DaMo: Data Mixing Optimizer in Fine-tuning Multimodal LLMs for Mobile Phone Agents

Anonymous ACL submission

Abstract

Mobile Phone Agents (MPAs) have emerged as a promising research direction due to their broad applicability across diverse scenarios. While Multimodal Large Language Models (MLLMs) serve as the foundation for MPAs, their effectiveness in handling multiple mobile phone tasks simultaneously remains limited. Although multitask supervised fine-tuning (SFT) is widely adopted for multitask learning, existing approaches struggle to determine optimal training data compositions for peak performance. To address this challenge, we propose DaMo (Data Mixture Optimizer) – a novel solution employing a trainable network that predicts optimal data mixtures by forecasting downstream task performance for any given dataset ratio. To support comprehensive evaluation, we introduce PhoneAgentBench, the first specialized benchmark to evaluate MLLMs on multimodal mobile phone tasks, comprising 1,235 QA pairs spanning diverse real-world industrial mobile application scenarios. Demonstrating strong predictive capability (R^2=0.81) in small-scale pilot experiments, DaMo efficiently extrapolates optimal data mixing configurations. Our results show DaMo achieves 3.06% average score improvement on PhoneAgentBench and open-source benchmarks, including BFCL-v3, MME-Reasoning, MME-Perception, and OCRBench, compared to alternative methods. Through predicting optimal data mixture only on open-source benchmarks, DaMo outperforms other approaches by 6.70% in terms of average score. Moreover, DaMo improves the metrics by 12.74% than other methods when used solely for MLLM optimization on the BFCL-v3 task. Notably, DaMo maintains robust scalability, preserving its effectiveness when applied to other model architectures.

1 Introduction

Mobile phone agents (MPAs) have attracted huge attention due to their practicability in a multitude of scenarios. An ideal MPA has to master multiple capabilities, such as environment perception (Zhang et al., 2024; Ingold, 2021), task planning (Song et al., 2023; Liu et al., 2024c), multimodal reasoning (Lu et al., 2022; Wang et al., 2024), function call (Chen et al., 2024a; Basu, 2024), and personalized memory (Li et al., 2024a; Yuan et al., 2023).

The advent of multimodal large language models (MLLMs) provides a promising solution for the ideal agent. However, existing MLLMs encounter significant challenges in effectively integrating these diverse capabilities. Consequently, developing a versatile model capable of handling multiple tasks is critical for creating a advanced phone agent.

Multitask supervised fine-tuning (SFT) is the predominant approach utilized to empower MLLMs in addressing multiple tasks. Nevertheless, in light of numerous training datasets and downstream tasks, identifying optimal data blending strategies to maximize model performance remains a significant research challenge. The existing works on data mixture optimization (Xie et al., 2023a; Ge et al., 2024; Albalak et al., 2023; Liu et al., 2024a) focus on the pretraining phase by predicting validation loss of LLM. However, these methods are inadequate to determine the optimal data mixture for fine-tuning MLLMs, as they fail to directly correlate with model performance on downstream tasks. The sampling strategies commonly used in industrial scenarios, e.g., uniform sampling, natural sampling, and random sampling, can not yield optimal mixture duo to fixed or random data mixing ratios. Grid search (Liashchynskyi, 2019) needs huge cost to find optimal mixture when the number of the training datasets becomes large.

We investigate whether downstream task performance can be reliably predicted for any given data mixture prior to actual model training, including identifying the optimal mixture that would yield optimal performance. To this end, we propose the

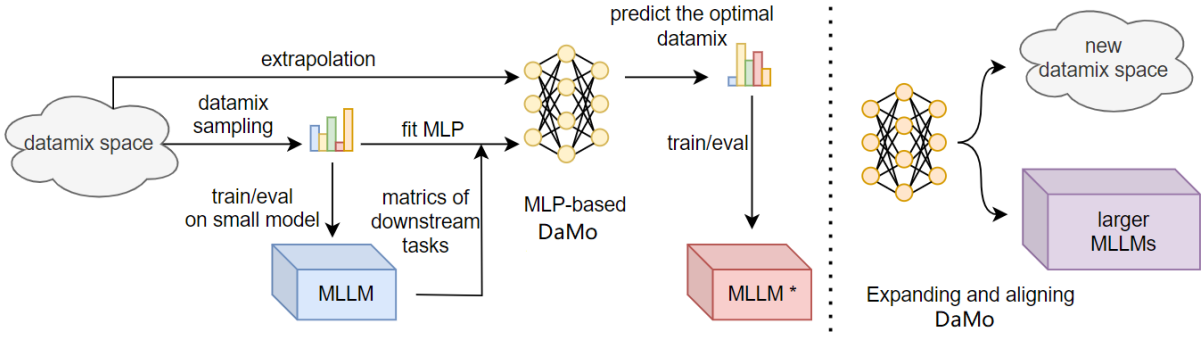


Figure 1: Illustration of our pipeline for obtaining the optimal data mixture. Left: Given m training sets with a batch size of b, all possible mixture combinations constitute the data mixing space. We sample a small number of data mixture from this space, train them on a small MLLM, and then evaluate downstream task performance. Using the data mixture as inputs and the metrics as outputs, we fit a MLP to establish the DaMo. By extrapolating from the data mixing space, we predict the optimal data mixture to train the MLLM. Right: Demonstrates the extension and alignment of DaMo to other MLLMs and new data mixing spaces.

downstream task **p**erformance **p**rediction (DaPP) method to build **Da**ta **M**ixing **O**ptimizer (DaMo). DaPP leverages a function to straightly predict model performance at downstream tasks. Considering that exponential functions used in (Xie et al., 2023a; Ge et al., 2024; Albalak et al., 2023) are not well-aligned with SFT performance trajectories for specific downstream applications (Huang et al., 2019; Xie et al., 2024; Isik et al., 2024), we propose to utilize a trainable neural network for target fitting. The optimal data mixture is obtained through extrapolation via DaMo.

Another obstacle in developing an ideal mobile phone agent is the absence of comprehensive real-world industrial benchmarks for evaluating MPA performance. Current benchmarks (Gao et al., 2024; Cheng et al., 2024; Li et al., 2025a; Wang et al., 2025) in this domain predominantly focus on Graphical User Interface (GUI) tasks, which fail to capture the full spectrum of practical application scenarios. To address this critical gap, we introduce PhoneAgentBench - a thorough benchmark encompassing four fundamental capabilities: 1) complex task planning, 2) device-native tool usage, 3) multimodal memory, and 4) screen context understanding. Our benchmark comprises 1235 meticulously validated test cases that simulate real-world phone interactions.

Our proposed DaMo demonstrates three key advantages. First, it achieves 3.06% average score gain on PhoneAgentBench and general benchmarks, including BFCL-V3 (Patil et al., 2025a), MME-perception (Fu et al., 2023), MME-reasoning (Yuan et al., 2025), and OCRBench (Liu et al., 2024d), compared to state-of-the-art method, DML (Ye et al., 2024). Second, when only optimized on general benchmarks, DaMo surpasses state-of-the-art method by 6.70% in terms of average score on open-source benchmarks. Third, DaMo exhibits robust scalability across other models, while introducing significant gains on downstream tasks over other methods.

Our core contributions are as follows.

- We propose Downstream Task Performance Prediction method to establish a Data Mixing Optimizer, which directly estimates model performance on downstream tasks for optimal data mixing.
- We construct PhoneAgentBench, a benchmark spanning four critical dimensions: complex task planning, device-native tool usage, multimodal memory, and screen context understanding, mirroring real-world mobile interaction scenarios.
- Through systematic experiments, our method demonstrates exceptional generalization and scalability, outperforming other methods on PhoneAgentBench, and achieving state-of-the-art performance on the BFCL-V3 leaderboard among 4B-scale models, while also maintaining stable prediction accuracy with efficient adaptation to other models.

2 Related work

Data Mixing Early heuristic approaches like uniform sampling (Michel et al., 2021) gave way to learnable solutions; DoReMi (Xie et al., 2023b) uses Group DRO (Sagawa et al., 2020) for domain

weights; ODM (Albalak et al., 2023) frames selection as a bandit problem; BiMix (Ge et al., 2024) jointly optimizes domain proportions and data scaling. These approaches are designed for pre-training stage of LLM, which can not be directly applicable to SFT of MLLM since the intricate interactions among downstream tasks. SFTMix (Xiao et al., 2024) optimizes intra-dataset ratios but cannot handle multi-source data. Data from transfer is leveraged to estimate validation loss for LLM (Li et al., 2025b). A dynamic sampling strategy (Zhu et al., 2024) is proposed to fine-tune MOE LLM via recording the routing tokens and calculating the corresponding gate load. Key gaps remain in developing general multi-source mixing schemes for fine-tuning MLLMs.

Agent Benchmark PlanBench (Valmeekam et al., 2023) and REALM-Bench (Geng and Chang, 2025) assess planning capabilities. ToolBench (Qin et al., 2023), BFCL (Patil et al., 2025a), and API-Bank (Li et al., 2023) evaluate tool invocation and ReflectionBench (Li et al., 2024b) measures self-reflection. LTM Benchmark (Castillo-Bolado et al., 2024) tests memory retention. These benchmarks are limited to single-dimensional evaluations, lacking holistic assessment. GAIA (Mialon et al., 2023) uses end-to-end evaluation to assess general agents, but lacks granularity. AgentBench (Liu et al., 2023) and KAgentBench (Pan et al., 2023) are unimodal, ignoring multimodal interaction. ScreenSpot-Pro (Cheng et al., 2024), MobileViews (Gao et al., 2024), VisualAgentBench (Liu et al., 2024b), ScreenSpot-Pro (Li et al., 2025a), and MMBench-GUI L2 (Wang et al., 2025) can evaluate phone agents, but they are designed mainly for GUI tasks. A critical gap remains: the absence of a comprehensive benchmark supporting multimodal interaction while systematically evaluating mobile phone agents across planning, tool usage, memory, and other dimensions.

3 PhoneAgentBench

To develop a mobile phone agent benchmark tailored to real-world industrial application scenarios, we design a novel benchmark supporting systematic evaluation across key dimension such as multimodal interaction, planning, tool use, and memory. This benchmark encompasses six carefully curated datasets focusing on key mobile phone application tasks. We use Multimodal Task Planning task (MT-Plan) as a case to describe data construction.

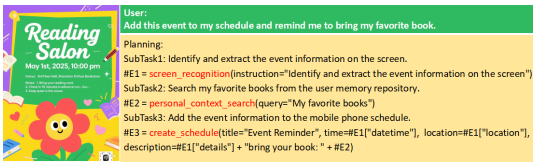


Figure 2: MT-Plan example.

MT-Plan MT-Plan is designed to evaluate multimodal task planning capabilities. Unlike T-Eval planning (Chen et al., 2023), it focuses on multimodal complex task interactions in phone agent scenarios. As shown in Figure 2, MT-Plan takes <image + query> as input and outputs a planning structured as a directed acyclic graph (DAG). Images are sourced from real photos or mobile screenshots, while tools are derived from APIs provided by operating systems or app ecosystems. Queries and plannings are carefully constructed by annotators based on the images. Queries are required to be concise, colloquial, and aligned with real users' daily needs. Meanwhile, tasks must be sufficiently complex to require plannings to invoke at least 2 tools. To ensure data accuracy, three annotators were invited to conduct cross-validation, and the data with inconsistent annotations was removed. Additionally, to evaluate the dataset's complexity and diversity, we compared the metrics of MT-Plan and T-Eval planning, as presented in Table 7.

The evaluator adopts the T-Eval planning evaluator (Chen et al., 2023): it compares the predicted plan with the golden plan, and calculates the score based on the length of the longest ordered action sequence derived from similarity-matched pairs.

The construction methods of the remaining five datasets and the statistics of all the tasks are presented in AppendixA.

4 Methodology

This section formalizes multitask fine-tuning optimization as identifying the optimal data mixture to maximize downstream task metrics. We propose predicting unseen mixture performance by fitting the performance of downstream tasks with limited training configurations. The process is shown in Figure 1.

4.1 Problem Formulation

Consider fine-tuning a MLLM using a mixture of m heterogeneous training datasets, denoted as $\mathcal{D} = \cup_{i=1}^{m} \mathcal{D}_i$. Each $\mathcal{D}_i$ contains n_i labeled samples with the total number of samples being

$N = \sum_{i=1}^{m} n_i$. We fine-tune the MLLM starting from initial parameters θ_0, using a batch size b, for a maximum of $T = \lceil N/b \rceil$ training steps.

We define the **data mixture proportion** as $\mathbf{p} = [p_1, p_2, ..., p_m]$, where p_i represents the proportion of samples drawn from dataset $\mathcal{D}_i$. The data mixture proportion $\mathbf{p}$ satisfies $\sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i = 1$.

Similarly, we consider k downstream test datasets, denoted as $\mathcal{D}^{test} = \cup_{j=1}^{k} \mathcal{D}_j^{test}$. Let $\mathbf{s} = [s_1, ..., s_k] \in [0, 1]^k$ represent the score of each test dataset. The overall average score of the MLLM with parameters θ is given by $S_\theta = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=1}^{k} s_j$.

We aim to find the optimal data mixture proportion $\mathbf{p}^* \in \mathcal{P}$ (where $\mathcal{P}$ denotes the complete data mixing space, $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^m$) that maximizes the overall average score of downstream tasks:

$$\mathbf{p}^* = \arg\max_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}, t \leq T} \mathbb{E}_{\theta \sim \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{p}, t, \theta_0)} S_\theta, \tag{1}$$

where $\mathcal{A}$ denotes the fine-tuning process that produces the MLLM's parameters θ based on the initial parameters θ_0 for t steps using the data mixture strategy $\mathbf{p}$.

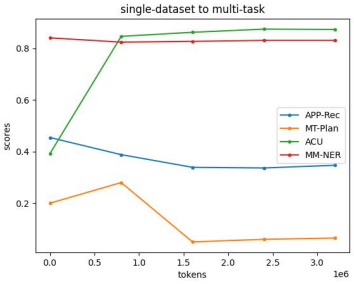
Without any constraints, the size of the set $\mathcal{P}$ that represents batch-wise permutations is given by $|\mathcal{P}| = \frac{N!}{(b!)^T}$, which is computationally intractable. Therefore, we introduce some necessary assumptions to prune the space $\mathcal{P}$. By disregarding the order of samples within the same dataset and keeping the data mixture fixed throughout the entire number of training steps T, we obtain a smaller data mixing space $\mathcal{P}_{fix}$. According to the principle of combination with repetition, the size of this fixed data mixing space $\mathcal{P}_{fix}$ is given by $|\mathcal{P}_{fix}| = C_{m+b-1}^{m-1}$.

4.2 Performance Prediction of Tasks

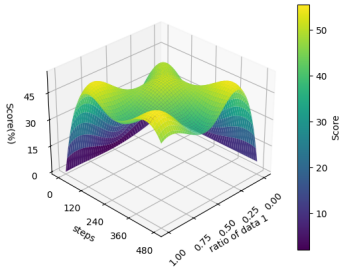
We aim to find the optimal mixture $\mathbf{p}^* \in \mathcal{P}$. Given the high training cost of MLLMs, an exhaustive brute-force search is clearly impractical. To address this problem, we propose DaMo which is able to estimate model performance at downstream tasks without training, given any mixture proportions of training data. Towards this target, we fit a function f to predict performance based on data mixtures. To obtain accurate f, a efficient sampling approach is proposed to generate training samples. The sampling process is detailed as: 1) Randomly select a small set of m-dimensional mixing ratios from $\mathcal{P}_{fix}$. 2) Train MLLM while saving checkpoints at every τ steps. 3) Evaluate each checkpoint to obtain the performance of downstream tasks. This process yields the mapping: (data mixture, training steps) $\rightarrow$ performance of downstream tasks. Based on these samples, we fit f to predict the performance trajectory of unseen mixture:

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = f(\mathbf{p}, t; \theta_0), \tag{2}$$

where θ_0 is initial model state and $t = \tau * i$ is train steps of the i-th checkpoint. With an accurate fitting of f, we can extrapolate performance estimates across the entire $\mathcal{P}_{fix}$ space, dramatically reducing the model training costs required to identify the optimal data mixture.



(a) Performance on single-dataset training.



(b) Performance under dual-dataset mixtures

Figure 3: Training dynamics on downstream tasks.

The critical challenge lies in selecting an appropriate function f. While conventional exponential or power-law functions (Achiam et al., 2023; Grattafiori et al., 2024) are widely adopted for pretraining loss convergence, we hypothesize their inadequacy in multi-task fine-tuning scenarios involving interacting datasets. To validate this, we systematically analyze training dynamics under two configurations: (1) single-dataset training (MultiModal-Understanding, MMU) and (2) dual-dataset mixtures (APP Recognition (APP-Rec) + MMU, see Section 5.1).

We trained a MLLM on the MMU dataset and evaluated its performance on PhoneAgentBench. As shown in Figure 3(a), the results reveal distinct task-specific patterns: (1) **Enhancement**: MMU

significantly improves ACU performance. (2) **Conflict**: APP-Rec performance degrades with MMU training steps. (3) **Neutrality**: MM-NER shows no correlation with MMU training. (4) **Overfitting**: MT-Plan exhibits initial gains followed by sharp declines, indicating harmful overfitting beyond optimal data volume.

Figure 3(b) demonstrates the complex interaction when training on the mixed dataset of APP-Rec and MMU for the APP-Rec task. The 3D performance surface (X: training steps, Y: APP-Rec training dataset ratio, Z: APP-Rec bench score) exhibits **non-convex topology with non-monotonic fluctuations** along both axes. This nonlinearity fundamentally prevents analytical solutions for Eq. 1 and invalidates conventional exponential and power functions.

Motivated by neural networks' capacity to model high-dimensional nonlinearities, we pioneer their application to DaMo. Our framework implements f as a multi-layer perceptron (MLP) that directly maps data mixture and training step to task performance:

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = f_{MLP}(\mathbf{p}, t; \theta_0). \tag{3}$$

4.3 Optimal Data Mixture Extrapolation

When we define the data mixture space as $\mathcal{P}_{fix}$ and employ MLP as the fitting function, the optimization objective in Eq. 1 can be reformulated as follows:

$$\mathbf{p}^*_{\text{fix}} = \underset{\mathbf{p}\in\mathcal{P}_{\text{fix}}, t\leq T}{\arg\max} \frac{1}{k}\sum_{j=1}^{k} f^j_{MLP}(\mathbf{p}, t; \theta_0), \tag{4}$$

where j denotes jth downsteam task. Given the negligible inference cost of MLP models, DaMo can efficiently extrapolate the optimal data mixture. We first iterate through all possible data mixtures in the $\mathcal{P}_{fix}$ space to predict downstream task performance scores. Subsequently, we sort these predicted scores and select the top-k highest-scoring mixtures to train our MLLM. This approach enables us to systematically identify the optimal data mixture without exhaustive empirical testing. The complete algorithm pseudocode is provided in Appendix D.

5 Experiments

5.1 Experiments Settings

Training datasets Please refer to Appendix B.

Implementation Details We used InternVL2.5-4B (Chen et al., 2024b) as the base model. Please refer to Appendix C.1 for details.

Baseline We selected three heuristic approaches commonly used in industry and one representative loss-based exponential fitting method. **Uniform Mixture:** All datasets are sampled with equal weights. **Natural Mixture:** Sampling weights are proportional to the size of each dataset. **Random Mixture:** All datasets are sampled with random weights. **Data Mixing Laws (DML)** (Ye et al., 2024): An exponential function-based loss fitting method to predict the optimal mixture.

Downstream Task Evaluation Besides PhoneAgentBench, we further evaluated our method on four widely used open-source benchmarks to verify generalization, including BFCL-V3 (Patil et al., 2025a), MME-perception (Fu et al., 2023), MME-reasoning (Yuan et al., 2025) and OCRBench (Liu et al., 2024d). All metrics of these benchmarks are expressed as percentages (0-100%), with higher values indicating superior performance.

5.2 Fitting Score of Neural Network

As analyzed theoretically in Section 4.1, for $m = 12$ training datasets and a batch size of $b = 16$, the discrete space $\mathcal{P}_{\text{fix}}$ encompasses approximately 1.3×10^7 potential data mixtures. This combinatorial explosion poses a significant challenge for performance prediction. To determine the minimum sample size N_s required to characterize this vast space, we gradually increased the training samples for the MLP. As shown in Table 1, even with only 250 mixture samples, the MLP achieves an R^2 (Wright, 1921) score of 0.81 in 10-fold cross-validation. This indicates that the MLP can accurately extrapolate the performance landscape from a very sparse sampling set.

The theoretical justification for this sparse sampling efficiency lies in the approximation properties of L-Lipschitz functions(Kolmogorov and Tikhomirov, 1959; Wainwright, 2019). According to the theory of metric entropy, the sample complexity N_s required to approximate such a function with a uniform error ε is governed by the covering number, which scales as $N_s \propto (L/\varepsilon)^m$(Kolmogorov and Tikhomirov, 1959; Yarotsky, 2017). Crucially, this bound is determined by the **intrinsic dimension** m and the **hypersurface smoothness** (Lipschitz constant L), rather than the total cardinality

of the discrete domain $|\mathcal{P}_{\text{fix}}|$(Anthony and Bartlett, 1999; Wainwright, 2019). Our empirical results (high R^2 with small N_s) suggest that the mapping function between downstream task performance and data mixture is inherently smooth (possessing a small L). This smoothness allows a limited number of representative samples to effectively capture the global topology, decoupling the required sampling size from the search space's combinatorial explosion.

Mixture number	H20 hours	Score (R^2)
50	872	0.58
100	1817	0.57
150	2581	0.74
200	3521	0.78
250	4225	0.81

Table 1: MLP fitting dynamics.

5.3 Downstream Task Performance of Unseen Data Mixtures

Through selecting mixture with top-1 predicting score on PhoneBenchAgent and open-source benchmarks to train MLLM, we obtain the performance on PhoneBenchAgent and open-souce benchmarks, as shown in Table 2. DaMo achieves 23.35% improvement over the native model (without SFT) on PhoneAgentBench. When general capabilities are concurrently considered, DaMo yields an overall average score improvement of 13.73% over the native model. On PhoneAgentBench, DaMo surpasses the previous best-performing Natural mixture by 2.85%. Across overall datasets, it outperforms best-performing method, DML (Ye et al., 2024), by 3.06%. This performance advantage substantiates the effectiveness of fitting the relationship between data mixtures and downstream performance. When predicting the top-1 mixture on a single dataset, DaMo(*) further outperforms DaMo. This is because DaMo(*) is dedicated to predicting optimal data mixtures for single task, thereby mitigating the performance compromises inherent in multiple tasks.

Figure 4(a) shows the score distribution of Random(250). We can observe two critical characteristics: (1) The absence of a right-side long tail indicates that excellent data mixtures are extremely sparse. (2) The performance of random mixture is predominantly mediocre, and baseline methods (vertical dashed line) show no discernible advantage, demonstrating the inefficiency of heuristic approaches. We used DaMo to predict across $\mathcal{P}_{\text{fix}}$ space, selected the top 50 data mixtures with the best predicted performance, and conducted actual training and evaluation on MLLM. The score distribution of their performance is shown in Figure 4(b), which indicates that DaMo successfully identifies data mixtures with significantly higher average scores compared to all the baselines.

To study the generalization of DaMo on general tasks, we employ DaMo to predict MLLM's performance only on open-source benchmarks, and use the top-1 data mixture to train MLLM, reporting the results in Table 3. It can be observed that our DaMo achieves remarkably superior performance across all open-source benchmarks compared to baselines. Also, it can be observed that focusing on task-specific objectives leads to significantly greater improvements. This is clearly demonstrated by the performance growth from 34.69% obtained by Uniform mixture to 47.43% on the BFCL-V3 benchmark, implemented by DaMo (BFCL-V3) which predicts the performance on BFCL-V3 benchmark only to search optimal data mixture. Crucially, this enhancement is sustained even in the absence of any task-curated training data. We posit that the observed performance benefit is fundamentally driven by DaMo exploring optimal mixtures, which orchestrates a balanced advancement across both specialized and generalizable capabilities.

5.4 Results on Unseen Datasets

To assess DaMo's performance on unseen data, we evaluated the model trained using its predicted top-1 data mixture on unseen open-source benchmarks. Table 4 lists the performance of DaMo as well as other methods on BFCL-V4 (Patil et al., 2025b), MMBench (Yuan Liu, 2023), DocVQA (Mathew et al., 2021), and MMMU (Yue et al., 2024). Compared to w/o SFT, DaMo achieves substantial improvements on BFCL-V4 and MMMU, comparable performance on MMBench and DocVQA. The result indicates that DaMo improves model performance on unseen datasets. Moreover, DaMo presents significantly superior performance than Uniform, Natural, Random, and DML mixtures on all datasets, which demonstrates the superiority of DaMo predicting optimal data mixture for unseen datasets.

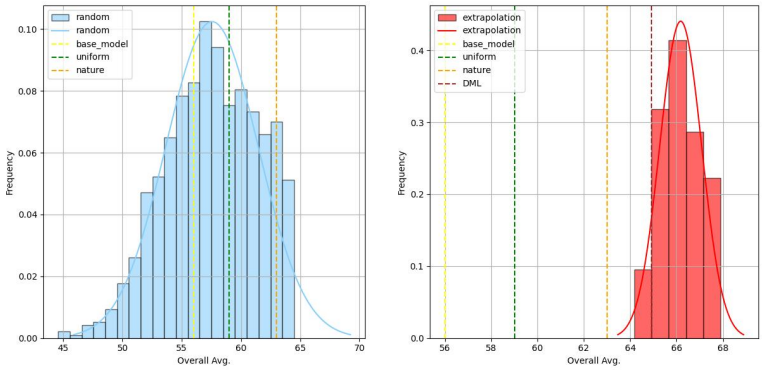
5.5 Extension to Other Models

We are concerned with the effective generalization of the DaMo to other models. Most

Method	MT-Plan	APP-Rec	MM-RR	ACU	MM-NER	Mobile-FC	OS Avg.	PAB Avg.	Overall Avg.
w/o SFT	20.00	6.00	65.38	39.18	**84.08**	**54.31**	**68.77**	44.83	54.40
uniform	54.50	**56.00**	44.62	**86.37**	81.71	45.92	55.76	61.52	59.22
natural	47.00	46.00	86.15	83.10	79.83	49.88	59.95	65.33	63.18
random(250)	45.00	43.00	83.08	82.77	80.26	47.32	66.36	63.57	64.89
DML (Ye et al., 2024)	52.00	43.00	85.38	85.72	80.01	42.66	65.48	64.80	65.07
DaMo	**55.50**	51.00	**86.15**	85.30	83.34	47.79	68.05	**68.18**	**68.13**
DaMo(*)	**62.00**	**67.00**	**90.00**	**88.37**	**85.84**	**64.80**	/	/	/

Table 2: Main results on PhoneAgentBench and open-source benchmarks by using top-1 data mixture to train MLLM, predicted by DaMo on PhoneAgentBench and open-source benchmarks. Random(250) denotes the metric is obtained by getting the best performance among 250 fine-tuned models with different random mixtures.

$*$: These scores correspond to different checkpoints, which are optimized by DaMo on a single task.



(a) Random data mixtures (b) Predicted top 50 data mixtures

Figure 4: Probability distributions of overall average scores across different checkpoints.

Method	BFCL-V3	MME-perception	MME-reasoning	OCRBench	OS Avg.
w/o SFT	29.32	83.82	79.42	82.50	68.77
Uniform	34.69	58.63	64.91	64.80	55.76
Natural	31.41	75.47	67.01	65.90	59.95
Random(250)	33.59	81.11	74.55	78.20	66.36
DML (Ye et al., 2024)	25.47	83.31	76.34	76.8	65.48
DaMo	43.15	84.53	80.94	83.60	**73.06**
DaMo ($*$)	**47.43**	**85.12**	**82.54**	**83.90**	/

Table 3: Main results on open-source benchmarks of MLLMs trained by predicted optimal data mixture on open-source benchmarks.

Method	BFCL-V4	MMBench	DocVQA	MMMU
w/o SFT	17.86	78.79	**91.08**	49.33
Uniform	22.12	76.24	88.73	50.22
Natural	22.94	76.70	88.96	51.33
Random(250)	20.07	76.63	88.19	50.67
DML (Ye et al., 2024)	19.01	75.15	86.56	51.33
DaMo	**28.10**	**79.18**	91.04	**52.44**

Table 4: Main results of DaMo on unseen datasets.

Model	w/o SFT	Uniform	Natural	DML	DaMo (orig.)	DaMo (lin.)
Qwen2.5VL-3B-Inst.	56.25	65.15	64.82	65.03	68.02	**68.66**
Qwen2.5VL-7B-Inst.	59.43	67.48	65.99	66.37	67.79	**69.09**
InternVL3-14B	67.84	63.56	67.8	66.45	68.86	**69.75**

Table 5: Main results of transferability testing on PhoneAgentBench and open-source Benchmarks.

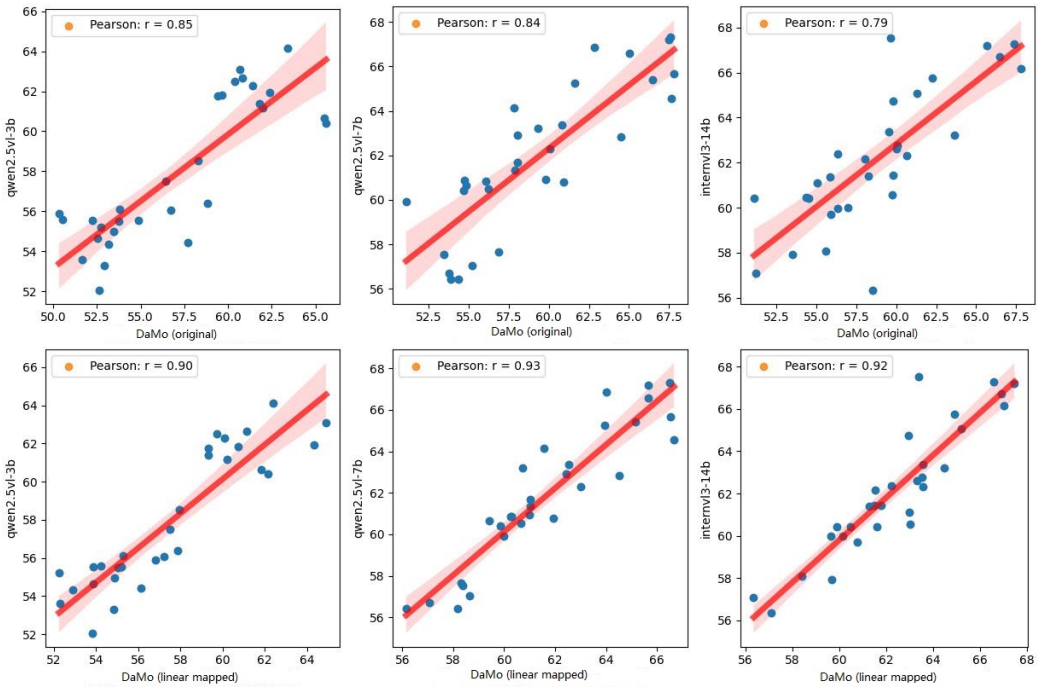


Figure 5: Transferability Analysis. Top: Scatter plot comparing the predicted overall average scores by the original DaMo against the actual scores of target models. Bottom: Apply linear-mapped correction to DaMo.

current works on data mixture during the pre-training phase assume that data mixture strategies can be directly transferred from smaller models to larger ones (Xie et al., 2023a), but their applicability in the supervised fine-tuning phase remains unverified. To this end, we conducted experiments on transferring DaMo obtained from InternVL2.5-4B to Qwen2.5VL-3B-Instruct, Qwen2.5VL-7B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025b), and InternVL3-14B (Zhu et al., 2025) with zero or minimal extra training cost.

As outlined in Table 5, directly using the predicted best data mixture for InternVL2.5-4B to train Qwen2.5VL-3B, Qwen2.5VL-7B, and InternVL3-14B, DaMo still outperforms Uniform, Natural, and DML by 0.31%∼2.87% score for all models, demonstrating the stable transferability of DaMo and it is more efficient than other methods. Note that we omit Random mixture for comparison as it needs large training resource for a new model to get a good mixture. To mitigate biases caused by discrepancies in model capabilities, we fit a compensating linear layer using only 20 calibration samples for each new model. The linear-mapped DaMo is defined as $g = f(.)\mathbf{w} + b$, termed as DaMo (lin). It can be seen in Table 5 that DaMo (lin) further improves Uniform, Natural and DML by 1.61%∼3.51% score.

Figure 5 shows the Pearson correlation coefficients (r) between the predicted overall average scores by DaMo and the actual scores of target models. The coefficients r are generally above 0.75, demonstrating the robust cross-model applicability of DaMo even without extra training cost. This suggests that optimal mixtures identified for the base model likely remain near-optimal for the target models. After applying linear mapping, the discrepancies between models are reduced, leading to a further enhancement in correlation with r increasing to above 0.9.

6 Conclusion

In this paper, we present the Data Mixing Optimizer (DaMo) to optimize data mixtures in multitask fine-tuning of multimodal large language models. By introducing downstream task performance prediction with neural network-based modeling, DaMo can predict model performance for any given data mixture. To support comprehensive evaluation, we introduce PhoneAgentBench for evaluation of multimodal large language models on phone agentic tasks. Moreover, DaMo can be extended to other models and tasks. Experimental results demonstrate the efficacy of DaMo not only on PhoneAgentBench, but also on general benchmarks, outperforming state-of-the-art methods.

Limitation

Due to the limited computing resources and time, we can not test the method's effectiveness on recently released large models, e.g., Qwen3-VL-235B-A22B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025a).

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A Evaluation datasets

Table 6 summarizes the statistic information of the tasks in PhoneAgentBench. To guarantee the faithfulness of the proposed PhoneAgentBench, we implemented a rigorous workflow encompassing data filtering, synthetic data generation, and manual verification. Details information about our evaluation datasets for PhoneAgentBench are as follows.

Dataset	Evaluation ability	Data size
MT-Plan	Mulitmodal Task Planning	100
MM-RR	Multimodal Reference Resolution	130
ACU	Agent Context Understand	100
MM-NER	Multimodal Named Entity Recognition	376
APP-Rec	APP Recognition	100
Mobile-FC	Mobile Function Calling	429

Table 6: The statistics of PhoneAgentBench.

A.0.1 MultiModal Task Planning

We introduce the two metrics of complexity and diversity to evaluate the quality of the benchmark for the task planning.

- **Complexity**: The answer of MT-Planning can be viewed as a directed acyclic graph (DAG), where each subtask is a node and the dependency relationship between subtasks are edges. Thus, complexity can be expressed as n_{edge}/n_{node}.
- **Diversity**: The higher the similarity between queries in a dataset, the lower the diversity of that dataset. We use Rough-L to calculate the similarity between every pair of queries, and diversity can be expressed as $1 - \frac{1}{N(N-1)/2}\sum_{i \neq j} \text{Rough-L}(q_i, q_j)$.

Based on this, we compared the data complexity and diversity between MT-Plan and T-Eval planning.

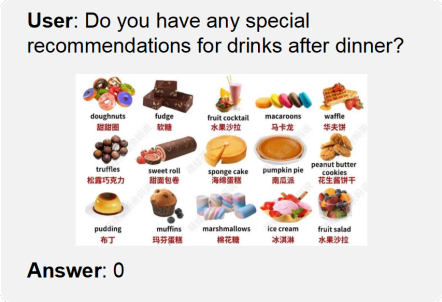
Benchmark	complexity↑	diversity ↑
MT-Plan	0.661	0.82
T-Eval (Chen et al., 2023)	0.122	0.73

Table 7: Benchmark metrics.

A.0.2 MultiModal Reference Resolution

The MultiModal Reference Resolution (MM-RR) task requires the model to determine whether the current question refers to information in the image, which is a binary classification task.

As shown in Figure 6, the question in Figure 6(a) does not refer to the content in the image, so the answer is 0; while the question in Figure 6(b) refers to the drinks on the shelf in the image, so the answer is 1.



(a) A negative sample example.

(b) A positive sample example.

Figure 6: Examples of RR dataset.

A.0.3 Multimodal NER

Multimodal NER (MM-NER) benchmark quantitatively measures MLLMs' ability in understanding and extracting key entities. The dataset comprises 376 image-only samples sourced from Baidu's publicly available image repositories, where each image underwent a rigorous curation process: professional annotators manually filtered the raw visual data to retain high-quality, clearly discernible images, which were subsequently annotated with precise labels focusing on seven critical entity categories—temporal references, geographical locations, personal identifiers, contact numbers, tracking Number, flight Number, train Number to establish a structured benchmark for multimodal entity recognition. We adopt the entity F1-score as the evaluation metric. Figure 7 demonstrates time, lo-

cation and person extraction from chat logs.

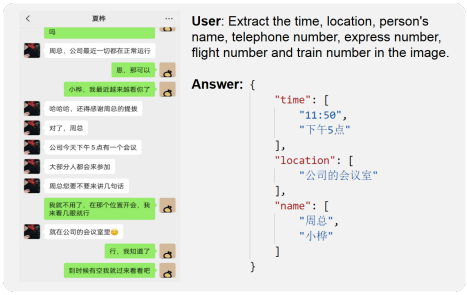


Figure 7: An example of MM-NER dataset.

A.0.4 Mobile Function Call

The Mobile Function Call (Mobile-FC) task is designed to evaluate the ability of MLLMs to call mobile API functions. The task requires the model to select appropriate functions from a given set of application functions to call according to the user's app instruction questions and output the parameters required for the function calls. We define 50 function call interfaces for different scenarios, such as setting an alarm, checking the weather, and setting navigation. The questions in the data are manually constructed by annotators, simulating real-world scenarios of apps on smartphone operating systems and forming complete multi-round dialogues. The evaluation method mainly compares the predicted function names and parameter names with the annotated results. A perfect match scores 1 point; otherwise, 0 points. As shown in the Figure 8, we define the function name create alarm for setting an alarm, with the time field as the input parameter.

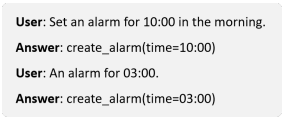
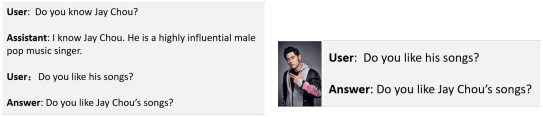


Figure 8: An example of Mobile-FC dataset.

A.0.5 Agent Context Understanding

The Agent Context Understanding (ACU) task is used to assess the context-aware dialogue comprehension ability of MLLMs. The data is presented in the form of multi-turn conversations (including text and image).

The model is required to resolve the anaphoric information in the user's final question based on multi-turn conversations or image information, and output a question that contains no anaphora. As shown in the Figure 9, the user asks "Do you like his songs?". If no image is provided, the model needs to determine who "he" refers to based on the historical conversation. Otherwise, the model needs to recognize the person in the image. Model's output is a question that contains no referential information. We use the BLEU of the output answer with the reference answer to evaluate task performance, with scores ranging from 0 to 1.



(a) Pure-text conversation sample. (b) Multimodal conversation sample.

Figure 9: Examples of ACU dataset.

A.0.6 APP Recognition

The APP Recognition (APP-Rec) task, similar to the APP-Rec training set, is used to evaluate the ability of MLLMs to identify mobile applications. The model is required to directly output the APP name based on the content of the input mobile APP interface image, as illustrated in the Figure 11. The performance evaluation is conducted by comparing the overlap between the predicted application name and the annotated result. A correct prediction scores 1 point; otherwise, 0 points.

B Training datasets

The open source data includes: ShareGPT4 (shibing624, 2023), NER (composed of Chinese-NER-SFT (qgyd2021, 2024a), Sentiment-Analysis (Abhishek Shrivastava, 2023), and Few-Shot-NER-SFT (qgyd2021, 2024b)), Infinity-MM (Gu et al., 2024), OCR (consisting of Vision-OCR-Financial-Reports-10K (Hamed Rahimi, 2024), Arxiv-OCR-v0.1-SFT (Niccolò Zanichelli, 2024) and Invoices-and-Receipts-OCR-v1 (minyang, 2024)), and SuperCLUE-Agent (Liang Xu, 2024).

The self-built datasets include MultiModal-Instruction-Evolution (MMIE), APP Recognition (APP-Rec), Reference-Resolution (RR), MultiModal-Understanding (MMU), Function-Calling (FC), Task-Planning (TP), and Image-Text-Relevance (ITR), which are primarily derived from data synthesis and real-world industrial scenarios. The size of samples in all the training data is shown in Table 8.

B.0.1 Multimodal Instruction Evolution

The Multimodal Instruction Evolution (MMIE) task consists of 1.8K pieces of multimodal

Dataset	Source	Data size	Dataset	Source	Data size
MMIE	self-built	1.8k	APP-Rec	self-built	22.8k
MMU	self-built	21.1k	RR	self-built	10.5k
TP	self-built	26.8k	FC	self-built	10.4k
ITR	self-built	9.7k	ShareGPT4	open-source	36k
NER	open-source	8k	Infinity-MM	open-source	37.2k
OCR	open-source	33k	SuperCLUE-Agent	open-source	1.5k

Table 8: Training dataset sizes.

question-answering data. As shown in Figure 10, given an initial query and image with several available tools, the methodology requires the model to generate more sophisticated and diversified questions. The generation pipeline comprises six structured phases:

- **Intent analysis**: Analyze the user's potential needs from multiple perspectives.
- **Scenario expansion**: Expand the scenario to increase the diversity and complexity of the initial question.
- **Task decomposition**: Decompose the scenario into multiple subtasks which can be executed correctly by provided tools.
- **Raise new question**: Propose a new question based on the expanded scenario and subtasks.
- **Iterative Validation**: Evaluate completeness and complexity, where completeness indicates whether the question adequately covers the steps of the subtasks.
- **Naturalization and output**: Refine questions to be more colloquial and output the final result.

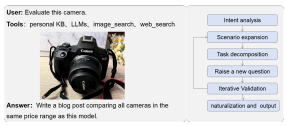


Figure 10: An example of MMIE dataset.

B.0.2 APP Recognition

The APP Recognition (APP-Rec) task consists of 22.8K pieces of multimodal question-answering data, which are composed of images and task instructions. The task requires the model to identify the interface information of mobile apps in the input images and directly output the app names. To obtain diverse app interface data, we install 100 different applications on a mobile phone, such as WeChat, QQ, Little Red Book, Weibo, Alipay, Pinduoduo, Taobao, and TikTok. Annotators are then required to manually capture screenshots of different functional interfaces of each application, which serve as the image source for the APP-Rec task, as illustrated in Figure 11. The default input task instruction is "Identify which app the screenshot belongs to?", and the answer is the name of the app corresponding to the image.

Figure 11: An example of APP-Rec dataset.

B.0.3 Reference Resolution

The Reference Resolution (RR) task corresponds to the MM-RR task in Section A.0.2, which contains 10.5k pieces of multimodal question-answering data. We collect various images containing text information from the internet, with sources including academic papers, test questions, news, com-

pany official websites, Wikipedia, etc. Annotators design corresponding questions based on the text content in the given images as positive examples, while negative examples are obtained by replacing the images with different types, as shown in the following Figure 6, which provides one positive and one negative example respectively.

B.0.4 Multimodal Understanding

The Multimodal Understanding (MMU) tasks are consistent with ACU tasks in Section A.0.5. It takes the form of multimodal or text-only multi-round dialogues, with 1-4 rounds and a total of 21.1K samples. The images are sourced from publicly available internet data, covering various fields such as people, animals, plants, architecture, and digital products. The dialogue data is manually constructed by annotators based on the given images, focusing on reference problems. The task requires the model to combine the images and historical dialogue content to rewrite the user's final input text. This is achieved by replacing pronouns or supplementing omitted content to make the text semantically complete.

B.0.5 Function Calling

The Function Calling (FC) task consists of plain text instructions, which requires selecting appropriate tools from given tool set and filling in correct parameters for executing. The tools involve practical mobile applications such as unit conversion, weather inquiry, time calculation, text creation, recipe search, mobile phone bill inquiry, and other 500 types of useful tools. Notably, 90% of the instructions only require the invocation of a single tool.

Here is an example in Figure 12: The user inquires how much 500 US dollars is in Japanese yen, and the answer includes thoughts and actions. The thought process briefly outlines the current step, while the action first provides the name of the selected tool and sets the actual parameters in the action input.

Figure 12: An output example of FC dataset.

B.0.6 Task Planning

The Task Planning (TP) dataset, also targeting tool calling scenarios, places greater emphasis on multi-stage operations with inter-dependent steps compared to FC. It involves 26.8K pieces of multimodal question-answering data. This dataset requires models to properly decompose complex problems into solvable subtasks while ensuring correct tool selection and execution. In multistep scenarios, managing inter-parameter dependencies becomes critical.

The input is a complex question requiring calling apps on moblie phone. Output contains multistep thinking and actions similar to FC, and symbols start with #E are used to receive parameter for cited in subsequent tasks. (as demonstrated in Figure 2).

B.0.7 Image-Text Relevance

(a) A negative sample example.

(b) A positive sample example.

Figure 13: Examples of ITR dataset.

The Image-Text Relevance (ITR) task involves 9.7K pieces of multimodal question-answering data. The task requires the model to analyze the relevance between the question and the image based on the characteristics of the question. If the image is relevant to the question and can be used to an-

swer the user's question, the model should answer 1; otherwise, 0. The images are sourced from publicly available internet data, the same as those used in the MMU task. Annotators manually construct questions related to the image content as positive examples. For example, for images of people, questions about names, works, or family relationships can be asked. Negative examples are constructed by replacing the images with different types, as shown in the following Figure 13, which presents one positive and one negative example respectively.

C Details of Experiments Setting

C.1 Implement Details

We applied a series of experiments to verify the effectiveness of DaMo. Initially, we conducted training and evaluation on InternVL2.5-4B (Chen et al., 2024b) to obtain fitting samples for the MLP. Specifically, we first sampled 250 random data mixtures $\mathbf{p}$ from $\mathcal{P}_{\text{fix}}$. For each mixture, training was performed on 8 NVIDIA H20 GPUs, and checkpoints were saved at 4 distinct training steps—resulting in a total of 1000 checkpoints. All 1000 checkpoints were then evaluated on downstream tasks, which generated 1000 sample points in the format of $(\mathbf{p}, t, \mathbf{s})$. The hyperparameters for training the MLLM are listed in Table 9.

Subsequently, we fitted the MLP on these 1000 sample points. MLP is structured as a two-layer multi-layer perceptron (MLP) built upon `sklearn.MLPRegressor`, where each of the two hidden layers contains 100 neurons. To verify the model's fitting score, we assessed the coefficient of determination (R^2) (Wright, 1921) of DaMo via 10-fold cross-validation. More details of MLP are provided in Table 9.

Then, we utilized DaMo to predict the downstream task performance of unseen data mixtures. Leveraging the low inference cost of the MLP, we conducted performance predictions for all mixtures $\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{fix}}$. Among these, the data mixture with the optimal predicted performance was selected for further model training and validation, aiming to obtain actual performance metrics.

Finally, to verify the transferability of DaMo on other models, we extended DaMo (based on InternVL2.5-4B) to Qwen2.5VL-3B-Instruct, Qwen2.5VL-7B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025b), and InternVL3-14B (Zhu et al., 2025). For these new models, we trained a small number of random mixtures, analyzed the correlation between DaMo's predicted performance and the actual training performance, and meanwhile used DaMo to find the optimal mixtures on the new models to verify whether it still maintains competitiveness compared with the baselines.

Model	Hyperparameters	setting
MLLMs	AdamW β_1	0.9
	AdamW β_2	0.95
	AdamW ϵ	$1e-6$
	Max Sequence Length	16384
	Batch Size	16
	Gradient Accumulation Steps	8
	Training Steps	1440
	Warmup Steps	144
	Peak Learning Rate	$1e-5$
	Weight Decay	0.1
	Gradient Clipping	1.0
MLP	Input Layer Dimension	12
	Hidden Layer 1 Dimension	100
	Hidden Layer 2 Dimension	100
	Output Layer Dimension	10
	Activation Function	ReLU
	Optimizer	Adam
	Learning Rate	$1e-6$
	Training Steps	1500

Table 9: Hyperparameters of training.

D Algorithm

Algorithm D shows the algorithm of DaMo.

E LLM usage

In this paper, we used LLMs to polish the content of the main text and appendices.

Algorithm 1: Algorithm of DaMo

Input: $\mathcal{D}$: training dataset; $\mathcal{D}^{test}$: test dataset; θ_0: initial parameters of MLLM; $\mathcal{P}$: data mixing space, consisting of data mixture $\mathbf{p}$; f_{MLP}: fitted MLP; t: training steps; $\mathcal{M}$: The data points for fitting MLP, consisting of pairs <($\mathbf{p}$, t), $\mathbf{s}$>.

Output: θ^*: MLLM trained with the optimal data mixture $\mathbf{p}^*$.

Initialize $\mathcal{M} \leftarrow \emptyset$

Randomly sample a small subset $\mathcal{P}_{mlp} \subset \mathcal{P}_{fix}$

foreach $\mathbf{p}^i \in \mathcal{P}_{train}$ **do**

  $\theta_t^i \leftarrow \text{Trainer}(\mathcal{D}, \mathbf{p}^i, t, \theta_0)$

  $\mathbf{s}^i \leftarrow \text{Evaluator}(\theta_t^i, \mathcal{D}^{test})$

  $\mathcal{M} \leftarrow \mathcal{M} \cup \{(\mathbf{p}^i, t, \mathbf{s}^i)\}$

end

$f_{MLP} \leftarrow fit(\mathcal{M})$

$\mathbf{p}^*, t^* \leftarrow \arg\max_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}_{fix}} f_{MLP}(\mathbf{p}, t)$

$\theta^* \leftarrow \text{Trainer}(\mathcal{D}, \mathbf{p}^*, t^*, \theta_0)$

$\hat{\mathbf{s}} \leftarrow \text{Evaluator}(\theta^*, \mathcal{D}^{test})$

return $\theta^*,\ \mathbf{s}^*$