

# 000 001 002 003 004 005 006 007 008 009 010 011 012 013 014 015 016 017 018 019 020 021 022 023 024 025 026 027 028 029 030 031 032 033 034 035 036 037 038 039 040 041 042 043 044 045 046 047 048 049 050 051 052 053 OMNICT: TOWARDS A UNIFIED SLICE-VOLUME LVLM FOR COMPREHENSIVE CT ANALYSIS

Anonymous authors

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## ABSTRACT

Computed Tomography (CT) is one of the most widely used and diagnostically information-dense imaging modalities, covering critical organs such as the heart, lungs, liver, and colon. Clinical interpretation relies on both **slice-driven** local features (e.g., sub-centimeter nodules, lesion boundaries) and **volume-driven** spatial representations (e.g., tumor infiltration, inter-organ anatomical relations). However, existing Large Vision-Language Models (LVLMs) remain fragmented in CT slice versus volumetric understanding: slice-driven LVLMs show strong generalization but lack cross-slice spatial consistency, while volume-driven LVLMs explicitly capture volumetric semantics but suffer from coarse granularity and poor compatibility with slice inputs. The absence of a unified modeling paradigm constitutes a major bottleneck for the clinical translation of medical LVLMs. We present **OmniCT**, a powerful unified slice–volume LVLM for CT scenarios, which makes three contributions: **(i) Spatial Consistency Enhancement (SCE)**: volumetric slice composition combined with tri-axial positional encoding introduces volumetric consistency, and an MoE hybrid projection enables efficient slice–volume adaptation; **(ii) Organ-level Semantic Enhancement (OSE)**: segmentation and ROI localization explicitly align anatomical regions, emphasizing lesion- and organ-level semantics; **(iii) MedEval-CT**: the largest slice–volume CT dataset and hybrid benchmark integrates multi-level metrics for unified evaluation. OmniCT consistently outperforms existing methods with a substantial margin across diverse clinical tasks, satisfies both micro-level detail sensitivity and macro-level spatial reasoning, and establishes a new paradigm for cross-modal medical imaging understanding. Our project is available at [link](#).

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Large Vision-Language Models (LVLMs) have become a cornerstone of multi-modal artificial intelligence, demonstrating strong cross-modal representation and reasoning capabilities in both 2D image understanding (Achiam et al., 2023; Li et al., 2024a; Zhu et al., 2025; Bai et al., 2025) and 3D video perception (Lin et al., 2023a; Li et al., 2024a; Zhang et al., 2025; Yuan et al., 2025). Benefiting from large-scale pre-training and modality alignment, LVLMs achieve remarkable performance in open-domain tasks (Yue et al., 2024; Fu et al., 2025), excelling in both generation and reasoning. These advances establish LVLMs as a universal paradigm for unified vision–language modeling, where the joint modeling of 2D and 3D modalities has emerged as a key design principle.

In recent years, the potential of LVLMs in medical imaging has received increasing attention, with exploration in radiological imaging being particularly notable (Wu et al., 2025; Xu et al., 2025). However, most existing methods are tailored to process either CT slices (Chen et al., 2024a; Lin et al., 2025) or volumetric data (Bai et al., 2024; Hamamci et al., 2024c), with limited focus on cooperative processing. Slice-driven models leverage large-scale 2D pre-training to achieve strong vision–language alignment and perform well in tasks such as lesion detection and radiology report description, yet they fail to capture cross-slice spatial consistency. In contrast, volume-driven models explicitly model voxel-level spatial structures, offering advantages in holistic spatial representation and organ-level reasoning. Nevertheless, these models often lack sensitivity to fine-grained abnormalities and boundary morphology, and their architectures are difficult to adapt to slice-level tasks, limiting their applicability across diverse medical scenarios. This persistent dichotomy between slice and volume modeling constitutes a major bottleneck in the development of medical LVLMs.

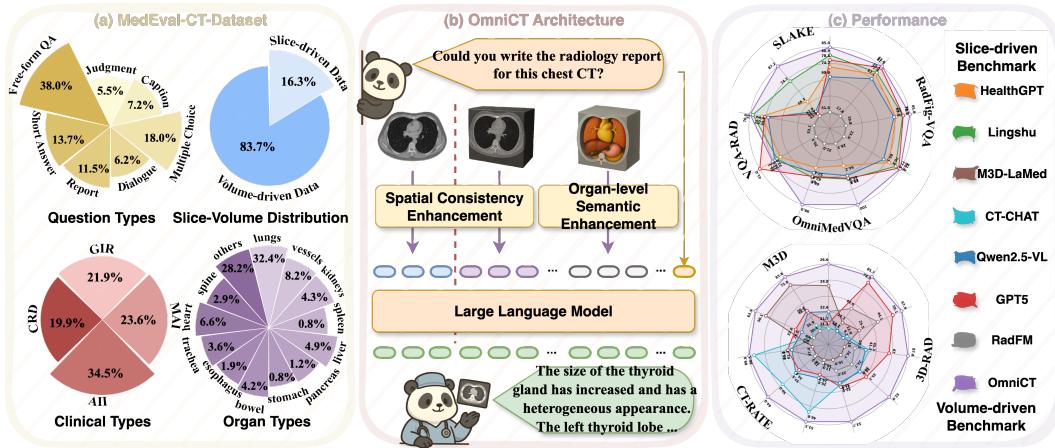


Figure 1: (a) is the statistics of the proposed MedEval-CT-Dataset. (b) describes the simplified architecture of proposed OmniCT. (c) shows that OmniCT consistently surpasses all baselines on both slice-driven and volume-driven CT benchmarks.

Among various medical imaging modalities, CT is one of the most widely used and dense in information, with hundreds of millions performed each year globally. CT can cover critical organs such as the heart, lungs, liver, and colon, and is widely applied in essential tasks including disease screening (Hu et al., 2025), lesion assessment (Li et al., 2025b); Shui et al. (2025), and tumor staging (Bassi et al., 2025). Its diagnostic process relies on both slice-level local imaging cues, such as sub-centimeter pulmonary nodules or hepatic lesion boundaries, and volume-level spatial-topological representations, such as tumor infiltration ranges or inter-organ anatomical relationships. Modeling along a single dimension alone cannot meet this dual requirement. Therefore, integrating the complementary strengths of 2D and 3D modeling within a unified framework is not only a central scientific challenge for CT understanding but also an inevitable step toward the clinical translation of medical LVLMs.

We propose **OmniCT** (see Fig. 1), a powerful unified slice-volume LVLM for CT-centric understanding, which preserves the cross-modal alignment and generalization strengths of 2D models while integrating the spatial structural awareness of 3D models. To bridge the modality gap between slice and volume representations, we introduce a **Spatial Consistency Enhancement (SCE)** strategy. Unlike generic LVLMs that rely on frame sampling or key-frame stacking strategies (Xu et al., 2024; Li et al., 2024b; Huang et al., 2024), SCE performs **volumetric slice composition** by structurally combining adjacent slices along the channel dimension into locally consistent volumetric units, thereby retaining contextual spatial transitions. It further incorporates a **tri-axial positional encoding**, which injects 3D positional encodings into visual representations to enable volumetric awareness while maintaining compatibility with slice-based inputs. In addition, a **MoE hybrid projection** dynamically aligns slice and volume features within a shared representation space, ensuring semantic unification with the Large Language Models (LLMs). Overall, SCE injects robust 2D/3D spatial priors while achieving a balance between efficiency and adaptability.

In clinical diagnosis, image interpretation is performed at the organ level, where observations and lesion localization are conducted within this scope (Shui et al., 2025). Building on this clinical requirement, we propose **Organ-level Semantic Enhancement (OSE)**. OSE performs **task-guided anatomical region localization**, explicitly projecting critical organ regions into the token representation space and fusing them with global visual context, thereby embedding organ-centric semantics into the representation. It then applies a **adaptive aggregation** to compress long-sequence representations: this mechanism preserves overall information coverage while adaptively magnifying smaller organ regions and compressing larger ones, thus highlighting the most diagnostically relevant structures. In this way, OSE explicitly incorporates region priors with high task-relevant semantic load while improving the relevance and interpretability of models in clinical tasks.

Existing medical benchmarks (Hu et al., 2024; Yue et al., 2024; Yamagishi et al., 2025) often adopt multi-modality designs to evaluate the general capability of LVLMs, yet they fall short in task alignment and clinical representativeness for CT interpretation. To address this gap, we introduce **MedEval-CT**, the first holistic evaluation framework dedicated to CT images. At the data

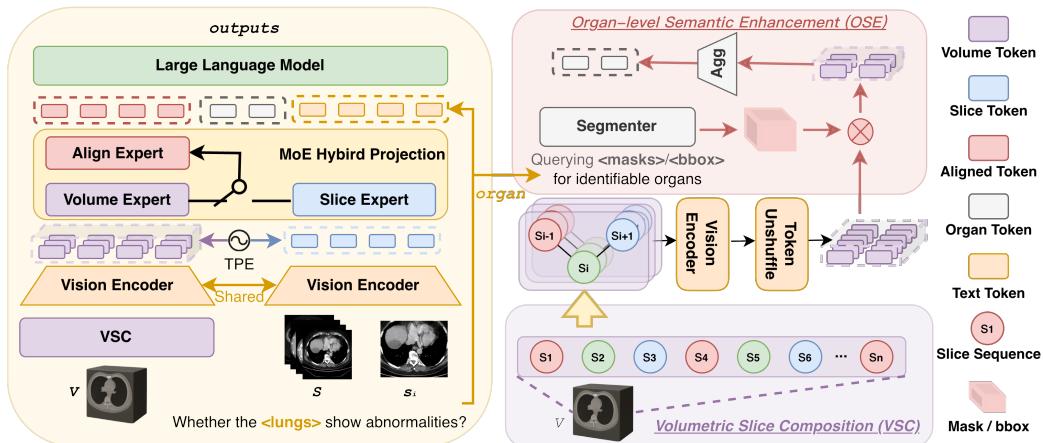


Figure 2: The architecture of OmniCT, a unified slice–volume LVLM paradigm.

level, **MedEval-CT-Dataset** consolidates **1.7M** slice-driven and volume-driven VQA samples across **7** clinical task types, establishing the largest CT resource to date (Fig. 1(a)). At the benchmark level, **MedEval-CT-Bench** organizes hybrid evaluations along clinical problem types and organ distributions. At the toolkit level, **MedEval-CT-Factory** standardizes input handling, feature construction, and multi-dimensional metrics, supporting statistical, semantic, and LLM-based evaluations. Collectively, MedEval-CT institutionalizes fairness and comparability in medical LVLM evaluation, while providing a scalable foundation for larger and more complex clinical scenarios.

Experimental results on multiple CT-centric benchmarks show that OmniCT achieves substantial improvements over existing methods, as illustrated by the radar chart in Fig. 1(c), validating the effectiveness of proposed unified slice–volume modeling paradigm. Our main contributions are:

- **Unified LVLM Paradigm for CT Imaging:** Bridges the gap between slice and volume representations, injecting 3D spatial priors while retaining the efficiency of 2D alignment.
- **Representation Enhancements:** We design SCE and OSE to bridge slice–volume gaps and embed organ-centric semantics, yielding spatially coherent and clinically meaningful representations.
- **MedEval-CT:** Establishes the first holistic evaluation suite for CT imaging, augmented with 1.7M multimodal VQA samples, enabling fair, comparable, and scalable assessment of medical LVLMs.
- **Substantial Performances and Strong Baseline:** OmniCT outperforms all medical LVLMs and general LVLMs with a significant margin across multiple slice- and volume-driven CT benchmarks, establishing a strong baseline for future research towards clinical medical LVLMs.

## 2 METHODOLOGY

We propose **OmniCT**, a unified slice–volume LVLM for CT-centric understanding (Fig. 2). Unlike prior medical LVLMs restricted to either 2D slices or 3D volumes, OmniCT incorporates SCE and OSE to enable comprehensive CT representation.

### 2.1 SPATIAL CONSISTENCY ENHANCEMENT

To bridge the representational gap between slices and volumes, we propose **Spatial Consistency Enhancement (SCE)** module, which injects volumetric priors into LLM while remaining compatible with slice-driven approaches. SCE leverages Volumetric Slice Composition, Tri-Axial Positional Embedding, and MoE Hybrid Projection to unify 2D slices and 3D volumes into the LLM space, enabling localized spatial perception, spatial position encoding, and seamless alignment of slice/volume representations within the LLM space, respectively.

**Volumetric Slice Composition (VSC).** For a 3D CT volume  $\mathcal{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times H \times W}$ , where  $D$ ,  $H$ ,  $W$  represent the dimensions along the z, y, and x directions, respectively, SCE structurally concatenates adjacent slices along the z axis to construct locally consistent volumetric units:  $\hat{s}_i = \text{Concat}(\mathcal{V}_{3i-2}, \mathcal{V}_{3i-1}, \mathcal{V}_{3i})$  for  $i = 1, \dots, [D/3]$ , where  $\hat{s}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times H \times W}$  represents a reassem-

162 bled unit that preserves cross-slice spatial transitions. For independent 2D slice inputs  $S =$   
 163  $\{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$ ,  $s_i \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times H \times W}$ , we simply replicate  $s_i$  along the channel axis to construct  $\hat{s}_i$ . In this  
 164 way, both 2D slices and 3D volumes are unified as a series of reassembled units  $\hat{\mathcal{S}} = \{\hat{s}_i | i \in [1, n]\}$ ,  
 165 and  $\hat{s}_i$  has a size of  $3 \times H \times W$ , where 3 is the channel number.  
 166

167 **Tri-Axial Positional Embedding (TPE).** Through volumetric slice composition, 2D slices or 3D  
 168 volume are transposed into unified units  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}$  of size  $N_s \times 3 \times H \times W$ , which are processed by a vision  
 169 encoder  $\phi_v(\cdot | \theta_v)$  with parameters  $\theta_v$  to obtain patch-level visual tokens  $\mathcal{F}$ :

$$170 \quad \mathcal{F} = \phi_v(\hat{\mathcal{S}} | \theta_v) = \{\phi_v(\hat{s}_1 | \theta_v), \dots, \phi_v(\hat{s}_{N_s} | \theta_v)\} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_s \times H' \times W' \times d_v}. \quad (1)$$

172 Here,  $H' = \frac{H}{K}$  and  $W' = \frac{W}{K}$  denote the spatial dimensions before flattening the patch features, and  
 173 the patch size for tokenization is  $3 \times K \times K$ .  $N_s$  represents the number of unified reassembled units  
 174 and can be regarded as a new depth dimension of reassembled units. To summarize,  $N_s$  reassembled  
 175 units are as inputs to generate  $N_s \times 1 \times H' \times W'$  tokens with a dimension of  $d_v$ .

176 To explicitly inject global volumetric awareness, we construct sinusoidal positional encodings  $P =$   
 177  $\{P^{N_s}, P^{H'}, P^{W'}\}$  along the depth  $N_s$ , height  $H'$ , and width  $W'$  dimensions of the reassembled  
 178 units. This yields tokens  $\mathcal{Z}$  enriched with 3D positional priors:

$$179 \quad \mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{F} \oplus P = \mathcal{F} \oplus P^{N_s} \oplus P^{H'} \oplus P^{W'}, \mathcal{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_s \times H' \times W' \times (d_v + d_z + d_y + d_x)}, \quad (2)$$

181 where  $\oplus$  denotes concatenating tokens with positional encodings along the feature dimension.

182 **MoE Hybrid Projection.** To mitigate token explosion and reduce redundancy in the visual token  
 183 representation of volumetric units for native volume input, we first perform a token-level unshuffle  
 184 operation on  $\mathcal{Z}$ . This operation clusters spatially adjacent  $m \times m$  tokens into more representations  
 185 while preserving spatial relationships, resulting in newly generated token representations  $\hat{\mathcal{Z}}$ :

$$186 \quad \hat{\mathcal{Z}} = \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{Z}), \hat{\mathcal{Z}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_s \times (H'/m) \times (W'/m) \times [(d_v + d_z + d_y + d_x) \times m^2]}, \quad (3)$$

188 where  $\mathcal{U}$  denotes the token-level unshuffle operation, with  $m = 1$  for slice inputs to preserve original  
 189 resolution. Subsequently, we employ a slice–volume hybrid Mixture of Experts (MoE) projection  
 190  $\psi(\cdot | \theta_p)$  to align features with the LLM’s representation space, formally expressed as:

$$191 \quad \hat{\mathcal{F}} = \psi(\hat{\mathcal{Z}} | \theta_p) = \{W_s, W_v, W_{\text{share}}\} = W_{\text{share}} \sigma(W_s \hat{\mathcal{Z}} \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\text{slice}} + W_v \hat{\mathcal{Z}} \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\text{volume}}), \quad (4)$$

193 where  $\sigma(\cdot)$  denotes the GELU activation function, and  $\mathbf{1}_{\text{slice}}$  and  $\mathbf{1}_{\text{volume}}$  are binary indicator functions  
 194 that represent routing conditions for the slice and volume features, respectively (1 if the condition  
 195 is satisfied, and 0 otherwise). The final tokens  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}$  has a size of  $L \times d_f$ , where  $L = N_s \times \frac{H'}{m} \times \frac{W'}{m}$   
 196 represents the total number of tokens, and  $d_f$  denotes the output feature dimension of the MoE projector,  
 197 which takes an input feature dimension of  $(d_v + d_z + d_y + d_x) \times m^2$ .

198 Overall, the above SCE process generates unified CT tokens that are compatible with both 2D slices  
 199 and 3D volumes, while embedding spatial positional awareness. These unified tokens are subse-  
 200 quently projected into the LLM representation space via MoE hybrid projector, serving as the input  
 201 tokens for the LLM.

## 202 2.2 ORGAN-LEVEL SEMANTIC ENHANCEMENT

205 CT images typically have a large size, for instance, over  $150 \times 512 \times 512$ , while lesions are often small  
 206 and localized. To enable clinically practical LVLMs capable of identifying abnormal features within  
 207 such high-dimensional data, we introduce an **Organ-level Semantic Enhancement (OSE)** module  
 208 within our unified framework, which consists of three components: anatomical region localization,  
 209 semantic feature aggregation, and context fusion.

210 **Anatomical Region Localization.** Given the visual token representation  $\hat{\mathcal{F}} \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times d_h}$  produced  
 211 by SCE, we perform region-wise selection based on spatial priors of the target organ  $o$ . The organ  
 212 mask is denoted as  $\mathcal{M}_o \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times H \times W}$ , including 117 anatomical structures, which is generated by  
 213 TotalSegmentor Wasserthal et al. (2023). This mask of  $D \times H \times W$  is mapped to the token size by  
 214 leveraging the scaling relationship between pixels and vision tokens, resulting in the organ-specific  
 215 subset:  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}_o = \hat{\mathcal{F}}[\hat{\mathcal{M}}_o]$ , where  $[\hat{\mathcal{M}}_o]$  denotes mask-based indexing for token selection.  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}$  represents  
 the selected tokens of size  $L_o \times d_h$  for organ  $o$  by the organ mask  $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_o$ .

216 **Adaptive Organ-Level Feature Aggregation.** Since different organs exhibit significant variation  
 217 in scale and token length, directly concatenating them with text tokens can lead to severe length  
 218 imbalance. To address this issue, we design a fixed-dimensional discriminative aggregation function  
 219  $\text{Agg}(\cdot)$ , which compresses  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}_o$  into a unified size:  
 220

$$\hat{f}_o = \text{Agg}(\hat{\mathcal{F}}_o), \hat{f}_o \in \mathbb{R}^{L_c \times d_h}, \hat{\mathcal{F}}_o \in \mathbb{R}^{L_o \times d_h}, \quad (5)$$

222 where  $L_c$  denotes the fixed number of aggregated tokens compressed from  $L_o$ . This aggregation  
 223 not only reduces token redundancy but also introduces a “magnification effect” for small organs,  
 224 enhancing fine-grained lesion features. Simultaneously, it applies a “compression effect” to large  
 225 organs or global regions, effectively minimizing redundancy and preserving essential information.  
 226

227 Finally, the organ-level aggregated representation  $\hat{f}_o$  is concatenated with the global visual tokens  
 228  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}$  to generate global-local vision tokens  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}_{OSE}$ :  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}_{OSE} = [\hat{\mathcal{F}}; \hat{f}_o]$ , and combined with text tokens  $\mathcal{E}$   
 229 as input to the LLM backbone, forming a semantically enhanced multimodal representation.

230 Overall, OSE enhances discriminative capability at the local (organ) level while maintaining context-  
 231 ual consistency at the global level, thus delivering more relevant and interpretable representations  
 232 for downstream clinical reasoning tasks.  
 233

### 234 2.3 TRAINING STRATEGY

235 After applying Spatial Consistency Enhancement (SCE) and Organ-level Semantic Enhancement  
 236 (OSE), we obtain enhanced visual features  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}_{OSE} \in \mathbb{R}^{(L+L_c) \times d_h}$ . Meanwhile, the text query  $Q =$   
 237  $\{q_1, \dots, q_m\}$  is embedded with text embedding matrix  $\phi_t(\cdot | \theta_t)$

$$\mathcal{E} = \phi_t(Q | \theta_t) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d_h}.$$

241 The two modalities are concatenated into a unified input  $\mathcal{T} = [\hat{\mathcal{F}}_{OSE}; \mathcal{E}]$ , which is fed into the LLM  
 242 to model the conditional probability distribution. The overall optimization objective is formulated  
 243 as minimizing the autoregressive cross-entropy loss:  
 244

$$\min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{(\mathcal{T}, y) \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[ - \sum_{t=1}^m \log P(y_t | y_{<t}; \mathcal{T}; \theta) \right], \quad \theta = \begin{cases} \{\theta_p\}, & \text{pretraining stage,} \\ \{\theta_p, \theta_{llm}\}, & \text{instruction tuning stage.} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

## 248 3 DATASET

250 Current medical benchmarks predominantly emphasize broad multi-modal capabilities, yet fall short  
 251 in capturing the domain-specific demands of CT-based clinical interpretation. To bridge this gap,  
 252 we introduce MedEval-CT, the first holistic evaluation framework for CT understanding, structured  
 253 along three complementary dimensions: data (MedEval-CT-Dataset), benchmarks (MedEval-CT-  
 254 Bench), and tools (Data Orchestration Engine and MedEval-CT-Factory).  
 255

### 256 3.1 MEDEVAL-CT

257 **MedEval-CT-Dataset.** We develop MedEval-CT-Dataset, the largest unified CT imaging resource  
 258 to date, containing over 1.7 million VQA samples (170,280 independent 3D volumes and 327,063  
 259 independent 2D slices), where the two sources do not overlap, and 2D slices are not derived from  
 260 the 3D volumes. For the 3D data, to fully leverage its spatial and semantic density, each volume  
 261 is associated with approximately 8 questions on average. In contrast, in the 2D scenario, most  
 262 slices correspond to a single question. The dataset supports both 2D interpretation (16.3%) and 3D  
 263 perception (83.7%). As shown in Fig. 3, the dataset is systematically partitioned across three dimen-  
 264 sions: task types, clinical categories, and organs, enabling multi-faceted evaluation of LVLMS. For  
 265 task types, it spans seven medical VQA scenarios, from structured to open-ended tasks: free-form  
 266 QA (38.0%), multi-choice (18.0%), short answers (13.7%), report generation (11.5%), description  
 267 (7.2%), dialogue (6.2%), and judgment (5.5%). Clinical categories reflect increasing difficulty, pro-  
 268 gressing from basic anatomical recognition to expert-level reasoning: General Imaging Recognition  
 269 (GIR, 21.9%), Medical Abnormality Identification (MAI, 23.6%), Advanced Imaging Interpretation  
 (AII, 34.5%), and Clinical Reasoning/Decision (CRD, 19.9%). Organ-wise, it covers lungs (32.4%),

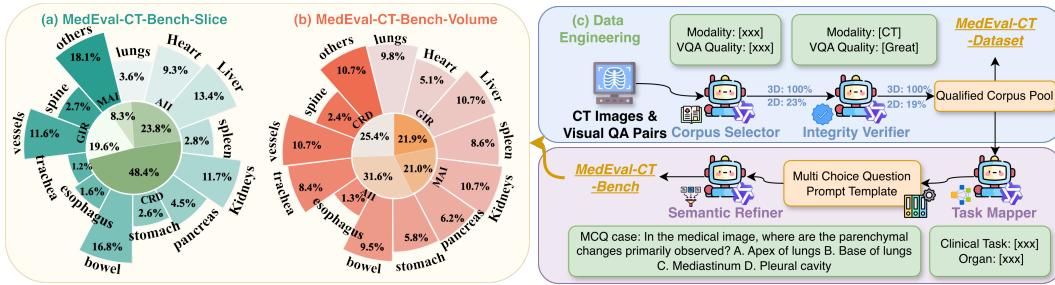


Figure 3: (a) and (b) illustrate the data distribution of MedEval-CT-Bench at the slice and volume levels, respectively, encompassing both the clinical-based categorization (4 types: GIR, MAI, AII, and CRD) and the organ-level distribution (13 organs). (c) presents the data engineering pipeline.

vessels (8.2%), heart (6.6%), liver (4.9%), kidneys (4.3%), and additional regions like spine, trachea, and esophagus, ensuring robust anatomical diversity. Overall, MedEval-CT surpasses existing datasets in scale and granularity, providing high-resolution distributions across tasks, clinical expertise, and organs to advance the development of LVLMs for CT imaging. Data sources and other details are presented in Appendix E and Table 7.

**MedEval-CT-Bench.** Based on the MedEval-CT-Dataset, we further construct MedEval-CT-Bench, the first systematic hybrid benchmark tailored for slice-volume CT. Its design emphasizes *task-organ dual balance*: on the one hand, we perform stratified sampling across different clinical problem types (GIR, MAI, AII, and CRD), ensuring full task-spectrum coverage from low-level interpretation to high-level reasoning; on the other hand, we maintain balanced organ representation, strengthening core organs (heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, etc.) while retaining long-tail structures (spine, trachea, esophagus, etc.), thereby guaranteeing fairness and comparability in clinical. To further improve clinical semantic fidelity, we propose *clinical-granularity rewriting*, which refines test questions to a more fine-grained clinical level and adds more confounding answer options while maintaining their diagnostic intent, ensuring they better reflect the variations encountered in real-world diagnostic scenarios. In summary, MedEval-CT-Bench represents significant advancements in task hierarchy, organ-level balance, and clinical authenticity, offering a more rigorous and demanding benchmark for CT understanding evaluation.

**Data Orchestration Engine.** We introduce a Data Orchestration Engine to support the construction of MedEval-CT. The engine comprises four complementary modules that collaborate across key stages, forming a self-consistent medical knowledge pipeline. It enables end-to-end capabilities for large-scale sampling, clinical consistency verification, structured task mapping, and semantic refinement: **(i) Corpus Selector:** Combines LVLM capabilities with rule-based constraints to filter CT samples from multi-source imaging datasets, ensuring representativeness across modality (2D slice/3D volume), anatomy (heart, lungs, liver, etc.), resolution, and image quality. **(ii) Integrity Verifier:** Leverages multi-modal reasoning and rule-based checks, supplemented by a 10% manual audit, to guarantee alignment between images and texts in modality, organ semantics, and pairing consistency. **(iii) Task Mapper:** Maps qualified samples to four *clinical task categories* and thirteen *organ classes*, ensuring balanced task complexity and anatomical coverage in MedEval-CT-Bench. **(iv) Semantic Refiner:** Rewrites test questions under clinical context, introducing synonymous phrasing, terminology variations, and subtle confounding options to generate semantically similar but more discriminative multiple-choice items, thereby enhancing the benchmark’s ability to evaluate clinical reasoning. Overall, the engine constructs a large-scale yet distribution-balanced MedEval-CT-Dataset while ensuring that MedEval-CT-Bench achieves reliability in terms of task hierarchy, organ balance, and clinical authenticity. Details are provided in the Appendix F.

**MedEval-CT-Factory.** We introduce MedEval-CT-Factory, an institutionalized evaluation factory designed to address the heterogeneity of inputs, features, and outputs in medical LVLMs. At the **input level**, the Factory standardizes diverse CT data formats, including DICOM, NIfTI, arrays, and slice sequences, enabling seamless 2D/3D processing. At the **feature level**, it unifies model inputs (single images, multi-slice sequences, videos, or volumes) via frame sampling, resampling, and projection strategies. At the **output level**, it provides a multi-layer evaluation protocol, ranging from statistical metrics (BLEU, ROUGE), to semantic metrics (BERTScore, embedding similarity), and further to LLM-based evaluation simulating clinical reasoning. Overall, MedEval-CT-Factory streamlines complex engineering workflows into a standardized framework, ensuring comparability

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Table 2: The comparison of **OmniCT** with other LVLMs on 2D CT benchmarks.

Model	#Params	SLAKE		VQA-RAD		OmniMedVQA		RadFig-VQA			Avg.
		Close	Open	Close	Open	Task1	Task2	Easy	Medium	Hard	
<i>Med-LVLM (Slice-centric)</i>											
HealthGPT	<b>4B</b>	74.74	56.33	71.88	33.45	57.36	54.20	70.81	71.22	72.90	62.54
HuatuoGPT-V-Qwen2.5	<b>7B</b>	72.68	44.19	72.92	35.68	71.07	83.07	76.56	73.76	71.74	66.85
MedGemma-4B-IT	<b>4B</b>	68.04	53.95	56.25	33.55	61.42	67.00	64.59	65.40	64.20	59.38
MedVLM-R1-2B	<b>2B</b>	-	-	-	-	59.90	67.37	55.50	54.51	55.56	-
Lingshu	<b>7B</b>	80.93	74.23	75.00	34.62	68.02	69.97	77.51	78.48	75.22	70.44
<i>General-LVLM</i>											
InternVL3	<b>8B</b>	73.20	60.88	69.79	34.79	63.96	71.78	68.42	70.46	68.55	64.65
Qwen2.5-VL	<b>8B</b>	69.59	47.86	69.59	35.54	62.94	65.92	65.07	69.45	67.10	61.45
GPT5	-	78.35	45.86	70.83	<b>41.05</b>	67.00	69.10	80.86	78.90	81.74	68.19
<i>Med-LVLM (Multi-granularity)</i>											
RadFM	<b>14B</b>	51.03	43.88	53.12	20.29	30.97	28.29	23.92	19.75	17.83	32.12
OmniCT (Ours)	<b>3B</b>	77.84	85.32	70.83	30.01	97.46	97.25	79.43	82.03	79.13	77.71
OmniCT (Ours)	<b>7B</b>	<b>85.05</b>	<b>87.20</b>	<b>76.04</b>	36.32	<b>97.97</b>	<b>98.70</b>	<b>82.30</b>	<b>85.82</b>	<b>83.62</b>	<b>81.45</b>

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across models. Serving as the fourth pillar of the MedEval-CT paradigm alongside the Dataset, Bench, and Engine, *it will be open-sourced as a toolbox to enhance both the efficiency and fairness of LVLM evaluation in the CT domain.* (The framework and details of MedEval-CT-Factory are shown in Appendix G).

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## 4 EXPERIMENTS

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The **Data Details**, **Model Details**, and **Implementation Details** are shown in Appendix E.

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### 4.1 MAIN EXPERIMENTS

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**Slice-driven Understanding.** We systematically evaluate OmniCT on four mainstream VQA benchmarks. As shown in the Table 2, medical LVLMs (e.g., HuatuoGPT-V-Qwen2.5, MedGemma) demonstrate relatively strong medical semantic understanding in certain tasks but remain limited in overall performance, often encountering bottlenecks on complex tasks. In contrast, general LVLMs achieve competitive or even superior results on some benchmarks, reflecting their strengths in language reasoning, but lack adaptation to CT images. For comparison, RadFM, although capable of handling both slice and volume inputs, achieves the weakest performance across all slice benchmarks, with an average score of only 32.12, failing to meet the demands of fine-grained CT tasks. Under the same evaluation protocol, OmniCT consistently surpasses existing models at both 3B and 7B scales: the 7B version achieves an average score of **81.45**, exceeding the second-best model Lingshu by more than **+11.01**. These results demonstrate the robustness and comprehensiveness of OmniCT on slice-driven tasks.

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**Volume-driven Understanding.** As shown in Table 3, we further assess OmniCT on M3D, CT-RATE, and 3D-RAD to evaluate its volumetric perception capability for CT volume. Results show that existing volume-driven medical LVLMs (e.g., M3D-LaMed-7B/4B, CT-CHAT) achieve strong performance on specific subtasks—for example, CT-CHAT reaches 86.46 on CT-RATE multi-choice—but their overall averages remain below 36, highlighting limitations in coverage and stability. General LVLMs also exhibit strong cross-modal generalization in certain volume tasks, with GPT-5 leading multiple subtasks on 3D-RAD; however, their performance is highly inconsistent and lacks domain adaptation to CT volume. By contrast, OmniCT achieves clear advantages at both 3B and 7B scales: the 3B version reaches **87.38** on CT-RATE multi-choice with an average of **63.48**, while the 7B version achieves **85.69** on the LTD task of 3D-RAD, pushing its overall average to **66.15**—significantly outperforming all compared models. In addition, considering the significant importance of CT report generation, we performed 18-class abnormality label prediction for the report generation task on CT-RATE using RadBERT (Yan et al., 2022). The results show that OmniCT outperforms most volume-driven CT models and previous unified models (see Table 16), and per-

Table 1: Ablation analysis of OmniCT.

SCE	OSE	Public Bench.		MedEval-CT-Bench		
		2D	3D	Organ	Task	Avg.
-	-	78.68	62.17	76.51	78.41	77.62
✓	-	80.14	63.68	76.79	78.69	78.06
-	✓	80.74	65.37	77.02	79.42	78.62
✓	✓	<b>81.45</b>	<b>66.15</b>	<b>78.24</b>	<b>80.27</b>	<b>79.62</b>

Table 3: The comparison of **OmniCT** with other LVLMs on 3D CT benchmarks.

Model	#Params	M3D			CT-RATE			3D-RAD					Avg.
		Cap	Close	Open	Multi choice	Clinical Entity	Report	I.O.	A.D.	E.D.	STD.	LTD.	
<i>Med-LVLM (Volume-centric)</i>													
M3D-LaMed-7B	7B	24.79	75.78	56.09	47.44	18.15	16.18	16.85	16.71	18.00	25.47	24.17	30.88
M3D-LaMed-4B	4B	46.30	75.08	53.83	59.29	13.66	13.46	17.60	17.49	40.25	25.40	24.31	35.15
CT-CHAT	8B	21.21	35.88	21.81	86.46	49.95	46.76	31.56	29.98	45.33	12.95	13.68	35.97
<i>General-LVLM</i>													
MiniCPM-V4.5	9B	18.44	43.20	26.89	69.21	26.21	23.21	28.03	29.80	30.98	12.70	16.32	29.54
Qwen2.5-VL	8B	22.62	48.64	28.99	61.34	37.51	26.84	30.51	30.60	41.28	9.19	13.05	31.87
GPT5	-	21.66	50.36	33.60	64.27	34.44	24.86	32.98	35.22	67.00	59.07	77.97	45.59
<i>Med-LVLM (Multi-granularity)</i>													
RadFM	14B	22.62	30.39	19.82	63.93	19.52	17.92	23.25	24.67	29.20	44.11	42.99	30.77
OmniCT (Ours)	3B	27.75	81.24	62.16	87.38	63.43	51.67	52.02	51.43	84.75	64.43	72.05	63.48
OmniCT (Ours)	7B	26.61	83.84	63.88	89.80	63.99	52.48	53.68	51.97	87.77	67.91	85.69	66.15

forms similarly to models specifically designed for CT volume report generation (Hamamci et al., 2024b; Di Piazza et al., 2025). This validates the superiority of OmniCT in 3D spatial modeling and cross-task consistency. Across both slice-driven and volume-driven benchmarks, OmniCT demonstrates stable and comprehensive superiority at different scales, highlighting its holistic perception of spatial-semantic features in CT volume understanding tasks.

## 4.2 ABLATION ANALYSIS

We conduct a systematic ablation study on the proposed SCE and OSE modules on multiple public 2D/3D CT benchmarks and our MedEval-CT-Bench, while keeping the MoE Hybrid Projection fixed, as it is a necessary design for coupling 2D slices and 3D volumes. Results are shown in Table 1. On the 2D slice benchmarks, the baseline achieves an average score of 79.38; introducing SCE alone improves performance to 80.14, while adding OSE alone yields 80.74. When both are combined, the performance further increases to **81.45**, achieving the best results. On the 3D volume benchmarks, the baseline starts at 62.17; adding SCE improves it to 63.68, while adding OSE alone boosts it to 65.37. The complete model combining both modules reaches the highest score of **66.15**. On the MedEval-CT-Bench, OmniCT consistently outperforms the baseline with the addition of the SCE and OSE. The improvements in both organ-level and clinical-level tasks further validate the effectiveness of these two modules. Overall, both SCE and OSE contribute significantly to performance gains, with even stronger effects observed on volume-driven tasks, demonstrating the effectiveness and complementarity of the proposed enhancements.

### 4.3 IN-DEPTH STUDY

**(i) Performance Advantages of Mixed Data Training.** As shown in Figure 4(a), OmniCT consistently achieves the best performance across different proportions of mixed data, demonstrating its strong adaptability to cross-modal modeling. OmniCT exhibits strong performance even under single-modality training. We attribute this behavior to the combination of a unified single-tower semantic space and the MoE Hybrid Projection, which together enable projection patterns learned from slices to extend naturally to volumes, and symmetrically allow volume-trained representations to transfer back to slice. A more detailed analysis of this mechanism is provided in Appendix H.2.

**(ii) 2D Encoders vs. 3D Encoders.** Given the inherent differences in design objectives and input modes, directly applying 3D encoders to 2D inputs often requires artificial adaptations such as depth replication, which compromises the fairness of comparison. Therefore, we conduct evaluations in native 3D settings. As shown in Figure 4(b), even though M3D-CLIP (Bai et al., 2024) is pretrained with contrastive learning on the M3D dataset, it does not exhibit a clear advantage over 2D encoders such as DINOv3 (245 tokens) (Siméoni et al., 2025) and SigLIP (405 tokens) (Zhai et al., 2023), despite using the largest number of visual tokens (512). These results indicate that, at this stage, 2D encoders not only provide a more natural compatibility with both 2D and 3D inputs but also demonstrate stronger generalization across tasks, organs, and modalities. To assess the generality of this finding, we additionally evaluate several recent native 3D encoders (Wan et al., 2025; Wang et al., 2023) under the same protocol; the results are provided in Table 13. It is worth noting that we are not claiming that 2D features can fully represent 3D volumes. Instead, we offer a more measured as-

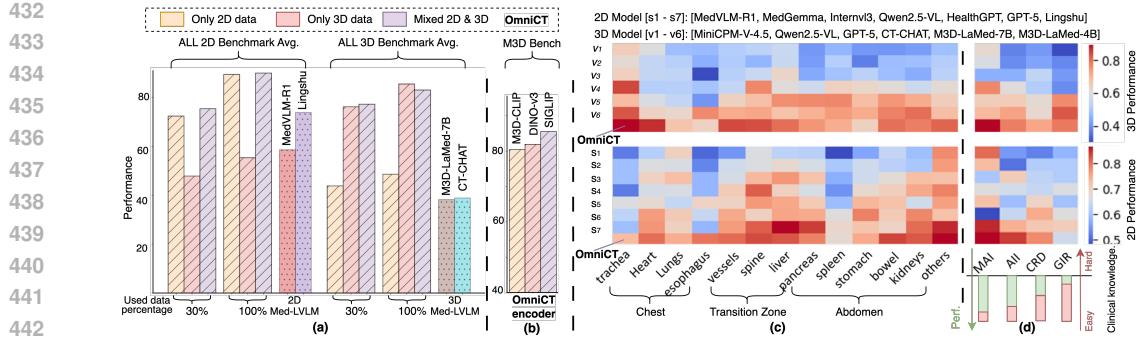


Figure 4: (a) Comparison of OmniCT with 2D/3D LVLMs on 2D/3D benchmarks using 30%, 100% training data of 2D, 3D, and mixed 2D/3D. (b) The study of using a 3D vision encoder, 2D vision encoders by different pre-training ways. (c) Per-organ performance heatmap of 2D/3D models and OmniCT on 2D/3D MedEval-CT-Bench. (d) Performance heatmaps by clinical task category and bar charts comparing performance with clinical knowledge requirements across task categories.

essment: at the current stage, through structured reorganization and volume-level embedding, more generalizable 2D encoders can robustly carry 3D spatial information. This design does not collapse dimensionality; rather, it retains spatial structures and relationships that remain interpretable from a 3D perspective on top of a 2D semantic backbone.

**(iii) Organ- and Task-level Performance Analysis.** On the organ level (Figure 4(c)), OmniCT consistently outperforms baselines across the chest, transition zone, and abdomen. The advantage is particularly striking for anatomically challenging small organs such as the pancreas and esophagus, where most existing LVLMs suffer severe performance degradation. This highlights OmniCT’s ability to capture fine-grained organ semantics and boundary cues, effectively filling a critical blind spot of prior models in handling complex anatomical structures. On the task level (Figure 4(d)), performance shows a clear gradient with respect to clinical difficulty: while most models display a significant gap between low-level anatomical recognition and high-level reasoning, OmniCT maintains consistently strong results across all levels, substantially narrowing this gap. This stability demonstrates that OmniCT not only enhance local anatomical discriminability but also reinforce consistency in clinical reasoning.

## 5 RELATED WORK

**Slice-driven Medical LVLMs.** Early explorations focused on adapting general LVLM paradigms to the medical domain, such as LLaVA-Med (Li et al., 2023) and Med-Flamingo (Moor et al., 2023), which leveraged medical image–text pairs and instruction data to enable initial medical capabilities. Subsequently, a series of more general-purpose medical LVLMs emerged, including RadFM (Wu et al., 2025), BiomedGPT (Luo et al., 2023), HuatuoGPT-Vision (Chen et al., 2024a), and Lingshu (Xu et al., 2025). These models advanced the field through large-scale data curation (Bansal et al., 2024), reasoning-enhanced training strategies (Pan et al., 2025; Xu et al., 2025), multi-task generalization (Jiang et al., 2024), and domain-specific knowledge integration (Sellergren et al., 2025). Recently, models such as CXR-LLaVA (Lee et al., 2025) and EyecareGPT (Li et al., 2025a) have demonstrated stronger adaptability and diagnostic value in modality-specific and specialty-oriented tasks (Xie et al., 2025; Hao et al., 2025). Nevertheless, despite substantial progress in data scale, architectural design, and task diversity, slice-driven medical LVLMs remain constrained by their reliance on planar inputs, limiting their ability to capture the spatial consistency and cross-slice dependencies essential for CT understanding.

**Volume-driven Medical LVLMs.** To overcome the limitations of 2D modeling, research has increasingly turned to 3D volumetric imaging, employing dedicated datasets, 3D encoders, and cross-modal alignment modules to strengthen spatial modeling in clinical tasks (Wu et al., 2025). M3D-LaMed (Bai et al., 2024) established a comprehensive evaluation system across multiple volumetric medical tasks, while CT-CHAT (Hamamci et al., 2024c) introduced paired chest CT data and an architecture tailored for fine-grained analysis and dialog-based interaction. At the methodological level, Med-2E3 (Shi et al., 2024) combined 2D and 3D encoders and enhanced reasoning consistency through dynamic cross-slice scoring, whereas Med3DInsight (Chen et al., 2024b) aligned a

486 3D encoder with a 2D LVLM, achieving strong performance in both segmentation and classification.  
 487 Nevertheless, the lack of a unified clinical evaluation framework and efficient slice-volume  
 488 collaboration mechanisms continues to limit adaptability and scalability.  
 489

## 490 6 CONCLUSION 491

492 We propose OmniCT, a unified slice-volume LVLM for CT analysis. Through the proposed SCE  
 493 and OSE modules, OmniCT achieves spatially coherent and clinically grounded representations,  
 494 leading OmniCT to realize new state-of-the-art performances on multiple benchmarks. We further  
 495 propose MedEval-CT, a unified, fair, and comprehensive evaluation framework for 2D/3D CT analy-  
 496 sis. Detailed evaluations reveal that existing general-purpose and medical LVLMs exhibit significant  
 497 performance biases across clinical tasks for different organs. In contrast, OmniCT demonstrates ex-  
 498 ceptional capability with balanced performance across all organs, which will encourage LVLMs to  
 499 focus on enhancing clinical capabilities for various organs in the CT domain.  
 500

## 501 ETHICS STATEMENT 502

503 This work adheres to the ICLR Code of Ethics. No human subjects or animal experimentation were  
 504 involved in this study. All medical imaging datasets used in our experiments, including SLAKE,  
 505 VQA-RAD, OmniMedVQA, RadFig-VQA, M3D, CT-RATE, and 3D-RAD, are publicly available  
 506 under relevant research licenses and comply with usage guidelines, ensuring no violation of privacy  
 507 or ethical standards. No personally identifiable information (PII) was included, and all CT data were  
 508 pre-processed (e.g., windowing, resampling, and anonymization) before use. We took special care to  
 509 avoid any misuse of data and to ensure that all evaluations were conducted fairly and transparently.  
 510 Our contributions focus solely on methodological and benchmarking innovations, without clinical  
 511 or diagnostic decision-making implications.  
 512

## 513 REPRODUCIBILITY STATEMENT 514

515 We have made every effort to ensure the reproducibility of our results. All code, configurations,  
 516 and the constructed MedEval-CT-Dataset, MedEval-CT-Bench, and MedEval-CT-Factory will be re-  
 517 leased in an open repository with detailed documentation. The experimental setup, including model  
 518 architectures, training hyperparameters, optimization strategies, is described in full detail in the  
 519 main text and appendix. In addition, we rely on multiple widely used public datasets (e.g., SLAKE,  
 520 VQA-RAD, M3D, CT-RATE) to facilitate verification and cross-comparison. Our proposed Data  
 521 Orchestration Engine ensures consistent data preprocessing and evaluation, further improving re-  
 522 producibility across different models.  
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524 We believe these measures will enable the community to replicate our work, benchmark future  
 525 models fairly, and extend the development of medical LVLMs in CT understanding.  
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810 **A APPENDIX**  
811812 Section B. LLM usage statement.  
813814 Section C. Notation Table.  
815816 Section D. Extended Related Work.  
817818 Section E. Implementation Details.  
819820 Section F. Data Orchestration Engine.  
821822 Section G. Mechanism of MedEval-CT-Factory  
823824 Section H. Supplementary experiments.  
825826 **B LLM USAGE STATEMENT**  
827828 In this work, we used LLMs for data-cleaning tasks; the sections where LLMs were involved are  
829 indicated in the manuscript. Additionally, GPT-5 was used to perform grammar checks on the  
830 manuscript text during writing.  
831832 **C NOTATION TABLE**  
833834 To provide a comprehensive overview of the notations used throughout the paper, we present a  
835 summary of notations in Table 4 as a quick reference to facilitate the understanding and recall of  
836 each symbol.  
837838 **D EXTENDED RELATED WORK**  
839840 In recent times, the release of multiple multi-modal large language models (MLLMs) has driven  
841 innovations in vision-language fusion, long temporal sequence processing, and scenario adaptability  
842 (Hong et al., 2025; Team et al., 2025), laying a solid foundation for cross-domain applications.  
843 Prominent foundation models such as Qwen2.5-VL Bai et al. (2025), GPT-4o Achiam et al. (2023),  
844 Claude 3.5 AI (2024), InternVL3 Zhu et al. (2025), and the latest GPT-5 (Wang et al., 2025) have  
845 continuously advanced in multi-modal understanding, long-sequence processing, multi-task learning,  
846 and vertical domains like healthcare Arora et al. (2025), demonstrating exceptional potential.  
847 These advancements are primarily driven by high-quality data curation and iterative algorithmic  
848 optimization. However, as foundation models, maintaining a balance between general-purpose ca-  
849 pabilities and domain-specific expertise remains a significant challenge.  
850851 **E IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS**  
852853 **Data Details.** For 2D slice evaluation, we construct test sets based on SLAKE (Liu et al., 2021),  
854 VQA-RAD (Lau et al., 2018), OmniMedVQA (Hu et al., 2024), and RadFig (Yamagishi et al.,  
855 2025), where all samples are systematically filtered by the data engine (Section 3) to retain only  
856 high-quality CT VQA data. For 3D volume evaluation, we adopt existing benchmarks including  
857 M3D (Bai et al., 2024), CT-RATE (Hamamci et al., 2024a), and 3D-RAD (Gai et al., 2025) to  
858 cover the full spectrum of CT volumetric scenarios. Regarding evaluation metrics, Accuracy is  
859 used for closed-end and multiple-choice tasks, while open-ended QA is assessed by a weighted  
860 combination of BLEU (Papineni et al., 2002), ROUGE (Lin, 2004), Token-F1 (Saab et al., 2024),  
861 and BERTScore (Zhang et al., 2019), balancing lexical matching with semantic alignment to achieve  
862 multi-level quality measurement. For data pre-processing, all CT volumes with preserved metadata  
863 are windowed to  $[-1000, 1000]$  and resampled to  $32 \times 384 \times 384$ .  
864865 **Model Details and Implementation Details.** We use siglip-so400m-patch14-384 (Zhai et al., 2023)  
866 as the vision encoder and Qwen2.5 (Team, 2024) as the backbone LLM, with AdamW as the opti-  
867 mizer. During pretraining, only the MoE Hybrid projection layer is updated to perform cross-modal  
868 alignment, with a learning rate of  $2 \times 10^{-4}$ . In the vision instruction tuning stage, both the projection  
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864 layer and LLM parameters are optimized, with the learning rate reduced to  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  to ensure stable  
 865 convergence. All experiments are trained with a global batch size of 256 and a warmup–cosine learning  
 866 rate scheduler. Unless otherwise specified, experiments are conducted under the 7B parameter  
 867 scale. The specific hyperparameter settings can be found in Table 5.  
 868

## 869 F DATA ORCHESTRATION ENGINE

870  
 871 The construction of **MedEval-CT** is powered by the proposed **Data Orchestration Engine**, which  
 872 integrates four complementary modules. Specifically, the **Corpus Selector** and **Integrity Verifier**  
 873 are implemented with Qwen2.5-VL-72B (Bai et al., 2025), while the **Task Mapper** and **Semantic**  
 874 **Refiner** leverage Qwen3-237B-A3B Yang et al. (2025), thereby exploiting the complementary  
 875 strengths of different models in large-scale data filtering and semantic refinement. The specific  
 876 prompt designs for each module can be found in Fig. 5.  
 877

878 To ensure the reliability and independence of MedEval-CT, we proactively conduct a systematic  
 879 audit of potential data overlap during its construction. For the slice datasets, we note that RO-  
 880 COv2, PubMedVision, LLaVA-Med, and RadFig-VQA originate from PMC-OA (Lin et al., 2023b).  
 881 Although these four datasets follow their own automated curation pipelines, we further apply a two-  
 882 stage deduplication strategy within them: perceptual hashing (pHash) is used to cluster visually simi-  
 883 lar images, followed by BiomedCLIP (Zhang et al., 2023) feature matching to remove image–text  
 884 pairs with high semantic similarity. For the volume datasets, we strictly adhere to the official splits  
 885 of M3D, CT-RATE, and 3D-RAD; even in cases where datasets share underlying CT volumes, we  
 886 avoid any cross-dataset training or evaluation. Throughout the pipeline, we retain only modality-  
 887 consistent and high-quality CT scans, filtering out blurry, artifact-heavy, or low-resolution samples.  
 888 These measures allow MedEval-CT to maintain strict separation in data sourcing, partitioning, and  
 889 deduplication, effectively minimizing the risks of training–testing contamination and data leakage.  
 890

891 To further address the concern that using Qwen-family models in both the data pipeline and the  
 892 LLM base model might introduce family-specific bias or circularity, we additionally instantiate  
 893 OmniCT with a different LLM backbone, Phi-4-mini (Abouelenin et al., 2025), while keeping the  
 894 training data and optimization protocol unchanged. As shown in Table 6, OmniCT with Phi-4-mini  
 895 achieves performance that is highly comparable to, and on several benchmarks slightly better than,  
 896 the Qwen2.5-3B variant across both slice-driven (SLAKE, VQA-RAD, OmniMedVQA, RadFig-  
 897 VQA) and volume-driven (M3D, CT-RATE, 3D-RAD, MedEval-CT-Bench) benchmarks. This con-  
 898 sistency indicates that the observed gains mainly stem from the proposed unified framework itself  
 899 rather than from any base model-specific preference or bias induced by the models used in the data  
 900 construction pipeline.  
 901

## 902 G MECHANISM OF MEDEVAL-CT-FACTORY

903 The logical structure of MedEval-CT-Factory is illustrated in Figure 8. This section explains its  
 904 design motivations and module responsibilities from a framework-level perspective.  
 905

906 **Unified Processing of Heterogeneous Formats.** MedEval-CT-Factory begins at the input level,  
 907 where commonly used medical imaging formats are standardized. Medical data often come in di-  
 908 verse forms such as DICOM, NIfTI, NRRD, 3D arrays, RGB slices, and slice sequences, which dif-  
 909 fer significantly in metadata organization, spatial resolution, and storage layouts. The Factory maps  
 910 these heterogeneous inputs into a unified representation through designated loading rules, enabling  
 911 subsequent modules to perform slice-volume unified processing without relying on format-specific  
 912 operations.  
 913

914 **Lightweight but Unified Feature Construction.** Building on the standardized inputs, the Fac-  
 915 tory provides a lightweight yet flexible feature construction layer. Instead of enforcing any model-  
 916 specific preprocessing pipeline, it offers general-purpose mechanisms such as frame sampling, slice  
 917 aggregation, 2D–3D projection, and resampling, allowing various LVLMs to interface with the eval-  
 918 uation workflow in a consistent manner.  
 919

920 **Multi-dimensional Evaluation Protocols.** At the output level, MedEval-CT-Factory integrates  
 921 multiple evaluation strategies to accommodate the diversity of outputs produced by medical LVLMs.  
 922 Rather than imposing a rigid scoring pipeline, it provides a composable and extensible evaluation  
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You are a medical multimodal quality control assistant. Given a medical image and its corresponding text input, determine whether this image–text pair is a valid CT dataset. Evaluate the following aspects:

1. Modality Check:
  - Confirm whether the image is a CT scan (computed tomography). Exclude non-CT images such as X-ray, MRI, ultrasound, or natural photographs.
2. Image Quality Assessment:
  - Detect any noise, motion artifacts, distortions, color shifts/pseudo-coloring, or incomplete slices that degrade diagnostic quality.
  - Verify that grayscale intensity resembles standard CT features (close to Hounsfield Unit range, without unnatural colors or abnormal contrast).
3. Text–Image Consistency:
  - Check whether the text matches the image (e.g., it should mention CT or be relevant to CT content).
  - Flag cases where the text is unrelated, mismatched, or inaccurate.
4. Overall Usability:
  - Mark as Valid only if the image is a CT scan, the quality is acceptable, and the text is relevant to the image.
  - Otherwise, mark as Invalid and briefly explain the reason (e.g., wrong modality, low quality, text–image mismatch).

Output format:

- Validity: Valid / Invalid
- Reason: short explanation



Identify the primary organ or anatomical region mentioned in the question, and map it to one of the categories:

1. lungs
2. heart
3. liver
4. spleen
5. kidneys
6. pancreas
7. stomach
8. bowel (small\_bowel, duodenum, colon)
9. head (brain, skull)
10. gallbladder
11. adrenal\_gland
12. esophagus
13. trachea
14. thyroid\_gland
15. urinary\_bladder
16. prostate
17. vessels
18. muscles
19. spine
20. ribs\_sternum
21. upper\_extremities
22. lower\_extremities
23. others (not included above, or unclear)

Rules:

- If multiple organs are mentioned, choose the most relevant/primary organ.
- If the question only refers to modality or general region (not a specific organ) → choose 23. others.
- If the question is vague or unclear → choose 23. others.

Output format:

organ\_class: [1–23]



You are a medical data engineer tasked with rewriting medical Q&A problems into standardized four-option multiple-choice questions. Your goal is to preserve the medical logic while increasing clinical challenge through well-designed distractors.

Inputs:

- original\_question: the original question
- original\_answer: the correct answer

Steps:

1. Interpret Context:
  - Ensure the rewritten question is medically accurate and consistent with the original.
2. Rewrite Question:
  - Convert into a concise, clear four-option multiple-choice question.
3. Generate Distractors:
  - Provide three distractors that are:
    - Relevant: connected to the medical context but incorrect.
    - Plausible: challenging enough to mislead weaker models, yet identifiable as wrong with proper reasoning.
    - Professional: use accurate medical terminology, avoid trivial errors.

4. Output Format:

Return in JSON:

```
{
  "question": "<Rewritten question>",
  "options": ["A. <Option A>", "B. <Option B>", "C. <Option C>", "D. <Option D>"]
}
"correct_answer": "<Correct option, equivalent to original_answer>"
```

Rules:

- Exactly one correct answer, three distractors.
- Correct answer must match original\_answer.
- Randomize correct answer position.
- Distractors may use similar organs, diseases, or imaging findings to increase difficulty.



You are a Medical Data Integrity Verifier. The samples you receive have already passed an initial filtering step (Corpus Selector) and are considered possible CT image–text pairs. Your role is to conduct a stricter integrity audit, ensuring the data is sufficiently reliable and standardized for training high-quality medical multimodal models.

Evaluate each sample from the following perspectives:

1. Data Completeness:
  - Verify that the image is presented as a coherent slice or volume, with no missing parts or corrupted frames.
  - Check that the text description is semantically complete, not truncated, garbled, or nonsensical.
2. Data Consistency:
  - Ensure the image and text remain consistent in details (e.g., anatomical focus, scan type, common CT terminology).
  - Flag subtle mismatches (e.g., text mentions contrast agent but the image does not show contrast features).
3. Format and Standardization:
  - Confirm that the image adheres to basic medical imaging conventions (grayscale representation, consistent orientation, no artificial coloring).
  - Ensure the text is clear, medically relevant, and not casual or irrelevant.
4. Potential Flaws and Risks:
  - Identify latent issues such as mild artifacts, unusual labeling, or vague descriptions.
  - Judge whether these flaws undermine the usability of the sample.
5. Final Judgment:
  - Mark as High-Quality / Complete & Valid only if no serious flaws are detected.
  - Otherwise, mark as Risky / Low-Quality and briefly explain the issue.

Output format:

- Integrity Check: Complete & Valid / Risky
- Reason: short explanation



Classify the question into one of the following clinical task categories:

A. General Organ Understanding

- Basic tasks: modality identification (CT/MRI/Ultrasound), body region classification, organ count.

B. Abnormality Detection

- Entry-level tasks: presence of abnormality, lesion, tumor, mass, abnormal density.

C. Medical Image Analysis

- Intermediate tasks: measuring tumor size, segmentation of organ/lesion, nodule detection, structural assessment.

D. Clinical Reasoning

- Advanced tasks: diagnostic reasoning, malignancy judgment, staging (e.g., TNM), clinical interpretation from imaging.

Rules:

- If the question is about basic attributes → A
- If about presence/absence of abnormality/lesion/tumor → B
- If about quantitative analysis, segmentation, or structural features → C
- If about diagnosis, reasoning, or staging → D

Output format:

task\_class: [A–D]



Figure 5: Prompt template of data orchestration engine for generating MedEval-CT.

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space: **(i)** statistical metrics (BLEU, ROUGE, METEOR) for measuring surface-level textual alignment; **(ii)** semantic metrics (BERTScore, embedding similarity) for assessing semantic correspondence; and **(iii)** LLM-based evaluation for simulating clinical reasoning, offering more qualitative judgments aligned with medical scenarios. Users may flexibly select appropriate evaluation layers according to task requirements without being restricted to a single metric.

Overall, the Factory provides a structured, extensible, and model-agnostic framework for conducting consistent and reproducible CT LVLM evaluation. Although not all modules are used in every experiment, its modular design offers room for future extensions.

## H SUPPLEMENTARY EXPERIMENTS.

### H.1 MED EVAL-CT-BENCH

Across both MedEval-CT-Bench-2D (Table 8) and MedEval-CT-Bench-3D (Table 9), OmniCT consistently achieves the highest overall performance, with averages of 79.80 and 77.63, respectively, surpassing strong baselines such as GPT-5-mini, Lingshu, CT-CHAT, and M3D-LaMed. It demonstrates robust gains across diverse organs (e.g., liver, kidneys, heart, spine) and task levels (GIR, MAI, AII, CRD), excelling particularly in advanced interpretation and reasoning. These results highlight the effectiveness of our unified slice–volume paradigm in delivering stable, cross-task generalization and comprehensive CT understanding.

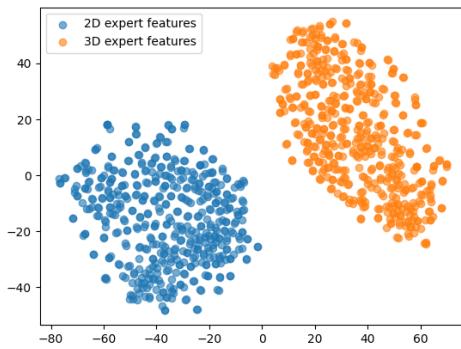
### H.2 SUPPLEMENTARY ABLATION.

**(i) Analysis of Cross-Modal Generalization.** To understand the source of OmniCT’s cross-modal generalization, we analyze the roles of **(i)** the unified single-tower semantic space and **(ii)** the MoE Hybrid Projection (MHP). The single-tower backbone embeds 2D slices and 3D volumes into a shared semantic neighborhood, preventing the semantic drift commonly observed in dual-encoder designs. MHP further learns a modality-adaptive mapping from visual tokens to the LLM space, allowing the projection behavior learned from 2D slices to transfer effectively to 3D representations, and vice versa. To disentangle the contributions of the two components, we compared a dual-tower without MHP configuration against the single-tower with MHP under the same training setup, and observed a substantial degradation in cross-modal generalization. The results are reported in Table 10. Therefore, these two components form a coherent mechanism that supports cross-modal transfer: unified semantics provide a common representational anchor, and MHP supplies the flexibility needed to align slice- and volume-based tokens under a unified LVLM interface.

**(ii) t-SNE Visualization of MoE Hybrid Projection.** To further examine whether the two experts in the MoE hybrid projection (MHP) module learn distinguishable token transformations, we project their output embeddings into a 2D space using t-SNE. As shown in Fig. 6, the features routed to the 2D expert and the 3D expert form two clearly separated clusters. This separation emerges without any explicit supervision enforcing modality-specific behavior; instead, it arises from the structural differences in the inputs (e.g., voxelized tokens with VSC/TPE for 3D vs. planar tokens for 2D) and their decoupled optimization paths before entering the shared semantic space. The visualization supports that the two experts encode modality-dependent transformations, serving the intended role of normalizing heterogeneous inputs before alignment with the LLM.

**(iii) Analysis of Organ-level Semantic Enhancement.** The OSE module leverages organ segmentation as a structural regional prior rather than a supervision target. The segmentation masks indicate organ regions with high semantic load for typical CT-based reasoning, from which OSE aggregates a compact set of discriminative tokens, while all global tokens are preserved in the feature stream. In this way, OSE explicitly strengthens organ-level semantics without sacrificing global context. Since the module relies on organ-level structural consistency instead of pixel-level boundary fitting, the high stability of TotalSegmentor in thoracoabdominal CT (average Dice 94.3% (Wasserthal et al., 2023)) is well suited for providing such regional cues. To evaluate the effectiveness of OSE and to rule out potential bias introduced by the segmentation model, we designed three alternative strategies: **(i)** removing ROI regions, **(ii)** random ROI pooling, and **(iii)** directly concatenating native ROI tokens. As shown in Table 11, removing ROIs yields the expected performance drop; random pooling brings limited gains mainly due to weak alignment effects arising from repeated visual tokens; and direct concatenation of native ROI tokens produces variable-length sequences that prevent stable

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1038 Figure 6: t-SNE plot showing distinct clusters of 2D and 3D expert features after MoE hybrid  
1039 projection.

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1042 semantic compression and offer no performance benefit. In contrast, OSE’s fixed-dimensional adapt-  
1043 tive aggregation preserves global information coverage while emphasizing diagnostically critical  
1044 regions, making it better suited to the structured requirements of medical image analysis.

1045 **(iv) Ablation of Adaptive Feature Aggregation.** We further examined the impact of different  
1046 2D/3D aggregation token settings ( $m_{2D}, m_{3D}$ ) on model performance (Table 12). The results show  
1047 that moderate aggregation (e.g.,  $m_{2D} = 81, m_{3D} = 90$ ) consistently improves both 2D and 3D  
1048 performance compared to the baseline without OSE. As the aggregation context continues to grow,  
1049 the gains diminish and eventually decline, likely due to excessive semantic overlap with global  
1050 features that disperses the model’s effective visual attention. Overall, these observations indicate  
1051 that an appropriately sized set of aggregated tokens can effectively enhance organ-level semantics,  
1052 increase the information density of visual tokens, and maintain a favorable balance between accuracy  
1053 and computational cost.

1054 **(v) Robustness of MedEval-CT-Bench to Answer Leakage** To reduce the risk that models exploit  
1055 language artifacts instead of visual evidence, MedEval-CT-Bench’s multiple-choice questions are  
1056 constructed with a clinical-granularity refiner that rewrites prompts using synonymous expressions,  
1057 refines clinical wording, and injects stronger distractor options. This preserves the underlying diag-  
1058 nóstic intent while weakening template-like phrasing, simple co-occurrence patterns, and answer-  
1059 position biases. We further conduct two stress tests on MedEval-CT-Bench: (i) an image–question  
1060 mismatch setting, where questions are randomly paired with incorrect CT scans/volumes, and (ii)  
1061 a noise substitution setting, where images are replaced by noise. As shown in Table 14, both 2D  
1062 (6-way choice, random  $\approx 16.7\%$ ) and 3D (4-way choice, random  $\approx 25\%$ ) accuracies drop sharply  
1063 toward near-random levels under mismatch/noise, while remaining high with normal inputs.

1064 **(iv) Unified Representation Gains.** To further examine the feasibility and utility of using a 2D  
1065 encoder as the semantic backbone for incorporating 3D spatial cues, we conduct a balanced sub-  
1066 sampling study across slice-driven and volume-driven data. Specifically, we perform controlled ab-  
1067 lations using 25%, 50%, and 100% of the available samples for each modality (results in Table 15).  
1068 Across all settings, joint training consistently yields measurable performance gains. These results  
1069 indicate that, under the current scale of available pretraining resources, 2D encoders exhibit more  
1070 mature semantic generalization and thus serve as a reliable representational anchor for constructing  
1071 3D inputs. With structured spatial injection, the unified representation acquires effective volumetric  
1072 awareness, enabling synergistic improvements across both slice- and volume-level tasks.

### 1073 H.3 CASE STUDY

1074 In Figure 7, the Ground Truth highlights portal hypertension, cirrhotic changes, intrahepatic bile  
1075 duct cystic dilatations with the central dot sign, and additional renal and gallstones. M3D-LaMed-  
1076 7B, while mentioning hepatic and portal abnormalities, overemphasizes tumor invasion with in-  
1077 correct findings, and GPT-5 completely deviates with irrelevant head CT descriptions. In con-  
1078 trast, OmniCT accurately captures the key clinical features—portal hypertension, splenomegaly,  
1079 mild ascites, cirrhosis, Caroli disease signs, and urinary/gallstones—closely matching the Ground

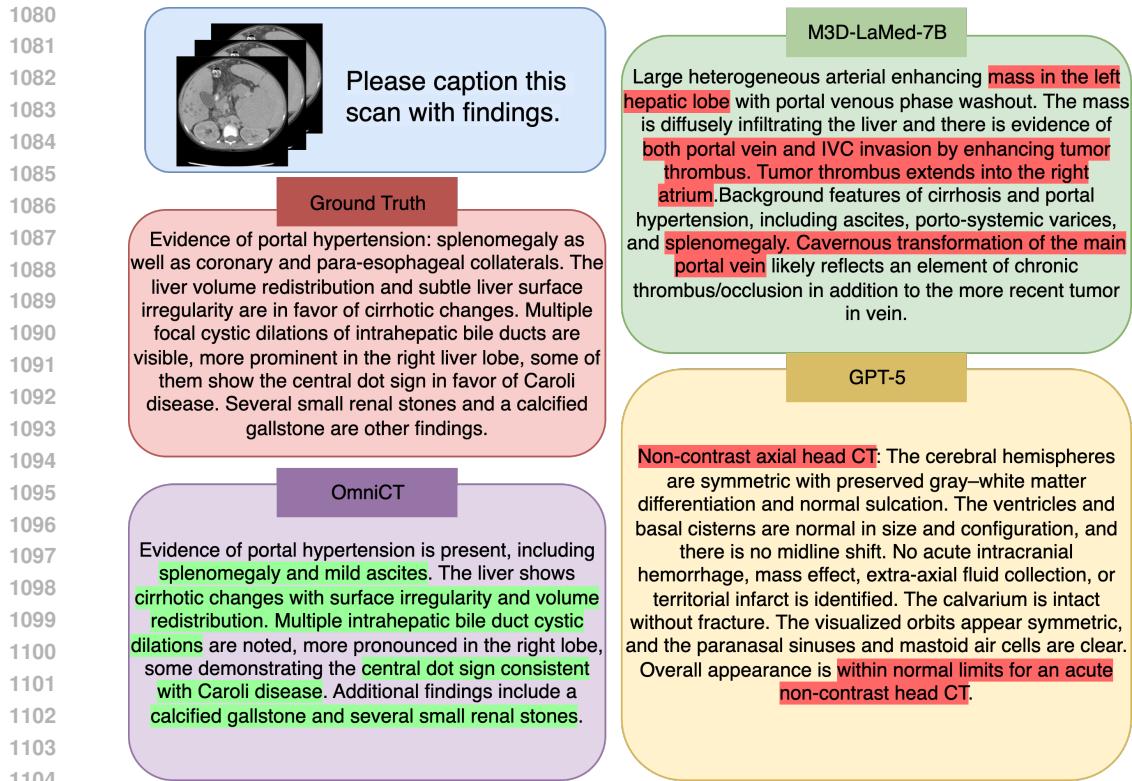


Figure 7: A case study comparing CT findings generated by different medical LVMs with the clinical ground truth.

Truth with clinically coherent language, demonstrating its superior spatial-semantic consistency in chest-abdominal CT interpretation.

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1153 Feature Level

## Unified Feature Engineering

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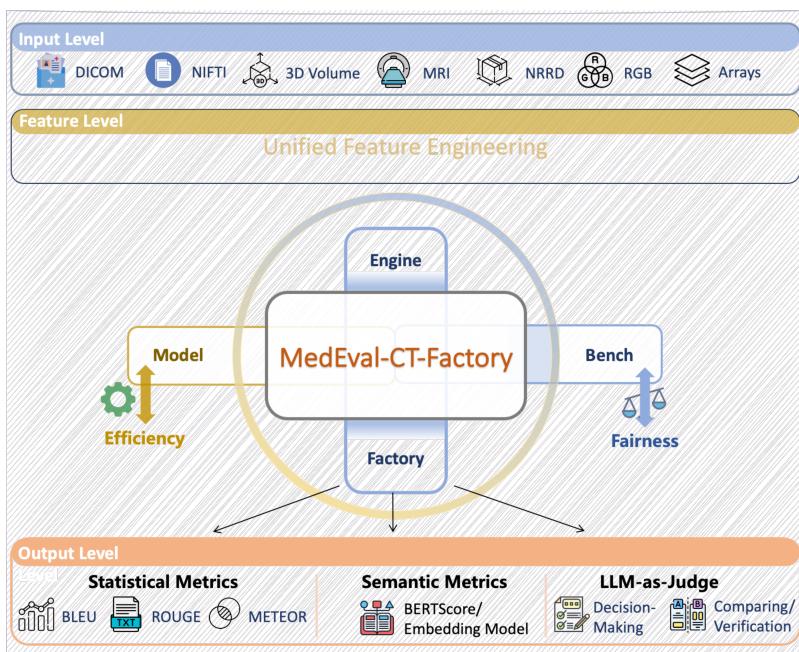


Figure 8: MedEval-CT-Factory offers a unified pipeline for standardized medical imaging pre-processing and fair, consistent evaluation of medical LVLMs across multiple benchmarks.

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Table 4: Notations.

Notation	Description
$\mathcal{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times H \times W}$	3D CT volume with depth $D$ , height $H$ , and width $W$
$D, H, W$	Volume dimensions along z-, y-, and x-axis, respectively
$\mathcal{V}_j \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times H \times W}$	$j$ -th 2D slice extracted from the 3D volume
$s_i \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times H \times W}$	Independent 2D slice input
$S = \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$	Collection of independent 2D slice inputs
$\hat{s}_i = \text{Concat}(\mathcal{V}_{3i-2}, \mathcal{V}_{3i-1}, \mathcal{V}_{3i})$	Reassembled volumetric unit
$\hat{s}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times H \times W}$	Reassembled unit with 3-channel slice composition
$\hat{\mathcal{S}} = \{\hat{s}_i \mid i \in [1, n]\}$	Set of all reassembled slice units
$N_s$	Number of reassembled units (new depth dimension)
$\phi_v(\cdot \mid \theta_v)$	Vision encoder with parameters $\theta_v$
$\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_s \times H' \times W' \times d_v}$	Patch-level visual tokens extracted from $\hat{\mathcal{S}}$
$H' = \frac{H}{K}, W' = \frac{W}{K}$	Spatial resolution of patch features after tokenization
$K$	Patch size (stride along spatial dimensions)
$d_v$	Dimension of visual tokens
$P = \{P^{N_s}, P^{H'}, P^{W'}\}$	Sinusoidal positional encodings along depth, height, width
$\mathcal{Z}$	Tokens enriched with tri-axial positional priors
$d_z, d_y, d_x$	Feature dimensions of depth/height/width positional encodings
$\mathcal{U}$	Token-level unshuffle operation
$m$	Window size for unshuffle ( $m=1$ for slice input)
$\hat{\mathcal{Z}}$	Token representations after unshuffle
$\psi(\cdot \mid \theta_p)$	Slice–volume hybrid MoE projection function
$\theta_p = \{W_s, W_v, W_{\text{share}}\}$	Parameters of MoE projector
$W_s, W_v, W_{\text{share}}$	Slice-specific, volume-specific, and shared projection matrices
$\mathbf{1}_{\text{slice}}, \mathbf{1}_{\text{volume}}$	Binary indicator functions for slice/volume routing
$\sigma(\cdot)$	GELU activation function
$\hat{\mathcal{F}} \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times d_f}$	Projected tokens aligned with LLM space
$L = N_s \frac{H'}{m} \frac{W'}{m}$	Total number of projected tokens
$d_f$	Output feature dimension of MoE projector
$\mathcal{M}_o \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times H \times W}$	Organ mask for organ $o$ (from TotalSegmentor, 117 structures)
$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_o$	Organ mask mapped to token resolution
$\hat{\mathcal{F}}_o \in \mathbb{R}^{L_o \times d_h}$	Subset of tokens selected by $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_o$
$L_o$	Number of tokens belonging to organ $o$
$\text{Agg}(\cdot)$	Organ-level feature aggregation function
$\hat{f}_o \in \mathbb{R}^{L_c \times d_h}$	Aggregated tokens for organ $o$
$L_c$	Fixed number of aggregated tokens after compression
$\hat{\mathcal{F}}_{OSE}$	Global-local vision tokens after OSE fusion
$\mathcal{E}$	Text tokens
$Q = \{q_1, \dots, q_m\}$	Input text query sequence
$\phi_t(\cdot \mid \theta_t)$	Text embedding function with parameters $\theta_t$
$\mathcal{E} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d_h}$	Text token embeddings
$\mathcal{T} = [\hat{\mathcal{F}}_{OSE}; \mathcal{E}]$	Unified multimodal input sequence
$y = (y_1, \dots, y_m)$	Target output sequence
$P(y_t \mid y_{<t}; \mathcal{T}; \theta)$	Conditional probability distribution from LLM
$\mathcal{D}$	Training data distribution
$\theta_p = \{W_s, W_v, W_{\text{share}}\}$	Parameters of the slice–volume hybrid MoE projector
$\theta_{llm}$	Parameters of the LLM backbone

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Table 5: Overview of Hyperparameter Configurations.

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Hyperparameter	OmniCT-3B		OmniCT-7B	
	Stage-1	Stage-2	Stage-1	Stage-2
Optimizer	AdamW	AdamW	AdamW	AdamW
Learning Rate of Adapter	2e-4	5e-5	2e-4	5e-5
Learning Rate	2e-4	5e-5	2e-4	5e-5
Global Batch Size	256	256	256	256
Weight Decay	0	0	0	0
LR Scheduler	warm up-cosine	warm up-cosine	warm up-cosine	warm up-cosine
Warmup Ratio	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Epoch	1	1	1	1
Max Sequence Length	2048	2048	2048	2048

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Table 6: Performance of OmniCT with different LLM backbones on 2D and 3D CT benchmarks.

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Base Model	#Params	SLAKE	VQA-RAD	OmniMedVQA	RadFig-VQA	M3D	CT-RATE	3D-RAD	MedEval-CT-Bench
Qwen2.5-3B	3B	81.6	50.4	97.4	80.2	57.1	67.5	64.9	75.9
Phi-4-mini	3.8B	81.1	55.3	96.9	84.4	56.4	67.4	66.9	76.2

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Table 7: Overview of datasets incorporated in MedEval-CT.

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Dataset	Task Type	Training Size	Test Size	Source	License
M3D-Cap	Report Generation	116065	100	Radiopaedia	Apache-2.0
M3D-vqa	Multi-Choice Question Short VQA	240929 240929	5000 5000	Radiopaedia	Apache-2.0
CT-RATEv2	Report Generation Free-form QA	93822 693760	6076 24149	Istanbul Medipol University Mega Hospital	CC-BY-NC-SA-4.0
3D-RAD	Short VQA Judgment Multi-Choice Question	9709 100170 26316	4692 23472 5746	Istanbul Medipol University Mega Hospital	CC-BY-NC-SA-4.0
ROCOv2	Image Captioning	18663	-	PMC-OA	Apache-2.0
PubMedVision	Image Captioning Dialogue	113142 112649	-	PMC-OA	Apache-2.0
RadFig-VQA	Multi-Choice Question	46696	2084	PMC-OA	CC-BY-NC-SA-4.0
OmniMedVQA	Multi-Choice Question	14230	1579	part of 73 datasets	CC BY & Apache-2.0
LLaVA-Med	Dialogue	10622	-	PMC-15M	Apache-2.0
MEDPIX-ClinQA	Image Captioning Dialogue	3895 3895	-	MEDPIX 2.0	Apache-2.0
VQA-RAD	Short VQA Judgment	1040 1248	61 96	MEDPIX	CC0
SLAKE	Short VQA Judgment	2598 2280	234 194	Medical Segmentation Decathlon ChestXray-NIHCCCHAOS	CC-BY-4.0

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Table 8: MedEval-CT-Bench-2D

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Model	Qwen2.5-VL	InternVL3-8B	RadFM	Lingshu	HealthGPT	MedVLM-R1	MedGemma-4B	gpt-5-mini	Ours
lungs	72.50	66.25	18.99	70.00	63.75	70.00	66.25	71.25	74.68
heart	69.76	65.85	5.39	77.07	68.29	61.95	66.83	76.47	80.39
liver	76.95	70.17	10.20	86.44	75.25	62.71	68.47	75.59	82.31
spleen	57.38	54.10	10.00	68.85	59.02	47.54	60.66	67.21	68.33
kidneys	72.48	75.19	9.34	80.62	65.12	59.30	60.47	78.29	82.10
pancreas	72.00	66.00	8.08	84.00	71.00	62.00	66.00	75.00	78.79
stomach	64.91	68.42	7.14	71.93	73.68	56.14	64.91	78.95	75.00
bowel	67.84	70.27	9.76	69.46	72.16	63.51	62.43	71.08	83.47
esophagus	58.33	58.33	8.57	58.33	69.44	50.00	52.78	63.89	80.00
trachea	59.26	51.85	7.69	59.26	66.67	51.85	59.26	62.96	73.08
vessels	65.88	70.98	7.87	76.47	69.80	54.51	65.10	75.20	80.71
spine	73.33	81.67	6.78	81.67	76.67	66.67	66.67	70.00	83.05
others	72.25	78.75	9.27	85.25	76.00	78.00	76.50	72.25	86.47
GIR	67.75	72.16	13.95	75.41	66.36	64.97	67.75	72.56	70.70
MAI	67.03	72.53	8.29	87.91	76.92	84.07	77.47	56.04	88.95
AII	75.62	69.71	9.73	76.76	65.90	62.29	59.05	69.90	86.83
CRD	69.14	71.11	6.95	78.33	74.67	60.23	67.82	79.15	81.78
Average	68.38	68.43	9.29	75.75	70.04	62.10	65.20	71.52	79.80

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Table 9: MedEval-CT-Bench-3D

Model	Qwen2.5-VL	MiniCPM-V-4.5	CT-Chat	M3D-LaMed-Phi-3-4B	M3D-LaMed-Llama-2-7B	gpt-5-mini	Ours
lungs	52.07	47.66	52.07	54.27	62.26	53.72	67.22
heart	54.45	59.16	51.83	58.64	63.87	54.45	86.91
liver	55.14	55.39	60.40	75.94	67.42	62.91	80.20
spleen	51.88	45.94	64.38	76.88	74.06	48.44	71.25
kidneys	47.87	41.60	55.89	71.68	80.20	44.11	78.20
pancreas	41.38	40.52	56.47	76.72	70.69	43.53	75.00
stomach	36.92	40.65	62.62	68.22	71.50	52.80	64.02
bowel	47.32	40.28	60.56	74.93	77.75	47.61	80.00
esophagus	44.68	46.81	48.94	40.43	76.60	29.79	63.83
trachea	61.41	65.27	84.57	68.81	82.96	64.31	89.39
vessels	50.88	51.63	54.14	64.16	71.68	52.13	84.46
spine	45.98	52.87	77.01	67.82	72.41	55.17	83.91
others	51.63	48.12	61.15	64.91	68.42	52.63	81.45
GIR	45.83	39.34	46.45	75.98	80.88	47.92	77.82
MAI	61.89	64.32	76.34	66.75	70.08	51.15	86.06
AII	46.40	45.29	63.10	67.26	73.28	51.06	77.18
CRD	49.47	48.00	56.01	63.92	64.45	58.12	72.78
Average	49.72	48.99	60.70	66.90	72.27	51.17	77.63

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Table 10: Ablation of MoE Hybird Projection.

Training Strategy	Perf. 2D	Perf. 3D	Avg.
SigLip + M3D-CLIP (w/o MHP)	34.57	30.58	32.58
SigLip + Siglip (w/ MHP)	55.30	48.61	51.96

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Table 11: Ablation analysis of adaptive organ-level feature aggregation.

ROI Strategy	Perf. 2D	Perf. 3D	Avg.
No OSE	78.68	62.17	70.43
OSE w/ native ROI	78.37	62.24	70.31
OSE w/ random ROI	80.13	64.22	72.18
OSE w/ adaptive ROI	81.45	66.15	73.80

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Table 12: Ablation of the OSE aggregation ratios for 2D and 3D tokens.  $m_{2D}$  and  $m_{3D}$  denote the numbers of aggregated organ-level tokens for 2D slices and 3D volumes, respectively.

$m_{2D}$	$m_{3D}$	Perf. 2D	Perf. 3D	Avg.
0	0	78.68	62.17	70.43
36	40	80.66	63.81	72.24
81	90	81.45	66.15	73.80
144	160	81.23	66.04	73.64
225	250	80.64	65.48	73.06

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Table 13: 2D vs. 3D Encoder Comparison.

Encoder	Token Budget Ratio	Plane	Phase	Organ	Abnormality	Location	Avg.
SigLip	1.00×	99.5	90.2	78.4	79.2	67.4	82.9
M3D-CLIP	1.26×	99.0	84.8	77.1	78.2	63.1	80.4
DINOv3	0.61×	99.5	88.0	77.8	78.9	65.3	81.9
VideoMAEv2	0.97×	91.3	74.7	76.9	75.3	62.8	76.2
Wan2.1-VAE	1.42×	97.9	76.4	77.1	74.7	63.9	78.0

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1354 Table 14: Organ-level accuracy on MedEval-CT-Bench under normal, image–question mismatch,  
1355 and noise settings

Organ	2D Normal	2D Mismatch	2D Noise	3D Normal	3D Mismatch	3D Noise
lungs	74.7	23.1	19.5	67.2	29.4	27.3
heart	80.4	24.0	14.9	86.9	31.8	20.1
liver	82.3	19.9	20.9	80.2	30.5	25.8
spleen	68.3	13.7	17.4	71.3	28.4	29.0
kidneys	82.1	25.1	21.1	78.2	22.3	22.6
pancreas	78.8	24.9	15.2	75.0	30.2	23.4
stomach	75.0	21.7	14.4	64.0	19.0	22.7
bowel	83.5	22.2	19.4	80.0	30.1	27.9
esophagus	80.0	20.3	18.0	63.8	28.6	29.2
trachea	73.1	18.0	20.6	89.4	21.8	24.1
vessels	80.7	23.9	19.8	84.5	30.1	28.6
spine	83.1	17.2	17.8	83.9	28.9	17.1
others	86.5	22.9	14.6	81.5	29.7	27.0

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1375 Table 15: Ablation study of unified representation gains.

Training Strategy	Ratio	SLAKE	VQA-RAD	RadFig-VQA	M3D-VQA	CT-RATE	3D-RAD
2D-Only	25%	70.6	62.5	77.2	-	-	-
3D-Only	25%	-	-	-	65.8	84.5	65.4
Mixed	25%	72.2	62.5	78.2	69.9	84.9	66.9
2D-Only	50%	75.8	66.7	79.4	-	-	-
3D-Only	50%	-	-	-	72.7	86.2	67.2
Mixed	50%	77.3	70.8	79.8	73.6	87.1	68.1
2D-Only	100%	81.0	72.3	78.2	-	-	-
3D-Only	100%	-	-	-	74.4	86.6	68.6
Mixed	100%	81.2	71.8	81.9	74.7	86.6	69.3

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1392 Table 16: Performance of 18 types of anomaly label prediction.

Model	Precision	Recall	F1
RadFM	13.1	6.4	7.2
M3D-LaMed-7B	8.1	2.5	3.5
M3D-LaMed-4B	16.5	8.4	9.6
CT-CHAT	24.3	38.8	27.2
CT2Rep	41.6	38.1	36.7
CT-AGRG	37.8	55.4	42.1
OmniCT	41.7	36.5	36.3

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