## From BART to Edge: Exploring Optimal Strategies for High-Quality Computing with Limited Resources

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## Abstract

Machine Translation (MT) is a pivotal task in Natural Language Processing (NLP), offering the potential to bridge linguistic barriers and enhance global communication. This project explores the challenges of deploying high-quality Chinese-to-English MT models on resource-constrained devices. By leveraging the UM-Corpus dataset, techniques such as Low-Rank Adaptation (LoRA) and layer freezing were investigated to optimize model performance while minimizing computational overhead. The findings demonstrate that parameter-efficient fine-tuning approaches can balance performance and resource constraints, making advanced MT capabilities feasible on edge devices. This work provides a comprehensive evaluation of MT strategies, offering insights into achieving scalable and efficient translation models for real-world applications.

#### 1 Introduction

MT seeks to automatically convert text from one language into another, enabling seamless communication across linguistic borders. By providing access to content in languages users do not speak, MT supports international collaboration, global business endeavors, and broadens the accessibility of educational and cultural materials. As research advances, a key concern emerges: how can we maintain strong translation performance while operating under the computational constraints of edge devices such as smartphones, tablets, or specialized embedded systems?

This project zeroes in on translating from Chinese (Zh) to English (En) using the UM-Corpus dataset. The language pair offers a rich testing ground due to the distinctive orthography and syntactic structures of Chinese compared to English, challenging the model to capture not only lexical equivalences but also nuanced syntactic and semantic transformations. While large-scale MT models have shown exceptional quality, their deployment demands substantial computational

and memory resources. This often makes them impractical for on-device applications. In contrast, smaller models, though easier to deploy on such devices, frequently struggle to match the performance of their larger counterparts.

Chinese Input: "我喜欢这本书。" English Output: "I like this book."

Figure 1: An illustration of the core MT task.

Formal Definition of the Problem: Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be the set of source language sentences in Chinese and  $\mathcal{Y}$  be the set of target language sentences in English. We aim to learn a function  $f: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  that, for each  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ , produces a  $y \in \mathcal{Y}$  which accurately reflects the meaning of x, respects target language grammar, and achieves high quality as measured by the chosen metric (BLEU Score). The function f operates within the bounds of available hardware resources, such as memory and processing power, suitable for deployment on edge devices or cloud servers.

Our primary motivation for this project is to discover effective methods to build and adapt MT models for resource-limited environments. want to explore approaches that enable strong translation performance without significant computational overhead, making it feasible to train and deploy the models on devices with limited hardware capabilities. Techniques like LoRA (Low-Rank Adaptation) and selective parameter updating (e.g., layer freezing) allow us to finetune small models (e.g., mBART, M2M100) efficiently, potentially closing the gap in performance between resource-heavy large models and lightweight models suitable for on-device use. By doing so, we aspire to bring advanced MT capabilities to resource-constrained platforms, ultimately broadening the availability of high-quality, realtime translation services across a range of practical settings.

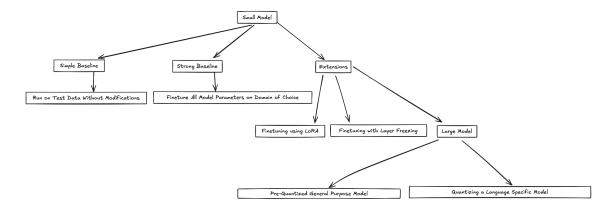


Figure 2: An illustration of the Experiments Conducted.

## 2 Literature Review

## 2.1 Datasets and Out-of-Domain Evaluation

A critical starting point for building robust Neural Machine Translation (NMT) models is the availability of high-quality parallel corpora. The UM-Corpus [6] serves as a foundational English-Chinese dataset originally constructed for Statistical Machine Translation (SMT), comprising approximately 15 million parallel sentences across eight diverse domains (e.g., news, laws, subtitles, and microblogs). Such domain breadth is pivotal for training NMT systems that can handle varied linguistic phenomena and maintain strong performance across multiple content types. Leveraging the UM-Corpus in this project thus aims to ensure that models remain resilient under realistic deployment conditions, especially on resourceconstrained edge devices.

However, relying solely on in-domain test sets can misrepresent true generalization capabilities. To address this, recent research proposes more nuanced out-of-domain (OOD) challenge sets. Chen et al. [2] introduced a multifaceted evaluation framework for Chinese-English translation, categorizing sentences by word difficulty, length, grammatical complexity, and model learning difficulty. Their curated challenge sets, comprising 2,000 sentences per direction evenly divided into four difficulty tiers, offer a rigorous basis for testing how models perform under linguistic and structural stressors. Incorporating such OOD evaluations helps ensure that fine-tuned models remain robust under diverse and unpredictable input conditions, a crucial requirement for ondevice MT applications.

## 2.2 Evaluation Metrics and Multifaceted Quality Assessment

Selecting appropriate evaluation metrics is central to understanding model performance holistically. Although surface-form metrics like BLEU [4] have long been standards, they may fail to capture subtle semantic nuances. Embeddingbased metrics such as BERTScore [7] offer deeper semantic sensitivity, but exhibit weaknesses in recognizing synonyms. Chen et al. [1] examined a broad range of 28 metrics, highlighting the need for a balanced approach: embeddingbased metrics excel at detecting semantic anomalies, while traditional measures like BLEU and chrF [5] provide stable, domain-agnostic performance benchmarks. Guided by these insights, this project employs a combination of metrics—potentially including BLEU, BERTScore, COMET, and BLEURT—to yield a more comprehensive quality assessment.

## 2.3 Parameter Efficient Fine-Tuning Techniques

Beyond dataset quality and evaluation rigor, computational efficiency is paramount for MT systems running on edge devices. To address resource constraints, Hu et al. [3] introduced Low-Rank Adaptation (LoRA), a parameter-efficient fine-tuning method that updates only a small subset of model parameters via rank-decomposition matrices. This approach achieves performance on par with full fine-tuning but at substantially reduced computational and memory costs. Integrating LoRA with advanced models like mBART and Flan-T5 supports the development of highquality, lightweight MT solutions suitable for deployment in low-resource environments. By incorporating LoRA and similar techniques, the proposed workflow aims to deliver robust, scalable, and efficient translation models.

In summary, these literature-driven insights guide the proposed methodology: using the domain-rich UM-Corpus, adopting a balanced metric (BLEU Score) for comprehensive assessment, and employing parameter-efficient fine-tuning methods like LoRA and Layer-freezing to ensure that the final models meet both performance and resource constraints.

## 3 Experimental Design

#### 3.1 Data

For our experiments, we utilize a subset of the UM-Corpus (Zh-En) [6] which is a widely used parallel corpus for Chinese-English machine translation. The data consists of paired sentences, one in Chinese (Zh) and its corresponding translation in English (En). This resource is known for its diverse content across multiple domains, making it suitable for assessing domain-specific translation performance.

| Split       | Samples |        | Avg.   |
|-------------|---------|--------|--------|
|             |         | Tokens | Tokens |
|             |         | (En)   | (Zh)   |
| Training    | 80,000  | 12.4   | 13.1   |
| Development | 10,000  | 12.5   | 13.0   |
| Test        | 10,000  | 12.3   | 13.2   |

Table 1: Data Split and Statistics: Each sample corresponds to one English-Chinese sentence pair.

The data is slightly skewed towards general-domain translations. For our evaluation, we focus on two distinct domains: Science and Education. Within these domains, we note a distribution skew: Science-related sentences make up approximately 40% of the test set, while Education-related sentences account for the remaining 60%. Table 2 shows an example from the dataset.

| English      | Researchers observed a signif- |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
|              | icant increase in gene expres- |
|              | sion under these conditions.   |
| Chinese (Zh) | 在这些条件下,研究人员观察到了基因表达的显著增加       |

Table 2: Example Sentence Pair from the Science Domain

# 3.2 Data Preparation and Preprocessing

#### 3.2.1 Data Loading and Extraction

The dataset was obtained from a compressed .zip archive containing bilingual .txt files. Each file consisted of alternating English and Chinese lines, and every pair of lines constituted a unique translation unit.

#### 3.2.2 Data Preprocessing and Sampling

For the baseline evaluation, a sample of 100,000 translation units was used. A smaller subset of 10,000 units was created for hyperparameter tuning experiments. The combined dataset was then shuffled using a fixed seed (42) to ensure reproducibility. Subsequently, the data was partitioned into training (80%), development (10%), and test (10%) sets.

#### 3.2.3 Tokenization

All sentences were tokenized using a suitable tokenizer. After tokenization, sentences were either padded or truncated to a maximum length of 50 tokens. To exclude padding tokens from loss computation, they were replaced with -100 in the target sequences. Finally, the processed data was converted into PyTorch-compatible datasets, providing input\_ids, attention\_mask, and labels for subsequent model training.

#### 3.3 Evaluation Metric

We employ the BLEU [4] score as our primary evaluation metric. BLEU (Bilingual Evaluation Understudy) measures the n-gram overlap between machine-generated translations and reference translations. It is calculated as follows:

BLEU = 
$$\exp\left(\sum_{n=1}^{N} w_n \log p_n\right) \times \min\left(1, \frac{\text{output length}}{\text{reference length}}\right)$$

where  $p_n$  is the precision of n-grams,  $w_n$  are the weights (usually uniform), and the brevity penalty ensures that shorter translations are not unfairly favored. BLEU has been widely used in MT research, providing a standardized and reproducible way to compare different approaches.

#### 3.4 Simple Baseline Performance

To begin, we evaluated the pre-trained models mBART and M2M100 without any domain-specific fine-tuning. Table 3 presents the baseline BLEU scores.

| Domain    | mBART Baseline BLEU | M2M100 Baseline BLEU |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Science   | 0.1223              | 0.0231               |
| Education | 0.1169              | 0.0347               |

Table 3: Simple Baseline BLEU Scores without Finetuning.

These low scores highlight the difficulty of the task, especially for M2M100 in the Science domain. This baseline serves as a clear starting reference point, allowing us to measure subsequent improvement once domain-specific fine-tuning methods are applied.

## 4 Experimental Results

### 4.1 Establishing a Strong Baseline

To create a robust baseline for our translation task, we fine-tuned both our models, using the paired English-Chinese dataset. These models employ dedicated tokenizers (MBart50Tokenizer and M2M100Tokenizer) that were configured to facilitate bilingual fine-tuning. Prior to large-scale fine-tuning, a preliminary hyperparameter tuning stage was conducted on a smaller subset of the data to identify optimal training parameters.

#### Hyperparameter Tuning (10,000 Samples)

In the tuning phase, we systematically varied key hyperparameters to identify a configuration yielding stable training and improved validation performance.

| Hyperparameter      | Values Explored         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Learning Rates      | [2e-5, 3e-5, 5e-5]      |
| Batch Sizes         | [8, 16]                 |
| Number of Epochs    | [1, 2, 3]               |
| Evaluation Criteria | Training and validation |
|                     | losses                  |

Table 4: Configurations explored during hyperparameter tuning.

Here are the best performing hyper-parameters:

| Domain    | Model  | LR    | Batch | Best Epoch | Loss  | Runtime (s) | Samples/sec |
|-----------|--------|-------|-------|------------|-------|-------------|-------------|
| Education | mBART  | 2e-05 | 16    | 1          | 1.915 | 4.48        | 223.22      |
| Education | M2M100 | 2e-05 | 16    | 3          | 2.656 | 2.25        | 444.42      |
| Science   | mBART  | 2e-05 | 8     | 1          | 1.815 | 5.15        | 194.11      |
| Science   | M2M100 | 2e-05 | 16    | 1          | 2.086 | 2.32        | 431.81      |

Table 5: Performance comparison of models across domains.

## Fine-Tuning with Selected Hyper parameters (50,000 Samples)

After identifying the optimal set of hyperparameters, we fine-tuned both mBART-50 and M2M100 models on the full 50,000-sample dataset. This step aimed to establish a high-quality baseline against which future improvements could be measured

| Model  | Domain    | Baseline | Fine-Tuned | Improvement (%) | Training Time (hours) |
|--------|-----------|----------|------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| mBART  | Science   | 0.1209   | 0.1997     | 63.28           | 1.46                  |
| mBART  | Education | 0.1169   | 0.1192     | 4.85            | 1.44                  |
| M2M100 | Science   | 0.0222   | 0.1200     | 419.48          | 1.94                  |
| M2M100 | Education | 0.0342   | 0.0809     | 143.56          | 0.83                  |

Table 6: Comparison of Baseline and Fine-Tuned Models Across Models and Domains

#### 4.2 Extensions

#### 4.2.1 Incorporating LoRA

## i. Hyperparameter Tuning

We employed a hybrid approach by initially performing hyperparameter tuning on the base models to identify effective configurations (e.g., learning rate, batch size). After establishing these foundational settings, we applied LoRA to the models. Subsequently, we conducted lightweight hyperparameter tuning focused on LoRA-specific parameters, such as the rank value r, scaling factor  $\alpha$ , and dropout rate, to further refine performance.

Below are the best parameter settings for hyperparameter tuning with LoRA:

| Model  | Domain    | r | $\alpha$ | Dropout | Validation Loss |
|--------|-----------|---|----------|---------|-----------------|
| mBART  | Science   | 8 | 64       | 0.0     | 2.024966        |
| M2M100 | Education | 8 | 64       | 0.0     | 2.791431        |
| M2M100 | Science   | 8 | 64       | 0.0     | 2.874502        |
| mBART  | Education | 8 | 64       | 0.0     | 1.942648        |

Table 7: Best Parameter Settings and Validation Loss

### ii. Model Performance

| Metric         | mBART     | mBART       | M2M100    | M2M100      |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
|                | (Science) | (Education) | (Science) | (Education) |
| Baseline BLEU  | 0.1223    | 0.1169      | 0.0231    | 0.0347      |
| Score          |           |             |           |             |
| Fine-Tuned     | 0.1997    | 0.1192      | 0.1200    | 0.0833      |
| BLEU Score     |           |             |           |             |
| LoRA Optimized | 0.1352    | 0.1153      | 0.0976    | 0.0782      |
| BLEU Score     |           |             |           |             |
| LoRA vs Fine-  | -32.30%   | -6.41%      | -18.67%   | -6.12%      |
| Tuned          |           |             |           |             |

Table 8: Comparison of Baseline, Fine-Tuned, and LoRA-Optimized BLEU Scores Across Models and Domains.

#### iii. Discussion

The analysis of percentage decreases in BLEU scores highlights the varying impact of LoRA optimization across models and domains. In the science domain, mBART experienced the largest drop (32.30%), underscoring the challenges of handling complex scientific text. In contrast, M2M100 showed a moderate decline (18.67%), suggesting LoRA's relative efficiency in multilingual contexts. In the education domain, both models exhibited minimal decreases (mBART: 6.41%, M2M100: 6.12%), indicating that LoRA performs well with structured and predictable content. Overall, while LoRA optimization maintains competitive performance, the science domain demonstrates a greater reliance on fine-tuning compared to the education domain.

#### 4.2.2 Incorporating Layer Freezing

#### i. Hyperparamer Tuning

For this technique, we first analyzed the architecture and the number of layers in the encoder and decoder blocks for both models. Since both models are pre-trained for machine translation tasks, we experimented with freezing all but one, all but two, and all but three layers on both the encoder and decoder sides, recording the results.

| Category                            | Model                        | Encoding<br>Layers<br>Frozen | Decoding<br>Layers<br>Frozen | Loss<br>(Eval)                       |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Education Education Science Science | mBART<br>M2M<br>mBART<br>M2M | 8<br>8<br>8                  | 8<br>8<br>8                  | 1.9311<br>2.7466<br>1.9126<br>2.6673 |

Table 9: Best layer freezing parameters and evaluation loss for mBART and M2M models in Education and Science.

#### ii. Model Performance

| Metric            | mBART     | mBART       | M2M100    | M2M100      |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
|                   | (Science) | (Education) | (Science) | (Education) |
| Baseline BLEU     | 0.1223    | 0.1169      | 0.0231    | 0.0347      |
| Fine-Tuned        | 0.1997    | 0.1192      | 0.1200    | 0.0809      |
| BLEU              |           |             |           |             |
| LoRA BLEU         | 0.1352    | 0.1153      | 0.0976    | 0.0782      |
| Freezing BLEU     | 0.1597    | 0.1178      | 0.1118    | N/A         |
| LoRA vs Fine-     | -32.30%   | -6.41%      | -18.67%   | -6.12%      |
| Tuned (%)         |           |             |           |             |
| Freezing vs Fine- | -20.07%   | -4.38%      | -6.83%    | N/A         |
| Tuned (%)         |           |             |           |             |
| Freezing vs       | 18.10%    | 2.17%       | 14.61%    | N/A         |
| LoRA (%)          |           |             |           |             |

Table 10: Comparison of BLEU Scores and Performance Percentages Across Models and Domains

#### Comparing The Models Sofar:

#### (a) Layer Freezing vs. LoRA:

- Performance Comparison: Layer freezing consistently achieves higher BLEU scores than LoRA, with improvements ranging from 2.17% to 18.10%.
- Parameter Analysis: Layer freezing enables a substantially larger set of trainable parameters than LoRA:
  - For mBART, layer freezing offers 375.74M trainable parameters compared to LoRA's 76.75M.
  - For MTM, layer freezing offers 248.76M trainable parameters compared to LoRA's 76.75M.

#### (b) LoRA vs. Fine-Tuned:

- Performance Comparison: LoRA consistently yields lower BLEU scores compared to a fully fine-tuned model. The observed performance drops range from -6.12% to -32.30%, which can be attributed to the substantial reduction in trainable parameters.
- Parameter Analysis: LoRA significantly reduces the number of trainable parameters:
  - For **mBART**, only **76.75M** out of **612M** parameters (12.54%) are trainable.
  - For MTM, only **76.75M** out of **485M** parameters (15.82%) are trainable.

### (c) Layer Freezing vs. Fine-Tuned:

- Performance Comparison: Although layer freezing outperforms
   LoRA in all tested domains, it still
   falls slightly short of the fully fine tuned model. The performance re ductions range from -4.38% to 20.07%.
- Parameter Analysis: By freezing 8 of the 12 layers, parameter updates are limited to a subset of the model:
  - For mBART, trainable parameters are reduced to 375.74M out of 610M (61.51%).
  - For MTM, trainable parameters are reduced to 248.76M out of 483M (51.41%).

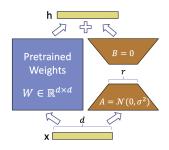


Figure 3: We only train A and B. LoRA Illustration from Paper [3]

#### GPU Usage Comparisons:

All GPU memory usage was measured on an NVIDIA A100 with 40 GB VRAM available through Google Colab, using PyTorch version 1.12.1 and CUDA version 11.3. Measurements were taken using NVIDIA's nvidia-smi tool during the peak memory consumption phase of training.

#### • Normal Fine-Tuning:

- Using all parameters results in the highest GPU memory usage, approximately
   **7 GB** for mBART and **5.5 GB** for M2M100.
- This approach also incurs considerably longer training times compared to the other methods.

#### • LoRA:

- This method is the most parameterefficient, requiring only around 2 GB of memory for both models.
- It also maintains stable memory usage throughout the training process, making it ideal for resource-constrained settings.

## • Layer Freezing:

- Freezing roughly half the parameters reduces memory usage to approximately
   4.5 GB for mBART and 3.5 GB for M2M100.
- Training times are shorter than normal fine-tuning and are comparable to those observed with LoRA.

#### 4.2.3 Exploring Quantization:

In the previous sections, we explored multilanguage machine translation models and various fine-tuning techniques. However, we now aim to evaluate whether large quantized general-purpose models and compact, language-specific models can remain competitive in translation tasks while being small enough to run on personal computers.

To this end, we used two models:

- 1. **Chinese-Alpaca**: A fine-tuned version of LLaMA with 7 billion parameters, optimized for Chinese content. Its quantized version, using a 4-bit format, reduces storage requirements to 4 GB, making it suitable for personal computers.
- 2. Marian MT: A compact, language-specific Chinese-to-English translation model with 60 million parameters, designed exclusively for this language pair.

| Model Name                         | Trainable<br>Parameters | Education<br>BLEU Score | Science<br>BLEU Score |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Helsinki<br>(Marian MT)            | 77,419,008              | 0.1029                  | 0.1058                |
| TheBloke/Chinese -Alpaca-2-7B-GPTQ | 453,251,072             | 0.0511                  | 0.0403                |

Table 11: Trainable Parameters and BLEU Scores for Helsinki (Marian MT) and TheBloke/Chinese-Alpaca-2-7B-GPTQ across Education and Science domains.

From our results above, we notice that quantized models offer significant storage and inference efficiency benefits. However, their BLEU scores demonstrate the inherent trade-off between computational efficiency and performance. Quantization makes large models accessible for personal use but falls short in competitive translation tasks, especially when compared to more sophisticated techniques like layer freezing or LoRA.

| Comparison of Parameters          |             |                  |               |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------|---------------|--|--|
| Model and                         | Total       | Trainable        | Percentage to |  |  |
| Configuration                     | Parameters  | Parameters (All) | Fine-tune     |  |  |
| mBART (original)                  | 610,879,488 | 610,879,488      | 100.00%       |  |  |
| mBART (LoRA)                      | 612,059,136 | 76,750,848       | 12.54%        |  |  |
| mBART (Layer Freezing)            | 610,879,488 | 375,736,320      | 61.51%        |  |  |
| MTM (original)                    | 483,905,536 | 483,905,536      | 100.00%       |  |  |
| MTM (LoRA)                        | 485,085,184 | 76,750,848       | 15.82%        |  |  |
| MTM (Layer Freezing)              | 483,905,536 | 248,762,368      | 51.41%        |  |  |
| Helsinki (Marian MT)              | 77,419,008  | 77,419,008       | 100.00%       |  |  |
| TheBloke/Chinese-Alpaca-2-7B-GPTQ | 453,251,072 | 453,251,072      | 100,00%       |  |  |

Table 12: Comparison of Parameters Across Models and Configurations

The above table highlights the trade-offs be-

tween the fine-tuning techniques implemented and their impact on computational efficiency:

- Original Models: Both mBART and MTM fully fine-tune all parameters (100%), achieving the highest performance but at significant computational cost.
- LoRA: Drastically reduces trainable parameters to 12.54% (mBART) and 15.82% (MTM), offering computational efficiency.
- Layer Freezing: Balances efficiency and performance by freezing lower layers, with 61.51% (mBART) and 51.41% (MTM) of parameters trainable.
- Compact Models: Helsinki (Marian MT) utilizes all of its 77M parameters, benefiting from its smaller size, while the quantized Chinese-Alpaca (GPTQ) retains 453M trainable parameters. Despite the larger parameter count, the reduced precisions (4-bit and 8-bit) significantly lower computational requirements, making them highly efficient for resource-constrained environments.

#### 4.3 Error Analysis

We analyzed errors across mBART and M2M100 models under the following methods: Base, Fine-Tuned, Freeze, and LoRA on the Education Domain.

#### 4.3.1 Classification of Errors

- i. Word-Level Errors Issues with word choice, missing words, or extra words.Example:
  - Ground Truth: Though he is fifteen, he has a mental age of less than five.
  - Prediction: Although he is 15 years old, his intellectual age is less than 5 years old.
- Structural Errors Sentence-level inconsistencies, such as grammar issues or word order mismatches.

#### Example:

- Ground Truth: And few companies offer more products for the management, conversion, distribution and minimization of power than Fairchild.
- Prediction: From the beginning to the end we adhere to one strategy: to become the world's leading provider of high performance products for many markets.

iii. Other Errors Rare issues like nonsensical or untranslated outputs (likely translate to other languages).

#### Example:

- Ground Truth: Simplify the axiom system of lattice implication algebras, which was given by Y.
- Prediction: 与えられた代数軸系を含む代数系があり、別の軸系を提示します。

#### 4.3.2 Summary of Error Trends

#### M2M100 Models:

- **LoRA:** Highest Word-Level Errors (3,960), with frequent missing/substituted words and structural misalignments (2,057).
- **Fine-Tuned:** High Word-Level Errors (3,884) and Structural Errors (2,085), reflecting unstable sentence structures.
- Base/Freeze: Moderate Structural Errors (~1,500–1,900); dominated by Word-Level Errors.

#### mBART Models:

- LoRA/Fine-Tuned: Lower Word-Level Errors (~3,250), occasional synonyms or word omissions; minimal Structural Errors (~1,300).
- Base/Freeze: Stable grammar with fewer structural inconsistencies (~1,200); errors mainly in word substitutions.

## 5 Conclusions

This project underscores the potential parameter-efficient fine-tuning techniques adapting MT models for edge device deployment. By systematically comparing traditional fine-tuning with methods like LoRA and layer freezing, we revealed trade-offs between computational efficiency and translation quality. The findings highlight the viability of lightweight MT models, especially in domains with predictable content, while demonstrating the need for further research in complex contexts, such as scientific translations. Future work will focus on integrating quantization techniques and exploring domain-specific optimization to further enhance the practicality and robustness of MT systems in constrained environments.

• Fine-Tuned: Fully utilizes all parameters (100%) for maximum performance.

- **LoRA:** Trades performance for computational efficiency by updating only 12–16% of parameters.
- Layer Freezing: Strikes a balance, freezing lower layers to maintain efficiency while training the more adaptable upper layers, outperforming LoRA in most scenarios.
- Quantization: Significantly decreases memory usage and enables deployment on resource-limited devices, but often comes at the cost of reduced translation quality, especially in complex domains like science.

## 6 Acknowledgments

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## 7 Appendix

# 7.1 Hyper-parameter Tuning for Baseline Model Results

| Learning Rate | Batch Size | Number of Epochs | Training Loss | Validation Loss |
|---------------|------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 2e-5          | 8          | 1                | 1.9563        | 1.9182          |
| 2e-5          | 8          | 2                | 1.4845        | 1.9859          |
| 2e-5          | 8          | 3                | 1.2150        | 2.0565          |
| 2e-5          | 16         | 1                | 1.9466        | 1.9152          |
| 2e-5          | 16         | 2                | 1.5788        | 1.9522          |
| 2e-5          | 16         | 3                | 1.3677        | 1.9965          |
| 3e-5          | 8          | 1                | 1.9760        | 1.9337          |
| 3e-5          | 8          | 2                | 1.3826        | 2.0395          |
| 3e-5          | 8          | 3                | 1.0099        | 2.1650          |
| 3e-5          | 16         | 1                | 1.9566        | 1.9234          |
| 3e-5          | 16         | 2                | 1.4807        | 1.9864          |
| 3e-5          | 16         | 3                | 1.1861        | 2.0703          |
| 5e-5          | 8          | 1                | 2.0179        | 1.9713          |
| 5e-5          | 8          | 2                | 1.2685        | 2.1388          |
| 5e-5          | 8          | 3                | 0.7508        | 2.3698          |
| 5e-5          | 16         | 1                | 1.9842        | 1.9463          |
| 5e-5          | 16         | 2                | 1.3523        | 2.0622          |
| 5e-5          | 16         | 3                | 0.9291        | 2.2199          |

Table 13: mBART Fine-Tuning Hyperparameters and Losses for Education

| Learning Rate | Batch Size | Number of Epochs | Training Loss | Validation Loss |
|---------------|------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 2e-5          | 8          | 1                | 1.8151        | 1.8982          |
| 2e-5          | 8          | 2                | 1.3700        | 1.8215          |
| 2e-5          | 8          | 3                | 1.1274        | 1.8953          |
| 2e-5          | 16         | 1                | 1.9304        | 1.8253          |
| 2e-5          | 16         | 2                | 1.5488        | 1.8156          |
| 2e-5          | 16         | 3                | 1.2680        | 1.8524          |
| 3e-5          | 8          | 1                | 1.9062        | 1.8168          |
| 3e-5          | 8          | 2                | 1.2550        | 1.8457          |
| 3e-5          | 8          | 3                | 0.9232        | 1.9832          |
| 3e-5          | 16         | 1                | 1.9273        | 1.8188          |
| 3e-5          | 16         | 2                | 1.4352        | 1.8282          |
| 3e-5          | 16         | 3                | 1.0832        | 1.9074          |
| 5e-5          | 8          | 1                | 1.9328        | 1.8386          |
| 5e-5          | 8          | 2                | 1.1167        | 1.9054          |
| 5e-5          | 8          | 3                | 0.6745        | 2.3698          |
| 5e-5          | 16         | 1                | 1.9416        | 1.9463          |
| 5e-5          | 16         | 2                | 1.2848        | 2.0622          |
| 5e-5          | 16         | 3                | 0.8313        | 2.2199          |

Table 14: mBART Fine-Tuning Hyperparameters and Losses for Science

| Learning Rate | Batch Size | Number of Epochs | Training Loss | Validation Loss |
|---------------|------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 2e-5          | 8          | 1                | 2.6341        | 2.5277          |
| 2e-5          | 8          | 2                | 2.1900        | 2.4427          |
| 2e-5          | 8          | 3                | 1.8121        | 2.4457          |
| 2e-5          | 16         | 1                | 2.6846        | 2.5577          |
| 2e-5          | 16         | 2                | 2.2645        | 2.4678          |
| 2e-5          | 16         | 3                | 1.9541        | 2.4428          |
| 3e-5          | 8          | 1                | 2.6137        | 2.5050          |
| 3e-5          | 8          | 2                | 2.0599        | 2.4494          |
| 3e-5          | 8          | 3                | 1.6219        | 2.4748          |
| 3e-5          | 16         | 1                | 2.6547        | 2.5285          |
| 3e-5          | 16         | 2                | 2.1253        | 2.4423          |
| 3e-5          | 16         | 3                | 1.7659        | 2.4484          |
| 5e-5          | 8          | 1                | 2.6147        | 2.5022          |
| 5e-5          | 8          | 2                | 1.9222        | 2.4868          |
| 5e-5          | 8          | 3                | 1.3821        | 2.5506          |
| 5e-5          | 16         | 1                | 2.6320        | 2.5020          |
| 5e-5          | 16         | 2                | 1.9724        | 2.4582          |
| 5e-5          | 16         | 3                | 1.5227        | 2.4989          |

Table 15: M2M100 Fine-Tuning Hyperparameters and Losses for Education

| Learning Rate | Batch Size | Number of Epochs | Training Loss | Validation Loss |
|---------------|------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 2e-5          | 8          | 1                | 1.5302        | 1.5447          |
| 2e-5          | 8          | 2                | 1.1101        | 1.5898          |
| 2e-5          | 8          | 3                | 0.7915        | 1.6707          |
| 2e-5          | 16         | 1                | 1.4962        | 1.5333          |
| 2e-5          | 16         | 2                | 1.1709        | 1.5618          |
| 2e-5          | 16         | 3                | 0.9250        | 1.6162          |
| 3e-5          | 8          | 1                | 1.5792        | 1.5947          |
| 3e-5          | 8          | 2                | 1.0303        | 1.6540          |
| 3e-5          | 8          | 3                | 0.6408        | 1.7778          |
| 3e-5          | 16         | 1                | 1.5286        | 1.5670          |
| 3e-5          | 16         | 2                | 1.0864        | 1.6112          |
| 3e-5          | 16         | 3                | 0.7767        | 1.6992          |
| 5e-5          | 8          | 1                | 1.6798        | 1.6967          |
| 5e-5          | 8          | 2                | 0.9531        | 1.7703          |
| 5e-5          | 8          | 3                | 0.4760        | 1.9640          |
| 5e-5          | 16         | 1                | 1.5986        | 1.6399          |
| 5e-5          | 16         | 2                | 0.9914        | 1.7082          |
| 5e-5          | 16         | 3                | 0.5911        | 1.8461          |

Table 16: M2M100 Fine-Tuning Hyperparameters and Losses for Science

#### 7.2 Hyper-parameter Tuning for LoRA Results

| Rank Values (r) | Scaling Factor (a) | Dropout Values | Training Loss | Validation Loss |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 8               | 16                 | 0.0            | 2.269500      | 2.186194        |
| 8               | 16                 | 0.1            | 2.218100      | 2.136166        |
| 8               | 16                 | 0.2            | 2.228000      | 2.146366        |
| 8               | 32                 | 0.0            | 2.072600      | 2.003432        |
| 8               | 32                 | 0.1            | 2.070800      | 2.004421        |
| 8               | 32                 | 0.2            | 2.072200      | 2.005456        |
| 8               | 64                 | 0.0            | 2.033000      | 1.967467        |
| 8               | 64                 | 0.1            | 2.031000      | 1.968252        |
| 8               | 64                 | 0.2            | 2.032000      | 1.968983        |
| 16              | 16                 | 0.0            | 2.280500      | 2.197836        |
| 16              | 16                 | 0.1            | 2.280000      | 2.202169        |
| 16              | 16                 | 0.2            | 2.290800      | 2.214560        |
| 16              | 32                 | 0.0            | 2.076000      | 2.006214        |
| 16              | 32                 | 0.1            | 2.073900      | 2.007113        |
| 16              | 32                 | 0.2            | 2.075300      | 2.008230        |
| 16              | 64                 | 0.0            | 2.039500      | 1.973194        |
| 16              | 64                 | 0.1            | 2.036900      | 1.973644        |
| 16              | 64                 | 0.2            | 2.037400      | 1.973854        |
| 32              | 16                 | 0.0            | 2.260900      | 2.176215        |
| 32              | 16                 | 0.1            | 2.266600      | 2.187254        |
| 32              | 16                 | 0.2            | 2.276200      | 2.197995        |
| 32              | 32                 | 0.0            | 2.075400      | 2.005779        |
| 32              | 32                 | 0.1            | 2.073200      | 2.006605        |
| 32              | 32                 | 0.2            | 2.074700      | 2.007794        |
| 32              | 64                 | 0.0            | 2.041200      | 1.974903        |
| 32              | 64                 | 0.1            | 2.038600      | 1.975254        |
| 32              | 64                 | 0.2            | 2.039600      | 1.975913        |

Table 17: Hyperparameter Fine-Tuning for LoRA-injected mBART on Education Domain

| Rank Values (r) | Scaling Factor (a) | Dropout | Training Loss | Validation Loss |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------|---------------|-----------------|
| 8               | 16                 | 0.0     | 2.075400      | 2.084480        |
| 8               | 16                 | 0.1     | 2.073500      | 2.084773        |
| 8               | 16                 | 0.2     | 2.074500      | 2.085670        |
| 8               | 32                 | 0.0     | 2.045600      | 2.054320        |
| 8               | 32                 | 0.1     | 2.044000      | 2.054817        |
| 8               | 32                 | 0.2     | 2.045200      | 2.055982        |
| 8               | 64                 | 0.0     | 2.016100      | 2.024966        |
| 8               | 64                 | 0.1     | 2.015000      | 2.025520        |
| 8               | 64                 | 0.2     | 2.016400      | 2.026753        |
| 16              | 16                 | 0.0     | 2.075600      | 2.084319        |
| 16              | 16                 | 0.1     | 2.073300      | 2.084745        |
| 16              | 16                 | 0.2     | 2.074400      | 2.085694        |
| 16              | 32                 | 0.0     | 2.045800      | 2.054456        |
| 16              | 32                 | 0.1     | 2.043700      | 2.054771        |
| 16              | 32                 | 0.2     | 2.045100      | 2.055901        |
| 16              | 64                 | 0.0     | 2.016300      | 2.025228        |
| 16              | 64                 | 0.1     | 2.014800      | 2.025674        |
| 16              | 64                 | 0.2     | 2.016100      | 2.026709        |
| 32              | 16                 | 0.0     | 2.075500      | 2.084476        |
| 32              | 16                 | 0.1     | 2.073600      | 2.085136        |
| 32              | 16                 | 0.2     | 2.074700      | 2.086110        |
| 32              | 32                 | 0.0     | 2.046100      | 2.055015        |
| 32              | 32                 | 0.1     | 2.044500      | 2.055676        |
| 32              | 32                 | 0.2     | 2.045600      | 2.056716        |
| 32              | 64                 | 0.0     | 2.016400      | 2.025542        |
| 32              | 64                 | 0.1     | 2.015300      | 2.026190        |
| 32              | 64                 | 0.2     | 2.016600      | 2.027361        |

LoRA-injected mBART on Science Domain

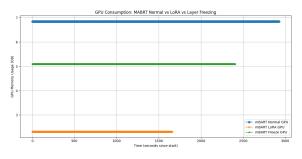
| Rank Values (r) | Scaling Factor (a) | Dropout | Training Loss | Validation Loss |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------|---------------|-----------------|
| 8               | 16                 | 0.0     | 3.061000      | 2.842442        |
| 8               | 16                 | 0.1     | 3.059800      | 2.842457        |
| 8               | 16                 | 0.2     | 3.061900      | 2.844099        |
| 8               | 32                 | 0.0     | 3.031200      | 2.816317        |
| 8               | 32                 | 0.1     | 3.032200      | 2.817689        |
| 8               | 32                 | 0.2     | 3.034500      | 2.819312        |
| 8               | 64                 | 0.0     | 2.999900      | 2.791431        |
| 8               | 64                 | 0.1     | 3.003500      | 2.794098        |
| 8               | 64                 | 0.2     | 3.006600      | 2.796152        |
| 16              | 16                 | 0.0     | 3.061600      | 2.842710        |
| 16              | 16                 | 0.1     | 3.062200      | 2.844057        |
| 16              | 16                 | 0.2     | 3.063800      | 2.845312        |
| 16              | 32                 | 0.0     | 3.032000      | 2.816813        |
| 16              | 32                 | 0.1     | 3.033200      | 2.818718        |
| 16              | 32                 | 0.2     | 3.035100      | 2.820055        |
| 16              | 64                 | 0.0     | 3.000700      | 2.792005        |
| 16              | 64                 | 0.1     | 3.003600      | 2.794752        |
| 16              | 64                 | 0.2     | 3.006200      | 2.796460        |
| 32              | 16                 | 0.0     | 3.061600      | 2.842674        |
| 32              | 16                 | 0.1     | 3.061800      | 2.843768        |
| 32              | 16                 | 0.2     | 3.063400      | 2.844864        |
| 32              | 32                 | 0.0     | 3.032100      | 2.816821        |
| 32              | 32                 | 0.1     | 3.032900      | 2.818080        |
| 32              | 32                 | 0.2     | 3.034800      | 2.819568        |
| 32              | 64                 | 0.0     | 3.001200      | 2.792586        |
| 32              | 64                 | 0.1     | 3.003700      | 2.794915        |
| 32              | 64                 | 0.2     | 3.006200      | 2.796576        |

Hyperparameter Fine-Tuning for LoRA-injected M2M100 on Education Domain (3rd epoch)

| Rank (r) | Alpha $(\alpha)$ | Dropout | Training Loss | Validation Loss | Evaluation Loss |
|----------|------------------|---------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 8        | 16               | 0.0     | 3.233600      | 3.063320        | 3.063320        |
| 8        | 16               | 0.1     | 3.227100      | 3.056787        | 3.056787        |
| 8        | 16               | 0.2     | 3.237200      | 3.066366        | 3.066366        |
| 8        | 32               | 0.0     | 3.094100      | 2.931028        | 2.931028        |
| 8        | 32               | 0.1     | 3.096200      | 2.934254        | 2.934254        |
| 8        | 32               | 0.2     | 3.101000      | 2.938328        | 2.938328        |
| 8        | 64               | 0.0     | 3.033500      | 2.874502        | 2.874502        |
| 8        | 64               | 0.1     | 3.033800      | 2.876885        | 2.876885        |
| 8        | 64               | 0.2     | 3.037700      | 2.880006        | 2.880006        |
| 16       | 16               | 0.0     | 3.240600      | 3.070621        | 3.070621        |
| 16       | 16               | 0.1     | 3.249300      | 3.079134        | 3.079134        |
| 16       | 16               | 0.2     | 3.260000      | 3.089163        | 3.089163        |
| 16       | 32               | 0.0     | 3.098900      | 2.936606        | 2.936606        |
| 16       | 32               | 0.1     | 3.101100      | 2.940071        | 2.940071        |
| 16       | 32               | 0.2     | 3.106300      | 2.944297        | 2.944297        |
| 16       | 64               | 0.0     | 3.036000      | 2.877845        | 2.877845        |
| 16       | 64               | 0.1     | 3.036300      | 2.879981        | 2.879981        |
| 16       | 64               | 0.2     | 3.040700      | 2.883339        | 2.883339        |
| 32       | 16               | 0.0     | 3.244200      | 3.073837        | 3.073837        |
| 32       | 16               | 0.1     | 3.251700      | 3.081498        | 3.081498        |
| 32       | 16               | 0.2     | 3.263600      | 3.092737        | 3.092737        |
| 32       | 32               | 0.0     | 3.102300      | 2.939461        | 2.939461        |
| 32       | 32               | 0.1     | 3.103100      | 2.942031        | 2.942031        |
| 32       | 32               | 0.2     | 3.108300      | 2.946282        | 2.946282        |
| 32       | 64               | 0.0     | 3.035800      | 2.877304        | 2.877304        |
| 32       | 64               | 0.1     | 3.035900      | 2.879772        | 2.879772        |
| 32       | 64               | 0.2     | 3.040700      | 2.883350        | 2.883350        |

Table 20: Hyperparameter Fine-Tuning for LoRA-injected M2M100 on Science Domain

#### 7.3 **GPU Consumption Graphs**



Hyperparameter Fine-Tuning for Figure 4: GPU Consumption: mBART Normal vs LoRA vs Layer Freezing on Education Domain

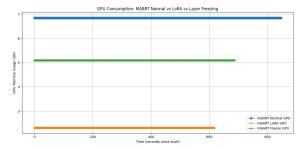


Figure 5: GPU Consumption: mBART Normal vs LoRA vs Layer Freezing on Science Domain

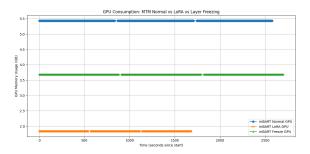


Figure 6: GPU Consumption: M2M Normal vs LoRA vs Layer Freezing on Education

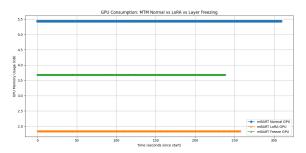


Figure 7: GPU Consumption: M2M Normal vs LoRA vs Layer Freezing on Science Domain

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