%)	7153.06 (1.8%)	5710.63 (1.6%)	4409.30 (1.4%)	1202.79 (1.2%)	700.79 (0.8%)	200.90 (0.6%)	40.93 (0.4%)	200.97 (0.2%)	0.00 (0.0%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1683	et	1239.38 (1.2%)	1163.61 (1.1%)	1034.32 (1.0%)	905.03 (0.9%)	743.63 (0.7%)	606.64 (0.6%)	496.47 (0.5%)	371.82 (0.4%)	247.88 (0.3%)	123.94 (0.1%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1684	eu	3706.17 (3.7%)	3380.02 (3.4%)	3004.46 (3.0%)	2628.91 (2.6%)	2223.70 (2.2%)	1877.79 (1.9%)	1442.14 (1.5%)	1111.85 (1.1%)	741.23 (0.7%)	370.62 (0.4%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1685	fa	2968.54 (3.0%)	2739.67 (2.7%)	2435.26 (2.4%)	2130.85 (2.1%)	1781.12 (1.8%)	1522.04 (1.5%)	1168.93 (1.2%)	909.56 (0.9%)	593.71 (0.6%)	296.85 (0.3%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1686	fi	6415.58 (6.4%)	5865.82 (5.9%)	5214.06 (5.2%)	4562.30 (4.6%)	3849.35 (3.8%)	3258.79 (3.3%)	2502.75 (2.6%)	1924.67 (1.9%)	1283.12 (1.3%)	641.56 (0.6%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1687	fr	2932.04 (2.9%)	2462.93 (2.5%)	2189.27 (2.2%)	1915.61 (1.9%)	1759.23 (1.8%)	1368.30 (1.4%)	1050.85 (1.1%)	879.61 (0.9%)	586.41 (0.6%)	293.20 (0.3%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1688	hi	687.25 (0.7%)	700.65 (0.7%)	622.80 (0.6%)	544.95 (0.5%)	412.35 (0.4%)	389.25 (0.4%)	260.18 (0.2%)	137.45 (0.1%)	68.73 (0.1%)	0.00 (0.0%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1689	ht	4037.86 (4.0%)	3656.56 (3.7%)	3250.27 (3.2%)	2843.99 (2.8%)	2422.72 (2.4%)	2031.42 (2.0%)	1560.13 (1.6%)	1211.36 (1.2%)	807.57 (0.8%)	403.43 (0.4%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1690	id	5220.15 (5.2%)	4911.86 (4.9%)	4291.42 (4.3%)	3894.05 (3.9%)	3149.49 (3.1%)	2160.76 (2.2%)	1666.38 (1.7%)	1574.75 (1.6%)	1049.83 (1.0%)	524.92 (0.5%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1691	it	5249.15 (5.2%)	3905.57 (3.9%)	3471.62 (3.5%)	3037.67 (3.0%)	2449.49 (3.1%)	2160.76 (2.2%)	1666.38 (1.7%)	1574.75 (1.6%)	1049.83 (1.0%)	524.92 (0.5%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1692	ja	3004.03 (3.0%)	2337.96 (2.3%)	2078.18 (2.1%)	1818.41 (1.8%)	1802.42 (1.8%)	1298.86 (1.3%)	997.53 (1.0%)	901.21 (0.9%)	600.81 (0.6%)	300.40 (0.3%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1693	ko	1084.07 (1.1%)	943.16 (0.9%)	838.36 (0.8%)	733.57 (0.7%)	650.44 (0.7%)	523.98 (0.5%)	402.41 (0.4%)	325.22 (0.3%)	216.81 (0.2%)	108.41 (0.1%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1694	pt	5067.45 (5.1%)	4776.05 (4.8%)	4245.38 (4.2%)	3714.70 (3.7%)	3040.47 (3.0%)	2653.65 (2.7%)	2037.78 (2.1%)	1520.23 (1.5%)	1013.49 (1.0%)	506.74 (0.5%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1695	ru	8194.02 (8.2%)	7520.23 (7.5%)	6864.65 (6.7%)	5849.07 (5.8%)	4916.41 (4.9%)	4177.90 (4.2%)	3208.63 (3.3%)	2458.21 (2.5%)	1638.80 (1.6%)	819.40 (0.8%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1696	sw	1119.24 (1.1%)	1009.14 (1.0%)	897.01 (0.9%)	784.89 (0.8%)	671.55 (0.7%)	606.63 (0.6%)	430.57 (0.4%)	357.77 (0.3%)	238.85 (0.2%)	111.92 (0.1%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1697	ta	1621.73 (1.6%)	1476.01 (1.5%)	1347.33 (1.4%)	1173.47 (1.3%)	1029.47 (1.2%)	878.00 (0.7%)	592.00 (0.6%)	459.00 (0.5%)	322.00 (0.4%)	162.12 (0.2%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1698	te	1210.73 (1.2%)	1066.46 (1.1%)	947.97 (0.9%)	828.00 (0.8%)	722.00 (0.7%)	607.00 (0.6%)	424.23 (0.5%)	319.23 (0.4%)	219.00 (0.3%)	109.19 (0.1%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1699	tr	2314.72 (2.3%)	2292.48 (2.3%)	2073.04 (2.3%)	1783.19 (1.8%)	1388.82 (1.4%)	1271.71 (1.2%)	998.21 (1.0%)	694.42 (0.7%)	462.04 (0.5%)	231.47 (0.2%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1700	tr	4072.98 (4.1%)	3919.12 (3.9%)	3483.66 (3.5%)	3048.21 (3.0%)	2443.79 (2.4%)	2177.29 (2.2%)	1672.16 (1.7%)	1221.89 (1.2%)	814.60 (0.8%)	407.30 (0.4%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1701	tr	1459.28 (1.5%)	1225.81 (1.1%)	1089.61 (1.1%)	953.41 (1.0%)	875.57 (0.9%)	681.00 (0.7%)	523.01 (0.5%)	437.79 (0.4%)	291.88 (0.3%)	145.93 (0.1%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1702	tr	3776.21 (3.4%)	3371.61 (3.4%)	2950.16 (2.9%)	2835.76 (2.8%)	2107.26 (2.1%)	1618.37 (1.7%)	1417.88 (1.4%)	945.25 (0.9%)	472.63 (0.5%)	0.00 (0.0%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1703	zh	3396.76 (3.4%)	3398.87 (3.4%)	3021.22 (3.0%)	2643.56 (2.6%)	2038.06 (2.0%)	1888.26 (1.9%)	1450.18 (1.5%)	1019.03 (1.0%)	679.35 (0.7%)	339.68 (0.3%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1704	Total	112027.20 (100.0%)	128031.99 (100.0%)	148037.75 (100.0%)	176043.52 (100.0%)	224054.06 (100.0%)						

Table 10: Token counts (in millions) and their total proportions (%) for the *Fixed Total Budget* experiments described in Section 3. Total number of tokens is 100B.

1705	Language	en=20%	en=30%	en=40%	en=50%	en=60%
1706	ar	3345.99 (3.0%)	3345.99 (2.6%)	3316.12 (2.2%)	3286.24 (1.9%)	3345.99 (1.5%)
1707	bg	2598.14 (2.3%)	2598.14 (2.0%)	2574.94 (1.7%)	2551.74 (1.4%)	2598.14 (1.2%)
1708	bn	1842.56 (1.6%)	1842.56 (1.4%)	1826.10 (1.2%)	1809.65 (1.0%)	1842.56 (0.8%)
1709	ca	2235.26 (2.0%)	2235.26 (1.7%)	2215.31 (1.5%)	2195.35 (1.2%)	2235.26 (1.0%)
1710	de	6159.27 (5.5%)	6159.27 (4.8%)	6104.28 (4.1%)	6049.28 (3.4%)	6159.27 (2.7%)
1711	el	3118.25 (2.8%)	3118.25 (2.4%)	3090.41 (2.1%)	3062.57 (1.7%)	3118.25 (1.4%)
1712	en	22405.45 (20.0%)	38409.34 (30.0%)	59214.40 (40.0%)	88021.40 (50.0%)	134432.69 (60.0%)
1713	es	6247.15 (5.6%)	6247.15 (4.9%)	6191.37 (4.2%)	6135.59 (3.5%)	6247.15 (2.8%)
1714	et	1803.91 (1.6%)	1803.91 (1.4%)	1787.80 (1.2%)	1771.69 (1.0%)	1803.91 (0.8%)
1715	eu	1158.43 (1.0%)	1158.43 (0.9%)	1148.09 (0.8%)	1137.75 (0.6%)	1158.43 (0.5%)
1716	fa	3365.00 (3.0%)	3365.00 (2.6%)	3334.95 (2.3%)	3304.91 (1.9%)	3365.00 (1.5%)
1717	fi	2727.49 (2.4%)	2727.49 (2.1%)	2703.14 (1.8%)	2678.79 (1.5%)	2727.49 (1.2%)
1718	fr	5839.75 (5.2%)	5839.75 (4.6%)	5787.61 (3.9%)	5735.47 (3.3%)	5839.75 (2.6%)
1719	hi	2451.99 (2.2%)	2451.99 (1.9%)	2430.09 (1.6%)	2408.20 (1.4%)	2451.99 (1.1%)
1720	ht	697.54 (0.6%)	697.54 (0.5%)	691.31 (0.5%)	685.08 (0.4%)	697.54 (0.3%)
1721	id	3640.30 (3.2%)	3640.30 (2.8%)	3607.80 (2.4%)	3575.30 (2.0%)	3640.30 (1.6%)
1722	it	4894.95 (4.4%)	4894.95 (3.8%)	4851.25 (3.3%)	4807.54 (2.7%)	4894.95 (2.2%)
1723	ja	3888.21 (3.5%)	3888.21 (3.0%)	3853.50 (2.6%)	3818.78 (2.2%)	3888.21 (1.7%)
1724	ko	2327.57 (2.1%)	2327.57 (1.8%)	2306.78 (1.6%)	2286.00 (1.3%)	2327.57 (1.0%)
1725	my	938.97 (0.8%)	938.97 (0.7%)	930.58 (0.6%)	922.20 (0.5%)	938.97 (0.4%)
1726	pt	4754.82 (4.2%)	4754.82 (3.7%)	4712.37 (3.2%)	4669.91 (2.7%)	4754.82 (2.1%)
1727	ru	7486.80 (6.7%)	7486.80 (5.8%)	7419.96 (5.0%)	7353.11 (4.2%)	7486.80 (3.3%)
1728	sw	1004.66 (0.9%)	1004.66 (0.8%)	995.69 (0.7%)	986.72 (0.6%)	1004.66 (0.4%)
1729	ta	1468.54 (1.3%)	1468.54 (1.1%)	1455.43 (1.0%)	1442.32 (0.8%)	1468.54 (0.7%)
1730	te	1061.72 (0.9%)	1061.72 (0.8%)	1052.24 (0.7%)	1042.76 (0.6%)	1061.72 (0.5%)
1731	th	2282.49 (2.0%)	2282.49 (1.8%)	2262.11 (1.5%)	2241.73 (1.3%)	2282.49 (1.0%)
1732	tr	3901.70 (3.5%)	3901.70 (3.0%)	3866.87 (2.6%)	3832.03 (2.2%)	3901.70 (1.7%)
1733	ur	1220.36 (1.1%)	1220.36 (1.0%)	1209.46 (0.8%)	1198.57 (0.7%)	1220.36 (0.5%)
1734	vi	3776.21 (3.4%)	3776.21 (2.9%)	3742.49 (2.5%)	3708.77 (2.1%)	3776.21 (1.7%)
1735	zh	3383.76 (3.0%)	3383.76 (2.6%)	3353.55 (2.3%)	3323.34 (1.9%)	3383.76 (1.5%)
1736	Total	112027.20 (100.0%)	128031.99 (100.0%)	148037.75 (100.0%)	176043.52 (100.0%)	224054.06 (100.0%)

1737	Language	en=0%	en=10%	en=20%	en=30%	en=40%	en=50%	en=60%	en=70%	en=80%	en=90%	en=100%
1738	be	3733.16 (3.7%)	3359.85 (3.4%)	2986.53 (3.0%)	2613.21 (2.6%)	2239.90 (2.2%)	1866.58 (1.9%)	1493.27 (1.5%)	1119.95 (1.1%)	746.63 (0.7%)	373.32 (0.4%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1739	bg	2855.74 (2.9%)	2669.73 (2.3%)	2319.76 (2.0%)	2029.79 (2.0%)	1713.45 (1.7%)	1449.88 (1.4%)	1113.49 (1.2%)	856.72 (0.9%)	571.15 (0.6%)	285.57 (0.3%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1740	bn	2044.77 (2.7%)	1850.78 (1.9%)	1645.14 (1.6%)	1439.50 (1.4%)	1226.56 (1.2%)	1028.21 (1.0%)	789.67 (0.8%)	613.28 (0.6%)	408.85 (0.4%)	204.43 (0.2%)	0.00 (0.0%)
1741	ca	2434.91 (2.4%)	2245.24 (2.2%)	1995.77 (2.0%)	1746.30 (1.7%)	1460.95 (1.5%)	1247.36 (1.2%)	957.97 (1.0%)	730.47 (0.7%)	486.98 (0.5%)	243.49 (0.2%)	

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Language	ru=0%	ru=10%	ru=20%	ru=30%	ru=40%	ru=50%	ru=60%	ru=70%	ru=80%	ru=90%	ru=100%
be	3359.26 (3.4%)	3023.33 (3.0%)	2687.41 (2.7%)	2351.48 (2.4%)	2015.56 (2.0%)	1679.63 (1.7%)	1343.70 (1.3%)	1007.78 (1.0%)	671.85 (0.7%)	335.93 (0.3%)	0.00 (0.0%)
bg	699.02 (0.9%)	600.42 (0.6%)	5357.82 (7.6%)	4931.12 (6.7%)	4163.70 (5.7%)	3473.83 (4.9%)	2972.81 (4.1%)	1306.81 (2.9%)	1911.20 (1.4%)	694.73 (0.7%)	0.00 (0.0%)
cs	9556.02 (9.4%)	6000.42 (6.6%)	7645.82 (7.6%)	6689.22 (6.7%)	5733.61 (7.7%)	4777.01 (4.0%)	3622.41 (3.8%)	2866.81 (2.9%)	1911.20 (1.4%)	9556.02 (1.0%)	0.00 (0.0%)
en	20952.18 (27.0%)	26059.27 (27.0%)	23961.75 (24.0%)	20666.53 (21.0%)	13971.31 (18.0%)	14976.00 (15.0%)	11980.87 (12.0%)	8985.66 (9.0%)	5990.44 (6.0%)	2995.22 (3.0%)	0.00 (0.0%)
kk	3836.37 (3.8%)	3452.73 (3.5%)	3069.09 (3.1%)	2685.46 (2.7%)	2301.82 (2.3%)	1918.18 (1.9%)	1554.55 (1.5%)	1150.91 (1.2%)	767.27 (0.8%)	383.64 (0.4%)	0.00 (0.0%)
ky	2722.84 (2.7%)	2450.56 (2.4%)	2178.27 (2.2%)	1905.99 (1.9%)	1633.71 (1.6%)	1361.42 (1.4%)	1089.14 (1.1%)	816.85 (0.8%)	544.57 (0.5%)	272.28 (0.3%)	0.00 (0.0%)
mk	3253.70 (3.3%)	2928.33 (2.9%)	2602.95 (2.6%)	2277.59 (2.3%)	1957.22 (2.0%)	1626.85 (1.6%)	1301.48 (1.3%)	976.11 (1.0%)	650.74 (0.7%)	325.37 (0.3%)	0.00 (0.0%)
mn	3679.08 (3.7%)	3311.17 (3.3%)	2943.26 (2.9%)	2575.35 (2.6%)	2207.45 (2.2%)	1839.54 (1.8%)	1471.63 (1.5%)	1103.72 (1.1%)	735.82 (0.7%)	367.91 (0.4%)	0.00 (0.0%)
pl	1190.15 (11.9%)	1021.59 (10.7%)	9521.41 (9.5%)	8330.70 (8.5%)	7141.06 (7.1%)	5950.88 (5.9%)	4760.06 (4.8%)	3570.53 (3.6%)	2330.12 (2.4%)	1101.18 (1.2%)	0.00 (0.0%)
ru	0.00 (0.0%)	2000.00 (20.0%)	2000.00 (20.0%)	2000.00 (20.0%)	2000.00 (20.0%)	2000.00 (20.0%)	2000.00 (20.0%)	2000.00 (20.0%)	2000.00 (20.0%)	2000.00 (20.0%)	10000.00 (100.0%)
sk	6537.45 (6.5%)	5883.70 (5.9%)	5229.06 (5.2%)	4576.21 (4.6%)	3922.47 (3.9%)	3268.72 (3.3%)	2614.98 (2.6%)	1961.23 (2.0%)	1307.49 (1.3%)	653.74 (0.7%)	0.00 (0.0%)
sr	4236.26 (4.2%)	3812.63 (3.8%)	3389.01 (3.4%)	2965.38 (3.0%)	2541.76 (2.5%)	2118.13 (2.1%)	1694.50 (1.7%)	1270.83 (1.3%)	847.25 (0.8%)	423.63 (0.4%)	0.00 (0.0%)
tg	3015.11 (3.0%)	2713.60 (2.7%)	2412.09 (2.4%)	2110.58 (2.1%)	1809.07 (1.8%)	1507.56 (1.5%)	1206.05 (1.2%)	904.53 (0.9%)	603.02 (0.6%)	301.51 (0.3%)	0.00 (0.0%)
uk	8389.67 (8.4%)	7550.70 (7.5%)	6711.74 (6.7%)	5872.77 (5.9%)	5033.80 (5.0%)	4194.84 (4.2%)	3355.87 (3.4%)	2516.90 (2.5%)	1677.93 (1.7%)	838.97 (0.8%)	0.00 (0.0%)
uz	2637.28 (2.6%)	2373.55 (2.4%)	2109.83 (2.1%)	1846.10 (1.8%)	1582.37 (1.6%)	1318.64 (1.3%)	1054.91 (1.1%)	791.18 (0.8%)	527.46 (0.5%)	263.73 (0.3%)	0.00 (0.0%)

Table 13: Token counts (in millions) and their total proportions (%) for the *russian* as pivot runs described in Section 4. Total number of tokens is 100B.

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Language	en=0%,ru=0%	en=0%,ru=05%	en=0%,ru=05%	en=10%,ru=10%	en=15%,ru=15%	en=20%,ru=20%	en=25%,ru=25%	en=30%,ru=30%	en=35%,ru=35%	en=40%,ru=40%	en=45%,ru=45%	en=50%,ru=50%
be	4795.17 (4.8%)	4315.65 (4.3%)	3836.14 (3.8%)	3356.62 (3.4%)	2877.10 (2.9%)	2301.68 (2.4%)	1918.07 (1.9%)	1438.55 (1.4%)	920.67 (1.0%)	479.52 (0.5%)	0.00 (0.0%)	
bg	9916.03 (9.9%)	8925.24 (8.9%)	7935.55 (7.9%)	6941.86 (6.9%)	5650.16 (5.9%)	4760.13 (5.0%)	3966.77 (4.0%)	2975.08 (3.0%)	1904.05 (2.0%)	991.69 (1.0%)	0.00 (0.0%)	
cs	13607.73 (13.6%)	12052.44 (12.6%)	10912.23 (11.6%)	9501.23 (10.6%)	8002.43 (11.0%)	6500.84 (20.0%)	5005.84 (25.0%)	30007.30 (30.0%)	35008.51 (35.0%)	38409.34 (40.0%)	45010.94 (45.0%)	5082.16 (50.0%)
en	0.00 (0.0%)	5001.22 (5.0%)	10002.43 (11.0%)	15003.65 (15.0%)	20004.86 (20.0%)	24005.84 (25.0%)	30007.30 (30.0%)	35008.51 (35.0%)	38409.34 (40.0%)	45010.94 (45.0%)	5082.16 (50.0%)	
kk	5476.21 (5.5%)	3928.59 (4.9%)	4380.97 (4.4%)	3833.35 (3.8%)	3285.73 (3.3%)	2628.58 (2.7%)	2190.48 (2.2%)	1642.86 (1.6%)	1051.43 (1.1%)	547.62 (0.5%)	0.00 (0.0%)	
ky	3886.72 (3.9%)	3498.04 (3.5%)	3109.37 (3.1%)	2720.70 (2.7%)	2332.03 (2.3%)	1865.62 (1.9%)	1554.69 (1.6%)	1166.01 (1.2%)	746.25 (0.8%)	388.67 (0.4%)	0.00 (0.0%)	
mk	4644.49 (4.6%)	4180.04 (4.2%)	3715.59 (3.7%)	3251.14 (3.3%)	2786.69 (2.8%)	2229.36 (2.3%)	1857.80 (1.9%)	1393.35 (1.4%)	891.74 (0.9%)	464.45 (0.5%)	0.00 (0.0%)	
mn	5251.69 (5.3%)	4726.52 (4.7%)	4201.35 (4.2%)	3676.18 (3.7%)	3151.01 (3.2%)	2520.81 (2.6%)	2100.68 (2.1%)	1575.51 (1.6%)	1008.32 (1.1%)	525.17 (0.5%)	0.00 (0.0%)	
pl	16989.15 (17.0%)	15290.24 (15.3%)	13591.32 (13.6%)	11892.41 (11.9%)	10193.49 (10.2%)	8154.79 (8.5%)	6795.66 (6.8%)	5096.75 (5.1%)	3261.92 (3.4%)	1698.92 (1.7%)	0.00 (0.0%)	
ru	0.00 (0.0%)	5001.22 (5.0%)	10002.43 (10.0%)	15003.65 (15.0%)	20004.86 (20.0%)	24005.84 (25.0%)	30007.30 (30.0%)	35008.51 (35.0%)	38409.34 (40.0%)	45010.94 (45.0%)	5082.16 (50.0%)	
sk	933.04 (0.9%)	8442.34 (5.4%)	7465.63 (7.5%)	6552.12 (6.5%)	5592.12 (5.6%)	4927.76 (4.7%)	3772.50 (3.6%)	2710.50 (2.5%)	1814.51 (1.8%)	933.04 (0.9%)	0.00 (0.0%)	
sr	6047.04 (6.0%)	4442.34 (5.4%)	4837.63 (5.7%)	4322.93 (4.2%)	3628.32 (3.6%)	2902.58 (3.0%)	2418.82 (2.4%)	1814.11 (1.8%)	1161.03 (1.2%)	604.70 (0.6%)	0.00 (0.0%)	
tg	4303.92 (4.3%)	3873.53 (3.9%)	3443.13 (3.4%)	3012.74 (3.0%)	2582.35 (2.6%)	2065.88 (2.2%)	1721.57 (1.7%)	1291.18 (1.3%)	826.35 (0.9%)	430.39 (0.4%)	0.00 (0.0%)	
uk	11975.82 (12.0%)	10778.24 (10.8%)	9580.65 (9.6%)	8383.07 (8.4%)	7185.49 (7.2%)	5748.39 (6.0%)	4790.33 (4.8%)	3592.75 (3.6%)	2299.36 (2.4%)	1197.58 (1.2%)	0.00 (0.0%)	
uz	3764.58 (3.8%)	3386.12 (3.4%)	3011.67 (3.0%)	2635.21 (2.6%)	2258.75 (2.3%)	1807.00 (1.9%)	1505.83 (1.5%)	1129.37 (1.1%)	722.80 (0.8%)	376.46 (0.4%)	0.00 (0.0%)	

Table 14: Token counts (in millions) and their total proportions (%) for the *english and russian* as pivots runs described in Section 4. Total number of tokens is 100B.

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Language	Natural Distribution					Temperature Sampling				
	25	50	100	200	400	25	50	100	200	400
arb	1.95	1.95	1.95	1.94	1.94	1.83	1.85	1.87	1.90	1.93
ces	1.53	1.53	1.53	1.51	1.52	1.45	1.47	1.50	1.54	1.57
cmn	1.67	1.68	1.68	1.69	1.69	1.78	1.86	1.92	1.96	2.00
dan	1.49	1.48	1.49	1.49	1.49	1.39	1.42	1.44	1.47	1.49
deu	1.53	1.53	1.54	1.54	1.53	1.57	1.61	1.64	1.69	1.72
ell	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.12	1.15	1.17	1.19	1.22
eng	2.67	2.67	2.68	2.68	2.67	2.67	2.68	2.68	2.69	2.70
fas	1.61	1.62	1.62	1.62	1.62	1.52	1.56	1.59	1.61	1.63
fra	1.51	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.54	1.57	1.59	1.61	1.64
hun	1.70	1.70	1.71	1.70	1.70	1.58	1.61	1.65	1.69	1.72
ind	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.42	1.42	1.38	1.41	1.42	1.44	1.46
ita	1.52	1.52	1.53	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.56	1.58	1.61	1.64
jpn	1.34	1.35	1.35	1.35	1.35	1.38	1.42	1.46	1.49	1.52
kor	1.74	1.75	1.76	1.74	1.73	1.64	1.69	1.74	1.77	1.80
nld	1.35	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.33	1.36	1.39	1.40	1.43
pol	1.34	1.35	1.35	1.35	1.36	1.32	1.35	1.38	1.41	1.44
por	1.48	1.49	1.50	1.49	1.49	1.48	1.52	1.54	1.56	1.58
ron	1.47	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.39	1.43	1.46	1.49	1.51
rus	1.52	1.53	1.54	1.54	1.55	1.59	1.63	1.66	1.69	1.72
spa	1.46	1.46	1.47	1.47	1.46	1.48	1.51	1.53	1.55	1.57
swe	1.59	1.59	1.59	1.59	1.59	1.49	1.52	1.55	1.58	1.60
tha	1.27	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.16	1.20	1.23	1.25	1.27
tur	1.40	1.41	1.41	1.40	1.40	1.33	1.36	1.39	1.42	1.44
ukr	1.30	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.25	1.28	1.31	1.33	1.36
vie	1.55	1.56	1.56	1.56	1.56	1.45	1.49	1.52	1.55	1.57
als	-	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	-	1.29	1.32	1.34	1.36
ary	-	1.83	1.82	1.83	1.82	-	1.62	1.62	1.65	1.68
azj	-	1.47	1.47	1.48	1.48	-	1.07	1.10	1.12	1.15
ben	-	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	-	1.16	1.18	1.21	1.23
bos	-	1.44	1.45	1.45	1.45	-	1.31	1.35	1.38	1.40
bul	-	1.46	1.47	1.47	1.47	-	1.36	1.39	1.42	1.45
cat	-	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	-	1.28	1.31	1.33	1.35
ekk	-	1.83	1.83	1.83	1.83	-	1.56	1.61	1.64	1.68
fin	-	1.65	1.66	1.66	1.66	-	1.53	1.57	1.60	1.63
heb	-	1.70	1.71	1.71	1.71	-	1.52	1.55	1.58	1.62
hin	-	1.42	1.42	1.42	1.42	-	1.28	1.28	1.30	1.33
hrv	-	1.61	1.62	1.62	1.62	-	1.48	1.52	1.55	1.58
kat	-	1.40	1.41	1.41	1.40	-	1.11	1.14	1.16	1.19
lit	-	1.58	1.59	1.59	1.59	-	1.39	1.42	1.46	1.49
lvs	-	1.59	1.59	1.59	1.59	-	1.35	1.38	1.42	1.45
mar	-	1.52	1.53	1.52	1.53	-	1.23	1.25	1.27	1.30
mkd	-	1.43	1.44	1.44	1.44	-	1.20	1.23	1.26	1.28
nob	-	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	-	1.82	1.85	1.88	1.91
npi	-	1.32	1.33	1.32	1.32	-	1.08	1.10	1.12	1.14
slk	-	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.46	-	1.36	1.40	1.43	1.46
slv	-	1.65	1.66	1.66	1.66	-	1.46	1.50	1.54	1.57
srp	-	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	-	1.49	1.53	1.56	1.59
tam	-	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	-	1.28	1.29	1.32	1.34
urd	-	1.77	1.78	1.78	1.78	-	1.46	1.48	1.50	1.53
zsm	-	1.62	1.62	1.63	1.62	-	1.46	1.48	1.51	1.53

Table 15: Comparison of the final validation loss for 50 languages in the *curse of multilinguality* experiments. The results are presented for a fixed total data budget under two conditions: natural distribution and temperature sampling.