## Large Language Model for Multi-Domain Translation: Benchmarking and Domain CoT Fine-tuning

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#### Abstract

Achieving consistent high-quality machine translation (MT) across diverse domains remains a significant challenge, primarily due to the limited and imbalanced parallel training data available in various domains. While large language models (LLMs) have demonstrated impressive general understanding and generation abilities, their potential in multi-domain MT is under-explored. We establish a comprehensive benchmark for multi-domain translation, featuring 25 German⇔English and 22 Chinese⇔English test sets respectively covering 15 domains. Our evaluation of prominent LLMs reveals a discernible performance gap against traditional MT systems, highlighting domain overfitting and catastrophic forgetting issues after fine-tuning on domain-limited corpora. To mitigate this, we propose a domain Chain of Thought (CoT) fine-tuning technique that utilizes the intrinsic multi-domain intelligence of LLMs to improve translation performance. This method inspires the LLM to perceive domain information from the source text, which then serves as a helpful hint to guide the translation process. Despite being trained on a small dataset of four domains, our CoT finetune approach achieves notable enhancements in translation accuracy and domain robustness than traditional fine-tuning, as evidenced by an average 1.53 BLEU score increase in over 20 German $\rightarrow$ English distinct out-of-domain tests.

#### 1 Introduction

Significant progress has been made in the field of machine translation (MT) with the integration of deep learning (Vaswani et al., 2017). Nonetheless, MT systems often display uneven translation quality when faced with diverse scenarios in real-world applications (Koehn and Knowles, 2017; Zhang et al., 2022). This inconsistency in translation quality is evident when comparing the competent performance in domains extensively seen during the training process against the inadequate performance in low-resource or unseen domains. This phenomenon highlights a critical multi-domain issue in MT (Currey et al., 2020; Chu and Wang, 2020; Pham et al., 2021), where the translation ability of a model is hindered by the limited domain coverage and imbalanced distribution in parallel training corpora, leading to poor generalization across diverse domains. Despite this, acquiring a comprehensive and balanced training dataset that covers all domains is extremely challenging.

Generative large language models (LLMs) such as ChatGPT and GPT4 (Achiam et al., 2023) have shown impressive general understanding and generation abilities across a broad range of tasks (Ouyang et al., 2022). We believe LLMs pre-trained on massive amounts of corpora are inherently good at multi-domain understanding and generation, which could potentially address the dependence on parallel data for multi-domain MT. However, the potential of LLMs in multi-domain MT remains under-explored with most studies focusing on a narrow range of domains (Currey et al., 2020; Man et al., 2023). To comprehensively evaluate the translation capabilities while avoiding the inaccuracies caused by test leakage, we establish the most extensive multi-domain MT benchmark, which includes 25 German⇔English and 22 Chinese⇔English test sets covering 15 domains.

By benchmarking prominent LLMs on four language directions, we find that LLMs, while promising, still exhibit obvious imbalanced performance across different domains (as illustrated in Figure 1). Recent efforts on LLMs such as prompt strategies (Wei et al., 2022; Li et al., 2022; Zhang et al., 2023a) and fine-tuning (Ouyang et al., 2022; Wang et al., 2022) have shown effective performance improvement for downstream tasks. Nevertheless, in

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Figure 1: Performance comparision of prominent LLMs on the multi-domain German-to-English translation (other languages directions in Appendix D). For clear comparison, we show the scores normalized by the maximum score in each domain. The performance of LLMs varies greatly across multi-domains. Best reviewed in colors.

line with prior research (Thompson et al., 2019; Lai et al., 2022), our study uncovers that when LLMs are fine-tuned on domain-specific parallel corpora (in-domain), their ability to generalize to unseen domains (out-of-domain) remains constrained, of-ten resulting in issues such as catastrophic for-getting and overfitting (French, 1999; Saunders, 2021). While certain methods like retrieval-based approaches (Agrawal et al., 2023; Ghazvininejad et al., 2023) and multi-perspective thinking (He et al., 2023) offer performance improvement, these techniques come at the cost of reliance on external knowledge resources and additional computational demands during decoding, aggravating the difficulty of practical deployment of LLMs.

In this study, our objective is to leverage the inherent multi-domain understanding and generative capacity of LLMs to improve multi-domain translation performance and enhance out-of-domain robustness. Our methodology is designed to inspire LLMs to elicit domain-specific insights from the source text, which are then used as a helpful hint prompt to guide the translation process. To accomplish this, we introduce a domain Chain-of-Thought (CoT) fine-tuning technique, which jointly cultivates LLM to recognize domain-specific information and output translation with given domainspecific hints during training. Despite being trained on only tens of thousands of parallel examples from four domains, our CoT fine-tuning method exhibits stronger translation quality and domain generalization than traditional fine-tuning. On the German⇒English translation task, it achieves an average 1.53 BLEU score improvement on 21 distinct out-of-domain tests and 0.83 average improvement on 4 in-domain tests. Notably, this performance gain is magnified as the dataset is expanded to 400,000 examples and the model size is scaled to 70 billion. Our approach has outperformed industry systems such as Google, GPT-4 and ChatGPT by exceeding 1.8 BLEU points averaged on the 25domain benchmark, demonstrating its scalability and robustness when subjected to vastly larger data volumes and model capacity.

## 2 Related Work

## 2.1 Multi-Domain Machine Translation

Multi-domain machine translation is a crucial research topic with the goal of training a system to achieve robust translation performance across various domains (Pham et al., 2021; Man et al., 2023). One approach focuses on studying domain adaptation (Saunders, 2021; Thompson et al., 2019; Lai et al., 2022), through fine-tuning to better adapt the model to new domains, but often results in catastrophic forgetting and overfitting issues. Another approach involves designing specialized domain knowledge modules, such as domain-specific and domain-shared knowledge learning mechanisms (Wang et al., 2019; Lee et al., 2022; Man et al., 2023). These tasks primarily rely on encoderdecoder neural machine translation. Our work focuses on addressing the multi-domain translation problem under LLMs and proposing new methods to resolve challenges in multi-domain translation.

#### 2.2 LLMs for Translation

Recent research (Agrawal et al., 2023; Moslem et al., 2023) has been focused on improving the translation capabilities of open-source LLMs through prompt strategies. Zhang et al. (2023a) specifically investigate the impact of different templates on LLM for translation, while Agrawal et al. (2023) investigates example selection strategies in in-context learning for LLM. Moslem et al. (2023) explores incorporating external knowledge such as dictionaries or phrases to aid in translation, and He et al. (2023) design a multi-dimensional prompt strategy inspired by human thinking. Additionally, Raunak et al. (2023) and Koneru et al. (2023) utilize LLMs for post-editing or refining translation outputs. However, these methods either heavily rely on external knowledge or exhibit subpar performance on LLMs of the scale of 7B.

Fine-tuning is another common method to enhance the performance of LLM by improving their ability to follow NLP task instructions (Ouyang et al., 2022; Wang et al., 2022; Taori et al., 2023). Significant performance improvements can be achieved by fine-tuning with specific translation task data (Jiao et al., 2023). Previous work has developed various fine-tuning datasets. ALMA (Xu et al., 2023) uses monolingual data to improve lowresource languages, ParroT (Jiao et al., 2023) combines human-written translation and feedback data to guide high-quality translation, TIM (Zeng et al., 2023) uses examples in comparison data to teach models what is better translation. These approaches mainly enhance translation quality or multilingual translation abilities by constructing specific instruction data.

## **3** Benchmarking LLMs for Multi-domain Machine Translation

The currently available multi-domain benchmarks suffer from deficient domain coverage, and the publicly available test sets have potential risks of data leakage in the MT training process, leading to skewed performance evaluations. Moreover, as MT systems exhibit advancing performance and generalization capabilities, there lacks a finer-grained and more precise evaluation to keep pace with the rapid advancements in multi-domain MT.

To provide a thorough and precise evaluation, we construct the most comprehensive multi-domain MT benchmark for two language pairs, primarily sourced from OPUS, WMT, TedTalks, in-house tests and prior works (Aharoni and Goldberg, 2020; Tian et al., 2014). There are 25 tests for German-English (De $\Leftrightarrow$ En) and 22 for Chinese-English (Zh $\Leftrightarrow$ En), each spanning 15 distinct domains such

as news, Global Voices, COVID, medical, industry, lecture, subtitle, chat, book, law, government, finance, IT, religion, science, novel, energy.<sup>1</sup>

**Settings** We conducted experiments on bidirectional MT tasks for De $\Leftrightarrow$ En and Zh $\Leftrightarrow$ En. To better evaluate translation performance, we adopt two widely-used metrics: SacreBLEU (Papineni et al., 2002; Post, 2018), a n-gram matching-based metric, and COMET<sup>2</sup> (Rei et al., 2020), a supervised model that based on pre-trained language models.

We evaluate seven leading LLMs, using tailored few-shot inference strategies to suit the unique features of each LLM. For LLaMA-2-7b, which isn't trained to follow instructions, we use a 5-shot approach. For models with instruction following ability, such as LLaMA-2-70b, GPT-4<sup>3</sup> and Chat-GPT, we employ a 1-shot strategy. For models specifically trained for MT, like ALMA-7b (Xu et al., 2023), BayLing-7b (Zhang et al., 2023b), and ParroT-7b (Jiao et al., 2023), we apply a 0-shot method. The details of prompt templates are shown in Appendix B. We also present the commercial general MT Google Translate as a reference.

**Results** As shown in Figure 1, Google outperforms others and demonstrates a more balanced performance across various domains. While ChatGPT and GPT-4 do not reach the highest BLEU scores, they are on par with Google in the COMET metric, especially in tasks where the target language is English. Due to the limitations in model capacity, open-source LLMs such as BLOOMZ-7b and LLaMA-2-7b significantly lag behind their commercial counterparts. Scaling up models such as LLaMA-2-70b yields certain improvements. Models specially fine-tuned with translation instructions, such as ParroT, Bayling and ALMA, display more obvious imbalances across various domains. This underscores a persistent challenge in multidomain translation that has not been adequately addressed in prior research. Models of the LLM community commonly exhibit issues of performance imbalance. There is a substantial deficiency in professional domains such as Law, Medical, IT, and ECB, while the gap is relatively smaller in oral communication domains such as Chat. These findings highlight the necessity for research on how

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The specific domains covered by De⇔En and Zh⇔En pairs differ, and details can be found in the Appendix A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>We use Unbabel/wmt22-comet-da for COMET.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Due to budget constraints, we only evaluate GPT-4 on  $De \rightarrow En$  translation task.

Method	De⇒F	En	En⇒I	De	Zh⇒I	En	En⇒Z	Zh	Avg.
Method	In-domain	OOD	In-domain	OOD	In-domain	OOD	In-domain	OOD	
					BLEU				
Google	41.63	39.51	35.23	32.72	27.54	31.84	41.15	44.90	37.06
ChatGPT	35.84	36.75	35.84	29.75	35.84	27.95	35.84	38.16	32.82
ParroT-7b	31.95	32.35	24.10	22.97	18.14	20.45	26.13	23.97	24.96
BayLing-7b	33.13	33.71	24.79	23.05	19.35	22.55	28.92	30.59	27.30
LLaMA-2-7b	33.30	34.34	25.31	23.13	19.72	23.26	26.05	26.21	26.61
ALMA-7b	35.02	35.85	28.72	26.47	22.56	25.36	31.14	33.35	30.09
LLaMA-2-70b	37.48	38.58	30.89	28.66	26.68	28.31	34.34	35.20	32.62
LLaMA-2-7b									
+ BM25	36.90	34.23	28.47	22.86	23.78	22.34	28.43	24.82	26.62
+ MAPS	33.73	34.28	25.37	22.32	20.07	22.52	25.88	24.84	26.02
+ FT	40.16	35.36	32.23	24.51	25.98	21.39	30.43	27.86	28.10
+ FT + BM25	41.59	36.01	32.66	23.96	27.40	21.65	31.40	26.42	28.07
+ FT $+$ MAPS	39.58	36.68	29.66	23.35	21.41	22.35	27.81	26.27	27.56
					COMET				
Google	83.86	85.91	83.25	85.60	84.37	82.38	86.80	87.68	85.27
ChatGPT	83.16	85.77	81.99	84.83	83.51	82.89	85.51	86.48	84.76
ParroT-7b	80.98	83.72	77.74	80.40	79.56	77.07	80.33	79.08	80.03
BayLing-7b	81.25	84.03	78.30	80.71	81.14	79.04	82.68	82.77	81.52
LLaMA-2-7b	81.28	84.39	77.94	81.34	81.09	79.00	81.31	81.45	81.37
ALMA-7b	82.00	84.92	80.71	83.40	82.49	80.71	84.16	84.81	83.29
LLaMA-2-70b	82.58	85.29	81.00	83.37	83.22	81.37	84.51	84.42	83.50
LLaMA-2-7b									
+ BM25	81.69	83.72	78.22	80.52	81.47	78.40	80.22	79.66	80.57
+ MAPS	82.26	85.08	79.04	81.61	82.14	79.94	81.66	81.07	81.83
+ FT	83.63	84.32	81.60	82.29	82.53	78.63	83.09	82.70	82.13
+ FT + BM25	83.48	84.56	80.76	81.81	82.23	78.34	82.77	81.81	81.76
+ FT $+$ MAPS	83.73	85.51	80.77	82.18	82.47	80.09	82.80	82.27	82.52

Table 1: Evaluation of different methods on multi-domain test sets for four language pairs. For the results of BLEU and COMET, the top is the commercial system, the middle is open-source LLMs and fine-tuning (FT) LLMs, and the bottom is some enhancements based on LLaMA2-7b. In domain refers to the four training domains for fine-tuning, while out-of-domain (OOD) refers to other domains. LLMs in all four language directions still have a certain gap compared to Google. Fine-tuning can significantly improve in-domain translation performance, while there may be a decline in some OOD domains.

to stimulate translation capabilities and domain robustness of LLMs.

## 4 Analyzing LLM's Translation Performance with Fining-Tuning

To evaluate the efficacy of fine-tuning LLMs for translation tasks, we follow prior work (Jiao et al., 2023) to construct a translation instruction dataset in the Stanford Alpaca (Taori et al., 2023) format for the fine-tuning process.

**Settings** We conduct experiments with DeepSpeed-Chat<sup>4</sup> and use LLaMA-2-7b as the backbone. We fine-tune LLaMA-2-7b with a batch size of 16, a learning rate of 1e-4, a weight decay of 0.1, and a maximum text length of 512 tokens. We use LoRA (Hu et al., 2022) for fine-tuning, with the LoRA dim set to 8 and the LoRA

<sup>4</sup>https://github.com/microsoft/ DeepSpeedExamples dropout set to 0.1. We conduct fine-tuning on two NVIDIA A100 GPUs and utilize DeepSpeed ZeRO stage 3 for model parallelism.

For De⇔En training, we use Aharoni and Goldberg (2020)'s multi-domain training data set and randomly sample 10k training data from each domain of Medical, Law, IT, and Subtitles. For Zh⇔En training, we use UM-Corpus (Tian et al., 2014) multi-domain training data set and randomly sample 10k training data from each domain of News, Science, Laws, and Subtitles. To ensure fair evaluation, we select the model after fine-tuning for one epoch during inference.

**Results** We utilize LLaMA-2-7b as the backbone and evaluate the following baselines:

1) BM25 (Agrawal et al., 2023): which retrieves the most similar example to the test source from the training datastore via the BM25. We use a 1shot example for translation. 2) MAPS (He et al.,



Figure 2: Comparison of our proposed CoT fine-tuning and traditional fine-tuning framework in training and inference process. During the training process, it includes a domain hint generation task and a domain translation task; During the inference process, it first generates domain-aware hints and then undertakes domain translation based on the generated domain hints.

2023): which designs a multi-dimensional prompt strategy inspired by human thinking and then uses QE scorer to select the best translation. We used wmt21-comet-qe-da as the QE scorer based on the original paper. 3) FT: which fine-tunes the multidomain training data. 4) FT + BM25: which first fine-tunes the base model and then uses BM25 strategy on the fine-tuned model. 5) FT + MAPS: which first fine-tunes the base model and then uses MAPS strategy on the fine-tuned model.

The results present in Table 1 indicate that BM25 and MAPS do not result in a significant improvement in BLEU and COMET metrics compared to the base model LLaMA-2-7b. This suggests that these methods have limitations in the context of multi-domain translation. Conversely, the fine-tuning approach demonstrated a noticeable improvement in in-domain performance and a slight improvement in out-of-domain performance. Even when BM25 retrieval and MAPS strategies are applied to the fine-tuning model, there is no further significant performance improvement compared to the model with only fine-tuning, and in some cases, the performance even decreases. This may be attributed to the decreased in-context learning capability of the model after fine-tuning (Alves et al., 2023). The findings suggest that fine-tuning LLM to a specific task using supervised data can be an effective approach.

**Overfitting Problem in Fine-Tuning LLM** We also observe catastrophic forgetting and overfitting issues. Based on the comprehensive translation performance of each domain presented in the Ap-

pendix D, we can see that the performance improvement is notable only within the in-domain, with minimal impact on the most unseen domains, and in some cases, there is no improvement or even a decline. We further analyze this phenomenon. As shown in Figure 3, it is apparent that fine-tuning LLM is susceptible to overfitting. As the training epoch progresses, the performance within the indomain continues to improve and then stabilizes or slightly decreases, while the performance within the OOD initially exhibits a slight improvement, followed by a significant decline.

#### 5 Method

#### 5.1 Chain-of-Thought Fine-tuning

Our research focuses on the challenge of multidomain translation. Simply fine-tuning parallel bilingual translation data can lead to the problem of overfitting during training, resulting in poor performance on OOD data. To address this issue, we propose a fine-tuning approach based on hints, aiming to leverage the internal knowledge of the LLM itself without introducing external knowledge. This enables the model to self-perceive, comprehend the input sentence, and generate the corresponding domain hint. This approach allows us to activate the existing knowledge of LLM and generate translations with different domain styles based on different domain features. And using different translation hint templates for different domains helps us avoid overfitting to domain-specific templates when translating OOD data.

Figure 2 illustrates the framework of our pro-

posed CoT fine-tuning (CoT-FT) training strategy and inference stage. The training process involves two tasks: domain hint prediction and generation, followed by translation based on the generated domain hint. We use two sets of instructions to distinguish between these tasks. To enable the model to learn to recognize different domains and generate corresponding translations based on the given hints, we introduce the "Hint" section in the domain translation task. This section mainly describes the sentence's domain style and other characteristics to be translated (for detailed data prompt, please refer to the Appendix C). In the inference process, the model first generates domain-aware hints according to Instrcution-1 and then performs domain translation based on the generated domain hints according to Instrcution-2, as shown in Figure 2.

By jointly training the model to generate domain hints and perform multi-domain translation tasks, we enable LLM to learn both domain discrimination and multi-domain translation capabilities across multiple domains. The loss function for the domain generation task is defined as follows:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{hint}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = -\log P(\mathbf{h}|\text{inst}_1, \mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$$
(1)

$$= -\sum_{t=1}^{T_1} \log P(h_t | \text{inst}_1, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h}_{< t}; \boldsymbol{\theta}), \quad (2)$$

where x is the monolingual source text, h is the domain hint of x,  $inst_1$  is the instruction for generating domain hint,  $T_1$  is the length of h and  $\theta$  is the model parameters. The domain translation loss can be formulated as follows:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{trans}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = -\log P(\mathbf{y}|\text{inst}_2, \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$$
(3)

$$= -\sum_{t=1}^{T_2} \log P(y_t|\text{inst}_2, \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}_{< t}; \boldsymbol{\theta}),$$
(4)

where y is the target translation text,  $inst_2$  is the instruction for domain translation, and  $T_2$  is the length of y. Then we use  $\alpha$  to control the proportion of data between two tasks, and the final loss function is:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{cot\_sft}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{trans}} + \alpha \mathcal{L}_{\text{hint}}.$$
 (5)

#### 5.2 Experiments

**Settings** Unless otherwise specified, the training and decoding settings remain consistent with those outlined in the previous section on fine-tuning. For CoT fine-tuning, we use 1/10 of the domain translation task data for the domain generation task. The domain generation task data is equally distributed across ten domains for De $\Leftrightarrow$ En and eight domains for Zh $\Leftrightarrow$ En, with a manually crafted domain-stylerelated prompt hint for each domain. Since the monolingual data is relatively easier to collect compared to domain-specific bilingual data, the acquisition cost is significantly lower than that of bilingual data. Therefore, we do not think it introduces much unfairness compared to other methods. Please refer to the Appendix C for more specific details.

**Baselines** 1) FT, FT + BM25 and FT + MAPS are the experimental results of the third section. 2) CoT-FT: which uses the proposed strategy. 3) CoT-FT-G: which uses the proposed strategy. Specifically, we manually provide a domain hint for each domain during decoding. When translating a sentence, we give the actual domain hint of that sentence before proceeding with the second translation step. 4) CoT-FT-R: which uses the proposed strategy. Specifically, we provide a random hint from the 25 domain hints we create in CoT-FT-G during decoding.

Main Results As indicated in Table 2, the CoT-FT-G model demonstrates superior performance in both BLEU and COMET metrics. Despite not receiving explicit domain hints, the CoT-FT model can autonomously generate relevant domain hints for input sentences, resulting in significantly improved BLEU scores compared to BM25 and MAPS, and slightly lower COMET scores than MAPS. Overall, CoT-FT outperforms the other models on average across multiple metrics. BM25 performs well in BLEU but not in COMET, while MAPS, using COMET21 as a selector, may suffer the problem of overfitting evaluation metrics, leading to strong performance in COMET22 but a notable reduction in BLEU scores. Additionally, our proposed method outperforms direct finetuning in De-En, En-De, and Zh-En translation tasks, particularly for OOD test sets. This suggests the effectiveness of CoT fine-tuning strategy in enabling LLMs to discern and generate relevant domain hints, ultimately enhancing translation performance. It should be noted that due to the indomain and OOD datasets having different test sets, a higher COMET score on OOD than in-domain does not prove that the translation quality on outof-domain is superior.

We also observe that our proposed methods significantly impact  $X \Rightarrow$ En translation, while En $\Rightarrow$ X

Method	De⇒F	En	En⇒I	De	Zh⇒F	n	En⇒Z	Zh	Avg.
Methoa	In-domain	OOD	In-domain	OOD	In-domain	OOD	In-domain	OOD	
LLaMA-2-7b				BL	EU				
+ FT	40.16	35.36	32.23	24.51	25.98	21.39	30.43	27.86	28.10
+ FT + BM25	41.59	36.01	32.66	23.96	27.40	21.65	31.40	26.42	28.07
+ FT + MAPS	39.58	36.68	29.66	23.35	21.41	22.35	27.81	26.27	27.56
+ CoT-FT	40.99	36.99	32.47	24.65	26.41	22.44	30.02	27.60	28.68
+ CoT-FT-R	39.04	36.45	32.12	24.39	25.53	22.15	30.10	27.69	28.35
+ CoT-FT-G	41.16	37.67	32.50	24.87	26.57	23.12	29.65	28.17	29.13
LLaMA-2-7b				COI	MET				
+ FT	83.63	84.32	81.60	82.29	82.53	78.63	83.09	82.70	82.13
+ FT + BM25	83.48	84.56	80.76	81.81	82.23	78.34	82.77	81.81	81.76
+ FT + MAPS	83.73	85.51	80.77	82.18	82.47	80.09	82.80	82.27	82.52
+ CoT-FT	83.91	84.87	81.62	82.44	82.57	79.44	82.57	82.44	82.37
+ CoT-FT-R	83.12	84.73	81.25	82.30	82.43	79.32	82.62	82.51	82.25
+ CoT-FT-G	84.05	85.15	81.67	82.54	82.62	79.99	82.33	82.79	82.64

Table 2: Evaluation of different methods on four language pairs for multi-domain test sets. Bold entries denote statistically significant differences with p < 0.05 in the paired t-test compared to other methods. Our approach demonstrates consistent improvements in both BLEU and COMET metrics. \* MAPS uses COMET21 as a selector and may suffer the problem of overfitting evaluation metrics, leading to strong performance in COMET22.

exhibits a weaker performance and even a decreased performance sometimes( $En \Rightarrow Zh$ ). We speculate that LLaMA-2 is primarily pre-trained on English corpora, containing substantial English knowledge. Therefore, specific hints can activate LLM's inherent knowledge when generating English translations, improving performance. However, LLaMA-2 has less Chinese knowledge, the generated hints may introduce noise, resulting in performance degradation.

**Human Evaluation** We randomly selected 110 sentences for human quality assessment in  $Zh \Rightarrow En$  translation tasks. Our professional annotators were presented with a source sentence and two translations. They were asked to select which translation was superior from the perspectives of accuracy, naturalness, fluency, consistency, linguistic style, and cultural adaptability. Table 3 shows that our CoT-FT outperforms the FT approach.

Human Evaluation	CoT-FT Lose	CoT-FT Win	Tie
En-Zh CoT-FT vs. FT	22.7%	31.8%	45.5%
Zh-En CoT-FT vs. FT	20.0%	32.7%	47.3%

Table 3: Human evaluation study, comparing CoT-FT with direct FT.

**Ablation Study** Table 2 illustrates the performance gap among the self-domain hints produced by our CoT fine-tuning method, randomly selected domain hints, and human-defined domain hints. The domain-aware hints outperform randomly se-

lected hints, although they slightly underperform compared to the provided domain hints. This suggests that our proposed strategy, without introducing external knowledge, enhancing the performance of multi-domain machine translation.

#### 5.3 Analysis



Figure 3: Model performance changes as training epoch progresses. For De-En, with fine-tuning on LLaMA-2-7b, there is an overfitting problem on OOD data. CoT-FT alleviates the problem to a certain extent.

Alleviating Overfitting Phenomenon Figure 3 illustrates that our proposed CoT fine-tuning strategy outperforms direct fine-tuning as the number of epochs increases, both in-domain and OOD scenarios. Our approach effectively improves performance on OOD during the early stages of training, mitigating overfitting and enhancing the overall performance and generalization capability of the model for multi-domain MT.

Method	BLEU in-domain	BLEU OOD
FT	40.16	35.36
Hint-FT-G	40.85	37.23
CoT-FT	40.99	36.99
CoT-FT-G	41.16	37.67

Table 4: The effect of introducing the hint loss.

**Effects of the hint loss** We employ the Hint-FT-G strategy (instruction + hint + source -> target), meaning during training we do not introduce a hint loss, while during decoding manual hints are provided. From Table 4, comparing Hint-FT-G with CoT-FT-G, it can be seen that introducing hint loss can further enhance performance.



Figure 4: BLEU and COMET scores for FT and CoT-FT at different data sizes(De-En). The proposed CoT fine-tuning outperforms direct fine-tuning in both in-domain and OOD scenarios.

**Effects of Data Size Scaling** We examine the impact of varying training data sizes on model perfor-

mance. As shown in Figure 4, with the training data size increasing, the model's performance shows notable improvement in the early stage. However, further increasing the data size does not yield significant performance enhancements to the same extent. CoT fine-tuning demonstrates significantly superior performance in both in-domain and OOD settings compared to direct fine-tuning with training data of different sizes. Particularly in the OOD scenario, there is a marked improvement in BLEU and COMET scores.

Effects of Model Size Scaling In this section, we provide a comparative analysis of direct finetuning and CoT fine-tuning across various model sizes on the multi-domain test sets. The LLaMA2 model comes in sizes 7b, 13b, and 70b, with a training data size of 4\*100k. Table 5 illustrates that our method can achieve stable performance improvement on both in domain and OOD under different model size scaling, indicating its generalizability. The translation performance of the LLMs fine-tuned with CoT-FT improves as the foundational LLM's size increases. Moreover, when using LLaMA-2-70b as the base model, as shown in Table 6, our method demonstrates an average performance that exceeds Google Translator and ChatGPT in both BLEU and COMET metrics.

Method	In-d	omain	OOD		
Methou	BLEU	COMET	BLEU	COMET	
LLaMA-2-7b	33.30	81.28	34.34	84.39	
+ FT	43.23	84.57	36.67	84.75	
+ CoT-FT	43.46	84.74	37.31	84.99	
LLaMA-2-13b	34.70	81.55	35.45	84.64	
+ FT	44.31	84.76	37.69	84.93	
+ CoT-FT	44.31	84.95	38.36	85.31	
LLaMA-2-70b	37.48	82.58	38.58	85.29	
+ FT	46.28	85.25	39.78	85.54	
+ CoT-FT	46.46	85.41	40.72	85.74	

Table 5: Performance comparison of different methods at 7b, 13b, 70b model sizes (with a training data size of 4\*100k). CoT fine-tuning significantly outperforms direct fine-tuning across different model sizes.

Method	BLEU	COMET
Google	39.85	85.58
ChatGPT	36.61	85.35
GPT4	37.11	85.60
LLaMA-2-70b + CoT-FT	41.64	85.69

Table 6: Comparison of average performance on 25 German⇒English domain test sets.

## 6 Conclusion

In this paper, we present a comprehensive study of LLMs for multi-domain MT. Our study begins by constructing a multi-domain MT testing benchmark and evaluating the performance of popular LLMs. Our findings reveal that multi-domain MT remains a challenging task on LLMs. Then, we conduct an analysis of previous approaches, noting that many of them have not fully addressed the challenges of multi-domain MT. Finally, we propose a domain Chain of Thought fine-tuning strategy, which involves jointly training both domain hint generation and domain translation tasks. Our experimental results demonstrate that our approach significantly outperforms direct fine-tuning in both in-domain and OOD scenarios.

## Limitations

The construction of a multi-domain translation test dataset presents challenges due to the limited availability of open-source data, which makes it difficult to ensure that the dataset is free from data leakage relative to LLMs. For example, LLaMA-2-70b demonstrates outstanding performance in the Bible domain. Moreover, although many domains within these datasets have been utilized in previous papers, the quality of the domains cannot be guaranteed. Secondly, our proposed method partly depends on the capabilities of the base model. In cases where the base model lacks a certain level of domain-specific knowledge, it may not be possible to extract useful information for translation, even with the Chain-of-Thought strategy.

## **Ethics Statement**

With the exception of the 9 domain test sets in Chinese⇔English sourced from internal data, all data and models utilized in this paper are opensource. And the models involved are all trained on public datasets. Our method and strategy do not involve ethical issues.

## Acknowledgements

The work was supported by Alibaba Innovative Research Program, the General Program of National Natural Science Foundation of China (62176153), Shanghai Municipal Science and Technology Major Project (2021SHZDZX0102), SMP-Zhipu.AI Large Model Cross-Disciplinary Fund, the Science and Technology Development Fund, Macau SAR (Grant Nos. FDCT/060/2022/AFJ, FD-CT/0070/2022/AMJ), and the Multi-year Research Grant from the University of Macau (Grant No. MYRG-GRG2023-00006-FST-UMDF).

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#### A Details of Multi-domain Test Sets

The detailed data description and source are as follows:

• De⇔En: We collect a total of 25 test sets from various sources, including 5 test sets from Aharoni and Goldberg (2020) (Medical, Law, IT, Koran and Subtitles), 9 test sets from the OPUS website<sup>5</sup> (Bible, Book, ECB, Global Voices, QED, RF, MultiUN, TED 2020, Tilde), 1 test set from Zhan et al. (2021) <sup>6</sup> (Covid-19 News), 2 test sets from IWSLT official competitions (Cettolo et al., 2014, 2017) (Tedtalk14 and Tedtalk17), 8 test sets from WMT official competitions<sup>7</sup>, including News(WMT14) from WMT14 Machine Translation, Mixed(WMT22) from WMT22 General Machine Translation, Chat(WMT20) from WMT20 Machine Translation for Chats. Chat(WMT22) from WMT22 Chat Shared Task, Medical(WMT14) from WMT14 Medical Translation, Bio(WMT20) from WMT20 Biomedical Translation Task, Bio(WMT22) from WMT22 Biomedical Translation Task, IT(WMT16) from WMT16 Machine Translation of IT domain. For the test sets obtained

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>https://opus.nlpl.eu

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>https://github.com/NLP2CT/Meta-Curriculum
<sup>7</sup>https://www.statmt.org

from OPUS, we randomly select 2000 samples from the related domain dataset, as there were no pre-defined test sets.

• Zh⇔En: We collect a total of 22 test sets from various sources, including 4 test sets from UM-Corpus (Tian et al., 2014) (News, Science, Laws, Subtitles), 1 test sets from IWSLT17 (Cettolo et al., 2017) official competitions (Tedtalk17), 7 test sets from internal test set (Medicine, IT, ITELEC, Finance, Car, Machine, Energyminera), 10 test sets from WMT official competitions, including Mix(WMT22) from WMT22 General Machine Translation (and four sub-areas for its subdivision: News(WMT22), Social(WMT22), Ecommerce(WMT22), and Conversational(WMT22)), News(WMT19) from WMT19 Machine Translation of News, Bio(WMT20) from WMT20 Biomedical Translation, Bio(WMT22) from WMT22 Biomedical Translation Task, Webnovel1 and Webnovel2 from WMT23 Discourse-Level Literary Translation test1 and test2.

The size of each test set are in Table 7, 8, 9 and 10. We used the entire dataset during testing.

Test set	Num	Test set	Num	Test set	Num
IT(OPUS)	2000	Medical	2000	Law	2000
Subtitles	2000	Koran	2000	Bible	2000
Covid	3325	ECB	2000	Globalvoices	2000
News(WMT14)	3003	Mixed(WMT22)	1984	Tedtalk14	1305
Tedtalk17	1138	TED2020	2000	Chat(WMT20)	967
Chat(WMT22)	1334	Medical(WMT14)	1000	Bio(WMT20)	404
Bio(WMT22)	358	IT(WMT16)	1000	Book	2000
RF	151	Multiun	2000	Tilde	2000
QED	2000				

Table 7: The size of each German⇒English test set.

Test set	Num	Test set	Num	Test set	Num
IT(OPUS)	2000	Medical	2000	Law	2000
Subtitles	2000	Koran	2000	Bible	2000
Covid	3325	ECB	2000	Globalvoices	2000
News(WMT14)	3003	Mixed(WMT22)	2037	Tedtalk14	1305
Tedtalk17	1138	TED2020	2000	Chat(WMT20)	1133
Chat(WMT22)	1154	Medical(WMT14)	1000	Bio(WMT20)	505
Bio(WMT22)	383	IT(WMT16)	1000	Book	2000
RF	151	Multiun	2000	Tilde	2000
QED	2000				

Table 8: The size of each English⇒German test set.

## **B** Prompt Format for LLMs

This section presents the exact translation prompts for LLMs. We use the German-to-English translation as an example.

For ChatGPT, GPT4, LLaMA-2-70b and BM25, we use 1-shot prompt as following:

Test set	Num	Test set	Num	Test set	Num
News	1500	Science	503	Law	456
Subtitles	597	Mixed(WMT22) 18		News(WMT22)	505
Social(WMT22)	503	Conversation(WMT22)	349	Ecommerce(WMT22)	518
News(WMT19)	2000	Medicine	485	Tedtalk17	1459
IT	2011	ITELEC	1755	Finance	719
Car	469	Machine	1538	Energyminera	1480
Webnovel1	645	Webnovel2	869	Bio(WMT20)	300
Bio(WMT22)	264				

Table 9: The size of each Chinese $\Rightarrow$ English test set.

Test set	Num	Test set	Num	Test set	Num
News	1500	Science	503	Law	456
Subtitles	597	Mixed(WMT22)	2037	News(WMT22)	511
Social(WMT22)	512	Conversation(WMT22)	484	Ecommerce(WMT22)	530
News(WMT19)	1997	Medicine	485	Tedtalk17	1459
IT	2011	ITELEC	1755	Finance	719
Car	469	Machine	1538	Energyminera	1480
Webnovel1	645	Webnovel2	869	Bio(WMT20)	240
Bio(WMT22)	346				

Table 10: The size of each English⇒Chinese test set.

*Translate the following sentence from German into English.* 

German: Schaufensterpuppen, die dank Videoprojektionen erschreckend menschlich aussehen.

English: Mannequins which look alarmingly human thanks to video projection.

*Translate the following sentence from German into English.* 

German: Die Silberpfeile vermuten gleich zwei Regelbrüche im letzten Grand Prix des Jahres.

English:

For BLOOMZ-7b1 and LLaMA-2-7b, we use the 5-shot prompt as follows:

Translate the following sentence from German into English.

German: Schaufensterpuppen, die dank Videoprojektionen erschreckend menschlich aussehen.

English: Mannequins which look alarmingly human thanks to video projection.

•••

*Translate the following sentence from German into English.* 

German: Die Silberpfeile vermuten gleich zwei Regelbrüche im letzten Grand Prix des Jahres.

English:

For ParroT-7b, we use the prompt provided by the default settings of the model with no error hint.

### Instruction:

*Translate the following sentences from German to English.* 

### Input:

Die Silberpfeile vermuten gleich zwei Regelbrüche im letzten Grand Prix des Jahres.

*### Hint: A translation with no errors could be* 

### Response:

For ALMA-7b, we use the prompt provided by Xu et al. (2023):

Translate this from German to English:

German: Die Silberpfeile vermuten gleich zwei Regelbrüche im letzten Grand Prix des Jahres.

English:

For BayLing-7b, we use the prompt as follows:

Translate the following sentence from *German into English.* 

German: Die Silberpfeile vermuten gleich zwei Regelbrüche im letzten Grand Prix des Jahres.

English:

For MAPS, we followed the prompt provided by He et al. (2023). To achieve better results and to ensure a fair comparison with other models, we utilized the 5-shot translation results from LLaMA-2-7b as the prompt for the candidate base in the MAPS method.

For LLaMA-2-7b + FT + MAPS, the candidate base utilized the translation results from LLaMA-2-7b + FT.

For LLaMA-2-7b + FT, we use the translation prompt as follows:

### Instruction:

*Translate the following German text into English.* 

### Input:

Die Silberpfeile vermuten gleich zwei Regelbrüche im letzten Grand Prix des Jahres.

### Response:

C Details of Fine-tuning LLMs



#### ### Input:

Eine Vollremission (VR) wurde definiert als das Fehlen sichtbarer Leukämiezellen im Knochenmark und die periphere Regeneration von Thrombozyten und Leukozyten.

### Response:

Complete remission (CR) was defined as the absence of visible leukaemic cells in the bone marrow and peripheral recovery of platelets and white blood cells.

Figure 5: The detailed prompt format of fine-tuning. The gray areas are the parts that require training.

#### Task 1: domain hint generation task]

### Instruction: Come up with a helpful translation hint to better translate the following German text into English.

### Input:

Eine Vollremission (VR) wurde definiert als das Fehlen sichtbarer Leukämiezellen im Knochenmark und die periphere Regeneration von Thrombozyten

#### ### Response:

The sentence is from a text related to medicine and pharmacy, translate into a medical domain style.

#### [Task 2: domain translation task]

### Instruction: Translate the following German text into English according to the hint.

### Hint: The sentence is from a text related to medicine and pharmacy, translate into a medical domain style.

#### ### Input:

Eine Vollremission (VR) wurde definiert als das Fehlen sichtbarer Leukämiezellen im Knochenmark und die periphere Regeneration von Thrombozyten und Leukozyten.

### Response:

Complete remission (CR) was defined as the absence of visible leukaemic cells in the bone marrow and peripheral recovery of platelets and white blood cells.

Figure 6: The detailed prompt format of CoT-FT splits into two tasks. The gray areas are what should be trained, and the blue font provides a domain hint.

Figure 5 shows the detailed prompt format for direct fine-tuning. The gray areas are the parts that require training.

The detailed prompt format of our proposed CoT-FT is shown in Figure 5. The data consists of two parts: the first part is the domain hint prediction and generation task, and the second part is the translation task based on the generated domain hint.

In the domain generation task, for German⇔English, the 10 monolingual domains we use are "IT(OPUS)", "Medical(OPUS)", "Law", "Subtitles", "Koran", "Bible", "ECB", "Global Voices", "Tedtalk14", and "Covid". For Chinese⇔English, the 8 monolingual domains we use are "News", "Science", "Law", "Subtitles", "Twitter", "Medical", "IT", "News(WMT19)". We manually write a domain-related hint based on the characteristics of each domain. The details of manually crafted hints A translation domain hint refers to specific insights or contextual cues provided to translators or translation software to enhance the accuracy and appropriateness of translations within a particular field or subject matter. These hints can include vocabulary preferences, stylistic considerations unique to the domain, and cultural nuances that are pivotal in ensuring the translated content is both accurate and resonate with the target audience. Translation domain hints are crucial in specialized fields such as legal, medical, technical, and scientific translations, where precise terminology and context are paramount. In our experiments, the domain hint mainly describes the specific domain of the sentence and the stylistic characteristics of this domain.

The manually crafted hints mainly describe the domain style characteristics. It follows the format as follows: "The sentence is from/about XXX. The style of text is XXX. Translate into a XXX domain style.". XXX is manually crafted by us according to the stylistic features of the current domain. For example: "The sentence is from the informal news stories. The style of text is informal, humanistic ... It is generally written in the first or second person ... Translate into this kind of news domain style." Our intention is to offer a general approach for CoT fine-tuning; the style of the human-crafted hints can be determined according to personal needs and judgment.

Although there are only ten kinds of domain hints, the domains often have correlations among them. For instance, pharmacology, biology, and medicine are interrelated. Thus, a medical translation hint can also be beneficial for biology translation. Therefore, learning these ten domains' hint information can enhance translation performance in more than just these ten areas.

**Case study** As shown in Table 12, there are some cases of the manual hint and the automatically generated hint for comparison. We can observe that for in-domain sentences, a hint identical to the manual hint is generated. However, for out-of-domain (OOD) sentences, a hint that is different from but still related to the manual hint is produced.

## D Performance of Different Models on The Multi-domain Test Sets

Detailed results of all models on multi-domain translation test sets with BLEU and COMET are

shown in Table 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20. The '/' in the table indicates that the corresponding model may have data leakage in this test set, so no results have been released. Ang Figure 7, 8, 9 show a visual comparison of different models in each domain.

# E The performance of different methods on LLaMA-2-13b

As shown in Figure 11, under the scaling of the LLaMA-2-13b setting, CoT-FT has achieved an advantage in both BLEU and COEMT metrics.

Method	In-d	omain	OOD		
Method	BLEU	COMET	BLEU	COMET	
LLaMA-2-13b	34.70	81.55	35.45	84.64	
+ FT	44.31	84.76	37.69	84.93	
+ FT-BM25	44.76	84.80	37.55	84.82	
+ FT-MAPS	41.60	84.91	36.71	85.52	
+ CoT-FT	44.31	84.95	38.36	85.31	

Table 11: Performance comparison of different methods at 7b, 13b, 70b model sizes (with a training data size of 4\*100k). CoT fine-tuning significantly outperforms direct fine-tuning across different model sizes.

manual hintThe sentence is from a text related to medicine, pharmacy, chemistry and biology experiments. Translate into a medical domain style.automatical hintThe sentence is from a text related to medicine, pharmacy, chemistry and biology experiments. Translate into a medical domain style.OOD text帮助用户通过整合多种数据来源,存储用户行为数据,构建用户 画像,实时存储在Cassandra中,提供大数据风控、推荐等服务。manual hintThe sentence is from Cloud IT domain. It mainly involves computer- related software development and usage methods, including many terms related to computer software and hardware. Pay attention to professional troubleshooting terminologies and sentence patterns when translating. Translate into this IT domain style.OOD text因为这种元件具有未达居里点前电阻随温度变化非常缓慢,具有 恒温、调温和自动控温的功能,只发热,不发红,无明火,不易 燃烧。manual hintThe sentence about electronic equipment and IT, including microelec- tronics technology, circuits, characteristics of electronic materials, etc. Pay attention to relevant electronic terms when translate into this elastronic domain style.	in domain text	然而,在培养物和生物工程移植物中重建带有毛囊和腺体的皮肤仍是一项尚未解决的生物医学挑战。
automatical hint       The sentence is from a text related to medicine, pharmacy, chemistry and biology experiments. Translate into a medical domain style.         OOD text       帮助用户通过整合多种数据来源,存储用户行为数据,构建用户 画像,实时存储在Cassandra中,提供大数据风控、推荐等服务。         manual hint       The sentence is from Cloud IT domain. It mainly involves computer-related software development and usage methods, including many terms related to computer software and hardware. Pay attention to professional troubleshooting terminologies and sentence patterns when translating. Translate into this IT domain style.         OOD text       因为这种元件具有未达居里点前电阻随温度变化非常缓慢,具有恒温、调温和自动控温的功能,只发热,不发红,无明火,不易燃烧。         manual hint       The sentence about electronic equipment and IT, including microelectronics technology, circuits, characteristics of electronic materials, etc. Pay attention to relevant electronic terms when translating. Translate into	manual hint	The sentence is from a text related to medicine, pharmacy, chemistry and
biology experiments. Translate into a medical domain style.OOD text帮助用户通过整合多种数据来源,存储用户行为数据,构建用户 画像,实时存储在Cassandra中,提供大数据风控、推荐等服务。manual hintThe sentence is from Cloud IT domain. It mainly involves computer- related software development and usage methods, including many terms related to computer software and hardware. Pay attention to professional troubleshooting terminologies and sentence patterns when translating. Translate into this IT domain style.automatical hintThe sentence is about computer network security, translate into this Internet Technology domain style.OOD text因为这种元件具有未达居里点前电阻随温度变化非常缓慢,具有 恒温、调温和自动控温的功能,只发热,不发红,无明火,不易 燃烧。manual hintThe sentence about electronic equipment and IT, including microelec- tronics technology, circuits, characteristics of electronic materials, etc. Pay attention to relevant electronic terms when translating. Translate into		biology experiments. Translate into a medical domain style.
OOD text帮助用户通过整合多种数据来源,存储用户行为数据,构建用户 画像,实时存储在Cassandra中,提供大数据风控、推荐等服务。manual hintThe sentence is from Cloud IT domain. It mainly involves computer- related software development and usage methods, including many terms related to computer software and hardware. Pay attention to professional troubleshooting terminologies and sentence patterns when translating. Translate into this IT domain style.automatical hintThe sentence is about computer network security, translate into this Internet Technology domain style.OOD text因为这种元件具有未达居里点前电阻随温度变化非常缓慢,具有 恒温、调温和自动控温的功能,只发热,不发红,无明火,不易 燃烧。manual hintThe sentence about electronic equipment and IT, including microelec- tronics technology, circuits, characteristics of electronic materials, etc. Pay attention to relevant electronic terms when translating. Translate into	automatical hint	The sentence is from a text related to medicine, pharmacy, chemistry and
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<ul> <li>manual hint</li> <li>The sentence is from Cloud IT domain. It mainly involves computer-related software development and usage methods, including many terms related to computer software and hardware. Pay attention to professional troubleshooting terminologies and sentence patterns when translating. Translate into this IT domain style.</li> <li>automatical hint</li> <li>The sentence is about computer network security, translate into this Internet Technology domain style.</li> <li>OOD text</li> <li>DoD text</li></ul>	OOD text	帮助用户通过整合多种数据来源,存储用户行为数据,构建用户
related software development and usage methods, including many terms related to computer software and hardware. Pay attention to professional troubleshooting terminologies and sentence patterns when translating. Translate into this IT domain style. automatical hint The sentence is about computer network security, translate into this Internet Technology domain style. OOD text 因为这种元件具有未达居里点前电阻随温度变化非常缓慢,具有 恒温、调温和自动控温的功能,只发热,不发红,无明火,不易 燃烧。 manual hint The sentence about electronic equipment and IT, including microelec- tronics technology, circuits, characteristics of electronic materials, etc. Pay attention to relevant electronic terms when translating. Translate into		画像,实时存储在Cassandra中,提供大数据风控、推荐等服务。
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Internet Technology domain style.           OOD text         因为这种元件具有未达居里点前电阻随温度变化非常缓慢,具有 恒温、调温和自动控温的功能,只发热,不发红,无明火,不易 燃烧。           manual hint         The sentence about electronic equipment and IT, including microelec- tronics technology, circuits, characteristics of electronic materials, etc. Pay attention to relevant electronic terms when translating. Translate into		•
OOD text因为这种元件具有未达居里点前电阻随温度变化非常缓慢,具有 恒温、调温和自动控温的功能,只发热,不发红,无明火,不易 燃烧。manual hintThe sentence about electronic equipment and IT, including microelec- tronics technology, circuits, characteristics of electronic materials, etc. Pay attention to relevant electronic terms when translating. Translate into	automatical hint	
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manual hintThe sentence about electronic equipment and IT, including microelec- tronics technology, circuits, characteristics of electronic materials, etc. Pay attention to relevant electronic terms when translating. Translate into	OOD text	恒温、调温和自动控温的功能,只发热,不发红,无明火,不易
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this electronic domain style		Pay attention to relevant electronic terms when translating. Translate into
uns electronic domain style.		this electronic domain style.
automatical hint The sentence is from the texts consisting of parallel terminologies and	automatical hint	The sentence is from the texts consisting of parallel terminologies and
sentences in science and technology areas. Translate into this science		sentences in science and technology areas. Translate into this science
and technology domain style.		and technology domain style.

Table 12: Case study for the manual hint and the automatically generated hint for comparison.



Figure 7: Performance comparison of prominent LLMs on the multi-domain English-to-German translation. For a clear comparison, we show the scores normalized by the maximum score in each domain. The performance of LLMs varies greatly across multi-domains. Best reviewed in colors.



Figure 8: Performance comparision of prominent LLMs on the multi-domain Chinese-to-English translation. For clear comparison, we show the scores normalized by the maximum score in each domain. The performance of LLMs varies greatly across multi-domains. Best reviewed in colors.



Figure 9: Performance comparision of prominent LLMs on the multi-domain English-to-Chinese translation. For clear comparison, we show the scores normalized by the maximum score in each domain. The performance of LLMs varies greatly across multi-domains. Best reviewed in colors.

	Google	ChatGPT	GPT4	ParroT-7b	BayLing-7b	LLaMA-2-7b	ALMA-7b	LLaMA-2-70b	LLaMA-2-7b + FT
IT(OPUS)	40.40	36.05	36.40	32.76	33.69	34.78	35.33	37.95	40.18
Medical	48.49	40.28	38.75	37.77	38.60	38.11	39.59	40.14	45.46
Law	46.58	37.80	35.82	30.86	33.40	33.67	36.40	43.10	46.12
Subtitles	31.03	29.21	29.97	26.40	26.81	26.64	28.74	28.74	28.86
Koran	15.04	16.18	16.98	13.37	14.02	14.16	15.64	17.00	14.21
Bible	28.33	27.41	29.85	21.19	27.22	26.34	30.65	44.30	33.17
Covid	38.08	32.34	32.45	29.92	31.68	30.85	34.58	33.49	33.68
ECB	43.62	36.76	36.30	32.18	33.36	33.60	34.78	37.99	38.34
Globalvoices	35.22	33.59	34.08	31.30	32.03	31.77	33.12	33.97	31.94
News(WMT14)	39.68	36.68	37.58	33.13	\	33.77	36.29	37.00	33.80
Mixed(WMT22)	33.29	33.64	33.97	29.72	29.09	30.00	29.58	33.07	26.02
Tedtalk14	38.60	36.81	37.21	33.07	34.46	33.53	36.06	36.54	35.60
Tedtalk17	32.61	31.22	31.96	28.44	29.05	28.75	30.54	30.25	30.56
TED2020	36.55	35.24	36.08	31.70	32.64	31.98	34.75	34.71	32.81
Chat(WMT20)	52.48	51.46	52.85	44.98	46.68	46.56	48.49	49.50	47.21
Chat(WMT22)	57.22	55.87	59.48	48.97	49.02	51.34	51.19	57.37	45.85
Medical(WMT14)	52.39	46.56	46.04	41.00	43.24	42.66	44.98	47.30	45.11
Bio(WMT20)	39.46	37.92	38.40	33.91	34.44	36.09	36.55	38.73	36.04
Bio(WMT22)	43.38	41.63	41.61	36.55	36.77	38.38	38.19	41.72	36.48
IT(WMT16)	58.62	54.97	55.45	40.29	42.68	48.18	51.83	55.20	51.56
Book	22.20	20.33	20.85	17.54	19.37	20.07	20.44	24.22	20.54
RF	30.49	28.93	30.26	28.05	29.77	33.44	29.07	32.22	28.56
Multiun	54.54	46.04	46.03	42.48	44.38	45.12	47.17	54.35	49.83
Tilde	38.92	30.67	31.03	28.24	29.53	30.11	32.55	34.39	35.39
QED	39.05	37.60	38.23	33.41	34.79	34.53	36.31	36.90	35.77
Avg.	39.85	36.61	37.11	32.29	33.61	34.18	35.71	38.41	36.12

Table 13: Detailed BLEU scores of different models on the multi-domain test set for German to English translation.

	Google	ChatGPT	GPT4	ParroT-7b	BayLing-7b	LLaMA-2-7b	ALMA-7b	LLaMA-2-70b	LLaMA-2-7b + FT
IT(OPUS)	83.79	83.07	83.15	80.28	80.94	81.07	81.75	82.50	84.95
Medical	85.03	83.98	84.01	82.55	82.81	82.77	83.44	83.21	84.52
Law	85.92	84.71	84.77	82.33	82.72	82.28	83.23	84.46	85.50
Subtitles	80.71	80.87	81.08	78.74	78.54	79.00	79.59	80.15	79.54
Koran	72.59	73.85	74.57	70.91	70.72	71.37	72.31	72.83	70.52
Bible	76.58	77.20	77.95	73.43	74.30	74.56	75.23	78.02	74.17
Covid	87.72	87.32	87.50	86.30	86.78	86.53	87.21	87.01	86.71
ECB	84.17	83.42	83.48	81.27	81.91	81.21	81.93	82.46	82.71
Globalvoices	86.54	86.25	86.47	85.29	85.51	85.56	86.01	85.87	85.42
News(WMT14)	86.96	86.90	87.17	85.24	\	85.43	86.24	86.30	85.07
Mixed(WMT22)	85.15	85.53	85.64	83.26	83.26	83.47	84.14	84.61	82.48
Tedtalk14	86.62	86.56	86.64	84.82	84.86	85.36	85.95	86.11	85.18
Tedtalk17	86.36	85.98	86.24	84.65	84.78	84.92	85.79	85.67	84.58
TED2020	86.24	86.15	86.39	84.40	84.55	84.79	85.42	85.68	84.42
Chat(WMT20)	92.07	91.73	92.19	90.43	90.57	90.86	91.47	91.27	90.97
Chat(WMT22)	92.31	91.70	92.59	87.43	89.14	90.47	90.85	91.47	90.17
Medical(WMT14)	89.64	89.17	89.12	87.61	87.94	88.02	88.44	88.97	88.23
Bio(WMT20)	87.38	87.55	87.56	83.68	84.94	86.12	86.63	85.26	85.05
Bio(WMT22)	85.85	86.27	86.27	84.63	84.77	84.51	85.00	85.42	84.75
IT(WMT16)	91.55	91.47	91.55	87.94	88.34	89.82	90.54	90.86	90.36
Book	78.60	78.56	78.96	76.45	76.92	77.27	76.91	78.18	76.68
RF	85.48	85.28	85.54	84.52	84.78	85.19	85.03	85.07	84.70
Multiun	87.62	86.81	87.12	85.22	85.72	85.46	86.02	87.19	86.52
Tilde	87.57	86.66	86.88	85.30	85.62	85.68	86.27	86.48	86.34
QED	87.08	86.85	87.12	85.34	85.27	85.55	86.01	86.36	85.62
Avg.	85.58	85.35	85.60	83.28	83.57	83.89	84.46	84.86	84.21

Table 14: Detailed COMET scores of different models on the multi-domain test set for German to English translation.

	Google	ChatGPT	ParroT-7b	BayLing-7b	LLaMA-2-7b	ALMA-7b	LLaMA-2-70b	LLaMA-2-7b + FT
IT(OPUS)	31.65	30.93	25.17	25.85	27.95	29.48	32.48	32.03
Medical	42.09	37.32	29.76	30.67	30.94	35.15	35.03	38.04
Law	41.91	33.06	21.86	23.57	21.79	28.58	31.40	36.61
Subtitles	25.25	24.29	19.62	19.06	20.55	21.65	24.64	22.22
Koran	11.40	12.41	7.74	8.37	9.30	10.32	11.11	9.69
Bible	20.98	18.94	11.06	11.59	13.98	15.87	18.14	14.75
Covid	32.36	26.99	21.89	21.25	20.82	25.09	25.92	22.06
ECB	34.95	29.57	22.44	22.77	23.70	24.97	27.68	26.42
Globalvoices	28.70	28.10	23.79	23.34	23.25	25.73	27.34	23.00
News(WMT14)	35.04	29.35	25.09	/	23.73	28.38	29.31	23.99
Mixed(WMT22)	37.52	33.40	26.15	25.63	24.51	30.23	31.73	25.50
Tedtalk14	31.33	30.58	24.90	24.66	25.54	27.63	30.58	25.80
Tedtalk17	27.97	26.77	22.37	22.48	22.78	25.01	25.99	23.83
TED2020	30.35	29.50	24.68	24.37	24.39	27.30	29.56	24.67
Chat(WMT20)	50.38	44.74	32.80	33.72	30.65	38.58	37.24	32.66
Chat(WMT22)	51.50	43.40	29.83	28.82	29.07	36.10	39.74	31.60
Medical(WMT14)	34.99	32.91	25.37	24.91	25.10	28.16	31.31	25.83
Bio(WMT20)	32.64	30.15	23.44	23.76	24.96	27.53	30.26	27.24
Bio(WMT22)	37.72	33.25	25.99	26.67	25.79	29.91	31.79	28.02
IT(WMT16)	42.55	41.71	31.25	32.53	32.61	39.02	43.46	36.48
Book	15.74	16.32	11.74	12.84	13.32	13.01	16.06	14.18
RF	26.05	24.78	21.26	20.97	19.91	22.29	25.01	20.75
Multiun	42.73	35.04	25.58	27.61	26.80	30.02	33.94	30.03
Tilde	31.41	26.24	19.94	19.46	19.62	22.94	25.04	22.99
QED	30.79	30.59	25.02	25.25	25.95	27.84	30.74	25.16
Avg.	33.12	30.01	23.15	23.34	23.48	26.83	29.02	25.74

Table 15: Detailed BLEU scores of different models on the multi-domain test set for English to German translation.

	Google	ChatGPT	ParroT-7b	BayLing-7b	LLaMA-2-7b	ALMA-7b	LLaMA-2-70b	LLaMA-2-7b + FT
IT(OPUS)	82.19	80.64	76.44	77.32	77.96	79.54	80.31	81.00
Medical	84.29	83.01	79.38	79.87	80.54	82.14	81.76	83.16
Law	86.74	85.12	79.66	80.94	77.33	83.62	83.74	85.19
Subtitles	79.76	79.17	75.49	75.08	75.91	77.54	78.17	77.05
Koran	73.44	73.25	67.66	68.02	69.54	71.61	71.61	70.41
Bible	76.95	76.47	70.03	70.74	73.04	74.50	75.32	73.02
Covid	88.26	87.38	84.59	84.63	84.50	86.69	86.49	85.43
ECB	83.73	82.64	78.51	79.74	79.71	81.34	81.57	80.96
Globalvoices	86.10	85.61	82.74	82.87	82.89	84.67	84.28	83.13
News(WMT14)	88.53	87.36	84.40	/	84.19	86.47	86.30	84.82
Mixed(WMT22)	88.02	86.94	81.69	82.09	81.78	85.53	84.37	83.35
Tedtalk14	85.01	84.39	80.15	80.36	81.09	82.97	82.76	81.58
Tedtalk17	85.72	84.74	80.83	80.73	80.94	83.61	83.06	81.73
TED2020	85.30	84.52	80.50	80.74	81.02	83.17	82.97	81.52
Chat(WMT20)	90.41	89.56	83.26	84.55	84.39	87.29	86.46	85.12
Chat(WMT22)	90.44	88.14	83.60	84.30	84.93	87.28	86.51	85.35
Medical(WMT14)	87.56	86.92	82.88	83.01	83.50	85.48	85.68	84.77
Bio(WMT20)	87.44	87.05	79.88	80.67	82.12	82.43	82.94	85.41
Bio(WMT22)	85.70	85.28	81.91	82.09	82.70	84.27	84.39	83.51
IT(WMT16)	89.31	89.16	83.37	84.44	85.21	88.02	87.99	86.69
Book	77.74	77.10	72.80	72.69	73.68	75.69	75.99	74.17
RF	87.76	87.35	85.21	85.07	85.34	86.49	86.76	85.83
Multiun	86.56	85.89	79.98	82.00	81.65	84.26	85.14	83.32
Tilde	87.97	86.81	83.15	83.83	83.97	85.73	86.20	85.42
QED	85.70	84.94	81.24	81.71	81.98	83.82	83.89	82.63
Avg.	85.22	84.38	79.97	80.31		82.97	82.99	82.18

Table 16: Detailed COMET scores of different models on the multi-domain test set for English to German translation.

	Google	ChatGPT	ParroT-7b	BayLing-7b	LLaMA-2-7b	ALMA-7b	LLaMA-2-70b	LLaMA-2-7b + FT
News	24.03	18.56	15.22	17.11	16.87	20.19	20.80	21.60
Science	23.54	18.39	14.60	16.96	16.83	19.11	20.68	20.50
Law	42.72	38.00	29.26	27.71	29.95	33.71	47.03	43.47
Subtitles	19.86	17.96	13.49	15.61	15.21	17.24	18.20	18.34
Mixed(WMT22)	29.24	26.23	20.20	20.61	21.53	23.46	25.61	18.13
News(WMT22)	28.49	25.95	22.71	22.11	21.83	24.18	26.44	18.26
Social(WMT22)	36.52	30.44	23.33	23.21	25.43	27.18	31.17	20.80
Conversation(WMT22)	23.40	31.11	18.37	21.86	21.46	23.37	26.59	20.03
Ecommerce(WMT22)	22.85	19.88	12.94	14.75	15.16	17.96	19.38	14.22
News(WMT19)	37.48	33.28	/	27.11	27.46	34.01	33.42	21.96
Medical	46.18	40.87	31.86	34.17	35.13	36.72	41.43	32.90
Bio(WMT20)	31.94	27.46	21.09	23.41	23.32	26.34	28.53	24.27
Bio(WMT22)	40.29	33.92	24.67	27.45	31.91	30.09	38.32	25.01
Tedtalk17	26.68	21.74	17.33	20.51	20.00	22.63	23.57	23.05
IT	23.99	23.25	18.50	19.85	19.47	20.63	22.94	19.59
ITELEC	43.34	35.99	29.07	31.78	31.13	33.36	37.79	30.50
Finance	32.37	25.43	21.44	23.25	22.41	25.38	27.49	25.64
Car	32.91	29.04	21.00	23.29	23.73	26.89	28.51	22.69
Machine	35.92	30.41	21.95	23.72	24.07	26.88	29.89	22.90
Energyminera	36.58	30.35	20.60	23.00	23.95	25.64	29.82	21.75
Webnovel1	29.19	22.66	12.24	15.04	18.99	18.62	23.61	13.84
Webnovel2	15.70	15.11	10.42	10.83	11.74	13.13	15.09	9.43
Avg.	31.06	27.09	20.01	21.97	22.62	24.85	28.01	22.22

Table 17: Detailed BLEU scores of different models on the multi-domain test set for Chinese to English translation.

	Google	ChatGPT	ParroT-7b	BayLing-7b	LLaMA-2-7b	ALMA-7b	LLaMA-2-70b	LLaMA-2-7b + FT
News	84.36	83.60	80.45	81.65	81.91	83.04	83.35	82.58
Science	85.49	84.64	81.25	82.93	82.90	83.74	84.60	83.39
Law	86.01	84.93	80.45	81.56	80.87	83.56	84.64	85.19
Subtitles	81.63	80.85	76.08	78.41	78.66	79.64	80.29	78.97
Mixed(WMT22)	81.07	82.80	75.85	77.72	77.93	79.86	80.33	76.83
News(WMT22)	81.46	83.00	78.86	79.74	80.04	81.43	81.48	78.60
Social(WMT22)	82.37	83.46	76.87	78.48	79.34	81.24	81.38	78.33
Conversation(WMT22)	81.25	84.25	75.02	77.31	77.20	79.95	81.05	76.24
Ecommerce(WMT22)	79.55	80.90	72.47	75.30	74.43	76.94	77.66	73.96
News(WMT19)	83.27	84.18	/	80.66	81.25	83.30	83.05	80.15
Medical	86.22	86.85	82.62	84.51	84.21	85.09	86.02	84.12
Bio(WMT20)	83.87	83.89	79.88	82.01	80.70	82.54	82.70	80.42
Bio(WMT22)	83.19	82.17	77.64	79.67	79.60	80.00	81.75	78.12
Tedtalk17	83.34	83.44	79.62	81.33	81.33	82.79	83.06	81.70
IT	80.16	81.13	77.51	79.07	78.32	79.40	80.08	79.07
ITELEC	86.83	86.53	82.49	84.30	83.38	84.92	85.78	83.70
Finance	84.10	83.55	80.58	81.42	81.09	82.71	83.02	81.77
Car	82.20	82.04	75.09	77.70	77.18	80.13	79.75	78.05
Machine	84.77	84.25	79.20	80.95	80.42	82.21	83.04	81.05
Energyminera	84.32	83.63	76.84	79.37	79.39	81.10	82.24	79.79
Webnovel1	77.83	77.95	69.15	70.98	72.85	74.97	76.30	71.40
Webnovel2	77.13	77.99	70.54	72.20	73.30	74.22	75.98	72.04
Avg.	82.75	83.00	77.55	79.42	79.38	81.04	81.71	79.34

Table 18: Detailed COMET scores of different models on the multi-domain test set for Chinese to English translation.

	Google	ChatGPT	ParroT-7b	BayLing-7b	LLaMA-2-7b	ALMA-7b	LLaMA-2-70b	LLaMA-2-7b + FT
News	36.58	32.50	25.00	27.80	22.40	28.12	29.19	24.87
Science	33.02	30.69	21.55	26.45	21.63	25.53	27.60	23.84
Law	68.66	51.47	39.57	39.23	41.68	48.76	56.82	52.50
Subtitles	26.32	24.69	18.40	22.19	18.47	22.13	23.74	20.50
Mixed(WMT22)	50.58	43.91	30.40	36.99	29.25	36.64	38.54	32.17
News(WMT22)	57.83	48.58	34.89	40.48	30.48	39.44	41.66	33.88
Social(WMT22)	42.60	37.98	25.77	30.13	25.79	30.56	32.53	27.51
Conversation(WMT22)	47.79	42.54	27.42	38.58	30.85	37.35	38.88	34.52
Ecommerce(WMT22)	48.07	43.24	27.63	35.94	29.96	37.41	38.66	32.40
News(WMT19)	56.42	43.69	/	37.27	31.89	47.79	44.64	33.75
Medical	56.56	49.74	27.42	38.48	31.39	41.20	43.96	32.44
Bio(WMT20)	42.34	35.60	18.21	25.70	21.41	28.71	35.28	21.55
Bio(WMT22)	49.58	40.28	25.98	33.78	26.39	34.32	40.20	28.03
Tedtalk17	31.72	30.90	22.92	26.12	23.43	26.52	28.86	24.23
IT	28.12	25.46	19.52	23.24	24.22	25.92	26.16	23.94
ITELEC	53.72	46.20	32.52	39.12	36.32	41.82	44.80	37.90
Finance	47.89	42.70	30.10	34.71	25.86	34.54	36.79	28.48
Car	40.87	35.38	16.86	23.35	21.49	30.83	31.18	22.85
Machine	48.75	36.79	22.99	29.50	27.35	36.11	36.58	29.43
Energyminera	48.39	38.32	18.82	26.31	24.85	32.47	36.03	27.28
Webnovel1	31.60	25.18	14.16	16.05	16.61	20.75	20.44	16.61
Webnovel2	25.34	20.32	11.87	14.81	14.28	17.88	18.38	14.52
Avg.	44.22	37.55	24.38	30.28	26.18	32.95	35.04	28.33

Table 19: Detailed BLEU scores of different models on the multi-domain test set for English to Chinese translation.

	Google	ChatGPT	ParroT-7b	BayLing-7b	LLaMA-2-7b	ALMA-7b	LLaMA-2-70b	LLaMA-2-7b + FT
News	86.20	84.90	79.73	82.55	80.30	83.76	83.44	81.94
Science	86.90	86.09	79.91	83.05	81.39	84.23	84.46	83.05
Law	92.47	90.34	85.97	87.01	87.77	89.32	90.67	90.28
Subtitles	81.64	80.72	75.70	78.09	75.77	79.33	79.48	77.08
Mixed(WMT22)	88.16	87.08	80.44	83.43	81.58	85.28	84.23	82.97
News(WMT22)	89.07	87.37	82.43	84.52	81.85	85.77	84.50	83.51
Social(WMT22)	84.37	84.10	76.91	79.20	77.93	81.31	80.78	78.93
Conversation(WMT22)	90.02	88.90	81.91	85.74	84.07	87.92	87.01	85.54
Ecommerce(WMT22)	89.26	88.03	80.56	84.37	83.00	86.24	85.10	84.04
News(WMT19)	90.72	89.45	/	86.67	85.43	89.39	88.85	86.56
Medical	89.30	88.94	80.90	85.74	83.20	86.50	87.06	84.61
Bio(WMT20)	86.36	83.90	78.10	82.62	80.13	84.18	83.07	81.86
Bio(WMT22)	87.00	85.71	79.09	83.11	80.49	84.26	84.11	81.82
Tedtalk17	84.54	84.11	78.78	80.46	79.68	82.28	82.29	80.27
IT	84.60	83.78	79.29	81.75	81.91	82.60	83.33	82.53
ITELEC	91.04	89.93	83.74	87.33	86.89	88.37	89.00	87.52
Finance	87.44	86.20	80.24	82.64	79.84	84.37	83.97	81.74
Car	87.19	85.86	74.04	80.16	78.57	83.42	83.53	80.61
Machine	90.26	88.64	81.44	84.87	84.06	87.07	87.28	85.35
Energyminera	90.55	89.32	79.35	84.78	83.26	86.84	87.05	85.09
Webnovel1	84.11	82.51	72.61	75.39	76.54	79.83	78.86	77.03
Webnovel2	84.32	82.82	74.62	77.17	77.67	81.02	79.57	78.71
Avg.	87.52	86.30	79.32	82.76	81.42	84.70	84.44	82.77

Table 20: Detailed COMET scores of different models on the multi-domain test set for English to Chinese translation.