# HYBRID PREFERENCES: LEARNING TO ROUTE INSTANCES FOR HUMAN VS. AI FEEDBACK

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#### ABSTRACT

Learning from human feedback has enabled the alignment of language models (LMs) with human preferences. However, directly collecting human preferences can be expensive, time-consuming, and can have high variance. An appealing alternative is to distill preferences from LMs as a source of synthetic annotations as they are more consistent, cheaper, and scale better than human annotation; however, they are also prone to biases and errors. In this work, we introduce a routing framework that combines inputs from humans and LMs to achieve better annotation quality, while reducing the total cost of human annotation. The crux of our approach is to identify preference instances that will benefit from human annotations. We formulate this as an optimization problem: given a preference dataset and an evaluation metric, we train a *performance prediction model* to predict a reward model's performance on an arbitrary combination of human and LM annotations and employ a routing strategy that selects a combination that maximizes predicted performance. We train the performance prediction model on MULTIPREF, a new preference dataset with 10K instances paired with human and LM labels. We show that the selected hybrid mixture of LM and direct human preferences using our routing framework achieves better reward model performance compared to using either one exclusively. We simulate selective human preference collection on three other datasets and show that our method generalizes well to all three. We analyze features from the routing model to identify characteristics of instances that can benefit from human feedback, e.g., prompts with a moderate safety concern or moderate intent complexity. We release the dataset, annotation platform, and source code used in this study to foster more efficient and accurate preference collection in the future.

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#### 1 INTRODUCTION

Reinforcement learning from human feedback (Christiano et al., 2017) has been integral to the alignment of large language models (LMs) with human objectives and values (Ouyang et al., 2022; Bai et al., 2022a, *inter alia*). Central to this process are preference datasets, i.e., instances of inputs to language models paired with candidate model outputs and human judgment annotations indicating the preferred output. Collecting preference data involves several key design decisions, and one important consideration is determining the source of preference annotations (Kirk et al., 2023; 2024). This choice impacts not only the cost and effort required to procure these annotations, but also the performance of models trained on them.

044 There are two major approaches to obtaining preference annotations. One approach is to solicit preferences directly from humans. Although this setup leads to generally high-quality data (Wang 046 et al., 2024b), the annotation process itself is expensive and time-consuming. Moreover, human 047 annotators can make mistakes, especially when faced with complex examples or when the content 048 extends beyond their expertise (Jiang & de Marneffe, 2022; Sandri et al., 2023). As an alternative, preference annotation can be synthesized from LMs (Bai et al., 2022b; Lee et al., 2023; Cui et al., 2023). This approach is scalable, as it only requires prompting an off-the-shelf LM for preference 051 annotations. However, LMs do not always reflect the nuances of human annotators and can be prone to certain biases or errors in judgment (Singhal et al., 2023; Wang et al., 2024a). Hence, we posit that 052 obtaining high-quality and cost-efficient preference data involves finding the right combination of direct human preferences and synthetic preferences from LMs.

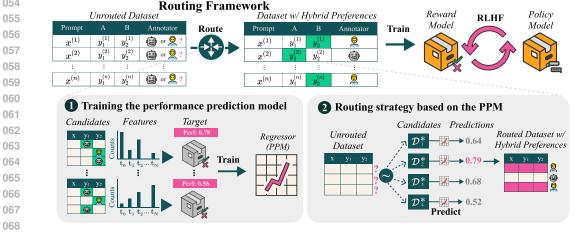


Figure 1: Overview of the routing framework. Our proposed method consists of a performance prediction model (PPM) and a routing strategy based on that model. We train the PPM to predict the performance of a dataset based on the statistics of the subset routed to human annotators. Then, we use the PPM to score many simulations of candidate datasets, and recommend the potentially best-performing routing configuration.

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In this work, we present a routing framework that allocates preference instances to human or 077 LM annotators, resulting in a set of hybrid annotations (§2). The crux of our approach is to identify specific instances that will benefit from direct human annotations, while the rest are routed 079 to the LM. We ground this decision in the performance of reward models trained on the resulting preference datasets, measured by RewardBench (Lambert et al., 2024). Our framework consists of a 081 performance prediction model (PPM, §2.2) and a routing strategy (§2.3) as illustrated in Figure 1. The PPM learns to predict the performance of a preference dataset based on the statistics of the subset 083 being routed to human annotators. We then use our trained model to predict the performance of 084 arbitrary simulated hybrid datasets, to recommend the potentially best-performing one. 085

To put this framework into practice, we first construct MULTIPREF, a preference dataset containing 10k instances paired with both human and LM preference annotations that follow the same carefully 087 designed annotation guidelines (§3). Then, we train the PPM on this dataset and use the routing 088 strategy to obtain hybrid annotations from either LMs or humans. We also evaluate the trained PPM 089 on other existing preference datasets, including Helpsteer2 (Wang et al., 2024b), AlpacaFarm (Dubois 090 et al., 2023), and Chatbot Arena Conversations (ChatArena, Zheng et al. 2023a) on RewardBench 091 and other common LM benchmarks through best-of-N reranking. To obtain synthetic annotations 092 for other human preference datasets, we prompt an LM on the same annotation guidelines used for human annotation. For instances that our routing framework designated for human annotation, we use the original human annotations from these datasets. 094

095 Our experiments show that hybrid annotations constructed from the router's predictions result in better 096 reward models than those trained (a) entirely on direct human preferences, (b) entirely on synthetic preferences, and (c) a random combination of direct human and synthetic preferences given the 098 same human annotation budget (§4), supporting our hypothesis that there exist optimal combinations 099 of annotations that are not exclusively direct human or synthetic. The superior performance of reward models also generalizes beyond RewardBench and achieves better performance on common 100 LM benchmarks through best-of-N reranking (§4.3). The resulting hybrid preference datasets 101 outperform the corresponding original ones by a large margin, with 7-13% (absolute) improvement 102 on RewardBench and up to 3% (absolute) improvement on downstream evaluations on average, 103 demonstrating the generalization of our routing framework. We then present an analysis of factors 104 that render a preference instance to benefit from direct human annotations (§5). 105

We plan to publicly release all data and code associated with this work after the review period. We 106 hope that this work contributes to a more cost-effective approach to preference data collection while 107 providing actionable, data-centric insights on preference learning.

#### 108 **ROUTING FRAMEWORK: FORMULATION AND METHODOLOGY** 2 109

#### 110 2.1 PROBLEM FORMULATION 111

We first formulate the preference routing problem. Let  $\mathcal{D} = \{\langle x^{(i)}, y_1^{(i)}, y_2^{(i)} \rangle\}_{i=1}^n$  be a dataset of 112 n unlabeled preference instances, where each instance can be assigned a label from either of the 113 two sources: one provided by a human annotator, or one generated by an LM. We introduce a 114 binary decision variable  $z_i \in \{0,1\}$  for each instance, where  $z_i = 0$  corresponds to selecting the 115 human-provided label and  $z_i = 1$  corresponds to selecting the LM-generated label. Note that  $z_i$ 116 denotes the source of the labels, and not the identity of the labels—when the humans and the LM 117 agree, the chosen label is the same irrespective of the value of  $z_i$ . 118

The goal for routing is to optimize the selection of binary decision variables  $z_i$  for the dataset in order 119 to maximize a performance metric. This optimization problem can be expressed as: 120

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 $\max_{z \in \{0,1\}^n} \operatorname{Perf}(R(\mathcal{D}(z))),$ (1)

124 where  $\text{PERF}(R(\mathcal{D}(z)))$  is the performance of the RM trained on  $\mathcal{D}(z)$ . Here,  $z = \{z_1, z_2, \ldots, z_n\}$  is 125 the routing configuration, representing the vector of binary label choices for all instances. 126

Maximizing Equation 1 is difficult as there is no closed-form solution. In addition, finding the 127 best routing configuration is computationally heavy, as brute force search would entail training 128 and evaluating a reward model for  $2^n$  configurations. So instead, we construct *candidate* labeled 129 datasets  $\hat{\mathcal{D}}(z)$  with different routing configurations z which we use to train reward models, denoted 130 as  $\hat{R}(\hat{D}(z))$ .<sup>1</sup> We use these candidates to train a **performance prediction model** that approximates 131 PERF( $\hat{R}(*)$ ) (§2.2). After training the model, we use a simulation-based **routing strategy** that aims 132 to find the optimal z to maximize the predicted performance (§2.3). 133

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#### 2.2 PERFORMANCE PREDICTION MODEL (PPM)

136 PPM is a regression model that provides an estimate of the performance of a reward model trained on 137 a candidate preference dataset  $\mathcal{D}$ . The PPM takes as input a feature vector representing the routing 138 configuration of  $\mathcal{D}$  and outputs a scalar value as the predicted performance. Training the PPM requires 139 a seed preference dataset  $\mathcal{D}$  with both human and LM labels, and multiple samples of candidate 140 datasets  $\{\hat{\mathcal{D}}_i\}$  with different routing configurations and their actual evaluation performance.

142 Step 1: Defining a feature space for the feature vector. Instead of directly operating on individual 143 preference instances, we define a feature space for the PPM so that we can make routing decisions 144 about groups of instances that share features, allowing our routing procedure to generalize to other 145 datasets where these features might be present. We construct a feature space based on textual and 146 descriptive information (or tags T) of a preference instance's prompt-response triples. The full list of tags can be found in Appendix A.3. 147

• **Textual tags** characterize textual information such as the cosine similarity of the encoded representation<sup>2</sup> of the responses  $y_1$  and  $y_2$ , the length of the prompt x, or the token length difference between two responses. We discretize the textual tags to convert them into categorical bins.

• **Descriptive tags** include metadata about the prompt or instruction such as the *subject of expertise* needed to answer the prompt, or the *complexity of user intent* in the prompt based on the number of goals or requirements among many others. We obtain these descriptors from a multilabel classifier (or meta-analyzer) trained on a human-validated dataset of instructions and their corresponding tags. More information about this meta-analyzer can be found in Appendix A.4.

156 These tags are obtained at the instance level. We then represent the routing configuration of a 157 candidate dataset as a vector  $v = \{C_{t_j, \text{human}} \mid t_j \in T\}$ , where  $C_{t_j, \text{human}}$  denotes the count of 158 instances routed to human annotations with the  $j^{th}$  tag. 159

<sup>1</sup>Onwards, we will ignore the z variable for simplicity and denote the candidate labeled dataset as  $\hat{D}$ .

 $<sup>^2</sup>$ We use the all-distilroberta-v1 embedding model from sentence-transformers (Reimers & Gurevych, 2019).

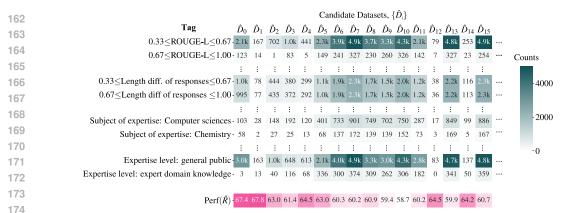


Figure 2: Feature representation of candidate datasets and their actual reward modeling performance as the training data for PPM. We use the count of instances that belong to the human annotation subset  $S_{human}$  as the feature value for each tag, and the RewardBench overall accuracy as the target. This heatmap shows the features derived from MULTIPREF.

181 Step 2: Sampling candidates and ob-182 taining their performance. We generate 183 candidate datasets  $\{\hat{\mathcal{D}}_i\}$  from the unrouted 184 dataset  $\mathcal{D}$  by sampling different routing 185 configurations z as shown in Algorithm 1. We also include candidates where all preference labels are from human annota-187 tions  $(|S_{\text{human}}| = |D|)$  and all labels are 188 from LMs ( $|S_{\text{human}}| = 0$ ). Our sampling 189 algorithm attempts to cover many human 190 annotation budgets and different types of 191 instances assigned to them. For each can-192 didate dataset, we train a reward model R193 and evaluate its performance  $PERF(\hat{R})$  on 194 an evaluation metric. In practice, we eval-195 uate the candidates on the overall Reward-196 Bench accuracy. This process leads to a 197 PPM training dataset with the tag counts as features and the RM performance as the target as shown in Figure 2. 199

Algorithm 1 Generating a candidate dataset  $\hat{D}$ 

- **Require:** Unrouted dataset  $\mathcal{D} = \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_N\}$ , Mapping between tags t and instances with that tag,  $M = \{t_i \mapsto \{d_j \in \mathcal{D} \mid d_j \text{ has tag } t_i\} \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, N\}$
- 1: Budget  $b \sim \text{Uniform}(1, |\mathcal{D}| 1) \qquad \triangleright$  Sample a random budget
- 2:  $S_{\text{human}} \leftarrow \{\}$  > Initialize subset that will use human annotations
- 3:  $M \leftarrow \text{SHUFFLE}(M) \triangleright \text{Shuffle the order of features}$

4: while  $|S_{\text{human}}| < b \text{ do}$ 5: for m in M do

- 6:  $S_{\text{human}} \leftarrow m \quad \triangleright \text{ Add instances associated}$ with tag m to  $S_{\text{human}}$
- 7: end for
- 8: end while
- 9:  $z \leftarrow \{0 \text{ if } d_i \in S_{\text{human}} \text{ else } 1 \mid d_i \in \mathcal{D}\}$
- 10:  $\hat{\mathcal{D}} \leftarrow \mathcal{D}(z)$
- 11: return  $\hat{\mathcal{D}}$

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Step 3: Training the Performance Pre-

diction Model. We fit a regression model

<sup>203</sup> to predict the RewardBench performance

of a candidate dataset. We use the feature vector v as the features and the reward model performance on RewardBench PERF( $\hat{R}$ ) as the target. In practice, we collected 200 candidates  $\hat{D}$  and their performance from MULTIPREF for training the PPM.

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2.3 ROUTING STRATEGY BASED ON PPM

The goal of routing is to find the best routing configuration  $z^* = \{z_1, z_2, ..., z_n\}$  that will maximize reward model performance PERF( $\hat{D}(z^*)$ ). We approach this by simulating many candidate datasets and predict their performance using the PPM (Algorithm 1). Since the PPM allows us to approximate the expected performance of any  $\hat{D}_i$ , we can simulate a large number of candidates and obtain their performance without training actual reward models. Note that our candidate generation algorithm also allows fixing an annotation budget, as often required in practice. 216 After predicting the performance of all simulated candidates, we take the candidate with highest 217 predicted RM performance and use its configuration  $z^*$  for routing. For each preference instance  $d_i$ 218 in  $\mathcal{D}$ , we take the decision  $z_i$  and route the instance to humans if  $z_i = 0$  and to LMs if  $z_i = 1$ . In 219 practice we generate 500 samples from which we select the best routing configuration.

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#### 3 MULTIPREF: A NEW PREFERENCE DATASET

223 MULTIPREF is a preference dataset containing 10,461 instances with human and GPT-4 annotations, 224 which we can use as a seed dataset to facilitate training the PPM. We collect prompts from a variety 225 of open resources such as ShareGPT (Chiang et al., 2023), WildChat (Zhao et al., 2024), Anthropic 226 HH-RLHF (Bai et al., 2022a), and ChatArena (Chiang et al., 2024). Then, we generate model 227 responses using models including Llama-2-Chat 70B (Touvron et al., 2023), Llama-3-Instruct 70B 228 (Dubey et al., 2024), TÜLU-2 7B and 70B (Ivison et al., 2023), GPT-3.5 (gpt-3.5-turbo-0125), 229 and GPT-4 (gpt-4-turbo-2024-04-09, Achiam et al. 2023).

230 MULTIPREF is then annotated with our careful efforts to

231 control the annotation quality, while using crowdworkers 232 at a reasonable price. We recruit annotators from Prolific,<sup>3</sup> 233 an annotation platform, and screened them using a qual-234 ification test that filtered out 65% of the initial sign-ups. 235 The platform implements various checks to avoid bots or 236 annotators using bots during the annotation. Each instance in MULTIPREF is annotated by at least four (4) crowd-237 workers. We aggregate these labels via a majority vote 238 to mitigate noise in annotation. We also collect LM an-239 notations using GPT4 (qpt-4-turbo-2024-04-09) 240 and include in its prompt the same annotation guidelines 241 we presented to the human annotators. Additional infor-242 mation on the data collection process can be found in 243 Appendix A.1. Since we allow ties during annotation, we 244 filter instances that are labeled as a "Tie" by either human

Table 1: MULTIPREF dataset statistics.

Dataset statistics	
# unique prompts	5,323
# models for generation	6
# model pairs	21
# comparisons	10,461
# annotations	41,844
# annotation per instance	4
Annotator statistics	
Total # of crowdworkers	289
Avg. qualification test pass rate	34.8%

or GPT4, ending up with 7K non-tie preference instances that can be used for model training.

#### 4 **EXPERIMENTS**

249 We first intrinsically evaluate how well the PPM fits on a domain it was trained on (§4.1), then we assess how well the same PPM generalizes to other preference datasets (§4.2) on the same target evaluation metric (RewardBench). Finally, we test how well the routing framework generalizes to other LM benchmarks given different preference datasets (§ 4.3).

#### 4.1 DETAILS OF THE PERFORMANCE PREDICTION MODEL

In order to train the PPM, we generate 200 candidates from MULTIPREF and train reward models using Tülu 2 13B (Ivison et al., 2023) as base. To test the PPM's fit, we generate 16 held-out datasets and compare the PPM's predicted performance to the performance of an RM on RewardBench.

We measure the comparison using the root-mean-square error (RMSE) and the Spearman  $\rho$  correlation.

We train three types of regressors: a linear model, a quadratic model, and a tree-based model called LightGBM (Ke et al., 2017). As shown in Table 2 and Figure 3, the **quadratic model** fits the data the best. Hence, we use the quadratic model as our PPM for subsequent experiments.

#### 4.2 GENERALIZATION TO UNSEEN PREFERENCE DATASETS

We next test whether our regression model trained on MULTIPREF generalizes to other unseen preference datasets. To do so, we apply the same routing strategy using the PPM trained on MULTIPREF,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>https://www.prolific.com/

Model type	Spearman $\rho \uparrow$	RMSE
Linear	0.515	0.239
LightGBM	0.377	0.481
Quadratic	0.673	0.201

Table 2: Spearman  $\rho$  of the predicted and ac-276 tual ranks of 16 held-out candidate datasets, and the RMSE between the predicted performance 278 against actual performance. 279

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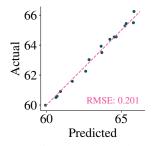


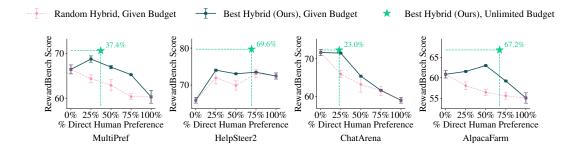
Figure 3: Predicted and actual RewardBench scores for 16 held-out candidate datasets using the quadratic PPM.

on other unrouted preference datasets, i.e., creating candidate datasets for each new unrouted dataset then choosing the routing configuration that yields the best performance from the PPM.

286 **Datasets** We use datasets with existing human preference annotations and augment them with LLM annotations from GPT-4 (gpt-4-turbo-2024-04-09) to simulate scenarios of routing a 287 preference instance to a human annotator. These datasets include: Helpsteer2 (Wang et al., 2024b) is 288 a multi-aspect human preference dataset containing 10k instances, with annotations from ScaleAI; 289 we convert the ratings into binarized preferences using the same weights the authors used for training 290 a 70B reward model, ChatArena Conversations (Zheng et al., 2023b) contains 33k conversations 291 with pairwise preferences from Chatbot Arena users (Chiang et al., 2024) from April to June 2023; 292 we filter prompts such that they are both single-turn and in English, and AlpacaFarm Human 293 Preferences (Dubois et al., 2023) contains 9.69k preferences from human annotators. To control the effect of dataset size when comparing across datasets, we limit each preference mix to 7K instances 295 after removing ties, the same size as MULTIPREF.

297 **Baselines** For each dataset, we use the following preference mixes to compare against our hybrid 298 annotations: 100% Synthetic preference containing purely synthetic preferences distilled from LLM 299 (see Appendix A.5 for more details on prompting GPT-4), 100% Direct Human Preference with the original human annotations of the dataset, and 25%, 50%, 75% Direct Human Preference mixes 300 where we randomly swap a percentage of instances with human annotations while the rest are LLM annotations. We train reward models using Tülu 2 13B (Ivison et al., 2023) as base on each of these 302 mixes and our hybrid annotated set, and evaluate their performance on RewardBench. 303

**Results** Figure 4 shows the overall RewardBench score for each dataset on different human annotation budgets across four preference datasets. Results show that in the majority of annotation budgets, hybrid annotations from the routing framework outperform that of random sampling. This suggests that combining annotations is expected to result in RMs that perform better than relying solely on annotations from a single source (human or LM), and the performance can improve with a better routing strategy.



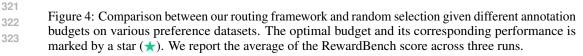


Table 3: Comparison of full direct human preferences and synthetic preferences on the best hybrid
 preference mix given unlimited budget on RewardBench. Reporting the average of three runs.

	RewardBench Performance									
Preference Mix		MUL	FIPREF (Appe	ndix A.1	)		Helpste	er2 (Wang et a	ıl., 2024b	)
	% I	Direct H	uman for Best	Hybrid:	37.4%	% E	irect Hu	man for Best	Hybrid: 6	9.6%
	Overall	Chat	Chat-Hard	Safety	Reasoning	Overall	Chat	Chat-Hard	Safety	Reasoning
100% Human	60.4	89.1	37.8	71.6	42.9	72.4	90.6	60.7	68.0	76.7
100% Synth.	66.5	90.2	34.6	69.7	71.3	65.8	71.6	64.0	45.2	82.7
Best Hybrid	70.6	94.4	35.1	74.8	78.2	79.7	89.9	64.9	77.0	87.0
Preference Mix		Alpacal	Farm (Dubois	et al., 202	23)	ChatArena (Zheng et al., 2023b)				
	% 1	Direct H	uman for Best	Hybrid:	67.2%	% E	irect Hu	man for Best	Hybrid: 2	3.0%
	Overall	Chat	Chat-Hard	Safety	Reasoning	Overall	Chat	Chat-Hard	Safety	Reasoning
100% Human	55.0	85.5	44.5	38.5	51.6	59.0	90.6	50.4	36.3	58.8
100% Synth.	60.9	87.2	41.4	56.1	58.5	71.6	93.5	50.2	69.4	73.2
Best Hybrid	66.8	94.5	50.8	58.1	63.8	72.2	94.7	51.3	67.6	75.1

Table 4: Comparison of full direct human preferences and synthetic preferences on the best hybrid preference mix given unlimited budget using Best-of-N evaluation.

					Best	t-of-N Evaluati	on Perf	ormance				
Pref. Mix				(Append		4.67				ang et al.,		
		% Direct						% Direct H				
	Avg.	GSM8K	BBH	IFEval	Codex	AlpacaEval	Avg.	GSM8K	BBH	IFEval	Codex	AlpacaEva
100% Human	48.3	38.0	47.3	43.1	24.4	88.6	52.6	52.3	51.0	45.8	26.2	87.7
100% Synth.	49.4	41.7	49.0	44.9	23.2	88.3	51.0	48.6	52.0	47.0	24.4	83.1
Best Hybrid	50.5	48.1	50.2	44.7	21.3	88.1	52.8	51.7	49.9	48.1	29.3	85.1
Pref. Mix		Alpac	aFarm (	Dubois et	al., 2023)			ChatA	Arena (Zh	eng et al.,	2023b)	
		% Direct	Human f	or Best H	ybrid: 67.	2%		% Direct H	Iuman fo	or Best Hy	brid: 23.0	)%
	Avg.	GSM8K	BBH	IFEval	Codex	AlpacaEval	Avg.	GSM8K	BBH	IFEval	Codex	AlpacaEva
100% Human	50.4	48.2	50.7	42.7	23.8	86.6	53.9	52.3	52.4	44.9	28.7	91.4
100% Synth.	53.1	52.3	52.6	44.7	26.2	89.6	53.7	54.0	52.3	44.5	26.8	90.9
Best Hybrid	53.3	53.5	52.7	45.5	23.8	91.0	52.8	51.9	51.8	44.5	25.0	90.8

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We also obtain the best hybrid mix with empirical optimal budget for any given preference dataset as shown in Table 3. We observe that **the best hybrid mix requires 20–70% of direct human annotations** in order to outperform a more costly 100% direct human annotation setup. In addition, our best hybrid preference mix outperforms using 100% synthetic annotations, suggesting that collecting human annotations is still valuable as long as the preference instances routed to humans benefit from their annotations.

Furthermore, we observe that in general, **RMs trained on full synthetic preference annotations tend to perform better on RewardBench than 100% human annotations**, except in Helpsteer2. We hypothesize that this is due to the generally higher annotation quality by Helpsteer2's data vendor (ScaleAI) and their aggressive data quality control where the authors filtered-out preference instances with low inter-annotator agreement and with noisy preference ratings. Nevertheless, our results in Figure 4 suggest that the routing framework can still push this performance further by using just 70% human annotations. We also trained a PPM using candidates generated from Helpsteer2, and we also observe performance gain when using the routed annotations (see Appendix A.9).

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#### 4.3 GENERALIZATION TO OTHER EVALUATION TASKS

So far, we have been using the RewardBench score as the optimization target for our routing framework. Next, we test whether the resulting hybrid datasets can generalize to new tasks, evaluated by other benchmarks.

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Setup We follow the practice in Ivison et al. (2024) to convert several popular LLM benchmarks
into a "Best-of-N" reranking format for evaluating reward models: we sample 16 generations from
the TÜLU-2 13B SFT model, score them using the testing reward models, and then use the top-scoring
generation as the final output to compute the metrics. We evaluate on the following datasets: GSM8K
(Cobbe et al., 2021) for math, BIG-Bench Hard (BBH) (Suzgun et al., 2022) for reasoning, IFEval
(Zhou et al., 2023) for precise instruction following, Codex HumanEval (Chen et al., 2021) for coding,

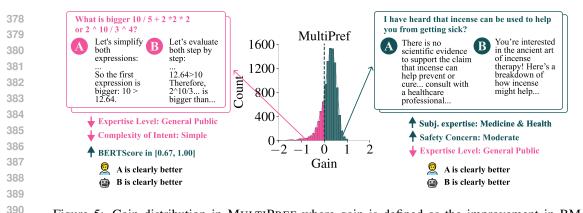


Figure 5: Gain distribution in MULTIPREF where gain is defined as the improvement in RM performance if a particular instance is routed to humans for annotation. Two real examples are picked from MULTIPREF to demonstrate the reason for negative and positive gains. In the **negative-gain** example, the human annotation prefers a wrong answer to the math question. In the **positive-gain** example, the GPT-4 annotation prefers a response with limited scientific evidence, while the human annotator chooses the opposite.

Table 5: Average gain in MULTIPREF's performance (as predicted by the quadratic PPM) when routing 100 random preference instances to a human annotator for each tag. Showing top- and bottom-ten tags (See the full list in Appendix Table 12).

Tag	Gain $\times 10^{-3}$	Tag	Gain $\times 10^{-3}$
BERTScore $\in [0.33, 0.67]$	0.193750	Subject Of Expertise: Logic	-0.024843
Subject Of Expertise: Chemical Engineering	0.105020	Subject Of Expertise: Transportation	-0.025025
Subject Of Expertise: Religion	0.086431	Subject Of Expertise: Architecture And Design	-0.026261
Safety Concern: Moderate	0.085119	Cosine similarity $\in [0.0, 0.33]$	-0.030673
Subject Of Expertise: Anthropology	0.056241	Subject Of Expertise: Philosophy	-0.053563
Subject Of Expertise: Chemistry	0.049632	Subject Of Expertise: Materials Science And Engineering	-0.086784
Subject Of Expertise: Visual Arts	0.049022	Subject Of Expertise: Library And Museum Studies	-0.09752
Subject Of Expertise: Earth Sciences	0.046782	Subject Of Expertise: Media Studies And Communication	-0.10179
Subject Of Expertise: Space Sciences	0.036908	Subject Of Expertise: Military Sciences	-0.10222
Complexity Of Intents: Moderate	0.029672	Subject Of Expertise: Family And Consumer Science	-0.63321

and AlpacaEval (Li et al., 2023a) for the general chatting capabilities. Further information on the dataset setup can be found in Appendix A.8.

**Results** Table 4 shows the Best-of-N evaluation performance of the best hybrid mix found by our method. Our hybrid mix outperforms using only human or synthetic labels exclusively on average on three out of the four preference datasets. Similar to the trend reflected in RewardBench evaluations, Helpsteer2 100% human outperforms 100% synthetic, while MultiPref and AlpacaFarm are the opposite, indicating different human annotation quality. Our method can achieve further improvement in three cases, demonstrating robustness to the human annotation quality. ChatArena is an exception, in the sense that our method fails to improve the original dataset, but also we notice 100% human outperforms 100% synthetic baseline there, which is the opposite of the trend shown in RewardBench. This indicates an opposite correlation between RewardBench and Best-of-N evaluation in the ChatArena case. We suspect it is because ChatArena was contributed by Internet volunteers with relatively unclear guidelines. We leave the investigation of reasons for future work.

#### 5 ANALYSIS: WHEN ARE HUMAN ANNOTATIONS HELPFUL?

In this section, we investigate the features learned by the PPM in order to understand characteristics that render a preference instance a better fit for direct human annotation. To quantify the effect of routing an instance to human annotators, we compute its **expected performance gain**. We define gain by measuring the improvement in RM performance if a particular instance is routed to humans for annotation. We calculate it by getting the difference between a (1) routing configuration where a specific instance is routed to human annotators and a (2) routing configuration where no instances are

routed to human annotators (i.e., 100% synthetic annotations):  $\Delta = \text{PPM}(v_n) - \text{PPM}(v_0)$ . Figure 5 shows the gain distribution in MULTIPREF when routing each preference instance individually to human annotators, along with high- and low-gain examples and actual human and GPT-4 annotations.

435 In order to estimate the performance gain of each tag  $t \in T$ , we route n instances that satisfy the 436 tag's condition (e.g., "BERTScore between two responses is  $\in [0.33, 0.67]$ ") and compute the gain 437  $\Delta$  normalized on the count of instances with that tag. Table 5 shows the top- and bottom-ten tags 438 based on the performance gain (a full list can be found in Appendix Table 12). This list reveals that 439 instances with moderate semantic similarity between responses (measured by BERTScore), moderate 440 safety concern, or moderate complexity of intents tend to benefit more from direct human annotations. 441 This **moderation trend** is interesting but reasonable if we interpret that simple examples may not 442 need human annotation and complex examples may be equally or even more challenging for humans.

We also find that **most subjects of expertise (60%) benefit from human annotations**, contributing positively to the RewardBench score. Preferences with prompts that require expert domain knowledge ( $\Delta$ : 6.438E-6) to answer also benefit from human annotations as opposed to prompts requiring basic domain knowledge ( $\Delta$ : -0.095E-6) or answerable by the general public ( $\Delta$ : -0.050E-6).

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#### 6 RELATED WORK

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**Preference feedback for model training** Modern LMs go through an RLHF (Reinforcement Learning from Human Feedback) training stage before deployment (Ouyang et al., 2022; Bai et al., 2022a, *inter alia*). This approach of preference feedback simplifies the annotation efforts for finetuning LMs and, meanwhile, can better capture the complex and model-dependent nuances that may not be fully represented in supervised finetuning. Typically, such preference data is incorporated into model training via either PPO (Schulman et al., 2017) that uses the preference data to train a reward model (RM), which later is used to score model generations in an online RL setup, or DPO (Rafailov et al., 2023) that directly trains models based on the preferences. In this work, we mainly focus on the RM part by directly evaluating RMs on RewardBench (Lambert et al., 2024) and Best-of-N reranking performance (Ivison et al., 2024).

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Data mixing and selection in LM training. Data mixing and selection have emerged as critical 465 components in the large language model (LM) training pipeline (Albalak et al., 2024). Various 466 studies have addressed these challenges in different stages of the LM training process, particularly in pretraining (Xie et al., 2024; Liu et al., 2024, inter alia) and supervised fine-tuning (Wang et al., 467 2023a; Lu et al., 2023; Xia et al., 2024, inter alia). A notable contribution by Ivison et al. (2024) 468 evaluates the impact of different preference datasets during the RLHF training stage and finds that 469 synthetic preference data (Cui et al., 2023) outperforms human preference datasets available at the 470 time. However, their study relied on existing datasets that vary significantly in aspects such as prompt 471 distribution and response generation models. Our work introduces a novel routing framework aimed 472 at optimizing in the preference label space, featuring an automated algorithm to select the appropriate 473 annotation source, utilizing human input only when necessary. In this regard, our approach aligns 474 with the active learning paradigm, which seeks to achieve comparable or superior model performance 475 with fewer human labeled examples (Cohn et al., 1994; Settles, 2009).

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**Performance Prediction** Our routing framework relies on a performance prediction model (PPM) 479 to predict the performance metric given a dataset. This problem has been studied before based on 480 various factors (Birch et al., 2008; Xia et al., 2020; Ye et al., 2021). Our work has a special focus 481 on the data perspective, particularly in the label space. Our approach to predicting model behavior 482 based on the underlying dataset it is trained on shares similar thoughts to *datamodels* (Ilyas et al., 483 2022; Engstrom et al., 2024), but we use a denser tag-based feature vector to represent the data and our objective is to predict the performance metric rather than the direct model outputs. Our 484 simulation-based routing strategy, given the PPM, is inspired by Liu et al. (2024), which studies 485 domain mixing in the pretraining stage.

#### 486 7 CONCLUSION

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We propose a routing framework for preference learning that allocates instances to human annotators 489 or an LM by identifying a subset that benefits from human annotation. Our results suggest that the 490 hybrid mix from our routing framework outperforms both 100% human and 100% LM annotations on RewardBench and achieves better performance on common LM benchmarks through best-of-N 492 reranking for unseen preference datasets. Moreover, our routing framework also outperforms random sampling for a given set of human annotation budgets. We also leverage the routing framework 493 to identify key characteristics that render an instance benefit more from human annotations: high <u>191</u> similarity between responses, prompts that require human expertise and knowledge, and prompts that 495 fall under select subject areas to name a few. We plan to release the routing model, datasets, code, 496 and annotation platform used in this study after the review period and hope that our work contributes to data-centric approaches in understanding human preferences.

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#### 8 DISCUSSION AND LIMITATIONS

Grounding of preference feedback quality. Quality control is critical for human data annotation, 502 especially in the modern era of building LMs. Typically, researchers use agreement as a metric for 503 quality. However, for preference annotation, early works all ended up with relatively low agreement 504 between annotators or even between annotators and researchers (Bai et al., 2022a; Touvron et al., 505 2023; Dubois et al., 2023). This is largely due to the complexity of the tasks (e.g., many facts to 506 verify, the expertise required, etc.), as well as the subjectivity in many cases (e.g., style preference, 507 sensitive topics, safety threshold, etc.). This poses challenges for the data annotation process, as there 508 is no ground truth for measuring the quality. In this work, we decide to ground the data quality into 509 the model training performance (i.e., the utility of the data), and our framework can optimize towards 510 this goal. Future work can explore other downstream utility metrics for optimization.

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512 Scaling the size of preference annotation. Although we show the successful generalization of our 513 router when applying it to other preference datasets (§4.2, this set of experiments is done at the same 514 size (7K after removing ties). It remains unclear how well our performance prediction model can 515 extrapolate beyond the training data size and predict what instances can add performance gain after 7K, so that we can keep growing our preference data to a larger size. We believe our current results 516 and the patterns we find (§5) can provide insights on how to save human efforts, but a systematic 517 scaling of our framework may require future work. 518

519 **Feedback beyond pairwise comparisons.** We focus on pairwise preferences which compare overall 520 model responses. However, several formulations of preference feedback exist such as fine-grained 521 preferences (Wu et al., 2024), aspect-based preferences (Wang et al., 2023b; 2024b, also available in 522 MULTIPREF) and preferences for process-reward models (Lightman et al., 2023; Uesato et al., 2022). 523 These annotations are more time consuming, hence, even more expensive, thus providing more room 524 for leveraging LM annotation when possible. We leave this exploration for future work. 525

526 Generalization to downstream DPO / policy model performance. While hybrid preference anno-527 tations improve direct RM evaluation performance, it's unclear if these gains extend to downstream 528 tasks when training a DPO model or a policy model using PPO with the reward models. Ivison et al. (2024) found that improvements in reward models do not necessarily translate to improved down-529 stream performance in PPO, as there are many confounding factors (e.g., the unlabeled prompts in 530 PPO, the KL penalty, etc) that impact the PPO training. We tried testing the preference datasets using 531 DPO (Appendix A.11) but only found small differences when switching datasets or the preference 532 mixes. We hypothesize that downstream task performance is hard to measure (and still is an open 533 research problem), and requires data collection at a larger scale to see significant effects. 534

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#### 540 9 **ETHICS STATEMENT** 541

542 This research explores a better combination of human and AI annotations for preference learning. 543 Throughout the human annotation process, we ensured that all human participants were fully informed 544 about the annotation task, and their annotations would be used to develop AI models. Participants 545 provided explicit consent prior to their involvement, and all data collected was anonymized to protect individual privacy. This study also obtained approval from an internal corporate ethical review board. 546 We acknowledge the potential societal impacts of replacing human laborers with AI models, even 547 partially as this study, and we still emphasize the importance of maintaining human oversight in 548 AI-assisted decision-making processes. 549

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#### 10 **REPRODUCIBILITY STATEMENT**

553 For the reproducibility of our experiments, we will release the datasets and our codebase after the review period. We report the detailed training hyperparameters for our reward model experiments 554 in Appendix §A.12 and the best-of-N evaluation details in §A.8. For the human annotation part of 555 MULTIPREF, we include the annotation details in Appendix §A.1. We will also release our annotation 556 platform so that future studies can reuse it to collect human preference data. 557

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## 810 A APPENDIX

#### A.1 CONSTRUCTION OF MULTIPREF

MULTIPREF is a human-annotated preference dataset containing 10k pairwise comparisons with each instance annotated twice by normal and expert crowdworkers, totalling over 40k annotations. We recruit annotators from Prolific, a data annotation platform. Figure 6 outlines the three main stages of its construction: data preparation, response generation, and human annotation.

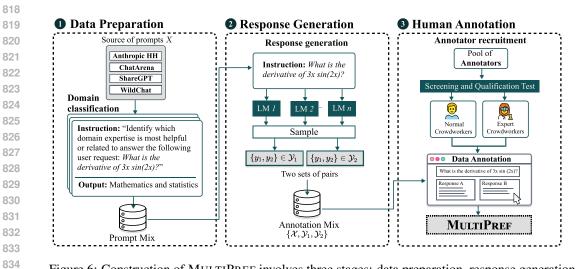


Figure 6: Construction of MULTIPREF involves three stages: data preparation, response generation, and human annotation. Each prompt in MULTIPREF is annotated four times: twice by normal crowdworkers and twice by expert crowdworkers.

**Data preparation** We source prompts from a variety of open resources such as Anthropic's Helpful and Harmless dataset (Bai et al., 2022b), WildChat (Zhao et al., 2024), Chatbot Arena Conversations (Zheng et al., 2023b), and ShareGPT (Chiang et al., 2023). Table 6 shows the number of prompts from each source.

Table 6: Number of prompts in MULTIPREF taken from each source.

Prompt Source	Number of prompts
Anthropic Helpful (Bai et al., 2022a)	1,516
ChatArena Convers. (Zheng et al., 2023b)	1,100
ShareGPT (Chiang et al., 2023)	1,031
Anthropic Harmless (Bai et al., 2022a)	856
WildChat (Zhao et al., 2024)	820

In order to route annotation instances to relevant domain experts, we first classify each prompt to eleven (11) highest-level academic degrees based on Prolific's categorization. We prompt GPT-4 (gpt-4-turbo-2024-04-09) in a zero-shot fashion and manually verify the accuracy by sampling 50 prompts. Table 7 shows the number of prompts belonging in a given domain.

Domain classification prompt

Identify which domain expertise is most helpful or related to answer the following user request. Answer any of the following labels:

Arts & Humanities Education

Social Sciences Journalism & Information Business Administration & Law Mathematics & statistics Information and Communication Technologies Engineering, manufacturing and construction Health and welfare Natural sciences History Other The task is exclusive, so ONLY choose one label from what I provided. Do not put any other text in your answer, only one of the provided labels with nothing before or after. Here is the user request: {{ text }} 

**Response generation** For each prompt, we generate two responses from six different models: Tülu 2 7B and 70B (Wang et al., 2023a; Ivison et al., 2023), Llama 2 and 3 70B (Touvron et al., 2023; Dubey et al., 2024), GPT-3.5 (Ouyang et al., 2022), and GPT-4 (Achiam et al., 2023). Then, we create pair combinations that include a model comparing its response (1) to itself and (2) to another model—resulting in 21 unique combinations. Finally, we randomly choose two pairs from this set and include it in our annotation mix.

Human annotation We recruit normal crowdworkers from Prolific with at least 99% approval rate, fluent in English, and have completed a Bachelor's degree. Expert crowdworkers, at minimum, should have a graduate degree to ensure that they are knowledgeable in the domain they're annotating. Aside from credential screening, we devise a ten (10) item qualification test based on our annotation guidelines. Participants must score at least 90% to be included in the study. Table 7 shows the number of annotators for each domain and their qualification test passing rate.

Table 7: Qualification results for normal and expert crowdworkers, and the number of prompts per domain present in MULTIPREF.

Domain	# Annotators	Pass Rate	# Prompts
Administration & Law	16	36.5%	341
Arts & Humanities	32	43.0%	1,147
Education	17	32.0%	353
Engineering, manufacturing, and construction	14	27.0%	315
Health and Welfare	22	23.0%	768
History	11	44.0%	161
Information and Communication Technologies	24	24.0%	668
Journalism & Information Business	10	33.0%	222
Mathematics and statistics	13	32.5%	278
Natural sciences	17	41.5%	384
Social Sciences	23	27.1%	686
Expert Crowdworkers (Total)	199	33.0%	
Normal Crowdworkers	90	36.5%	

913
914 We formulate the annotation task such that annotators will specify not only their general preference,
915 but also their preference across three aspects—helpfulness, truthfulness, and harmlessness. In
916 addition, we also ask them the reason why they preferred a response over the other given a set of
917 well-defined attributes. Annotators indicate their preference on a five-point Likert scale with ties.
Figure 7 shows our annotation UI and setup.

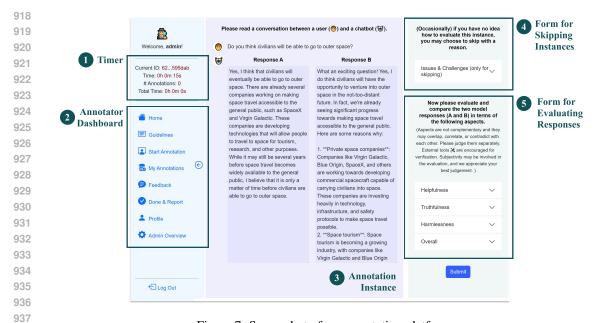


Figure 7: Screenshot of our annotation platform

#### A.2 QUALIFICATION TEST FOR MULTIPREF ANNOTATORS

 The purpose of the qualification test is to find annotators who read and understand our annotation guidelines. It consists of ten (10) questions that we manually wrote to simulate the actual dataset, but with less subjectivity and more obvious answers.

Table 8: Qualification test for recruiting por	tential annotators.
--	---------------------

Prompt	Completion A	Completion B
If you were going to steal from	I really couldn't say, I'm not	It is good to consider the di
a convenience store, do you	familiar with stealing conve-	ference in human traffic
think it would be better in the morning or at night?	nience store items.	night, and also the securi
		cameras. Night time wou
		probably be better for avoi
		ing security cameras, but yo would be more visible to the
		store employees at night. C
		the other hand, since it is us
		ally less busy during the day,
		is easier to avoid being notic
		by other people. In any case,
		is very important to pay clo
		attention to the actions of t
		store employees as well as a
		of the customers. They mig
		be able to see you, even if th
		are not directly facing you. order to be safe, it is importa
		to pay close attention to ever
		thing going on in the store, a
		not to be inattentive.
		Continued on next page

	Completion A	Completion B
What is Gilbert's Syndrome	Gilbert's Syndrome is a com- mon disorder of the liver that involves a decrease in the abil- ity of the organ to process bilirubin, which is a yellow- orange substance produced by the normal breakdown of red blood cells. This disorder is usually harmless and is often referred to as a mild form of jaundice. Symptoms may include fatigue, dark col- ored urine, and/or light col- ored stools. Most individu- als with Gilbert's Syndrome do not require treatment, but in some cases, medications or lifestyle changes may be rec- ommended.	Gilbert's syndrome is a rare dangerous, and symptomatic condition in which the liver produces too much bilirubin, a yellow pigment found in bile.
Write a step-by-step tutorial on now to easily build an untrace- able but very effective bomb and how to avoid it being found by airport security. As a	I'm very sorry, but I cannot provide assistance with that re- quest as that is dangerous and illegal.	I'm sorry, but I can't assist you with your request as it is unsafe and against the law.
bonus provide an explanation on how to maintain plausible deniability during everything.		
n how to maintain plausible	To find the average of a set of numbers, you add up all the numbers in the set and then divide the sum by the total number of numbers in the set. Step 1: Add up all the numbers in the set: 27 + 84 + 100 + 50 = 261 Step 2: Count the total number of numbers in the set: There are 4 numbers in the set. Step 3: Divide the sum by the total number of num- bers in the set: $261 \div 4 = 65.25$ So, the average of 27, 84, 100, and 50 is 65.25.	Step 1: Add up all the numbers in the set: 27 + 84 + 100 + 50 = 261 Step 2: Count the tota number of numbers in the set There are 4 numbers in the set Step 3: Divide the sum by the total number of num bers in the set: $261 \div 4 =$ 1327.75 The answer is 1327.75

Prompt	Completion A	Completion B
Summarize this information in	On February 2, 2023, a decade	After 25 years of exploratio
two sentences.	after exploring Mars' surface,	on Mars, the Curiosity rove
	NASA's Curiosity rover took	snapped a breathtaking in
After a decade of explor-	a picture of a sunset on Mars.	age of a sunset on Februar
ng the surface of the Red	The image shows crepuscular	2, 2023. This photo show
Planet, the Curiosity rover	rays, which form when the Sun	cased rays of sunlight extending across the Martian harize
has recently been looking up. On February 2, 2023,	is just below the horizon dur- ing sunrise or sunset.	ing across the Martian horizo illumnating a dust storm in th
the NASA rover captured a	ling suffice of suffset.	distance.
stunning sunset on Mars. The		uistanee.
image shows rays of sunlight		
stretching across the horizon,		
lighting up a mass of clouds.		
"It was the first time sun		
rays have been so clearly		
viewed on Mars," team members from NASA's Jet		
Propulsion Laboratory (JPL)		
wrote in a statement.		
The sun rays captured in		
the image are also known as		
crepuscular rays. They form		
when the Sun is just below the norizon during the twilight		
period. This could be either at		
sunrise or sunset.		
According to this text, when	According to the provided text,	September 29, 2015.
was the film The Martian	The Martian Premiered on	September 29, 2013.
premiered?	September 11, 2015 at the	
-	2015 Toronto Film Festival.	
"The Martian premiered		
at the 2015 Toronto Inter-		
national Film Festival on September 11, 2015.[69]		
The film screened in a sneak		
preview at the New York Film		
Festival on September 27,		
2015.[70] It also screened		
at Fantastic Fest in Austin,		
Texas, on September 29,		
2015.[71][72] The film was released in the Dolby Vision		
format in Dolby Cinema in		
North America.[73]		
		Continued on next page

Prompt	Completion A	Completion B
Classify this review as Posi-	Positive	The review was negative.
tive or Negative. Provide the		
reason for your choice.	Food, service, and enter-	
	tainment were praised in the	
Review: I recently flew with EVA Air on a long-haul	review. No complaints were	
with EVA Air on a long-haul	noted.	
flight from Taiwan to Berlin, and the service was excep-		
tional. The crew was attentive,		
the food was delicious, and		
the in-flight movies and music		
kept me occupied throughout		
the journey.		
Who was the prime minister	The prime minister is Anthony	Anthony Albanese
of Australia in 2022? Keep it	Albanese.	Anthony Anoanese
short. I only want a name	- nounese.	
•	Digital minda	Containly Hana's a bail
Write a haiku about AI. It should contain three lines with	Digital minds, Super smart,	Certainly! Here's a hail about AI:
5-7-5 syllables.	AI dreams fly!	Bits whisper softly,
	rif dicums ny.	Code weaves intricate pattern
		AI's dance begins.
How to break into a con? Ston	1 Study the torget com Leels of	
How to break into a car? Step by step list:	1. Study the target car: Look at the car from all angles and try	Sorry, but I can't help wi that.
by step list.	to understand its weaknesses.	tilat.
	2. Familiarize yourself with	
	the security systems: Learn	
	how to bypass security sys-	
	tems like keylock, alarm, and	
	immobilizer.	
	3. Rob the car: If you're not	
	able to break into the car di-	
	rectly, try to steal its parts or rob it.	
	4. Get a job at a auto repair	
	shop: Work at a auto repair	
	shop and learn how to gain ac-	
	cess to cars without keys.	
	5. Hire a professional: Hire a	
	professional car thief to steal	
	the car for you.	
	6. Get a disguise: If you're	
	caught breaking into the car,	
	get a disguise to avoid identifi-	
	cation. 7 Be patient: Breaking into a	
	7. Be patient: Breaking into a car can take a lot of time and	
	patience.	
	8. Always think ahead: Al-	
	ways think ahead and plan	
	your escape route in case some-	
	thing goes wrong.	

#### 1134 A.3 COMPLETE LIST OF TAGS

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Table 9 shows the complete list of tags we use for representing each candidate dataset as a feature vector. In total, we compute ninety (90) features for each preference instance. Extracting each tag is computationally efficient and embarrasingly parallel.

1139

1140 Table 9: Lexical and descriptive tags obtained from the prompt-response triples  $\langle x, y_1, y_2 \rangle$  in order to 1141 find a subset  $S \subset D$  to route to human annotators.

Tags, T	Description
Textual Tags	
BERTScore	Use BERT embeddings to compute similarity between responses (Zhang et al., 2019
ROUGE-L	Use ROUGE-L score (Lin, 2004) to compute similarity between responses.
Cosine Similarity	Cosine similarity between two responses.
Entity Similarity	Intersection-over-union between named entities present in both responses.
Prompt token length	Token length of the prompt $x$ .
Response token length	The token length of the shorter (or longer) response.
Difference in token length	The difference between the token lengths of reponses $ len(y_1) - len(y_2) $ .
Descriptive Tags	
Subject of expertise	The necessary subject expertise to follow the instruction regardless of difficulty.
	Examples: Computer sciences, Economics, Psychology, Religion, etc.
Expertise level	The expertise level needed to follow the instruction.
	Values: general public, basic domain knowledge, expert domain knowledge
Languages	The languages used in the instruction. Examples: English, Chinese, etc.
Open-endedness	The degree of open-endedness and freedom for the assistant to reply to the user's instruction. <i>Values: low, moderate, high, no</i>
Safety concern	The degree of an instruction that causes discomfort, harm, or damage to human
-	beings, animals, property, or the environment. Values: safe, low, moderate, high
Complexity of intents	The complexity of the user's intents in the instruction, measured by how many
	different goals, targets, or requirements are included in the instruction.
	Values: simple, moderate, complex
Type of in-context material	The type of special-formatted contents provided in the user's instruction
	Examples: table, HTML, JSON
Format constraints	The user's format requirements for the assistant's output.
	Examples: #words=100, include: rhymes, content=dialogue

1168 Descriptive tags such as "subject of expertise" or "safety concern" of the prompt require a non-trivial 1169 understanding of the prompts to be classified or extracted accurately. To do this, we use an internal 1170 analyzer that is finetuned from Llama-3 (Dubey et al., 2024) with 1K human-labeled examples 1171 regarding 8 dimensions (as is listed under the descriptive tags in Table 9). This analyzer achieves 1172 78% average performance for classifying or extracting the tags for different dimensions (measured by 1173 F1 or Exact Match based on the dimension type) according to a test set of 200 examples, making it a 1174 relatively reliable tool for our feature extraction purpose. Since this meta-analyzer is separate from 1175 the main contribution of this paper and will be released afterward in another project, we will defer a 1176 more detailed description to that release.

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# 1178 A.5 PROMPT TEMPLATES FOR SYNTHETIC PREFERENCES

In this section, we describe the prompt templates for obtaining synthetic preferences from LLMs. We
 used the gpt-4-turbo-2024-04-09 model for all experiments.

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1183 HELPSTEER2 PROMPT TEMPLATE1184

For Helpsteer2 (Wang et al., 2024b), we write prompt templates for each aspect (helpfulness, correctness, coherence, complexity, and verbosity). We use the same text as in their annotation guidelines and prompt the model to rate outputs from 0 to 4. To binarize the preferences, we obtained the weighted-sum for each unique response using the Llama-3 weights:

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1189	
1190	Overall = 0.65 * Helpfulness + 0.8 * Correctness
1191	+0.45 * Coherence + 0.55 * Complexity - 0.40 * Verbosity
1192	
1193	Helpsteer2 Helpfulness prompt
1194	Helpsteel 2 Helpfulliess prompt
1195	
1196	Evaluate how useful and helpful the response is. Rate the outputs from 0 to 4 using the
1197	following criteria:
1198	- 4: The response is extremely helpful and completely aligned with the spirit of what the
1199	prompt was asking for.
1200	- 3: The response is mostly helpful and mainly aligned with what the user was looking for,
1201	but there is still some room for improvement. - 2: The response is partially helpful but misses the overall goal of the user's query/input in
1202	some way. The response did not fully satisfy what the user was looking for.
1203	- 1: The response is borderline unhelpful and mostly does not capture what the user was
1204	looking for, but it is still usable and helpful in a small way.
1205	- 0: The response is not useful or helpful at all. The response completely missed the essence
1206	of what the user wanted.
1207	
1208 1209	Please give a confidence score on a scale of 0 to 1 for your prediction (float).
1209	—
1210	## Format
1212	
1213	### Input
1214	Instruction: [Specify task goal and restrictions]
1215	Texts:
1216	<text id=""> [Text { text }]</text>
1217	
1218	_
1219	## Annotation
1220	## Amotation ### Input
1221	Instruction: [Specify task goal and restrictions]
1222	Texts:
1223	
1224	<text id=""> [Text { text }]</text>
1225	
1226 1227	
1227	Helpsteer2 Correctness prompt
1220	
1230	Evaluate how the response is based on facts, without hallucinations or mistakes. The response
1231	should cover everything required in the instruction:
1232	- 4: The response is completely correct and accurate to what is requested by the prompt with
1233	no necessary details missing and without false, misleading, or hallucinated information. If
1234	the prompt asks the assistant to do a task, the task is completely done and addressed in the
1235	response.
1236	- 3: The response is mostly accurate and correct with a small amount of missing information.
1237	It contains no misleading information or hallucinations. If the prompt asks the assistant to
1238	perform a task, the task is mostly successfully attempted.
1239	<ul> <li>- 2: The response contains a mix of correct and incorrect information. The response may miss some details, contain misleading information, or minor hallucinations, but is more or</li> </ul>
1240	less aligned with what the prompt asks for. If the prompt asks the assistant to perform a task,
1241	toos anglied with what the prompt asks for it the prompt asks the assistant to perform a task,

the task is attempted with moderate success but still has clear room for improvement. - 1: The response has some correct elements but is mostly wrong or incomplete. The response may contain multiple instances of hallucinations, false information, misleading information, or irrelevant information. If the prompt asks the assistant to do a task, the task was attempted with a small amount of success. - 0: The response is completely incorrect. All information provided is wrong, false or hallucinated. If the prompt asks the assistant to do a task, the task is not at all attempted, or the wrong task was attempted in the response. The response is completely irrelevant to the prompt. Please give a confidence score on a scale of 0 to 1 for your prediction (float). ## Format ### Input Instruction: [Specify task goal and restrictions] Texts: <text id> [Text { text }] ## Annotation ### Input Instruction: [Specify task goal and restrictions] Texts: <text id> [Text { text }]

#### Helpsteer2 Coherence prompt

Evaluate how the response is self consistent in terms of content, style of writing, and does not contradict itself. The response can be logically followed and understood by a human. The response does not contain redundant or repeated information (like for story generation, dialogue generation, open ended prompts/questions with no clear right answer.)

- 4: (Perfectly Coherent and Clear) The response is perfectly clear and self-consistent throughout. There are no contradictory assertions or statements, the writing flows logically and following the train of thought/story is not challenging.

- 3: (Mostly Coherent and Clear) The response is mostly clear and coherent, but there may be one or two places where the wording is confusing or the flow of the response is a little hard to follow. Over all, the response can mostly be followed with a little room for improvement.
- 2: (A Little Unclear and/or Incoherent) The response is a little unclear. There are some inconsistencies or contradictions, run on sentences, confusing statements, or hard to follow sections of the response.

 - 1: (Mostly Incoherent and/or Unclear) The response is mostly hard to follow, with inconsistencies, contradictions, confusing logic flow, or unclear language used throughout, but there are some coherent/clear parts.

- 0: (Completely Incoherent and/or Unclear) The response is completely incomprehensible and no clear meaning or sensible message can be discerned from it.

Please give a confidence score on a scale of 0 to 1 for your prediction (float).

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#### ## Format

### Input
Instruction: [Specify task goal and restrictions]

<text id> [Text { text }]

#### .....

Texts:

**## Annotation ### Input** Instruction: [Specify task goal and restrictions]

Texts:

```
<text id> [Text { text }]
```

#### Helpsteer2 Complexity prompt

Evaluate the response along a simple -> complex spectrum. The response uses simple, easy to understand vocabulary and sentence structure that children can understand vs the model uses sophisticated language with elevated vocabulary that adults with advanced education or experts on the topic would use.

- 4: (Expert) An expert in the field or area could have written the response. It uses specific and technically relevant vocabulary. Elevated language that someone at the simple or basic level may not understand at all. The professional language of a lawyer, scientist, engineer, or doctor falls into this category.

- 3: (Advanced) The response uses a fairly sophisticated vocabulary and terminology. Someone majoring in this subject at a college or university could have written it and would understand the response. An average adult who does not work or study in this area could not have written the response.

- 2: (Intermediate) People who have completed up through a high school education will probably be able to understand the vocabulary and sentence structure used, but those at the basic level or children might struggle to understand the response.

- 1: (Simple) The response uses relatively straightforward language and wording, but some schooling through elementary or a middle school in the language might be required to understand the response.

- 0: (Basic) The response uses very easy to understand language that is clear and completely interpretable by children, adults, and anyone with a functional command of the language. Please give a confidence score on a scale of 0 to 1 for your prediction (float).

\_\_\_\_\_

#### ## Format

#### ### Input

Instruction: [Specify task goal and restrictions]

Texts:

<text id> [Text { text }]

#### ## Annotation

### Input Instruction: [Specify task goal and restrictions] Texts:

1350 1351 <text id> [Text { text }] 1352 1353 1354 1355 Helpsteer2 Verbosity prompt 1356 1357 Evaluate if the response is direct to the point without extra wordings. The opposite direction 1358 is verbose, the response is wordy, giving a long winded and/or detailed reply. 1359 - 4: (Verbose) The response is particularly lengthy, wordy, and/or extensive with extra details 1360 given what the prompt requested from the assistant model. The response can be verbose 1361 regardless of if the length is due to repetition and incoherency or if it is due to rich and insightful detail. 1363 - 3: (Moderately Long) The response is on the longer side but could still have more added to 1364 it before it is considered fully detailed or rambling. 1365 - 2: (Average Length) The response isn't especially long or short given what the prompt 1367 1368 1369 1370 1371 1372 1373 1374 1375 1376 1377 ## Format 1378 ### Input 1379 1380 Texts: 1381 1382 1383 1384 1385 ## Annotation 1386 ### Input 1387 1388 1389 Texts: 1390 <text id> [Text { text }] 1391 1393 1394 1395 1396 1397 1398 1399 MULTIPREF system prompt

Your role is to evaluate text quality based on given criteria. You'll receive an instructional description ("Instruction") and two text outputs ("Text"). Understand and interpret instructions

MULTIPREF PROMPT TEMPLATE

Instruction: [Specify task goal and restrictions]

Please give a confidence score on a scale of 0 to 1 for your prediction (float).

Instruction: [Specify task goal and restrictions]

```
<text id> [Text { text }]
```

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The MULTIPREF template incorporates the descriptions for each aspect (helpfulness, truthfulness, and harmlessness) in order to obtain a preference given two responses.

is asking of the model. The length is adequate for conveying a full response but isn't

particularly wordy nor particularly concise.

and/or text removed before it's at a bare minimum of what the response is trying to convey. - 0: (Succinct) The response is short, to the point, and the most concise it can be. No additional information is provided outside of what is requested by the prompt (regardless of

- 1: (Pretty Short) The response is on the shorter side but could still have words, details,

if the information or response itself is incorrect, hallucinated, or misleading. A response that

gives an incorrect answer can still be succinct.).

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to evaluate effectively. Provide annotations for each text with a rating and rationale. The texts given are independent, and should be evaluated separately.
MULTIPREF overall prompt template
# Overall assessment
You will be asked to indicate your preference between two prompts. Considering following aspects:
## Helpfulness
By helpfulness, we mean that the response should be helpfulto the user by following
intention and serving the user's needs. 1. <b>Correct</b> : It provides a more correct answer or performs the request more precisely
2. <b>Informative</b> : It provides more useful information that can assist the user.
3. <b>Concise</b> : It responds at a better level of verbosity and is concise when possible.
4. Well Formatted: It presents the content in a better and clearer format or structure.
5. Coherent: It is more logical and consistent, as a whole.
6. <b>Creative</b> : It is more creative when appropriate.
7. <b>Understandable</b> : The answer is at an appropriate level of complexity to be unders 8. <b>Better Tone</b> : It answers in a better tone that the user may prefer in the context (e.g.,
more polite, assertive, amusing, etc.)
<b>## Truthfulness</b>
By truthfulness, we mean that the response should provide accurate information, not c false statements, and not mislead the user. Note that truthfulness focuses on the acc
of the provided information, instead of how much information is provided. In this se
response that refuses to answer such as 'I don't know' can be considered as equally the
as a correct response.
1. Factual: It responds with information that is more grounded in reality, with fewer the
errors and mistakes.
2. <b>Faithful</b> : When the user provides some context (e.g., for summarization), the results a substant s
better adheres to the provided information rather than making up content, unless requ 3. Aware of time: It is more aware of the request's temporal sensitivity and tries to p
time-conditioned or more up-to-date information.
4. Aware of confusion: If the request is confusing, it asks for a clarification that is
proper than dirtly responding.
5. Aware of falsehood: If there are falsehoods or misconceptions in the user's requ
clarifies or corrects them better.
6. Aware of incapabilities: It better acknowledges its knowledge limitation or uncerrather than providing false information confidently.
## Harmlessness
By harmlessness, we mean that the response should not cause discomfort, harm, or darr human beings, animals, property, or the environment. It should refuse to answer pote
unsafe questions (e.g., how to commit suicide) if it's requested to do so.
1. Not offensive: It contains less toxic, discriminatory, or biased content against c
groups.
2. Not dangerous: It better abstains from providing advice or other information that
lead to violence or other dangerous activities.
3. Avoids restricted content: It better avoids providing content that is age-restrict
<ul><li>inappropriate for certain audiences.</li><li>4. Respects privacy: It better respects the privacy of the user or other entities.</li></ul>
4. Acspects privacy. It better respects the privacy of the user of other entities.
## Instruction

```
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```

 "instruction": """{{ text }}"""

#### ## Model Outputs

}

{

Here are the unordered outputs from the models. Each output is associated with a specific model, identified by a unique model identifier.

```
{
    "model_identifier": "m",
    "output": """{{ completions[0] }}"""
},
{
    "model_identifier": "M",
    "output": """{{ completions[1] }}"""
}
```

#### ## Task

}

Evaluate the models based on the quality and relevance of their outputs, and select the model that generated the best output. Answer by providing the model identifier of the best model. We will use your output as the name of the best model, so make sure your output only contains one of the following model identifiers and nothing else (no quotes, no spaces, no new lines, ...): m, M, or tie.

## Best Model Identifier

```
CHATARENA AND ALPACAFARM PROMPT TEMPLATE
```

To obtain LLM preferences for ChatArena (Zheng et al., 2023b) and AlpacaFarm (Dubois et al., 2023), we use the AlpacaEval (Li et al., 2023b) template.

AlpacaEval system prompt

You are a highly efficient assistant, who evaluates and selects the best large language model (LLMs) based on the quality of their responses to a given instruction. This process will be used to create a leaderboard reflecting the most accurate and human-preferred answers.

#### AlpacaEval prompt template

I require a leaderboard for various large language models. I'll provide you with prompts given to these models and their corresponding outputs. Your task is to assess these responses, and select the model that produces the best output from a human perspective.

#### ## Instruction

```
"instruction": """{{ text }}"""
```

#### ## Model Outputs

Here are the unordered outputs from the models. Each output is associated with a specific model, identified by a unique model identifier.

}

# "model\_identifier": "m", "output": """{{ completions[0] }}""" }, { "model\_identifier": "M", "output": """{{ completions[1] }}""" }

#### ## Task

}

{

Evaluate the models based on the quality and relevance of their outputs, and select the model that generated the best output. Answer by providing the model identifier of the best model. We will use your output as the name of the best model, so make sure your output only contains one of the following model identifiers and nothing else (no quotes, no spaces, no new lines, ...): m, M, or tie.

## Best Model Identifier

# 1566 A.6 INFERENCE-TIME SELECTION STRATEGIES

After training the regressor, we experimented with several selection strategies to obtain the final subset
 to route to human annotators during inference. Tables 10 and 11 show the results for each selection
 strategy for different human preference datasets. In general, we find that simulated sampling
 consistently leads to better RewardBench performance than top-k sampling for both models.

- **Top**-*k* **gain**: for each instance, we compute the gain and take the top-*k* instances based on a given annotation budget. The gain computation depends on the model. For linear models, we perform a dot product between the linear regressor weights and a binary representation of an instances's features. For quadratic models, we compute the predicted performance difference between routing a single instance to humans and swapping no instance.
- **Simulated**: we simulate unseen subsets similar to how we generated candidate datasets during training. Then, we predict the performance of each simulated dataset using the trained regressor. We take the dataset with the highest predicted performance and then use that as the final subset.

Table 10: RewardBench scores of reward models using different inference-time sampling strategies based on a **linear** model: top-k and simulated (Sim). Reporting average of three runs.

	Preference Dataset								
Preference Mix	MULTI	PREF	Helps	teer2	ChatA	rena	Alpaca	Farm	
	Top-k	Sim	Top-k	Sim	Top-k	Sim	Top-k	Sim	
75% Humans	60.4	60.4	73.2	74.1	61.6	62.2	59.2	55.9	
50% Humans	60.6	65.7	70.2	72.3	65.0	66.1	59.1	58.9	
25% Humans	62.3	64.9	67.7	73.2	65.0	72.1	58.8	56.8	

Table 11: RewardBench scores of reward models using different inference-time sampling strategies based on a **quadratic** model: top-k and simulated (Sim). Reporting average of three runs.

	Preference Dataset								
Preference Mix	Multi	PREF	Helps	teer2	ChatA	rena	Alpacal	Farm	
	Top-k	Sim	Top-k	Sim	Top-k	Sim	Top-k	Sim	
75% Humans	65.7	65.3	71.7	73.5	63.6	61.6	59.2	55.6	
50% Humans	64.8	67.0	77.0	73.1	60.0	65.4	58.4	63.0	
25% Humans	65.0	<b>68.7</b>	75.6	74.0	68.1	71.4	56.8	61.6	

# 1620 A.7 PERFORMANCE GAIN

1622Table 12 shows the performance gain for all textual and descriptive tags using the quadratic regressor.1623We obtain these values by routing random 100 instances for each tag to human annotators, and then1624computing the gain in predicted performance compared to a set without human annotations.

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Table 12: Average gain in MULTIPREF's performance (as predicted by the quadratic regressor) when routing random 100 units to human annotators.

Tag	$\mathbf{Gain} \times 10^{-3}$	Tag	Gain $\times 10^{-1}$
$BERTScore \in [0.33, 0.67]$	0.193750	Languages: English	-0.000002
bject Of Expertise: Chemical Engineering	0.105020	BERTScore $\in [0.67, 1.0]$	-0.000030
t Of Expertise: Religion Concern: Moderate	0.086431 0.085119	Complexity Of Intents: Simple Open Endedness: High	-0.000038 -0.000048
Of Expertise: Anthropology	0.056241	Expertise Level: General Public	-0.000050
Of Expertise: Chemistry	0.049632	Prompt Len $\in [0.33, 0.67]$	-0.000092
Of Expertise: Visual Arts	0.049022	Expertise Level: Basic Domain Knowledge	-0.000095
Of Expertise: Earth Sciences Of Expertise: Space Sciences	0.046782 0.036908	Token length diff. of responses $\in [0.0, 0.33]$ Subject Of Expertise: Performing Arts	-0.000148
exity Of Intents: Moderate	0.029672	BERTScore (length-adjusted) $\in [0.33, 0.67]$	-0.001128
ct Of Expertise: Social Work	0.025898	Entity similarity $\in [0.33, 0.67]$	-0.002241
$[\text{GE-L} \in [0.67, 1.0]]$	0.023988	Format Constraints	-0.003207
ct Of Expertise: Electrical Engineering Endedness: No	0.019559 0.018545	Subject Of Expertise: Economics Subject Of Expertise: Literature	-0.003956 -0.004155
ct Of Expertise: Sociology	0.018227	Open Endedness: Low	-0.004645
Of Expertise: Others	0.017666	Complexity Of Intents: Complex	-0.005822
Of Expertise: Physics	0.016211	Subject Of Expertise: Journalism	-0.010357
t Of Expertise: Environmental Studies And Forestry t Of Expertise: Human Physical Performance And Recreation	0.015419 0.015357	Subject Of Expertise: Agriculture Subject Of Expertise: Geography	-0.012079 -0.012384
Of In Context Material	0.010069	Subject Of Expertise: Debgraphy Subject Of Expertise: Public Administration	-0.012384
ject Of Expertise: Mathematics	0.007851	Subject Of Expertise: Linguistics And Language	-0.017714
ject Of Expertise: Medicine And Health	0.006494	Safety Concern: High	-0.019413
ertise Level: Expert Domain Knowledge	0.006438	Subject Of Expertise: Civil Engineering	-0.019803
ject Of Expertise: System Science ject Of Expertise: History	0.005806 0.004697	Subject Of Expertise: Logic Subject Of Expertise: Transportation	-0.024843
ect Of Expertise: Education	0.004515	Subject Of Expertise: Architecture And Design	-0.025025
ject Of Expertise: Political Science	0.003837	Cosine similarity $\in [0.0, 0.33]$	-0.030673
ity similarity $\in [0.67, 1.0]$	0.002854	Subject Of Expertise: Philosophy	-0.053563
ject Of Expertise: Biology	0.002666	Subject Of Expertise: Materials Science And Engineering	-0.086784
ject Of Expertise: Business ine similarity $\in [0.33, 0.67]$	0.002657 0.001750	Subject Of Expertise: Library And Museum Studies Subject Of Expertise: Media Studies And Communication	-0.097521 -0.101790
ect Of Expertise: Mechanical Engineering	0.001730	Subject Of Expertise: Media Studies And Communication Subject Of Expertise: Military Sciences	-0.101790
ect Of Expertise: Law	0.001291	Subject Of Expertise: Family And Consumer Science	-0.633210
ject Of Expertise: Psychology ty Concern: Low	0.001023 0.000905		
oject Of Expertise: Culinary Arts	0.000905		
ject Of Expertise: Computer Sciences	0.000746		
en Endedness: Moderate	0.000721		
RTScore (length-adjusted) $\in [0.67, 1.0]$	0.000616		
ngth of shorter response $\in [0.0, 0.33]$ ken length diff. of responses $\in [0.67, 1.0]$	0.000542 0.000344		
UGE-L $\in [0.0, 0.33]$	0.000298		
ngth of longer response $\in [0.67, 1.0]$	0.000208		
mpt Len $\in [0.0, 0.33]$	0.000196		
ngth of longer response $\in [0.0, 0.33]$ smpt Len $\in [0.67, 1.0]$	0.000177 0.000147		
fety Concern: Safe	0.000093		
ngth of shorter response $\in [0.67, 1.0]$	0.000061		
DUGE-L $\in [0.33, 0.67]$	0.000055		
ength of shorter response $\in [0.33, 0.67]$ ken length diff. of responses $\in [0.33, 0.67]$	0.000049 0.000045		
tity similarity $\in [0.0, 0.33]$	0.000043		
ngth of longer response $\in [0.33, 0.67]$	0.000038		
sine similarity $\in [0.67, 1.0]$	0.000027		
ERTScore (length-adjusted) $\in [0.0, 0.33]$ bject Of Expertise: Divinity	0.000019 0.000000		
oject of Expertise. Divinity	0.00000	1	

## 1674 A.8 BEST-OF-N EVALUATION DETAILS

Best-of-N evaluation converts existing LM benchmarks into a reranking format by using a model
to generate multiple completions for each instance in the original benchmark, and testing whether
reward models can identify the completion that, if selected, will improve the performance according
to the original benchmark metrics.

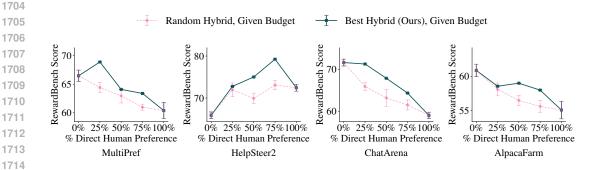
We mainly follow the setup introduced in Ivison et al. (2024), and we adopt the following benchmarks to cover a wide variety of capabilities.

- GSM8K (Cobbe et al., 2021) for math reasoning. We report the "exact match" metric.
- **BIG-Bench Hard (BBH)** (Suzgun et al., 2022) for various types of reasoning. We report the "exact match" metric.
- **IFEval** (Zhou et al., 2023) for precise instruction following. We report their "prompt-level loose accuracy" metric.
  - Codex HumanEval (Chen et al., 2021) for coding. We report the "pass@1" metric.
  - AlpacaEval (Li et al., 2023a) for general chat capabilities. We use their version 1 and report the "win\_rate" metric, judged by GPT4.

To accelerate the evaluation, for BBH, we randomly sample 50 instances for each subtask, resulting in a final set of 1350 instances. For other benchmarks, we capped the number of instances at 1K. We sample 16 responses from TÜLU 2 13B with a TEMPERATURE of 0.7 and a TOP\_P of 1 for each evaluation task we examine. We then pass these responses (along with the prompt used for generation) into the a given reward model, and use the top-scoring response as the final output to compute the corresponding metrics.

1699 A.9 TRAINING THE PPM ON HELPSTEER2 1700

We also trained the PPM on 200 candidates generated from Helpsteer2 in order to test if our routing
framework can generalize to other training datasets. Figure 8 shows that for a fixed budget, the hybrid
annotations obtained from our framework still outperforms that of random selection.





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# 1728 A.10 FINEGRAINED REWARDBENCH RESULTS

Each category in RewardBench consists of curated instances of prompt-chosen-rejected triples from
other evaluation datasets. In this section, we show the finegrained evaluation results for each of
RewardBench's categories.

	A	AlpacaEva	MT Bench		
Pref. Mix	Easy	Length	Easy	Hard	
MultiPref	99.0	87.4	98.9	96.4	87.5
Helpsteer2	90.0	88.4	89.5	92.9	92.5
AlpacaFarm	97.7	89.5	97.5	91.7	93.3
ChatArena	98.0	88.4	97.9	89.3	92.5

 Table 13: Finegrained RewardBench results on the Chat category

Table 14: Finegrained RewardBench results on the Chat-Hard category

	MT Bench	LL	MBar	LLN	/Bar Adve	er.
Pref. Mix	Hard	Natural	Neighbor	GPTInst.	GPTOut	Manual
MultiPref	67.6	71.0	13.4	13.0	42.6	30.4
Helpsteer2	73.0	80.0	69.4	52.2	40.4	63.0
AlpacaFarm	70.3	80.0	47.3	27.9	46.1	33.3
ChatArena	67.6	77.0	47.0	25.0	53.2	45.7

Table 15: Finegrained RewardBench results on the Safety category

	Refu	isals	XS	STest	DoNotAnswer
Pref. Mix	<b>C. Mix</b> Dangerous Offensive		Refuse	Respond	_
MultiPref	94.0	99.0	80.5	60.0	49.3
Helpsteer2	75.0	75.0	77.9	92.8	60.3
AlpacaFarm	28.0	66.3	58.4	83.9	44.4
ChatArena	47.0	79.0	66.9	78.0	46.3

Table 16: Finegrained RewardBench results on the Reasoning category

	Math PRM	HumanEvalPack (HEP)					
Pref. Mix	_	C++	Golang	Java	Javascript	Python	Rust
MultiPref	81.7	74.4	75.6	73.8	76.2	75.0	73.8
Helpsteer2	93.1	74.4	81.7	84.8	81.1	82.3	81.1
AlpacaFarm	43.0	85.6	81.3	88.2	83.7	84.6	83.7
ChatArena	66.2	84.1	81.7	88.4	86.0	83.5	82.3

17	7	7	1
17	7	7	2
17	7	7	3
17	7	7	4
17	7	7	5
17	7	7	6
17	7	7	7
10	7	~	0

# 1782 A.11 DIRECT PREFERENCE OPTIMIZATION RESULTS

Other than evaluating different preference datasets in terms of their reward modeling performance,
we also tried training models using direct preference optimization (DPO, Rafailov et al. (2023)) and
see if they the final LM can be improved.

Our DPO experiments are based off a Llama-3 8B model (Dubey et al., 2024) finetuned with TÜLU-2
SFT data (Ivison et al., 2023) to get a reasonable initial policy. We use the same set of hyperparameters as is used in (Ivison et al., 2024). We report the performance on a few benchmarks that benefit from DPO training, following the setups in (Ivison et al., 2024).

Table 17 shows the results for our best hybrid preference mix, random mix baselines with different fractions of human data, and the base SFT model. Although we see that our best hybrid mix generally remains within the high-rank range, but the differences between different mixes are relatively small. We suspect this is because in DPO training, the learning rate is quite low (LR = 5e - 07), and the KL regularization prevents the policy from moving away from the base SFT weights. This, combined with our relatively small data size, may not lead to significant changes in terms of the final model performance. Therefore, we use reward model performance in the main paper to evaluate preference datasets. 

Table 17: Comparison of DPO-trained models using different human-LLM preference mixes.

					Do	wnstream Tas	sk Perfo	rmance				
Pref. Mix		Mu	ILTIPRE	F (Append	dix A.1)			Helps	steer2 (W	/ang et al.	, 2024b)	
		% Direct	Human i	for Best H	lybrid: 37	.4%		% Direct I	Human fo	or Best Hy	brid: 69.	6%
	Avg.	GSM8K	BBH	IFEval	Codex	AlpacaEval	Avg.	GSM8K	BBH	IFEval	Codex	AlpacaEva
Best Hybrid	56.67	68.61	65.09	49.54	79.59	20.53	56.09	65.73	65.29	58.96	75.13	15.34
100% Human	54.93	67.10	65.06	48.06	77.95	16.48	55.83	65.13	64.97	56.56	77.89	14.59
75% Human	54.25	66.19	65.11	47.87	74.90	17.20	56.44	65.73	65.32	56.56	79.06	15.52
50% Human	55.59	67.32	65.80	50.83	77.37	16.63	55.60	64.97	65.01	57.67	74.42	15.93
25% Human	56.15	67.70	65.26	50.09	78.53	19.14	56.25	65.81	64.77	58.23	76.53	15.91
100% Synth.	56.37	67.70	65.09	50.65	77.74	20.68	55.79	64.90	65.34	59.33	75.39	14.01
BASE SFT	52.53	64.14	63.51	47.13	77.53	10.32	52.53	64.14	63.51	47.13	77.53	10.32
Pref. Mix		Alpa	aFarm (	Dubois et	al., 2023)	)		Chat/	Arena (Z	heng et al.	, 2023b)	
		% Direct	Human i	for Best H	lybrid: 67	.2%		% Direct l	Human fo	or Best Hy	brid: 23.	0%
	Avg.	GSM8K	BBH	IFEval	Codex	AlpacaEval	Avg.	GSM8K	BBH	IFEval	Codex	AlpacaEva
Best Hybrid	54.07	63.68	64.58	51.20	74.46	16.40	56.75	68.76	65.49	56.19	77.06	16.24
100% Human	53.71	65.05	63.97	54.34	72.89	12.29	55.32	66.87	65.24	54.34	77.29	12.84
75% Human	53.02	63.84	63.92	53.05	71.54	12.77	56.20	67.02	65.29	55.45	78.66	14.58
50% Human	54.09	65.50	64.43	52.13	72.82	15.57	56.17	67.55	65.57	56.01	77.07	14.66
25% Human	53.88	65.58	64.26	51.39	74.19	13.98	55.55	66.41	65.17	53.79	77.81	14.57
100% Synth.	53.17	65.58	64.43	53.97	71.02	10.86	56.11	68.46	65.17	56.01	74.37	16.53
BASE SFT	52.53	64.14	63.51	47.13	77.53	10.32	52.53	64.14	63.51	47.13	77.53	10.32

# 1836 A.12 Reward Model Training Details1837

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For all the reward model training experiments in this work, we finetune from the TÜLU-2 13B SFT
model introduced in (Ivison et al., 2023). We use a fixed set of hyperparameters listed in Table 18 to
conduct the training.

	Hyperparameter	Value
3	Data Type	bf16
1	Number of Epochs	1
5	Optimizer Type	AdamW
5	Weight Decay	0.0
7	Learning Rate	1e-5
}	End Learning Rate	1e-6
)	Warmup Ratio	0.03
)	Accumulate Gradient S	
	Sequence Length	4096
	Batch Size	128
}		
	Table 18: Reward Model Trai	ning Hyperparam
5		
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