

# BEAR : BENCHMARKING AND ENHANCING MULTI-MODAL LANGUAGE MODELS FOR ATOMIC EMBODIED CAPABILITIES

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## ABSTRACT

Embodied capabilities refer to a suite of fundamental abilities for an agent to perceive, comprehend, and interact with the physical world. While multimodal large language models (MLLMs) show promise as embodied agents, a thorough and systematic evaluation of their embodied capabilities remains underexplored, as existing benchmarks primarily focus on specific domains such as planning or spatial understanding. To bridge this gap, we introduce **BEAR**, a comprehensive and fine-grained benchmark that evaluates MLLMs on atomic embodied capabilities. BEAR comprises 4,469 interleaved image–video–text entries across 14 domains in 6 categories, including tasks from low-level pointing, trajectory understanding, spatial reasoning, to high-level planning. Extensive evaluation results of 20 representative MLLMs reveal their persistent limitations across all domains of embodied capabilities. To tackle the shortfall, we propose **BEAR-Agent**, a multimodal conversable agent that integrates pretrained vision models to strengthen MLLM’s perception, 3D understanding, and planning capabilities. It substantially enhances MLLMs’ performance across diverse embodied capabilities on BEAR, yielding a **9.12%** absolute gain and a relative improvement of **17.5%** on GPT-5. Furthermore, our experiments indicate that enhancing MLLM’s embodied capabilities can benefit embodied tasks in simulation environment.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

In artificial intelligence, embodied agents are systems that perceive and interact with environments based on the understandings of the physical world (Fung et al., 2025). To accomplish a task, an agent must possess a systematic set of perceptual and reasoning skills: from low-level perception, such as pointing to recognize objects, through trajectory reasoning to predict dynamic motion, spatial reasoning for navigation, and high-level planning to decompose a task into structured steps. Together, these hierarchical skills constitute the foundation of embodied capabilities, which enables agents to act robustly in environments (Kang et al., 2025; Duan et al., 2022).

Multimodal large language models (MLLMs) have emerged as promising solutions to embodied agents (Yang et al., 2025b). A holistic evaluation of their embodied capabilities is critical to assess their potential and guide development, as agents must operate in open-world environments demanding integrated abilities. However, existing benchmarks fall short of this goal. First, some works focus on individual domains such as pointing (Yuan et al., 2024), spatial reasoning (Yang et al., 2025a), physical understanding (Chow et al., 2025), and task planning (Qiu et al., 2024), including tasks like object measurement loosely tied to an agent’s decision-making process. Second, other works like *EmbodiedBench* (Yang et al., 2025b) provide valuable insights to evaluate MLLMs as embodied agents, but focus on capability-oriented tasks without decomposing each task into step-wise skills. As a result, a comprehensive evaluation of embodied capabilities remains absent in the literature.

This gap naturally raises three core questions: (1) *To what extent do current MLLMs possess embodied capabilities?* (2) *What factors constrain their performance?* (3) *How can these abilities be systematically improved to develop robust embodied agents?*

To address these questions, we propose **BEAR**, *the first benchmark to systematically structure embodied capabilities into 6 categories and 14 atomic skills under a consistent VQA format*. It

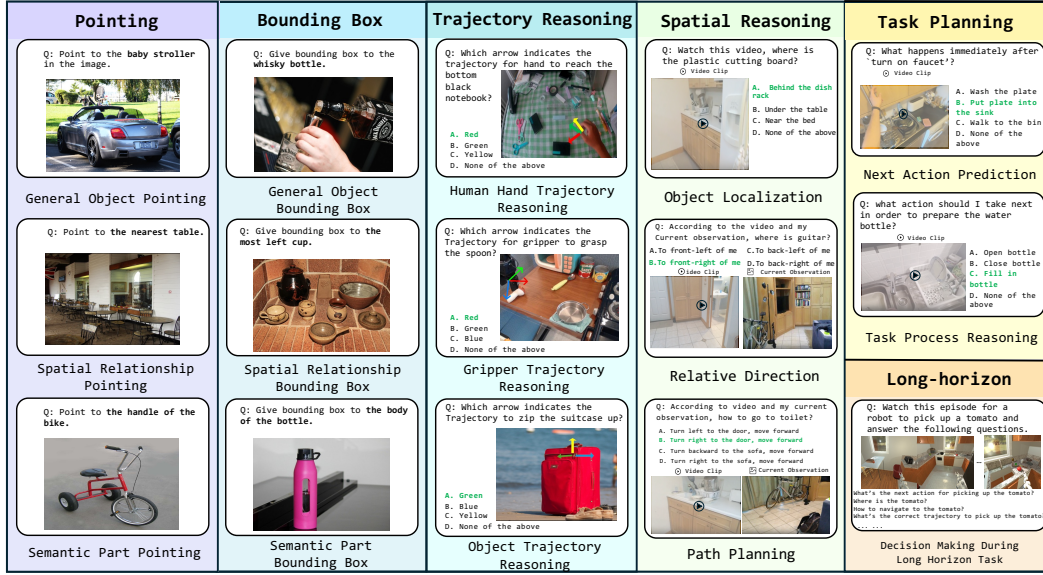


Figure 1: **Overview of BEAR.** We introduce BEAR, the first benchmark for evaluating MLLMs in embodied capabilities. It covers 6 categories and 14 atomic skills, comprising 4,469 interleaved image–video–text VQA samples curated from 13 diverse data sources and tailored to each category.

comprises 4,469 unique interleaved image–video–text entries curated from 13 diverse sources and thoughtfully tailored to each category, offering a comprehensive evaluation of embodied capabilities, as shown in Figure 1. Specifically, in Figure 3, *the long-horizon category for the first time decomposes embodied task episodes into structured perceptual and reasoning steps*, where each step corresponds to one of the 14 skills defined in our taxonomy, demonstrating our taxonomy is practically applicable to the execution of embodied tasks. Extensive evaluation on 20 representative MLLMs and fine-grained failure analysis reveal three key findings: (1) Current MLLMs exhibit weak embodied capabilities, ranging from pointing to planning, with proprietary models significantly outperforming open-source ones. (2) Chain-of-thought (CoT) and test-time scaling strategies offer minimal performance gains. (3) Omni-visual abilities and 3D spatial abilities remain major bottlenecks. For instance, models often struggle to interpret human actions from egocentric images or to reconstruct 3D layouts from video input.

Motivated by previous findings, we introduce *BEAR-Agent, a multimodal conversable agent to systematically improve MLLMs’ embodied capabilities*. Specifically, BEAR-Agent interacts an MLLM through dialogue and provides a set of tools to enhance omni-visual abilities and 3D spatial abilities. For different categories, it provides category-specific modules to facilitate reasoning process, such as object detection, depth estimation, knowledge base on trajectory, and semantic graph construction of the scene. Experiments show that BEAR-Agent improves GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a), the current state-of-the-art model on BEAR, by **9.12%**, corresponding to a relative performance gain of **17.5%**. Furthermore, to validate whether enhancing embodied capabilities benefits embodied tasks, we deploy BEAR-Agent in simulation environment on three sets of representative manipulation tasks. Experiment results show that BEAR-Agent achieve performance gain of over **20.17%**. These results demonstrate that BEAR-Agent enhances both offline evaluation of embodied capabilities and the execution of embodied tasks, highlighting its promise for future embodied agents.

In summary, our contributions are listed as follows.

1. We introduce BEAR, the *first* comprehensive benchmark that structures embodied capabilities into 6 categories and 14 atomic skills with 4,469 interleaved image–video–text entries.
2. Our extensive evaluation and fine-grained error analysis reveal key failure modes in MLLMs and highlight future directions for improving MLLMs on embodied capabilities.
3. We propose BEAR-Agent, a multimodal conversable agent that improves performance on BEAR across all 6 categories. Furthermore, simulation experiments indicate BEAR-Agent can also facilitate the deployment of embodied agents.

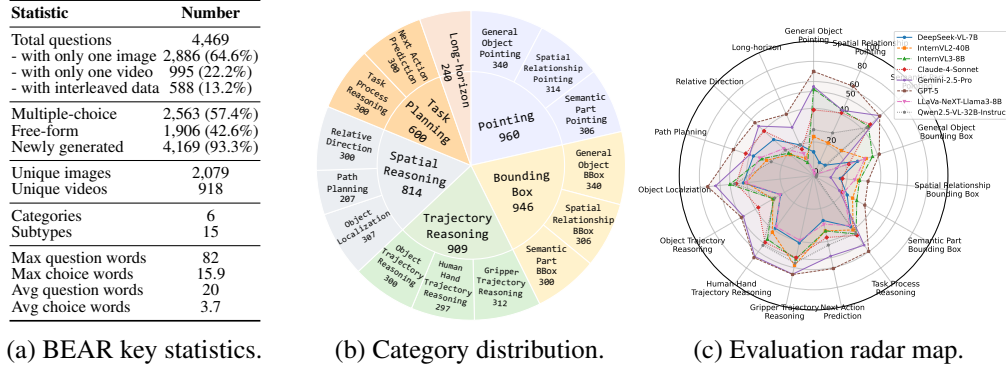


Figure 2: Statistics, category distribution and evaluation radar map of the BEAR benchmark.

## 2 THE BEAR BENCHMARK

### 2.1 OVERVIEW OF BEAR

In Figure 1, BEAR is the first comprehensive benchmark for embodied capabilities, featuring 4,469 interleaved image-video-text samples. It includes five core categories, further decomposed into 14 fine-grained skills, along with a sixth *long-horizon* category to evaluate their integration in embodied tasks. Detailed statistics and category distributions are in Figure 2a, 2b, and Appendix D, E.

**Five core categories are inductively summarized from task execution processes of embodied agents and humans.** Our categorization is derived from analyses of large-scale embodied household activity dataset such as BEHAVIOR-1K (Li et al., 2023) and ALFRED (Shridhar et al., 2020), together with insights from human cognitive processes for task execution. Using the activity of rinsing a cup as an example: (1) *Task Planning* involves questions about both past and future actions, including two skills, *Task Process Reasoning* (e.g., recognizing the agent is already picking up the cup) and *Next Action Prediction* (e.g., inferring the next step is to approach the faucet). (2) *Spatial Reasoning* captures the ability to localize objects and navigate within environment. It includes *Object Localization*, *Path Planning*, and *Relative Direction*. For instance, the agent must locate the faucet relative to other landmarks (e.g., ‘to the right of the stove’), plan a path to it (e.g., ‘move forward’), and when near the faucet, identify its relative position (e.g., ‘front-left’). This is followed by (3) *Bounding Box* for coarse localization by identifying region of the faucet. (4) *Pointing* for precise interaction (e.g., ‘the handle of the faucet’), and (5) *Trajectory Reasoning* for motion execution (e.g., ‘turn on faucet’). *Pointing* and *Bounding Box* are further divided by perceptual contexts, such as *Semantic Part Pointing* for localizing functional parts. *Trajectory Reasoning* is divided by embodiment type, including *Human Hand*, *Gripper*, and *Object Trajectory Reasoning*.

**Long-horizon category for the first time decomposes embodied tasks into skill-oriented steps.** This category features 35 episodes collected from AI2-THOR (Ehsani et al., 2021), each decomposed into structured skill-oriented steps for **offline evaluation**. In Figure 3, an episode with high-level goal ‘put the apple in the sink’ is broken down into a chain of steps: the agent must first plan its next action, search for the sink’s location, chart a path towards it, reason about its relative position, visually perceive the sink, and finally predict the trajectory to place the apple inside. Crucially, each step can be grounded to an atomic skill within BEAR. It indicates that our skill taxonomy is not only motivated by human cognitive processes but also practically applicable to embodied tasks.

### 2.2 DATA CURATION PROCESS

**Diverse and category-specific data curation.** We curate our data using 13 distinct data sources spanning real-world images, videos, and simulation episodes, then employ category-tailored strategies to generate VQA pairs. For example, we use OpenImages (Kuznetsova et al., 2020) for *Pointing*, Open-X-Embodiment (O’Neill et al., 2024) for *Trajectory Reasoning*. Our multi-stage data generation pipeline combines automated semantic filtering via GPT-o3 (OpenAI, 2025b) with at least three rounds of rigorous *human verification*, conducted by a team of 10 trained annotators. We also apply strict *ethical filtering* to exclude sensitive or ambiguous content. This hybrid curation framework balances scale, accuracy, and ethical integrity. For full details, please see Appendix F.

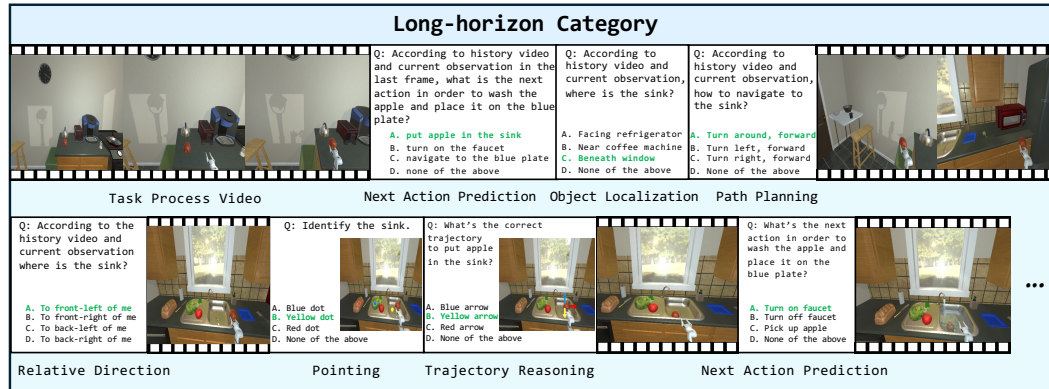


Figure 3: **Long-horizon category in BEAR.** The long-horizon category features 35 episodes collected from simulation environment. Each episode is decomposed into skill-oriented steps originate from five core categories and 14 skills in BEAR, ranging from perception to planning. Details in Appendix D.6.

**Distribution, quality, distractor and difficulty control.** (1) We ensure diverse question distribution within each category; for instance, the *Pointing* category spans over 100 image classes covering common indoor and outdoor objects for embodied interaction. (2) For multiple-choice questions, BEAR applies careful distractor design. Beyond semantically similar distractors, we add options like ‘none of the above’ to require MLLMs to thoroughly evaluate all candidates. (3) To mitigate response position bias, we balance the distribution of the correct answer key. (4) Difficulty levels are calibrated in each category. For example, in *Pointing*, we remove ground-truth masks that are too small or too large, and uniformly sample by both mask area and object category. (5) Only validation and test sets are used for data curation to reduce data contamination. (6) Human annotators guarantee the benchmark’s quality. Due to space limits, we refer readers to Appendix G for further details.

### 2.3 COMPARISON WITH EXISTING BENCHMARKS

Visual question answering has been extended into the embodied domain, with related benchmarks often emphasizing specific categories, for example, autonomous driving (Xing et al., 2024) or scene understanding (Linghu et al., 2024). Meanwhile, several works evaluate multimodal large language models as embodied agents in simulation. For example, *EmbodiedAgentInterface* (Li et al., 2024d) evaluate decision-making abilities with symbolic representations, and *EmbodiedBench* (Yang et al., 2025b) highlight capability-oriented tasks. In contrast, we present a comprehensive benchmark that structures perceptual and reasoning skills by decomposing an embodied task into multiple steps. Due to space constraints, we direct readers to Appendix A for **category-level distinctions with related benchmarks** and further details.

### 3 EXPERIMENT

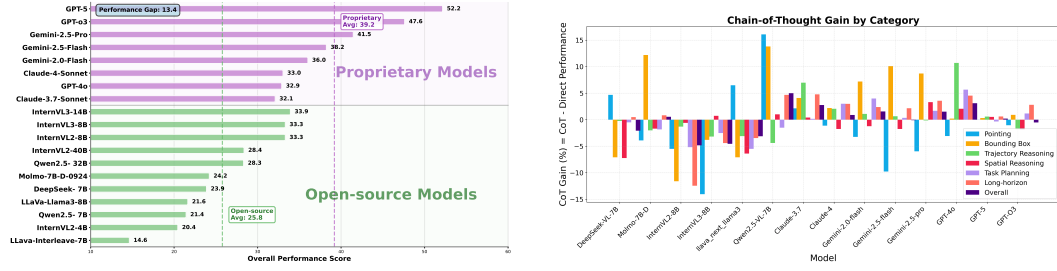
### 3.1 EXPERIMENT SETUP

**Models.** We evaluate 20 representative MLLMs on BEAR benchmark, with results reported in Table 1 and Figure 2c. We adopt a *direct* prompting strategy, which instructs models to output answers without reasoning steps. For most models, we follow VLMEvalKit’s (Duan et al., 2024) standard protocol with default parameters. Depending on the model, evaluation is conducted either in a *Merged* setting, where multiple frames are combined into one input, or in a *Sequential* setting, where frames are processed individually. Detailed experiments are provided in Appendix H.

**Human Performance.** To establish a reference baseline, we report the average performance of 5 human volunteers on *BEAR-mini*, which is a subset containing 40 questions per category. All participants are provided with informed consent and retained the right to withdraw at any time.

**Evaluation Metrics.** For *Pointing*, *Spatial Reasoning*, *Task Planning*, *Long-horizon*, we use success rate as evaluation metric. For *Long-horizon*, we report success rate over episodes, an episode is considered successful only if all steps are answered correctly. For *Bounding Box*, we report the average Intersection over Union (IoU) across all questions within the category.





(a) Proprietary versus open-source models.

(b) chain-of-thought versus direct prompting.

Figure 4: Performance comparison across model types and prompting strategies.

Table 1: **Evaluation results on BEAR.** We report performance of 20 MLLMs. GEN = *General Object (Pointing/Box)*; SPA = *Spatial Object (Pointing/Box)*; PRT = *Semantic Part (Pointing/Box)*; PRG = *Task Process Reasoning*; PRD = *Next Action Prediction*; GPR = *Gripper Trajectory Reasoning*; HND = *Human Hand Trajectory Reasoning*; OBJ = *Object Trajectory Reasoning*; LOC = *Object Localization*; PTH = *Path Planning*; DIR = *Relative Direction*. BBox scores are scaled by 100 when computing overall average. We highlight highest scores among proprietary and open-source models.

	Format	Pointing			Bounding Box			Task Planning	
		GEN	SPA	PRT	GEN	SPA	PRT	PRG	PRD
Random Choice		-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25
Human		95.50	92.00	93.50	0.830	0.770	0.820	87.50	92.00
Open-source Models									
DeepSeek-VL-7B (Lu et al., 2024)	merged	14.12	8.50	9.24	0.276	0.160	0.231	37.67	27.33
Molmo-7B-D-0924 (Deitke et al., 2025)	merged	23.53	19.28	25.48	0.109	0.082	0.109	37.67	31.00
InternVL2-4B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	18.53	10.78	12.42	0.117	0.082	0.107	37.33	32.33
InternVL2-8B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	21.18	21.90	21.97	0.294	0.194	0.179	44.00	31.67
InternVL2-26B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	21.18	15.36	18.79	0.201	0.202	0.147	41.33	34.33
InternVL2-40B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	23.24	21.24	22.29	0.329	0.269	0.268	40.00	33.67
InternVL3-8B (Zhu et al., 2025)	merged	52.65	42.48	43.95	0.369	0.275	0.297	43.00	33.67
InternVL3-14B (Zhu et al., 2025)	merged	37.94	27.78	32.80	0.304	0.258	0.276	41.00	33.00
LLaVa-NeXT-Interleave-7B (Li et al., 2024b)	merged	6.47	3.59	2.55	0.000	0.000	0.000	37.33	26.00
LLaVa-NeXT-Llama3-8B (Li et al., 2024a)	merged	2.94	1.31	0.96	0.320	0.246	0.205	36.67	29.67
Qwen2.5-VL-7B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025)	merged	6.18	1.63	0.96	0.007	0.003	0.009	40.67	32.33
Qwen2.5-VL-32B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025)	merged	27.35	27.78	42.68	0.020	0.018	0.017	42.67	42.33
Proprietary Models									
Claude-3.7-Sonnet (Anthropic, 2024)	sequential	47.94	36.27	37.58	0.195	0.132	0.187	32.67	44.33
Claude-4-Sonnet (Anthropic, 2024)	sequential	39.12	40.86	45.54	0.221	0.173	0.197	44.00	37.67
Gemini-2.0-Flash (Team, 2024)	sequential	51.76	34.97	40.13	0.270	0.167	0.224	38.67	40.00
Gemini-2.5-Flash (Comanici et al., 2025)	sequential	46.76	33.33	39.49	0.183	0.145	0.156	48.33	43.67
Gemini-2.5-Pro (Comanici et al., 2025)	sequential	55.00	42.48	55.41	0.144	0.103	0.177	52.00	49.00
GPT-4o (Hurst et al., 2024)	sequential	40.59	27.12	34.39	0.227	0.118	0.202	43.67	46.00
GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a)	sequential	70.00	63.69	54.90	0.411	0.326	0.352	59.67	61.00
GPT-o3 (OpenAI, 2025b)	sequential	59.12	44.44	55.41	0.348	0.278	0.313	57.67	55.33
	Format	Trajectory Reasoning			Spatial Reasoning			Long-horizon	Avg
		GPR	HND	OBJ	LOC	PTH	DIR		
Random Choice		25	25	25	25	28	25	25	-
Human		96.50	94.00	89.00	94.50	83.50	88.50	92.50	89.40
Open-source Models									
DeepSeek-VL-7B (Lu et al., 2024)	merged	41.03	38.72	22.67	42.02	37.68	32.00	20.00	23.89
Molmo-7B-D-0924 (Deitke et al., 2025)	merged	45.51	41.41	23.33	49.84	29.47	26.00	5.71	24.22
InternVL2-4B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	44.55	34.01	25.67	40.07	33.82	26.33	8.57	20.45
InternVL2-8B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	41.67	38.38	22.33	39.41	29.95	25.33	11.49	33.32
InternVL2-26B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	53.21	43.77	30.33	26.06	26.57	22.00	11.29	25.66
InternVL2-40B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	57.69	41.75	28.00	40.39	29.47	18.67	11.43	28.38
InternVL3-8B (Zhu et al., 2025)	merged	51.28	46.80	27.67	50.16	32.37	20.00	8.57	33.32
InternVL3-14B (Zhu et al., 2025)	merged	51.28	49.49	31.43	43.00	28.02	21.33	28.57	33.93
LLaVa-NeXT-Interleave-7B (Li et al., 2024b)	merged	37.18	37.04	20.67	37.79	27.54	19.67	5.71	14.64
LLaVa-NeXT-Llama3-8B (Li et al., 2024a)	merged	39.42	37.71	23.00	40.39	33.82	24.00	14.29	21.65
Qwen2.5-VL-7B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025)	merged	54.49	48.15	30.00	38.44	31.40	21.00	22.86	21.44
Qwen2.5-VL-32B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025)	merged	55.45	52.19	26.67	47.23	26.57	22.67	20.00	28.33
Proprietary Models									
Claude-3.7-Sonnet (Anthropic, 2024)	sequential	52.88	48.82	31.33	38.76	33.33	34.67	20.00	32.11
Claude-4-Sonnet (Anthropic, 2024)	sequential	50.00	49.16	38.00	46.25	42.51	39.67	17.14	33.05
Gemini-2.0-Flash (Team, 2024)	sequential	61.54	59.60	31.33	54.07	33.82	39.67	25.71	36.03
Gemini-2.5-Flash (Comanici et al., 2025)	sequential	64.42	63.97	45.00	61.24	43.00	44.67	31.43	38.24
Gemini-2.5-Pro (Comanici et al., 2025)	sequential	66.67	65.99	48.33	64.50	40.10	44.00	31.43	41.46
GPT-4o (Hurst et al., 2024)	sequential	41.99	35.35	30.67	60.91	33.33	31.00	31.43	32.90
GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a)	sequential	66.99	67.34	49.67	72.31	50.24	47.00	40.00	52.17
GPT-o3 (OpenAI, 2025b)	sequential	66.99	68.35	53.67	70.36	49.28	49.67	34.29	47.62

Table 2: Results of different test-time scaling (TTS) strategies on BEAR-mini.

Model	Method	Reward Model	w/o TTS	N=4	N=8	N=16
Gemini 2.0 Flash	Majority Voting (Snell et al., 2024)	–		37.1	39.0	39.4
	Best of N (Lightman et al., 2023)	Gemini 2.0 Flash (Self)	36.0	39.8	<b>40.9</b>	38.9
	Tournament (Son et al., 2024)	Gemini 2.0 Flash (Self)		38.9	36.3	37.9
DeepSeek-VL-7B	Majority Voting (Snell et al., 2024)	–		26.6	27.7	28.8
	Best of N (Lightman et al., 2023)	Gemini 2.0 Flash	23.9	27.4	<b>29.4</b>	28.4
	Tournament (Son et al., 2024)	Gemini 2.0 Flash		27.3	28.4	26.7

### 3.2 RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

**MLLMs exhibit limited embodied capabilities.** According to Table 1, most models achieve about 20–40% overall performance, and even GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a), the best model, only reaches 52%, which is significantly lower than human experts’ performance of 89.40%, indicating that embodied capabilities of MLLMs remain limited. Importantly, this gap persists across all categories: for instance, human achieves about 90% on *Task Planning*, while most MLLMs remain below 55%.

**Proprietary models outperform open-source ones.** As shown in Figure 4a, proprietary models average 39.2%, which outperforms open-source models by 13.4%. Most proprietary models exceed open-source ones by a large margin. Especially, GPT-5 leads with 52.2%, exceeding InternVL3-14B, the best open-source model, by 18.3%. However, the gap is closing: InternVL2 and InternVL3 series outperform GPT-4o, Claude-3.7-Sonnet, and Claude-4-Sonnet by about 1%, indicating the growing potential of open-source models for embodied agents.

**Does CoT help?** We evaluate Chain-of-Thought (CoT) prompting on 13 models and find its effectiveness varies by category and model. Generally, CoT offers limited and sometimes even negative improvements in performance, as shown in Figure 4b. We have the following key findings:

(1) For reasoning tasks like *Trajectory Reasoning* and *Task Planning*, CoT generally enhance the performance of proprietary models, although limited. We hypothesize that this is because these tasks require multi-step reasoning, where CoT can help proprietary models better structure intermediate decisions. (2) For low-level perception task like *Pointing* and *Bounding Box*, CoT varies widely across open-source models. But for proprietary models, CoT consistently improves performance on *Bounding Box*, yet have a negative effect on *Pointing*, we hypothesize that CoT can help reasoning and align format of outputs of models for *BBox*, but unnecessary reasoning steps can disrupting direct visual groundings on *Pointing*. (3) For *Spatial Reasoning*, CoT prompting is ineffective for most models. We hypothesize that spatial understanding is an intuitive, non-verbal process, while standard CoT forces a sequential and language-based decomposition, which is likely to introduce error into reasoning chains, ultimately degrading performance. For detailed analysis, we refer readers to Appendix H.0.3.

**Does test-time compute scaling help?** We evaluate three test-time scaling (TTS) strategies on Gemini 2.0 Flash and DeepSeek-VL-7B using *BEAR-mini*: Majority Voting (Snell et al., 2024), Best of N (Lightman et al., 2023), and Tournament Selection (Son et al., 2024). Gemini 2.0 Flash is used as the reward model. As shown in Table 2, TTS yields slight but consistent improvements. Among them, Best of N achieves the highest gain of around 6%. Please read Appendix H.0.4 for details.

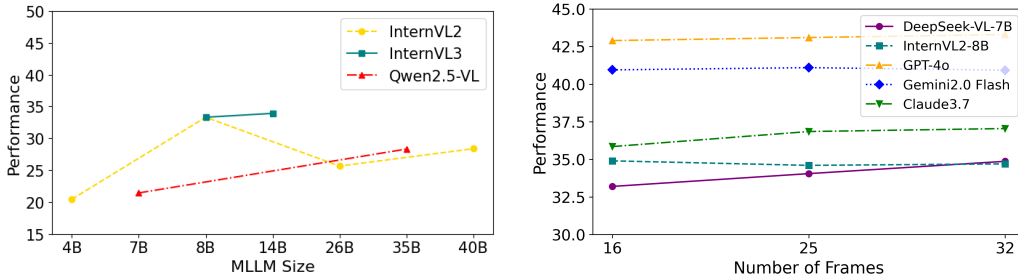


Figure 5: (a) Performance with respect to model size. We report overall performance across 6 categories. (b) Performance with respect to frame number. We report average performance of *Spatial Reasoning* and *Task Planning* to assess the effect of frame count on model performance.

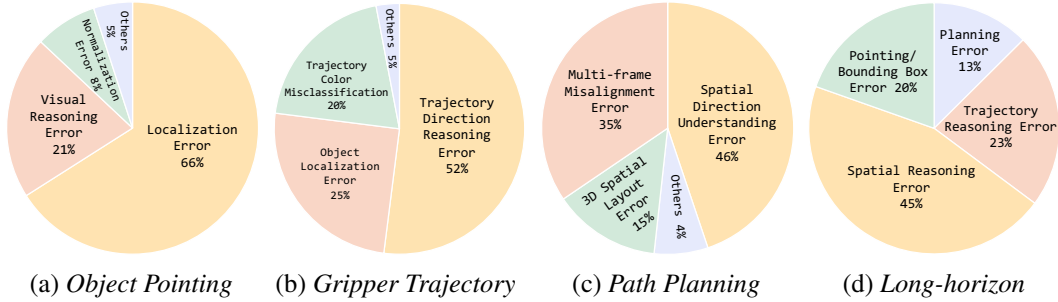


Figure 6: **Distribution of failure cases across categories and skills.** Details in Appendix I.

**Embodied capabilities do not scale with model size or number of frames.** As shown in Figure 5, increasing model size or the number of sampled frames does not consistently improve overall performance. On the left figure, InternVL2 improves from 7B to 14B but drops at 26B, with no further gains beyond. Qwen2.5-VL similarly shows only marginal improvement. On the right, increasing the number of frames from 16 to 32 yields only a 1–2% overall performance gain.

### 3.3 UNDERSTANDING THE LIMITATIONS OF MLLMs IN EMBODIED CAPABILITIES

To understand MLLMs’ limitations in embodied capabilities, we conduct comprehensive failure analysis across 14 skills, detailed in Appendix I. We highlight a few findings here.

**Omni-visual abilities emerge as major bottlenecks for embodied capabilities.** In Figure 6, deficiencies in omni-visual abilities constitute the primary failure modes across embodied categories from perception to reasoning, including *Pointing*, *Bounding Box*, *Trajectory Reasoning*, and *Planning*. (1) In *Pointing*, 87% of failures result from limited fine-grained visual identification and localization. Models often misidentify the target or fail to pinpoint its exact location. Of these, 66% involve imprecise pixel-level predictions, for example, a model may infer that a cup handle is about two-thirds from the left but fail to translate this into accurate coordinates. (2) In *Trajectory Reasoning*, 52% of errors occur when the model detects trajectory arrows but fails to interpret their direction or confuses their color. (3) In *Next Action Prediction*, 46% of failures occur comes from limited action understanding abilities, when the model correctly perceives visual content in the input frames but fails to infer its corresponding action. For example, the model can see a person is holding a knife but can not infer the person is using the knife to cut the meat. These errors highlight the model’s limited ability to translate visual observations into spatially grounded or semantically contextualized reasoning. Future training may incorporate supervision that explicitly links spatial language to coordinate-level grounding.

**Spatial reasoning fails mostly due to directional confusion and frame misalignment.** (1) As shown in Figure 6c, 46% of *Path Planning* errors arise from the model’s confusion about spatial directions, often resulting in consistent left-right direction inversions across sequential steps. This likely reflects *limited exposure to egocentric supervision during training*. (2) Another common failure mode involves multi-frame misalignment (35%), where the model fails to track the same objects across frames, interpret camera motion as spatial transformation.

**Low-level perception and spatial reasoning abilities are key challenges in long-horizon category.** We analyze how the five core categories introduced in Section 2.1 contribute to failure cases in *long-horizon* category. As shown in Figure 6d, MLLMs perform well on high-level planning tasks, which account for only 13% of errors. In contrast, they often struggle with tasks requiring 3D spatial reasoning and perceptual skills, such as planning accurate paths, recognizing objects, and identifying correct action trajectories. These findings indicate that limitations in low-level perception and spatial reasoning may remain primary bottlenecks for embodied agents in simulation environments.

## 4 BEAR-AGENT: ENHANCING MLLMs FOR EMBODIED CAPABILITIES

### 4.1 BEAR-AGENT

We propose BEAR-Agent, a multimodal conversable agent designed to systematically enhance MLLMs across embodied capability categories. Motivated by the failure analysis in the previous

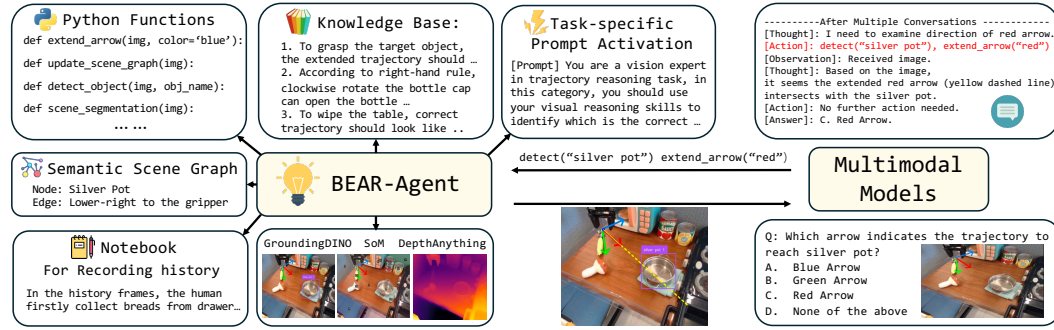


Figure 7: **BEAR-Agent**. BEAR-Agent is a multi-modal conversable agent that interacts with MLLMs through dialogues. It is equipped with category-specific knowledge base, necessary python functions as tools to enhance MLLMs’ embodied reasoning abilities.

section, we posit that strengthening MLLMs’ omni-visual abilities is a key factor for advancing embodied skills. Prior studies suggest that tool use (Hu et al., 2024) and visual prompting (Gupta & Kembhavi, 2023) can effectively improve the visual reasoning process of large models. Building on this insight, we introduce BEAR-Agent, a multimodal conversable agent. It interacts with MLLMs through dialogue, integrating foundation models such as GroundingDINO (Liu et al., 2024b) and DepthAnything (Yang et al., 2023a) along with custom Python functions tailored to embodied tasks to provide additional visual cues and 3D spatial cues to enhance embodied capabilities.

More specifically, as shown in Figure 7, BEAR-Agent begins by initializing a conversation with category-specific prompts that guide MLLMs toward reasoning about the final answer. These prompts equip MLLMs with essential knowledge and custom-designed Python functions that are potentially useful for the given question. The functions are designed to enhance MLLMs’ omni-visual abilities, 3D spatial reasoning and planning abilities. For example, for object detection we integrate calls to GroundingDINO (Liu et al., 2024b) and Set-of-Mask (Yang et al., 2023a), for trajectory reasoning we provide a function that extends and highlights trajectory arrows, as illustrated in Figure 7. These functions supply additional visual cues that support the model in producing more accurate answers. We further integrate a function to construct semantic scene graphs, which helps the model track identical objects across multiple frames and reconstruct the environment, together with a notebook for recording events to support long-horizon planning. After receiving the initial prompt, the MLLM can generate code to call these tools, then the agent executes the code and returns the results. Once the model reason out the answer, it sends a signal to the agent to terminate the conversation.

**Experiment setup.** To evaluate the effectiveness of BEAR-Agent, we conduct experiments shown in Figure 8a. We conduct experiments on both the best-performing proprietary and open-source model on BEAR: GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a) and InternVL3-14B (Zhu et al., 2025). For fair comparison, we establish three baselines: *One-shot*, *Few-shot*, and *Chain-of-thought*. Specifically, *One-shot* provides a single ground-truth question–answer pair as context before each question. *Few-shot* extends this with three question–answer pairs. *Chain-of-thought* denotes the chain-of-thought prompting strategy.

**Result analysis.** As shown in Figure 8a, BEAR-Agent improves performance on BEAR for both GPT-5 and InternVL3-14B. In particular, it yields an average gain of **9.12%** for GPT-5, corresponding to a relative improvement of **17.5%**. Furthermore, BEAR-Agent enhances overall performance across all categories, from low-level pointing to long-horizon reasoning, demonstrating its effectiveness on embodied tasks. Notably, the largest gains are observed in *Pointing*, *Bounding Box*, and *Trajectory Reasoning*, confirming that the integrated visual tools provide meaningful cues to support reasoning. The experiments highlight the importance of visual grounding and spatial context in improving MLLMs for solving embodied tasks, further provide insights for building general agents.

## 4.2 CAN BEAR-AGENT FACILITATE EMBODIED TASKS?

Although previous experiments confirm that BEAR-Agent enhances the embodied capabilities of MLLMs, we further validate whether these enhancements translate into measurable gains in embodied task execution.



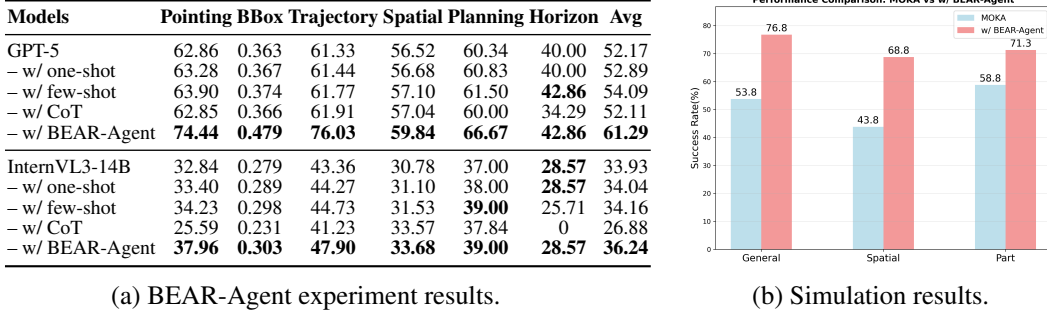


Figure 8: BEAR-Agent experiment and embodied tasks experiment results.

**Experiment setup.** To examine this, we design three sets of basic manipulation tasks in the table-top environment of Maniskill (Gu et al., 2023), each paired with four distinct language instructions that specify picking up a target object and placing it at a designated location. As illustrated in Figure 9, *General task* requires picking up and placing objects by name, *Spatial task* involves grasping and placing objects at specified spatial locations, and *Part task* focuses on grasping functional parts. For example, in Figure 9b, instruction variants include commands such as ‘pick up the top-right cube on the plate below’ which direct the agent to attend to both object type and spatial relations.

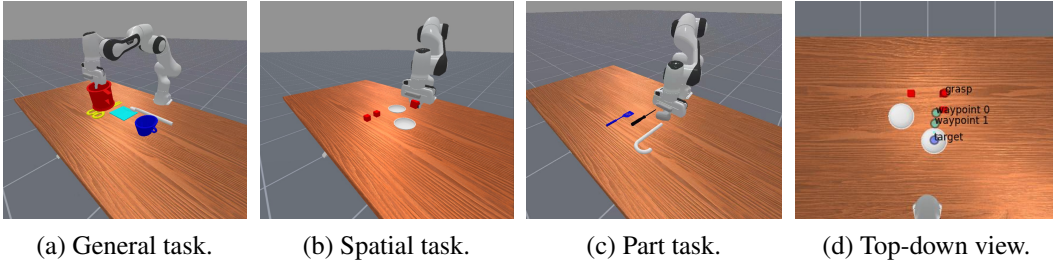


Figure 9: Embodied tasks in Maniskill (Gu et al., 2023). Details are provided in Appendix L.

**Baseline.** We adopt MOKA (Liu et al., 2024a) as our baseline method. As illustrated in Figure 9d, MOKA employs GPT-4v (Hurst et al., 2024) as its backbone to generate keypoints from top-down RGB observations and plan motions to complete the task. The keypoints include a grasp point for object picking, a target point for placement, and intermediate waypoints for motion planning. In our implementation, we integrate BEAR-Agent to support MOKA in the keypoint selection process. As shown in Figure 8b, we perform 20 rollouts for each language variation and report the task-level average success rate. Further details are provided in Appendix L.

**Result analysis.** As shown in Figure 8b, our experiments demonstrate an average **20.17%** improvement in task performance when BEAR-Agent is integrated with MOKA. This result shows that BEAR-Agent effectively enhances the decision-making process of MLLMs in keypoint selection for manipulation tasks, highlighting its potential for developing more general embodied agents.

## 5 CONCLUSION

In this work, we propose BEAR, the first comprehensive and fine-grained MLLM benchmark in embodied capabilities. We systematically evaluate 20 MLLMs’ performance on BEAR. Through extensive evaluation, We observe persistent embodied capability limitations across all MLLMs. Motivated by fine-grained failure analysis, we propose BEAR-Agent, a multimodal conversable agent that improves GPT-5 on BEAR by **9.12%**, a relative **17.5%** improvement. Moreover, we demonstrate BEAR-Agent can further benefit embodied task performance in simulation. We believe our experiments and failure analysis can further inspire future research on enhancing MLLMs’ embodied capabilities and on the broader goal of building general embodied agents.

**Statements.** We include *Reproducibility Statement* in the next page, *Ethics Statement* in Appendix B, *The Use of LLM* in Appendix C. Meanwhile, Related Work section is in Appendix A.

## REPRODUCIBILITY STATEMENT

The detailed data sources and data curation process are documented in Appendix F. The settings for experiment, including model names and detailed inference setup, are provided in Appendix H. In Appendix J.0.2, we include complete benchmark prompts, while in Appendix K we elaborate on the agent design and provide the prompts used. In Appendix L, we elaborate on the settings of embodied tasks. Upon acceptance of the paper, we will release the code in a public GitHub repository and include it in our camera-ready version.

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## A RELATED WORK

### A.1 MULTIMODAL LARGE LANGUAGE MODELS

Multimodal large language models (MLLMs) have advanced significantly by integrating large language models (LLMs) with visual understanding. Early work focused on vision-language alignment (Chen et al., 2020; Li et al., 2020; Tan & Bansal, 2019), while recent approaches employ visual encoders and adapters to map features into linguistic space for joint reasoning (Radford et al., 2021; Yu et al., 2022; Zhang et al., 2021). This improves performance on tasks such as VQA and captioning, and enables zero-shot generalization in areas like robotics and autonomous driving. Representative MLLMs (Hu et al., 2024; Comanici et al., 2025; Zhu et al., 2025; Team, 2025; Lu et al., 2024; Li et al., 2024b; Dubey et al., 2024; Anthropic, 2025) exemplify the state of the art in cross-modal reasoning and extend the reach of multimodal learning to diverse applications.

### A.2 BENCHMARKING MLLMs IN EMBODIED CAPABILITIES

Embodied capabilities encompass an agent’s ability to perceive, comprehend, and interact with the physical world. Existing benchmarks often target specific domains, such as pointing (Yuan et al., 2024; Zhou et al., 2025; Ji et al., 2025; Team et al., 2025; He et al., 2022; Fu et al., 2024), bounding box (Schulter et al., 2023; Chiang et al., 2024), spatial reasoning (Yang et al., 2025a; Rajabi & Kosecka, 2024; Zhang et al., 2025; Wang et al., 2025), motion understanding (Hong et al., 2025; Li et al., 2024c), task planning (Qiu et al., 2024; Chen et al., 2023; Ying et al., 2024), multi-agent collaboration (Qin et al., 2025), and embodied tasks in simulation (Yang et al., 2025b). To our knowledge, no comprehensive benchmark exists. We therefore introduce BEAR, the first fine-grained embodied reasoning benchmark with carefully designed category distributions, and *compare it against related benchmarks in Table 3*.

### A.3 MLLMs AS EMBODIED AGENTS

Recently, MLLMs show promise as embodied agents, capable of perceiving multimodal inputs, reasoning over them, and generating actions for navigation, manipulation, and interactive tasks. Early systems such as PaLM-E (Driess et al., 2023) and SayCan (Ahn et al., 2022) connected language instructions to robotic actions through grounding and affordance-based planning. Generalist models (Reed et al., 2022) like Flamingo (Alayrac et al., 2022), GPT-4V (OpenAI, 2023), and InstructBLIP (Dai et al., 2023) demonstrated the ability to process interleaved modalities for diverse reasoning and action, and frameworks such as MM-ReAct (Yang et al., 2023b) and Voyager (Wang et al., 2023) further illustrate how LLMs can orchestrate external perception tools or acquire skills through open-ended exploration. In this work, we introduce BEAR-Agent, a conversable multimodal agent that integrates pretrained vision models to enhance perception, 3D understanding, and planning, offering a more targeted step toward robust multimodal embodied intelligence.

Table 3: **Category-level differences between BEAR and some existing benchmarks.** BEAR encompasses 6 categories, and we offer detailed descriptions of how each category differs from its most comparable counterpart in prior benchmarks.

Benchmark	Category	Difference
Where2Place (Yuan et al., 2024), ReferBench (Zhou et al., 2025), BLINK (Fu et al., 2024)	Pointing	BEAR includes three different fine-grained pointing skills. An additional feature of our benchmark design is the integration of explicit difficulty control. <i>In the meantime, BEAR also has other categories instead of only Pointing.</i>
OmniLabel (Schulter et al., 2023), LocateBench (Chiang et al., 2024)	Bounding Box	BEAR includes three different fine-grained bounding box skills with thoughtfully designed difficulty control. <i>In the meantime, BEAR also has other categories instead of only Bounding Box.</i>
ERQA-Benchmark (Team et al.)	Trajectory Reasoning	For trajectory reasoning, BEAR includes three different embodiment, including human hands, gripper and object. Moreover, we include a broader range of dynamic motions and actions, such as <i>pick up, place, wipe</i> , and related manipulation skills. <i>In the meantime, BEAR also has other categories instead of only Trajectory Reasoning.</i>
VSI-Bench (Yang et al., 2025a)	Spatial Reasoning	Instead of general spatial understanding abilities, we emphasize atomic skills that are necessary for robot navigation, which include <i>Path Planning, Relative Direction, Object Localization</i> . <i>In the meantime, BEAR also has other categories instead of only Spatial Reasoning.</i>
Ego-Plan (Chen et al., 2023), Ego-Plan2 (Qiu et al., 2024)	Task Planning	We share the same motivation as Ego-Plan and Ego-Plan2 on <i>Next Action Prediction</i> , but extend the action space by incorporating necessary navigation actions, such as ‘navigate to the toaster’. In the meantime, we introduce <i>Task Process Reasoning</i> , which focuses on assessing an agent’s ability to understand and reason about the current stage and past activities of a task relative to its overall goal. <i>In the meantime, BEAR also has other categories instead of only Task Planning.</i>
EmbodiedBench (Yang et al., 2025b)	Long-horizon	<i>EmbodiedBench</i> provides valuable insights by introducing capability-oriented tasks, instead of other works only focusing on the overall success rate of each task. However, <i>each task in EmbodiedBench includes multiple skill-oriented steps</i> . for example, EmbodiedBench includes multiple navigation tasks, but each navigation task contain skills of <i>path planning</i> for navigation to the target object, <i>pointing</i> for target object recognition. EmbodiedBench evaluates the overall success rate without decomposing each task into atomic skill-oriented steps. However BEAR contains 14 atomic capability-oriented skills that can cover the execution steps of embodied tasks.
EmbodiedAgentInterface (Li et al., 2024d)	Long-horizon	<i>EmbodiedAgentInterface</i> provides a valuable framework for MLLM deployment to evaluate their decision-making abilities through symbolic representations. In contrast, our work focuses on a holistic evaluation and taxonomy of the perception and reasoning skills underlying embodied capabilities in MLLMs. Our approach serves as a diagnostic benchmark for comprehensively testing and analyzing model performance across different visual reasoning dimensions.



## B ETHICS STATEMENT

Our benchmark involves datasets collected from publicly available sources. All datasets used are either publicly released under appropriate licenses and have undergone ethical review by their respective publishers. We do not collect or distribute any personally identifiable information. We do not contain harmful or sensitive data. For human annotation and multi-stage verification, all annotators were recruited with informed consent and not exposed to harmful or sensitive content. Our benchmarks are intended for academic research purposes.

**Data Privacy and Consent.** All data used in this study are either collected from publicly available open-source datasets or generated through simulation environments. We ensure that all datasets used comply with their respective licenses, which are listed as follows. No personally identifiable information (PII) is present in any data, and no real-world user data was collected for this work. Additionally, we manually removed any potentially sensitive visual content to ensure that all data used in our benchmark is anonymized, non-harmful, and ethically safe for public release.

### Datasets and Licenses

- Ego4D (Grauman et al., 2022) CC BY 4.0 License
- Epic-Kitchens (Damen et al., 2018) CC BY 4.0 License
- OpenImages V7 (Kuznetsova et al., 2020) CC BY 4.0 License
- PartImageNet (He et al., 2021) No explicit license specified. The dataset and scripts are publicly released by the authors. We use it strictly for non-commercial academic research.
- AGD20K (Luo et al., 2022) MIT License
- Open-X-Embodiment Dataset (O’Neill et al., 2024) CC BY 4.0 License
- ScanNet (Dai et al., 2017) Customized Terms of Use
- ScanNet++ (Yeshwanth et al., 2023) Customized Terms of Use
- ArkitScene (Baruch et al., 2021) Apple Custom Non-Commercial License
- TASTE-Rob (Zhao et al., 2025) Customized Terms of Use
- AI2Thor, RoboThor, ManipulaThor (Kolve et al., 2017; Deitke et al., 2020; Ehsani et al., 2021) Apache License 2.0

**Annotators.** 15 human annotators are involved in labeling data or evaluating tasks, they are recruited voluntarily and provided informed consent prior to participation. The annotators are clearly informed about the purpose of the study, the nature of the data they will interact with, and their rights to withdrawal. The annotator pool primarily consisted of undergraduate, master’s, and Ph.D. students from STEM-related fields, with distribution listed as follows in Figure 10. We ensure fair compensation and treated all annotator contributions ethically and respectfully.

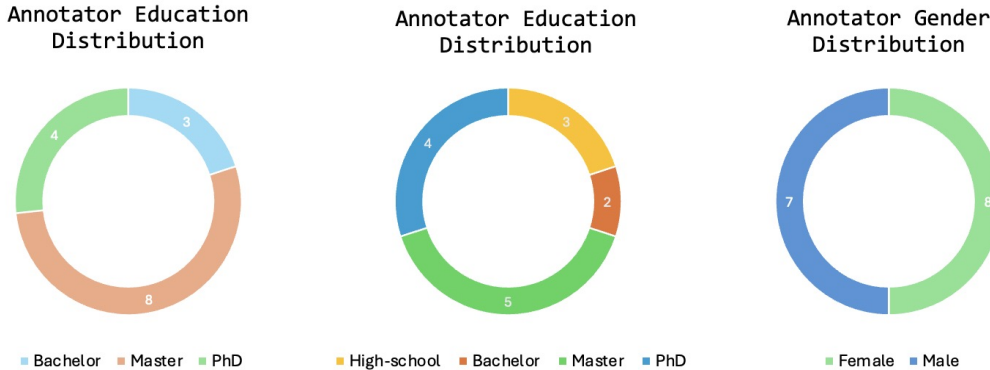


Figure 10: Annotator and Human Participant Distribution.

**Human Studies.** To establish a human performance baseline, we conduct user studies involving 5 human participants. All participants are above age 18 who are provided with informed consent prior to participation. They are briefed on the task goals, data usage policy, and their right to withdraw at any time. No PII is collected during the study. This study does not contain any harmful or sensitive data.

## C THE USE OF LLM

Large language models (LLMs) were used solely for refining the writing of this paper, including grammar correction and phrasing improvement. We do **NOT** use LLM for content creation or generation. More specifically, we use GPT-4o (Hurst et al., 2024) to refine our writings.

## D BENCHMARK CATEGORY AND STATISTICS

### D.1 POINTING

#### D.1.1 OVERVIEW

**Question Format.** Given an image and a natural language instruction, the *Pointing* category requires the Vision-Language Model (VLM) to predict a normalized 2D coordinate  $(x, y)$  in the image, where  $x, y \in [0, 1]$ . Here,  $x$  represents the horizontal position from left (0) to right (1), and  $y$  represents the vertical position from top (0) to bottom (1).  $x$  is the This coordinate indicates the target pixel location corresponding to the instruction.

**Category.** The pointing category comprises three sub-category: *General Object Pointing*, *Spatial Relationship Pointing*, and *Semantic Part Pointing*.

**Significance.** Pointing is a core embodied reasoning skill, bridging perception, language understanding, and action planning. In real-world embodied scenarios, agents must resolve ambiguous references, comprehend spatial relations, and localize object parts for tasks.

#### D.1.2 GENERAL OBJECT POINTING

**Definition.** Given an image as input, the task requires the VLM to identify an object based on a detailed linguistic description and to localize it by pointing to its pixel-level coordinates in the image. The description may include fine-grained semantic attributes such as color, type, and specific identifiers. For example, the instruction may specify: ‘Identify the red Audi car with the blue and red ‘1’ on its body.’

**Significance.** General object pointing is a fundamental embodied reasoning task that requires grounding natural language descriptions into object identification in the visual scene. It tests the ability of the MLLMs to align perception and language for fine-grained object recognition. This capability is essential for daily human interactions and serves as a basis for subsequent visual reasoning and embodied actions such as object tracking, grasping, manipulation, or navigation.

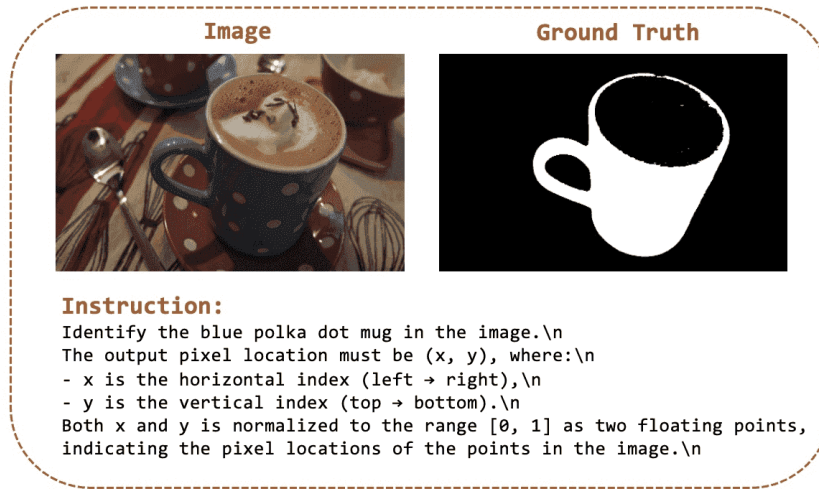


Figure 11: Example of General Object Pointing.

### D.1.3 SPATIAL RELATIONSHIP POINTING

**Definition.** Given an image and relational cues, such as ‘closest’, ‘nearest to’, ‘behind’, ‘to the left of’, the model must give point to the correct target object. This sub-task evaluates the VLM’s capacity to interpret and reason about spatial relationships between objects. For instance: ‘Point to the farthest chair in the second column from left to right’, ‘Point to the object on top of the microwave’, ‘Point to the nearest car in the image’

**Significance.** Spatial relationship pointing is a fundamental component of embodied intelligence. In both real-world and simulated environments, objects are often arranged in complex spatial configurations. Therefore, it is essential for models to accurately interpret spatial relationships such as ‘in front of’, ‘behind’, ‘on top of’ or ‘to the left of’. Furthermore, object category information alone is often insufficient for disambiguation—for example, scenes may contain multiple instances of the same object type, such as several chairs or cups. In these cases, correctly identifying the target object requires understanding its relative position with respect to other reference objects. Mastering this capability is critical for tasks where instructions frequently rely on spatial references rather than absolute object descriptions.

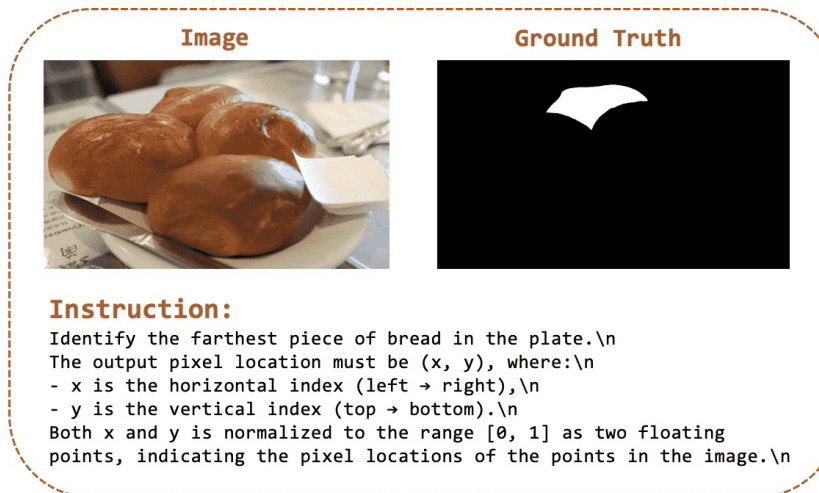


Figure 12: Example of Spatial Relationship Pointing.

#### D.1.4 SEMANTIC PART POINTING

**Definition.** Given an image as input, the VLM must identify and point to specific semantic parts of an object, based on natural language descriptions. This task focuses on fine-grained localization of object parts rather than whole objects. For example, ‘Point to the handle of the ax.’ or ‘Point to the string area of the badminton racket.’

**Significance.** Part-level perception is essential for fine-grained interaction and embodied decision-making. Many real-world tasks require not only recognizing an object but also understanding its semantic components. For example, effective tool use, object manipulation, or human-robot collaboration often depends on identifying specific parts such as handles, switches, buttons, or spouts. By evaluating a model’s ability to localize and point to object parts based on natural language instructions, this task assesses the VLM’s capacity for fine-grained visual understanding beyond object-level recognition. It moves beyond simple object detection, requiring nuanced perception that is critical for downstream tasks such as grasp planning, part-based affordance reasoning, and interactive instruction following.

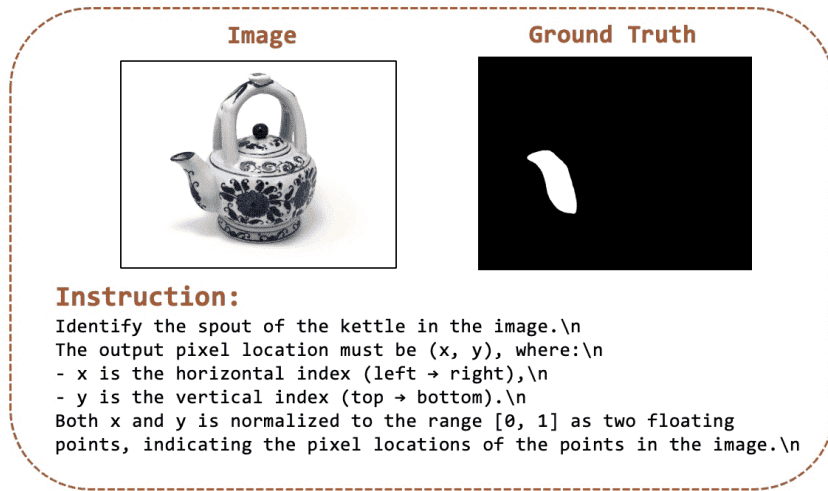


Figure 13: Example of Semantic Part Pointing.

## D.2 BOUNDING BOX

### D.2.1 OVERVIEW

**Question Format.** Given an image and a natural language instruction, the *Bounding Box* category requires the Vision-Language Model (VLM) to predict a 2D bounding box in the image, specified by  $(x_{min}, y_{min}, x_{max}, y_{max})$ ,  $x_{min}, y_{min}, x_{max}, y_{max} \in [0, 1]$ . Here,  $x$  represents the horizontal position from left (0) to right (1), and  $y$  represents the vertical position from top (0) to bottom (1). The predicted bounding box should precisely localize the target object or region described in the instruction.

**Category.** This category includes three sub-tasks: *General Bounding Box*, *Spatial Relationship Bounding Box* and *Part-level Bounding Box*.

**Significance.** 2D bounding box prediction is a fundamental capability for embodied vision and reasoning. Unlike simple point-based localization, this task requires the model to infer both the position and the spatial extent of the target object or semantic part. Accurately estimating not only where an object is but also its precise spatial localization is critical for downstream tasks such as manipulation, grasp planning, affordance understanding, and object tracking in interactive environments.

**Data Source.** We reuse the *Pointing* category while removing samples with ambiguous bounding box ground truth.

## D.2.2 GENERAL OBJECT BOUNDING BOX

**Definition.** Given an image as input, the task requires the VLM to give 2D bounding box to an object based on a detailed linguistic description and to localize it by pointing to its pixel-level coordinates in the image. Similar to General Object Pointing, the description may include fine-grained semantic attributes such as color, type, and specific identifiers. For example,

**Significance.** General Object 2D Bounding Box Prediction evaluates the ability of a multi-modal large language model to localize and delineate specific objects in space based on detailed natural language descriptions.

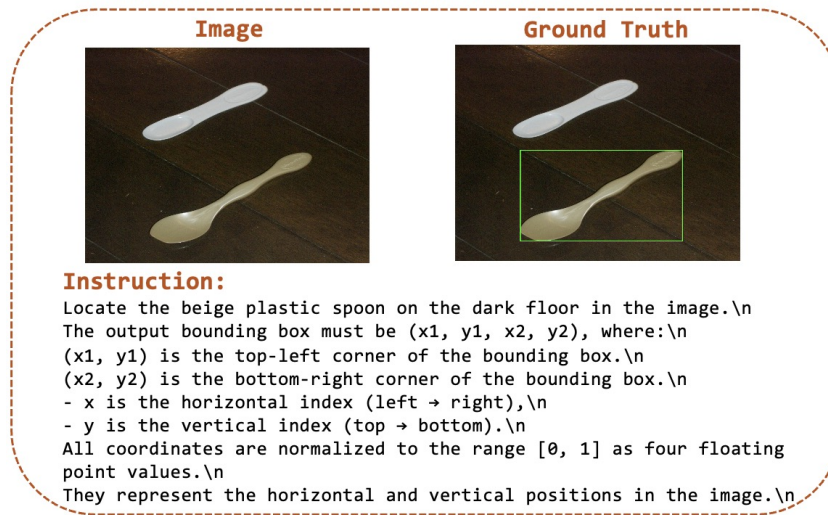


Figure 14: Example of General Object Bounding Box Prediction.

## D.2.3 SPATIAL RELATIONSHIP BOUNDING BOX

**Definition.** Given an image and relational cues—such as ‘closest’ ‘nearest to’ ‘behind’—the model must give the correct 2D bounding box corresponding to the target object. This task evaluates the VLM’s ability to interpret and reason about spatial relationships between objects. For example: ‘Identify the farthest chair in the second column from left to right’, ‘Select the bounding box of the object on top of the microwave’.

**Significance.** Spatial relationship-based 2D bounding box prediction is essential for embodied intelligence. In complex scenes, models must interpret cues like ‘in front of’ or ‘next to’ to select the correct object, especially when multiple instances of the same category exist. This ability is critical for tasks where instructions rely on relative positioning, not just object labels.



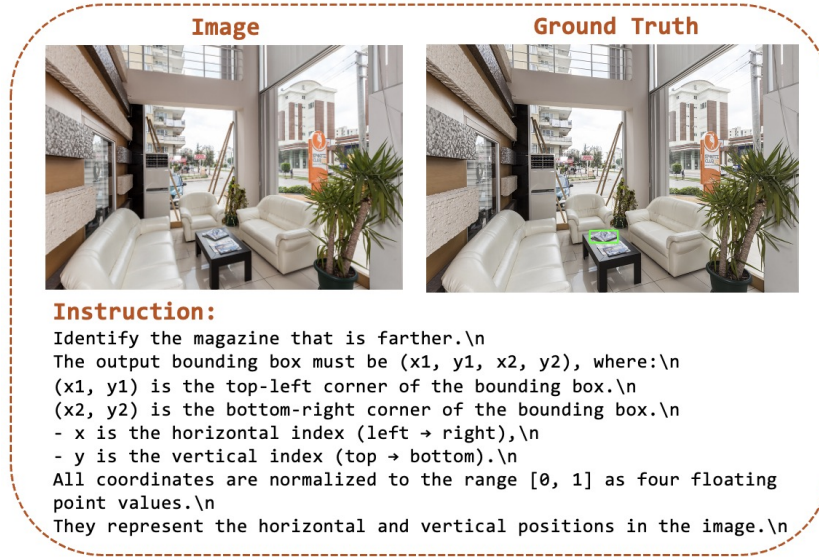


Figure 15: Example of Spatial Relationship Bounding Box Prediction.

#### D.2.4 SEMANTIC PART BOUNDING BOX

**Definition.** Given an image as input, the VLM must identify and predict the boundingbox of specific semantic parts of an object based on natural language descriptions. Unlike whole-object localization, this task targets fine-grained part-level understanding. For example, ‘Point to the handle of the toothbrush’ or ‘Point to the lid of the kettle’.

**Significance.** Part-level bounding box prediction is important for fine-grained interaction in embodied tasks. Real-world activities, such as tool use and object manipulation, require not only recognizing objects but also understanding their functional parts. This task evaluates a model’s ability to ground language to semantic components, supporting affordance reasoning, grasping, and decision-making.

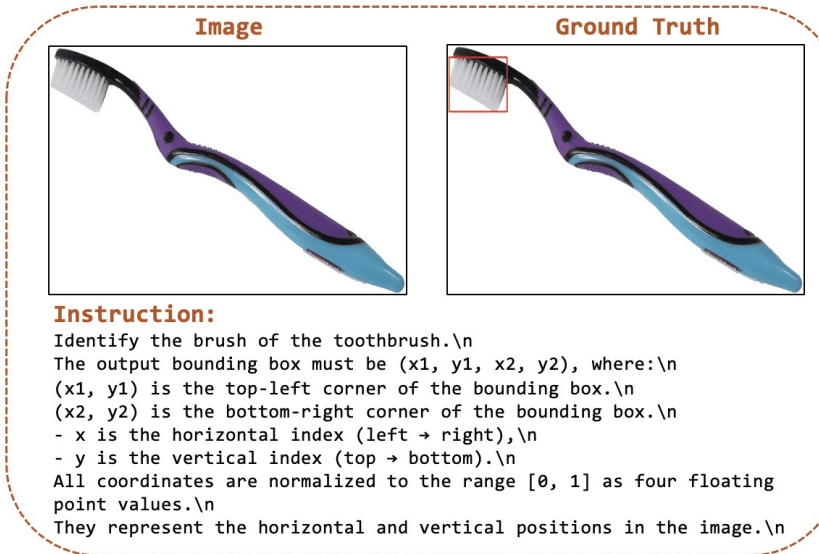


Figure 16: Example of Semantic Part Bounding Box Prediction.



### D.3 TRAJECTORY REASONING

#### D.3.1 OVERVIEW

**Definition.** In *trajectory reasoning*, the model is required to infer the expected direction or path of motion based on the type of action (for example, opening, lifting, picking up, placing, pushing) and the spatial and interaction context. The trajectory may involve movements of different embodiment, such as human hands and robot gripper, towards specific objects or locations, or manipulations of objects such as opening a drawer, lifting an item.

**Question Format.** This is a single-choice question out of four different choices. Each question presents three arrows, randomly selected from four possible colors (red, green, yellow, and blue), along with a fourth option: ‘None of the above’ indicating that none of the arrows represents the correct direction. By default, all arrows are assumed to have the correct origin point. The VLM is required to select the single option corresponding to the correct directional cue.

**Category.** This category includes three subtasks: *Object Trajectory Reasoning*, *Human Hand Trajectory Reasoning*, *Gripper Trajectory Reasoning*.

**Challenges.** *Trajectory Reasoning* requires the model to integrate multiple factors to infer accurate motion patterns. First, the model must account for object geometry, as different shapes afford different directions of movement. Second, it must consider viewpoint variations. For example, the trajectory for opening a door differs depending on whether the handle is viewed from the front or side. Third, the model must understand the action semantics and physical regularities of motion, such as knowing that pulling and pushing a door result in opposite trajectories, bottle caps typically open via counterclockwise rotation, or zippers move along the fastening track. Finally, the model must exhibit precise visual reasoning ability to judge whether a given direction leads toward a functional goal or causes it to veer off-course.

**Significance.** *Trajectory Reasoning* bridges the gap between identifying where to act and understanding how to act. While object localization tasks such as pointing or predicting a bounding box reveal static spatial intent, embodied agents must further infer the dynamic process of interaction, which is how an object, hand, or gripper moves through space to accomplish a task. This reasoning capability is essential for modeling continuous, goal-directed behavior in real-world environments, such as opening a drawer, pouring water. It reflects a deeper level of embodiment, where agents not only locate affordances, but also anticipate and align with the temporal and kinematic structure of actions.

#### D.3.2 OBJECT TRAJECTORY REASONING

**Definition.** Given an image as input, the model is required to infer the expected direction or path of motion for an object or a part that is being acted upon, for example, the object is being opened, lifted, or pushed, based on the type of action (for example, opening, lifting, picking up, placing, pushing) and the spatial and interaction context. This task focuses solely on object motion, without involving any embodiment. All arrows are assumed to originate from the correct starting position. The model only needs to reason about whether the arrow direction aligns with the motion of the intended object.

**Significance.** *Object Trajectory Reasoning* enables models to understand how various objects or components move in response to different actions. This ability is essential for interpreting and predicting the physical dynamics of interactions across diverse objects and contexts. Furthermore, it provides actionable guidance for embodied agents to interact effectively with different objects.

**Challenges.** *Trajectory Reasoning* involves two key challenges. First, the model must infer the underlying **object dynamics**, which often follow physical regularities. For example, it should understand that pulling and pushing a door produce opposite trajectories, bottle caps are typically opened via counterclockwise rotation, or zippers move along a predefined fastening track. These dynamics are closely tied to the object’s geometry—different shapes afford different types or directions of motion. Second, the model must be robust to variations in different **viewpoint**. The perceived

motion path can differ depending on where the object is viewed from. For instance, opening a door looks different when seen from the front versus the side. The model must reason across frames and viewpoints to accurately infer the intended direction of motion and distinguish between goal-directed and off-course trajectories.

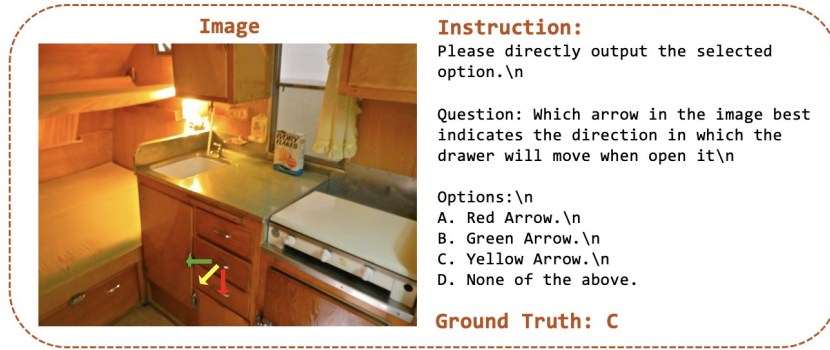


Figure 17: Example of Object Trajectory Reasoning.

### D.3.3 GRIPPER TRAJECTORY REASONING

**Definition.** Given an image as input, the model is required to infer the expected direction or path of motion of a robotic gripper in order to reach and grasp a specific object. The gripper trajectory depends on the spatial layout of the scene, the shape, position and orientation of the target object. This task focuses solely on the gripper’s motion, without requiring reasoning about the object’s subsequent motion. All arrows are assumed to originate from the current gripper TCP, short for Tool Center Point. The model only needs to decide whether the arrow direction aligns with a feasible and purposeful motion for reaching and grasping the target object.

**Significance.** This task evaluates the model’s ability to reason about spatial relations and motion planning for goal-directed robotic actions.

**Challenges.** The key challenges lie in identifying the correct object among many in the scene and reasoning about its spatial position in relation to the trajectory direction.

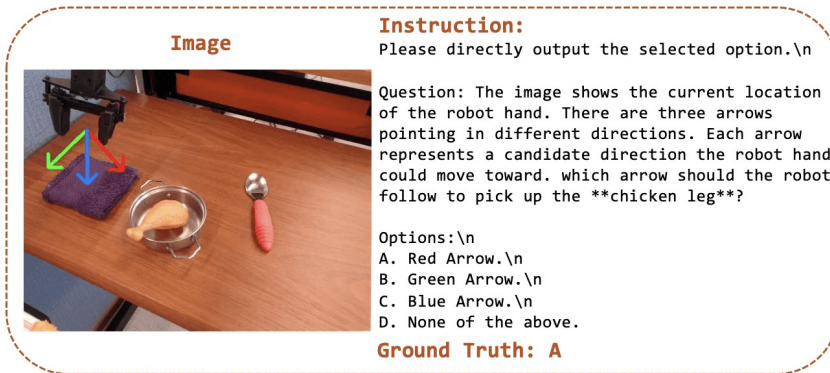


Figure 18: Example of Gripper Trajectory Reasoning.

### D.3.4 HUMAN HAND TRAJECTORY REASONING

**Definition.** Given an image as input, the model is required to infer the expected direction or path of motion of a human hand in order to reach and grasp, place, open a certain object. The gripper trajectory depends on the spatial layout of the scene, the shape, position and orientation of the target

object. This task focuses solely on the gripper’s motion, without requiring reasoning about the object’s subsequent motion. All arrows are assumed to originate from the current gripper TCP, short for Tool Center Point. The model only needs to decide whether the arrow direction aligns with a feasible and purposeful motion for reaching and grasping the target object.

**Significance.** Understanding the trajectory of a human hand for fundamental skills like reaching, grasping and placing is crucial for VLMs to infer human intent, anticipate interactions with objects, and build embodied understanding from visual scenes. This task enables models to reason about early-stage physical interactions, which is foundational for downstream applications such as action prediction, affordance understanding, and instruction following.

**Challenges.** The key challenges lie in identifying the correct object among many in the scene and reasoning about its spatial position, such as ‘on top of’, ‘to the left of’, or ‘to the right of’, in relation to the hand trajectory direction.



Figure 19: Example of Human Hand Trajectory Reasoning.

## D.4 SPATIAL REASONING

### D.4.1 OVERVIEW

**Definition.** Spatial reasoning refers to an agent’s ability to understand 3D space. For an embodied agent, it requires a basic comprehension of the environment—such as what objects are present and how they relate to each other. Additionally, the agent needs a sense of self-location and orientation in order to effectively plan a path. This category takes as input either a video or a video plus the current observation (which can be an image or the last frame of the video). The question format is multiple-choice with four options.

**Question Format.** This is a single-choice question with four options labeled A, B, C, and D. Each option describes a possible spatial relation, and potential path about the question. The model is required to select the one and only correct answer based on the given descriptions.

**Category and Significance.** There are three sub-tasks under this task, including object localization, relative direction and path reasoning. These tasks are closely interrelated and each plays a crucial role in embodied navigation and spatial reasoning. *Object Localization* is a foundational skill, requiring the agent to process a video segment and determine the spatial relationships between itself, various objects, and key landmarks in the environment. This is essential because accurate object localization allows the agent to build a mental map of its surroundings, which supports more effective decision-making and goal-directed behavior. *Path Planning* evaluates the agent’s ability to perform coarse-level navigation. Given the spatial understanding of object and landmark positions, the agent must estimate an approximate path toward the target. This involves high-level decisions such as selecting a general direction or identifying intermediary waypoints. The task focuses not on precise control but on whether the agent can reason about the environment to avoid major obstacles and select a feasible route. It reflects the agent’s competence in integrating object localization and relative direction information to form a navigational strategy that is both efficient and safe. *Relative Direction* builds on this by enabling the agent to understand its position relative to a specific object. This

finer-grained spatial awareness allows for more precise planning, such as aligning with or approaching a target from a particular angle.

#### D.4.2 OBJECT LOCALIZATION

**Definition.** Based on given video as input, *Object Localization* refers to the agent’s ability to identify the spatial positions of relevant objects and landmarks for a given object. The potential options could be ‘on the top of the sink’, ‘near the refrigerator’. Given a video segment as input, the agent must perceive and understand the positional relationships between various objects, including key reference points (e.g., tables, doors) that may serve as navigation landmarks. This task lays the foundation for downstream reasoning, enabling the agent to build a mental map of the scene and prepare for actions such as navigation or interaction.

**Significance.** This task lays the foundation for downstream reasoning, enabling the agent to build a mental map of the scene and prepare for actions such as navigation or interaction. Landmarks and other objects in the scene play a critical role by anchoring the agent’s spatial understanding, helping it to orient itself within the environment and reason about where to search for task-relevant objects. By grounding object positions relative to stable, easily recognizable features in the environment, the agent can more effectively generalize across scenes and plan robust behaviors in novel layouts.

**Challenge.** *Object Localization* is challenging due to partial observability, requiring the agent to accumulate spatial cues over time. It must interpret references like “near the table” by combining spatial relations with scene semantics, track stable landmarks, and convert egocentric views into a global map. These demands make localization critical for robust navigation and spatial understanding.

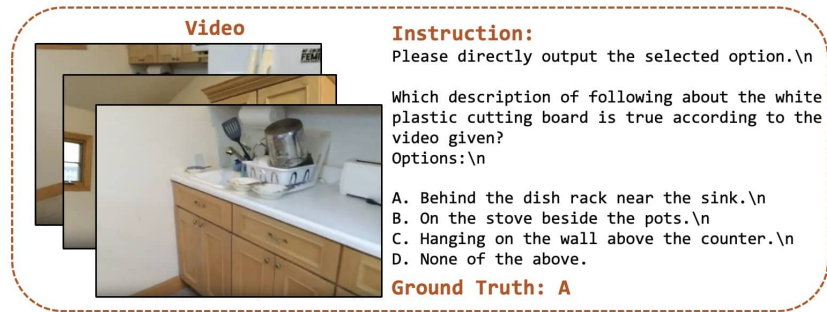


Figure 20: Example of Object Localization.

#### D.4.3 PATH PLANNING

**Definition.** Given a video as context and a current observation image, this task assesses the agent’s ability to plan a route to a target object by understanding the scene layout and identifying key landmarks. It requires spatial reasoning to determine feasible directions, such as ‘turn left at the refrigerator’ or ‘walk past the couch.’

**Significance.** Path planning is essential for MLLMs to perform effective navigation and interaction. It enables the model to build a coarse map of the environment, avoid obstacles, and plan routes toward task-relevant objects.



Figure 21: Example of Path Planning.

#### D.4.4 RELATIVE DIRECTION

**Definition.** Given a video as context and a current observation image, this task assesses the agent’s ability to plan a route to a target object by understanding the scene layout and identifying key landmarks. It requires spatial reasoning to determine feasible directions, such as ‘turn left at the refrigerator’ or ‘walk past the couch.’

**Significance.** *Path Planning* is essential for MLLMs to perform effective navigation and interaction. It enables the model to build a coarse map of the environment, avoid obstacles, and plan routes toward task-relevant objects.

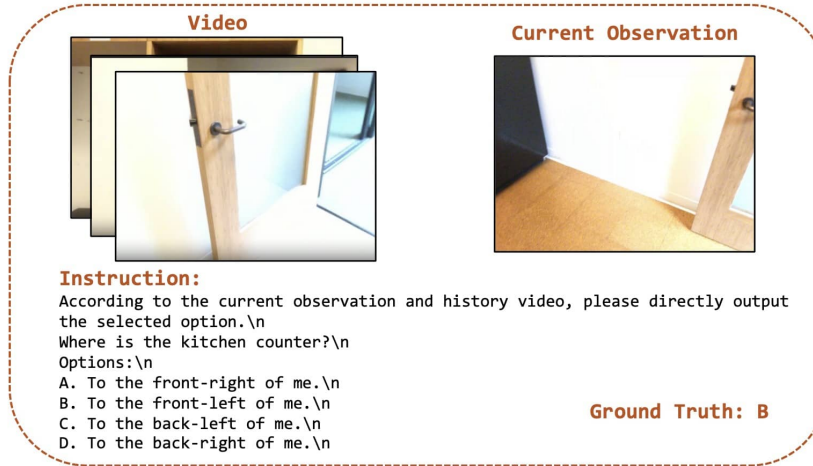


Figure 22: Example of Relative Direction.

### D.5 TASK PLANNING

#### D.5.1 OVERVIEW

**Definition.** *Task planning* refers to an agent’s ability to understand tasks that have already occurred and to predict the next appropriate action required to achieve a high-level goal. For example, in the context of making coffee, after placing the cup on the coffee machine, one would typically proceed to turn on the machine to begin brewing. An intelligent agent must be capable of interpreting past



actions, such as recalling the sequence in which they occurred, and reasoning about what action should follow to accomplish the overarching task.

**Question Format.** This is a single-choice question with four options labeled A, B, C, and D. Each option describes a possible answer about the question. The model is required to select the one and only correct answer based on the given descriptions.

**Category and Significance.** The benchmark comprises two categories: task process reasoning and next action prediction. In task process reasoning, the input is a video segment, and the primary goal is to assess whether the model can recall the sequence of previously executed actions and their temporal order. For example, a representative question might be: ‘Which of the following actions is not performed after picking up plate?’, ‘What action occurs immediately after drying the pot?’ This task is crucial because it evaluates the model’s temporal reasoning ability, which is essential for understanding the progression of multi-step activities and maintaining coherence in long-horizon decision making. In next action prediction, the model is required to infer the most plausible subsequent action based on a given high-level goal. This task is essential for evaluating the model’s capacity for goal-conditioned reasoning and anticipatory planning, which are critical for intelligent agents to operate effectively in dynamic environments by selecting actions that align with long-term objectives. One core challenge in this task lies in the need for the agent to retain and reason over temporally ordered past events while also anticipating future actions. This requires a strong capacity for temporal understanding, long-term memory, and goal-directed inference. For embodied agents, the ability to integrate historical context with future planning is fundamental to executing coherent, multi-step tasks in real-world environments. Achieving robust performance on such tasks demands not only accurate perception, but also a deep understanding of causality, task structure, and temporal dependencies.

#### D.5.2 TASK PROCESS REASONING

**Definition.** In *Task Process Reasoning*, the model is given a video segment and must recall past actions and their temporal order. The goal is to assess whether the model understands the sequence of events, for example: ‘Which action is not performed after picking up the plate?’ or ‘What occurs after drying the pot?’ This tests the model’s temporal reasoning, essential for understanding and executing complex tasks.

**Significance.** *Task Process Reasoning* is critical for embodied understanding, as it requires the model to comprehend temporal information and accurately recall previously observed events. This ability to track and interpret the sequence of past actions is essential for intelligent agents to make informed decisions, reason about ongoing tasks, and maintain situational awareness in dynamic environments. Understanding what has already occurred lays the foundation for anticipating future steps and ensuring coherent task execution.

**Examples.** For detailed examples, we refer readers to Figure 92.

#### D.5.3 NEXT ACTION PREDICTION

**Definition.** *Next Action Prediction* involves providing the model with a video segment and a high-level goal, and assessing whether it can accurately anticipate the next action required to complete that goal. For example, given the question: ‘Considering the progress shown in the video and my current observation in the last frame, what action should I take next for preparing the hot water and testing its temperature?’, the model must choose from options such as ‘put down kettle’, ‘pick up kettle’, ‘pour more hot water into glass’ or ‘none of the above’ This task evaluates the model’s ability to integrate temporal context and goal-directed reasoning to generate plausible next steps.

**Significance.** Humans possess an innate ability for planning, enabling them to decompose high-level goals into manageable steps and anticipate subsequent actions based on current progress. For embodied agents, the ability to break down complex tasks and predict the next appropriate action is a critical component of intelligent and goal-directed behavior.

**Examples.** For detailed examples, we refer readers to Figure 93.



## D.6 LONG-HORIZON

**Definition.** In the *long-horizon category*, we use ManipulaTHOR (Ehsani et al., 2021) and RoboTHOR (Deitke et al., 2020) to collect 35 task-oriented episodes. Each episode is with a different high-level goal (e.g., ‘pick up the apple and place it on the blue plate’, ‘open the drawer’, ‘wash the apple and place it on the blue plate’, and each episode is decomposed into necessary reasoning steps, with each step posed as a VQA question. Each reasoning step can correspond to one of our 15 embodied reasoning skills, from *Next Action Prediction* for predicting next high-level action for accomplishing the task, to *Object Localization* to identify the location of the target object, *Path Planning* to plan the path to navigate to the location to be around the target object, *Relative Direction* for the agent to finely adjust its position beside the sink. After the agent is in front of the sink, and then predict the *Bounding Box* for coarsely recognize the object, and then predict the *Point* for interaction with it.

**Motivation for Long-horizon Task.** The long-horizon task is introduced to assess whether our taxonomy of embodied reasoning skills is not only theoretically grounded but also practically composable and operational. Each high-level instruction (e.g., ‘wash the apple and place it on the blue plate’) is broken into a sequence of VQA-style reasoning steps, where each step maps explicitly to one of BEAR’s 14 atomic skills. This compositional structure allows us to: (i) demonstrate that complex tasks can be expressed as ordered chains of atomic abilities (*compositionality*); (ii) verify that our skill taxonomy covers the decision-making space of common household tasks (*completeness*); and (iii) enable fine-grained diagnosis of model failure by pinpointing which sub-skill failed in the chain (*diagnosticity*). Thus, the long-horizon category serves as an empirical testbed to validate the utility, sufficiency, and interpretability of our skill taxonomy in realistic, multi-step task settings.

**Evaluation for Long-horizon Category.** We adopt an offline evaluation protocol, where each collected episode is decomposed into a sequence of VQA-style structured reasoning steps. An episode is deemed successful only if the model correctly answers all associated questions. The final evaluation metric is the success rate, computed as the proportion of episodes solved successfully by the model.

**Examples.** We provide examples of *Long-horizon* category in Figure 94 and Figure 95.

## E BENCHMARK DISTRIBUTION AND VISUALIZATION ANALYSIS

### E.1 GLOBAL STATISTICS

**Question distribution.** Figure 23 illustrates the distribution of word counts in questions, showcasing the diversity and complexity within the dataset. The median number of words per question is 10, with the maximum question length reaching 82 words. The majority of the questions fall between 5 to 11 words. Questions exceeding the maximum threshold are grouped under the final bin for visualization clarity.

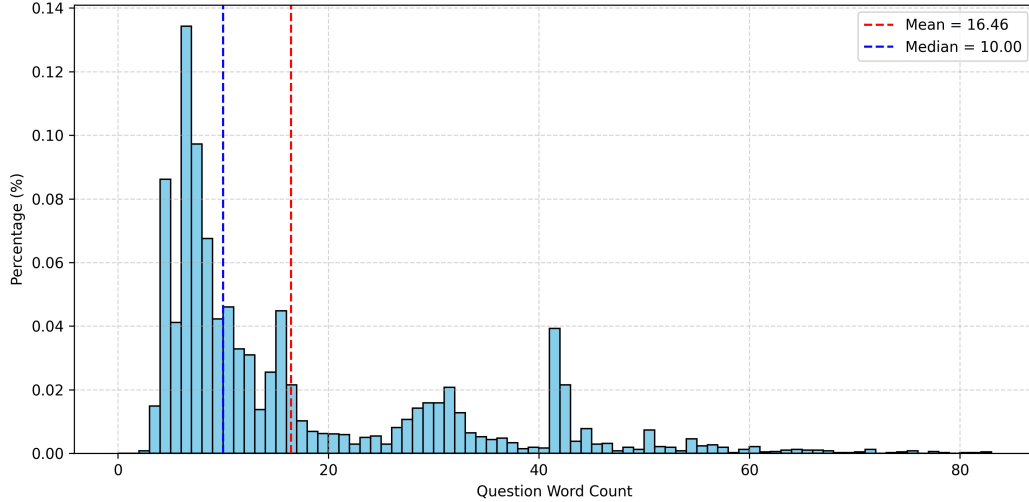


Figure 23: The distribution of the number of words per question in BEAR.

**Option distribution.** Figure 24 shows the distribution of word counts for individual options (excluding the choice letter, e.g., ‘A.’). The median word count per option is 4, and the longest option contains 20 words.

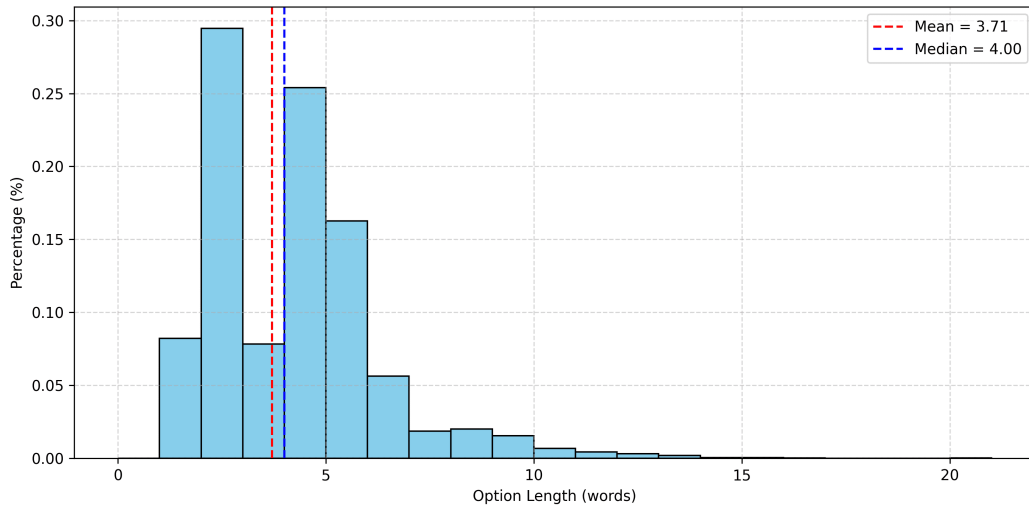


Figure 24: The distribution of the number of words per option in BEAR.

**Image and video resolution.** Figure 25 displays the resolution distribution of images. A large proportion (79.5%) of images lie in the 512–1024 resolution range. Only a small fraction (0.2%) fall

below 256 pixels, while high-resolution images above 2048 pixels are also rare (0.1%). Figure 26 presents video resolution statistics. The vast majority (93.4%) of videos fall in the 512–1024 resolution range, while only 6.6% reach the 1024–2048 range. No videos exceed 2048 pixels in resolution.

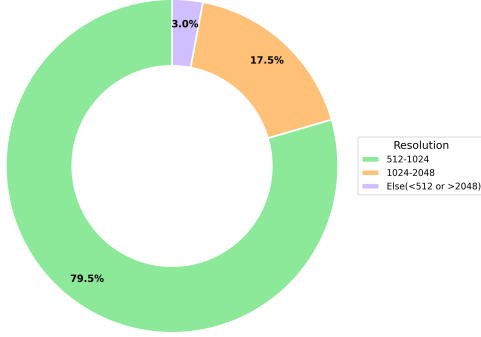


Figure 25: **BEAR image resolution distribution.**

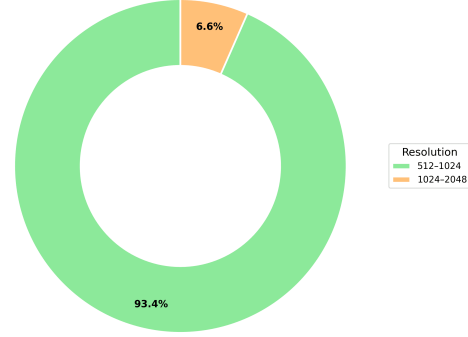


Figure 26: **BEAR video resolution distribution.**

**Video frame number and video duration.** Figure 27 visualizes the distribution of frame counts per video. An overwhelming 95.8% of videos contain more than 60 frames, indicating long video clips. Only a small portion (4.2%) of videos have fewer than 60 frames. Figure 28 illustrates the duration distribution, revealing that only 3.4% of videos exceed 120 seconds. The majority of videos are shorter than 60 seconds, indicating that BEAR primarily consists of short-horizon tasks.

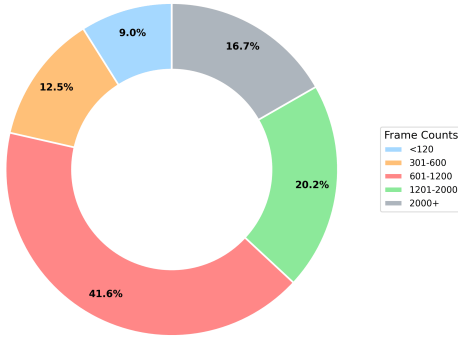


Figure 27: **BEAR video frame count distribution.**

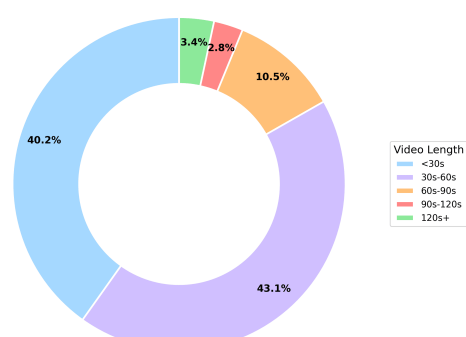
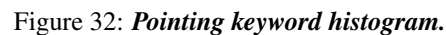
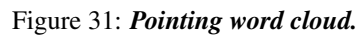


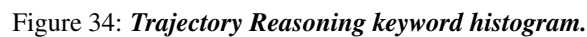
Figure 28: **BEAR video duration distribution.**

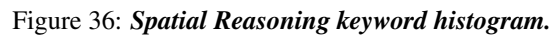
**Question word cloud and word frequency.** As shown in Figure 29 and Figure 30, our dataset contains a high frequency of concrete, action-related terms like "hand", "identify", "move", "arrow", and "robot", which reflects the emphasis on spatial reasoning and agent behavior. Our data highlights physical concepts and directional cues, which may help explain the performance gap in related tasks.

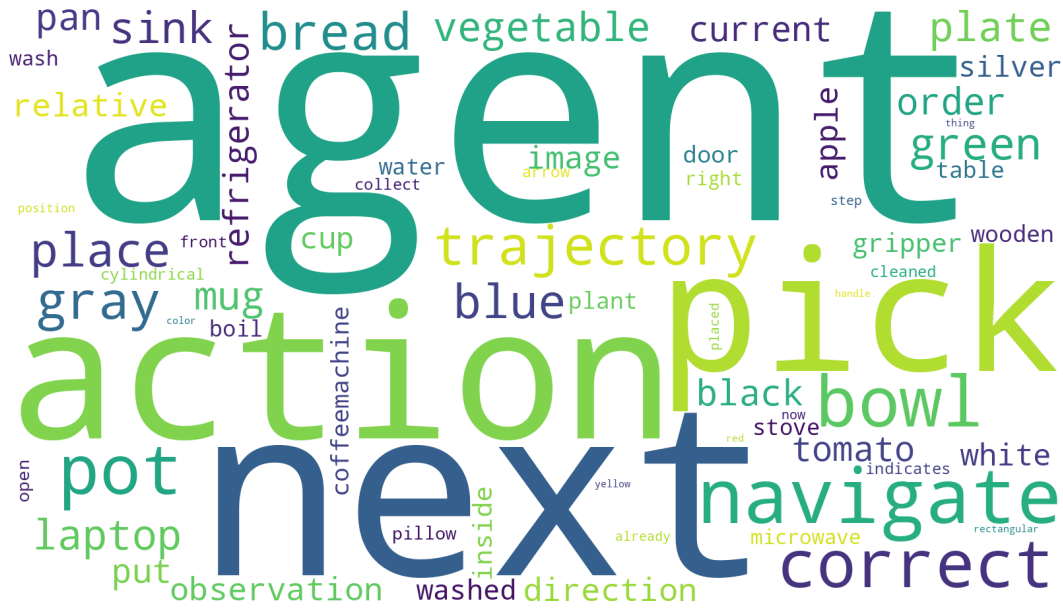
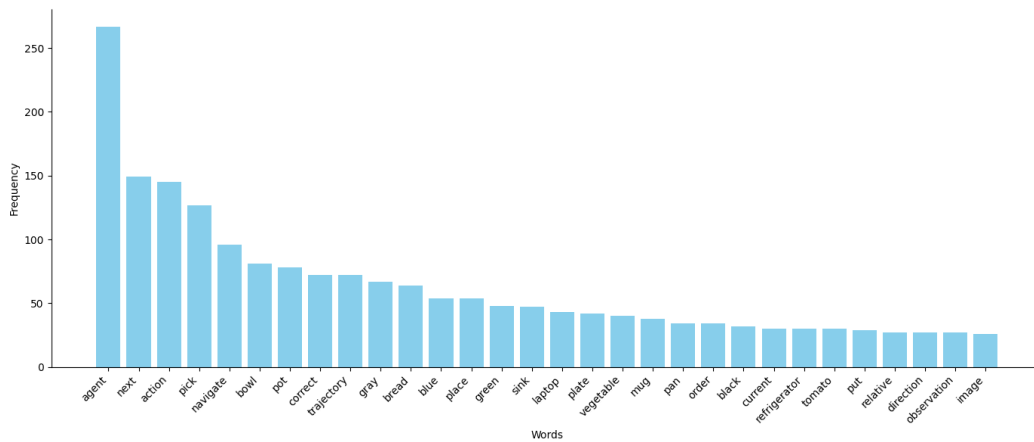










Figure 37: *Long-horizon word cloud.*Figure 38: *Long-horizon keyword histogram.*

## F BENCHMARK CURATION PROCESS

### F.1 DATA SOURCE OVERVIEW

Overall, our dataset is highly diverse, with each category composed of distinct types of data. The dataset is primarily built upon OpenImages (Kuznetsova et al., 2020), and is supplemented by the test sets from AGD20K (Luo et al., 2022) and PartImageNet (He et al., 2021). We also include BridgeData-v2 (Walke et al., 2023), a large-scale and diverse dataset of robotic manipulation behaviors that provides demonstration videos spanning a wide range of everyday manipulation tasks across various environments and object types. Images used for Human Hands Trajectory Reasoning are sourced from TASTE-Rob (Zhao et al., 2025). Additional video data is drawn from Egoplan-bench (Chen et al., 2023), Egoplan-bench2 (Qiu et al., 2024), EPIC-Kitchens (Damen et al., 2018), and (Grauman et al., 2022). We also incorporate environments from ManipulaThor (Ehsani et al., 2021) and RoboThor (Deitke et al., 2020). All data acquisitions strictly comply with the licensing requirements outlined in Section B.

#### F.1.1 POINTING AND 2D BOUNDING BOX PREDICTION

**Image Source.** The raw images for Pointing and 2D Bounding Box tasks are primarily sourced from the validation and test sets of OpenImages (Kuznetsova et al., 2020), supplemented by the test sets of AGD20K (Luo et al., 2022) and PartImageNet (He et al., 2021), resulting in over 30K images across 51 object categories. These categories are chosen to reflect common objects in embodied environments. We curate ground truth and questions via automated pipelines with human verification for accuracy, as detailed in Section F.2.1.

**Image Category.** We choose our data from each category of raw images to reflect objects commonly encountered in embodied environments. While the majority of categories represent indoor household or workspace items (e.g., microwave, spoon, toilet, soap dispenser), we also include a small number of outdoor relevant objects (e.g., car, traffic light, bench, Vehicle) to promote scene diversity and test model generalization beyond indoor settings.

*Note that the notion of image category here refers specifically to the image label used to download and filter source images, and is distinct from task types or question categories used in our benchmark.*

Object categories for General Object Pointing and Bounding Box Prediction, Spatial Relationship Pointing and Bounding Box Prediction are listed below:

- **Indoor:** Mailbox, Hot plate, Spoon, Drip coffee maker, Wallet, Kitchen & dining room table, Computer desk, Cup, Mixing bowl, Kitchen knife, Chopsticks, Bottle, Toaster, Microwave oven, Laptop, Computer keyboard, Computer mouse, Corded phone, Remote control, Tomato, Sofa bed, Filing cabinet, Door handle, Bottle opener, Soap dispenser, Coffee, Toilet paper, Pillow, Teapot, Measuring cup, Hammer, Wrench, Milk, Pancake, Doughnut, Bread, Spatula, Tap, Box, Zipper, Toilet, Facial tissue holder, Bottled Water
- **Outdoor:** Outdoor Umbrella Base, Bush, Bench, Mailbox, Car, Building, Path, Traffic light, Ball, Street Lamp, Sidewalk

For Semantic Part Pointing and 2D Bounding Box Prediction, we only download images which are likely to have meaningful part-level semantics, resulting in the following indoor and outdoor raw image categories:

- **Indoor:** Furniture, Kitchenware, Electronic appliance, Home appliance, Office supply, Container, Tableware, Personal item, Cleaning tool, Decoration, Pet supply, Food, Clothing, Medical item.
- **Outdoor:** Animal, Vehicle, Boat, Aircraft, Sports equipment, Tool, Outdoor equipment, Construction tool, Garden tool, Industrial machine, Plant.

#### F.1.2 TRAJECTORY REASONING

**Image Source.** The images for Object Trajectory Reasoning come from articulated objects of OpenImages (Kuznetsova et al., 2020). The images from Gripper Trajectory Reasoning come from

BridgeData-v2 (Walke et al., 2023), a large and diverse dataset of robotic manipulation behaviors, which provides demonstration videos covering a wide range of everyday manipulation tasks across multiple environments and object types. The images for Human Hands Trajectory Reasoning come from TASTE-Rob (Zhao et al., 2025), which is a large-scale dataset of 100K egocentric hand-object interaction videos.

**Scene Category.** The scene categories covered in our benchmark include Kitchen, Bathroom, Living Room, Bedroom, Office, Study Room, Laboratory, Workspace, Dining Room, Storage Room, Closet, Hallway, Corridor, and Laundry Room.

### F.1.3 SPATIAL REASONING

**Data Source.** Videos in Spatial Reasoning category are sourced from the validation set and test set of ScanNet (Dai et al., 2017), ScanNet++ (Yeshwanth et al., 2023), and ARKitScenes (Baruch et al., 2021). All of which are a large-scale indoor RGB-D dataset.

### F.1.4 TASK PLANNING

**Data Source.** Our source of Task Planning category covers from Egoplan-bench (Chen et al., 2023), Egoplan-bench2 (Qiu et al., 2024) and videos from EPIC-Kitchens (Damen et al., 2018) and Ego4D (Grauman et al., 2022).

## F.2 DATA FILTERING AND VQA GENERATION

**General Principle.** As a general principle, we applied different data curation methods tailored to each category of the dataset combined with content safety filtering, human-in-the-loop filtering and human-in-the-loop correction, as shown in Figure 39. For every task category, we ensured balanced distributions across data instances, task types, and answer choices. In addition, each data point was subjected to at least two rounds of human verification to correct errors and eliminate low-quality or unreasonable samples. For details on distractor selection, as well as difficulty and quality control, refer to Section G.

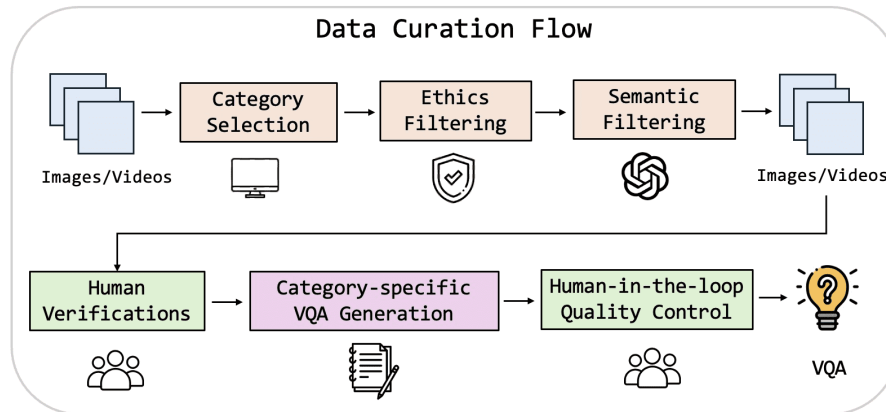


Figure 39: Data Curation Work Flow.

### F.2.1 POINTING DATA CURATION.

**Download Source Images.** The pointing data curation process follows several key steps. We begin by collecting over 30K images sourced from OpenImages (Kuznetsova et al., 2020), supplemented by the test set of AGD20K (Luo et al., 2022) and PartImageNet (He et al., 2021), while ensuring a balanced distribution across both image categories and data sources. We then employ GPT-4o (Hurst et al., 2024) to classify these images into three categories, which is General Object Pointing, Spatial Relationship Pointing, and Semantic Part Pointing. For more details on the category balancing process, please refer to Appendix F.1.1.



**Ground Truth Generation.** For each selected image, we follow a structured data curation workflow. As illustrated in Figure 40, we first employ GPT-4o to perform object captioning, extracting object names from the image. These names are then passed to Grounded-Segment-Anything (Ren et al., 2024) to generate segmentation masks corresponding to the identified objects. For the *Semantic Part Pointing* category, we utilize Segment-Anything (Kirillov et al., 2023) to perform panoptic segmentation and generate all possible masks within the given scene.

After acquiring segmentation masks for each scene, we employ GPT-4o (Hurst et al., 2024) to perform semantic filtering, discarding masks that do not correspond to semantically meaningful regions. Subsequently, GPT-4o is used to generate natural language questions based on the location of each retained mask and the corresponding image. These questions are designed to contain rich descriptive cues, including color, shape, spatial position, and size, to reduce ambiguity and ensure accurate ground truth alignment. Examples include: ‘Identify the blue and red dotted mug’, ‘Identify the nearest album on the table’, and ‘Identify the red car in the rightmost lane of the road’. To ensure the quality and safety of the generated content, two rounds of human verification are conducted by annotators, focusing on both quality assurance and ethical compliance.

**Evaluation Metrics.** The Multimodal Large Language Model is tasked with predicting a normalized  $(x, y)$  coordinate, where  $x \in (0, 1)$  and  $y \in (0, 1)$ , representing a pixel location within the image. A prediction is deemed correct if the indicated pixel lies within the ground truth mask; otherwise, it is considered incorrect.

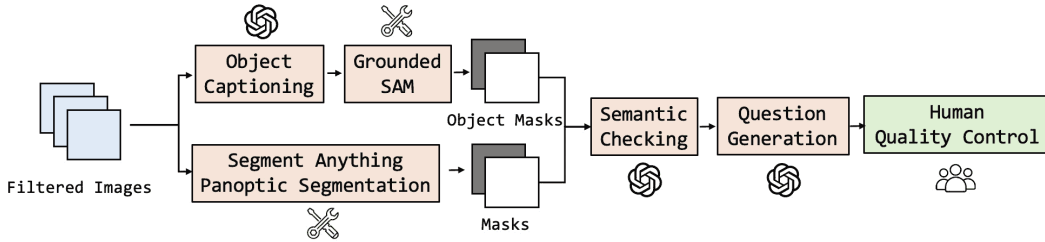


Figure 40: Pointing Data Curation Work Flow.

### F.2.2 2D BOUNDING BOX PREDICTION DATA CURATION

**Image Source.** The images used for the 2D Bounding Box Prediction task are selected similarly to those in the Pointing task. We filter out images containing multiple ground truth masks of the same category (e.g., two or more legs) to avoid ambiguity. The instruction is modified to prompt the Multimodal Large Language Model to output a bounding box instead of a pixel location.

**Ground Truth Generation.** The 2D bounding box ground truth is derived from segmentation masks curated through the pipeline illustrated in Figure 40. Specifically, each ground truth annotation is first represented as a binary mask, from which the corresponding bounding box is subsequently computed.

**Evaluation Metrics.** The Multimodal Large Language Model is tasked with predicting a normalized 2D bounding box, denoted as  $(x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2)$ , where  $x \in (0, 1)$  and  $y \in (0, 1)$ . To evaluate performance, we compute the average Intersection over Union (IoU) between the ground truth bounding box  $GT$  and the model-predicted bounding box  $P$ .

$$\text{IoU} = \frac{|GT \cap P|}{|GT \cup P|}$$

### F.2.3 TRAJECTORY REASONING DATA CURATION

**Image Source.** The images are sourced from TASTE-Rob (Zhao et al., 2025), OpenImages-v7 (Kuznetsova et al., 2020), and BridgeData V2 (Walke et al., 2023). A quality control process is applied to filter and retain only reasonable and relevant images for use.

**Question and Ground Truth Generation.** For Human Hand Trajectory Reasoning and Gripper Trajectory Reasoning, we utilize the demonstration trajectories and the annotated language instructions provided by TASTE-Rob (Zhao et al., 2025) and BridgeData V2 (Walke et al., 2023). We employ CoTracker3 (Karaev et al.) to generate ground truth trajectory arrows. Additionally, we manually verify, correct, and annotate a portion of the data to ensure the accuracy and overall quality of the dataset. We provide a brief overview of our data curation pipeline in Figure 41.

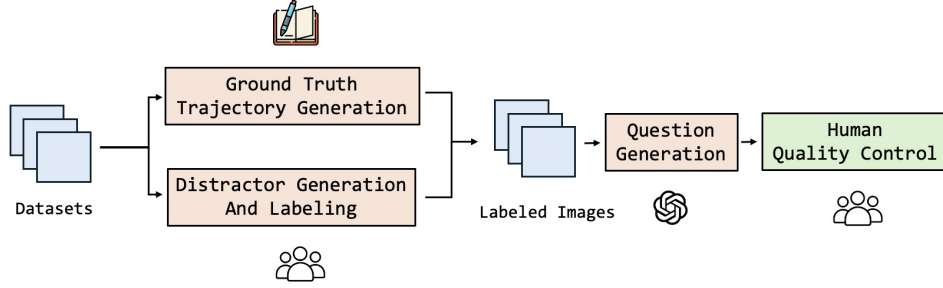


Figure 41: Trajectory Reasoning Data Curation Work Flow.

**Distractor Generation.** To generate ground truth and corresponding distractor options, we follow a carefully controlled selection process. Initially, multiple candidate trajectories are randomly sampled as distractors, prioritizing those directed toward alternative target objects. During data curation, we manually filter these trajectories to ensure semantic clarity and eliminate ambiguity. Additionally, we verify that all distractors are visually distinct from the background and do not conflict with the image’s overall color composition.

#### F.2.4 SPATIAL REASONING DATA CURATION

**Video Source.** The video source comes from ScanNet (Dai et al., 2017), ScanNet++ (Yeshwanth et al., 2023), and ARKitScenes (Baruch et al., 2021).

**Question and Ground Truth Generation.** We leverage camera annotations from selected videos in ScanNet (Dai et al., 2017), ScanNet++ (Yeshwanth et al., 2023), and ARKitScenes (Baruch et al., 2021), along with object labels and nearby object metadata, as inputs to GPT-4o for automatic question generation. To accommodate the diversity of question types in our benchmark, we design dedicated question-generation scripts tailored to each category. Due to the imperfect quality of automatically generated questions, we adopt a human-in-the-loop pipeline, where annotators manually revise both the questions and their corresponding answer choices. To further ensure the accuracy and consistency of the dataset, an additional round of quality verification is conducted by independent volunteers. We provide a brief overview of our spatial reasoning data curation pipeline in Figure 42.

**Distractor Generation.** We adopt a multiple-choice question-answer format, where each question is accompanied by four options labeled A, B, C, and D. Among these, one represents the ground truth description. Option D is consistently set to either ‘none of the above’ or ‘all of the above’, which serves to evaluate the model’s capacity for critical reasoning and its ability to assess the validity of multiple alternatives rather than relying solely on pattern recognition. The remaining distractor options are content-aligned with the correct answer and are crafted to be of comparable length, ensuring a fair comparison. Additionally, we apply strict control over the phrasing and specificity of the ground truth option to minimize ambiguity and bias.

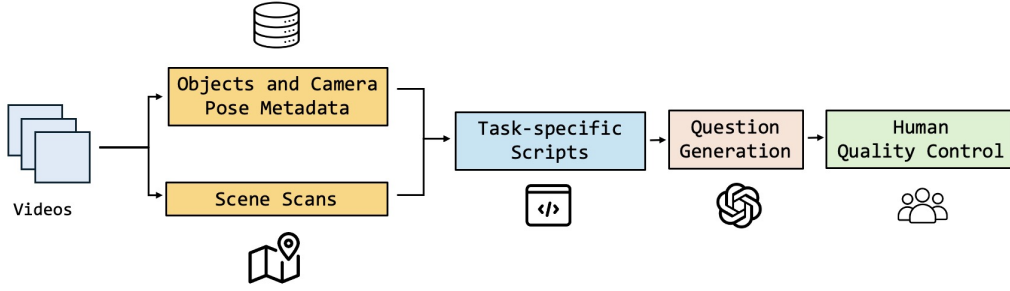


Figure 42: Spatial Reasoning Data Curation Work Flow.

### F.2.5 TASK PLANNING DATA CURATION

**Benchmark Source and Ground Truth Generation.** The benchmark sources are derived from EgoPlan-Bench (Chen et al., 2023), EgoPlan-Bench2 (Qiu et al., 2024), as well as videos from EPIC-Kitchens (Damen et al., 2018) and Ego4D (Grauman et al., 2022). For the Next Action Planning category, we utilize the narration context provided in EgoPlan-Bench (Chen et al., 2023) and EgoPlan-Bench2 (Qiu et al., 2024), and augment the answer options with navigation-related content (e.g. ‘walk to the sink’), as navigation is a fundamental component of embodied tasks. For the Task Process Reasoning category, we again leverage narration context from the two EgoPlan benchmarks and employ GPT-4o (Hurst et al., 2024) to automatically generate questions targeting temporal reasoning. To ensure the accuracy and overall quality of the benchmark, all questions and answers undergo human verification by trained annotators.

### F.2.6 LONG-HORIZON TASK DATA CURATION

**Demo Source.** The demo is collected in the environment using ManipulaThor (Ehsani et al., 2021) and RoboThor (Deitke et al., 2020). We design a custom GUI for demo collection and data labeling, as shown in Figure 43.

**Question and Ground Truth Generation.** We design a graphical user interface (GUI) that enables human annotators to interact directly with the simulated environment using the keyboard as a controller. Custom scripts allow annotators to control navigation and actions via keyboard inputs, including the triggering of key events. Using this interface, we collected over 50 robot demonstrations, during which we record the state of each object in the simulation along with other critical environment information. After manual review, we retain 25 high-quality demonstrations based on criteria such as completeness, clarity of intent, and consistency. Based on these curated interactions, we develop automated scripts to generate question-answer pairs. To ensure data quality and semantic validity, we further recruit human annotators to manually annotate and verify the generated data.

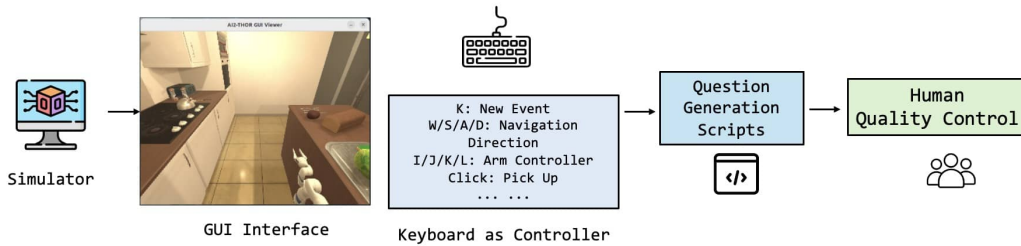


Figure 43: Long-horizon Data Curation Work Flow.

## G BENCHMARK DISTRACTOR, QUALITY AND DIFFICULTY CONTROL

A central principle guiding the design of our benchmark is the deliberate control of task difficulty, enabling fine-grained evaluation of model capabilities across varying levels of reasoning complexity. To achieve this, we design category-specific difficulty control strategies, ensure the validity and informativeness of distractor options, and implement a multi-stage quality assurance process.

More specific, our general for question generation is listed as follows:

- All questions must contain one or more images.
- All questions should be written in English.
- All questions are clearly categorized.
- All fine-grained categories is under difficulty control.
- All fine-grained categories goes through at least two round of human verification process.
- All questions are clearly categorized.
- All questions are uniformly formatted to ensure clarity and consistency across the benchmark.
- All questions have very clear ground truth.
- All distractors are contextually reasonable and intentionally designed to function as meaningful and challenging alternatives.

### G.0.1 DIFFICULTY CONTROL

For different benchmark categories, we adopt category-specific strategies for difficulty control, which is listed as follows:

- **Pointing and Bounding Box Category:** We control task difficulty by regulating the size of the ground truth masks. Specifically, we sort all candidate masks by area and remove those that are either too small or too large, as such extremes may lead to questions that are overly difficult or trivial. From the remaining masks, we perform uniform sampling to ensure a balanced distribution of difficulty levels and object categories.
- **Trajectory Reasoning Category:** Difficulty is controlled through a combination of manual design and heuristic variation. Human annotators are instructed to generate both ground truth answers and distractor options with varying degrees of ambiguity. Specifically, we manipulate factors such as:
  - Trajectory proximity: Harder samples place distractor arrows spatially closer to the ground truth, increasing visual confusion.
  - Object similarity: Distractors are selected to point toward objects that are visually or semantically similar to the target object (e.g., bottles of similar shape or color).
  - Language ambiguity: We vary the clarity of the question (e.g., specifying ‘the bottle’ vs. ‘the bottle with white rectangular lid ’) to test the model’s ability to resolve referential expressions.
- **Spatial Reasoning Category:** we adopt task-specific strategies to control the difficulty of spatial reasoning questions:
  - Object Localization: Difficulty is determined by the spatial distance and visibility between the target object and the anchor. Easy examples feature clearly visible objects near salient anchors, while hard examples involve occluded objects or non-trivial spatial relations.
  - Path Planning: Difficulty is defined by the complexity of navigation steps. Easy samples require only a single forward movement, whereas hard samples involve multiple turns, changes in direction, or room transitions.
  - Relative Direction: We control difficulty by manipulating the ambiguity of direction options and the need for temporal reasoning.
- **Task Planning Category:** We adopt task-specific strategies to control the difficulty of task planning questions:

- Task Process Reasoning: Difficulty is governed by the complexity of temporal dependencies between actions. Easy samples involve short sequences with clearly separable events. Hard samples contain longer temporal chains, event ambiguity, or distractor choices that are temporally plausible but incorrect (e.g., ‘wipe the table’ vs. ‘dry the plate’).
- Next Action Prediction: Easy instances correspond to goals that can be completed with a single or short sequence of atomic actions (e.g., “pick up the cup and place it on the table”), requiring minimal reasoning. In contrast, harder instances involve longer-horizon goals that demand multiple reasoning steps.

### G.0.2 DISTRACTOR CONTROL

Effective distractor control is essential in multiple-choice question design to assess a model’s true reasoning ability rather than its reliance on superficial cues. Distractors should be plausible but incorrect, semantically coherent, and contextually relevant to the question. They must match the correct answer in style, length, and structure, avoiding easy elimination through obvious differences. All options should be mutually exclusive and collectively comprehensive. A well-designed distractor set compels the model to engage in genuine reasoning. Moreover, distractor strategies should be tailored to the specific task type, whether temporal, spatial, visual, or goal-directed, to effectively probe the intended reasoning skill.

More specifically, our distractor design follows these principles:

- **Inclusion of ‘None of the above’ as Option D.** The fourth option is consistently set as ‘None of the above’ to promote deeper reasoning. A model must correctly reject all three distractors and affirm that none is correct. It ensures the model isn’t simply selecting the most similar option but performing holistic understanding and elimination.
- **Semantic and Structural Consistency.** The other distractor options are carefully crafted to match the correct answer in semantic content, sentence structure, and length. This prevents models from exploiting surface-level cues and encourages reliance on true comprehension.
- **Category-Specific Distractor Strategies.** We adopt tailored distractor generation methods for different question categories. Each strategy is designed to meaningfully challenge the reasoning ability most relevant to the task.
  - Trajectory Reasoning Category: Distractors are designed by assigning arrows that point in incorrect directions—toward irrelevant or misleading objects while maintaining similar visual and spatial plausibility.
  - Spatial Reasoning Category: Distractors are crafted as misleading spatial descriptions, such as references to other objects or plausible yet incorrect localization cues and movement paths.
  - Planning Category: Distractors include semantically similar but incorrect actions, often with misleading or incorrect temporal dependencies to challenge causal and sequential reasoning.

### G.0.3 QUALITY CONTROL

To ensure the reliability and validity of our benchmark, we implement multiple layers of quality control:

```

{
  "idx": 302,
  "image": "",
  "video": "video/video_302.mp4",
  "question": "Which description of following about the water dispenser is true according to the
video given?",
  "options": {
    "A": "there is a blue water bottle on the top of the water dispenser",
    "B": "there are no water bottles on the top of the water dispenser",
    "C": "there is a fully filled blue water bottle on the top of the water dispenser",
    "D": "None of above"
  },
  "gt": "A",
  "mask": "",
  "bbox": "",
  "category": "object localization",
}

```

Figure 44: **Unified Benchmark Data Format.** All our data adheres to a consistent format across tasks. For example, in an object localization instance, fields that are not applicable are left blank.

- **Format Unification.** To ensure consistency and facilitate seamless evaluation, we unify the input and output formats across all tasks and modalities in our benchmark. This standardization simplifies data preprocessing, enables reusable evaluation pipelines, and ensures that models are tested under comparable conditions. Moreover, a unified format makes it easier for researchers to adopt, reproduce, and extend the benchmark, reducing ambiguity and implementation overhead. We illustrate this with an example from the object localization category, as shown in Figure 44.
- **Ethics Checking.** We filter out any content that may violate ethical standards or pose risks, ensuring that all data is safe for both human and machine use.
- **Quality Verification.** We assess each instance for linguistic clarity, logical soundness, and relevance to the target reasoning skill.
- **Manual Filtering.** Two final rounds of human-in-the-loop verification ensures that only high-quality, task-aligned examples remain, removing any residual noise or inconsistency.

These steps collectively help eliminate annotation artifacts, ensure fairness, and maintain the integrity of the reasoning challenges across categories.



## H EXPERIMENT

### H.0.1 MODEL NAME AND INFERENCE SET UP

**Model Name and Parameters.** We evaluate both proprietary and open-source models on our benchmark. The model names and corresponding inference settings are summarized in Table 4. For models whose parameters are not explicitly specified, we adopt their default configurations as provided by their respective APIs or official implementations. We provide detailed descriptions of the models as follows.

- **DeepSeek-VL** (Lu et al., 2024) is a real-world vision-language model proposed by DeepSeek-AI. It integrates a hybrid vision encoder for efficient high-resolution image processing (1024×1024) and adopts a staged VL pretraining strategy that gradually balances textual and visual modalities. DeepSeek-VL achieves strong performance across a wide range of visual-language tasks while maintaining robustness on language-centric benchmarks.
- **Molmo** (Deitke et al., 2025) Molmo series of multimodal vision–language models developed by the Allen Institute for AI (AI2). It is built on the Qwen2-7B architecture and uses OpenAI’s CLIP model as the vision encoder, enabling it to process both image and text inputs simultaneously.
- **InternVL 2.0** (Chen et al., 2024) is a next-generation vision-language model developed by OpenGVLab. It features a strong visual encoder that supports high-resolution image understanding (up to 896×896) and a vision-language training paradigm optimized for both alignment and generation. By introducing high-quality pretraining data and fine-grained vision-language alignment techniques, InternVL 2.0 demonstrates superior performance on various visual reasoning and grounding benchmarks.
- **InternVL 3.0** (Zhu et al., 2025) is a next-generation multimodal model proposed by OpenGVLab. It is trained from scratch with a unified vision-language pretraining paradigm. Unlike models that adapt text-only LLMs, it jointly learns from both multimodal and text data. Key innovations include Variable Visual Position Encoding (V2PE), Supervised Fine-Tuning (SFT), and Mixed Preference Optimization (MPO). InternVL 3-78B sets a new open-source SOTA on MMMU, rivaling GPT-4o and Claude 3.5 Sonnet.
- **LLaVa-NeXT-Interleave** (Li et al., 2024b) is a multimodal large language model proposed by ByteDance. It expands visual instruction tuning beyond single-image settings by supporting multi-image, multi-frame, multi-view, and multi-patch inputs. It introduces the M4-Instruct dataset and the LLaVA-Interleave Bench to evaluate multi-modal reasoning. The model achieves SOTA on multi-image, video, and 3D tasks while preserving single-image performance and demonstrating emergent cross-modal capabilities.
- **LLaVa-NeXT-Llama3** (Li et al., 2024a) is a next-generation open-source large multimodal model built upon Meta’s LLaMA3 (Dubey et al., 2024), integrating high-resolution vision encoders with strong language backbones. It leverages interleaved visual instruction tuning to handle complex multi-image inputs and achieves competitive performance across a broad range of visual-language tasks. The model is notable for its strong instruction-following abilities and efficient training pipeline.
- **Qwen2.5-VL** (Bai et al., 2025) is the latest flagship vision-language model from Alibaba’s Qwen series, showcasing strong capabilities in object localization, document parsing, and long-video understanding. It introduces dynamic resolution processing and absolute time encoding for native perception of spatial and temporal cues. Built with a dynamic-resolution ViT and Window Attention, Qwen2.5-VL achieves high efficiency while maintaining fine-grained detail. The 72B version particularly excels in document and diagram comprehension, while preserving strong language abilities.
- **Claude-3.7-Sonnet** (Anthropic, 2024), which is released by Anthropic in February 2025, is a multimodal large language model that demonstrates improved performance over its predecessor in natural language understanding, code generation, and multimodal reasoning. It is well-suited for complex tasks and high-quality dialogue generation.

- **Claude-4-Sonnet** (Anthropic, 2025), introduced in May 2025, further advances the model’s capabilities in multi-turn dialogue consistency, visual reasoning, and tool use. Its overall performance is comparable to state-of-the-art models such as GPT-4o and Gemini 2.5 Pro.
- **Gemini-2.0-Flash** (Team, 2024) released by Google DeepMind in late 2024, is a lightweight and efficient variant of the Gemini multimodal series. Designed for real-time applications, Gemini 2.0 Flash focuses on fast inference while retaining strong performance in core tasks such as visual question answering, image captioning, and basic reasoning.
- **Gemini-2.5-Flash** (Comanici et al., 2025) builds upon its predecessor with improved architectural refinements and a broader training corpus. It enhances the model’s capabilities in visual grounding, spatial reasoning, and multilingual understanding, while maintaining low-latency response suitable for deployment in interactive systems.
- **Gemini-2.5-Pro** (Comanici et al., 2025) represents the most powerful version of the 2.5 series, offering state-of-the-art performance across a wide range of multimodal benchmarks. With support for long-context understanding, fine-grained visual localization, and complex task execution, Gemini 2.5 Pro competes closely with leading models such as GPT-4o and Claude 4 in both accuracy and versatility.
- **GPT-4o** (Hurst et al., 2024) is OpenAI’s flagship omnimodal model, capable of processing and reasoning over text, images, audio, and video inputs within a unified architecture. Unlike its predecessors, GPT-4o achieves native multimodal understanding without relying on modality-specific adapters, enabling seamless integration across vision, language, and speech. The model supports real-time audio interactions with low latency and exhibits enhanced spatial, temporal, and perceptual grounding. With strong performance on visual question answering, object localization, audio comprehension, and long-context reasoning, GPT-4o sets a new benchmark for general-purpose multimodal intelligence and serves as the backbone for OpenAI’s latest ChatGPT systems.
- **GPT-5** (OpenAI, 2025a) is officially released by OpenAI on August 7, 2025. It is most advanced AI system of OpenAI, achieving state-of-the-art performance in coding, math, writing, health, and visual perception. As a unified model, it adapts between fast responses and extended reasoning to deliver expert-level answers, with a Pro version offering deeper reasoning capabilities.
- **GPT-o3** (OpenAI, 2025b) represents the most advanced reasoning model in OpenAI’s o-series, designed for deep, step-by-step problem-solving across coding, math, science, and visual perception. Released on April 16, 2025, GPT-o3 introduces multimodal ‘image-aware’ chain-of-thought reasoning and integrated tool usage such as web browsing, file analysis, and image manipulation

**Inference Format.** In Table 4, *Merged* means that for the video and interleaved question answer pairs, we merge the uniformly sampled frames from the video into one image and then send it as the input of the multimodal large language model. *Sequential* means that we sequentially send frames and prompt accordingly.

Model	Format	Inference Setup
DeepSeek-VL-7B (Lu et al., 2024)	Merged	dtype = torch.bfloat16, max_new_tokens = 512, do_sample = False, temperature=0, seed=42
Molmo-7B-D-0924 (Deitke et al., 2025)	Merged	dtype = torch.bfloat16, max_new_tokens = 512, do_sample = False, temperature=0, seed=42
InternVL2-4B (Chen et al., 2024)	Merged	dtype = torch.bfloat16, max_new_tokens = 512, do_sample = False, temperature=0, seed=42, top_p=None, num_beams=1)
InternVL2-8B (Chen et al., 2024)	Merged	dtype = torch.bfloat16, max_new_tokens = 512, do_sample = False, temperature=0, seed=42, top_p=None, num_beams=1)
InternVL2-26B (Chen et al., 2024)	Merged	dtype = torch.bfloat16, max_new_tokens = 512, do_sample = False, temperature=0, seed=42, top_p=None, num_beams=1)
InternVL2-40B (Chen et al., 2024)	Merged	dtype = torch.bfloat16, max_new_tokens = 512, do_sample = False, temperature=0, seed=42, top_p=None, num_beams=1)
InternVL3-8B (Zhu et al., 2025)	Merged	dtype = torch.bfloat16, max_new_tokens = 512, do_sample = False, temperature=0, seed=42, top_p=None, num_beams=1)
InternVL3-14B (Zhu et al., 2025)	Merged	dtype = torch.bfloat16, max_new_tokens = 512, do_sample = False, temperature=0, seed=42, top_p=None, num_beams=1)
LLaVa-NeXT-Interleave-7B (Li et al., 2024b)	Merged	dtype = torch.bfloat16, max_new_tokens = 2048, do_sample = False, seed=42, temperature=0, top_p=None, num_beams=1)
LLaVa-NeXT-Llama3-8B (Li et al., 2024a)	Merged	dtype = torch.bfloat16, max_new_tokens = 2048, do_sample = False, seed=42, temperature=0, top_p=None, num_beams=1)
Qwen2.5-VL-7B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025)	Merged	dtype = torch.bfloat16, max_new_tokens = 512, do_sample = False, max_num = 1, seed=42
Qwen2.5-VL-32B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025)	Merged	dtype = torch.bfloat16, max_new_tokens = 512, do_sample = False, max_num = 1, seed=42
Claude-3.7-Sonnet-20250219 (Anthropic, 2025)	Sequential	-
Claude-4-Sonnet-20250514 (Anthropic, 2025)	Sequential	-
Gemini-2.0-Flash (Team, 2024)	Sequential	-
Gemini-2.5-Flash (Comanici et al., 2025)	Sequential	-
Gemini-2.5-Pro (Comanici et al., 2025)	Sequential	-
GPT-4o (Hurst et al., 2024)	Sequential	-
GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a)	Sequential	-
GPT-o3 (OpenAI, 2025b)	Sequential	-

Table 4: Inference parameters for models. All other parameters not specified here use the default model configurations.

## H.0.2 BENCHMARK EVALUATION RESULTS

### General Principle

- We use different evaluation metrics for different categories. For *Bounding Box* category, we report IoU (Intersection over Union) for evaluation, while for other categories, we report success rate(%). Details of the evaluation metrics are provided below in each category.
- All models are evaluated using the direct format, where the model is prompted to directly output the final answer.
- We conduct human studies on BEAR-mini, a subset of our benchmark constructed by randomly sampling 40 questions from each category. The detailed procedure for the human evaluation is described below.
- In order to calculate the overall average performance of MLLMs on 6 categories, we multiply *Bounding Box* by 100 and then take average of 6 categories.

**Human Studies.** To establish a human performance baseline, we conduct user studies on BEAR-mini, a subset of our benchmark created by randomly sampling 40 questions from each category. Five adult participants, all of whom provided informed consent, took part in the study. They were briefed on the task goals, data usage, and their right to withdraw at any time. No personally identifiable information (PII) was collected. The study was carried out solely for research purposes in compliance with institutional human subjects guidelines.

**Pointing.** The evaluation results for the Pointing category are reported in Table 5. The evaluation metric is success rate, defined as the average over all questions, where a score of 1 is assigned if the predicted point is correct and 0 otherwise. The MLLM is tasked with predicting a normalized  $(x, y)$  coordinate on a single image, where  $x \in (0, 1)$  and  $y \in (0, 1)$ , representing a pixel location within the image. A prediction is deemed correct if the indicated pixel lies within the ground truth mask; otherwise, it is considered incorrect.

**Bounding Box.** The evaluation results for the Bounding Box category are reported in Table 5. The evaluation metric is IoU, short for Intersection over Union. We report the average IoU on all questions. The MLLM is tasked with predicting a normalized 2D bounding box, denoted as  $(x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2)$ , where  $x \in (0, 1)$  and  $y \in (0, 1)$ . To evaluate performance, we compute the IoU between the ground truth bounding box  $GT$  and the model-predicted bounding box  $P$ .

$$\text{IoU} = \frac{|GT \cap P|}{|GT \cup P|}$$

**Trajectory Reasoning.** The evaluation results for Trajectory Reasoning category is reported in Table 5. The evaluation metric is success rate (%). A question is considered correct if the model selects the ground-truth option, otherwise it is counted as incorrect.

**Spatial Reasoning.** The evaluation results for Spatial Reasoning category is reported in Table 5. The evaluation metric is success rate (%). A question is considered correct if the model selects the ground-truth option, otherwise it is counted as incorrect.

**Task Planning.** The evaluation results for Task Planning category is reported in Table 5. The evaluation metric is success rate (%). A question is considered correct if the model selects the ground-truth option, otherwise it is counted as incorrect.

**Long-horizon Reasoning.** The evaluation results for the long-horizon category are reported in Table 5. The evaluation metric is success rate (%) over all 35 episodes. Each episode records an agent performing a common task in simulation, which we manually decompose into a sequence of necessary decision-making steps. A question is considered correct if the model selects the ground-truth option, otherwise it is counted as incorrect. An episode is deemed successful only if the MLLM answers all questions within that episode correctly.

Table 5: **Evaluation results on BEAR.** We report performance of 20 MLLMs. GEN = *General Object (Pointing/Box)*; SPA = *Spatial Object (Pointing/Box)*; PRT = *Semantic Part (Pointing/Box)*; PRG = *Task Process Reasoning*; PRD = *Next Action Prediction*; GPR = *Gripper Trajectory Reasoning*; HND = *Human Hand Trajectory Reasoning*; OBJ = *Object Trajectory Reasoning*; LOC = *Object Localization*; PTH = *Path Planning*; DIR = *Relative Direction*. Bounding Box scores are scaled by 100 when computing overall average. We also report *Random Choice* for multi-choice questions.

	Format	Pointing				Bounding Box				Task Planning		
		GEN	SPA	PRT	Avg	GEN	SRA	PRT	Avg	PRG	PRD	Avg
Random Choice		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	25
Human		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Open-source Models												
DeepSeek-VL-7B (Lu et al., 2024)	merged	14.12	8.50	9.24	10.62	0.276	0.160	0.231	0.222	37.67	27.33	32.50
Molmo-7B-D-0924 (Deitke et al., 2025)	merged	23.53	19.28	25.48	22.76	0.109	0.082	0.109	0.100	37.67	31.00	34.34
InternVL2-4B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	18.53	10.78	12.42	13.91	0.117	0.082	0.107	0.102	37.33	32.33	34.83
InternVL2-8B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	21.18	21.90	21.97	21.68	0.294	0.194	0.179	0.222	<b>44.00</b>	31.67	37.84
InternVL2-26B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	21.18	15.36	18.79	18.44	0.201	0.202	0.147	0.183	41.33	34.33	37.83
InternVL2-40B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	23.24	21.24	22.29	22.25	0.329	0.269	0.268	0.289	40.00	33.67	36.84
InternVL3-8B (Zhu et al., 2025)	merged	<b>52.65</b>	<b>42.48</b>	<b>43.95</b>	<b>46.36</b>	<b>0.369</b>	<b>0.275</b>	<b>0.297</b>	<b>0.314</b>	43.00	33.67	38.34
InternVL3-14B (Zhu et al., 2025)	merged	37.94	27.78	32.80	32.84	0.304	0.258	0.276	0.279	41.00	33.00	37.00
LLaVa-NeXT-Interleave-7B (Li et al., 2024b)	merged	6.47	3.59	2.55	4.20	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	37.33	26.00	31.67
LLaVa-NeXT-Llama3-8B (Li et al., 2024a)	merged	2.94	1.31	0.96	1.73	0.320	0.246	0.205	0.257	36.67	29.67	33.17
Qwen2.5-VL-7B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025)	merged	6.18	1.63	0.96	2.92	0.007	0.003	0.009	0.007	40.67	32.33	36.50
Qwen2.5-VL-32B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025)	merged	27.35	27.78	42.68	32.60	0.020	0.018	0.017	0.018	42.67	<b>42.33</b>	<b>42.50</b>
Proprietary Models												
Claude-3.7-Sonnet (Anthropic, 2024)	sequential	47.94	36.27	37.58	40.60	0.195	0.132	0.187	0.171	32.67	44.33	38.50
Claude-4-Sonnet (Anthropic, 2024)	sequential	39.12	40.86	45.54	41.84	0.221	0.173	0.197	0.197	44.00	37.67	40.84
Gemini-2.0-Flash (Team, 2024)	sequential	51.76	34.97	40.13	42.29	0.270	0.167	0.224	0.220	38.67	40.00	39.34
Gemini-2.5-Flash (Comanici et al., 2025)	sequential	46.76	33.33	39.49	39.86	0.183	0.145	0.156	0.161	48.33	43.67	46.00
Gemini-2.5-Pro (Comanici et al., 2025)	sequential	55.00	42.48	<b>55.41</b>	50.96	0.144	0.103	0.177	0.141	52.00	49.00	50.50
GPT-4o (?)	sequential	40.59	27.12	34.39	34.04	0.227	0.118	0.202	0.182	43.67	46.00	44.84
GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a)	sequential	<b>70.00</b>	<b>63.69</b>	54.90	<b>62.86</b>	<b>0.411</b>	<b>0.326</b>	<b>0.352</b>	<b>0.363</b>	<b>59.67</b>	<b>61.00</b>	<b>60.34</b>
GPT-o3 (?)	sequential	59.12	44.44	55.41	52.99	0.348	0.278	0.313	0.313	57.67	55.33	56.50

	Format	Trajectory				Spatial Reasoning				Long-horizon	Avg
		GPR	HND	OBJ	Avg	LOC	PTH	DIR	Avg		
Random Choice	x	25	25	25	25	25	50	25	25	25	-
Human	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Open-source Models											
DeepSeek-VL-7B (Lu et al., 2024)	merged	41.03	38.72	22.67	34.14	42.02	<b>37.68</b>	<b>32.00</b>	<b>37.23</b>	20.00	23.89
Molmo-7B-D-0924 (Deitke et al., 2025)	merged	45.51	41.41	23.33	36.75	49.84	29.47	26.00	35.10	5.71	24.22
InternVL2-4B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	44.55	34.01	25.67	34.74	40.07	33.82	26.33	33.41	8.57	20.45
InternVL2-8B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	41.67	38.38	22.33	34.13	39.41	29.95	25.33	31.56	11.49	33.32
InternVL2-26B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	53.21	43.77	<b>30.33</b>	42.44	26.06	26.57	22.00	24.88	11.29	25.66
InternVL2-40B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	<b>57.69</b>	41.75	28.00	42.48	40.39	29.47	18.67	29.51	11.43	28.38
InternVL3-8B (Zhu et al., 2025)	merged	51.28	46.80	27.67	41.92	<b>50.16</b>	32.37	20.00	34.18	8.57	33.32
InternVL3-14B (Zhu et al., 2025)	merged	51.28	49.49	31.43	43.36	43.00	28.02	21.33	30.78	<b>28.57</b>	<b>33.93</b>
LLaVa-NeXT-Interleave-7B (Li et al., 2024b)	merged	37.18	37.04	20.67	31.63	37.79	27.54	19.67	28.33	5.71	14.64
LLaVa-NeXT-Llama3-8B (Li et al., 2024a)	merged	39.42	37.71	23.00	33.38	40.39	33.82	24.00	32.74	14.29	21.65
Qwen2.5-VL-7B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025)	merged	54.49	48.15	30.00	44.21	38.44	31.40	21.00	30.28	22.86	21.44
Qwen2.5-VL-32B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025)	merged	55.45	<b>52.19</b>	26.67	<b>44.77</b>	47.23	26.57	22.67	32.16	20.00	28.33
Proprietary Models											
Claude-3.7-Sonnet (Anthropic, 2024)	sequential	52.88	48.82	31.33	44.34	38.76	33.33	34.67	35.59	20.00	32.11
Claude-4-Sonnet (Anthropic, 2024)	sequential	50.00	49.16	38.00	45.72	46.25	42.51	39.67	42.81	17.14	33.05
Gemini-2.0-Flash (Team, 2024)	sequential	61.54	59.60	31.33	50.82	54.07	33.82	39.67	42.52	25.71	36.03
Gemini-2.5-Flash (Comanici et al., 2025)	sequential	64.42	63.97	45.00	57.80	61.24	43.00	44.67	49.64	31.43	38.24
Gemini-2.5-Pro (Comanici et al., 2025)	sequential	66.67	65.99	48.33	60.33	64.50	40.10	44.00	49.53	31.43	41.46
GPT-4o (?)	sequential	41.99	35.35	30.67	36.00	60.91	33.33	31.00	41.75	31.43	32.90
GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a)	sequential	<b>66.99</b>	67.34	49.67	61.33	<b>72.31</b>	<b>50.24</b>	47.00	<b>56.52</b>	<b>40.00</b>	<b>52.17</b>
GPT-o3 (?)	sequential	<b>66.99</b>	<b>68.35</b>	<b>53.67</b>	<b>63.00</b>	70.36	49.28	<b>49.67</b>	56.44	34.29	47.62



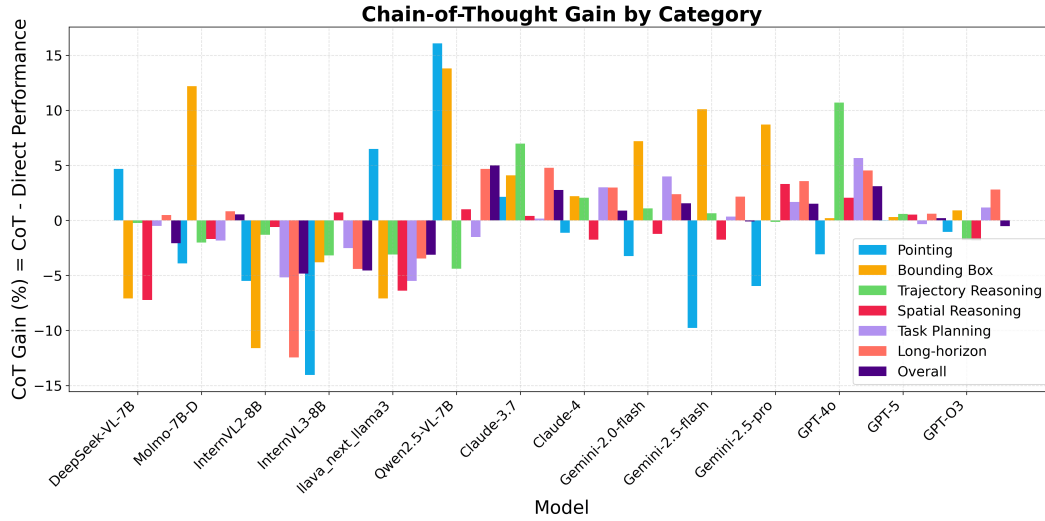


Figure 45: **Chain-of-thought gains across categories and models.** We evaluate the impact of Chain-of-Thought prompting on 13 state-of-the-art MLLMs and report the performance gain. Overall, CoT offers only marginal benefits and, in some cases, leads to negative effects.

### H.0.3 PERFORMANCE WITH CoT

We analyze the impact of Chain-of-Thought(CoT) prompting on 6 categories of embodied reasoning tasks: *Pointing*, *Bounding Box*, *Trajectory Reasoning*, *Spatial Reasoning*, *Task Planning* and *Long-horizon*. We present the result of Chain-of-Thought(CoT) prompting in Table 6. And we visualize the performance gain in Figure 45.

Overall, CoT yields mixed results, with its effectiveness varying by skill and model type. But there are the following observations:

1. Overall, CoT offers limited and sometimes even negative overall performance, with its impact being highly category-specific and model-dependent.
2. For complex reasoning tasks such as *Trajectory Reasoning* and *Task Planning*, CoT tends to improve the performance of proprietary models, though the gains remain modest. We hypothesize that this improvement arises because these tasks inherently demand multi-step reasoning, where CoT provides an explicit structure for organizing intermediate decisions.
3. For low-level perception tasks such as *Pointing* and *Bounding Box*, the effect of CoT varies considerably across open-source models, as shown in Figure 45. In contrast, proprietary models show a consistent pattern: CoT improves performance on *Bounding Box* but reduces accuracy on *Pointing*. We hypothesize that CoT is beneficial for *Bounding Box* because it encourages structured reasoning and enforces a consistent output format (e.g.,  $(x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2)$ ). However, for *Pointing*, where the answer format is already simple (a single coordinate pair  $(x, y)$ ), additional reasoning steps may introduce unnecessary complexity and disrupt direct visual grounding, ultimately degrading performance.
4. For *Spatial Reasoning*, CoT prompting proves largely ineffective across models. We hypothesize that spatial understanding is inherently intuitive and often relies on non-verbal perceptual cues, whereas standard CoT enforces a sequential, language-based decomposition. This mismatch is likely to introduce errors into the reasoning chain, thereby degrading performance rather than enhancing it. For a more detailed analysis, we refer readers to the Appendix.

We conduct additional analyses to further verify our observations:

1. As shown in Figure 45, all models achieve less than a 5% overall performance gain, with many showing improvements close to zero or even negative.




**Gemini-2.0-Flash:**

Okay, let's analyze the video to determine the order of actions and find the one that doesn't happen before putting away the raisins.\n\n1. The person puts a fork into a case then puts a rubber band around it.\n2. The person cleans the fork.\n3. The person put the fork back to the case and put the rubber band around it.\n4. The person opens a drawer to grab a cereal box (Shreddies).\n5. The person pours cereal into a bowl.\n6. The person gets a green bag from a cupboard.\n7. The person opens the fridge.\n8. The person gets a yogurt.\n9. The person puts a raisin into a bowl.\n10. The person adds the yogurt to the bowl, and the mix is ready.\n11. The person cleans up around the table and puts away the yogurt.\n12. The person puts away the cereal.\n13. The person puts away the green bag.\n14. The person puts away raisins.\n\nNow let's check the options:\n\n\* \*\*A: open drawer:\*\* The person opens a drawer before they get the cereal, before putting away raisins.\n\* \*\*B: pour cereal:\*\* The person pours cereal into a bowl, which is before they put away raisins.\n\* \*\*C: open fridge:\*\* The person opens the fridge before they get the yogurt, before putting away raisins.\n\nThus, all the actions A, B, and C happen before the person puts away the raisins.\n\n\*\*Final Answer: D\*\*

Figure 47: The reasoning process of Gemini-2.0-Flash on *Task Process Reasoning*. The necessary reasoning step includes step-by-step analysis of the video and then checking the options.

- As shown in Figure 45, all the proprietary models receive positive performance gain. As shown in Table 6, for example, Gemini-2.0-Flash receive 3.99% improvement in *Task Planning* and 1.08% improvement in *Trajectory Reasoning*, and GPT-4o receive 5.66% improvement in *Task Planning* and 10.71% in *Trajectory Reasoning*. In order to analyze that why CoT can improve the performance in *Trajectory Reasoning* and *Task Planning*, we observe the Chain-of-Thought Reasoning process of Gemini-2.5-Flash, GPT-4o, and other models, and observe there is a very clear structure in the reasoning process of *Trajectory Reasoning* and *Task Planning* that can motivate the MLLMs to correctly answer the questions, as shown in Figure 46 and Figure 47.

**Image**



**Instruction:**

The image shows the current location of the robot hand. There are four arrows pointing in different directions. Each arrow represents a candidate direction the robot hand could move toward, which arrow should the robot follow to move toward the **silver vessel**?

Options:\n

A. Green Arrow.\n

B. Blue Arrow.\n

C. Red Arrow.\n

D. None of the above.

**GPT-4o:** To determine which direction the robot hand should move to reach the silver vessel, we can analyze the image as follows:\n\n1. **Silver Vessel Location**: The silver vessel is on the left side of the image.\n\n2. **Arrow Directions**:  
- **Red Arrow**: Points upwards and slightly right.  
- **Green Arrow**: Points downward and left.  
- **Blue Arrow**: Points to the left.  
3. **Desired Movement**: To move the robot hand toward the silver vessel, the hand should move to the left.\n\n4. **Correct Arrow**: The blue arrow correctly points to the left toward the silver vessel.\n\nTherefore, the robot hand should follow the **Blue Arrow**.  
Option B: Blue.

Figure 46: The reasoning process of GPT-4o on *Trajectory Reasoning*. The necessary reasoning step includes recognizing object location and then analyze the direction of trajectory arrows.

- For hypotheses on the effect of Chain-of-Thought on *Bounding Box* and *Pointing*, we perform further analysis to verify our following hypothesis:
  - CoT prompting benefits the structured output of *Bounding Box* and format alignment. As shown in Figure 48, CoT can significantly reduce the format error of Gemini-2.5-Pro. Moreover, for other proprietary models, CoT also reduces format errors, with 6% for GPT-4o and 20% for Claude-4. As shown in Figure 49, our observations indicate



Figure 48: (a) Error distribution of Gemini-2.5-Pro with *direct* prompting format. (b) Error distribution of Gemini-2.5-Pro with *CoT* prompting format. CoT can significantly reduce format error.

#### Gemini-2.5-Pro:

**\*\*Step 1:\*\*** The user wants me to identify the rearview mirror of the van in the provided image.\n\* **\*\*Step 2:\*\*** I will first examine the original image to locate the van. The van is the large white vehicle that dominates the center of the image.\n\* **\*\*Step 3:\*\*** Rearview mirrors, also known as side-view mirrors, are located on the sides of a vehicle, typically near the front doors. I will look at the front part of the van, which is on the right side of the image.\n\* **\*\*Step 4:\*\*** On the right side of the van, attached to the front passenger door just below the window, there is a black object protruding outwards. This is the rearview mirror.\n\* **\*\*Step 5:\*\*** I can use the provided crop images to confirm this. The third crop, in particular, gives a clear, close-up view of the front section of the van's side. In this crop, the black rearview mirror is clearly visible.\n\* **\*\*Step 6:\*\*** I will now define a bounding box that encloses the entire rearview mirror assembly, including the arm that attaches it to the van's door. I will estimate the normalized coordinates for this box based on its position in the original image. The mirror is in the upper-right quadrant of the image.\n\n(0.702788, 0.554378, 0.781682, 0.652462)

Figure 49: CoT output of Gemini-2.5-Pro in *Bounding Box*. The necessary reasoning step includes step-by-step analysis of object recognition and then normalization of coordinates.

that models consistently perform coordinate normalization as the final step of their output, which greatly improves format alignment.

- (b) For *Pointing*, we conduct a detailed analysis and find that enforcing reasoning in the model output can sometimes introduce incorrect information, which can possibly interfere with the final pointing decision and leads to incorrect conclusions, as shown in Figure 50 and Figure 51.

- For *Spatial Reasoning*, we observe that errors often arise when the visual information cues provided to the model are misleading or incomplete. For example, within the *Object Localization* category, the model may mistakenly predict the presence of an object that is in fact absent, or it may fail to correctly identify the object's true location. Similarly, in the *Relative Direction* subcategory, models sometimes misinterpret the spatial relationship between objects, leading to incorrect judgments about orientation or relative position. In *Path Planning*, errors often occur when the model builds its reasoning on an incorrect spatial map, such as misidentifying obstacles or misplacing landmarks, which in turn results in invalid or suboptimal navigation paths. These examples highlight that spatial reasoning errors are typically not due to a lack of reasoning steps, but rather to incorrect grounding in the visual scene, which propagates through the reasoning process and ultimately leads to wrong conclusions.

**Claude-3.7-Sonnet**

I need to identify the legs of the red-eyed tree frog in this image.\n\nLet me analyze the image step by step:\n\n1. First, I can see a red-eyed tree frog in the image - it has the characteristic red eyes, green body, and orange/yellow coloring on its feet.\n\n2. The frog is positioned among green leaves and appears to be resting on what looks like a yellow/golden colored surface (possibly a banana or similar fruit).\n\n3. Looking at the frog's body position, I can identify its legs:\n - The frog is facing toward the camera/slightly to the right\n



- I can see its front legs/arms positioned in front of its body\n - The back legs are less visible but can be seen supporting the frog's body\n\n4. The most clearly visible legs are the front legs, which show the characteristic orange/yellow coloring on the feet/toes that red-eyed tree frogs are known for.\n\n5. The front legs appear to be positioned in the lower-center portion of where the frog is located, with the distinctive orange-colored toes/feet being quite prominent.\n\nFocusing on the most visible and characteristic part of the frog's legs (the orange-colored feet/toes of the front legs), these appear to be located in the center-lower portion of the frog's body.\n\n(0.42, 0.65).

Figure 50: CoT output of Claude-3.7-Sonnet in *Pointing*. Red font indicates incorrect visual information.

**Claude-4-Sonnet**

I need to identify the rearview mirror of the white van in the image.\n\nLet me examine the van carefully:\n\n1. This is a white commercial van photographed from the side.\n\n2. I can see the driver's side of the vehicle.\n\n3. The rearview mirror would typically be mounted on the driver's side door or A-pillar area.\n\n4. Looking at the front portion of the van, near the driver's door area.\n\n5. I can see a dark-colored rearview mirror mounted on the driver's side of the van. It appears to be positioned on the door, extending outward from the vehicle. The mirror is visible as a dark rectangular/oval shape protruding from the side of the van.\n\nThe rearview mirror is located approximately in the upper-middle portion of the driver's side door area.\n\n(0.73, 0.47)"



Figure 51: CoT output of Claude-4-Sonnet in *Pointing*. Red font indicates incorrect visual information.

Table 6: **CoT results on BEAR.** . We use *Chain-of-Thought* prompting strategy for model inference, and present the performance below.

	Format	Pointing				Bounding Box				Task Planning		
		GEN	SPA	PRT	Avg	GEN	SRA	PRT	Avg	PRG	PRD	Avg
Random Choice		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25	25
Human		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Open-source Models												
DeepSeek-VL-7B (Lu et al., 2024)	merged	22.06	10.13	13.69	15.29	0.167	0.132	0.153	0.151	34.67	29.33	32.00
Molmo-7B-D (Deitke et al., 2025)	merged	20.88	12.75	22.93	18.85	0.276	0.160	0.231	0.222	37.67	27.33	32.50
InternVL2-8B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	17.35	12.09	19.11	16.18	0.123	0.084	0.112	0.106	39.33	26.00	32.67
InternVL3-8B (Zhu et al., 2025)	merged	<b>37.65</b>	<b>28.43</b>	<b>30.89</b>	<b>32.32</b>	<b>0.311</b>	<b>0.237</b>	<b>0.281</b>	<b>0.276</b>	<b>38.33</b>	<b>33.33</b>	<b>35.83</b>
LLaVa-NeXT-Llama3-8B (Li et al., 2024a)	merged	11.47	4.58	8.60	8.22	0.214	0.207	0.138	0.186	29.00	26.33	27.67
Qwen2.5-VL-7B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025)	merged	17.35	17.97	21.66	18.99	0.158	0.133	0.145	0.145	36.00	34.00	35.00
Proprietary Models												
Claude-3.7-Sonnet (Anthropic, 2024)	sequential	44.41	39.22	44.59	42.74	0.247	0.180	0.209	0.212	31.00	46.33	38.67
Claude-4-Sonnet (Anthropic, 2024)	sequential	42.35	37.42	42.36	40.71	0.263	0.173	0.221	0.219	47.00	40.67	43.84
Gemini-2.0-Flash (Team, 2024)	sequential	41.47	31.37	44.27	39.04	0.348	0.255	0.273	0.292	45.33	41.33	43.33
Gemini-2.5-Flash (Comanici et al., 2025)	sequential	32.94	23.86	33.44	30.08	0.290	0.244	0.252	0.262	52.67	40.00	46.34
Gemini-2.5-Pro (Comanici et al., 2025)	sequential	46.76	38.24	50.00	45.00	0.252	0.209	0.224	0.228	53.33	51.00	52.17
GPT-4o (Hurst et al., 2024)	sequential	39.41	22.22	31.21	30.95	0.224	0.128	0.200	0.184	50.67	50.33	50.50
GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a)	sequential	<b>67.35</b>	<b>57.19</b>	<b>64.01</b>	<b>62.85</b>	<b>0.406</b>	<b>0.321</b>	<b>0.370</b>	<b>0.366</b>	<b>58.67</b>	<b>61.33</b>	<b>60.00</b>
GPT-o3 (OpenAI, 2025b)	sequential	58.82	44.77	52.23	51.94	0.348	0.278	0.339	0.322	58.33	57.00	57.67

	Format	Trajectory				Spatial Reasoning				Long-horizon	Avg
		GPR	HND	OBJ	Avg	LOC	PTH	DIR	Avg		
Random Choice	x	25	25	25	25	25	50	25	25	25	-
Human	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Open-source Models											
DeepSeek-VL-7B (Lu et al., 2024)	merged	41.67	36.70	23.33	33.90	39.09	26.57	24.33	30.00	<b>20.00</b>	24.38
Molmo-7B-D (Deitke et al., 2025)	merged	44.55	34.01	25.67	34.74	40.07	<b>33.82</b>	26.33	<b>33.41</b>	8.57	25.05
InternVL2-8B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	38.78	36.70	23.00	32.83	39.41	30.43	23.00	30.95	0	20.87
InternVL3-8B (Zhu et al., 2025)	merged	44.87	36.03	<b>35.33</b>	38.74	<b>47.23</b>	<b>33.82</b>	23.67	34.91	0	28.90
LLaVa-NeXT-Llama3-8B (Li et al., 2024a)	merged	36.86	32.32	21.67	30.28	26.71	27.05	25.33	26.36	0	18.19
Qwen2.5-VL-7B-Instruct (Bai et al., 2025)	merged	<b>48.40</b>	<b>40.07</b>	31.00	<b>39.82</b>	29.64	31.88	<b>32.33</b>	31.28	17.14	<b>26.12</b>
Proprietary Models											
Claude-3.7-Sonnet (Anthropic, 2024)	sequential	57.05	55.89	41.00	51.31	36.16	38.16	33.67	35.99	31.42	36.89
Claude-4-Sonnet (Anthropic, 2024)	sequential	55.24	44.78	43.33	47.78	44.63	41.55	37.00	41.06	22.86	36.03
Gemini-2.0-Flash (Team, 2024)	sequential	63.46	56.57	35.67	51.90	53.75	33.82	36.33	41.30	25.71	38.41
Gemini-2.5-Flash (Comanici et al., 2025)	sequential	65.06	62.29	48.00	58.45	57.65	42.03	44.00	47.89	31.43	40.40
Gemini-2.5-Pro (Comanici et al., 2025)	sequential	<b>68.91</b>	65.32	46.33	60.19	64.17	47.34	47.00	52.84	37.14	45.02
GPT-4o (Hurst et al., 2024)	sequential	51.28	50.51	38.33	46.71	56.03	41.06	34.33	43.81	34.29	37.44
GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a)	sequential	65.38	<b>68.35</b>	<b>52.00</b>	<b>61.91</b>	<b>73.29</b>	<b>47.83</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>57.04</b>	34.29	<b>52.78</b>
GPT-o3 (OpenAI, 2025b)	sequential	67.95	66.33	49.33	61.20	68.40	<b>47.83</b>	47.67	54.63	<b>42.86</b>	50.42



Table 7: Results of different test-time scaling (TTS) strategies on BEAR-mini.

Model	Method	Reward Model	w/o tts	N=4	N=8	N=16
Gemini 2.0 Flash	Majority Voting (Snell et al., 2024)	–		37.1	39.0	39.4
	Best of N (Lightman et al., 2023)	Gemini 2.0 Flash (Self)	36.0	39.8	<b>40.9</b>	38.9
	Tournament (Son et al., 2024)	Gemini 2.0 Flash (Self)		38.9	36.3	37.9
DeepSeek-VL-7B	Majority Voting (Snell et al., 2024)	–		26.6	27.7	28.8
	Best of N (Lightman et al., 2023)	Gemini 2.0 Flash	23.9	27.4	<b>29.4</b>	28.4
	Tournament (Son et al., 2024)	Gemini 2.0 Flash		27.3	28.4	26.7

#### H.0.4 PERFORMANCE WITH TEST-TIME COMPUTE SCALING

Due to the significant test-time compute required, we use BEAR-mini: a subset of BEAR containing 40 samples per category. We evaluate three common test-time compute scaling strategies on BEAR-mini: majority voting, Best-of-N selection, and Tournament-Style selection. Both Best-of-N and Tournament-Style selection rely on a reward model to identify the most suitable response among a set of candidates. We

- **Majority Voting** (Snell et al., 2024): Selects the most frequent answer among  $N$  candidate responses. In case of a tie, one answer is randomly chosen from the top candidates.
- **Best-of-N** (Lightman et al., 2023): Uses a reward model to select the highest-scoring response from  $N$  candidates. We choose  $N = 4, 8, 16$  and conduct experiments with both a base model and a stronger reasoning model as the scorer.
- **Tournament-Style Selection** (Son et al., 2024): Uses a reward model to conduct pairwise comparisons between candidate responses and selects the overall winner via a tournament-style process.

**Reward models.** In the context of Test-time Scaling (TTS) experiments, when multiple candidate responses (e.g., five outputs) are generated, a reward model serves as an automatic evaluator by assigning a quality score to each response. These scores are then used to guide selection strategies such as Best-of-N (choosing the highest-scoring response) or Tournament Selection (progressively eliminating lower-scoring candidates). This mechanism enables performance gains at inference time without incurring additional training costs. **To ensure the reward model has sufficient context for scoring, we employ Chain-of-Thought (CoT) prompting to generate diverse candidate responses.** We report our experiment result on BEAR in Table 7.

#### H.0.5 THE EFFECT OF NUMBER OF FRAMES

For video inputs, we uniformly sample frames to construct a compact yet representative sequence. Specifically, each video is downsampled into  $N$  frames by evenly dividing the timeline, ensuring temporal coverage while reducing redundancy. Our sample strategy includes the first and the last frame in the video. We set  $N = 16$  frames per video for proprietary models and  $N = 32$  for open-source models. In Figure 52, our results indicate that varying the number of frames does not substantially impact performance.

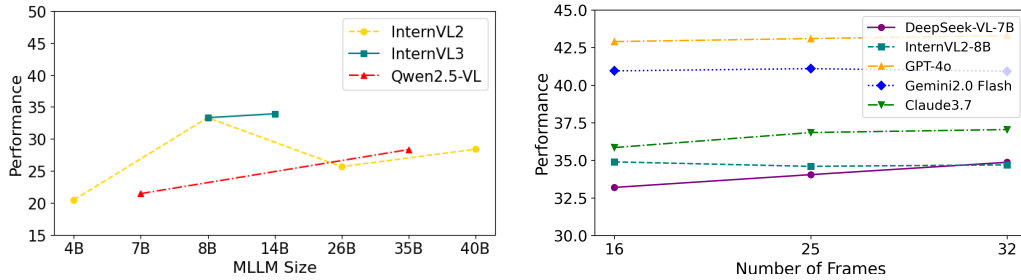


Figure 52: (a) **Performance with respect to model size.** We report overall performance across 6 categories. (b) **Performance with respect to frame number.** We report average performance of *Spatial Reasoning* and *Task Planning* to assess the effect of frame count on model performance.

#### H.0.6 THE EFFECT OF MODEL SIZE

We also conduct model size scalability experiments, as shown in Figure 52, which demonstrate that increasing model size does not necessarily translate into improved performance. Based on the left panel of the figure, the analysis of model size effects reveals several insights. (1) The performance trajectory from 4B to 40B parameters demonstrates that model scaling does not follow a straightforward monotonic pattern, indicating increasing model size does not necessarily translate into improved performance. InternVL2 exhibits an inverted-U pattern, achieving peak performance at 8B parameters before experiencing performance degradation at larger scales. InternVL3 demonstrates optimal performance in the 8B-14B range (34%), followed by performance plateauing. Qwen2.5-VL shows relatively consistent but modest improvements across scales, with diminishing returns evident.



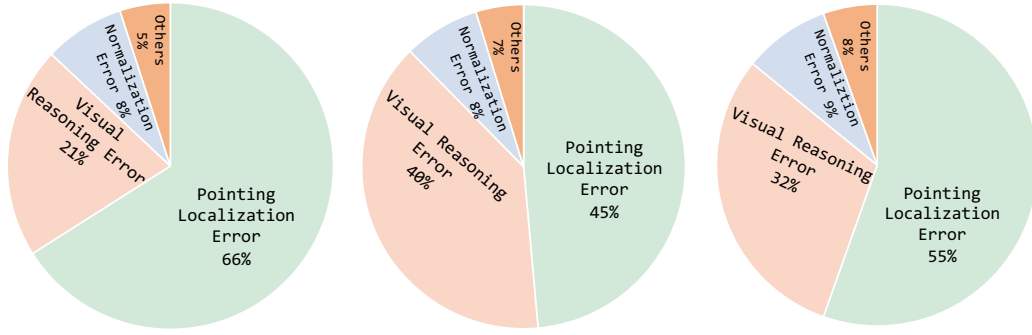


Figure 53: (a) Error distribution of GPT-4o on *General Object Pointing*. (b) Error distribution of GPT-4o on *Spatial Relationship Pointing*. (c) Error distribution of GPT-4o on *Semantic Part Pointing*.

## I ERROR ANALYSIS

We conduct a failure analysis for GPT-4o across 14 skills in 6 categories and identify several notable findings, which are summarized below. In addition, detailed failure analyzes for each category are provided in the following sub-subsections. During failure analysis, we explicitly adopt a chain-of-thought prompting strategy and instruct the model to generate its step-by-step reasoning process.

### I.0.1 POINTING

**General Object Pointing.** As illustrated in Figure 53, most failures in this category arise from *pointing localization errors*. In such cases, the MLLM successfully identifies the general region of the target object, but lacks the fine-grained visual discrimination required to select an accurate point on the object. This often results in predictions that are slightly offset from the ground truth, reflecting the model’s limitations in pixel-level localization, as shown in Figure 54. Another large source of error is *visual reasoning errors*, where the model completely misinterprets the visual scene, either by confusing one object for another or by reasoning about an entirely incorrect location. Representative examples are shown in Figure 57.

**Spatial Relationship Pointing.** The failure distribution in this task mirrors that of *General Object Pointing*, but with a higher incidence of *visual reasoning errors*. This shift is largely due to the added complexity of relational reasoning: instead of simply localizing an object, the model must infer the correct spatial relation between two or more objects (e.g., ‘the mug to the left of the laptop’). MLLMs frequently confuse such relationships, reasoning about an object pair that does not satisfy the described relation, or incorrectly inferring spatial directionality. This highlights their difficulty in grounding linguistic spatial terms into precise visual configurations.

**Semantic Part Pointing.** A similar trend is observed for *Semantic Part Pointing*, with error patterns resembling those in *General Object Pointing*. However, the proportion of *visual reasoning errors* is even larger in this case. The main challenge stems from the necessity to correctly identify and localize semantic parts of an object (e.g., ‘the handle of the cup’ or ‘the wheels of the chair’). MLLMs often struggle to differentiate between object-level localization and part-level grounding, resulting in confusion between distinct parts of the same object, or even in predictions that land on irrelevant objects. This suggests that part-level grounding demands finer granularity of both visual parsing and semantic understanding than the models currently possess.

### Pointing Localization Error



**Question:** Locate the bed frame in the image.

**Model's Output:** To locate the bed frame in the image, let's break down the steps:

1. **Understand the Image Dimensions:** The image has a resolution of 1024x768 pixels. 2. **Identify the Bed Frame's Location:** - The bed frame is typically the wooden structure of the bed. - It can be seen along the bottom edge of the bed in the image. 3. **Determine the Central Point:** - The bed frame extends across the width of the bed. - The central vertical position of the bed frame is along the lower portion of the image, centered horizontally. 4. **Normalize the Coordinates:** - For normalization, divide the x and y coordinates by the image's width and height respectively. 5. **Calculate the Center of the Bed Frame:** - The center of the bed frame's approximate position on the x-axis would be around the middle of the image: 0.5. - Its position on the y-axis would be closer to the bottom, let's estimate around 0.7. **Final Answer:** The center of the bed frame is approximately at pixel location (0.5, 0.7).

Figure 54: **Example of pointing localization error.** Localization error refers to cases where the model correctly reasons about the approximate location of the target point but, due to limited fine-grained visual reasoning ability, fails to predict the precise location.

### Pointing Localization Error



**Question:** Locate the tomato slice in the top left of the image.

**Model's Output:** To locate the tomato slice in the top left of the image, follow these steps: 1. Identify Features: Look for the distinctive round shape and red color of the tomato slices. 2. Top Left Focus: Focus on the upper left section of the image to identify the first visible tomato slice. 3. Estimate Location: Visually approximate the center of this tomato slice in terms of its position in the image. 4. Normalize Coordinates: Convert this location into normalized coordinates ranging from 0 to 1 for both the x (horizontal) and y (vertical) axes.

Based on the analysis, the normalized pixel location of the tomato slice in the top left is approximately: (0.27, 0.37)

Figure 55: **Example of pointing localization error.** Localization error refers to cases where the model correctly reasons about the approximate location of the target point but, due to limited fine-grained visual reasoning ability, fails to predict the precise location.

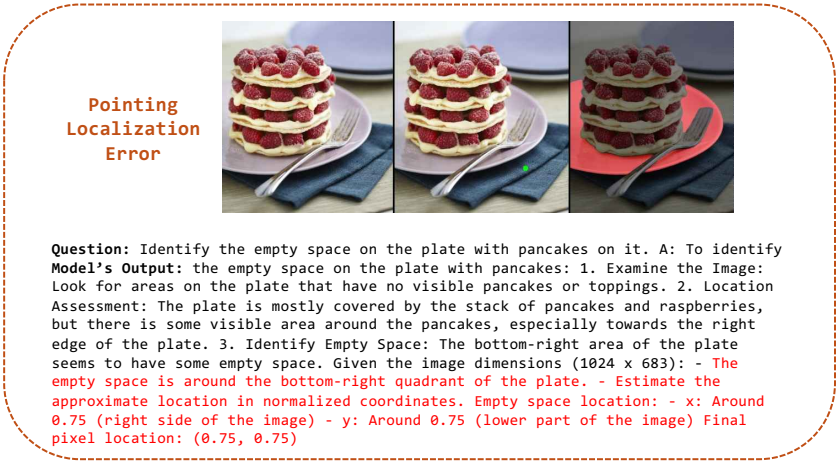


Figure 56: **Example of pointing localization error.** Localization error refers to cases where the model correctly reasons about the approximate location of the target point but, due to limited fine-grained visual reasoning ability, fails to predict the precise location.

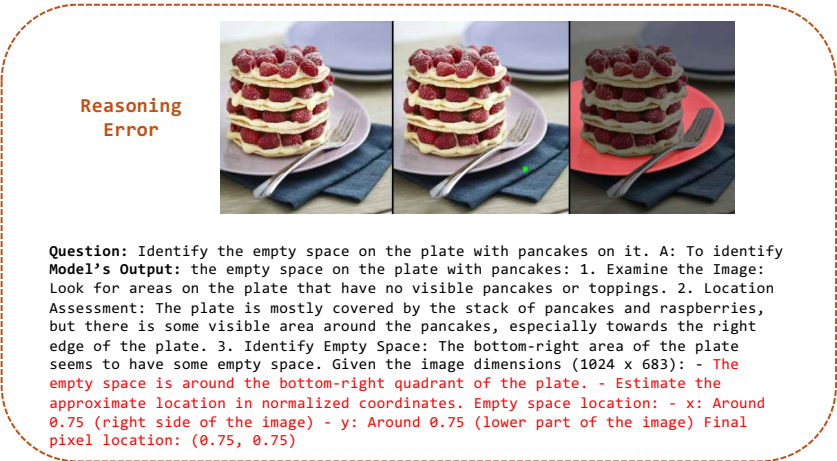


Figure 57: **Example of visual reasoning error.** In this case, GPT-4o reason about the wrong location of the front legs of crocodile.

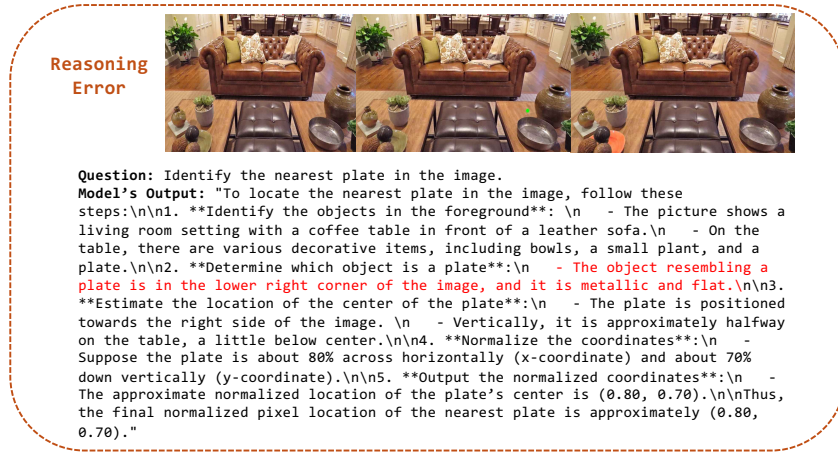


Figure 58: **Example of visual reasoning error.** In this case, GPT-4o reason about the wrong location of the front legs of crocodile.

## I.0.2 BOUNDING BOX

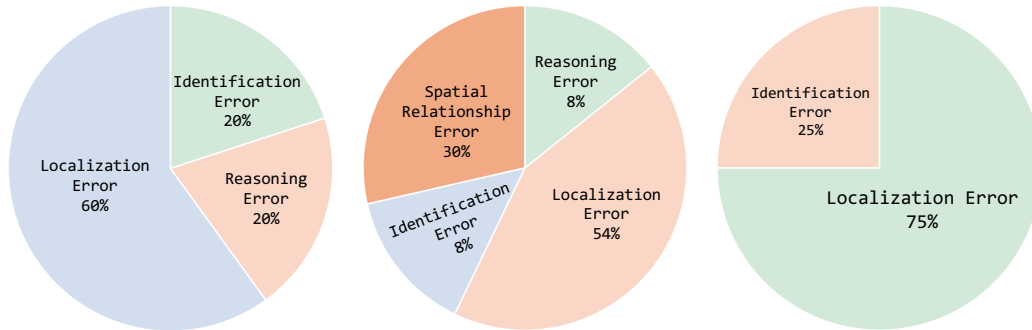


Figure 59: (a) **Error distribution of GPT-4o on General Object Bounding Box.** (b) **Error distribution of GPT-4o on Spatial Relationship Bounding Box.** (c) **Error distribution of GPT-4o on Semantic Part Bounding Box.** Please note that due to the evaluation metric of *Bounding Box* is IoU, which is a floating point between 0 and 1, we only do failure analysis on cases when IoU equals to 0.

For the *Bounding Box* category, defining errors is non-trivial since the evaluation metric: Intersection over Union (IoU), is a continuous score ranging from 0 to 1. However, there are occasional instances where models receive a score of 0, indicating complete failure to localize the target object. Our error analysis focuses specifically on these failure cases. We report our failure analysis result in Figure 59.

**General Object Bounding Box** As shown in Figure 59, the predominant source of error is due to *localization errors*, where the model demonstrates correct high-level reasoning about the target object but lacks the fine-grained visual grounding required to convert that understanding into precise bounding box coordinates, see Figure 61. Additionally, 20% of the errors are attributed to *identification errors*, where the model fails to recognize the correct object in the image, see Figure 60. Another 20% of the errors arise from *reasoning errors*, where the model's inference about the approximate coarse location of the target object is fundamentally flawed, see Figure 62.

**Spatial Relationship Bounding Box** As shown in Figure 59, 54% of the errors stem from *localization errors*. 8% are due to *identification errors*, where the model fails to detect the correct type of object in the image. Another 8% are caused by *reasoning errors*, where the model correctly identifies the target object type but fails to infer its approximate spatial location. Notably, 30% of the errors arise from *spatial relationship errors*, as shown in Figure 63, where the model successfully detects

the relevant objects but misunderstands their spatial relationships, leading to incorrect selection of the object referred to in the instruction.

**Semantic Part Bounding Box** As shown in Figure 59, 75% of the errors are due to incorrect localization of the target object, while the remaining 25% result from incorrect identification of the target part.

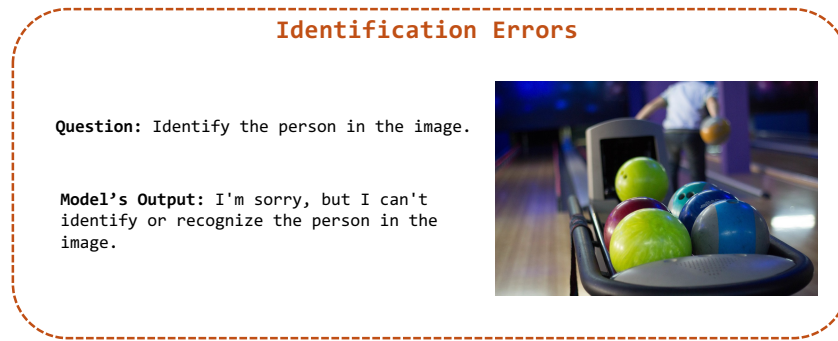


Figure 60: **Example of identification error.** In this case, GPT-4o reason about the wrong location of the front legs of crocodile.

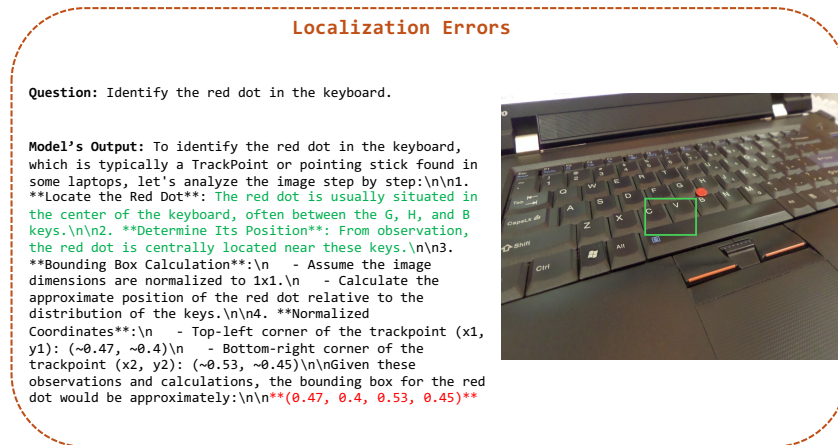


Figure 61: **Example of localization error.** In this case, GPT-4o reason about the wrong location of the front legs of crocodile.



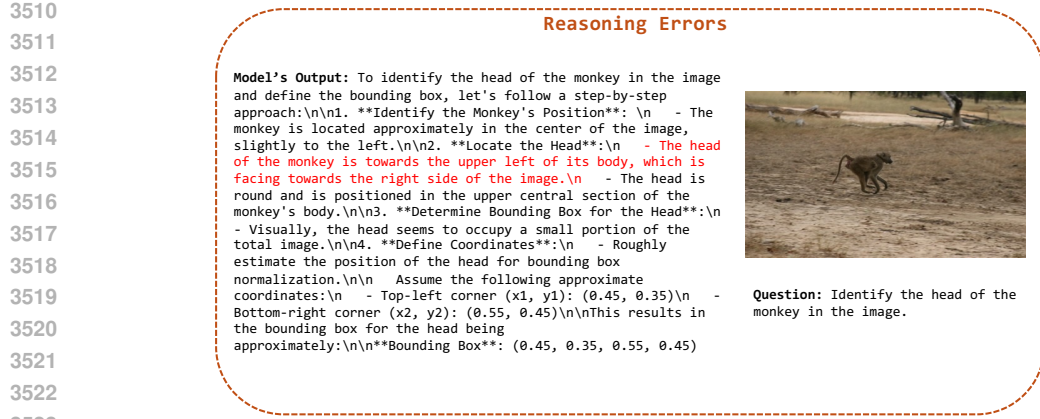


Figure 62: **Example of reasoning error.** In this case, GPT-4o reason about the wrong location of the front legs of crocodile.

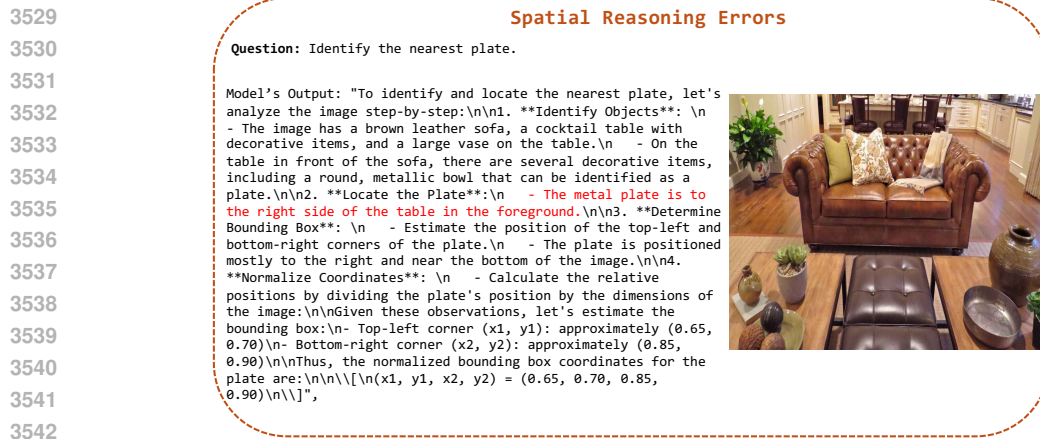


Figure 63: **Example of spatial reasoning error.** In this case, GPT-4o reason about the wrong location of the front legs of crocodile.

### I.0.3 TRAJECTORY REASONING

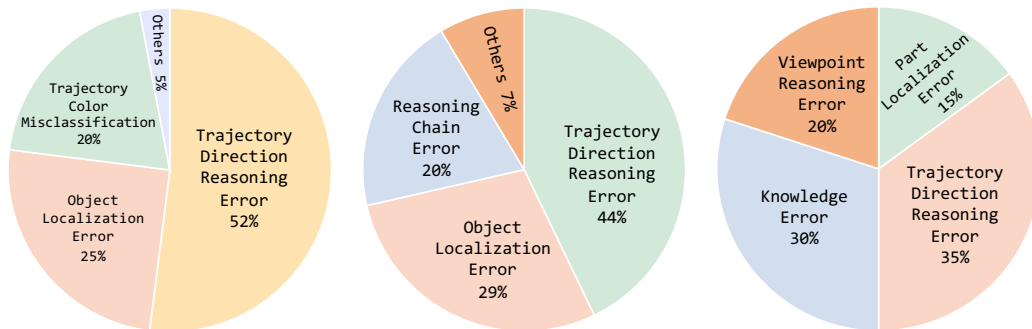


Figure 64: (a) **Error distribution of GPT-4o on Gripper Trajectory Reasoning.** (b) **Error distribution of GPT-4o on Human Hand Trajectory Reasoning.** (c) **Error distribution of GPT-4o on Object Trajectory Reasoning.**



**Gripper Trajectory Reasoning.** As shown in Figure 64, the majority of errors (52%) are categorized as *Trajectory Direction Reasoning Errors*, as shown in Figure 65 indicating that the model lacks the ability to infer the correct direction of the trajectory arrow and its intended destination. We also find that 20% of errors occur when the model fails to distinguish the color of the arrow, as shown in Figure 66; for example, it misidentifies a ‘red arrow’ as a ‘blue arrow’. In 25% of cases, the model localizes the wrong object, such as confusing the target ‘chicken leg’ with another object indicated by the arrow.

**Human Hand Trajectory Reasoning.** As shown in Figure 64, the majority of errors (44%) occur when the model fails to infer the correct direction of the human hand. Another 29% stem from incorrect object localization, such as misidentifying the chicken legs, especially in cluttered environments. Additionally, 20% are reasoning chain errors, where the model’s intermediate reasoning steps are logically consistent and may even identify the correct target, yet the final prediction contradicts its own reasoning, resulting in self-inconsistency.

**Object Trajectory Reasoning.** As shown in Figure 64, the majority of errors (35%) arise from *trajectory direction reasoning*, where the model fails to identify the correct direction of the trajectory. In addition, a substantial portion of errors stem from knowledge errors, as shown in Figure 68, which occur when the model lacks basic knowledge about object interactions, such as how to open a door or how to rotate a lid to open a bottle. About 20% of errors are due to failures in interpreting trajectories from alternative viewpoints, as shown in Figure 67, for example, when the model cannot determine how to open a drawer from a side view. Finally, 15% of errors result from incorrect part localization, such as failing to recognize the microwave handle needed to open the door.

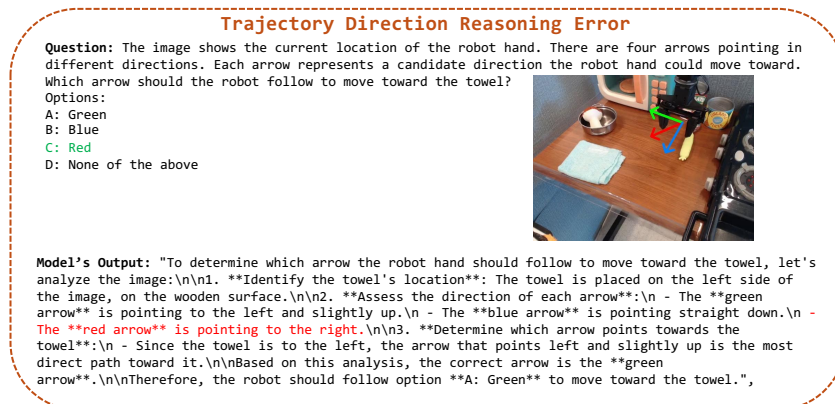


Figure 65: **Example of trajectory direction reasoning error** In this image, GPT-4o misidentifies the red arrow to be pointing right.

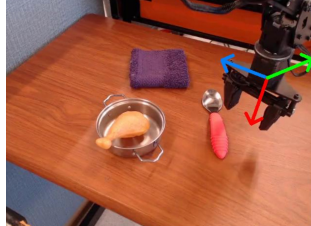
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**Color Confusing Error**

**Question:**  
The image shows the current location of the robot hand. There are four arrows pointing in different directions. Each arrow represents a candidate direction the robot hand could move toward, which arrow should the robot follow to move toward the **purple cloth**?

**Options:**  
A: Green,  
B: Blue,  
C: Red,  
D: None of the above

**Note:**  
sometimes, the model confuses the blue trajectory and green trajectory




**Model's Output:** To determine the correct direction for the robot hand to move toward the purple cloth, let's consider the position of both the robot hand and the purple cloth:\n\n1. **Robot Hand Position:** The robot hand is currently in a position facing several items including a metal pot with a toy drumstick, a spoon, and a pink object.\n\n2. **Purple Cloth Location:** The purple cloth is positioned to the left of the robot hand's current position on the table.\n\n3. **Arrow Directions:**\n - **Green Arrow:** Points to the left.\n - **Blue Arrow:** Points to the right.\n - **Red Arrow:** Points downward, indicating the direction parallel to the table surface toward the bottom of the image.\n - **None of the above:** This would mean no arrows are correct.\n\n4. To move toward the **purple cloth**, which is to the **left** of the robot hand, the robot should follow the **green arrow** direction. \n\nThus, the correct option is:\n\nA: Green

Figure 66: **Example of color confusing error** In this case, GPT-4o reason misidentifies blue trajectory arrow as green trajectory arrow and in reverse.

**Viewpoint Error**

**Question:** Identify the arrow that indicates the direction the hand will move to pull out the tissue from the box.

**Options:**  
A: Red Arrow,  
B: Green Arrow,  
C: Yellow Arrow,  
D: None of the above



**Model's Output:** To determine the correct option, let's consider the doors of the cabinet:\n\n1. **Position of Handles:** The handles are located centrally on each door.\n\n2. **Type of Door:** The cabinet has doors that swing open rather than sliding.\n\n3. **Motion to Pull Open:** To open the door, you would pull the handle directly towards you.\n\nNow, let's analyze the arrows:\n\n - **Red Arrow:** Points towards the top of the cabinet\ncorrect for pulling open the doors.\n - **Green Arrow:** Points directly outward from the cabinet\ncorrect direction for pulling the doors.\n - **Yellow Arrow:** Points sideways or parallel to the doors\ncorrect for pulling the doors open.\n\nBased on this analysis, the correct option for the direction in which the hand should move to open the cabinet doors is **B: Green Arrow**

Figure 67: **Example of viewpoint error.** In this case, GPT-4o can not reason about the correct trajectory to pull out the door in side view.

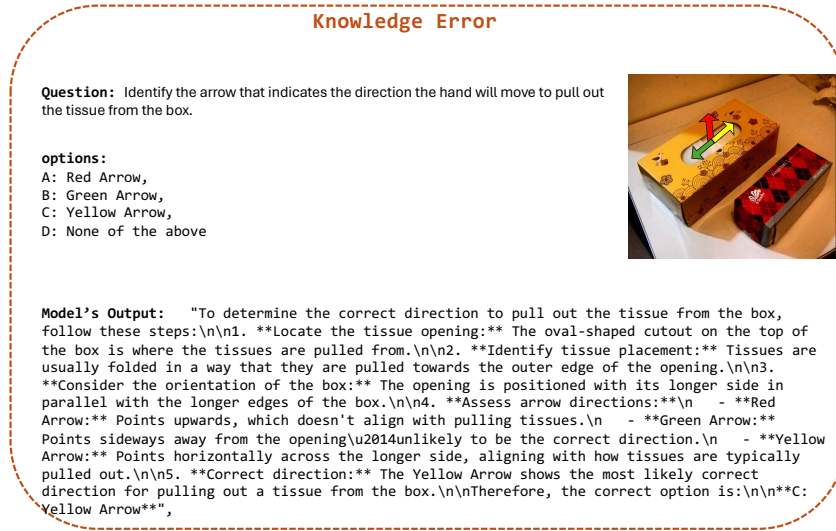


Figure 68: **Example of knowledge error.** In this case, GPT-4o do not know the correct trajectory to pull out the tissue in the tissue box is to pull it upwards.

#### I.0.4 SPATIAL REASONING

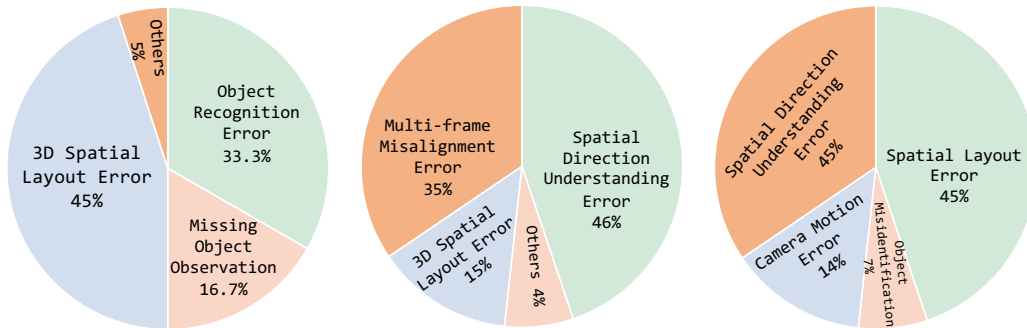


Figure 69: (a) **Error distribution of GPT-4o on Object Localization.** (b) **Error distribution of GPT-4o on Path Planning.** (c) **Error distribution of GPT-4o on Relative Direction.**

**Object Localization.** As shown in Figure 69, the majority of *object recognition error* (45%) stem from *3D spatial layout error*, where MLLMs struggle to accurately infer about the correct 3D spatial layout of the scene and spatial relationships between objects, as shown in Figure 70. Furthermore, in cluttered environments such as grocery rooms, MLLMs often fail to recognize small and partially occluded objects, suggesting that their *visual detail reasoning* capabilities require further improvement, as shown in Figure 72 and Figure 79.

**Path Planning.** As shown in Figure 69, 46% of error comes from *spatial direction understanding error*, referring to the model's failure to reason correctly about relative directions (e.g., left, right, front, back) from an egocentric perspective, as shown in Figure 71. Possible reasons include the lack of egocentric-aware supervision during training, which leads to incorrect spatial reasoning from a first-person perspective. In addition, *multi-frame misalignment error* also accounts for a significant portion of the failures (35%), the models can not consistent reason and track objects and their spatial relations among different frames, as shown in Figure 73. Also, *3D spatial reasoning error* accounts for 15%, indicating that models sometimes fail to reason accurately about the spatial layout of the scene, as shown in Figure 70.

**Relative Direction.** As shown in Figure 69, the majority of the failure cases comes from *spatial direction understanding error*(45%), in which models can not correctly reason about direction in egocentric view, as shown in Figure 71 and *spatial layout error*(45%), in which models can not correctly reason about the 3D layout of the scene and the spatial relationship between objects, as shown in Figure 70. Another small portion of failure cases comes from *camera motion error* (14%), where models can not correctly infer the movement of camera, leading to incorrect reason about the spatial layout, as shown in Figure 74.

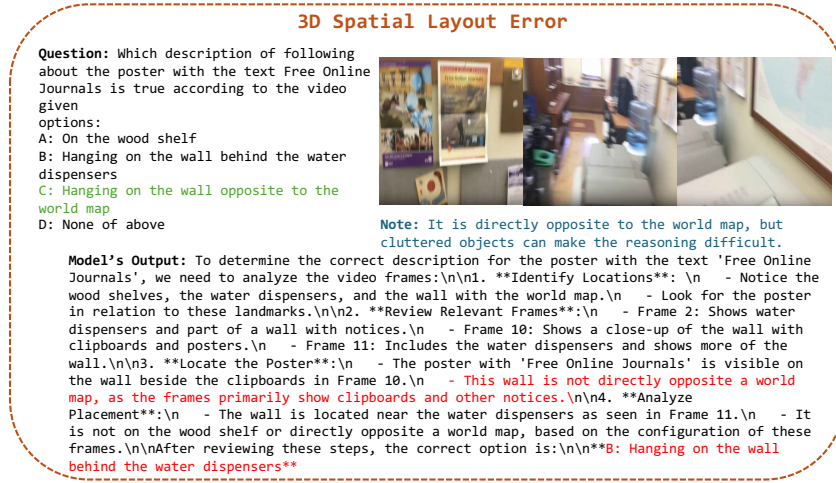


Figure 70: **Example of 3D spatial layout error.** 3D spatial layout error refers to a model's failure to understand the three-dimensional spatial relationships between objects. This type of error involves incorrect or incomplete reasoning about depth, vertical positioning (above/below), occlusion, and relative distance between objects in a scene.

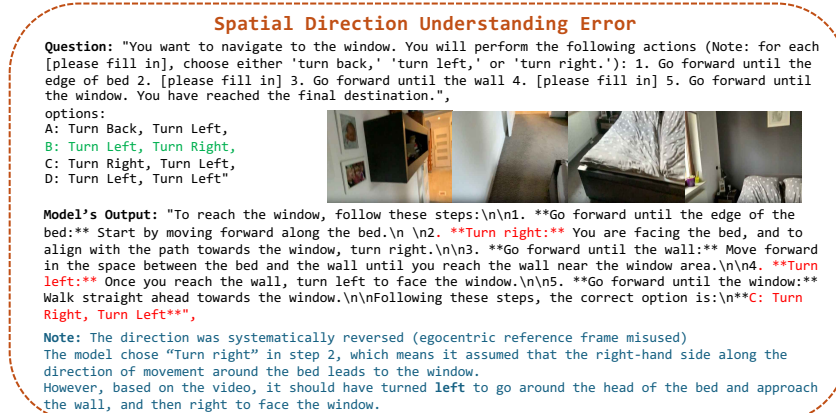


Figure 71: **Example of spatial direction reasoning error.** Spatial direction reasoning error refers to a model's failure to reason correctly about relative directions (e.g., left, right, front, back) in an egocentric view. This error typically stems from confusion in the agent's internal coordinate system, failing to account for its own orientation changes across steps, or misinterpreting directions based on an allocentric perspective. As a result, the model systematically selects incorrect turning directions or paths.

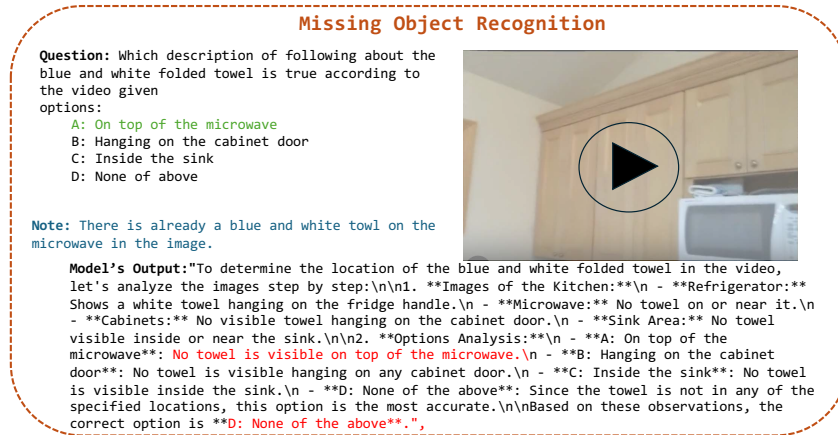


Figure 72: **Example of missing object recognition error.** Sometimes when the observation comes across the target object, the model can not see it.

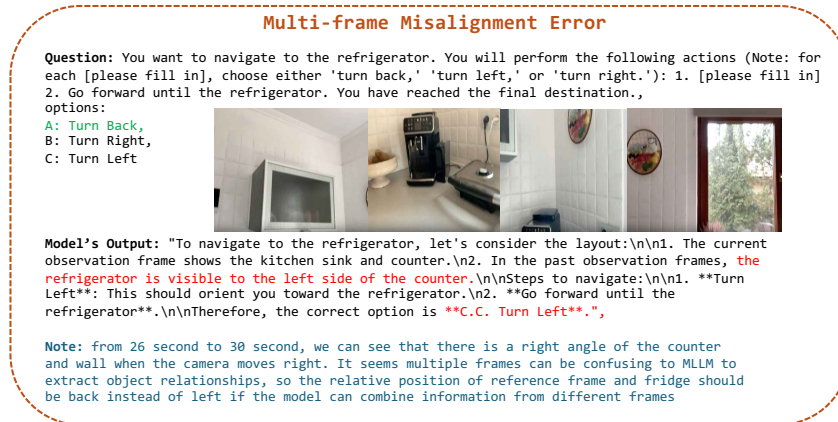


Figure 73: **Example of multi-frame misalignment error.** Multi-frame misalignment error refers to a model's failure to integrate spatial information consistently across multiple frames. Even when the target object appears clearly in one frame, the model may fail to recognize or localize it due to incorrect temporal alignment, inconsistent egocentric viewpoint tracking, or failure to update its internal scene representation.

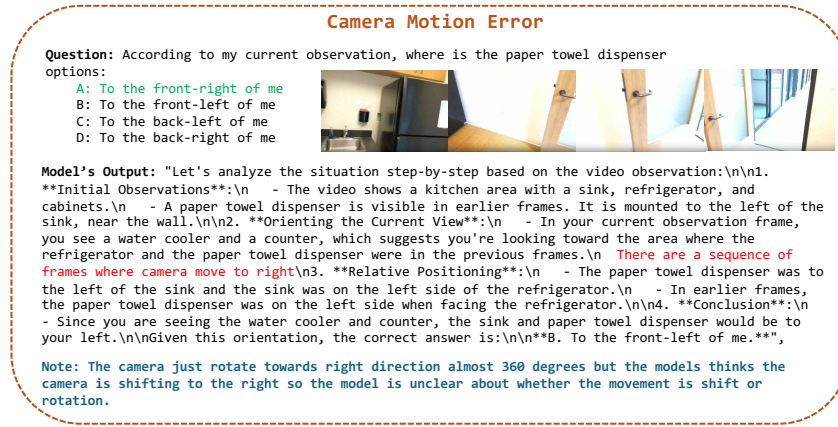


Figure 74: **Example of camera motion error.** Camera motion error refers to a model’s failure to correctly interpret the type or direction of camera movement during a video or scene. This can include confusing rotation with translation, or misunderstanding how the camera’s viewpoint has changed over time. As a result, the model may misjudge the relative positions of objects or incorrectly estimate their spatial layout based on an inaccurate perception of motion.

#### I.0.5 TASK PLANNING

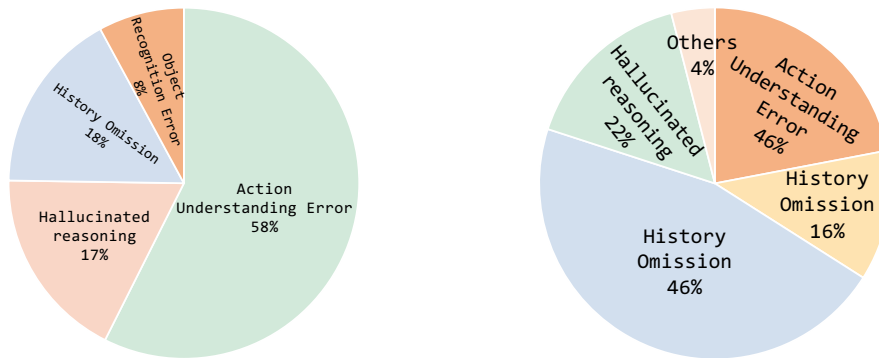


Figure 75: (a) **Error distribution of GPT-4o on Task Process Reasoning.** (b) Error distribution of GPT-4o on Next Action Prediction

**Next Action Prediction.** As shown in Figure 75, The error analysis of *Next Action Prediction* reveals that the majority of failures stem from *action understanding* (58%), where the MLLM fails to understand the action depicted in each observation, as shown in Figure 76, followed by issues related to *historical context omission* (17%), as shown in Figure 78 and *hallucinated reasoning* (17%). *Hallucinated reasoning* refers to instances where models generate inferences based on conjecture rather than grounded observations, as shown in Figure 77. *Object recognition* error are relatively rare, accounting for only 8%, as shown in Figure 79.

**Task Process Reasoning.** As shown in Figure 75, the error analysis of *Task Process Reasoning* indicates that the most common failure arises from *action understanding* error (46%), as shown in Figure 76, where the MLLM fails to accurately interpret the action associated with a given observation, and *history omission* (46%), as shown in Figure 78, where the MLLM fails to identify and remember actions in sequential order. *Hallucinated reasoning* accounts for 22% of the error, reflecting cases where the model makes incorrect inferences not supported by visual evidence, as shown in Figure 78. A small portion (4%) falls under miscellaneous error categorized as *others*.



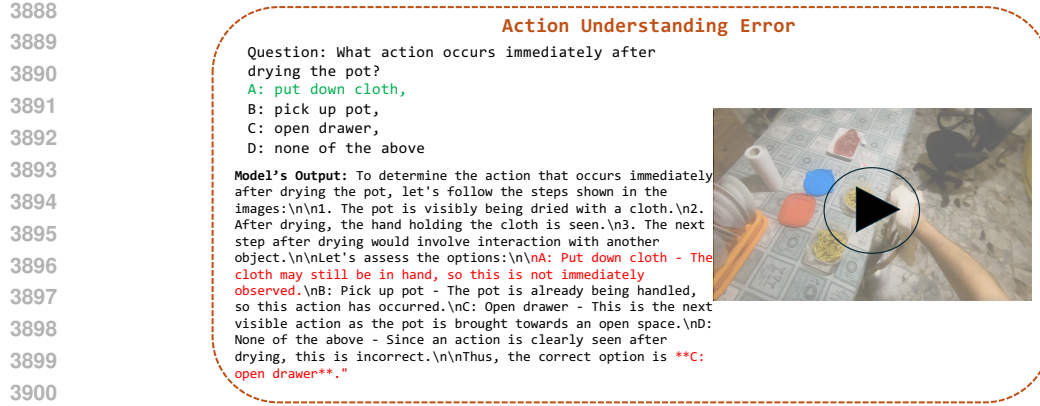


Figure 76: **Example of action understanding error.** GPT-4o can not understand the last frames represent the human putting down the cloth.

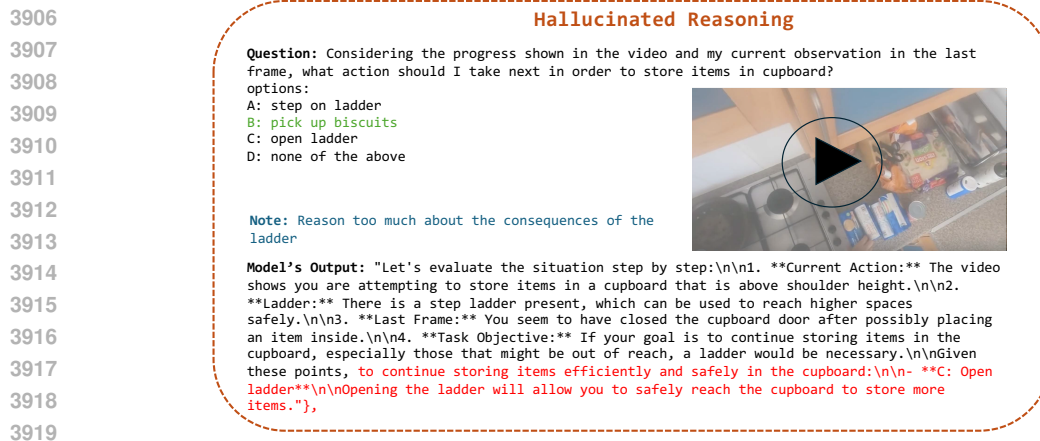


Figure 77: **Example of hallucinated reasoning error.** GPT-4o conjuncture about ladder without any references on observations.

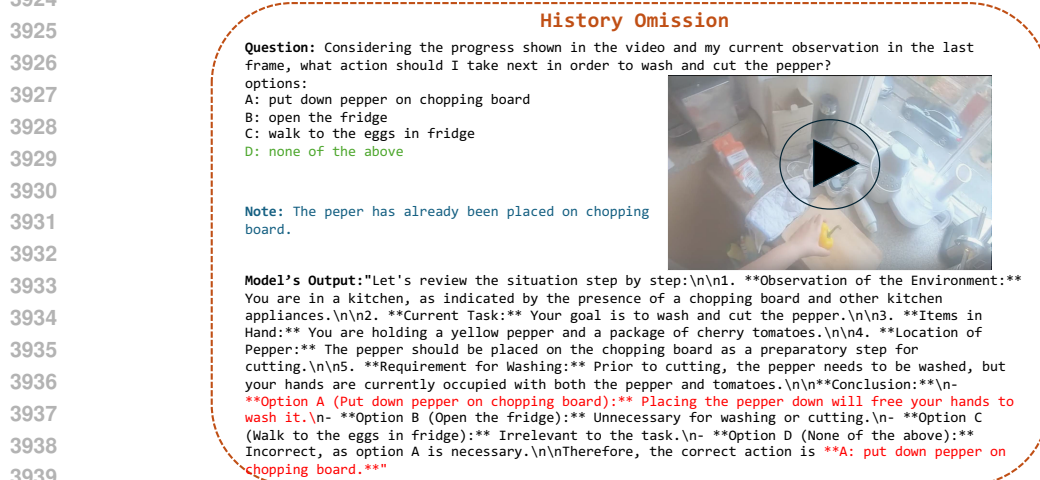


Figure 78: **Example of history omission error.** GPT-4o sometimes forgets about what happens in the history.

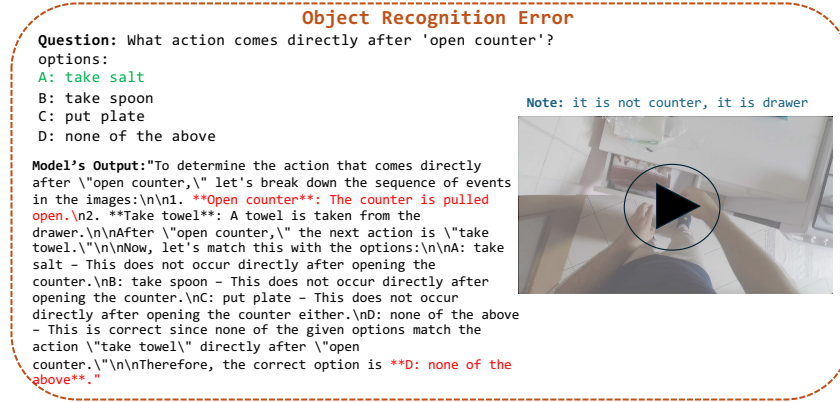


Figure 79: **Example of object recognition error.** GPT-4o mis-recognize drawer as counter.

### I.0.6 LONG-HORIZON

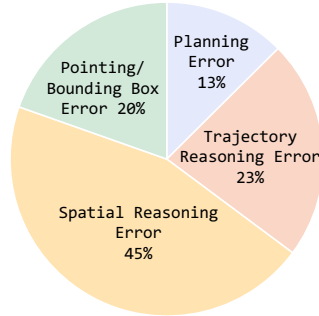


Figure 80: **Error distribution of long-horizon category.** In *long-horizon* category, the major errors come from where the agent misidentifies the object or predict incorrect trajectory to finish the tasks.

As shown in Figure 80, most failure cases arise from perception and trajectory errors. We provide one failure cases for *Spatial Reasoning*, *Trajectory Reasoning* and *Planning Errors*, as shown in Figure 83, Figure 82 and Figure 81.

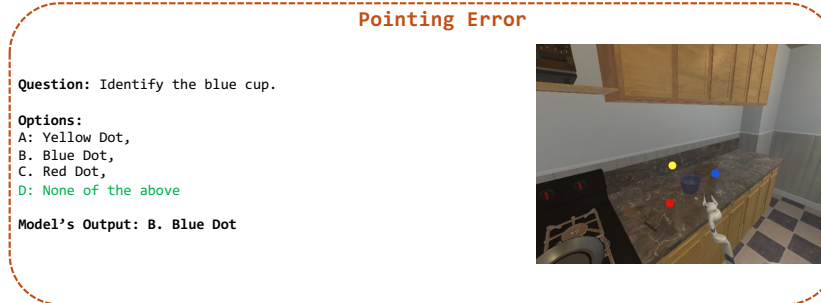


Figure 81: **Pointing error example in long-horizon category.**

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### Trajectory Error

**Question:** Identify the correct trajectory to pick up the blue cup on the table.

**Options:**  
A: Yellow arrow.  
B. Blue arrow  
C. Red arrow  
D: None of the above

**Model's Output:** C. Red Arrow




Figure 82: Trajectory error example in *long-horizon* category.

### Spatial Reasoning Error

**Question:** Where is the vegetable?

**Options:**  
A: To the back-left of me,  
B. To the front-right of me,  
C. To the front-left of me.  
D: None of the above

**Model's Output:** The vegetable is to the front-right of me. The correct option is B. To the front-right of me.




Figure 83: Spatial error example in *long-horizon* category.

## 4050 J BENCHMARK EXAMPLES AND EVALUATION PROMPTS

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### 4052 J.0.1 EXAMPLES

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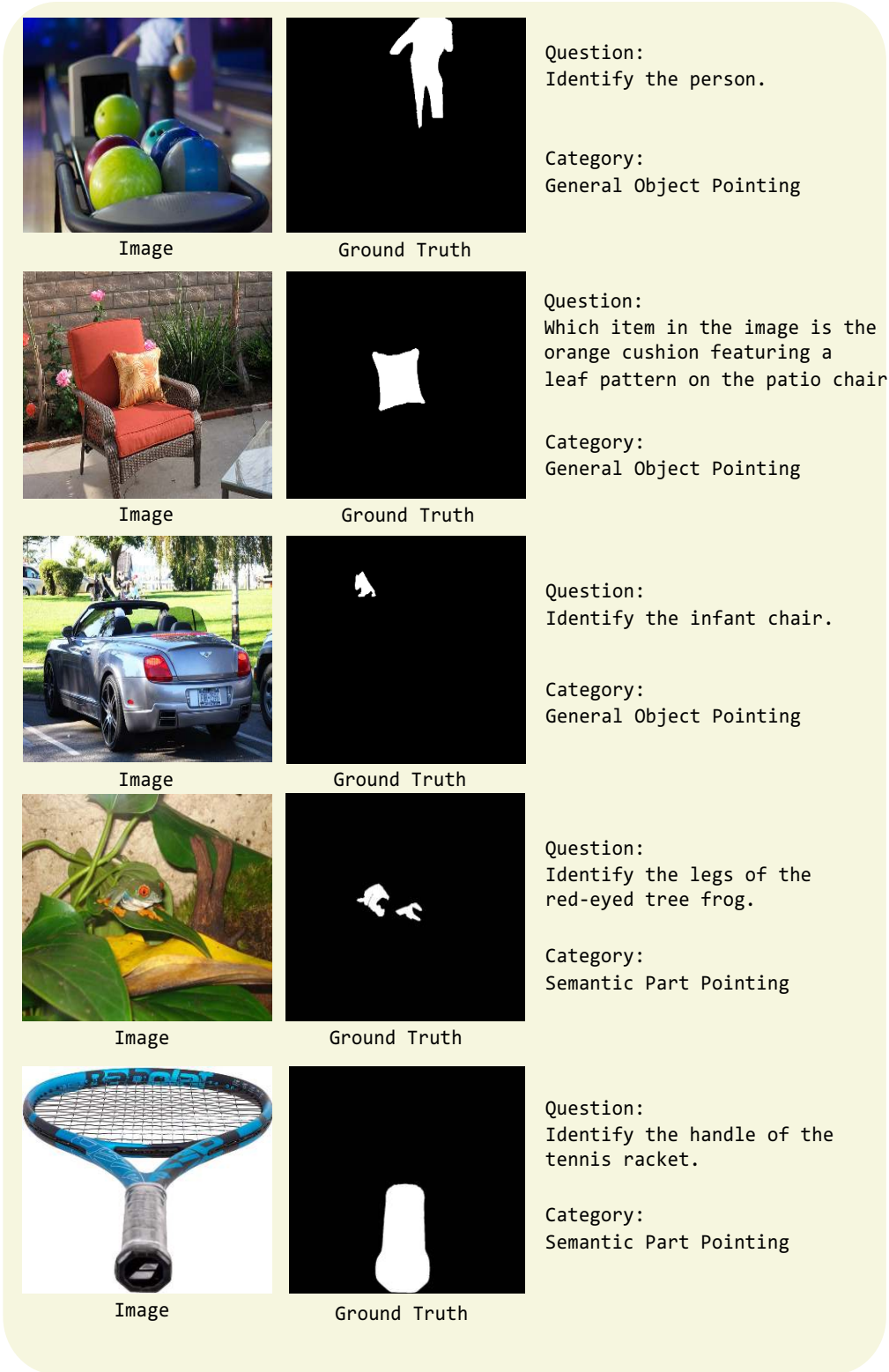


Figure 84: **Example questions in BEAR.** We select some questions from *General Object Pointing*, *Spatial Relationship Pointing* and *Semantic Part Pointing*.

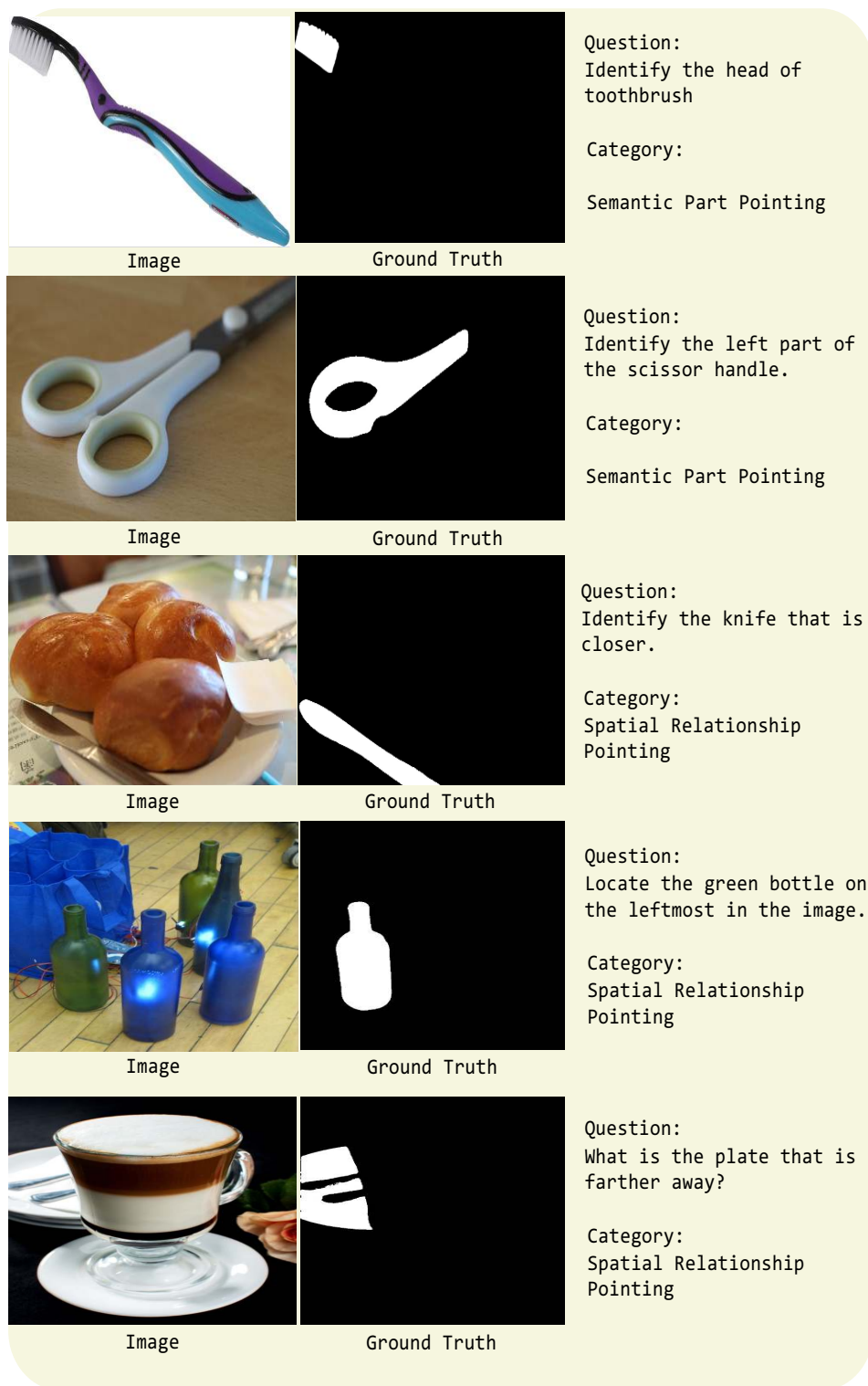


Figure 85: **Example questions in BEAR.** We select some questions from *General Object Pointing*, *Spatial Relationship Pointing* and *Semantic Part Pointing*.



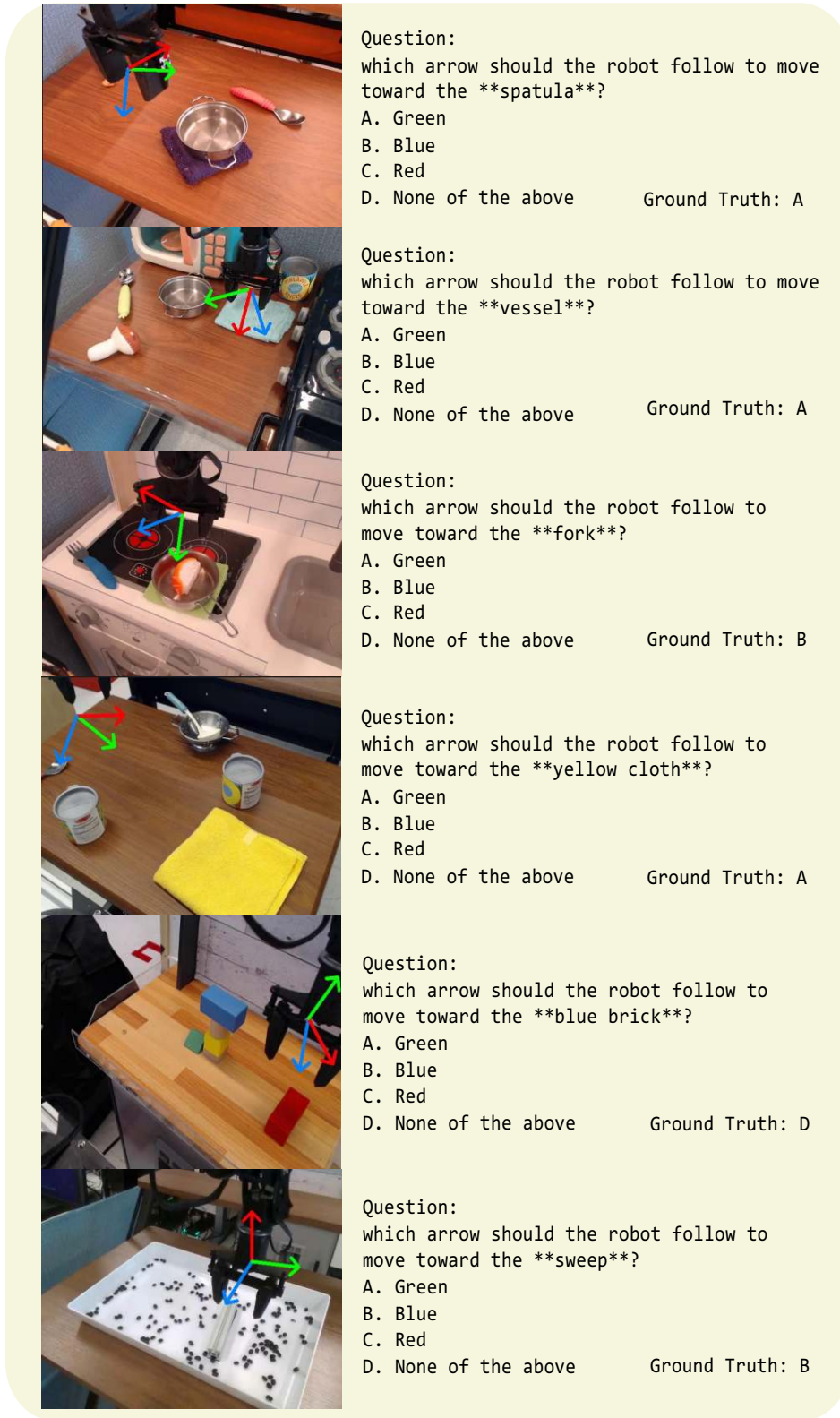


Figure 86: **Example questions in BEAR.** We select some questions from *Gripper Trajectory Reasoning*.

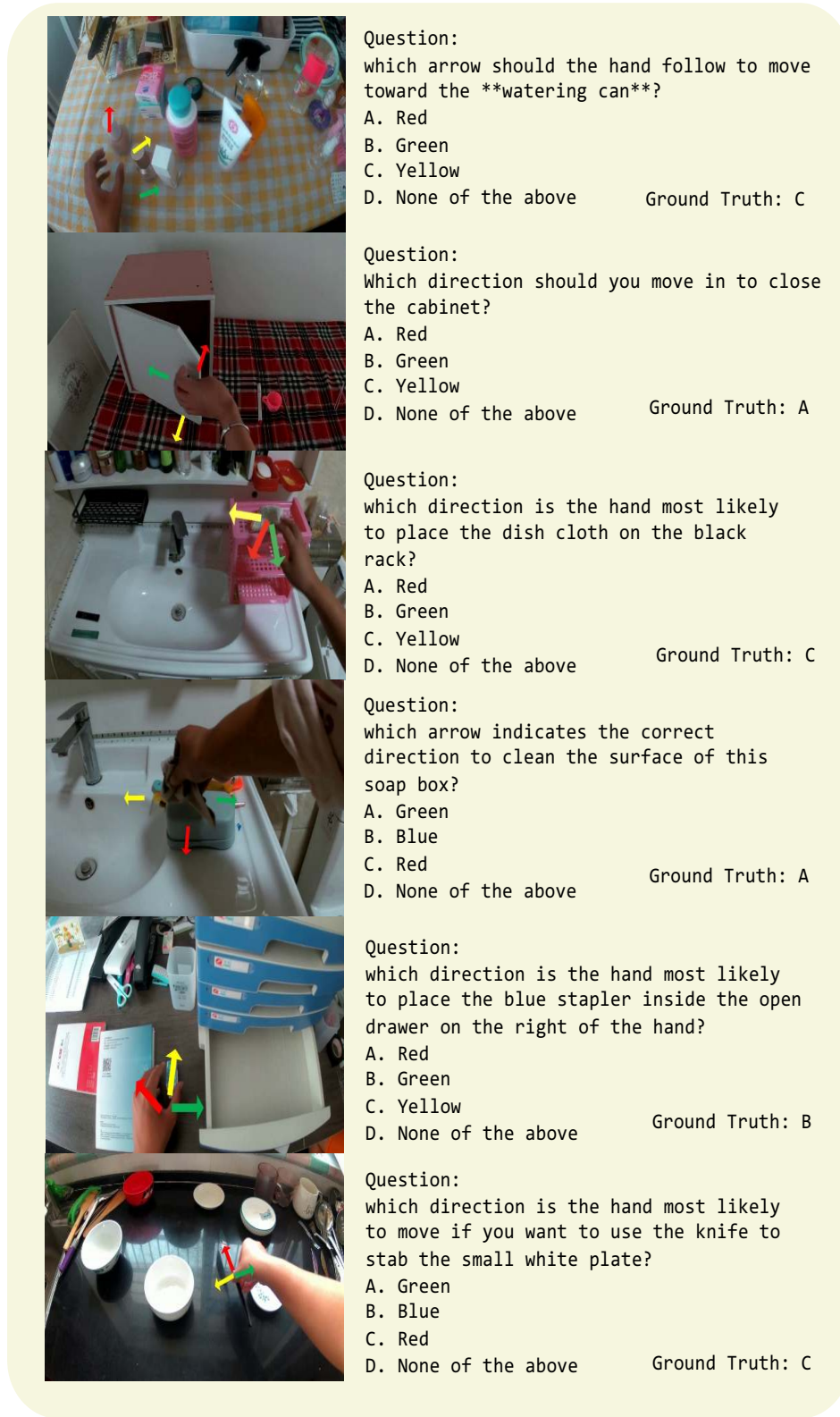


Figure 87: Example questions in BEAR. We select some questions from *Human Hand Trajectory Reasoning*.



Question:

which arrow indicates the direction in which the hand will be moved to pull out the drawer?

- A. Red
- B. Green
- C. Yellow
- D. None of the above

Ground Truth: A



Question:

Which arrow best represents the hand's movement to rotate the handle downwards?

- A. Red
- B. Green
- C. Yellow
- D. None of the above

Ground Truth: B



Question:

Which arrow indicates the direction the hand will take to take the milk bottle out?

- A. Red
- B. Green
- C. Yellow
- D. None of the above

Ground Truth: B



Question:

Identify the arrow that indicates the direction the hand will rotate to unlock the pump

- A. Red
- B. Green
- C. Yellow
- D. None of the above

Ground Truth: A



Question:

Which arrow indicates the direction the hand should move to lift the cap of the bottle?

- A. Red
- B. Green
- C. Yellow
- D. None of the above

Ground Truth: A



Question:

Identify the arrow that indicates the direction the hand will move to open the microwave door.

- A. Red
- B. Green
- C. Yellow
- D. None of the above

Ground Truth: C

Figure 88: Example questions in BEAR. We select some questions from *Object Trajectory Reasoning*.



Which description of following about the white plastic cutting board is true according to the video given?

- A. Behind the dish rack near the sink.
- B. On the stove beside the pots
- C. Hanging on the wall above the counter
- D. None of the above

Ground Truth: A



Which description of following about the mini soccer ball toy is true according to the video given?

- A. On the top left shelf inside the yellow bin
- B. On the floor near the white trash bin
- C. On the blue stool next to the table
- D. None of the above

Ground Truth: A



Which description of following about the large blue bag is true according to the video given?

- A. Next to the television stand against the wall
- B. On top of the glass coffee table
- C. Beside the red sofa
- D. None of the above

Ground Truth: A



Which description of following about the book next to the plant is true according to the video given?

- A. On the floor near the gray carpet
- B. On the sofa near the yellow cushion
- C. On the black shelf
- D. None of the above

Ground Truth: C



Figure 89: Example questions in BEAR. We select some questions from *Object Localization*.

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According to the current observation, where is the kitchen counter?

A. To the front-right of me.  
B. To the front-left of me.  
C. To the back-left of me.  
D. To the back-right of me.

Ground Truth: B  
Current Observation

History Video



Where is the coffee table?

A. To the front-right of me.  
B. To the front-left of me.  
C. To the back-left of me.  
D. To the back-right of me.

Ground Truth: C  
Current Observation

History Video



Where is the toilet?

A. To the front-right of me.  
B. To the front-left of me.  
C. To the back-left of me.  
D. To the back-right of me.

Ground Truth: D  
Current Observation

History Video



Where is the blue box?

A. To the front-right of me.  
B. To the front-left of me.  
C. To the back-left of me.  
D. To the back-right of me.

Ground Truth: B  
Current Observation

History Video



Figure 90: Example questions in BEAR. We select some questions from *Relative Direction*.

You want to navigate to the toilet. You will perform the following actions (Note: for each [please fill in], choose either 'turn back,' 'turn left,' or 'turn right.'): 1. Go forward until the TV 2. [please fill in] 3. Go forward until the shower 4. [please fill in] 5. Go forward until the toilet. You have reached the final destination.

- A. Turn Back, Turn Left
- B. Turn Left, Turn Left
- C. Turn Left, Turn Right
- D. Turn Right, Turn Right

Ground Truth: C



You want to navigate to the trash bin. You will perform the following actions (Note: for each [please fill in], choose either 'turn back,' 'turn left,' or 'turn right.'): 1. [please fill in] 2. Go forward until the cabinet 3. [please fill in] 4. Go forward until the trash bin is on your right. You have reached the final destination.

- A. Turn Left, Turn Left
- B. Turn Right, Turn Left
- C. Turn Back, Turn Left
- D. Turn Right, Turn Right

Ground Truth: B



Figure 91: **Example questions in BEAR.** We select some questions from *Path Planning*.



Which action does not happen before 'put away raisins'?

- A. open drawer
- B. pour cereal
- C. open fridge
- D. none of the above

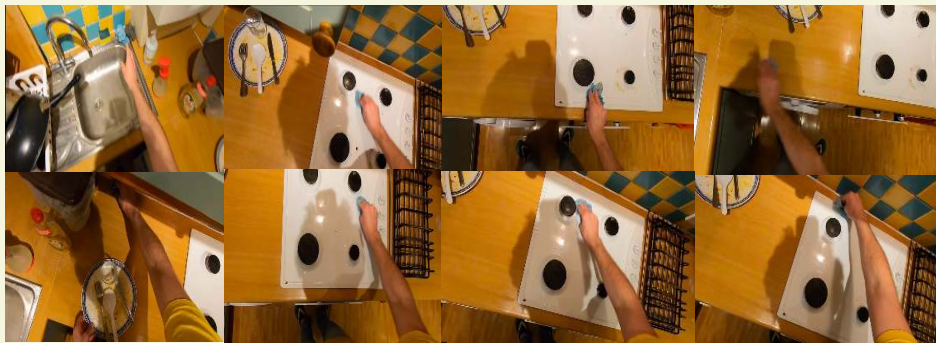
Ground Truth: C



Which of the following actions is not performed after 'pick up plate'?

- A. wipe hob
- B. put down plate
- C. turn off tap
- D. none of the above

Ground Truth: C



What action occurs immediately after drying the pot?

- A. put down cloth
- B. pick up pot
- C. open drawer
- D. none of the above

Ground Truth: A



Figure 92: **Example questions in BEAR.** We select some questions from *Task Process Reasoning*.

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Considering the progress shown in the video and my current observation in the last frame, what action should I take next in order to prepare meat for cooking?

- A. cut meat
- B. throw cover
- C. walk to the trash bin
- D. none of the above

Ground Truth: A



Considering the progress shown in the video and my current observation in the last frame, what action should I take next in order to fold and put away bag?

- A. close drawer
- B. pick up bag
- C. walk to the drawer
- D. none of the above

Ground Truth: A



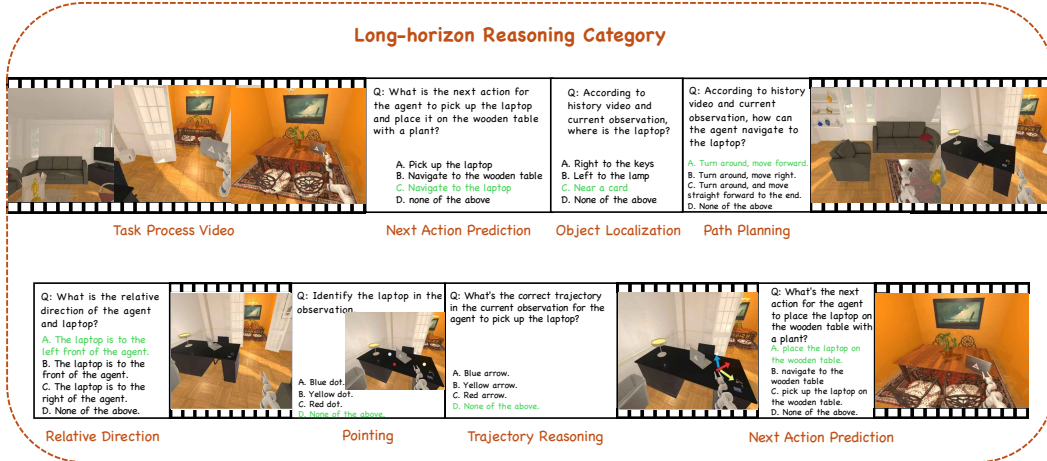
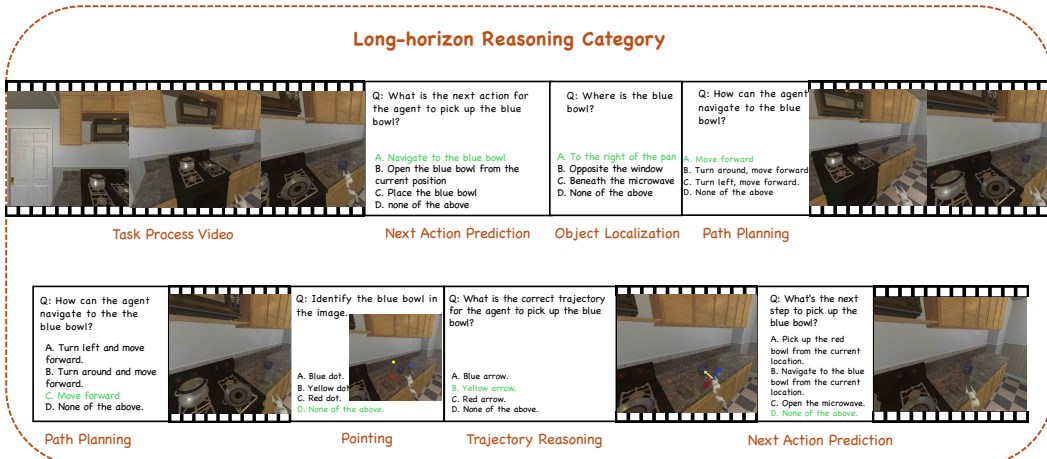
Considering the progress shown in the video and my current observation in the last frame, what action should I take next in order to wash and rinse various kitchen utensils and dishes?

- A. wash spoon
- B. walk to the measuring cup
- C. put down measuring cup
- D. none of the above

Ground Truth: D



Figure 93: **Example questions in BEAR.** We select some questions from *Next Action Prediction*.

Figure 94: Example questions in BEAR. We select some questions from *Long-horizon* Category.Figure 95: Example questions in BEAR. We select some questions from *Long-horizon* Category.

## J.0.2 FULL PROMPTS

*Pointing Category Prompt*

Identify the [Descriptions].  
 Please directly output the pixel location of the target point.  
 Format your answer as (x, y), where:

- x is the horizontal coordinate (left → right)
- y is the vertical coordinate (top → bottom)

Both x and y must be normalized to the range [0, 1] as floating-point values, indicating the relative position of the point within the image.

*Bounding Box Category Prompt*

Identify the [Descriptions].  
 Please directly output the bounding box.  
 Format your answer as (x1, y1, x2, y2), where:

- (x1, y1) is the top-left corner of the bounding box
- (x2, y2) is the bottom-right corner of the bounding box.
- x represents the horizontal coordinate (left → right)
- y represents the vertical coordinate (top → bottom).

All coordinates must be normalized to the range [0, 1] as floating-point values, indicating the relative bounding box location within the image.

*Gripper Trajectory Reasoning Prompt*

The image shows the current location of the robot hand.  
 There are three arrows pointing in different directions.  
 Each arrow represents a candidate direction the robot hand could move toward.  
 Which arrow should the robot follow to move toward the [Descriptions]?  
 [Options]  
 Please directly output the correct option.

*Human Hand Trajectory Reasoning Prompt*

Assuming a human hand is [Descriptions], indicate the arrow that shows the direction in which the hand will move to pull the drawer door.  
 [Options]  
 Please directly output the correct option.

*Object Trajectory Reasoning Prompt*

Identify the arrow that indicates [Descriptions]  
 [Options]  
 Please directly output the correct option.



*Object Localization Prompt*

Please watch the following video and answer the question.  
[Options]  
indicating the relative position of the point within the image.

*Path Planning Prompt*

This is the current video.  
[Video]  
This is your current observation.  
[Image]  
You need to navigate to [Descriptions] by performing the following actions.  
[Options]  
Please directly output the correct option.

*Relative Direction Prompt*

This is the current video.  
[video]  
This is your current observation.  
[image]  
Where is [Descriptions]?  
[Options]  
Please directly output the correct option.

*Task Progress Reasoning Prompt*

This is the current video.  
[Video]  
[Question]  
[Options]  
Please directly output the correct option.

*Next Action Prediction Prompt*

This is the current video.  
[Video]  
Considering the process shown in the video and my current observation in the last frame, [Descriptions]  
[Options]  
Please directly output the correct option.

Table 8: **BEAR-Agent results on BEAR.** We evaluate the impact of BEAR-Agent on the two strongest models—GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a) among proprietary systems and InternVL3-14B (Zhu et al., 2025) among open-source models. For comparison, we also report their performance under *Direct* and *CoT* prompting, as well as *one-shot* and *few-shot* in context learning as baseline methods for comparisons.

	Format	Pointing			Bounding Box			Task Planning	
		GEN	SPA	PRT	GEN	SPA	PRT	PRG	PRD
Random Choice		-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25
Human		95.50	92.00	93.50	0.830	0.770	0.820	87.50	92.00
State-of-the-art open-source model on BEAR									
InternVL3-14B (Zhu et al., 2025)	merged	37.94	27.78	32.80	0.304	0.258	0.276	41.00	33.00
– w/ one-shot in context learning	merged	38.53	28.34	33.33	0.312	0.268	0.287	42.00	34.00
– w/ few-shot in context learning	merged	39.41	28.98	34.31	0.321	0.275	<b>0.297</b>	41.00	34.00
– w/ Chain-of-Thought prompting	merged	27.94	21.90	26.92	0.265	0.214	0.213	<b>44.00</b>	31.67
– w/ BEAR-Agent	merged	<b>47.06</b>	<b>31.85</b>	<b>34.97</b>	<b>0.347</b>	<b>0.294</b>	0.269	41.67	<b>36.33</b>
State-of-the-art proprietary model on BEAR									
GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a)	sequential	70.00	63.69	54.90	0.411	0.326	0.352	59.67	61.00
– w/ one-shot in context learning	sequential	70.59	64.01	55.23	0.415	0.330	0.357	60.33	61.33
– w/ few-shot in context learning	sequential	71.18	64.65	55.88	0.421	0.337	0.363	61.00	62.00
– w/ Chain-of-Thought prompting	sequential	67.35	57.19	64.01	0.406	0.321	0.370	58.67	61.33
– w/ BEAR-Agent	sequential	<b>84.12</b>	<b>75.16</b>	<b>64.05</b>	<b>0.573</b>	<b>0.418</b>	<b>0.447</b>	<b>61.67</b>	<b>71.67</b>

	Format	Trajectory Reasoning			Spatial Reasoning			Long-horizon	Avg
		GPR	HND	OBJ	LOC	PTH	DIR		
Random Choice		25	25	25	25	28	25	25	-
Human		96.50	94.00	89.00	94.50	83.50	88.50	92.50	89.40
State-of-the-art open-source model on BEAR									
InternVL3-14B (Chen et al., 2024)	merged	51.28	49.49	31.43	43.00	28.02	21.33	<b>28.57</b>	33.93
– w/ one-shot in context learning	merged	48.72	52.53	29.00	39.74	31.88	18.67	<b>28.57</b>	33.38
– w/ few-shot in context learning	merged	<b>54.49</b>	47.14	34.67	<b>46.25</b>	25.12	24.33	25.71	34.98
– w/ Chain-of-Thought prompting	merged	44.87	39.39	<b>39.43</b>	41.37	<b>34.69</b>	24.66	0	26.88
– w/ BEAR-Agent	merged	53.85	<b>52.86</b>	37.00	43.65	31.40	<b>26.00</b>	<b>28.57</b>	<b>36.24</b>
State-of-the-art proprietary model on BEAR									
GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a)	sequential	66.99	67.34	49.67	72.31	50.24	47.00	40.00	52.17
– w/ one-shot in context learning	sequential	67.31	67.68	49.33	72.64	50.72	46.67	40.00	54.43
– w/ few-shot in context learning	sequential	67.95	68.35	49.00	<b>73.29</b>	51.69	46.33	<b>42.86</b>	54.98
– w/ Chain-of-Thought prompting	sequential	65.38	68.35	52.00	<b>73.29</b>	47.83	50.00	34.29	52.78
– w/ BEAR-Agent	sequential	<b>84.62</b>	<b>80.81</b>	<b>62.67</b>	71.01	<b>52.17</b>	<b>56.33</b>	<b>42.86</b>	<b>61.29</b>

## K BEAR-AGENT

### K.0.1 DEFINITION

BEAR-Agent is a multimodal conversable agent that interacts with Multimodal Large Language Models (MLLMs) through a turn-based dialog framework. Built upon the AutoGen framework, the agent leverages GPT-4V (?) as its backbone. It operates asynchronously, engaging in multi-round interactions. At initialization, the agent generates a category-specific prompt that describes both the task and the tools available for solving it. Upon receiving a response from the MLLM—often containing code to invoke external tools (e.g., object detection functions)—the agent executes the code and feeds the results back into the next round of interaction. This iterative process continues until the MLLM produces a final answer and issues a termination signal, at which point the agent ends the conversation.

Our BEAR-Agent is motivated by the related works (Hu et al., 2024; Chow et al., 2025) using visual prompting and foundation models to enhance the MLLMs’ visual abilities. **The difference of our work lies in its embodied domain.** We make sure each component of our agent design is tailored to a category of embodied tasks. Motivated by the idea of (Hu et al., 2024), we use sketching as our visual tools for visual abilities enhancement. We design our category-specific prompt activation module for our tasks. We provide example details in Appendix K.0.2. We also augment the agent



with a suite of external visual tools. Specifically, we integrate powerful foundation models such as Grounding DINO (Liu et al., 2024b) and Set-of-Mark (SoM) (Yang et al., 2023a), which the MLLM can invoke via function calls. In addition to foundation models, we implement specialized visual utility functions—for instance, for detecting and extending trajectory arrows in images—enabling models to better infer directionality.

Moreover, our analysis reveals that many trajectory reasoning errors stem from the model’s lack of embodied knowledge, such as how to apply the right-hand rule to open a bottle cap from different viewpoints. To mitigate this, we incorporate a knowledge base that provides such procedural information to improve reasoning accuracy. For spatial reasoning, we find that many failures arise from the model’s inability to align information across multiple frames. To support this, we introduce a semantic scene reconstruction function that encourages the model to identify object correspondences across temporal frames.

In our experiments, we evaluate BEAR-Agent using two state-of-the-art models from both proprietary and open-source families: GPT-5 (OpenAI, 2025a) and InternVL3-14B (Zhu et al., 2025). Detailed performance results are provided in Table 8. In the meantime, we also provide the prompt of our BEAR-Agent in Appendix J.0.2.

## K.0.2 PROMPTS

We provide category-specific module prompts as follows. If we provide the full detailed prompts it will be too long to read, so we select some pieces of it.

**Knowledge base.** is built to enhance agents' understandings on the ideal motion to perform an action. It can be further expanded to a system with more trajectory knowledge.

### Knowledge Base

Please pay attention to the following knowledge that can help you correctly answer the questions:

Knowledge-based Memory:

1. For tasks like the correct trajectory to open the drawer, if you are facing exactly the front-view of the drawer, the correct trajectory should pointing horizontally downwards. If you are facing the side-view of the drawer or other electronic device, the correct trajectory should be vertical to the front-facing edge of the drawer, cabinet, etc. You should also observe the side edge of the drawer, cabinet, the correct trajectory should be about parallel to it. This is very important, because when facing the object using the side-view, the correct trajectory should also be side-view. The rule is not always right, you do need to use your common sense to choose the correct trajectory.
2. For tasks about rotating the handle, the handle can only be rotated around the central axis. If you are not rotating the handle around the central axis, it will sometimes cause damage to the handle.
3. For tasks about lifting the object, the correct trajectory will always pointing upwards. For tasks about pressing down the trajectory, the correct trajectory will always pointing downwards.
4. For tasks about opening the lid of the bottle, the correct trajectory to unlock the bottle should be counterclockwise, the correct trajectory to lock the bottle should be clockwise. Of course, counterclockwise and clockwise is the relative direction when you are in the top view observation. When you are facing the object in its front view, the correct trajectory to unlock the lid will be pointing right, the correct trajectory to lock the lid will be pointing left.
5. Some questions you may need to use your 3D imagination to point out the correct trajectory.
6. For tasks about opening the door, some doors you need to push or pull to make it open, but some doors are sliding, you need to move it parallel to the door surface to open it. If the door in the image is already open, and you are told to choose the trajectory that will make the door open even more, the correct trajectory should be the trajectory that is roughly parallel to the door surface, and pointing away from the door hinge. If you are told to choose the trajectory that will make the door close, the correct trajectory should be the trajectory that is parallel to the door surface, and pointing towards the door hinge.
7. For pressing down the button, you should select the trajectory that is vertical to the button surface.

**Trajectory Reasoning prompt activation.** In our *Trajectory Reasoning* category, we provide the following prompts describing how to use tools to solve the trajectory reasoning questions.

#### Trajectory Reasoning Prompt Activation

##### Task Overview

This category you will face the trajectory reasoning task, the key for trajectory reasoning is to identify the correct object and identify which color of arrow can lead to the correct trajectory to finish the task. If you cannot find the correct object in the image, or you are not sure where the extended trajectory will lead to, here I give you some of the tools which can help with correct object detection in the crowd of object, also the extend arrow tools. where you can extend the arrow with the color of you want to see if the arrow can reach to the target object. If you are facing the object trajectory reasoning task related with trajectory reasoning, here are some tools that can help you. All are python codes. They are in tools.py and will be imported for you.

##### Coordinate System

The images has their own coordinate system. The upper left corner of the image is the origin (0, 0). All coordinates are normalized, i.e., the range is [0, 1]. All bounding boxes are in the format of [x, y, w, h], which is a python list. x is the horizontal coordinate of the upper-left corner of the box, y is the vertical coordinate of that corner, w is the box width, and h is the box height. Notice that you, as an AI assistant, is not good at locating things and describe them with coordinate. You can use tools to generate bounding boxes. You are also not good at answering questions about small visual details in the image. You can use tools to zoom in on the image to see the details.

## Trajectory Reasoning Prompt Activation

Below are the tools in tools.py:

```
def detection(image, objects):
    """Object detection using Grounding DINO model.
    It returns the annotated image and the bounding boxes
    of the detected objects.

    The text can be simple noun, or simple phrase
    (e.g., 'bus', 'red car'). Cannot be too hard
    or the model will break.

    The detector is not perfect, it may wrongly detect
    objects or miss some objects.

    Args:
        image (PIL.Image.Image): the input image
        objects (List[str]): a list of objects to detect.
            Each object should be a simple noun
            or a simple phrase.

    Returns:
        output_image (AnnotatedImage): the original image,
        annotated with bounding boxes
        processed_boxes (List): list the bounding boxes
        of the detected objects

    Example:
        image = Image.open("sample_img.jpg")
        output_image, boxes = detection(image, ["bus"])
        display(output_image.annotated_image)
    """

def extend_arrow_color(img, color="red"):
    """Extend the arrow of a specified color in the image.
    This is a core function within the trajectory
    reasoning pipeline.

    The function returns an image with the extended
    arrow overlaid as a yellow dashed line.

    Args:
        img (PIL.Image.Image): the input image
        color (str, optional): the color of the extended arrow.
            Defaults to "red".
            Choose from "red", "blue",
            "green", "yellow"

    Returns:
        output_image (PIL.Image.Image): the original
        image annotated with the extended arrow

    Example:
        image = Image.open("sample_img.jpg")
        output_image = extend_arrow_color(image, color="red")
        display(output_image)
    """
```

## Trajectory Reasoning Prompt Activation

**Goal**

Based on the above tools, I want you to reason about how to solve the USER REQUEST and generate the actions step by step (each action is a python jupyter notebook code block) to solve the request. You may need to use the tools above to process the images and make decisions based on the visual outputs of the previous code blocks. Please use the detection function if you can not find the target object in the USER REQUEST by yourself or you are not sure if you are correct or not. Or the extended trajectory is very near to the target object, it indicates the color of trajectory should be considered as correct option. Please use the extendarrow.color function if you are not sure where the trajectory will lead to. If you see the extended trajectory has the intersection with the target object. Please note the detection functions may not always be correct, so you need to exercise the basic judgment. Please note the extended trajectory will be yellow line.

**Import Statement**

The jupyter notebook has already executed the following code:

```
from PIL import Image
from IPython.display import display
from tools import *
```

1. The generated actions can resolve the given user request perfectly.  
The user request is reasonable and can be solved.
2. The arguments of a tool must be the same number, modality, and format specified in TOOL LIST.
3. If you think you got the answer, use ANSWER: <your answer> to provide the answer, and ends with TERMINATE.
4. All images in the initial user request are stored in PIL Image objects named image\_1, image\_2, ..., image.n. You can use these images in your code blocks.
5. Here I tell you the secrets in solving the trajectory reasoning task, firstly you need to identify the correct object based on the description, then you should use your visual reasoning skills to find out what is the correct trajectory.

## Trajectory Reasoning Prompt Activation

Here I provide some examples for you to better understand how to use functions to do trajectory reasoning tasks.

**Example: Hand Trajectory Reasoning**

USER REQUEST: Assuming the hand can only move in a straight line, which direction is the hand most likely to pick up the silver bowl in the lower left part of the picture?

THOUGHT 0: Firstly, I need to detect the silver bowl in the image.

ACTION 0:

```
image_1_bowl_detection, image_1_bowl_boxes
= detection(image_1, ["silver bowl"])
```

```
display(image_1_bowl_detection.annotated_image)
```

THOUGHT 1: Now I have the detected bounding box of the silver bowl, I need to reason about what color of trajectory will lead to reach that bowl. From my observation, the red trajectory maybe able to reach the bowl, but I am not sure about that, so I will call the extend\_arrow\_color tool.

ACTION 1:

```
image_1_extended_red = extend_arrow_color(image_1, color="red")
display(image_1_extended_red)
```

THOUGHT 2: After extending the red trajectory, I can see that the extended red trajectory can reach the silver bowl. So the correct answer should be the red trajectory. Therefore, the correct option is C.

ACTION 2: No action needed.

ANSWER: The correct option is (c) red trajectory. TERMINATE

If after some observations and function calls you can not find the answer, use your common sense to reason about the answer.



**Semantic Scene Graph Construction.** A semantic scene graph is a structured graph-based representation of a visual or embodied environment, where nodes correspond to semantically meaningful entities such as objects, agents, or regions, and edges encode their spatial, functional, or interaction-based relationships. We save our constructed semantic scene graph in a ‘json’ file and the model can choose to update the graph during the reasoning process.

**Notebook for Planning Tasks.** We conduct our experiments within a Jupyter Notebook environment. In each task, BEAR-Agent explicitly prompts the MLLMs with observations from each frame of the activity’s history video. For subsequent rounds of interaction, the entire dialogue history is provided as input to the MLLMs, offering additional temporal and contextual grounding to support coherent reasoning and planning.

## L IMPLEMENTATION OF EMBODIED TASKS

In order to verify if our BEAR-Agent is effective for embodied task execution, we implement three series of representative manipulation tasks using Maniskill as our simulation (Gu et al., 2023). And we provide the detailed implementations of our embodied tasks here.

Task	Description and Subtasks
<b>General</b>	Grasp common household objects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pick up the blue mug</li> <li>• Grasp the red mug</li> <li>• Pick up scissor</li> <li>• Grasp the hook</li> </ul>
<b>Spatial</b>	Pick and place objects that require spatial reasoning to identify and infer their relative positions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pick up the top right cube and place it in the plate below</li> <li>• Grasp the top right left cube and place it in the plate on the left</li> <li>• Pick up the red cube on the left and place it in the plate below</li> <li>• Pick up the red cube on the left and place it in the plate on the right</li> </ul>
<b>Part</b>	Functional grasping, grasp the certain part of object for interactive tool use. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pick up the handle of the hook</li> <li>• Pick up the handle of the hammer</li> <li>• Pick up the handle of spatula</li> <li>• Pick up the handle of screwdriver</li> </ul>

Table 9: Three manipulation tasks implemented in Maniskill (Gu et al., 2023)

**Tasks.** We adopt ManiSkill (Gu et al., 2023) as our testbed, using the Franka Panda robot in a tabletop setup. We implement three series of manipulation tasks, each accompanied by four distinct language instructions, as detailed in Table 9.

**Baseline.** We adopt MOKA (Liu et al., 2024a) as our baseline method. MOKA is a multimodal action planning framework that integrates visual perception, language understanding, and spatial reasoning to generate robot-executable manipulation plans. Built on large vision-language models (VLMs) such as GPT-4V, MOKA operates in a turn-based dialogue manner, decomposing high-level instructions into subtasks (e.g., grasping, placing). The framework first proposes candidate keypoints for object interaction based on segmentation masks, then queries the VLM to select optimal grasp and target locations, along with any intermediate waypoints needed for spatially coherent motion.

More specifically, *MOKA uses GPT-4V as its backbone to identify keypoints and generate motion trajectories conditioned on those keypoints.* In the MOKA framework, five semantically grounded keypoints are employed to annotate and interpret human-object interaction trajectories: *grasp*, *function*, *target*, *pre\_contact*, and *post\_contact*, as shown in Figure 96. Each keypoint corresponds to a distinct phase in the manipulation process. The *grasp* point marks the initial contact location where the hand or tool engages with the object (e.g., grasping the edge of a kettle lid). The *function* point indicates the functional region of the object involved in the interaction, such as a handle or rotation axis. The *target* point specifies the intended destination or goal of the action, such as a placement location or alignment position. *Pre\_contact* and *post\_contact* represent transitional motion waypoints—immediately before and after physical interaction—used to model the approach and retreat phases of the motion trajectory.

**Implementation of BEAR-Agent.** The BEAR-Agent is implemented based on the MOKA framework by augmenting GPT-4V with additional guidance, tool support, and initialization routines. BEAR-Agent facilitates the interaction process by equipping GPT-4V with essential tools and structured prompts. Through several rounds of dialogue, GPT-4V is able to reason about the task and identify keypoint pixel coordinates based on prior context and visual inputs.

**Experiment result.** As shown in Figure 8b and Table 9, for each language instruction within a task, we perform 20 rollouts and compute the instruction-level average success rate. For each task with four different language instructions, we report the average of these instruction-level success rates as the overall task success rate.



Figure 96: **Keypoint generation using MOKA.** As shown in the figure, MOKA generates ‘grasp’, ‘waypoint’, and ‘target’ keypoints for each task, and translates them into motion trajectories.