

NEURAL INFORMATION
PROCESSING SYSTEMS



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Personalized Adapter for Large Meteorology Model on Devices: Towards Weather Foundation Models

Shengchao Chen¹, Guodong Long¹, Jing Jiang¹, Chengqi Zhang²

¹ Australian AI Institute, FEIT, University of Technology Sydney

² Department of Data Science and AI, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

1. Motivations

2. Contributions

3. Framework

4. Datasets

5. Results



Accurate meteorology variables modeling is crucial in addressing the global threat of climate change.

Is it possible to *develop weather foundation models (WFMs)* that can effectively model meteorological variables across various regions?

□ From on-device meteorology variables modeling toward WFMs:

- ❖ Meteorology variables across regions interact significantly (e.g., spatial relations), allowing for *mutually beneficial modeling*.
- ❖ Mainstream methods typically use *task/data-specific deep models*, the intuition for achieving excellent performance is that fuses *large-scale cross-region datasets to centralised training*.

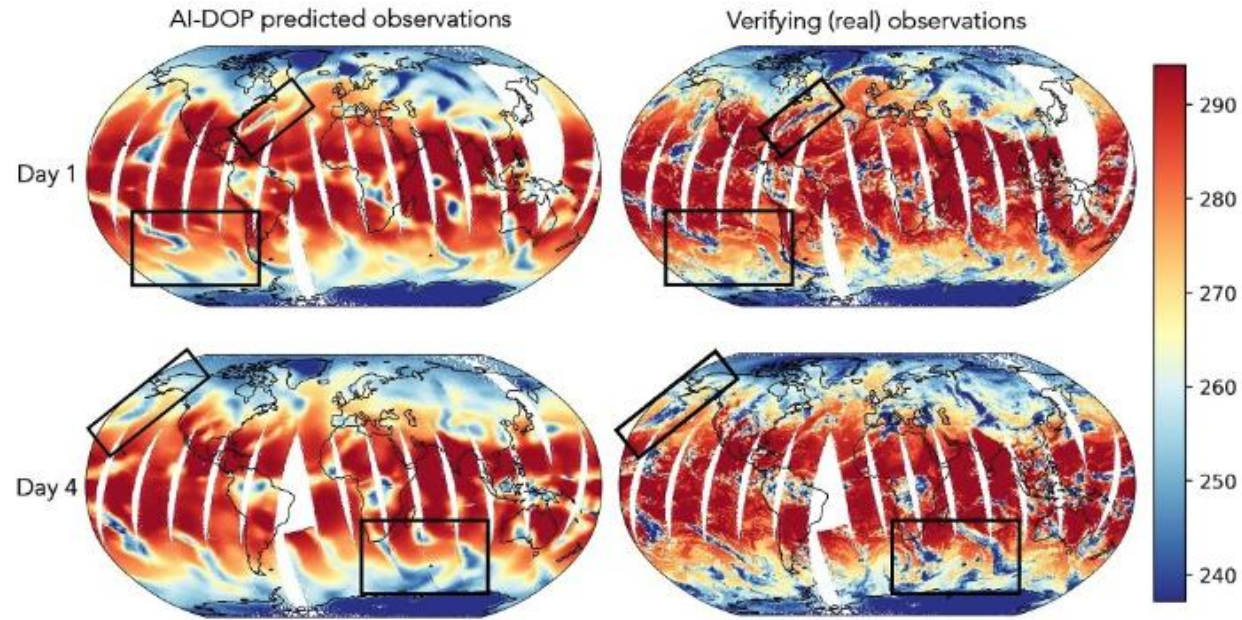
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❑ Current advancements about WFMs

- ❖ **Traning datasets:** Large reanalysis (simulation) datasets (e.g., ERA5)
- ❖ **Models parameters:** Large-scale model parameters
- ❖ **Traning strategy:** centralized training

Not realistic for low-resource weather device in practice

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□ Generic framework:

- ❖ We propose *LM-Weather*, a generic FL framework that transforms Pretrained Language Models into customized models for on-device meteorological variable modeling. LM-Weather is *parameter-, communication-, and data-efficient*.

□ Adaption and communication mechanism:

- ❖ We propose *personalized adapter* for local PLMs with LoRA, to facilitate knowledge transfer from text to weather sequences. In addition, we introduce low-rank communication to reduce overhead while maintaining performance.

□ Real-world datasets:

- ❖ We compile *real-world, real-observation datasets* for on-device meteorological variable modeling, which pioneers in the field of on-device meteorological variable modeling.

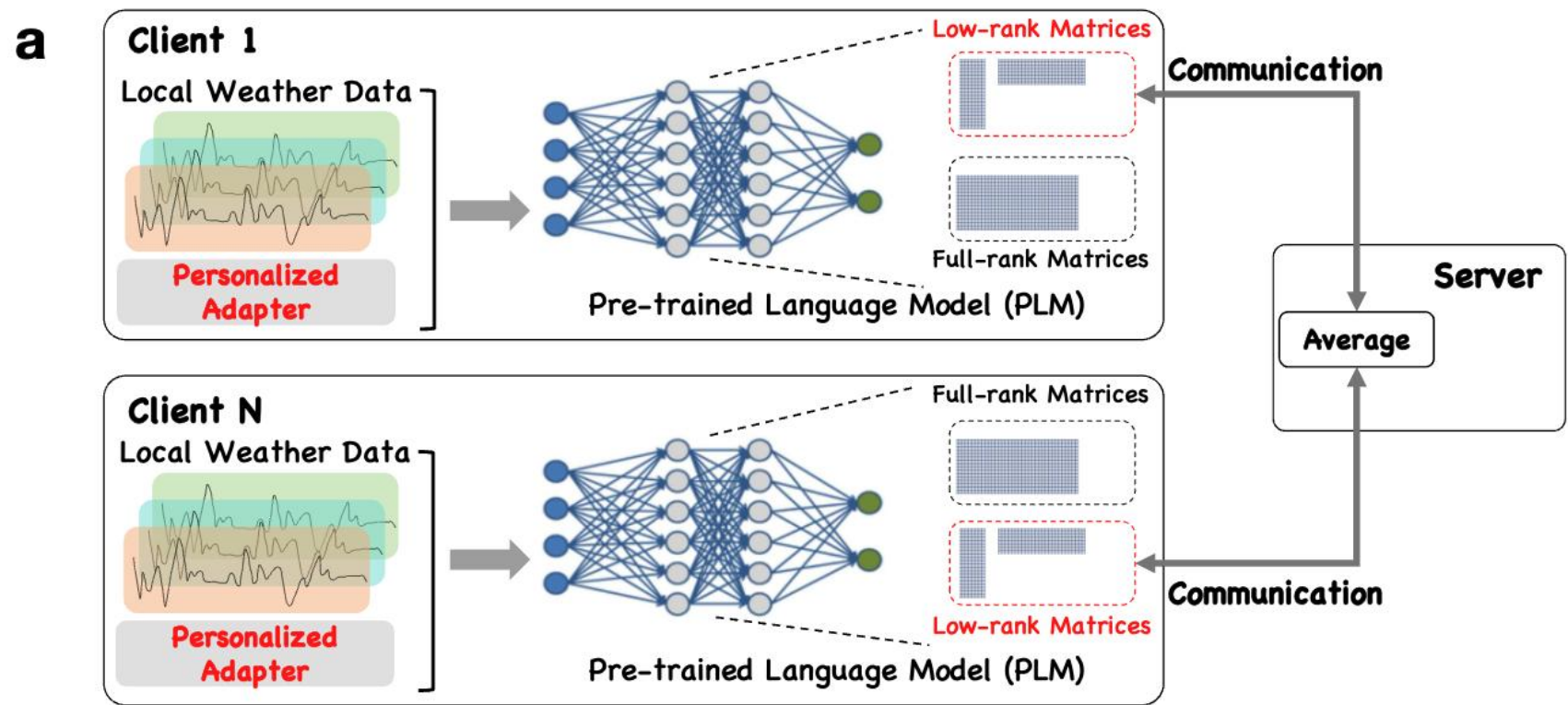
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- ❖ **Distributed Architecture:** Using federated learning to handle the Non-IID data among devices, while ensuring privacy and computational & communication burden from centralized training.
- ❖ **Personalized Adapter on PLM:** Taming the local PLM via achieving knowledge transferring between text and weather sequence.
- ❖ **Low-rank Communication:** A minimal number of parameters are both computed and communicated.

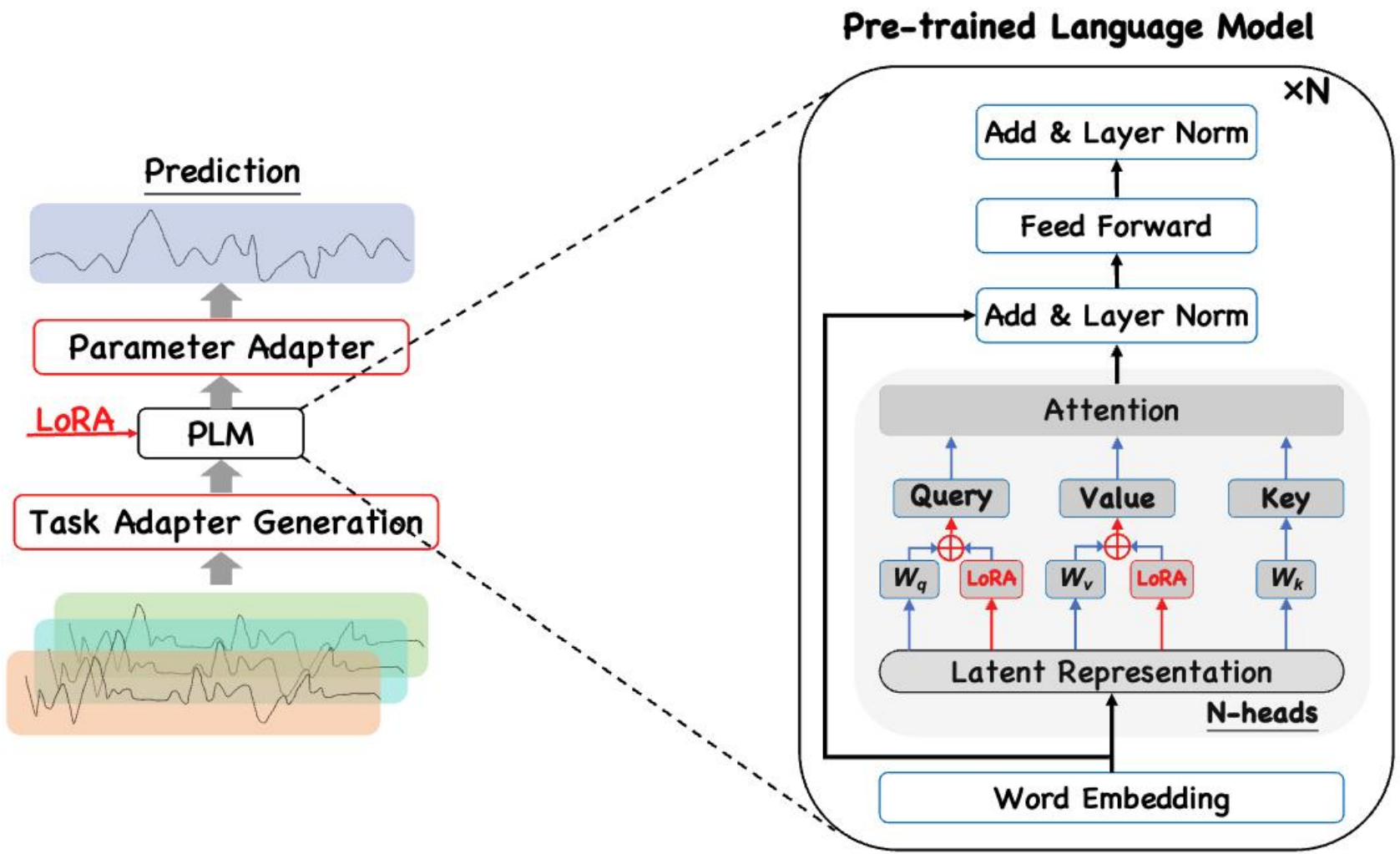
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➔ Information Flow Trainable Frozen + Plus \oplus Concatenate

Personalized adapter consists of Task Adapter and Parameter Adapter, the low-rank adaption (LoRA) works on PLM backbone.

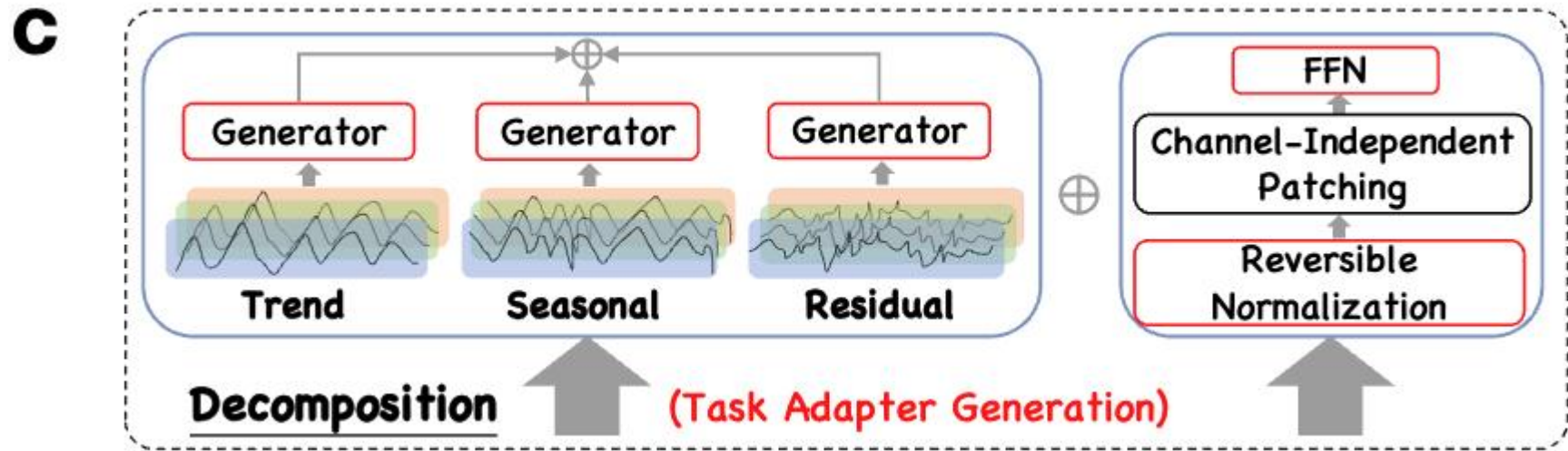
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□ Task Adapter have three independent generators, but firstly:

Sequence Decomposition: $\mathcal{X}_{\text{Trend}}^k + \mathcal{X}_{\text{Seasonal}}^k + \mathcal{X}_{\text{Residual}}^k = \text{Decomp}(\mathcal{X}^k)$

Reversible Normalization: $\mathcal{X}'_{\text{Trend}} = \gamma_T \left(\mathcal{X}_{\text{Trend}} - \frac{\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{X}_{\text{Trend}}]}{\sqrt{\text{Var}[\mathcal{X}_{\text{Trend}}] + \epsilon_T}} \right) + \beta_T$

$P_d = P_{\text{TO}}^d + P_{\text{PO}}^d + P_{\text{TE}}^d$, where $d \in \{\text{Trend, Seasonal, Residual}\}$

1. Motivations

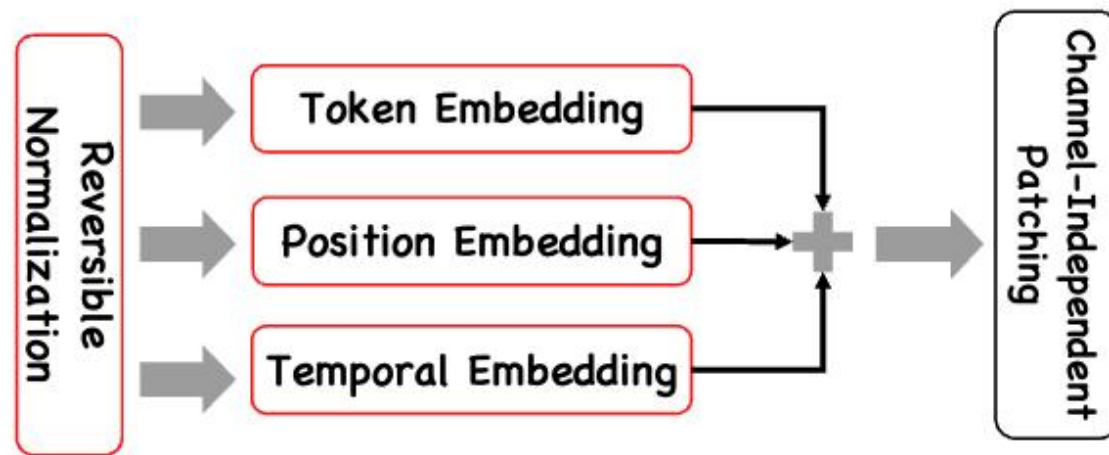
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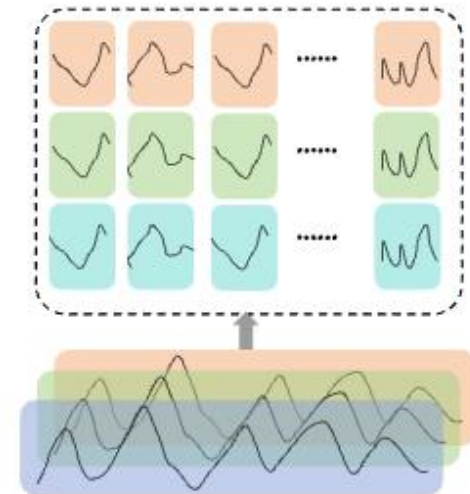
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d



e



□ For each generator:

- ❖ Token Embedding, using 1DCNN to tokenize each sample:

$$P_{TO}^k = \text{CONV1D}(\mathcal{X}^k), \quad P_{TO} = \text{CONV1D}(\mathcal{X})$$

- ❖ Position Embedding, using a trainable lookup table to mapping each point's position:

$$P_{PO} = \mathbf{E}(\text{INDEX}(\mathcal{X}))$$

- ❖ Temporal Embedding, encoding different time attributes to samples:

$$P_{TE} = \sum_{\alpha \in \{\text{mins, hours, days, weeks, months}\}} \mathbf{E}_{\alpha}(\mathcal{X})$$

Contains 20 variables

□ Four real-world datasets:

- **ODW1 Series:** ODW1T & ODW1V
- **ODW2 Series:** ODW2T & ODW2V

T: has a heterogeneous time span, meaning the data collection start and end times vary by location.

V: extends T-version by adding variability in the observed variables.

Abbreviation	Full name	Unit
ap	Air Pressure	<i>hpa</i>
t	Air Temperature	$^{\circ}C$
mxt	Maximum Temperature	$^{\circ}C$
mnt	Minimum Temperature	$^{\circ}C$
dt	Dewpoint Temperature	$^{\circ}C$
rh	Relative Humidity	%
wvp	Water Vapor Pressure	<i>hpa</i>
p1	Precipitation in 1h	<i>mm</i>
p2	Precipitation in 3h	<i>mm</i>
p3	Precipitation in 6h	<i>mm</i>
p4	Precipitation in 12h	<i>mm</i>
p5	Precipitation in 24h	<i>mm</i>
wd	Wind Direction	$^{\circ}C$
ws	Wind Speed	ms^{-1}
mwd	Maximum Wind Direction	$^{\circ}$
st	Land Surface Temperature	$^{\circ}C$
hv1	Horizontal Visibility in 1 min	<i>m</i>
hv2	Horizontal Visibility in 10 min	<i>m</i>
vv	Vertical Visibility	<i>m</i>

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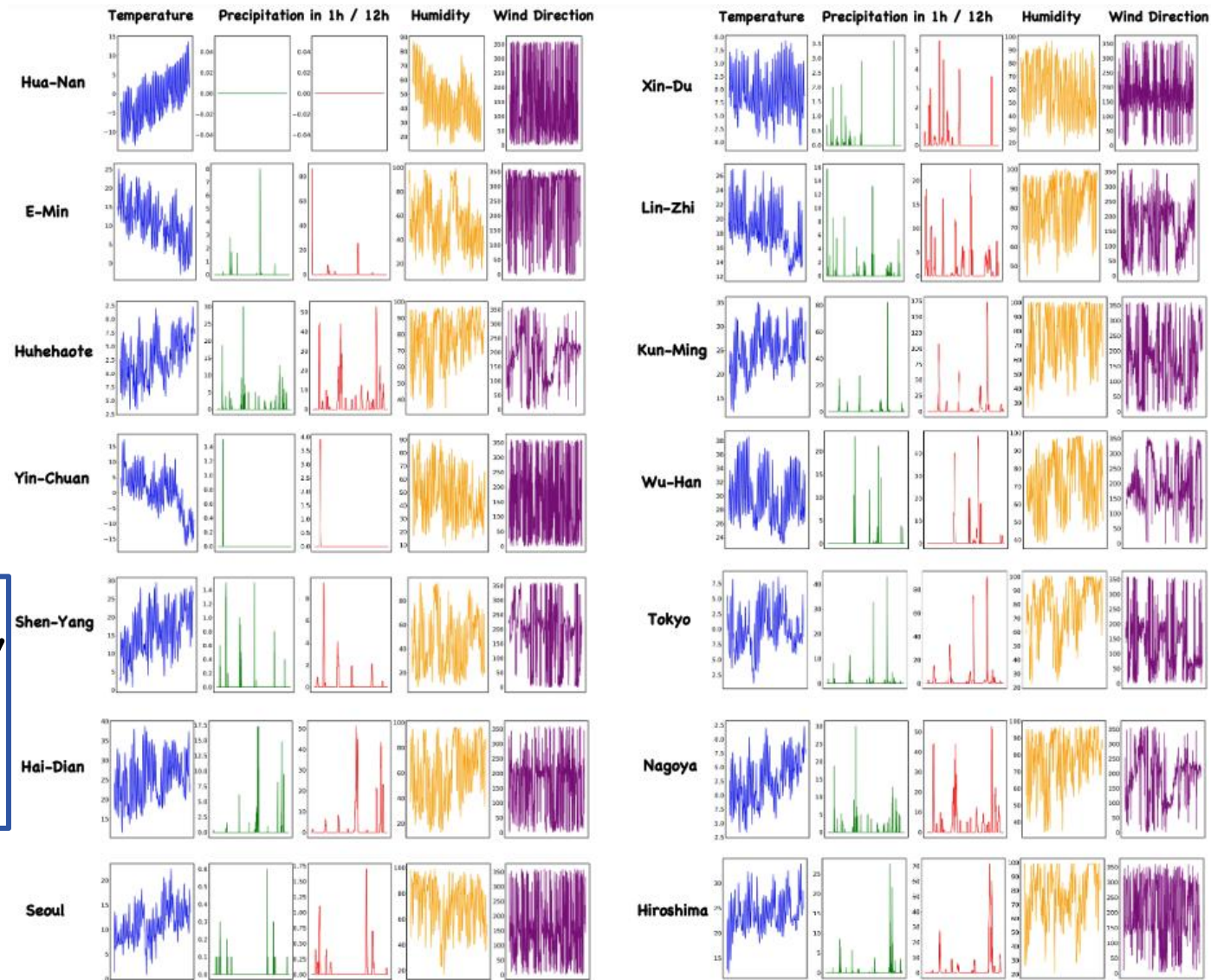
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ODW1 Dataset: Partial visualization

15 stations in China,
Japan, and South
Korea



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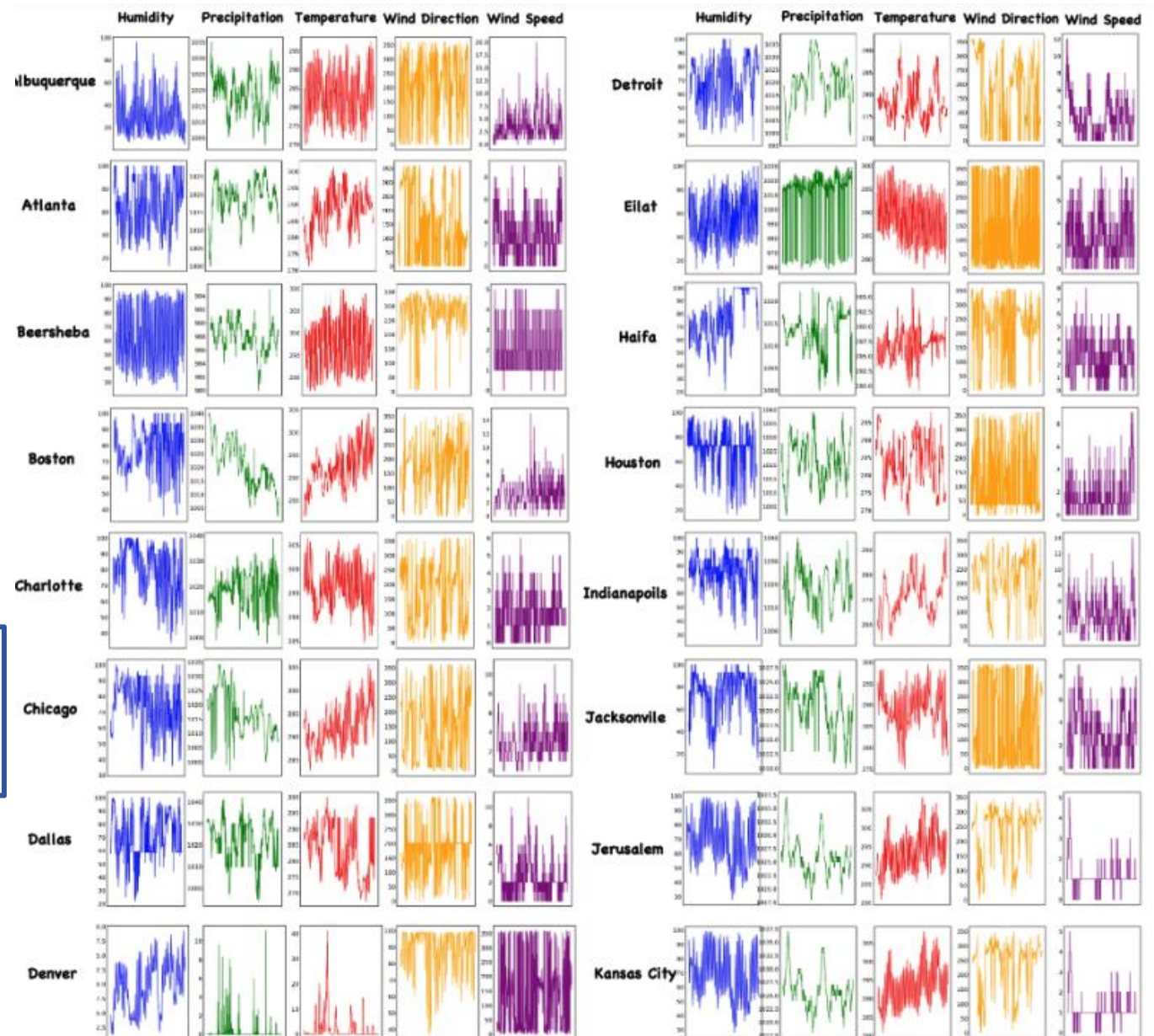
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ODW2 Dataset: Partial visualization

36 stations in US,
Canada, and Israel



□ Main Results (Imputation, 50% masking ratio)

Method		LM-WEATHER-AVE		LM-WEATHER		FL-GPT4TS		FL-Reformer		FL-Pyraformer		FL-DLinear		FL-PatchTST		FL-iTransformer		FL-LightTS		FL-Transformer		FL-Informer	
Dataset	Length	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE
ODW1T	96	22.4	43.5	21.7	41.8	23.3	45.2	63.7	88.4	62.2	85.9	29.2	50.8	28.9	54.6	22.8	44.5	24.4	43.7	58.3	82.8	70.8	99.6
	192	23.4	43.7	22.6	42.0	24.6	45.9	67.2	91.2	65.5	88.5	28.7	50.2	47.5	77.3	23.8	44.1	25.7	45.3	57.3	82.4	66.3	92.1
	336	24.1	44.1	23.2	42.4	25.3	46.3	70.4	93.4	68.5	90.6	28.3	49.4	48.6	77.0	27.2	47.7	26.9	46.6	58.4	83.5	36.9	55.3
	720	26.0	45.1	24.9	43.3	27.3	47.4	77.9	96.8	75.8	93.9	28.0	49.0	56.6	85.1	36.5	56.2	27.2	47.4	56.6	80.4	71.7	96.7
	Avg.	24.0	44.1	23.1	42.4	25.1	46.2	69.8	92.5	68.0	89.7	28.5	49.9	45.4	73.5	27.6	48.2	26.1	45.7	57.6	82.3	61.4	85.9
ODW1V	96	42.1	62.0	41.1	60.4	42.9	63.8	43.8	64.9	42.3	53.0	43.0	63.0	53.6	77.1	38.7	58.2	41.5	61.5	37.8	56.9	41.1	59.2
	192	43.9	64.5	42.8	62.8	45.6	66.9	45.8	67.6	44.7	56.2	49.3	71.2	57.5	81.5	49.3	68.9	41.9	62.0	44.1	57.4	48.8	66.8
	336	45.7	66.6	44.6	64.9	47.5	69.2	47.6	69.8	54.6	65.7	53.4	76.6	60.7	85.0	60.0	79.8	47.3	64.6	48.5	68.0	50.2	67.1
	720	47.5	68.7	46.3	66.9	49.4	71.4	49.6	72.0	59.2	73.5	56.8	80.7	63.3	87.4	61.6	80.4	52.5	72.9	52.7	70.1	60.3	77.2
	Avg.	44.8	65.5	43.7	63.8	46.4	67.8	46.7	68.6	50.2	62.1	50.6	72.9	58.8	82.7	52.4	71.8	45.8	65.3	45.8	63.1	50.1	67.6
ODW2T	96	38.0	56.6	36.9	54.9	39.1	58.3	50.3	70.3	95.4	120.8	40.8	60.0	38.4	58.6	39.1	58.3	38.8	57.8	65.5	86.6	51.7	72.0
	192	38.3	56.6	37.2	54.9	39.8	58.9	52.1	74.2	96.2	122.3	42.9	62.7	66.7	87.8	39.4	58.3	39.5	58.4	71.4	92.8	55.0	75.7
	336	43.5	65.5	42.2	63.5	44.8	68.1	56.6	78.9	97.8	125.5	46.0	67.7	68.7	90.1	44.8	67.5	47.8	65.3	66.8	88.8	51.5	72.8
	720	47.9	68.8	46.5	66.7	49.8	71.5	64.3	87.7	99.1	129.9	52.8	76.1	70.4	93.5	49.3	71.0	48.0	68.0	67.4	89.2	51.5	73.0
	Avg.	41.9	61.9	38.8	61.7	43.4	64.2	55.8	77.8	97.1	124.6	45.6	66.6	61.1	82.5	43.2	63.8	43.5	62.4	67.8	89.4	52.4	73.4
ODW2V	96	28.1	45.3	27.5	44.0	28.4	45.8	50.3	70.3	53.2	72.4	72.1	92.0	39.8	58.4	72.7	94.7	96.4	123.5	52.7	73.2	54.8	76.9
	192	28.6	45.3	28.0	44.0	29.2	46.1	51.0	71.1	46.1	65.2	75.7	95.9	44.9	63.7	79.1	102.0	98.6	125.8	53.9	74.7	56.2	78.8
	336	33.7	49.8	32.7	48.4	34.9	51.8	54.2	76.6	74.2	97.3	77.3	97.8	50.9	70.1	82.6	106.1	101.2	128.8	54.4	75.4	56.8	79.7
	720	37.1	53.1	36.0	51.5	39.3	56.3	59.4	81.7	82.4	100.9	77.1	97.3	59.2	79.3	83.0	106.0	98.5	124.3	55.4	77.5	56.4	78.6
	Avg.	31.9	48.4	31.1	47.0	33.0	50.0	53.7	74.9	64.0	84.0	75.5	95.8	48.7	67.9	79.4	102.2	98.7	125.6	54.1	75.2	56.0	78.5
1 st Count		0		30		0		0		0		0		0		0		0		0		0	

❖ Few-shot Experiments (5% training data, 50% masking ratio)

Method		LM-WEATHER-AVE		LM-WEATHER		FL-GPT4TS		FL-Reformer		FL-Pyraformer		FL-DLinear		FL-PatchTST		FL-iTransformer		FL-LightTS		FL-Transformer		FL-Informer	
Ratio	Length	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE	MAE	RMSE
ODW1T	96	61.2	121.2	59.9	120.8	62.4	138.6	147.4	261.3	149.5	256.4	110.0	209.1	64.2	147.0	119.0	228.5	173.0	310.8	140.8	260.0	143.9	264.7
	192	69.1	130.2	64.7	127.7	67.3	145.2	151.3	267.8	152.0	258.1	110.1	203.4	74.1	155.1	120.9	223.0	172.2	301.4	149.1	262.4	150.3	264.2
	336/720	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Avg.	65.2	125.7	62.3	124.4	64.9	141.9	149.4	264.6	150.8	257.3	110.0	206.2	69.2	151.0	120.0	225.7	172.6	306.1	145.0	261.2	147.1	264.4
ODW1V	96	62.2	134.1	62.8	135.5	67.3	131.2	103.9	189.8	61.5	132.6	112.2	208.4	161.1	281.5	117.6	219.5	119.6	223.5	98.0	198.5	94.2	188.1
	192	71.4	140.5	72.2	142.1	74.6	152.7	103.3	182.4	70.6	138.8	113.3	200.6	160.5	272.4	124.5	218.9	122.7	217.8	101.8	191.3	96.7	181.5
	336/720	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Avg.	66.8	137.3	67.5	138.8	71.0	142.0	103.6	186.1	66.1	135.7	112.7	204.5	160.8	276.9	121.0	219.2	121.2	220.7	101.8	194.9	95.5	184.8
ODW2T	96	102.5	156.3	99.4	151.6	112.0	157.2	116.2	161.3	124.9	165.6	123.7	178.3	173.0	256.7	127.3	190.6	133.8	200.3	124.3	187.5	105.7	161.1
	192/336/720	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Avg.	102.5	156.3	99.4	151.6	112.0	157.2	116.2	161.3	124.9	165.6	123.7	178.3	173	256.7	127.3	190.6	133.8	200	124.3	188	105.7	161.0
ODW2V	96	42.4	62.9	35.7	112.1	56.4	77.3	106.8	135.5	70.8	95.5	113.3	148.0	153.8	199.5	101.8	136.4	106.1	142.2	100.1	134.6	89.8	119.0
	192/336/720	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Avg.	42.4	62.9	35.7	112.1	56.4	77.3	106.8	135.5	70.8	95.5	113.3	148.0	153.8	199.5	101.8	136.4	106.1	142.2	100.1	134.6	89.8	119.0
1 st Count		0		12		1		0		6		0		0		0		0		0		0	

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□ Ablation Study

Method	Task		Ablation Perspective		Ave. Variations		Params.#	
	Forecasting	Imputation	Model Component	Personalized Method	Forecasting	Imputation	Train.#	Comm.#
LM-WEATHER	45.4/74.6	23.1/40.0	Original	Original	-	-	10.38 M	0.38 M
LM-WEATHER-A	50.8/87.6	26.0/47.7	wo Decomposition	Original	↓ 11.8%	↓ 12.6%	10.38 M	0.38 M
LM-WEATHER-B	50.9/85.6	25.4/47.1	wo Trend Component	Original	↓ 12.1%	↓ 10.0%	10.37 M	0.38 M
LM-WEATHER-C	50.1/83.6	25.0/46.1	wo Seasonal Component	Original	↓ 10.3%	↓ 8.2%	10.37 M	0.38 M
LM-WEATHER-D	49.3/81.7	24.4/45.6	wo Residual Component	Original	↓ 8.6%	↓ 5.6%	10.37 M	0.38 M
LM-WEATHER-E	53.8/95.6	25.5/47.0	wo Prompt Generator	Original	↓ 18.5%	↓ 10.4%	10.36 M	0.38 M
LM-WEATHER-F	49.4/82.3	28.1/52.0	Original	w LoRA, Local: Low-Rank Matrix, Global: the rest of trainable param.	↓ 8.8%	↓ 21.6%	10.38 M	10.00 M
LM-WEATHER-G	43.2/71.4	22.4/39.1	Original	wo LoRA, Local: Attention Param. Global: Attention Param	↑ 5.1%	↑ 3.1%	52.01 M	41.99 M
LM-WEATHER-H	42.7/71.2	22.2/39.3	Original	wo LoRA, Local: Attention Param. Global: the rest of trainable param.	↑ 6.3%	↑ 4.1%	52.01 M	10.00 M

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- ❖ The personalized adapter *effectively strength PLM's capabilities for weather data modeling*, providing a balance between performance and efficiency.
- ❖ Compared to other tuning strategies, our LoRA-based local tuning and communication method *significantly improves the computational and communication efficiency* of our framework.

□ Framework Analysis

(compared to FL baselines that prioritize communication efficiency)

Method	Forecasting	Imputation	Train.	Comm. Params.	Comm.
FL-Pyraformer	73.0/91.3	68.0/89.7	153.32 M	153.32 M	0.07×
FL-PatchTST	48.6/81.0	45.4/73.5	74.74 M	74.74 M	0.14×
FL-LightTS	62.7/93.4	26.1/45.7	1.68 M	1.68 M	6.2×
FL-DLinear	63.3/82.8	28.5/49.9	1.06 M	1.06 M	9.8×
LM-WEATHER-Ave	47.5/78.7	24.0/44.1	10.38 M	10.38 M	1×
LM-WEATHER (Ours)	45.4/74.6	23.1/42.4	10.38 M	0.38 M	27.3×
LM-WEATHER (w FedKD)	49.6/76.2	27.5/43.6	10.38 M	1.68 M	6.2×
LM-WEATHER (w FedPer)	52.1/79.0	25.1/44.3	10.38 M	8.46 M	1.2×
LM-WEATHER (w FedBF)	46.2/78.1	23.7/44.0	10.49 M	10.49 M	0.9×
LM-WEATHER (w FedAP)	47.4/79.2	24.3/44.7	10.38 M	9.6 M	1.1×
LM-WEATHER (w PromptFL)	46.0/78.4	23.8/45.1	10.38 M	8.4 M	1.2×

- ❖ Our method significantly outperforms the communication-efficient FL baselines in terms of communication efficiency.

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□ Framework Analysis (Robustness to Number of Devices)

Dataset	Rate / Devices	Normal		Few-Shot (15%)	
		Forecasting	Imputation	Forecasting	Imputation
ODW1T	0.1 (2/round)	44.4/73.6	22.6/42.0	64.7/100.4	40.2/68.2
	0.3 (5/round)	43.7/72.5 (↑ 1.55)	24.2/43.7 (↓ 5.55)	63.4/99.7 (↑ 1.40)	41.4/68.7 (↓ 1.85)
	0.5 (8/round)	42.9/72.0 (↑ 2.85)	21.0/42.1 (↑ 3.90)	63.7/99.2 (↑ 1.40)	42.3/68.5 (↓ 2.8)
	0.7 (11/round)	43.9/74.1 (↑ 0.25)	21.8/41.2 (↑ 2.80)	64.5/101.0 (↑ 0.10)	39.5/66.7 (↑ 2.00)
	1.0 (16/round)	44.2/74.0 (0 -)	21.3/41.6 (↑ 3.10)	63.6/100.2 (↑ 0.95)	40.4/68.0 (↓ 0.1)
ODW2T	0.1 (4/round)	66.2/89.1	37.2/54.9	89.7/131.8	77.2/112.6
	0.3 (11/round)	68.2/89.7 (↓ 1.85)	36.5/53.1 (↑ 2.65)	90.2/132.5 (↓ 0.55)	75.4/110.3 (↑ 2.25)
	0.5 (18/round)	65.4/89.2 (↑ 0.55)	36.7/53.4 (↑ 2.05)	89.1/131.4 (↑ 0.50)	76.5/111.2 (↑ 1.10)
	0.7 (25/round)	65.7/88.8 (↑ 0.90)	36.1/53.9 (↑ 2.45)	88.9/130.9 (↑ 0.80)	76.9/112.3 (↑ 0.35)
	1.0 (36/round)	65.9/89.0 (↑ 0.25)	36.9/55.0 (↑ 0.30)	89.1/130.7 (↑ 0.75)	76.7/112.1 (↑ 0.50)

- ❖ Increasing device count during training slightly boosts performance in both regular and few-shot settings.
- ❖ Data distribution imbalances can degrade performance when adding devices, showing non-linear gains.
- ❖ More devices increase communication costs, potentially outweighing minor performance gains.

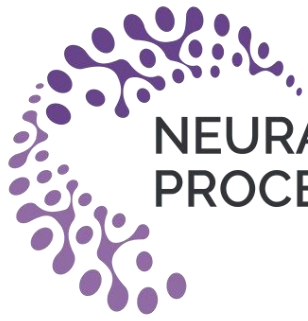
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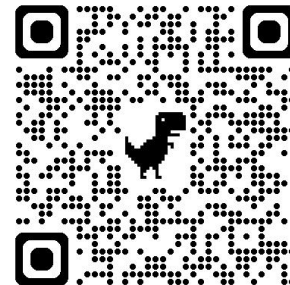
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Thank you!

[Paper]



[Code]



[Our Survey]

