Adapting Chat Language Models Using Only Target Unlabeled Language Data

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Abstract

Vocabulary expansion (VE) is the de-facto approach to language adaptation of large language models (LLMs) by adding new tokens and continuing pre-training on target data. While this is effective for base models trained on unlabeled data, it poses challenges for *chat* models trained to follow instructions through labeled conversation data. Directly adapting the latter with VE on target unlabeled data may result in forgetting chat abilities. While ideal, target chat data is often unavailable or costly to create for low-resource languages, and machine-translated alternatives are not always effective. To address this issue, previous work proposed using a base and chat model from the same family. This method first adapts the base LLM with VE on target unlabeled data and then converts it to a chat model by adding a chat vector (CV) derived from the weight difference between the source base and chat models. We propose ElChat, a new language adaptation method for chat LLMs that adapts a chat model directly on target unlabeled data, *without a base model*. It elicits chat abilities by injecting information from the source chat model. ElChat offers more robust and competitive target language and safety performance while achieving superior English, chat, and instruction-following abilities compared to CV.¹

1 Introduction

Vocabulary expansion (VE) is the de-facto approach to adapting large language models (LLMs) in a target language (Cui et al., 2024; Fujii et al., 2024; Choi et al., 2024). It typically consists of two main steps: (i) new tokens are added to the model vocabulary by expanding the input embedding and output head matrices; and (ii) continual pre-training on target data to learn the input and output embeddings of the new tokens (Cui et al., 2024; Fujii et al., 2024; Choi et al., 2024; Tejaswi et al., 2024; Mundra et al., 2024, inter alia). VE is important because LLMs including chat models often perform poorly in languages underrepresented in the training data (Geng et al., 2025; Huang et al., 2024). Moreover, target language tokenization suffers from overfragmentation due to the heavy reliance on data and vocabulary from particular languages (e.g. English), resulting to more inference steps especially in low-resource languages (Ahia et al., 2023; Petrov et al., 2023; Ali et al., 2024). For example, processing a text sequence in Amharic requires 3.48x more inference steps using the default Qwen2.5 (Yang et al., 2024), without VE.

While VE is effective for base models trained on unlabeled data, its application poses significant challenges when the LLM at hand is a *chat* model trained to follow instructions through labeled conversation data. Ideally, we need access to target chat data to effectively adapt chat models. However, this is often unavailable or costly to create for low-resource languages, including the acquisition of human feedback (Huang et al., 2024). Alternatively, machine-translated chat data are not consistently effective (Tao et al., 2024).

To address this issue, Huang et al. (2024) proposed chat vector (CV), a method to obtain a chat model in the target language with access to target unlabeled data only. CV first adapts the base LLM with VE on target unlabeled data and then converts it to a chat model by adding a chat vector derived from the weight difference between the source base and chat models. However, this requires access to base and chat models from the same family that might not always be available, hindering its applicability. For example,

¹Our anonymous code is available as supplementary material.

the Phi-3 (Abdin et al., 2024a) and Phi-4 (Abdin et al., 2024b) do not provide base models due to safety reasons.² Similarly, Velvet³, EXAONE-3.5⁴, and Trillion (Han et al., 2025) models are available only as a chat model. Crucially, it is completely to the discretion of developers to decide whether they publish both base and chat variants.

In this paper, we propose ElChat, a new language adaptation method for chat LLMs that adapts a chat model directly on target unlabeled data, eliminating the need for a base model (Figure 1). We hypothesize that direct adaptation of a source chat model with VE on target unlabeled data negatively impacts its chat and instruction-following abilities by altering its parametric knowledge. However, we posit that these can still be recovered. For this purpose, ElChat leverages information from the source chat model to elicit chat abilities through two key mechanisms. First, we employ model merging to integrate distinct parametric knowledge from the source and target models (Wortsman et al., 2022; Yadav et al., 2023; Yu et al., 2024; Goddard et al., 2024). We hypothesize that model merging helps restore the chat and instruction-following abilities of the source model while preserving the target language performance achieved by the target model. Second, we reuse the weights of special tokens from the source model. For example, tokens that mark the start of a conversation turn should be crucial

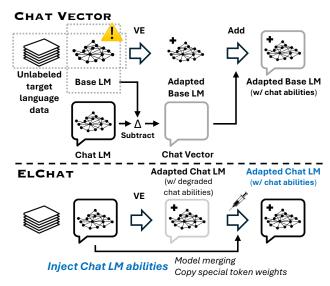


Figure 1: Chat LLM language adaptation with Chat Vector (Huang et al., 2024) and ElChat (ours).

for activating the instruction-following ability as they are used to structure raw input into chat format. However, direct adaptation on target unlabeled data may degrade their functionality as they are modified during VE. To mitigate this, we copy these token weights directly from the source model to the target model.

We investigate the efficacy of ElChat by experimenting with two popular chat models across seven typologically diverse languages. Our evaluation includes safety, chat, and instruction-following performance. Additionally, we also assess target and source language task performance and target language inference speed. Our key contributions are as follows:

- We propose ElChat that adapts a chat model directly on target unlabeled data, eliminating the need for (i) a base model and (ii) target chat data.
- ElChat achieves better chat and instruction-following abilities and source language performance than CV. It is also competitive and more robust (i.e. consistently outperforming the source chat model) in the target language and safety tasks compared to CV (§5.2, §5.3, §5.1).
- Despite model modifications, ElChat achieves comparable target inference speedups across models and tasks, matching the performance of the adapted VE and CV models (§6).

2 Related Work

2.1 Cross-lingual Vocabulary Adaptation

The most popular approach to adapting LLMs to a target language is by expanding their vocabulary (VE) with tokens from the target language (Balachandran, 2023; Larcher et al., 2023; Pipatanakul et al., 2023;

²https://huggingface.co/microsoft/phi-4/discussions/4

³https://huggingface.co/Almawave/Velvet-14B

 $^{^4}$ https://huggingface.co/collections/LGAI-EXAONE/exaone-35-674d0e1bb3dcd2ab6f39dbb4

Lin et al., 2024; Cui et al., 2024; Kim et al., 2024; Fujii et al., 2024; Choi et al., 2024; Nguyen et al., 2024; Tejaswi et al., 2024; Mundra et al., 2024).

Other methods to language adaptation include full or partial vocabulary replacement with a new target vocabulary (Ostendorff & Rehm, 2023; Csaki et al., 2023; Da Dalt et al., 2024; Remy et al., 2024; Yamaguchi et al., 2024a; Dobler & de Melo, 2024; Cahyawijaya et al., 2024), hypernetwork for tokenizer transfer (Minixhofer et al., 2024), and adapters for vocabulary alignment (Han et al., 2024). Our work focuses on VE as it has been widely used recently for mostly base LLM adaptation in languages such as Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Persian (Cui et al., 2024; Fujii et al., 2024; Choi et al., 2024; Mahdizadeh Sani et al., 2025, interalia.).

2.2 Language Adaptation of Chat Models

Recent work has proposed developing chat models in a target language from source base models. For example, Toraman (2024) and Zhao et al. (2024a) apply VE to base models using target language chat data, consisting of 52k samples and 500M tokens, respectively. Bandarkar et al. (2024b) also adapt base models using 30-40k target language chat data. Their approach also adapts a task-specific (i.e. math) model on 200k English math samples, followed by merging the two models to enhance math performance in the target language. Alexandrov et al. (2024) iteratively merge models trained on subsets of available target language data to effectively mitigate catastrophic forgetting. Their method first adapts base models with continual pre-training (CPT) on target unlabeled language data, followed by instruction tuning on target language chat data samples. However, this approach requires substantial target language data (at least 50B tokens of unlabeled data for CPT, and 78K samples of target language chat data) to ensure that each subset contains sufficient information for effective adaptation. A different approach, proposed by Tao et al. (2024), involves merging two base models: (1) one supervised fine-tuned on 162k English data samples, and (2) another trained on at least eight billion tokens of target unlabeled language data. However, it still relies on the availability of a base model. Geng et al. (2025) propose adapting source chat models directly through a multi-stage training approach. This method involves target unlabeled data and transfer fine-tuning (i.e. supervised fine-tuning tasks using translated target chat data.)

The main limitation with this line of work is that it requires access to target chat data (real or translated), typically in large volumes. Chat data is often unavailable or costly to produce for low-resource languages, while machine-translated chat data is not always effective for adaptation (Tao et al., 2024). For example, Burmese, one of our experimental languages, consists only of 472 manually annotated instruction samples in the Aya Dataset (Singh et al., 2024b). This is insufficient for direct application of VE, as its typical data requirements are in the order of millions of tokens (Tejaswi et al., 2024), making these methods not applicable in such settings.

Huang et al. (2024) assumes a language adaptation setting where there is no access to target chat data (real or translated). This is a more realistic scenario for low-resource languages. For example, Burmese has only 172k target unlabeled language data in MADLAD-400 (Kudugunta et al., 2023) available for adaptation. Their proposed CV method obtains a target chat model using a source base and a source chat model. This approach to chat LLM adaptation is the closest to our work.

3 ElChat: Eliciting Chat and Instruction-following Abilities

Similar to Huang et al. (2024), we aim to adapt a chat LLM to a target language, assuming that we only have access to target unlabeled data and no target chat data (real or translated) at all. Unlike Huang et al. (2024), our goal is to remove the dependence on a base model that might not always be available and adapt a chat model directly on target unlabeled data with VE.

To achieve this, we introduce ElChat that consists of three steps: (i) VE on the source chat model using target unlabeled data to obtain an initial adapted target chat model; (ii) merging the source and target models; (iii) injecting information from the source to the target by copying tokens that are specific to chat and instruction-following capabilities.

We expect that modifying the parametric knowledge of the source model by training on target unlabeled data in step (i) will improve its target language skills by updating specific areas of the network but negatively impact its chat and instruction-following abilities due to catastrophic forgetting. To remedy this, we hypothesize that we can elicit the latter through (ii) model merging (Wortsman et al., 2022; Yadav et al., 2023; Yu et al., 2024; Goddard et al., 2024). It allows the integration of distinct parametric knowledge from the source and target models without incurring any additional training costs, i.e. chat abilities from the source and target language knowledge from the target. Finally, in step (3), we restore the representation of special tokens used in the chat template. We assume this will guide the target model in effectively responding to user instructions by transferring this information from the source.

Vocabulary Expansion (VE). Given the sole availability of target unlabeled data, we apply VE on the source chat LLM by expanding its input and output head matrices with new tokens, followed by CPT on the target data. A key difference between chat and base models is that the former use a chat template. This includes specific roles (e.g. user, system, or assistant) and has a placeholder for message text in the prompt (see Appendix A for details). During CPT, we remove the default chat template of the model to support unlabeled data. During inference, we append it to task-specific prompt templates (see Table 3 for task-specific prompts).

Source and Target Chat Model Merging (Merge). After VE, we merge the source and target chat models. We employ a popular merging method: spherical linear interpolation (SLERP) (Goddard et al., 2024) to merge each layer of the source and adapted models.⁵ This process excludes the embedding and language modeling head from merging because the source and target models use different vocabularies.

Copying Special Token and Language Modeling Head Weights (Copy). Special tokens used in a chat template (e.g. <im_start> in Qwen2.5 to represent the start of a turn) should be critical in supporting chat and instruction-following abilities of a model (see Appendix A for a full list of special tokens). Although the embedding and language modeling heads are excluded from merging due to vocabulary differences, leaving them unchanged may not be optimal for eliciting the chat and instruction-following abilities of the adapted chat model. Hence, we copy all the special token weights from the source model to the adapted model.

4 Experimental Setup

This section describes the experimental setup in this paper. More details are listed in Appendix A.

4.1 Source Models

We use two state-of-the-art chat models as source: Qwen2.5 7B (Yang et al., 2024); and Llama 3.1 8B (Dubey et al., 2024), across experiments.

4.2 Target Languages and Adaptation Data

We experiment with the following seven typologically diverse languages, assuming that they are likely to be underrepresented compared to English in the pre-training data of the source models, or entirely absent: Amharic (Afroasiatic), Bengali (Indo-European), Burmese (Sino-Tibetan), Gujarati (Indo-European), Sinhala (Indo-European), Tamil (Dravidian), and Telugu (Dravidian). The ratio of training data in each model for each source base and chat model has not been explicitly disclosed (Appendix C.2). Note that we do not consider Latin script target languages as they are less likely to suffer from overfragmentation and usually benefit less from VE (Yamaguchi et al., 2024b; Tejaswi et al., 2024).

For the CPT part of VE, we use MADLAD-400 (Kudugunta et al., 2023), which consists of highly-filtered document-level samples sourced from CommonCrawl, and randomly sample 250K language-specific documents for each language as the target unlabeled data.⁶

⁵We also test linear (Wortsman et al., 2022) merging yielding similar results (see Appendix B).

 $^{^6}$ For languages with less than 250K documents (i.e. Amharic and Burmese), we use the full articles.

4.3 Vocabulary Expansion

Embedding Initialization. We employ mean initialization (Yao et al., 2021), a popular and simple, yet effective method in VE (Fujii et al., 2024; Tejaswi et al., 2024; Mundra et al., 2024). The weight of each new target token is initialized as the average embedding or language modeling head weight of their corresponding source tokens, obtained using the corresponding source tokenizer.

Continual Pre-training. Following Remy et al. (2024), we train the embedding, LM head, and the top and bottom two layers of a source model. This approach aims to calibrate only the parts closely related to the encoding and decoding of the target language (Wendler et al., 2024; Tang et al., 2024; Zhao et al., 2024b), minimizing changes to the source model while allowing cost-effective tuning.

4.4 Baselines

We compare ElChat against the following baselines:

- Off-the-shelf base (Base) and chat (Chat) models without target language adaptation.
- Base and Chat models adapted using standard VE, denoted by **Base+VE** and **Chat+VE** respectively. Note that the latter uses a chat template in inference (see §3).
- CV proposed by Huang et al. (2024), augmenting Base+VE with chat vector using Base and Chat.

For reference, we also experiment with adapting Chat and Base using only CPT on the same target language data without VE (i.e. no inference speedup in a target language). We provide the results and analysis of these CPT-only models in Appendix C.1.

4.5 Evaluation Tasks

We evaluate the efficacy of ElChat in safety, chat, and instruction-following performance, and target and source language performance.

Safety, Chat, and Instruction-Following. Following Cahyawijaya et al. (2024), we conduct safety evaluation on target data including TruthfulQA (Lin et al., 2022), ToxicGen (Hartvigsen et al., 2022), and Implicithate (ElSherief et al., 2021). We also measure chat and instruction-following abilities in the source language (English) using IFEVAL (Zhou et al., 2023), GSM8K (Cobbe et al., 2021) as multi-turn few-shot, and MT-Bench (Zheng et al., 2023).

Target language evaluation is challenging for instruction-following and chat tasks due to the limited data availability. LLM-as-a-Judge (Zheng et al., 2023) is also unstable according to Azime et al. (2024) in low-resource languages. Hence, we use multi-turn MGSM (Shi et al., 2023) for target language evaluation as it consists of manually translated high-quality data.

Target Language. We use both generative and discriminative target language tasks. For generative tasks, we use summarization (SUM) using XL-SUM (Hasan et al., 2021) and English-to-target machine translation (MT) using FLORES-200 (NLLB Team et al., 2022). For a discriminative task, we employ multiple-choice text classification (MC) using Belebele (Bandarkar et al., 2024a) and Global MMLU (GMMLU) (Singh et al., 2024a) as general target language understanding benchmarks.

Source Language (English). We assess the extent to which the adapted models retain their general task-solving abilities in English SUM, target-to-English MT, and English MC using the same datasets as those employed for target languages. We also use MMLU (Hendrycks et al., 2021) as an English language understanding benchmark.

Following Ahia et al. (2023), we use 500 random samples for generative tasks: SUM and MT. The rest use the full test sets for evaluation.

4.6 Evaluation Metrics

Task Performance. We report the standard metrics for each task: accuracy for MC, GMMLU, MMLU, TRUTHFULQA, and IFEVAL (strict prompt), and exact match for GSM8K and MGSM. For MT-BENCH, we use the mean score over two turns across all questions. Adhering to the standard protocol in LightE-val (Fourrier et al., 2023), each score is determined using Flow-Judge-v0.1 and follows a Likert-5 scale. For SUM and MT, we primarily use chrF (Popović, 2015). For TOXICGEN and IMPLICITHATE, we use safety score, which is the percentage of likeliness of the model producing benign over harmful sentences, following Cahyawijaya et al. (2024).

We report average zero- and three-shot performance across three different runs for SUM and MT, respectively. For the remaining tasks, we report single-run zero-shot performance for IFEVAL, MT-BENCH, TOXIC-GEN and IMPLICITHATE, three-shot performance for MC, TRUTHFULQA, five-shot performance for GMMLU, MMLU, GSM8K, and MGSM as these tasks are deterministically evaluated with temperature set to zero.

Inference Efficiency. VE offers inference speedups in a target language compared to source models (Tejaswi et al., 2024; Mundra et al., 2024; Yamaguchi et al., 2024b). To quantify this, we measure the number of tokens generated per second (tokens/s) (Hong et al., 2024).

5 Task Performance

5.1 Safety, Chat, and Instruction-following

Safety. Figure 2 (a) shows the aggregated mean performance in safety tasks across the seven target languages. We first observe that ElChat outperforms CV in TRUTHFULQA for both Qwen2.5 and Llama 3.1. In particular, it substantially helps Llama 3.1, achieving 13-point gains over CV on average. We speculate that CV may be less effective for classification tasks as reflected in its performance on other discriminative target language tasks (§5.2).

In contrast, CV often surpasses ElChat in Toxi-Gen and Implicithate for both models, with differences of up to 6 points, e.g. in ToxiGen with Qwen2.5. This is primarily due to the use of Merge instead of Copy in ElChat (see Table 8). Specifically, ElChat without Copy follows similar trends to ElChat, while ElChat without Merge exhibits similar trends to Chat+VE and CV. This is intuitive, as merging a model with the lowest target safety performance (i.e. Chat) with Chat+VE can degrade safety performance.

We finally find that ElChat, CV, and Chat+VE outperform the Chat baseline across tasks and models, with gains ranging from 1.4 (TRUTHFULQA with

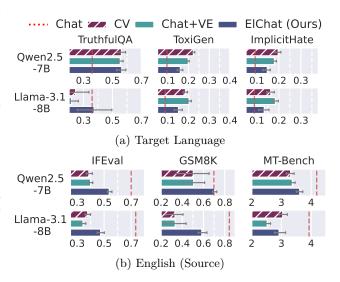


Figure 2: Aggregated mean performance (\uparrow) across seven target languages for each model on safety, chat, and instruction-following tasks. Full results are in the Appendix (Tables 7 and 8).

Llama 3.1 using ElChat) to 20 points (TRUTHFULQA with Qwen2.5 using ElChat). The only exceptions are CV and Chat+VE in TRUTHFULQA, where they underperform Chat by 11 and 14 points, respectively. This instability highlights the advantage of ElChat, as it consistently enhances safety performance over Chat across tasks.

⁷Although chrF has been a widely used metric for SUM and MT (Ebrahimi et al., 2023; Remy et al., 2024, *inter alia*), we also show ROUGE-L (Lin, 2004) for SUM and chrF++ (Popović, 2017) for MT in Appendix B.

Chat and Instruction-following. Figure 2 (b) shows the aggregated mean performance across chat and instruction-following tasks in English (source). We first analyze the extent to which ElChat impacts performance on chat and instruction-following tasks compared to the Chat baseline. Note that some performance degradation is inevitable, as adapting Chat to *target* unlabeled data inherently affects the *source* chat and instruction-following abilities (§3).

As anticipated, we find that ElChat exhibits performance degradation across tasks and models compared to the Chat baseline. However, the extent of this degradation varies depending on the model, task, and adaptation approach. For example, ElChat achieves comparable performance on GSM8K but experiences reductions of 16 and 0.57 points on IFEVAL and MT-BENCH, respectively. Despite these drops, ElChat successfully improves instruction-following performance compared to the respective adapted model, Chat+VE. It demonstrates improvements of 14 and 13 points over Chat+VE for Qwen2.5 and Llama 3.1, respectively. These results indicate that ElChat can inject instruction-following capabilities into the adapted model.

We next observe that ElChat generally outperforms CV across tasks and models in five out of six cases, with performance differences ranging from 9.5 points (IFEVAL with Llama 3.1) to 25 points (GSM8K with Llama 3.1). This suggests that ElChat is more effective than CV in enhancing both chat and instruction-following abilities.

Table 1: MGSM performance in Bengali (bn) and Telugu (te) by model.

(a) Qwen2.5 7B

Model	E	M
	bn	te
Chat	.23	.06
CV	.60	.27
Chat+VE	.39	.27
ElChat (Ours)	.46	.35

(b) Llama 3.1 8B

Model	E :	M
	bn	te
Chat	.30	.12
CV	.31	.24
Chat+VE	.26	.28
ElChat (Ours)	.51	.41

Finally, ElChat's performance advantage extends to target language tasks. Table 1 shows model performance in MGSM (covering Bengali and Telugu). Overall, ElChat surpasses both CV and the original chat model, Chat, in three and four out of four cases, respectively. Notably, ElChat significantly improves Telugu performance by 29 points with both Qwen2.5 and Llama 3.1. Additionally, while CV enhances Bengali performance by just 1 point over Chat in Llama 3.1, ElChat achieves a substantial 21-point gain. These results further support the superiority of ElChat over CV.

5.2 Target Language

Figure 3 (left) shows the aggregated mean performance across seven languages for all source and adapted target models in target language.

We note that ElChat consistently outperforms its source chat model (Chat) across all models and tasks. This improvement is particularly notable in generative tasks (i.e. SUM and MT), with gains ranging from 8 points (Llama 3.1 on MT) to 20 points (Qwen2.5 on MT). While ElChat generally maintains competitive performance (within 3 points) compared to Chat+VE, it exhibits slightly reduced performance (up to 5.9 points with Qwen2.5 on MC) in discriminative tasks (i.e. MC and GMMLU) and MT with Llama 3.1. These results suggest that ElChat can overall preserve the target language performance, while the model modifications do not substantially degrade performance.

We further observe that ElChat demonstrates competitive performance with CV, with each method outperforming the other in half of the evaluated cases. However, CV notably underperforms both the source base and chat models in the two discriminative tasks (i.e. MC and GMMLU) with Llama 3.1. Thus, although ElChat and CV achieve similar overall performance, our method is more likely to yield improvements in target language tasks.

5.3 Source Language (English)

Figure 3 (right) shows the aggregated mean performance across seven languages for all source and adapted target models in English tasks. ElChat generally underperforms the source Chat baseline. However, the degree of performance degradation varies considerably depending on the task and model similar to §5.1. For

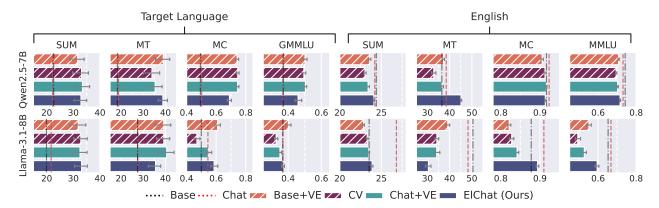


Figure 3: Aggregated mean performance across seven target languages for each model (error bars indicate 95% confidence interval). Full results are in Tables 9 and 10.

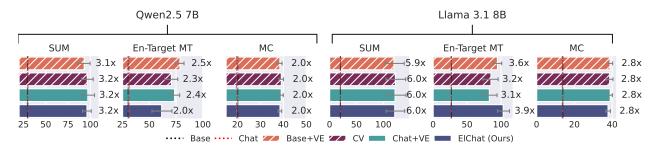


Figure 4: Aggregated mean inference speedup (tokens/s) across seven target languages. The value next to each bar represents the speedup ratio over Chat. Full results are in the Appendix (Tables 13 and 14).

instance, with Llama 3.1, ElChat exhibits substantial performance drops of 7 and 18 points on MMLU and MT, respectively. In contrast, the performance degradation observed with Qwen2.5 is less pronounced, with a maximum decrease of 1.6 points on MMLU. Interestingly, ElChat even demonstrates a 6.7-point improvement on MT with Qwen2.5. This improvement likely stems from two key factors: (1) ElChat's effective utilization of source tokens (95%) during generation, compared to other approaches (i.e. Base+VE, CV, and Chat+VE) that achieve at most 71% source token utilization; and (2) its successful early stopping, generating a similar number of tokens (33) as Chat (see Figures 6 and 7 in the Appendix).

Comparing ElChat and Chat+VE, we find that ElChat generally yields better or comparable performance across models and tasks, with the exception of MT with Llama 3.1. This improvement suggests that ElChat can generally alleviate catastrophic forgetting not only in chat and instruction-following tasks (§5.1) but also in source language tasks by injecting the source chat information into Chat+VE.

Conversely, CV exhibits poor performance on English tasks, typically falling short of ElChat in six out of eight cases. Moreover, the benefits of catastrophic forgetting mitigation are not consistently observed with CV, as it only outperforms its adapted base model, Base+VE, in three out of eight cases. This result somewhat contrasts with Huang et al. (2024), who highlight the benefits of using CV to mitigate catastrophic forgetting and improve knowledge retention and language ability. We speculate that modifying models through simple arithmetic operations, as in CV, may be less robust than our method. These results suggest that ElChat more effectively integrates target language abilities while mitigating performance degradation across chat, instruction-following, and source English tasks compared to CV.

6 Inference Efficiency

VE offers inference speedups on target language tasks by reducing text overfragmentation (§4.6). Since ElChat and CV involve modifications to model weights, they may increase the generation of source tokens,

[User] టౌలా ఒక బేకరీకి వెళ్లి, వివిధ రకాలైన పేస్ట్రీలను కొనుగోలు చేసింది. ఆమె డజను \$68 ఖరీదుతో 3 డజన్ల డోనట్లలను, డజను \$80 డాలర్లు ఖరీదుతో 2 డజన్ల మినీ కప్ కేకులను, డజను \$55 ఖరీదుతో 6 డజన్ల మినీ చీజీకేక్లలను కొనుగోలు చేసింది. మొత్తం ఖర్చు ఎంత?

Toula went to a bakery and bought a variety of pastries. She bought 3 dozen donuts for \$68 a dozen, 2 dozen mini cupcakes for \$80 a dozen, and 6 dozen mini cheesecakes for \$55 a dozen. What was the total cost?

 \rightarrow [E1Chat] మినీ చీజ్ \dot{s} క్లేక్లలు 6*55=330 డాలర్లు ఖరీదుతో 6 డజన్ల కొను- గోలు చేయబడ్డాయి. మినీ కప్ కేకులు 2*80=160 డాలర్లు ఖరీదుతో 2 డజన్ల కొనుగోలు చేయబడ్డాయి. డోనట్లు 3*68=204 డాలర్లు ఖరీదుతో 3 డజన్ల కొనుగోలు చేయబడ్డాయి. మొత్తం ఖర్చు 330+160+204=694 డాలర్లు. సమాధానం 694.

 $\label{lem:minicheese} \begin{tabular}{ll} Mini\ cheese cakes\ were\ purchased\ at\ a\ cost\ of\ 2*80=160\ dollars,\ 2\ dozen. \\ Mini\ cup cakes\ were\ purchased\ at\ a\ cost\ of\ 2*80=160\ dollars,\ 2\ dozen. \\ Donuts\ were\ purchased\ at\ a\ cost\ of\ 3*68=204\ dollars,\ 3\ dozen. \\ Total\ cost\ was\ 330+160+204=694\ dollars.\ Answer\ is\ 694. \\ \end{tabular}$

(a) Correct answer - Correct reasoning

[ሀser] রায়ান তাঁর বাগানে একদিনে 2টি ফুল লাগিয়েছেন। 15 দিন পরে, যদি 5টি না বেড়ে ওঠে তবে মোট কটি ফুল থাকবে?

Ryan planted 2 flowers in his garden in one day. After 15 days, if 5 do not grow, how many flowers will be left in total?

→[E1Chat] রায়ান তাঁর বাগানে 1 দিনে 2টি ফুল লাগিয়েছেন। 15 দিন পরে তিনি 2 * 15 = 30টি ফুল লাগিয়েছেন। তিনি 5টি ফুল লাগিয়েছেন না। তাই তাঁর বাগানে মোট 30 - 5 = 25টি ফুল থাকবে। উত্তর হল 25।

Ryan planted 2 flowers in his garden in 1 day. After 15 days he planted 2*15=30 flowers. He did not plant 5 flowers. So there will be a total of 30 - 5=25 flowers in his garden. The answer is 25.

(b) Correct answer - Wrong reasoning

Figure 5: Output examples on MGSM. We use Google Translate for translation. Few-shot demonstrations (conversation history) are omitted due to space constraints.

potentially slowing inference compared to Chat+VE and Base+VE. Furthermore, the inference efficiency of CV with VE has not been previously studied. Therefore, we investigate the inference efficiency of both methods. Figure 4 shows the aggregated mean inference speedups across seven languages and three target tasks.

Overall, both ElChat and CV achieve comparable speedups to their respective adapted models, Chat+VE and Base+VE, demonstrating 2.0x to 6.0x speedups over the source chat model, Chat. The largest drop is observed between ElChat and Chat+VE on the MT task with Qwen2.5 (0.4x). This likely happens because ElChat frequently terminates generation early (see Table 7), resulting in fewer generated tokens (and thus a smaller numerator in the tokens/second calculation). In summary, these results suggest that the model modifications introduced by ElChat and CV do not negatively impact the inference speedups provided by VE.

7 Analysis

To better understand the behavior of ElChat, we perform an ablation in chat and instruction-following tasks using Llama 3.1. We also conduct a qualitative analysis using MGSM to gain further insights.

Ablation. Table 2 shows the importance of each ElChat component. Removing either of the two components (§3) significantly reduces performance across chat and instruction-following tasks, demonstrating their complementarity in eliciting ElChat's abilities. For instance, ablating the weight copying (Copy) component, leaving only VE and model merging, causes performance to drop by an average of 8 points on IFE-val, 21 points on GSM8K, 14 points on

Table 2: Mean performance across languages for chat and instruction-following tasks using Llama 3.1. Ablation results in other tasks are available in Appendix B.

Model	IFEval	GSM8K	MGSM	MT-Bench
CV	.38.03	.33 _{.11}	.27.03	$3.04_{.20}$
ElChat	.47.04	.58.06	$.46_{.05}$	$2.92_{.27}$
– Merge	$.34_{.05}$	$.40_{.18}$	$.37_{.06}$	$2.53_{.22}$
- Copy	$.39_{.02}$.37.17	$.32_{.04}$	$2.65_{.23}$

MGSM, and 0.27 points on MT-Bench relative to ElChat. This substantially undermines the advantage of ElChat over CV as it greatly lags behind CV in MT-Bench and shows marginally better performance than CV with only a few points (up to 4 points on GSM8K) differences in other tasks, unlike at least 9 points difference observed between ElChat and CV. These results clearly demonstrate that while the individual components are established techniques, their synergistic effect within a chat model context is non-trivial, and their combination is essential for ElChat's strong performance.

Qualitative Analysis. Figure 5 presents examples of ElChat's output on MGSM, highlighting both successes and challenges. Case (a) showcases correct reasoning and answer generation in Telugu. However, case (b) demonstrates that even when providing a correct answer in Bengali, ElChat can exhibit wrong reasoning. The misinterpretation of "five flowers do not grow" as "Ryan did not plant five flowers" suggests a potential limitation in understanding nuanced language. Notably, in the same case, it correctly reasons in English that "5 did not grow". Focusing on improving target language abilities further during VE while mitigating catastrophic forgetting of chat and instruction-following could address this issue. For instance, making iterative model merging (Alexandrov et al., 2024) applicable to low-resource settings is a potential avenue for future investigation.

8 Conclusion

We introduced ElChat, a method for directly adapting chat models with VE using unlabeled data, eliminating the need for a base model and target chat data. To mitigate potential catastrophic forgetting in the adapted chat models after VE, ElChat elicits chat abilities by injecting information from the source chat model without requiring further training. Extensive experiments across safety, chat, and instruction-following, target language, and source language tasks demonstrated that ElChat outperforms the previous state-of-the-art CV approach in chat and instruction-following, and English tasks while being competitive and more robust in the target language and safety tasks. These results highlight ElChat's superior abilities.

Limitations

Continual Pre-training Methods. This paper uses a continual pre-training method proposed by Remy et al. (2024), which tunes the top and bottom two layers of a model and its embedding and language modeling head, for efficient and effective target language adaptation. Nonetheless, other continual pre-training methods exist, including adapter-based training (e.g. LoRA (Hu et al., 2022)) and full fine-tuning. It would be interesting to extensively investigate the effect of different training methods for future work, but this is beyond the scope of this paper.

Model Merging Methods. We experiment with linear and SLERP merging as representative model merging methods for simplicity. More recent methods like TIES (Yadav et al., 2023) and DARE-TIES (Yu et al., 2024) might perform even better in ElChat. Given the resource constraints, we leave this investigation for future work.

Languages. This paper covers seven typologically diverse languages, following previous work on language adaptation that has also tested a similar number of languages. For instance, Minixhofer et al. (2022) tested eight languages. Note that Huang et al. (2024) used three languages (i.e. Chinese, Traditional Chinese, and Korean) to verify the effectiveness of CV. Experimenting with more languages is an interesting avenue for future work but is out of the scope of this paper, given our limited computing capacity.

Chat and Instruction-following Evaluation. Our chat and instruction-following evaluation is mainly on English data except for MGSM due to the limited availability of manually curated language-specific evaluation resources. Azime et al. (2024) has also noted the instability of using LLM-as-a-Judge in Amharic, which is also one of our experimental languages. It would be an interesting avenue to explore more chat and instruction-following evaluation in target languages for future work. We hope our work inspires the development of extensive evaluation benchmarks in low-resource languages.

Ethical Considerations

Although we conducted extensive experiments across diverse public datasets to validate the effectiveness of ElChat, these datasets do not fully represent all real-world scenarios. Therefore, any model derived from or based on this work should be used with caution.

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A Experimental Setup

A.1 Chat Template and Special Tokens

Model-specific chat templates and special tokens are accessible via the following links:

- Qwen2.5: https://huggingface.co/Qwen/Qwen2.5-7B-Instruct/blob/main/tokenizer_config.json
- Llama 3.1: https://huggingface.co/meta-llama/Llama-3.1-8B-Instruct/blob/main/toke nizer_config.json

Below are excerpts from the chat templates of each model with placeholders for a prompt and output:

Qwen2.5.

```
<|im_start|>system
You are Qwen, created by Alibaba Cloud.
You are a helpful assistant.
<|im_end|>
<|im_start|>user
{prompt}
<|im_end|>
<|im_start|>assistant
{output}
```

Llama 3.1.

```
<|begin_of_text|>
<|start_header_id|>system
<|end_header_id|>
Cutting Knowledge Date: December 2023
Today Date: 26 Jul 2024
<|eot_id|>
<|start_header_id|>user
<|end_header_id|>
{prompt}
<|eot_id|>
<|start_header_id|>assistant
<|end_header_id|>
{output}
```

A.2 Prompt Template

We translate the English prompt templates provided by Ahia et al. (2023) for SUM with a machine translation API, following Yong et al. (2023). For MT and MC, we formulate a task-specific English prompt, followed by machine translation for each language. For the remaining tasks, except for MT-BENCH, we use the default templates provided in lm-evaluation-harness (Gao et al., 2023). For MT-BENCH, we use the default template provided in LightEval (Fourrier et al., 2023). Table 3 shows the prompt templates used in our evaluation. Note that we do not make any changes to the task-specific prompt to allow for a fair comparison between models with and without a chat template (i.e. Base and Chat, respectively).

Hyperparameters	Values
Batch size	32
Number of training steps	30,517
Adam ϵ	1e-8
Adam β_1	0.9
Adam β_2	0.999
Sequence length	512
Learning rate	5e-5
Learning rate scheduler	cosine
Warmup steps	First 5% of steps
Weight decay	0.01
Attention dropout	0.0
Training precision	BF16

Table 4: Hyperparameters for continual pre-training.

Table 5: Parameters for non-greedy generative tasks: MT and SUM.

Parameters	Values
Temperature	0.8
Repetition penalty	1.1
Top k	40
Top p	0.9
Beam width	5
Sampling	True
Early stopping	True
Maximum number of generated tokens	128

A.3 Implementation Details

Our experimental design is based on the findings from Tejaswi et al. (2024). They report that (1) there are no significant gains when adding more than 10K tokens to the source vocabulary, and (2) additional CPT in the order of millions of tokens is sufficient for model adaptation. Given this, we set the vocabulary size of the auxiliary target language tokenizer $|\mathcal{V}_{\text{aux}}|$ to 50K across languages and the number of new target tokens k to 10K. We train each model for 500M tokens with a batch size of 32, a maximum learning rate of 5e-5, and a sequence length of 512.

Tokenizer Training. We train tokenizers using Hugging Face Tokenizers.

Preprocessing. We preprocess datasets with Hugging Face Datasets (Lhoest et al., 2021).

Continual Pre-training. We implement our models using PyTorch (Ansel et al., 2024) and Hugging Face Transformers (Wolf et al., 2020). Table 4 lists the hyperparameters in CPT.

Model Merging. To ensure a smooth transition between layers, we use a 0.3:0.7= Chat: Chat+VE mixing ratio for the top and bottom layers of all merged models, favoring Chat+VE as these layers are adjacent to the embeddings and language modeling head of Chat+VE. For the second top and bottom layers, we use 0.5:0.5= Chat: Chat+VE, balancing the contributions of Chat and Chat+VE.

Evaluation. We use Hugging Face LightEval⁸ for evaluation on all tasks except for IFEVAL, GSM8K and MGSM. For IFEVAL, GSM8K, and MGSM, we use lm-evaluation-harness (Gao et al., 2023). To compute ROUGE-L, we split sentences with an mT5 (Xue et al., 2021) tokenizer as preprocessing following Maynez et al. (2023) and subsequently call rouge_scorer⁹ to compute the metric. To compute chrF and chrF++, we use SacreBLEU (Post, 2018). For safety evaluation, we follow Cahyawijaya et al. (2024) and use their implementation available on GitHub: https://github.com/IndoNLP/cendol.

Table 5 lists the parameters used during evaluation for generative tasks: MT and SUM. To make a fair comparison, we do not conduct any generation parameter tuning and use the same ones across all approaches.

Hardware. We use either a single NVIDIA A100 (80GB), NVIDIA H100 (80GB), or NVIDIA GH200 (96GB) for CPT. For evaluation, we use a single NVIDIA A100 (80GB) for all Llama 3.1 models and a single NVIDIA H100 (80GB) for all Qwen2.5 models to ensure accurate measurement of inference efficiency.

Model Links. We list all the source model URLs in the following:

- Qwen2.5 (Chat): https://huggingface.co/Qwen/Qwen2.5-7B-Instruct
- Qwen2.5 (Base): https://huggingface.co/Qwen/Qwen2.5-7B
- Llama 3.1 (Chat): https://huggingface.co/meta-llama/Llama-3.1-8B-Instruct
- Llama 3.1 (Base): https://huggingface.co/meta-llama/Llama-3.1-8B

Table 6: MGSM performance in Bengali (bn) and Telugu (te) by model. The experimental settings are the same as GSM8K. (L) stands for linear merging.

(a) Qwen2.5 7B

Model	E :	M
	bn	te
Chat	.23	.06
CV	.60	.27
Chat+CPT	.24	.14
Chat+VE	.39	.27
ElChat (Ours)	.46	.35

(b) Llama 3.1 8B

Model	\mathbf{EM}							
	bn	te						
Chat	.30	.12						
CV	.31	.24						
Chat+CPT	.12	.02						
Chat+VE	.26	.28						
ElChat (Ours)	.51	.41						
ElChat \Copy	.28	.36						
ElChat \Merge	.43	.30						
ElChat (L)	.53	.42						

B Results

B.1 Task Performance

• Safety, Chat, and Instruction-following: Tables 7 and 8 provide a detailed breakdown of the task performance results for Qwen2.5 and Llama 3.1 across safety, chat, and instruction-following tasks. Table 6 shows the results of Chat+CPT and ElChat-related ablation models in MGSM.

⁸https://github.com/huggingface/lighteval

⁹https://github.com/google-research/google-research/tree/master/rouge

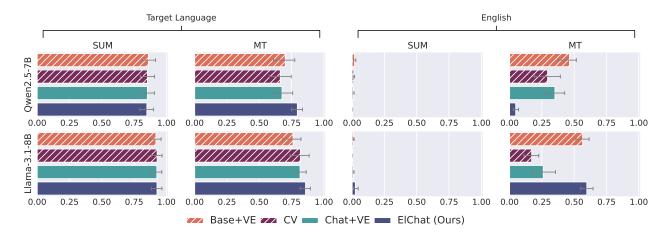


Figure 6: Aggregated average ratio of target tokens in output per sample across seven target languages for each model (error bars indicate 95% confidence interval).

- Target Language and Source (English): Tables 9 and 10 provide a detailed breakdown of the task performance results for Qwen2.5 and Llama 3.1 across target language and source (English) language tasks.
- sum and mt Results with Auxiliary Metrics: Tables 11 and 12 provide a detailed breakdown of SUM and MT performance results, measured by ROUGE-L for SUM and chrF++ for MT, for Qwen2.5 and Llama 3.1, respectively.

B.2 Inference Efficiency

Tables 13 and 14 provide a detailed breakdown of the inference efficiency results for Qwen2.5 and Llama 3.1, respectively.

B.3 Ratio of Target Language Tokens

Figure 6 shows the aggregated mean ratio of target new tokens in output per sample across seven target languages for each model.

B.4 Number of Generated Tokens

Figure 7 shows the aggregated average number of generated tokens per sample across seven target languages for each model.

C Analysis and Discussion

C.1 CPT-only vs. VE

Comparing the adapted chat models (Chat+VE and ElChat) with the CPT-only model (Chat+CPT) in Tables 9 and 10, we observe three key trends: (1) Chat+VE generally performs better than Chat+CPT on target language tasks across both models; (2) Chat+CPT often outperforms Chat+VE on MT tasks; and (3) ElChat either matches or surpasses Chat+CPT on nearly all tasks and models, except for Target MC and GMMLU with Qwen2.5 and target-to-English MT with Llama 3.1. This performance advantage of ElChat is also confirmed for chat and instruction-following tasks (Tables 6, 7, and 8), where ElChat substantially outperforms Chat+CPT in almost all cases across languages, tasks, and models.

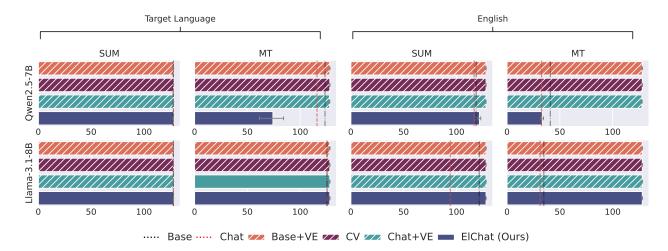


Figure 7: Aggregated average number of generated tokens per sample across seven target languages for each model (error bars indicate 95% confidence interval).

We also observe a similar trend between Base+VE and the CPT-only adapted base model (Base+CPT) in Tables 9 and 10: Base+VE often outperforms Base+CPT in most of the tasks, while Base+CPT excels in target-to-English MT across models.

These results somewhat contradict the recent observations (Downey et al., 2023; Yamaguchi et al., 2024a;b) that CPT-only models often perform better than vocabulary adapted models, possibly due to the robustly aligned original embeddings. However, Fujii et al. (2024) reported that "the overall impact of vocabulary expansion on performance is minor." Further, Dobler & de Melo (2024) also claimed that "we do not see a clear trend of better performance with or without tokenizer swapping" for their vocabulary adaptation experiments. We hypothesize that the superiority of CPT is greatly affected by the amount of CPT data, and it can be more apparent in low-resource settings as in Yamaguchi et al. (2024b), where new embeddings are likely to be not well aligned.

It is important to note that the CPT-only models (i.e. Base+CPT and Chat+CPT) have no speedups at all (Tables 13 and 14) as they use the same vocabulary as the source models (i.e. Base and Chat).

C.2 Additional Analysis by Language

We conduct additional analysis of the target language task performance of models by language. Figure 8 presents the aggregated mean performance across three target language tasks (i.e. Target SUM, Englishto-target MT, and Target MC). Figure 9 shows the aggregated mean performance across *generative* target language tasks (i.e. Target SUM and English-to-target MT).

Performance improvements achieved with VE are evident across languages and models. Overall, we observe from Figure 8 that ElChat consistently outperforms Base and Chat in all the target languages across models.

The extent to which adapted chat models improve target language task performance substantially varies by language and model. We observe from Figures 8 and 9 that ElChat substantially improves their target language performance over Base and Chat across models in Amharic, Burmese (Myanmar), and Sinhala. However, its improvement in Bengali remains minimal for both Qwen2.5 and Llama 3.1, especially in generative tasks (Figure 9). Similarly, for Llama 3.1, the performance gains in Tamil, Telugu, and Gujarati are less pronounced, particularly in generative tasks (Figure 9). We hypothesize that this disparity strongly correlates with the amount of language-specific data used to train the source chat model. Note that similar findings have already been reported by Yamaguchi et al. (2024a) and Tejaswi et al. (2024), interalia.

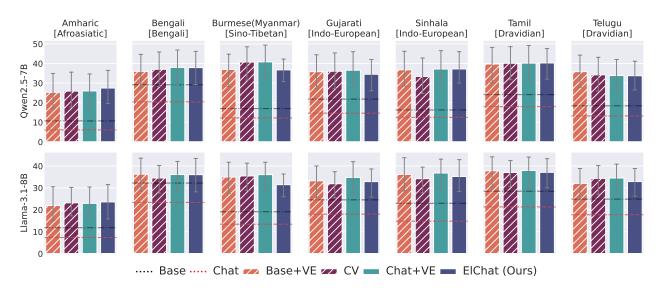


Figure 8: Aggregated mean performance across target language tasks for each model by language (error bars indicate 95% confidence interval).

How many languages do source chat LLMs support? The exact language coverage of the source LLMs remains unclear, as none explicitly list their supported languages.

Qwen 2.5 (Qwen Team, 2024; Yang et al., 2024) reportedly supports over 29 languages, including Chinese, English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Italian, Russian, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Thai, and Arabic. However, none of our target languages are explicitly included in this list.

Llama 3.1 (Dubey et al., 2024) officially supports English, German, French, Italian, Portuguese, Hindi, Spanish, and Thai. However, it employs a FastText-based language identification model to categorize documents into 176 languages during pre-processing, suggesting that some of our target languages may be included in its pre-training data.

Additionally, Llama 3.1 reportedly utilizes 15T multilingual tokens (Dubey et al., 2024) for pre-training, while Qwen2.5 uses 18T tokens in total (not exclusively multilingual) (Qwen Team, 2024; Yang et al., 2024). This suggests that Llama 3.1 likely benefits from exposure to a broader set of languages. The relatively modest performance improvements observed for Gujarati, Tamil, and Telugu in Llama 3.1 could indicate that these languages were already present in its training data.

Approximating the language coverage. We can roughly estimate the language coverage of the source LLMs using MADLAD-400. The rationale is that these open-weight models are generally trained mainly on a mixture of publicly available data (Gemma Team et al., 2024; Dubey et al., 2024). Given that MADLAD-400 is sourced from CommonCrawl as mentioned in §4, its data distribution can potentially approximate the relative coverage of our target languages.

Table 15 presents the data statistics of MADLAD-400 for our target languages. We observe that Burmese, Amharic, and Sinhala have the fewest articles and total characters in MADLAD-400. Notably, these languages also exhibit the largest performance gains in our experiments. This suggests a strong correlation between the size of language-specific data in MADLAD-400 and the effectiveness of VE in task performance. On the basis of these results, we hypothesize that the two source LLMs used in our experiments might have been trained on very limited language-specific data, or possibly not at all, for Burmese, Amharic, and Sinhala. In contrast, Tamil, Telugu, Bengali, and Gujarati each have over 1 million articles, making them at least 7.4 times larger than the Burmese dataset. This further suggests a higher likelihood of their inclusion in the pre-training data of the source LLMs.

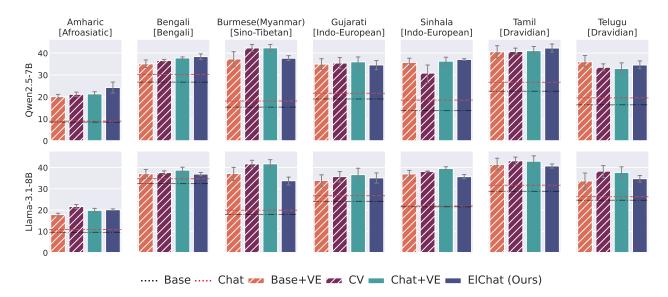


Figure 9: Aggregated mean performance across target language generative tasks (SUM and MT) for each model by language (error bars indicate 95% confidence interval).

Table 15: Data size of MADLAD-400 Kudugunta et al. (2023) for each language.

Language	Number of articles	Number of characters
Tamil	5.6M	10.6B
Telugu	2.5M	5.1B
Bengali	4.3M	4.3B
Gujarati	1.3M	2.1B
Sinhala	788K	1.9B
Amharic	245.2K	509M
Burmese	176.5 K	1.3B

D License

This study uses various publicly available models and datasets with different licenses, as detailed below, all of which permit their use for academic research.

D.1 Models

Qwen 2.5 is distributed under Apache License 2.0. Llama 3.1 is licensed under the Llama 3 Community License Agreement. 10

D.2 Datasets

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Table 3: Prompt template for each task and language.

Task	Language	Template
En-Target MT	English Amharic Bengali Burmese Gujarati Sinhala Tamil	Translate English to {X: a target language}: {sentence} = እንግሊዝኛን ወደ አማርኛ ተርጉም: {sentence} = ইংরেজি থেকে বাংলায় অনুবাদ করুন: {sentence} = အင်္ဂလိပ်မှ မြန်မာသို့ ဘာသာပြန်ပါ။: {sentence} = અંગ્રેજીમાંથી ગુજરાતીમાં અનુવાદ કરો: {sentence} = ඉංග్రීසි සිංහලයට පරිවර්තනය කරන්න: {sentence} = ஆங்கிலத்திலிருந்து தமிழுக்கு மொழிபெயர்க்கவும்: {sentence} =
	Telugu	ఆంగ్లం నుండి తెలుగుకు అనువదించండి: {sentence} =
Target-En MT	English Amharic Bengali Burmese Gujarati Sinhala Tamil Telugu	Translate {X: a target language} to English: {sentence} = λကင်း စင် λን၅ጲ ዝን ተርጉም: {sentence} = বাংলা থেকে ইংরেজিতে অনুবাদ করুন: {sentence} = မြန်မာမှ အင်္ဂလိပ်သို့ ဘာသာပြန်ပါ။: {sentence} = ગુજરાતીમાંથી અંગ્રેજીમાં અનુવાદ કરો: {sentence} = ဗီဝဲဇာဇ္ဝဲအေတ် စုဝဖ္ယီဗီးဝေ ဗဝိဝဲဝ်ဇာစာය කරන්න: {sentence} = தமிழிலிருந்து ஆங்கிலத்திற்கு மொழிபெயர்க்கவும்: {sentence} = తెలుగు నుండి ఆంగ్లంకు అనువదించండి: {sentence} =
	English	Write a short summary of the following text in {language}.
	Amharic	Article: {text} Summary: የታቸኛው ጽሁፍን በአማርኛ አጭር በማድረግ አሳትረኝ። : {text} አጭር መግለጫ:
	Bengali Burmese	নিম্নলিখিত লেখাটি বাংলায় সংক্ষেপে লিখুন।: {text} সংক্ষিপ্তসার: အောက်ပါစာသားကို မြန်မာဘာသာဖြင့် အကျဉ်းချုပ်ရေးပါ။ ဆောင်းပါး:
SUM	Gujarati Sinhala	{text} အကျဉ်းချုပ်: નીચે આપેલા લખાણને ગુજરાતીમાં સંક્ષિપ્ત લખો.: {text} સંક્ષેપ: පහත පාඨයේ සාරාංශය සිංහලෙන් ලියන්න. ලිපිය: {text} සාරාංශය:
	Tamil	கீழே உள்ள உரையை தமிழில் சுருக்கமாக எழுதுங்கள்: $\{ \text{text} \}$ சுருக்கம்: $\{ \text{sod aush average} \}$ செல்ல கூற்கள் சூற்கையில் சூற்கையில் கூற்கையில் கூற்கே கூற்கையில் கூற்கையில் கூற்கே கூற்கக்கமாக கூற்கே
	Telugu	ಕ್ರಿಂದ ಎದನಂ ಯುತ್ತ ನೌರಾಣಿಕ ಅಲುಗಲ ರಾಯಂಡಿ. ಎಳ್ಳನಂ. {text}
	English	{passage} \n Question: {question} \n A. {answer 1}\n B. {answer 2}\n C. {answer 3}\n D. {answer 4}\n Answer:
	Amharic	${passage} \ n \ T.e. {question} \ n \ A. {answer 1} \ B. {answer 2} \ C. {answer 3} \ D. {answer 4} \ man:$
	Bengali	2}\n C. {answer 3}\n D. {answer 4}\n = Mi. {passage} \n প্রস্ন: {question} \n A. {answer 1}\n B. {answer 2}\n C. {answer 3}\n D. {answer 4}\n উত্তর:
	Burmese	{passage} \n မေးခွန်း: {question} \n A. {answer 1}\n B. {answer 2}\n C. {answer 3}\n D. {answer 4}\n အဖြေ:
MC	Gujarati	{passage} \n ມង: {question} \n A. {answer 1}\n B. {answer 2}\n C. {answer 3}\n D. {answer 4}\n જવાબ:
	Sinhala	{passage} \n පුශ්නය: {question} \n A. {answer 1}\n B. {an-
	Tamil	swer 2}\n C. {answer 3}\n D. {answer 4}\n පීළිතුර: {passage} \n கேள்வி: {question} \n A. {answer 1}\n B. {an-
	Telugu	swer 2}\n C. {answer 3}\n D. {answer 4}\n பதில்: {passage} \n ప్రశ్న: {question} \n A. {answer 1}\n B. {answer 2}\n C. {answer 3}\n D. {answer 4}\n සනසා:

Table 7: Qwen2.5 2 7B chat, instruction-following, and safety performance. Darker blue and red shades indicate higher positive and negative relative performance change over Chat per language and task, respectively. Experiments are limited to models that use the chat template, except for IFEVAL to verify the performance gain of CV over its adapted base model, Base+VE.

			I	FEva	ıl			GSM8K								MT-Bench								
	am	bn	my	gu	si	$_{\mathrm{ta}}$	te	am	$_{ m bn}$	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te			
Base+VE	.19	.16	.14	.15	.16	.17	.14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
CV	.41	.36	.45	.36	.38	.38	.37	.65	.66	.73	.57	.56	.11	.25	2.92	3.35	3.54	3.41	3.39	3.22	3.33			
Chat	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	4.19	4.19	4.19	4.19	4.19	4.19	4.19			
Chat+CPT	.40	.43	.41	.31	.34	.35	.36	.63	.70	.66	.68	.70	.60	.71	3.55	3.51	3.52	2.93	3.19	3.38	3.29			
Chat+VE	.39	.38	.45	.39	.40	.39	.40	.43	.63	.74	.47	.57	.29	.44	3.12	3.43	3.67	3.31	3.50	3.34	3.21			
ElChat	.52	.54	.59	.52	.53	.52	.55	.66	.72	.74	.68	.72	.71	.70	3.30	3.59	3.81	3.58	3.75	3.69	3.58			
			Tru	thful	QA			ToxiGen							ImplicitHate									
	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te			
CV	.55	.57	.52	.58	.50	.62	.60	.21	.23	.22	.24	.23	.22	.22	.16	.20	.19	.22	.20	.21	.19			
Chat	.31	.50	.33	.41	.32	.33	.32	.10	.12	.07	.10	.09	.09	.09	.09	.12	.09	.10	.07	.09	.09			
Chat+CPT	.55	.59	.38	.56	.47	.59	.55	.17	.17	.10	.13	.13	.14	.12	.16	.16	.11	.13	.13	.14	.12			
Chat+VE	.59	.56	.51	.60	.49	.59	.56	.18	.21	.19	.21	.21	.19	.20	.14	.19	.18	.20	.19	.18	.18			
ElChat	.54	.60	.49	.58	.53	.60	.61	.12	.18	.17	.17	.16	.16	.16	.09	.17	.17	.17	.14	.15	.15			

Table 8: Llama 3.1 8B chat, instruction-following, and safety performance. Darker blue and red shades indicate higher positive and negative relative performance change over Chat per language and task, respectively. (L) stands for linear merging. Experiments are limited to models that use the chat template, except for IFEVAL to verify the performance gain of CV over its adapted base model, Base+VE.

			I	FEva	ıl			GSM8K								MT-Bench									
	am	$_{ m bn}$	my	gu	si	$_{\mathrm{ta}}$	te	am	$_{ m bn}$	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	$_{ m bn}$	my	gu	si	ta	te				
Base+VE	.17	.14	.13	.11	.15	.12	.12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
CV	.38	.39	.42	.35	.41	.35	.35	.10	.27	.34	.30	.43	.40	.48	2.93	3.10	3.49	2.84	3.03	3.04	2.88				
Chat	.73	.73	.73	.73	.73	.73	.73	.84	.84	.84	.84	.84	.84	.84	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93	3.93				
Chat+CPT	.18	.31	.37	.23	.32	.36	.36	.46	.51	.58	.43	.51	.51	.45	2.44	2.23	2.61	2.48	2.76	2.15	2.72				
Chat+VE	.33	.37	.37	.32	.37	.36	.28	.26	.55	.38	.29	.44	.35	.07	2.28	2.85	2.64	2.29	2.54	2.71	2.34				
ElChat	.45	.44	.54	.44	.47	.51	.47	.57	.57	.72	.56	.60	.56	.52	2.86	2.72	3.56	2.81	2.79	2.96	2.76				
ElChat \Merge	.27	.38	.41	.30	.38	.33	.31	.17	.54	.58	.42	.55	.47	.09	2.29	2.79	2.86	2.42	2.70	2.28	2.40				
ElChat \Copy	.40	.37	.43	.35	.40	.41	.39	.15	.44	.66	.14	.42	.41	.36	2.61	2.82	3.09	2.45	2.41	2.70	2.48				
ElChat (L)	.48	.44	.55	.42	.50	.50	.48	.56	.55	.74	.55	.60	.55	.51	2.91	2.97	3.58	2.69	2.76	3.23	2.75				
			Tru	thful	QA			ToxiGen							ImplicitHate										
	am	$_{ m bn}$	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	$_{ m bn}$	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te				
CV	.11	.30	.25	.10	.15	.42	.39	.17	.19	.19	.21	.17	.18	.20	.11	.17	.17	.20	.15	.16	.17				
Chat	.34	.43	.15	.46	.30	.45	.40	.08	.12	.07	.09	.08	.09	.08	.09	.11	.07	.10	.08	.09	.08				
Chat+CPT	.00	.06	.80	.74	.94	.00	.71	.16	.17	.11	.14	.13	.12	.13	.18	.17	.12	.15	.14	.13	.13				
Chat+VE	.30	.29	.09	.06	.30	.27	.21	.18	.22	.17	.22	.19	.21	.23	.14	.20	.17	.21	.17	.20	.21				
ElChat	.43	.44	.25	.15	.48	.22	.65	.10	.18	.14	.18	.14	.17	.15	.06	.16	.14	.17	.12	.16	.13				
ElChat \Merge	.89	.33	.09	.33	.28	.77	.53	.15	.21	.18	.21	.19	.21	.22	.06	.17	.15	.18	.14	.16	.14				
ElChat \Copy	.42	.45	.27	.16	.52	.26	.60	.10	.19	.15	.19	.16	.18	.16	.06	.17	.15	.18	.14	.16	.14				
ElChat (L)	.43	.44	.23	.14	.46	.24	.63	.10	.18	.14	.18	.14	.17	.15	.06	.16	.14	.17	.12	.16	.13				

Table 9: Qwen2.5 7B task performance. Darker blue and red shades indicate higher positive and negative relative performance change over Chat per language and task, respectively. Note that GMMLU does not cover Burmese (my), Gujarati (gu), and Tamil (ta).

			Т	arget su	m			ı		Englis	$a \rightarrow Tar$	get mt			Target mc								
	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te		
Base	15.801	29.001	21.700	21.900	23.301	26.50.0	20.200	4.60 1	$32.2_{0.0}$	15.702	$22.4_{0.1}$	10.601	24.80.2	18.30.0	.32	.70	.42	.57	.44	.55	.46		
Base+CPT	17.300	29.20.0	21.700	21.400	23.900	$26.6_{0.0}$	$20.4_{0.1}$	31.201	42.501	30.900	37.60 1	35.501	43.80 2	38.001	.74	.76	.67	.70	.74	.69	.66		
Base+VE	$18.0_{0.1}$	$34.4_{0.0}$	$36.5_{0.1}$	$29.5_{0.0}$	$37.3_{0.1}$	$34.2_{0.3}$	$31.4_{0.0}$	$22.6_{0.1}$	$38.8_{0.1}$	$44.2_{0.1}$	$40.3_{0.1}$	$38.3_{0.1}$	$46.3_{0.2}$	$42.5_{0.2}$.76	.76	.71	.75	.78	.74	.70		
CV	$19.0_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$35.6_{0.0}$	$38.5_{0.0}$	$29.7_{0.1}$	$38.5_{0.0}$	$38.5_{0.0}$	$31.9_{0.0}$	$22.5_{0.0}$	$36.9_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$45.6_{0.3}$	$39.2_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$21.2_{0.0}$	$40.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$32.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$.74	.75	.73	.74	.79	.76	.71		
Chat	$14.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$30.4_{0.0}$	$19.1_{0.0}$	$22.1_{0.0}$	$22.8_{0.0}$	$27.7_{0.0}$	$19.1_{0.0}$	$3.4_{0.2}$	$30.2_{0.0}$	$17.2_{0.1}$	$21.2_{0.1}$	$14.3_{0.1}$	$25.7_{0.1}$	$20.1_{0.0}$.35	.69	.39	.58	.47	.54	.49		
Chat+CPT	$18.4_{0.0}$	$32.2_{0.0}$	$22.7_{0.0}$	$24.1_{0.0}$	$26.9_{0.0}$	$29.1_{0.0}$	$22.6_{0.0}$	$30.9_{0.0}$	$42.1_{0.0}$	$30.3_{0.0}$	$36.5_{0.0}$	$33.5_{0.0}$	$42.6_{0.0}$	$36.3_{0.0}$.75	.75	.64	.68	.73	.72	.67		
Chat+VE	$19.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$36.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$38.7_{0.0}$	$29.7_{0.0}$	$38.9_{0.1}$	$38.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$32.2_{0.0}$	$22.9_{0.1}$	$38.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$45.2_{0.0}$	$40.0_{0.2}$	$31.7_{0.5}$	$40.4_{0.3}$	$28.9_{0.2}$.74	.76	.73	.75	.78	.75	.71		
ElChat	$18.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$35.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$36.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$29.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$37.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$37.8_{0.0}$	$30.7_{0.0}$	$28.1_{0.2}$	$40.8_{0.2}$	$42.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.2}}$	$38.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.2}}$	$37.3_{0.2}$	$45.8_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$38.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$.70	.72	.67	.68	.74	.70	.63		
-			Eı	nglish su	ım			$Target \rightarrow English mt$						English mc									
	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te		
Base	24.40.0	24.40.0	24.40.0	24.40.0	24.40.0	24.40.0	24.40.0	22.70.1	$52.3_{0.2}$	26.60.1	$48.8_{0.2}$	$27.0_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	36.70.1	$41.4_{0.3}$.92	.92	.92	.92	.92	.92	.92		
Base+CPT	$22.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$20.6_{0.2}$	$23.4_{0.1}$	$14.9_{0.1}$	$23.3_{0.1}$	$23.6_{0.0}$	$22.0_{0.1}$	$45.8_{0.1}$	$44.2_{0.1}$	$40.8_{0.1}$	$46.1_{0.2}$	$43.8_{0.1}$	$42.4_{0.1}$	$46.5_{0.2}$.90	.90	.90	.90	.90	.91	.89		
Base+VE	$24.3_{0.0}$	$23.6_{0.0}$	$23.8_{0.0}$	$23.4_{0.0}$	$23.5_{0.0}$	$23.4_{0.0}$	$23.2_{0.1}$	$35.6_{0.2}$	$37.6_{0.2}$	$37.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$38.9_{0.1}$	$37.7_{0.1}$	$36.2_{0.3}$	$37.6_{0.0}$.90	.90	.90	.91	.91	.92	.91		
CV	$23.6_{0.0}$	$22.5_{0.0}$	$22.9_{0.0}$	$23.2_{0.0}$	$23.2_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$22.9_{0.0}$	$23.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$31.6_{0.1}$	$33.7_{0.2}$	$28.3_{0.6}$	$31.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$34.1_{0.1}$	$34.0_{0.2}$	$36.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$.91	.91	.91	.92	.92	.92	.92		
Chat	$24.2_{0.0}$	$24.2_{0.0}$	$24.2_{0.0}$	$24.2_{0.0}$	$24.2_{0.0}$	$24.2_{0.0}$	$24.2_{0.0}$	$25.2_{0.0}$	$52.9_{0.0}$	$29.8_{0.1}$	$49.4_{0.1}$	$31.1_{0.0}$	$38.6_{0.0}$	$42.2_{0.1}$.92	.92	.92	.92	.92	.92	.92		
Chat+CPT	$23.4_{0.0}$	$22.3_{0.1}$	$23.0_{0.0}$	$20.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$23.3_{0.0}$	$23.0_{0.0}$	$22.7_{0.0}$	$47.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$43.5_{0.0}$	$29.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$47.9_{0.2}$	$44.8_{0.0}$	$40.1_{0.1}$	$47.9_{0.1}$.91	.91	.91	.91	.92	.91	.91		
Chat+VE	$24.1_{0.1}$	$22.9_{0.0}$	$23.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$23.5_{0.0}$	$23.5_{0.0}$	$23.3_{0.0}$	$23.0_{0.0}$	$35.2_{0.2}$	$35.5_{0.1}$	$33.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$38.2_{0.1}$	$38.2_{0.1}$	$37.2_{0.0}$	$38.5_{0.1}$.92	.92	.91	.92	.91	.92	.91		
ElChat	$24.4_{0.0}$	$24.1_{0.0}$	$24.0_{0.0}$	$24.1_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$24.3_{0.0}$	$24.2_{0.0}$	$23.8_{0.0}$	$44.7_{0.0}$	$44.4_{0.1}$	$45.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$46.4_{0.0}$	$45.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$44.8_{0.1}$	$44.4_{0.1}$.91	.91	.92	.91	.91	.92	.91		
			Tai	rget gmi	mlu					En	glish mr	nlu											
	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te									
Base	.31	.47	-	-	.34	-	.36	.74	.74	.74	.74	.74	.74	.74	Ì								
Base+CPT	.48	.53	-	-	.48	-	.47	.71	.69	.71	.71	.70	.70	.70									
Base+VE	.50	.52	-	-	.51	-	.48	.70	.71	.72	.71	.71	.71	.71									
CV	.49	.51	-	-	.51	-	.47	.69	.70	.69	.69	.70	.69	.69									
Chat	.31	.47	-	-	.35	-	.35	.73	.73	.73	.73	.73	.73	.73									
Chat+CPT	.47	.52	-	-	.48	-	.48	.70	.71	.71	.70	.70	.70	.70									
Chat+VE	.51	.51	-	-	.50	-	.49	.70	.70	.71	.70	.70	.70	.70									
ElChat	.49	.46	-	-	.46	-	.43	.71	.71	.72	.71	.72	.72	.71									

Table 10: Llama 3.1 8B task performance. Darker blue and red shades indicate higher positive and negative relative performance change over Chat per language and task, respectively. (L) stands for linear merging. Note that GMMLU does not cover Burmese (my), Gujarati (gu), and Tamil (ta).

			T	arget su	m			$\mathbf{English} \to \mathbf{Target} \ \mathbf{mt}$									Target mc							
	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	$_{\mathrm{bn}}$	my	${\rm gu}$	si	ta	te			
Base	$11.9_{0.1}$	$27.5_{0.0}$	$18.5_{0.0}$	$19.9_{0.0}$	$20.2_{0.0}$	$23.3_{0.1}$	$18.4_{0.0}$	$9.8_{0.1}$	$39.5_{0.0}$	$21.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$30.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$24.2_{0.1}$	$36.2_{0.2}$	$31.0_{0.1}$.35	.62	.44	.51	.52	.55	.51			
Base+CPT	$10.9_{0.2}$	$27.5_{0.1}$	$18.2_{0.0}$	$19.4_{0.0}$	$20.8_{0.1}$	$22.8_{0.0}$	$18.1_{0.0}$	$24.3_{0.0}$	$41.0_{0.0}$	$26.5_{0.1}$	$35.9_{0.1}$	$31.5_{0.1}$	$39.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$34.5_{0.0}$.43	.46	.29	.31	.34	.37	.26			
Base+VE	$17.4_{0.0}$	$34.1_{0.1}$	$36.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$29.5_{0.0}$	$36.7_{0.0}$	$37.4_{0.1}$	$31.1_{0.0}$	$19.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$40.7_{0.1}$	$43.4_{0.2}$	$39.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$40.3_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$48.1_{0.1}$	$42.5_{0.1}$.64	.66	.58	.61	.67	.57	.55			
CV	$19.5_{0.0}$	$35.6_{0.0}$	$37.4_{0.0}$	$29.8_{0.0}$	$37.8_{0.0}$	$38.3_{0.0}$	$31.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$23.5_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$38.7_{0.0}$	$45.1_{0.1}$	$39.2_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$38.6_{0.2}$	$46.2_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$43.4_{0.0}$.53	.53	.39	.44	.48	.43	.48			
Chat	$12.2_{0.0}$	$29.8_{0.0}$	$18.6_{0.0}$	$22.4_{0.0}$	$22.0_{0.0}$	$26.5_{0.0}$	$20.4_{0.1}$	$9.5_{0.1}$	$39.7_{\scriptstyle{0.1}}$	$21.3_{0.0}$	$31.1_{0.0}$	$21.8_{0.0}$	$36.8_{0.0}$	$32.2_{\scriptstyle 0.1}$.36	.65	.42	.56	.62	.61	.59			
Chat+CPT	$11.2_{0.0}$	$26.8_{0.0}$	$18.8_{0.0}$	$20.9_{0.1}$	$20.7_{0.0}$	$23.4_{0.0}$	$19.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$24.1_{0.0}$	$40.0_{0.1}$	$26.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$34.9_{0.0}$	$31.3_{0.0}$	$39.3_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$34.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$.34	.32	.28	.26	.29	.31	.27			
Chat+VE	$17.9_{0.2}$	$35.4_{0.0}$	$37.1_{0.0}$	$29.9_{0.0}$	$38.1_{0.2}$	$37.6_{0.0}$	$31.7_{0.1}$	$22.0_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.4}}$	$41.2_{0.1}$	$45.9_{0.1}$	$41.3_{0.1}$	$41.3_{0.2}$	$49.0_{0.1}$	$43.3_{0.2}$.61	.58	.43	.59	.59	.50	.52			
ElChat	$19.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$35.1_{0.1}$	$36.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$29.6_{0.1}$	$38.1_{0.1}$	$38.4_{0.0}$	$31.2_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$21.1_{0.1}$	$38.1_{0.1}$	$36.1_{0.2}$	$38.9_{0.2}$	$34.6_{0.2}$	$42.5_{0.3}$	$37.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.3}$.64	.67	.53	.54	.67	.55	.56			
ElChat \Merge	$16.2_{0.2}$	$33.9_{0.1}$	$36.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$29.4_{0.0}$	$37.3_{0.1}$	$36.7_{0.0}$	$31.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$22.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$40.7_{0.1}$	$45.2_{0.0}$	$41.4_{0.2}$	$36.9_{0.3}$	$47.5_{0.0}$	$43.0_{0.1}$.50	.52	.42	.53	.52	.48	.49			
ElChat \Copy	$19.3_{0.2}$	$35.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$36.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$29.6_{0.1}$	$38.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$38.9_{0.2}$	$31.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$19.9_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$37.9_{0.1}$	$35.5_{0.2}$	$38.9_{0.2}$	$35.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$42.9_{0.2}$	$38.1_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$.67	.69	.57	.57	.72	.59	.61			
ElChat (L)	$19.3_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.2}$	$35.3_{0.0}$	$36.1_{0.0}$	$29.3_{0.1}$	$38.3_{0.0}$	$38.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$31.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	20.80.1	$37.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$35.2_{0.3}$	$38.4_{0.2}$	$33.8_{0.2}$	$41.5_{0.4}$	$36.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.3}$.64	.66	.53	.53	.66	.56	.56			
	English sum									Target	\rightarrow Eng				English mc									
	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te			
Base	$23.5_{0.0}$	$23.5_{0.0}$	$23.5_{0.0}$	$23.5_{0.0}$	$23.5_{0.0}$	$23.5_{0.0}$	$23.5_{0.0}$	$33.3_{0.1}$	$58.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$44.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.2}}$	$57.9_{0.2}$	$49.9_{0.2}$	$53.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.2}}$	$56.3_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.2}$.88	.88	.88	.88	.88	.88	.88			
Base+CPT	$19.0_{0.1}$	$17.2_{0.1}$	$21.7_{0.2}$	$17.0_{0.1}$	$19.4_{0.0}$	$22.3_{0.1}$	$21.8_{0.1}$	$44.7_{0.2}$	$47.1_{0.1}$	$42.9_{0.1}$	$50.3_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$46.4_{0.2}$	$41.5_{0.0}$	$47.7_{0.2}$.78	.82	.81	.83	.80	.80	.81			
Base+VE	$22.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$22.6_{0.2}$	$22.9_{0.0}$	$22.9_{0.0}$	$23.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$23.1_{0.0}$	$23.0_{0.0}$	$36.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$40.2_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$37.5_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$42.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$39.0_{0.1}$	$37.8_{0.2}$	$41.0_{0.0}$.82	.82	.81	.83	.84	.82	.81			
CV	$23.4_{0.0}$	$23.3_{0.1}$	$23.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$23.1_{0.0}$	$23.2_{0.0}$	$23.5_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$23.0_{0.0}$	$33.1_{0.2}$	$35.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.2}}$	$30.7_{0.1}$	$37.8_{0.1}$	$32.4_{0.1}$	$34.2_{0.1}$	$35.8_{0.1}$.83	.83	.85	.82	.84	.80	.83			
Chat	$26.8_{0.0}$	$26.8_{0.0}$	$26.8_{0.0}$	$26.8_{0.0}$	$26.8_{0.0}$	$26.8_{0.0}$	$26.8_{0.0}$	$29.3_{0.1}$	$57.3_{0.2}$	$36.2_{0.2}$	$57.3_{0.2}$	$47.9_{0.2}$	$53.1_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$56.8_{0.2}$.91	.91	.91	.91	.91	.91	.91			
Chat+CPT	$22.6_{0.1}$	$22.7_{0.1}$	$21.4_{0.2}$	$22.0_{0.0}$	$24.1_{0.1}$	$23.5_{0.0}$	$23.3_{0.0}$	$31.2_{0.1}$	$36.5_{0.3}$	$37.1_{0.4}$	$40.6_{0.3}$	$42.1_{0.1}$	$39.1_{0.2}$	$43.9_{0.3}$.28	.83	.82	.84	.83	.80	.82			
Chat+VE	$23.4_{0.0}$	$23.5_{0.0}$	$23.8_{0.0}$	$23.0_{0.1}$	$23.7_{0.1}$	$23.5_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$23.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$26.5_{0.0}$	$36.8_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$33.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$38.0_{0.2}$	$33.5_{0.2}$	$36.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$34.9_{0.1}$.84	.86	.85	.83	.85	.84	.83			
ElChat	$24.1_{0.1}$	$23.5_{0.1}$	$24.1_{0.0}$	$23.6_{0.1}$	$23.8_{0.0}$	$24.2_{0.1}$	$23.7_{0.0}$	$27.5_{0.1}$	$27.6_{0.3}$	$31.7_{0.2}$	$35.6_{0.0}$	$25.1_{0.4}$	$31.5_{0.3}$	$34.0_{0.2}$.90	.89	.89	.90	.90	.88	.90			
ElChat \Merge	$23.3_{0.1}$	$23.1_{0.0}$	$23.8_{0.1}$	$22.8_{0.1}$	$23.5_{0.1}$	$20.9_{0.1}$	$23.1_{0.1}$	$14.4_{0.4}$	$38.5_{0.0}$	$34.6_{0.1}$	$37.2_{0.1}$	$30.3_{0.0}$	$35.9_{0.1}$	$35.6_{0.2}$.80	.82	.83	.47	.79	.55	.78			
ElChat \Copy	$24.2_{0.0}$	$24.0_{0.1}$	$24.1_{0.0}$	$24.0_{0.0}$	$24.0_{0.1}$	$24.3_{0.1}$	$24.1_{0.1}$	$27.7_{0.3}$	$27.0_{0.2}$	$32.1_{0.3}$	$36.3_{0.3}$	$27.8_{0.3}$	$30.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$31.5_{0.2}$.90	.89	.89	.90	.89	.89	.90			
ElChat (L)	$24.0_{0.0}$	$23.5_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$24.0_{0.0}$	$23.8_{0.0}$	$23.8_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$24.2_{0.0}$	$23.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.0}$	$27.9_{0.2}$	$26.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$31.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.2}}$	$36.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.4}}$	$24.1_{0.3}$	$31.5_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$33.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.2}$.90	.89	.89	.91	.90	.88	.91			
			Taı	rget gm	mlu					En	glish mi	nlu												
	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te										
Base	.31	.41	-	-	.36	-	.39	.65	.65	.65	.65	.65	.65	.65										
Base+CPT	.32	.34	-	-	.32	-	.32	.49	.55	.57	.54	.54	.50	.54										
Base+VE	.39	.42	-	-	.42	-	.38	.55	.56	.58	.53	.57	.55	.53										
CV	.32	.31	-	-	.34	-	.33	.48	.50	.53	.47	.51	.48	.49										
Chat	.29	.42	-	-	.36	-	.39	.67	.67	.67	.67	.67	.67	.67										
Chat+CPT	.28	.26	-	-	.26	-	.29	.27	.53	.54	.54	.52	.47	.53										
Chat+VE	.36	.33	-	-	.35	-	.36	.51	.51	.55	.52	.54	.54	.52										
ElChat	.37	.36	-	-	.38	-	.36	.61	.57	.60	.58	.61	.60	.60										
ElChat \Merge	.35	.32	-	-	.33	-	.35	.44	.48	.53	.32	.50	.34	.49										
ElChat \Copy	.37	.37	-	-	.39	-	.37	.61	.57	.61	.58	.61	.60	.60										
ElChat (L)	.37	.36	-	-	.38	-	.36	.61	.57	.61	.58	.61	.59	.60										

Table 11: Qwen2.5 7B task performance. Darker blue and red shades indicate higher positive and negative relative performance change over Chat per language and task, respectively.

				arget su ROUGE-			$\begin{array}{ c c } \hline English \rightarrow Target \ mt \\ \hline [chrF++] \\ \hline \end{array}$											
	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te				
Base	$1.8_{0.1}$	$1.7_{0.0}$	$7.2_{0.0}$	$2.8_{0.1}$	$42.4_{0.5}$	$2.4_{0.0}$	$18.7_{0.1}$	$3.8_{0.1}$	$28.3_{0.1}$	$12.3_{0.2}$	$19.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$9.9_{0.0}$	$20.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$15.3_{0.1}$				
Base+CPT	$2.1_{0.1}$	$1.8_{0.0}$	$5.5_{0.0}$	$3.0_{0.0}$	$42.5_{0.2}$	$2.2_{0.0}$	$19.0_{0.2}$	$28.4_{0.1}$	$38.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$24.5_{0.0}$	$34.0_{0.1}$	$32.8_{0.1}$	$38.1_{0.2}$	$33.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$				
Base+VE	$3.0_{0.3}$	$1.7_{0.1}$	$9.2_{0.2}$	$4.2_{0.2}$	$55.5_{0.2}$	$2.8_{0.1}$	$24.9_{0.3}$	$20.5_{0.1}$	$34.6_{0.1}$	$35.0_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$36.8_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$35.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$40.1_{0.2}$	$37.8_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$				
CV	$4.0_{0.1}$	$1.8_{0.0}$	$9.7_{0.0}$	$5.2_{0.1}$	$55.1_{0.2}$	$4.1_{0.0}$	$23.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$20.1_{0.0}$	$32.8_{0.1}$	$36.3_{0.2}$	$35.8_{0.1}$	$20.2_{0.0}$	$34.6_{0.1}$	$28.2_{0.1}$				
Chat	$1.5_{0.1}$	$1.3_{0.0}$	$3.9_{0.1}$	$3.0_{0.1}$	$35.9_{0.1}$	$2.2_{0.0}$	$15.0_{0.1}$	$2.9_{0.1}$	$26.6_{0.0}$	$13.4_{0.0}$	$18.8_{0.1}$	$13.9_{0.1}$	$21.5_{0.1}$	$16.9_{0.0}$				
Chat+CPT	$2.5_{0.1}$	$1.4_{0.0}$	$4.6_{0.2}$	$5.2_{0.0}$	$49.4_{0.1}$	$2.4_{0.0}$	$20.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.2}$	$28.2_{0.0}$	$37.8_{0.0}$	$24.2_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.0}$	$33.0_{0.0}$	$31.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$36.9_{0.0}$	$32.3_{0.0}$				
Chat+VE	$3.7_{0.4}$	$1.6_{0.0}$	$9.8_{0.1}$	$4.8_{0.1}$	$56.0_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.4}}$	$3.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$25.1_{0.2}$	$20.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$34.2_{0.1}$	$35.9_{0.1}$	$36.6_{0.2}$	$29.9_{0.5}$	$34.9_{0.3}$	$25.4_{0.2}$				
ElChat	$4.0_{0.2}$	$2.0_{0.0}$	$8.5_{0.3}$	$4.1_{0.1}$	$56.1_{0.4}$	$3.9_{0.2}$	$24.1_{0.2}$	$25.5_{0.2}$	$36.3_{0.2}$	$33.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$35.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$34.8_{0.2}$	$39.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$34.3_{0.1}$				
				nglish su				$\mathbf{Target} o \mathbf{English} \ \mathbf{mt}$										
			[F	OUGE-				[chrF++]										
	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te				
Base	$12.0_{0.0}$	$12.0_{0.0}$	$12.0_{0.0}$	$12.0_{0.0}$	$12.0_{0.0}$	$12.0_{0.0}$	$12.0_{0.0}$	$20.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$50.2_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.2}$	$24.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.2}$	$46.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$25.1_{0.0}$	$34.8_{0.1}$	$39.2_{0.3}$				
Base+CPT	$11.0_{0.1}$	$10.1_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$11.1_{0.0}$	$7.2_{0.1}$	$10.9_{0.0}$	$11.1_{0.0}$	$10.2_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$43.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$41.4_{0.1}$	$38.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$43.4_{0.1}$	$40.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$40.1_{0.1}$	$43.8_{0.2}$				
Base+VE	$12.0_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$11.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$11.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$11.0_{0.0}$	$11.0_{0.0}$	$10.9_{0.1}$	$11.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$33.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$35.4_{0.2}$	$36.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$36.5_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$35.0_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$34.9_{0.3}$	$35.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$				
CV	$11.5_{0.0}$	$10.8_{0.0}$	$10.9_{0.0}$	$11.2_{0.0}$	$11.0_{0.0}$	$10.8_{0.0}$	$10.9_{0.0}$	$29.7_{0.1}$	$31.9_{0.2}$	$30.1_{0.2}$	$30.0_{0.1}$	$32.2_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$32.3_{0.1}$	$34.1_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$				
Chat	$11.8_{0.0}$	$11.8_{0.0}$	$11.8_{0.0}$	$11.8_{0.0}$	$11.8_{0.0}$	$11.8_{0.0}$	$11.8_{0.0}$	$22.8_{0.0}$	$50.3_{0.0}$	$27.5_{0.0}$	$46.9_{0.1}$	$28.6_{0.0}$	$36.2_{0.0}$	$39.6_{0.0}$				
Chat+CPT	$11.5_{0.1}$	$10.7_{0.0}$	$10.9_{0.0}$	$9.9_{0.1}$	$11.1_{0.0}$	$11.1_{0.0}$	$10.8_{0.0}$	$44.5_{0.0}$	$40.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$28.2_{0.1}$	$45.4_{0.2}$	$41.8_{0.0}$	$38.1_{0.1}$	$45.5_{0.1}$				
Chat+VE	$11.9_{0.0}$	$11.0_{0.0}$	$11.0_{0.1}$	$11.2_{0.0}$	$11.2_{0.0}$	$11.1_{0.0}$	$10.9_{0.0}$	$33.0_{0.2}$	$34.4_{0.0}$	$31.4_{0.1}$	$36.3_{0.0}$	$36.3_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$35.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$36.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$				
ElChat	$12.2_{0.0}$	$11.5_{0.0}$	$11.3_{0.0}$	$11.6_{0.0}$	$11.7_{0.0}$	$11.6_{0.0}$	$11.4_{0.0}$	$42.9_{0.0}$	$42.3_{0.1}$	$42.8_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$44.4_{0.0}$	$43.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$42.5_{0.1}$	$42.2_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$				

Table 12: Llama 3.1 8B task performance. Darker blue and red shades indicate higher positive and negative relative performance change over Chat per language and task, respectively. (L) stands for linear merging.

				arget su			$\begin{array}{c} \textbf{English} \rightarrow \textbf{Target} \ \textbf{mt} \\ [\textbf{chrF}++] \end{array}$											
	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te				
Base	$1.6_{0.1}$	$1.9_{0.0}$	$6.2_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$3.2_{0.0}$	$36.3_{0.4}$	$2.0_{0.1}$	$18.3_{0.2}$	$8.4_{0.1}$	$35.6_{0.0}$	$16.9_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$27.0_{0.1}$	$22.5_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$31.5_{0.2}$	$27.3_{0.1}$				
Base+CPT	$1.0_{0.1}$	$1.9_{0.0}$	$6.3_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.0}$	$2.9_{0.2}$	$38.2_{0.2}$	$1.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$17.3_{0.2}$	$22.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.0}$	$36.8_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.0}$	$21.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$32.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$29.0_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$34.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$30.5_{0.0}$				
Base+VE	$3.2_{0.2}$	$1.6_{0.0}$	$8.8_{0.4}$	$4.6_{0.1}$	$55.0_{0.2}$	$3.3_{0.0}$	$25.2_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$17.5_{0.1}$	$36.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$34.3_{0.1}$	$36.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$37.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$41.9_{0.1}$	$37.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$				
CV	$3.1_{0.2}$	$1.7_{0.0}$	$8.2_{0.1}$	$5.1_{0.2}$	$55.5_{0.4}$	$4.1_{0.0}$	$25.8_{0.3}$	$21.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$34.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$35.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$32.5_{0.2}$	$35.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$40.3_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$38.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.0}$				
Chat	$1.7_{0.0}$	$1.1_{0.0}$	$4.2_{0.0}$	$3.1_{0.0}$	$46.5_{0.0}$	$3.0_{0.0}$	$21.3_{0.1}$	$8.0_{0.0}$	$35.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$16.8_{0.0}$	$28.1_{0.0}$	$20.9_{0.1}$	$32.1_{0.0}$	$28.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$				
Chat+CPT	$1.6_{0.0}$	$1.7_{0.0}$	$3.5_{0.3}$	$2.8_{0.1}$	$36.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.4}$	$2.1_{0.0}$	$18.2_{0.2}$	$21.9_{0.1}$	$35.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$20.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$31.5_{0.0}$	$28.9_{0.1}$	$34.3_{0.1}$	$30.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$				
Chat+VE	$2.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$1.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$8.8_{0.1}$	$4.8_{0.1}$	$54.7_{0.3}$	$3.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$25.9_{0.3}$	$20.1_{0.3}$	$37.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$36.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$38.0_{0.2}$	$38.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$42.8_{0.1}$	$38.8_{0.2}$				
ElChat	$3.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.3}}$	$1.3_{0.0}$	$7.5_{0.3}$	$4.8_{0.1}$	$53.9_{0.2}$	$4.3_{0.3}$	$25.4_{0.3}$	$19.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$33.8_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$28.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$35.6_{0.2}$	$31.9_{0.2}$	$36.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.3}}$	$33.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.2}$				
ElChat \Merge	$2.5_{0.3}$	$1.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$8.9_{0.2}$	$5.0_{0.1}$	$54.2_{0.3}$	2.90.1	$25.8_{0.2}$	$20.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$36.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$36.0_{0.0}$	$38.6_{0.2}$	$36.2_{0.2}$	$41.6_{0.0}$	38.6 _{0.1}				
ElChat \Copy	$3.2_{0.1}$	$1.4_{0.0}$	$7.6_{0.3}$	$5.0_{0.0}$	$53.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$4.4_{0.2}$	$25.5_{0.2}$	18.10.1	$33.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$28.0_{0.2}$	$35.8_{0.2}$	$32.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$37.1_{0.2}$	$33.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$				
ElChat (L)	$3.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$1.3_{0.0}$	$7.9_{0.2}$	$5.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$54.1_{0.5}$	$4.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$25.8_{0.2}$	$18.9_{0.1}$	$33.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$27.8_{0.3}$	$35.0_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.2}}$	$31.1_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$35.6_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.4}$	$32.2_{0.3}$				
				nglish su OUGE-				$egin{array}{l} { m Target} ightarrow { m English} \ { m mt} \ [{ m chrF}{+}{+}] \end{array}$										
	am	bn	my	gu	لا si	ta	te	am bn my gu si ta te										
Base Base+CPT	10.90.0	$10.9_{0.0}$	10.9 _{0.0}	$10.9_{0.0}$	$10.9_{0.0}$	10.9 _{0.0}	10.9 _{0.0}	31.4 _{0.1}	56.3 _{0.1}	42.2 _{0.2}	55.8 _{0.2}	47.8 _{0.2}	$50.9_{0.1}$	54.1 _{0.2}				
	8.7 _{0.1}	7.8 _{0.0}	10.0 _{0.1}	7.8 _{0.1}	9.0000	10.20.0	10.0000	$42.0_{0.1}$	$44.0_{0.1}$	40.4 _{0.1}	47.20.1	43.1 _{0.2}	$39.3_{0.1}$	44.9 _{0.2}				
Base+VE CV	10.7 _{0.0}	$10.4_{0.1}$	$10.5_{0.0}$	10.4 _{0.0}	$10.5_{0.0}$	$10.7_{0.0}$	$10.6_{0.0}$	$33.8_{0.1}$ $32.3_{0.1}$	$37.7_{0.1}$	36.4 _{0.1}	$40.1_{0.1}$	36.3 _{0.2}	36.2 _{0.2}	38.9 _{0.0}				
Chat	$11.6_{0.1}$	11.2 _{0.1}	$11.4_{0.0}$	10.90.0	$11.0_{0.0}$	11.20.0	10.8 _{0.1}		33.8 _{0.3}	$30.2_{0.1}$	$34.1_{0.1}$	30.4 _{0.1}	$32.5_{0.1}$	31.6 _{0.1}				
Chat+CPT	14.0000	$14.0_{0.0}$	14.000.0	14.000.0	$14.0_{0.0}$	$14.0_{0.0}$	$14.0_{0.0}$	27.4 _{0.1}	54.9 _{0.1}	34.1 _{0.1}	55.2 _{0.2}	45.7 _{0.1}	$50.8_{0.0}$	54.7 _{0.2}				
	$10.6_{0.0}$	$10.9_{0.1}$	10.4 _{0.1}	$10.6_{0.0}$	$12.0_{0.0}$	$11.2_{0.0}$	$11.1_{0.0}$	$29.8_{0.1}$	$37.4_{0.2}$	$35.1_{0.4}$	38.4 _{0.3}	39.4 _{0.1}	$37.2_{0.2}$	41.3 _{0.3}				
Chat+VE ElChat	$11.5_{0.0}$	$11.4_{0.0}$	$11.6_{0.1}$	$10.9_{0.0}$	$11.5_{0.0}$	$11.3_{0.1}$	$11.7_{0.1}$	30.1 _{0.3}	34.7 _{0.1}	$31.9_{0.1}$	$35.7_{0.2}$	31.6 _{0.1}	34.8 _{0.0}	$33.0_{0.1}$				
	$12.1_{0.0}$	$12.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$11.9_{0.0}$	$12.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$12.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$12.5_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$12.3_{0.0}$	$26.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$26.3_{0.3}$	$31.0_{0.2}$	$33.8_{0.0}$	$23.8_{0.4}$	$30.8_{0.4}$	$32.6_{0.2}$				
ElChat \Merge	$11.3_{0.0}$	$11.2_{0.0}$	$11.4_{0.0}$	$10.4_{0.0}$	$11.1_{0.0}$	$9.3_{0.1}$	$11.1_{0.1}$	$26.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.2}$	$36.8_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$33.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$36.2_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.2}$	$34.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$35.4_{0.2}$	$34.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$				
ElChat \Copy	$12.2_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$12.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$11.8_{0.0}$	$12.1_{0.0}$	$12.1_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$12.0_{0.0}$	$12.1_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$26.2_{0.3}$	$25.9_{0.2}$	$31.4_{0.3}$	$34.6_{0.2}$	$26.5_{0.2}$	$29.6_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$30.3_{0.2}$				
ElChat (L)	$12.1_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$12.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$11.8_{0.1}$	$12.1_{0.0}$	$12.5_{0.0}$	$12.5_{0.0}$	$12.3_{0.0}$	$26.3_{0.2}$	$25.3_{0.1}$	$30.8_{0.3}$	$34.3_{0.3}$	$22.8_{0.3}$	$30.7_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.1}$	$32.2_{0.2}$				

Table 13: Qwen2.5 7B inference speedup measured by the number of tokens generated per second. Darker blue and red shades indicate higher positive and negative relative performance change over Chat per language and task, respectively.

	Target sum							English \rightarrow Target mt								Target mc							
	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	$_{\mathrm{gu}}$	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te		
Base	29.30.3	30.70.2	27.80.2	27.20.1	$32.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	31.60.2	27.60.1	34.10.3	$33.4_{0.4}$	$33.2_{0.2}$	$33.9_{0.2}$	36.40.3	33.90.1	$34.0_{0.3}$	28.9	22.6	15.7	17.5	18.2	20.9	17.1		
Base+CPT	$30.7_{1.1}$	$26.6_{2.0}$	$28.8_{0.2}$	$28.1_{0.1}$	$28.0_{1.6}$	$33.1_{0.3}$	$29.7_{0.2}$	$35.5_{0.1}$	$35.4_{0.2}$	$34.6_{0.0}$	$35.0_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$36.3_{0.3}$	$35.3_{0.3}$	$35.5_{0.1}$	28.5	23.1	15.2	17.1	18.6	20.7	18.0		
Base+VE	$110.4_{1.0}$	$68.9_{1.2}$	$103.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$106.3_{0.3}$	$102.3_{0.3}$	$70.8_{0.7}$	$89.9_{0.8}$	86.50.3	$72.2_{0.7}$	$93.5_{0.7}$	$98.0_{1.4}$	$102.7_{0.8}$	$73.6_{0.4}$	$91.3_{1.0}$	38.1	37.4	40.2	42.6	37.7	36.1	37.3		
CV	$121.8_{0.3}$	$76.2_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.2}$	$98.9_{0.6}$	$93.4_{0.4}$	$114.7_{1.6}$	$80.8_{0.7}$	$89.8_{0.6}$	109.60.5	$71.6_{0.5}$	$97.5_{1.1}$	$94.5_{0.6}$	$70.4_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.4}$	$67.2_{0.4}$	$82.3_{0.3}$	40.8	42.2	37.1	37.3	41.5	39.4	35.4		
Chat	$30.4_{0.3}$	$30.7_{0.0}$	$29.6_{0.1}$	$27.3_{0.1}$	$29.8_{0.3}$	$33.3_{0.2}$	$29.6_{0.1}$	$32.6_{0.1}$	$34.7_{0.3}$	$34.7_{0.3}$	$35.3_{0.2}$	$37.9_{0.3}$	$35.2_{0.1}$	$35.9_{0.3}$	27.9	22.0	15.3	16.9	18.0	20.2	17.0		
Chat+CPT	$33.7_{0.2}$	$32.2_{0.2}$	$29.4_{0.1}$	$27.3_{0.0}$	$33.5_{0.0}$	$33.3_{0.1}$	$28.2_{0.0}$	$34.8_{0.4}$	$34.6_{0.3}$	$33.7_{0.2}$	$34.2_{0.1}$	$35.3_{0.1}$	$34.3_{0.1}$	$34.9_{0.1}$	28.8	23.8	15.5	17.2	19.7	21.0	17.5		
Chat+VE	$129.1_{0.7}$	$68.3_{0.0}$	$103.6_{0.6}$	$94.8_{0.3}$	$104.3_{0.7}$	$80.6_{0.7}$	$99.4_{0.4}$	$102.0_{1.8}$	$73.3_{0.6}$	$97.6_{0.0}$	$98.6_{0.8}$	$81.1_{0.9}$	$70.9_{0.7}$	$80.2_{0.9}$	43.2	37.5	39.1	37.6	37.3	40.2	38.7		
ElChat	$117.5_{0.4}$	$76.8_{0.8}$	$97.6_{5.0}$	$95.2_{0.4}$	$104.2_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.2}$	$81.1_{0.8}$	$99.7_{1.0}$	$113.3_{0.5}$	$70.9_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.5}$	$94.1_{0.4}$	$93.0_{0.9}$	$101.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.2}}$	$74.2_{0.8}$	$91.6_{0.9}$	38.0	42.0	37.2	37.4	37.7	39.9	38.4		

Table 14: Llama 3.1 8B inference speedup measured by the number of tokens generated per second. Darker blue and red shades indicate higher positive and negative relative performance change over Chat per language and task, respectively. (L) stands for linear merging.

			Г	arget sur	n				$\mathbf{English} \to \mathbf{Target} \ \mathbf{mt}$								Target mc							
	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	gu	si	ta	te	am	bn	my	$_{\mathrm{gu}}$	si	ta	te			
Base	19.30.0	21.70.0	18.30.1	19.70.0	20.80.0	$22.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	18.80.0	31.90.0	$33.3_{0.1}$	$28.5_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$32.0_{0.0}$	$31.9_{0.0}$	$32.1_{0.0}$	$31.5_{0.2}$	15.4	17.7	10.5	13.5	13.1	14.6	12.7			
Base+CPT	$19.3_{0.0}$	$21.9_{0.0}$	$18.5_{0.0}$	$19.4_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$21.2_{0.0}$	$23.2_{0.0}$	$18.9_{0.0}$	$31.6_{0.0}$	$33.1_{0.4}$	$28.4_{0.2}$	$31.6_{0.1}$	$31.6_{0.1}$	$31.8_{0.1}$	$31.4_{0.2}$	15.3	17.9	10.5	13.6	13.1	14.7	12.7			
Base+VE	$206.2_{3.3}$	$78.5_{0.5}$	$114.7_{0.3}$	$100.6_{0.5}$	$121.0_{0.4}$	$91.4_{0.4}$	$105.4_{0.2}$	$141.5_{0.8}$	$78.9_{0.5}$	$111.6_{0.4}$	$98.2_{0.8}$	$122.5_{1.2}$	$84.9_{8.8}$	$98.3_{0.8}$	44.7	39.7	36.9	36.9	37.0	37.8	38.7			
CV	$224.3_{2.9}$	$78.2_{0.1}$	$120.2_{0.2}$	$107.6_{0.6}$	$132.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$90.1_{1.1}$	$103.5_{0.2}$	185.1 _{0.8}	$84.8_{0.4}$	$123.5_{1.0}$	$135.6_{1.4}$	$123.2_{1.0}$	$91.8_{1.1}$	$109.5_{1.2}$	44.5	33.0	28.6	33.4	34.7	31.0	31.4			
Chat	$19.2_{0.0}$	$22.0_{0.0}$	$18.3_{0.0}$	$19.6_{0.0}$	$21.1_{0.1}$	$22.9_{0.0}$	$18.9_{0.0}$	$31.6_{0.1}$	$33.0_{0.2}$	$28.2_{0.0}$	$31.5_{0.1}$	$31.7_{0.0}$	$31.6_{0.1}$	$31.0_{0.1}$	15.0	17.3	10.3	13.2	12.9	14.4	12.5			
Chat+CPT	$18.9_{0.0}$	$21.8_{0.0}$	$18.4_{0.0}$	$19.5_{0.0}$	$21.1_{0.0}$	$23.2_{0.1}$	$18.9_{0.0}$	$31.8_{0.1}$	$33.4_{0.1}$	$28.3_{0.0}$	$31.7_{0.2}$	$31.3_{0.3}$	$31.9_{0.1}$	$31.3_{0.1}$	14.9	17.2	10.4	13.3	13.0	14.4	12.7			
Chat+VE	$218.9_{3.1}$	$78.6_{0.3}$	$120.2_{0.7}$	$107.2_{0.5}$	$135.1_{0.4}$	$93.2_{0.6}$	$99.3_{0.5}$	168.83.7	$79.7_{0.2}$	$115.5_{1.2}$	$100.4_{1.5}$	$124.4_{0.9}$	$89.0_{0.5}$	$96.9_{0.4}$	44.3	39.1	34.7	39.5	40.6	37.6	36.9			
ElChat	$233.9_{1.9}$	$75.8_{0.5}$	$118.2_{2.6}$	$105.5_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.5}$	$126.3_{0.6}$	$90.3_{1.4}$	$101.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.4}}$	$212.0_{3.4}$	$81.3_{0.8}$	$113.0_{\scriptscriptstyle{1.2}}$	$107.7_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.4}}$	$124.1_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.7}}$	$89.8_{0.8}$	$107.2_{\scriptscriptstyle 0.5}$	44.5	37.9	34.1	38.9	38.0	37.6	37.3			
ElChat \Merge	$201.3_{2.6}$	$79.3_{0.0}$	$121.6_{0.4}$	$109.1_{0.2}$	$132.1_{1.1}$	$88.9_{0.4}$	$103.8_{0.2}$	164.12.2	$76.3_{0.8}$	$111.4_{1.5}$	$84.2_{1.1}$	$102.0_{\scriptscriptstyle 2.7}$	$84.3_{0.4}$	$94.5_{0.3}$	42.2	39.1	34.4	40.2	39.9	37.3	37.6			
ElChat \Copy	$235.0_{4.3}$	$79.2_{\scriptscriptstyle{0.1}}$	$118.6_{0.2}$	$107.3_{0.2}$	$123.7_{0.7}$	$85.6_{1.5}$	$105.0_{0.6}$	207.31.6	$83.7_{1.4}$	$113.2_{0.7}$	$112.1_{0.3}$	$129.2_{0.5}$	$92.4_{0.8}$	$110.9_{2.0}$	46.7	39.6	34.3	39.5	37.5	36.4	37.8			
ElChat (L)	$230.7_{2.4}$	$78.7_{0.2}$	$119.6_{0.6}$	$106.3_{0.8}$	$135.9_{0.2}$	$92.6_{0.9}$	$103.9_{0.8}$	211.43.1	$78.9_{0.7}$	$111.2_{1.1}$	$106.0_{0.7}$	$122.2_{0.5}$	$88.4_{1.9}$	$105.8_{0.5}$	44.9	39.2	34.3	39.4	40.8	37.7	37.8			