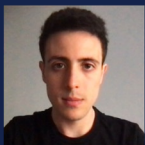


Google DeepMind

UNIVERSITY OF  
COPENHAGEN



# Measuring Progress in Fine-grained Vision-and-Language Understanding



E. Bugliarello



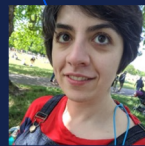
L. Sartran



A. Agrawal



LA. Hendricks



A. Nematzadeh



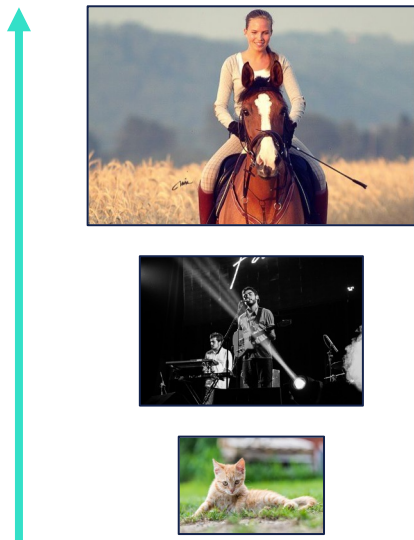
# Coarse-grained vs. Fine-grained Tasks



# Coarse-grained vs. Fine-grained Tasks

## Coarse-grained Image Retrieval

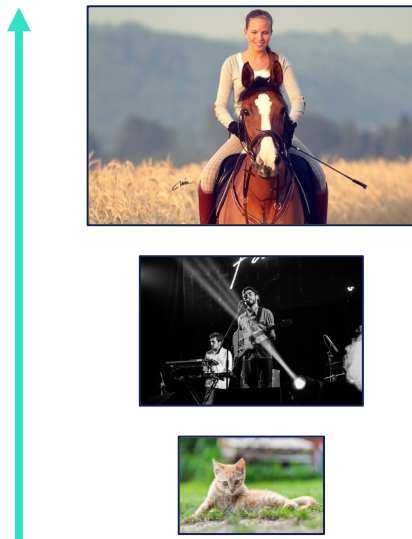
A person is riding a horse.



# Coarse-grained vs. Fine-grained Tasks

## Coarse-grained Image Retrieval

A person is riding a horse.



## Fine-grained Verb Understanding

A man *jumping* into a river.



man, jump, river



man, kayak, river

# What Matters for Fine-grained V&L Understanding?



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Which models perform well on fine-grained tasks?

Localisation modelling > more Web data alone



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Both data and losses needed; data diversity also matters



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Both data and losses needed; data diversity also matters

How does fine-grained understanding evolve during training?

Performance can fluctuate during training, even becoming *worse*





# Benchmarks

## Fine-grained Tasks



# Benchmarks

## Fine-grained Tasks

- VALSE

*A small copper vase with **some flowers** / **exactly one flower** in it.*      *There are **four** / **six** zebras.*



6 phenomena: existence, plurality, counting, relations, actions, coreference

# Benchmarks

## Fine-grained Tasks

- VALSE
- VSR

*A small copper vase with **some flowers** / **exactly one flower** in it.*



*There are **four** / **six** zebras.*



Figure 2: Caption: *The cow is ahead of the person.*  
Label: False.

65 relationships in 7 different categories (e.g., adjacency, proximity)

# Benchmarks

## Fine-grained Tasks

- VALSE
- VSR
- SVO-Probes

A small copper vase with *some flowers* / *exactly one flower* in it.

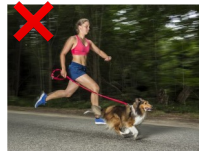


There are *four* / *six* zebras.



Figure 2: Caption: *The cow is ahead of the person.*  
Label: False.

A woman **lying** with a dog



421 verbs with hard negatives for different parts of speech (subject, verb, object)

# Benchmarks

## Fine-grained Tasks

- VALSE
- VSR
- SVO-Probes
- Winoground

A small copper vase with *some flowers* / *exactly one flower* in it.

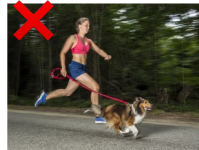


There are *four* / *six* zebras.

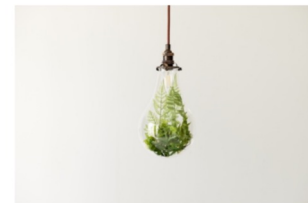


Figure 2: Caption: *The cow is ahead of the person.*  
Label: False.

A woman **lying** with a dog



(a) some plants surrounding a lightbulb



(b) a lightbulb surrounding some plants

Tests a compositionality across 6 linguistic and visual phenomena

# Benchmarks

## Fine-grained Tasks

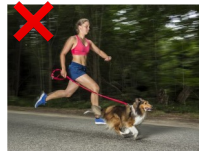
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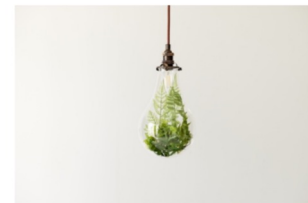


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## Coarse-grained Retrieval Tasks (Flickr30K, COCO)



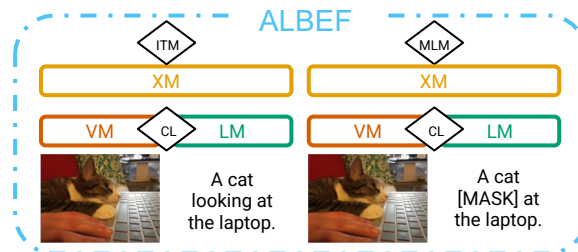
# Baselines



# Baselines

## Coarse-grained Models

- ALBEF (baseline)

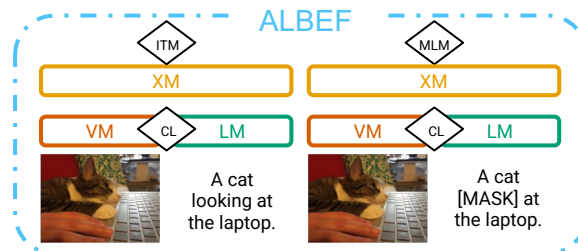




# Baselines

## Coarse-grained Models

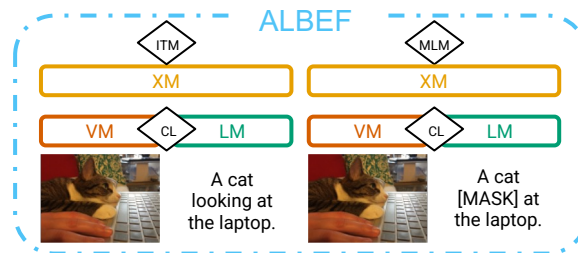
- ALBEF (baseline)
- BLIP (~ALBEF but w/ autoregressive LM)



# Baselines

## Coarse-grained Models

- ALBEF (baseline)
- BLIP (~ALBEF but w/ autoregressive LM)



## Fine-grained Models

Newly proposed fine-grained models do not test on fine-grained tasks!



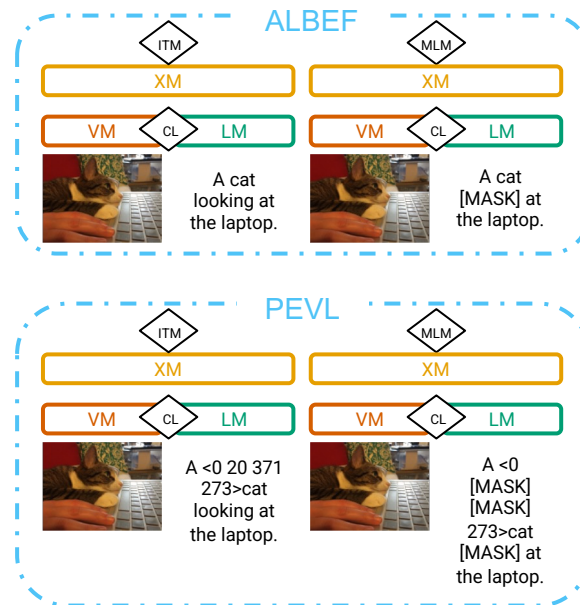
# Baselines

## Coarse-grained Models

- ALBEF (baseline)
- BLIP (~ALBEF but w/ autoregressive LM)

## Fine-grained Models

- PEVL (ALBEF + bbox MLM)



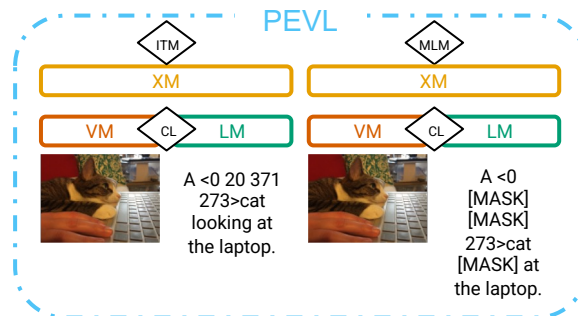
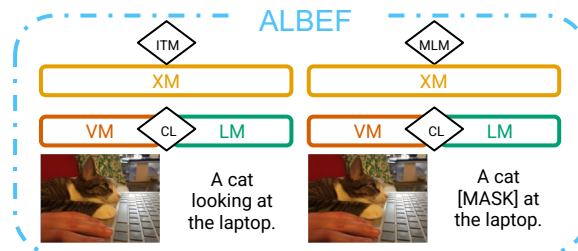
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## Coarse-grained Models

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- BLIP (~ALBEF but w/ autoregressive LM)

## Fine-grained Models

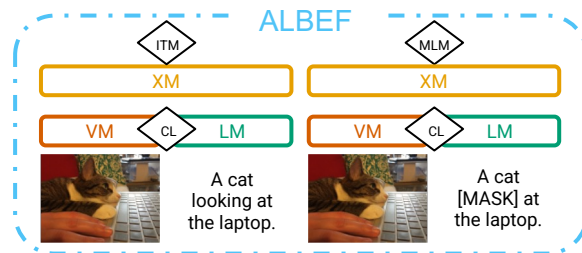
- PEVL (ALBEF + bbox MLM)
- X-VLM (ALBEF + bbox regression)



# Baselines

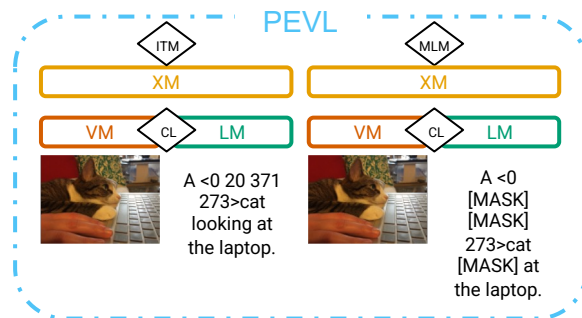
## Coarse-grained Models

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- BLIP (~ALBEF but w/ autoregressive LM)



## Fine-grained Models

- PEVL (ALBEF + bbox MLM)
- X-VLM (ALBEF + bbox regression)



## Other coarse-grained Models (BLIP-2, ClipCap, Flamingo)



# What Matters for Fine-grained V&L Understanding?

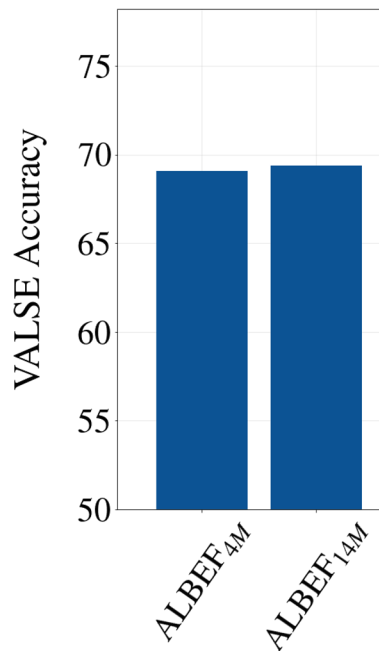
**Which models perform well on fine-grained tasks?**

How do data and losses impact fine-grained understanding?

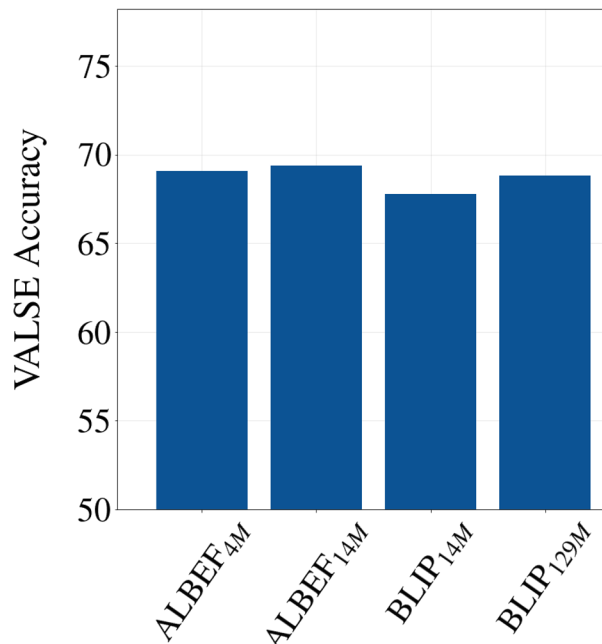
How does fine-grained understanding evolve during training?



# Which models perform well on fine-grained tasks?



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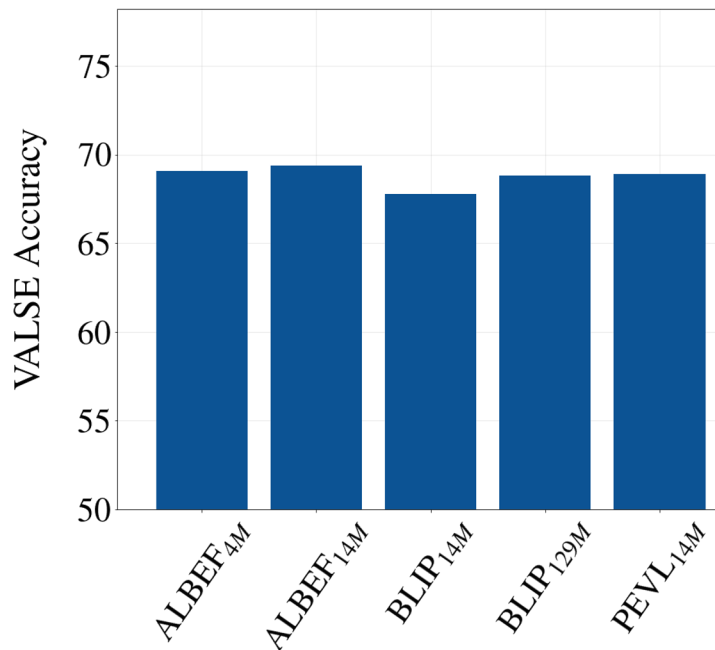


~ALBEF w/ autoregressive LM





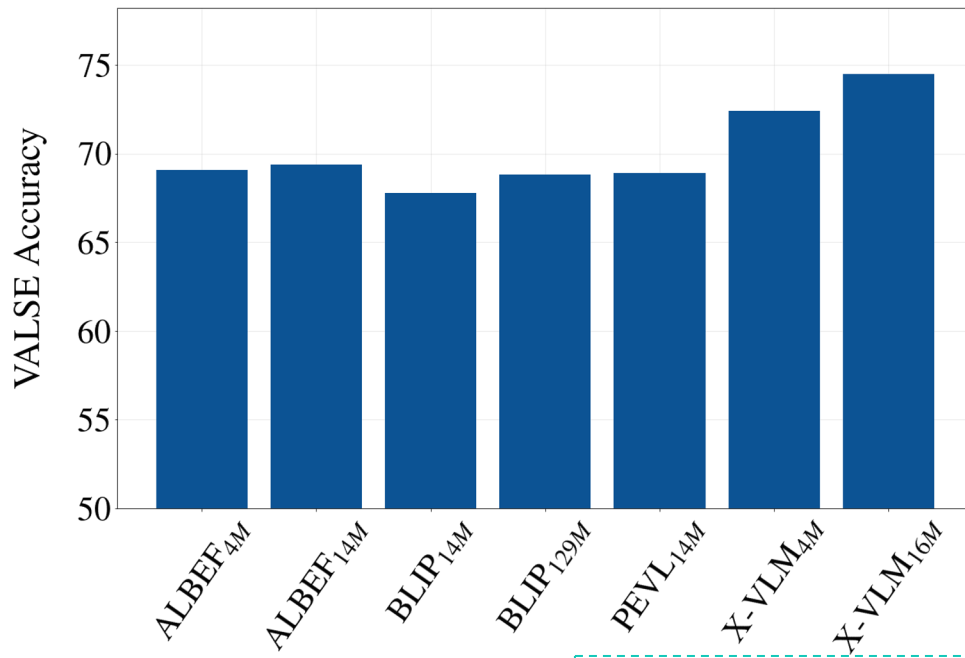
# Which models perform well on fine-grained tasks?



ALBEF + bbox prediction in MLM



# Which models perform well on fine-grained tasks?

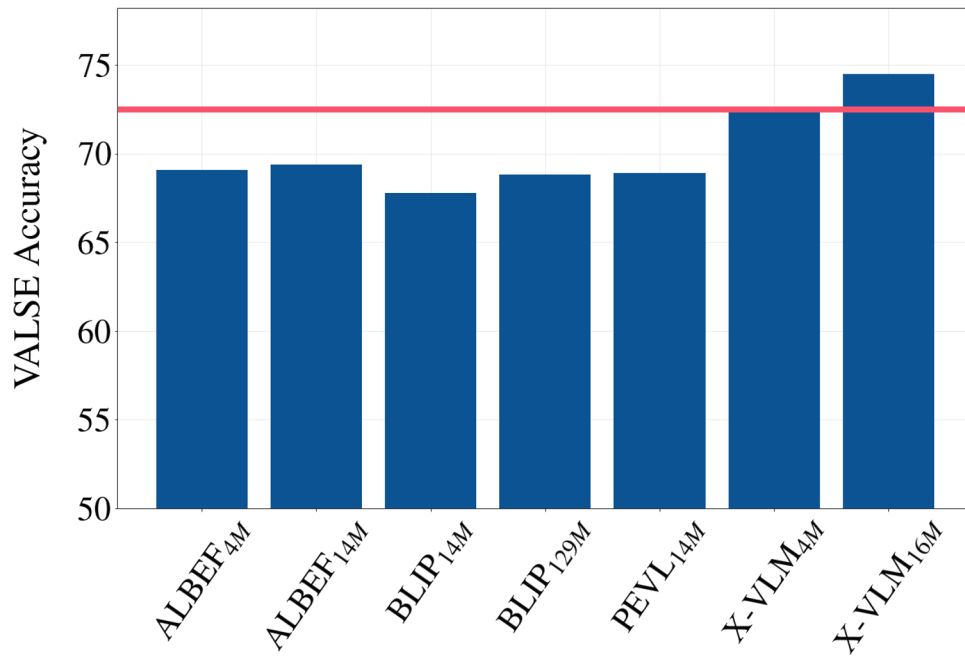


ALBEF + bbox regression head

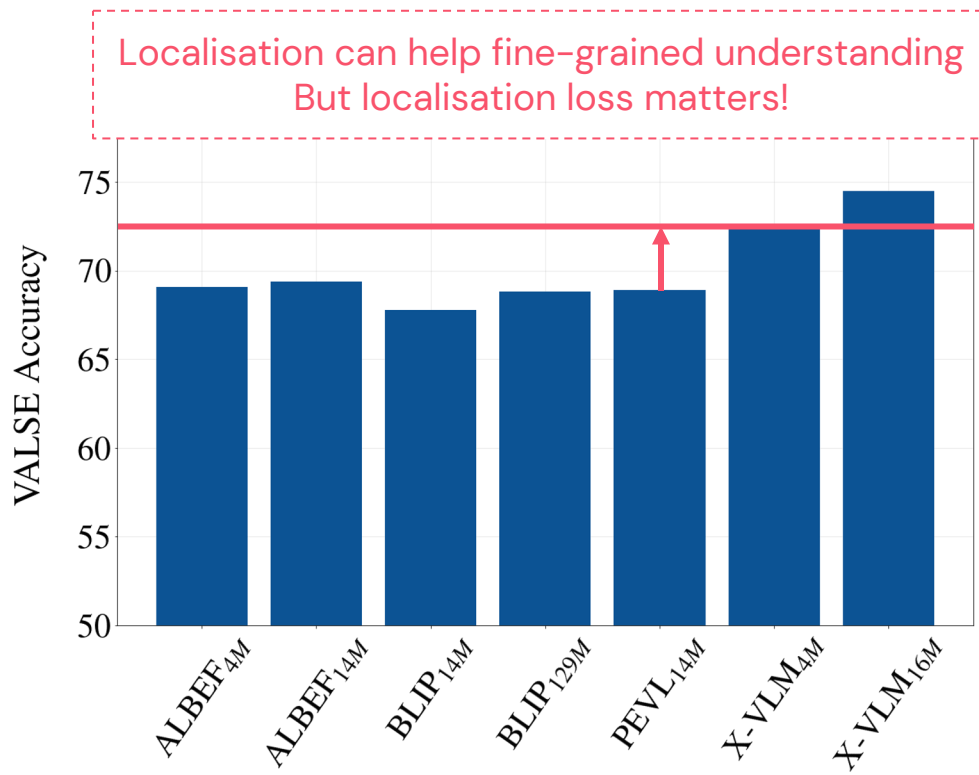


# Which models perform well on fine-grained tasks?

Localisation can help fine-grained understanding

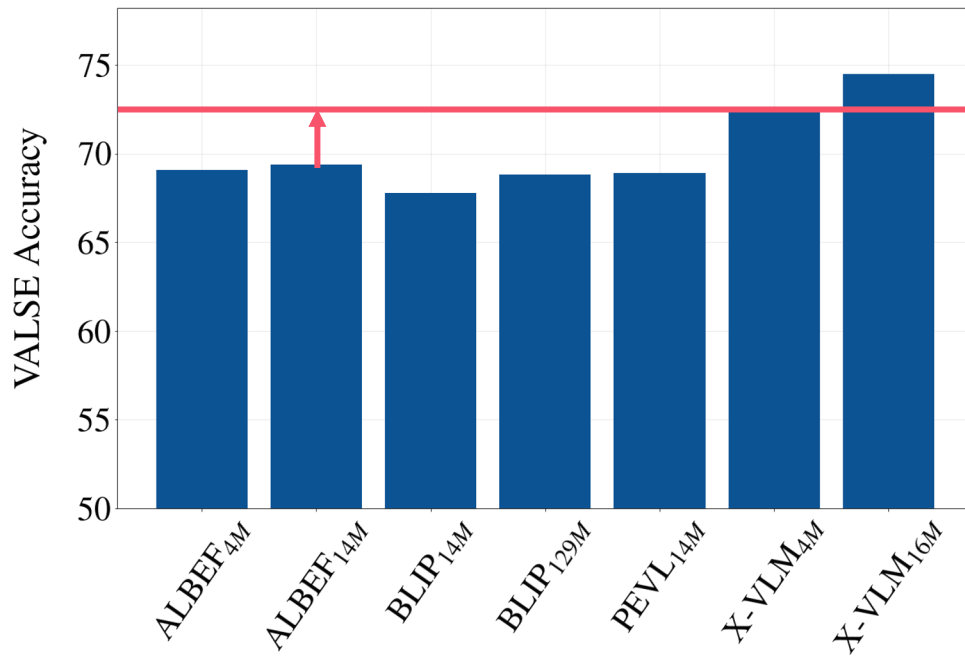


# Which models perform well on fine-grained tasks?



# Which models perform well on fine-grained tasks?

More data does not help as much as modelling



# What Matters for Fine-grained V&L Understanding?

**Which models perform well on fine-grained tasks?**

Localisation modelling > more Web data alone

How do data and losses impact fine-grained understanding?

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# Data and Losses for Fine-grained Tasks

X-VLM adds 3 supervised datasets and 2 additional losses to ALBEF





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- Object detection
  - COCO<sub>OD</sub>
  - VG<sub>OD</sub>
- Region description
  - VG<sub>RD</sub>



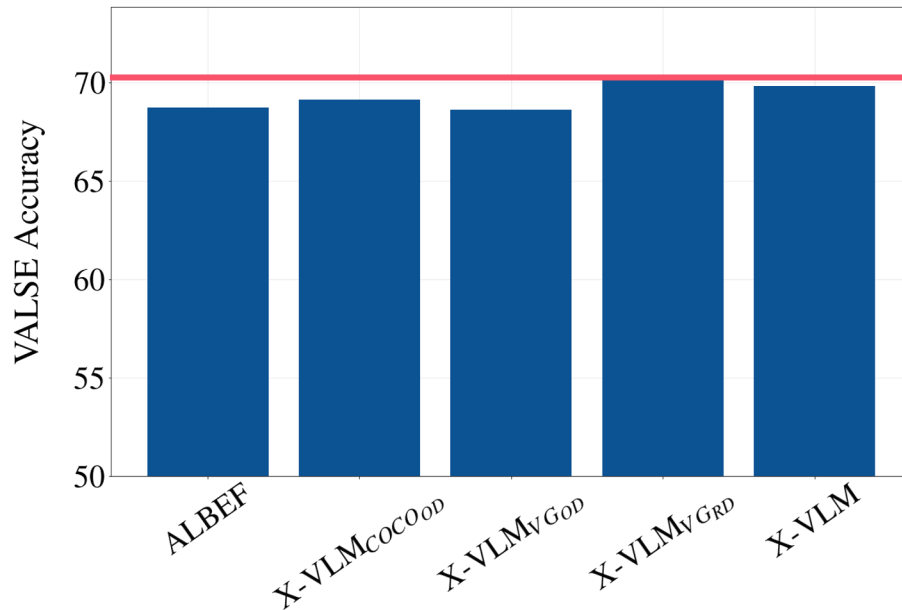
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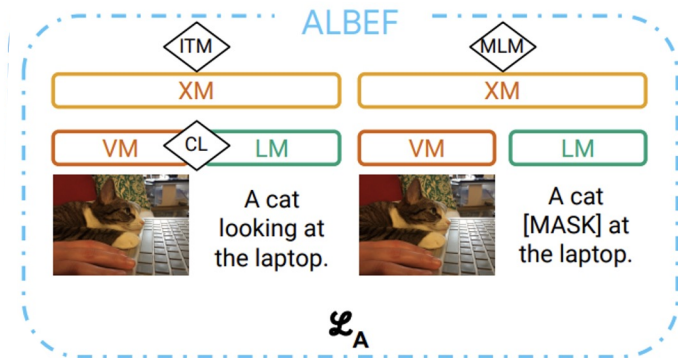
VG<sub>RD</sub> is the most useful dataset

Similar performance to training  
on all datasets



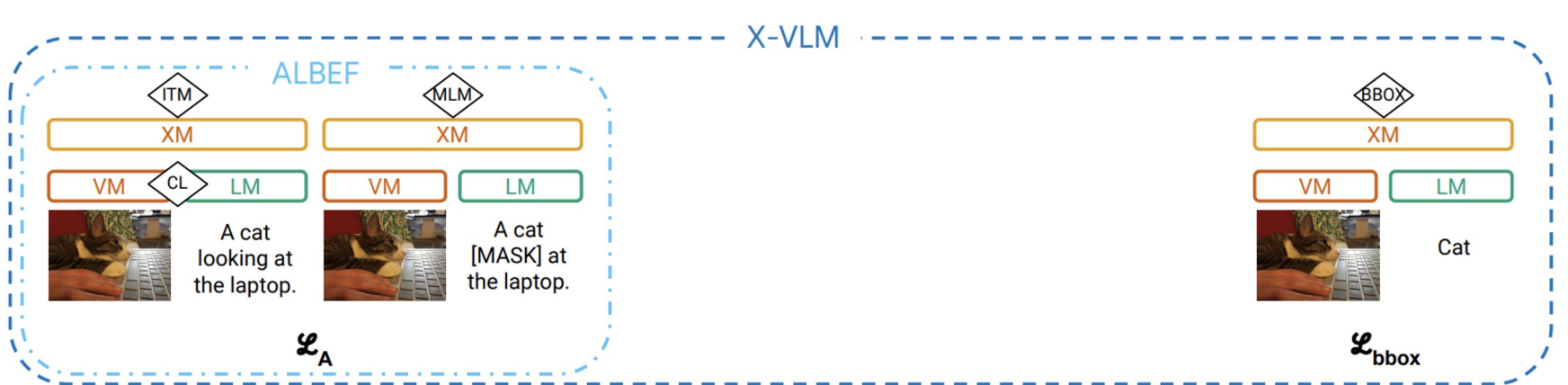
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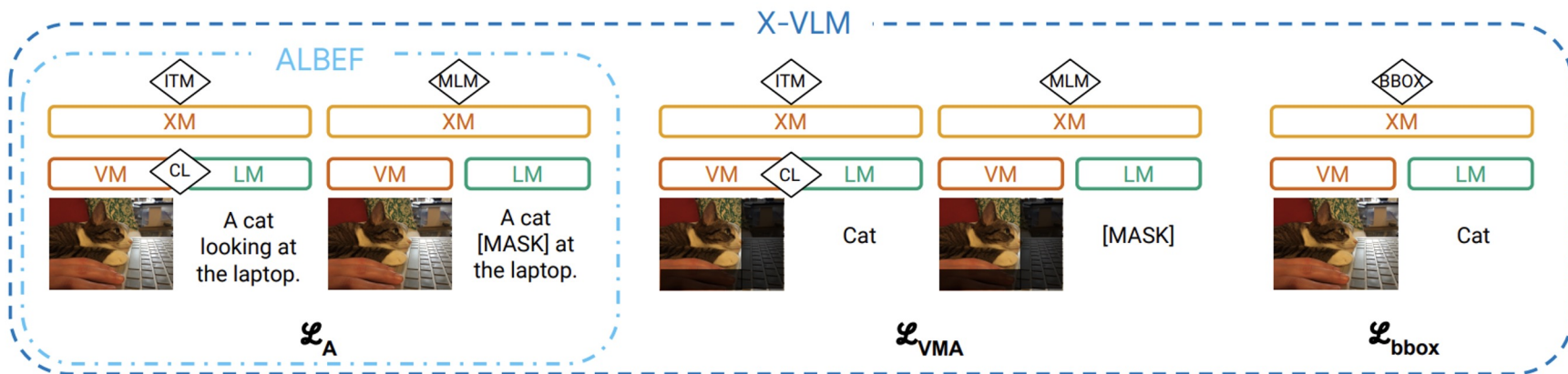
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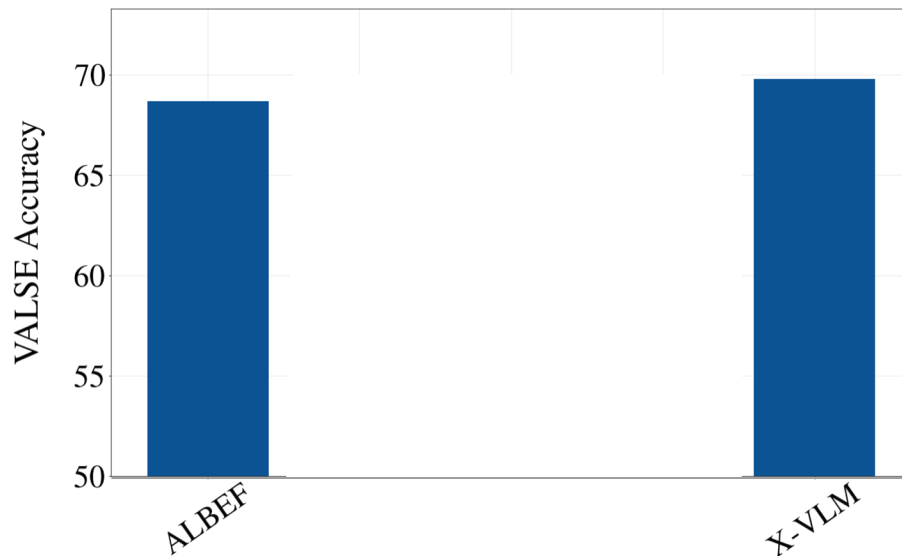
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object-centric visual view: an image region (not the whole image) is used

# Data and Losses for Fine-grained Tasks

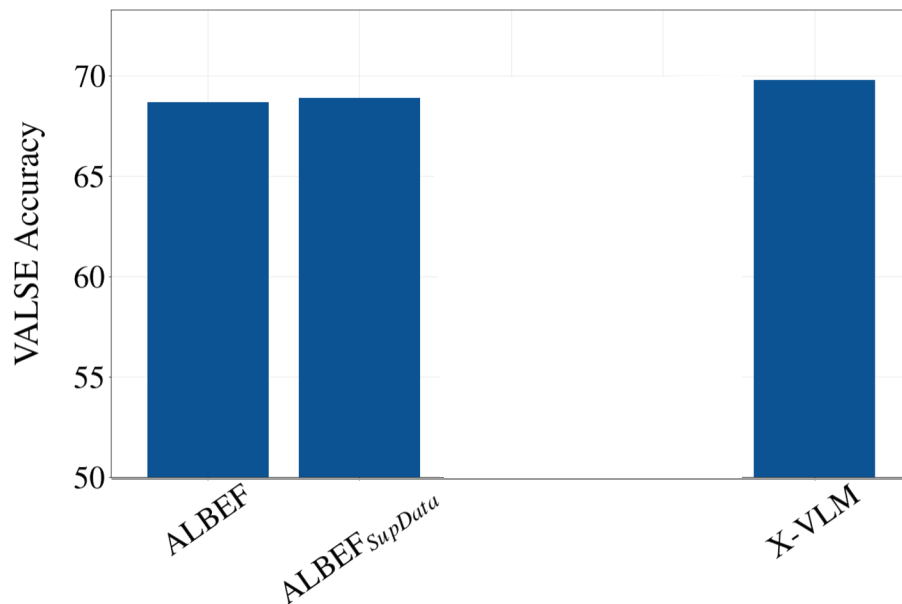
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# Data and Losses for Fine-grained Tasks

X-VLM adds 3 supervised datasets and 2 additional losses to ALBEF

- Just adding supervised data does not help

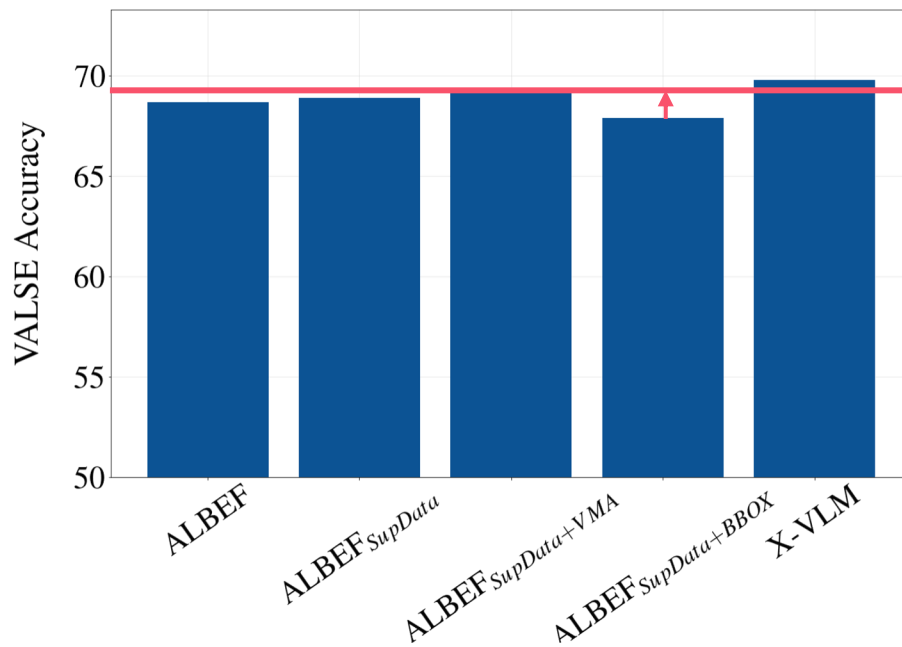




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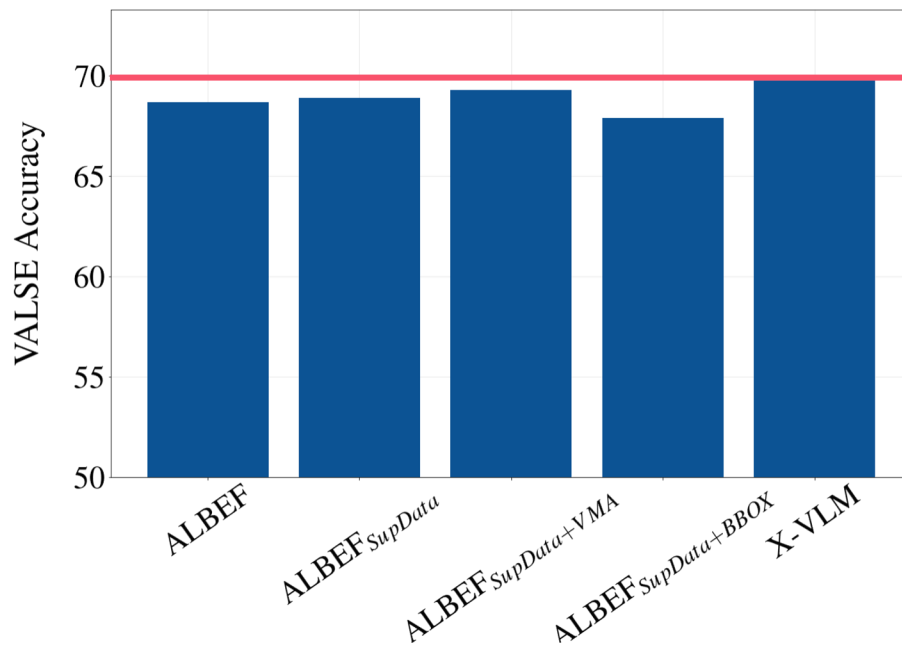
- Just adding supervised data does not help
- $L_{VMA}$  is slightly more helpful than  $L_{BBOX}$



# Data and Losses for Fine-grained Tasks

X-VLM adds 3 supervised datasets and 2 additional losses to ALBEF

- Just adding supervised data does not help
- $L_{VMA}$  is slightly more helpful than  $L_{BBOX}$
- $L_{VMA} + L_{BBOX}$  is best



# What Matters for Fine-grained V&L Understanding?

Which models perform well on fine-grained tasks?

Localisation modelling > more Web data alone

**How do data and losses impact fine-grained understanding?**

**Both data and losses needed; data diversity also matters**

How does fine-grained understanding evolve during training?



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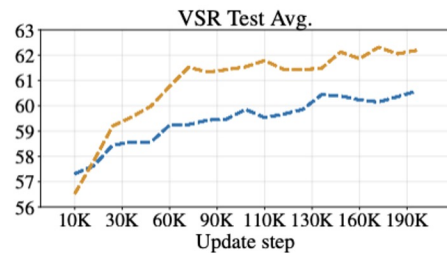
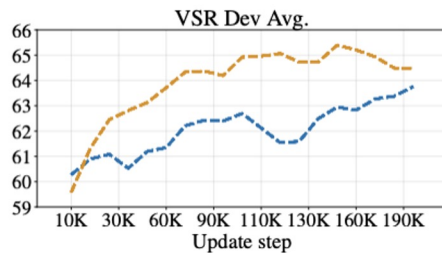
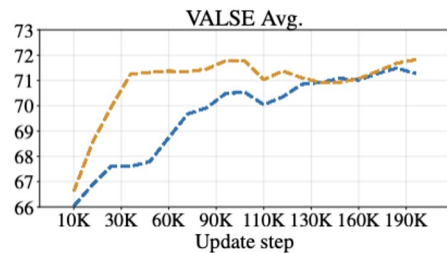
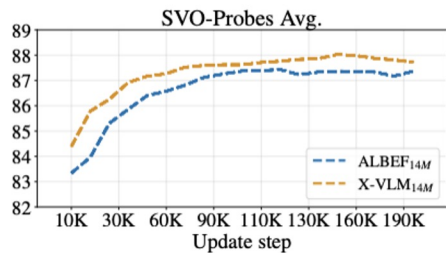
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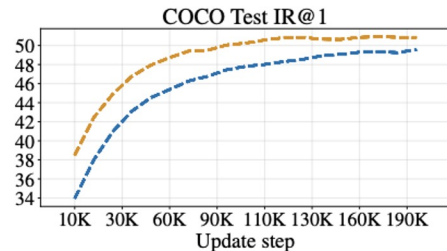
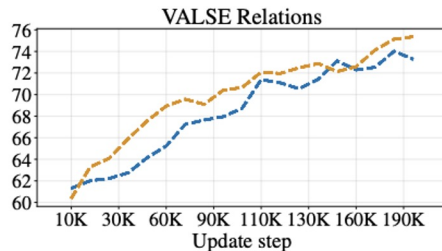
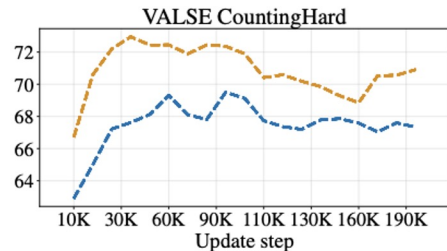
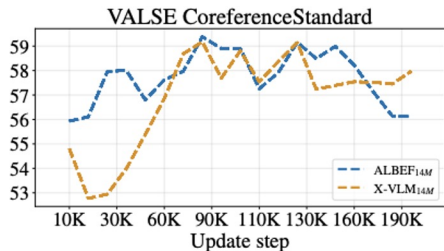
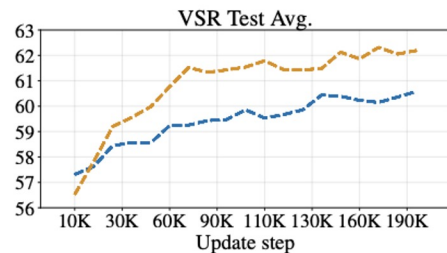
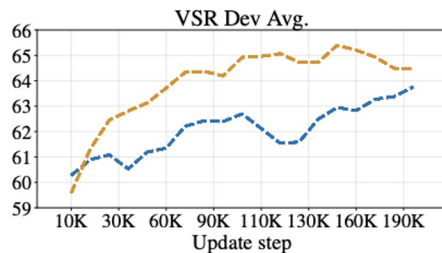
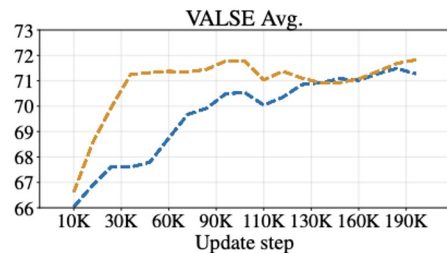
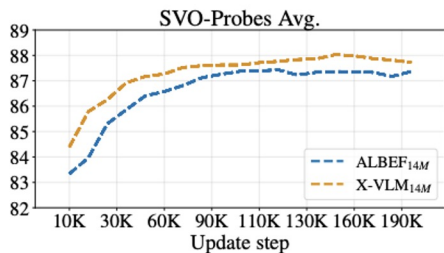
How does fine-grained understanding evolve during training?



# Different Skills, Different Patterns



# Different Skills, Different Patterns



A single checkpoint might not be adequate for all skills!



# What Matters for Fine-grained V&L Understanding?

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Localisation modelling > more Web data alone

How do data and losses impact fine-grained understanding?

Both data and losses needed; data diversity also matters

How does fine-grained understanding evolve during training?

Performance can fluctuate during training, even becoming worse



# Conclusion

Strong multimodal models trained at scale struggle with fine-grained understanding

- **Supervised losses** are promising
- As is **descriptive language** (region descriptions)

Fine-grained skills are learned at different times

- Pay attention to learning dynamics!
- How can we consistently improve over all fine-grained skills?

