# TensorOpera Router: A Multi-Model Router for Efficient LLM Inference

Dimitris Stripelis, Zijian Hu, Jipeng Zhang, Alay Dilipbhai Shah, Han Jin, Yuhang Yao, Jipeng Zhang, Tong Zhang, Salman Avestimehr, Chaoyang He



# **Motivation**

- Different tasks require different expertise.
- Various and diverse LLMs have emerged.
- No LLM fits all purposes.



### LLMs Landscape



### **Problem Statement**

Given the increasing number and diversity of large language models available, there is a need for efficient and intelligent routing systems that:

- Dynamically route queries/tasks to the most suitable LLM expert.
- Optimize resource utilization and costs by balancing workload across models.
- Single API interface for multiple models.
- Seamless selection of expert models while abstracting complexity.





### Router model training and testing data preparation.

Router's training and testing data need to be representative of the domain queries the Ο router is expected to handle during deployment.

### Router model selection.

Challenges

Router model needs to be lightweight to be easily deployable both on the edge and Ο cloud, and quickly parse and assign queries to the most suitable expert.

### End-to-end routing service deployment.

Automating the training and testing data generation, routing model selection and Ο deployment in real-world setting is an extremely challenging engineering effort.











### **TensorOpera Router Approach**





# **Phase 1: Router Data Preparation**



Mistral-7B (general)

Qwen-7B (general)

MathDeepSeek-7B (math)



#### For every instruction prompt we collect:

- Negative Log Likelihood
- BERT embeddings similarity score (BERTSim)
- Inference Time (in seconds)
- Total Input Tokens
- Total Output Tokens

### **Phase 2: Router Training**







Fine-Tune / Train router's classifier on the embeddings.

Original Data: (Instruction, BERTSim1, ..., BERTSimN)

#### Scaled Data w/ Softmax Labels:

(Instruction, softmax1(BERTSims, ..., BERTSimN), ..., softmaxN(BERTSim1, ..., BERTSimN))

#### MLP-Router

 convert all training queries into their vector representation by fitting a Bag-of-Words model, use cross-entropy loss on the scaled BERTSim scores.

#### • BERT-Router

 add a classifier head on base BERT and fine-tune BERT by training on the BERT embeddings of all training queries, using cross-entropy loss on the scaled BERTSim scores.

### **Phase 3: Deployment**





Deploy trained router model.



Router predicts expert to execute query.

Router replies expert's response to user.

#### Router Endpoint Query

curl -XPOST http://0.0.0.0:2345/predict -H 'Accept: application/json' -H 'Content-Type: application/json' -d '{ "messages": [{ "role": "user", "content": "Test" }] }'



#### Router Endpoint Reply

{"id":"d4961180721145b1916c7c18e935db6f","object":"chat.completion","created":4318860,"
choices":[{"index":0,"message":{"role":"assistant","content":"It looks like you're
testing me! Is there something specific you'd like to know or discuss? I'm here to
help!"},"finish\_reason":"stop"}],"usage":{"prompt\_tokens":29,"total\_tokens":56,"complet
ion tokens":27},"expert":"llama3-8b-cloud"}



# **Evaluation Criteria & Baseline Methods**

#### Criteria

- Inference Price Cost (\$\$/1M tokens)
- Throughput (#tokens/sec)
- BERT Similarity (cosine similarity on BERT embeddings)
- Negative Log-Likelihood (NLL)

#### **Routing Baselines**

- Zero-Router
  - o average performance of all available experts without any routing logic
- Optimal-Router
  - for any given query the optimal set of values is the minimum cost, maximum throughput, maximum BERTSim, minimum NLL recorded by any expert model or routing method.
- Random-Router
  - pick a random expert from all available experts.
- 1NN-Router
  - for every test query find its closest training query (w.r.t. embedding space) and assign the expert that exhibited the best performance for the training query.

# Router Performance per Dataset & Query Cardinality per Expert



BERT Router exhibits the best performance



Query Count per Expert & Routing Method						
Biollama-8B -	90	396	438	111	67	
Biomistral-7B -	108	383	221	304	36	
Codellama-7B -	63	387	447	33	21	
Fox-1.6B -	1063	381	233	749	1581	
Mathdeepseek-7B -	663	392	327	271	337	
Mistralai-7B -	265	385	591	579	106	
Qwen-7B -	430	379	413	623	522	
	Optimal	PandomRouter	INN-ROUTES	MPROUTES	BERT-Router	
Routing Method BERT Router assigns similar number of						

**Model Expert** 

queries per expert as Optimal

# Trilemma Evaluation (Cost, Throughput, Performance)





## Future Directions Hybrid Al Edge-to-Cloud Collaboration

