

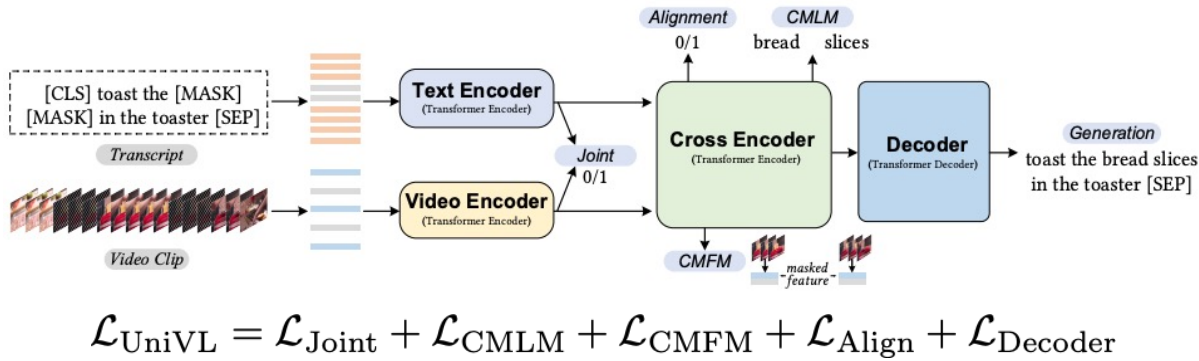
# MELTR: Meta Loss Transformer for Learning to Fine-Tune Video Foundation Models

Dohwan Ko<sup>1\*</sup>, Joonmyung Choi<sup>1\*</sup>, Hyeong Kyu Choi<sup>1</sup>,  
Kyoung-Woon On<sup>2</sup>, Byungseok Roh<sup>2</sup>, Hyunwoo J. Kim<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Korea University    <sup>2</sup>Kakao Brain



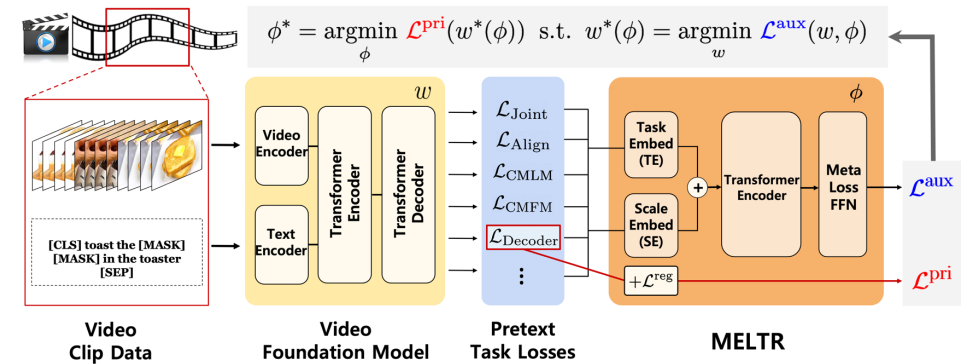
## Motivation



## Idea

- How can *automatically* combine various pretext task loss functions to assist learning of the target task?
- Use a meta-learning-based *auxiliary learning* framework.

## Method



## Results

- MELTR significantly outperforms the baselines across **three backbone models** on **five datasets**.

Models	MSRVTT-7k				MSRVTT-9k			
	R@1↑	R@5↑	R@10↑	MedR↓	R@1↑	R@5↑	R@10↑	MedR↓
MIL-NCE [52]	9.9	24.0	32.4	29.5	-	-	-	-
JSFusion [55]	10.2	31.2	43.2	13	-	-	-	-
HowTo100M [35]	14.9	40.2	52.8	9	-	-	-	-
HERO [26]	16.8	43.4	57.7	-	-	-	-	-
ClipBERT [56]	22.2	46.8	59.9	6	-	-	-	-
MMT [20]	-	-	-	-	26.6	57.1	69.6	4
T2VLAD [57]	-	-	-	-	29.5	59.0	70.1	4
TACO [24]	19.2	44.7	57.2	7	28.4	57.8	71.2	4
VideoCLIP [54]	-	-	-	-	30.9	55.4	66.8	-
Frozen [58]	-	-	-	-	32.5	61.5	71.2	3
UniVL-Joint [7]	20.6	49.1	62.9	6	27.2	55.7	68.7	4
UniVL-Align [7]	21.2	49.6	63.1	6	-	-	-	-
<b>UniVL + MELTR</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>31.1</b>	<b>55.7</b>	<b>68.3</b>	<b>4</b>
Violet [16]	31.7	60.1	74.6	3	34.5	63.0	73.4	-
<b>Violet + MELTR</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>63.7</b>	<b>77.8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>67.2</b>	<b>78.4</b>	<b>3</b>
All-in-one [17]	34.4	65.4	75.8	-	37.9	68.1	77.1	-
<b>All-in-one + MELTR</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>74.4</b>	<b>84.7</b>	-	<b>41.3</b>	<b>73.5</b>	<b>82.5</b>	-

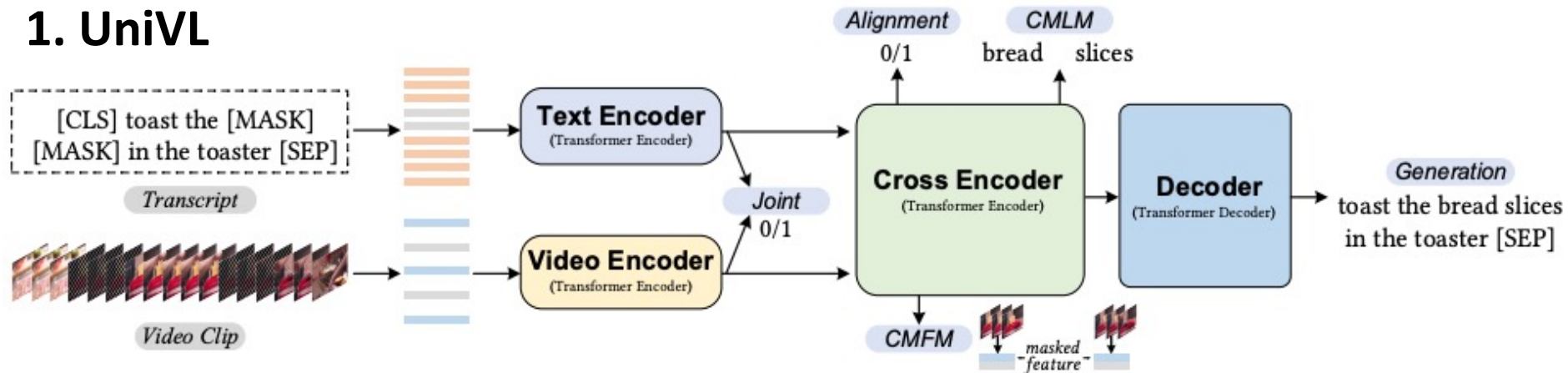


## Video Foundation Models

- Large-scale foundation models pretrained on huge amounts of data.
- Advantages of adaptability and generalizability to a wide range of downstream tasks.
- Pre-trained with a *linear* combination of various pretext tasks.  
Ex) text-video alignment (VTC, VTM), MLM, MFM, and generation.

## Video Foundation Models

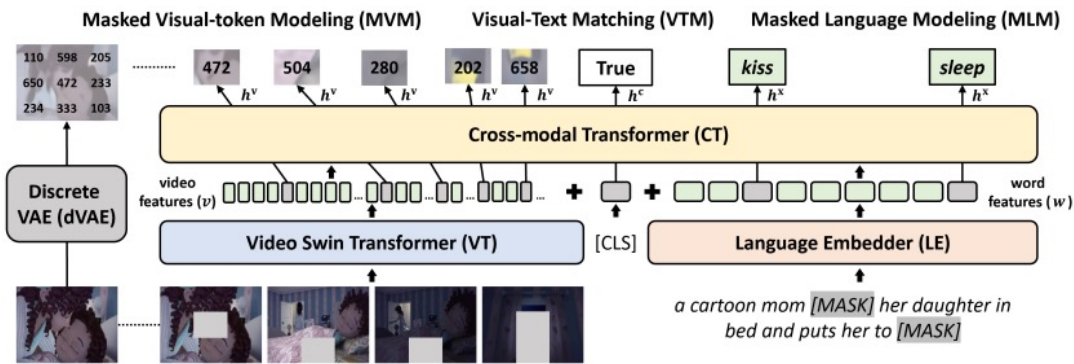
### 1. UniVL



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{UniVL}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{Joint}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{CMLM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{CMFM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Align}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Decoder}}$$

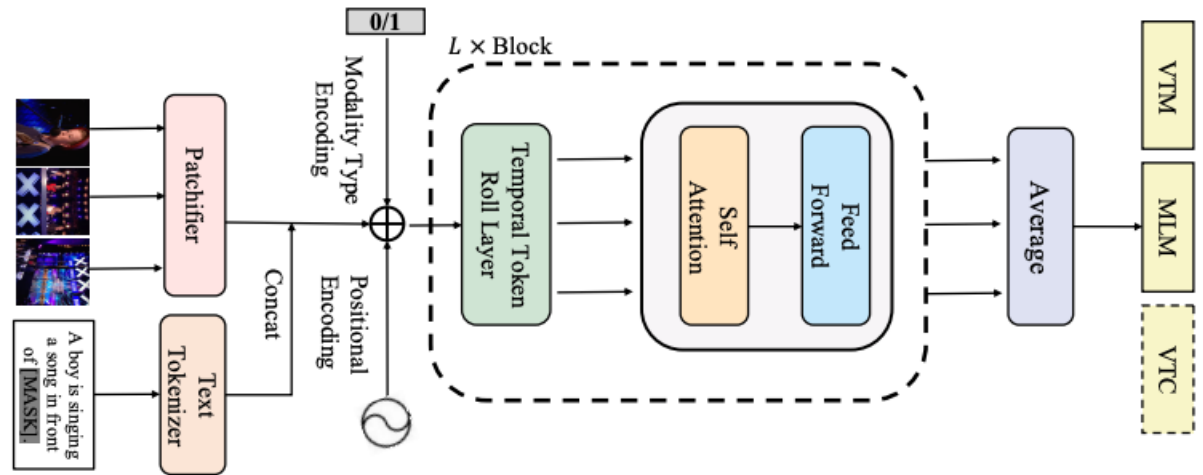
## Video Foundation Models

### 2. Violet



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Violet}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{MLM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{VTM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{MVM}}$$

### 3. All-in-one



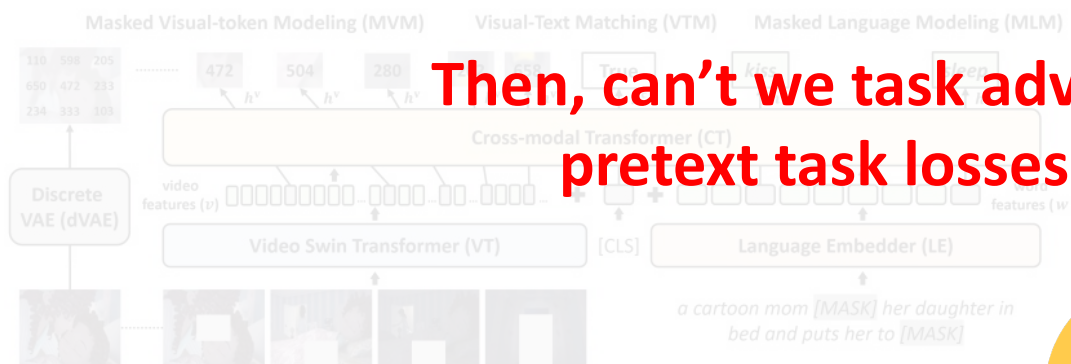
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{All-in-one}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{VTM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{MLM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{VTC}}$$

Tsu-Jui Fu et al. Violet: End-to-end video-language transformers with masked visual-token modeling. arxiv, 2023.

Jinpeng Wang et al. All in One: Exploring Unified Video-Language Pre-training. CVPR, 2023. 5 / 14

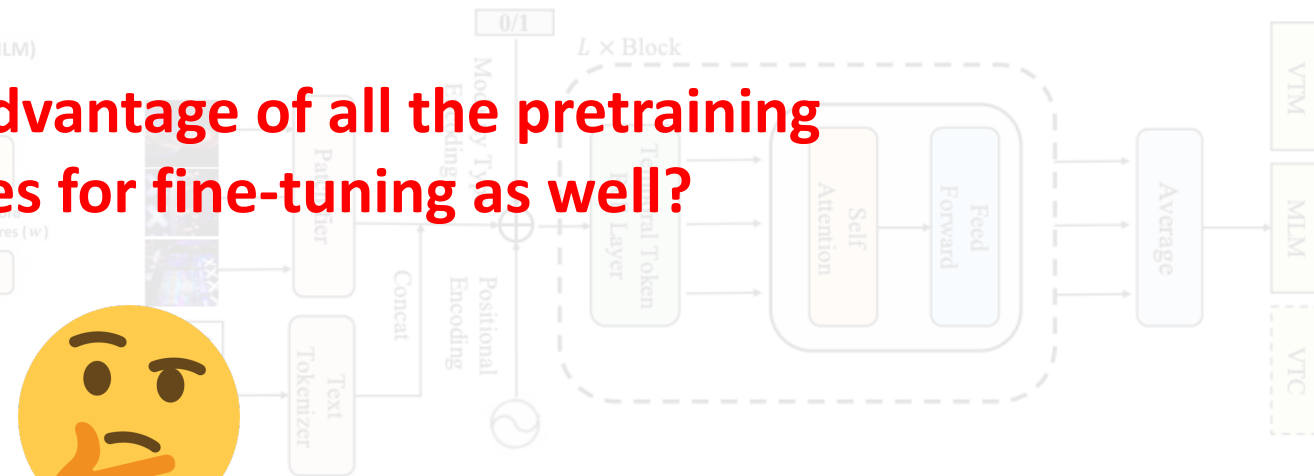
## Video Foundation Models

### 2. Violet



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Violet}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{MLM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{VTM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{MVM}}$$

### 3. All-in-one



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{All-in-one}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{VTM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{MLM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{VTC}}$$

**Then, can't we task advantage of all the pretraining pretext task losses for fine-tuning as well?**



Tsu-Jui Fu et al. Violet: End-to-end video-language transformers with masked visual-token modeling. arxiv, 2023.

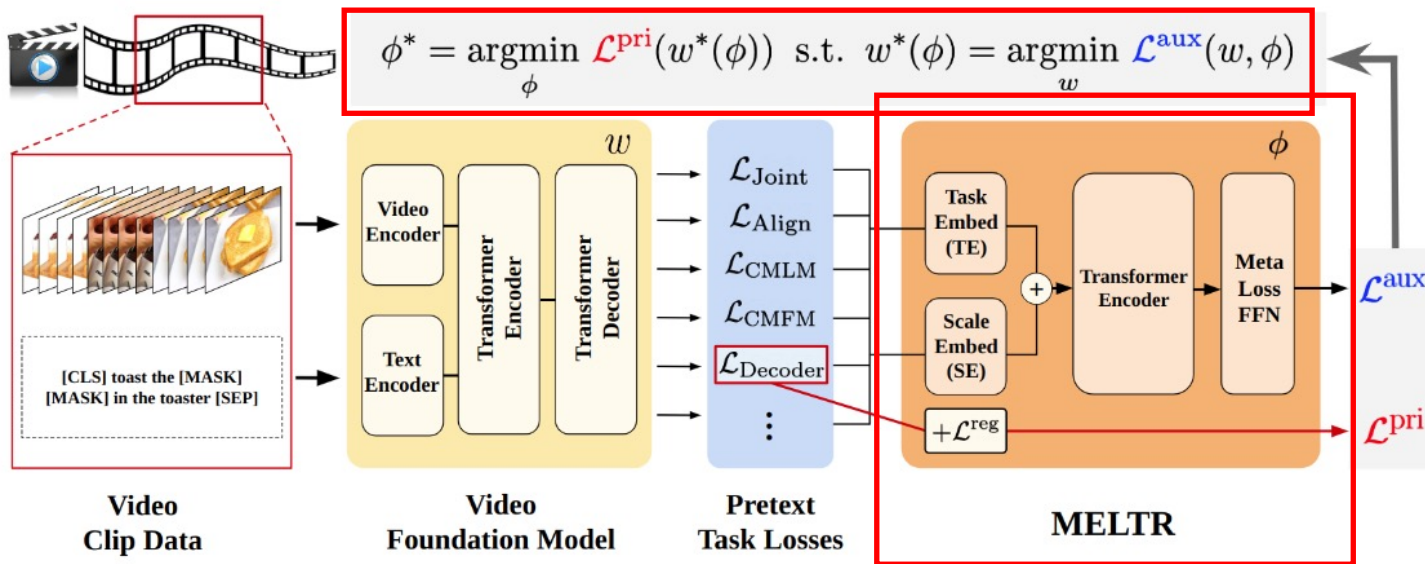
Jinpeng Wang et al. All in One: Exploring Unified Video-Language Pre-training. CVPR, 2023. 6 / 14

## Auxiliary Learning

	Multi-task learning	Auxiliary learning
Use multiple tasks?	Yes	Yes
Purpose	Aims for generalization across tasks	Focuses only on the primary task by taking advantage of auxiliary tasks

- **Learns to adaptively leverage multiple auxiliary tasks** to assist learning of the primary task (based on Meta-learning).
- The pretext task losses can be **unified into a single auxiliary loss** to be optimized in a way that helps the target downstream task.

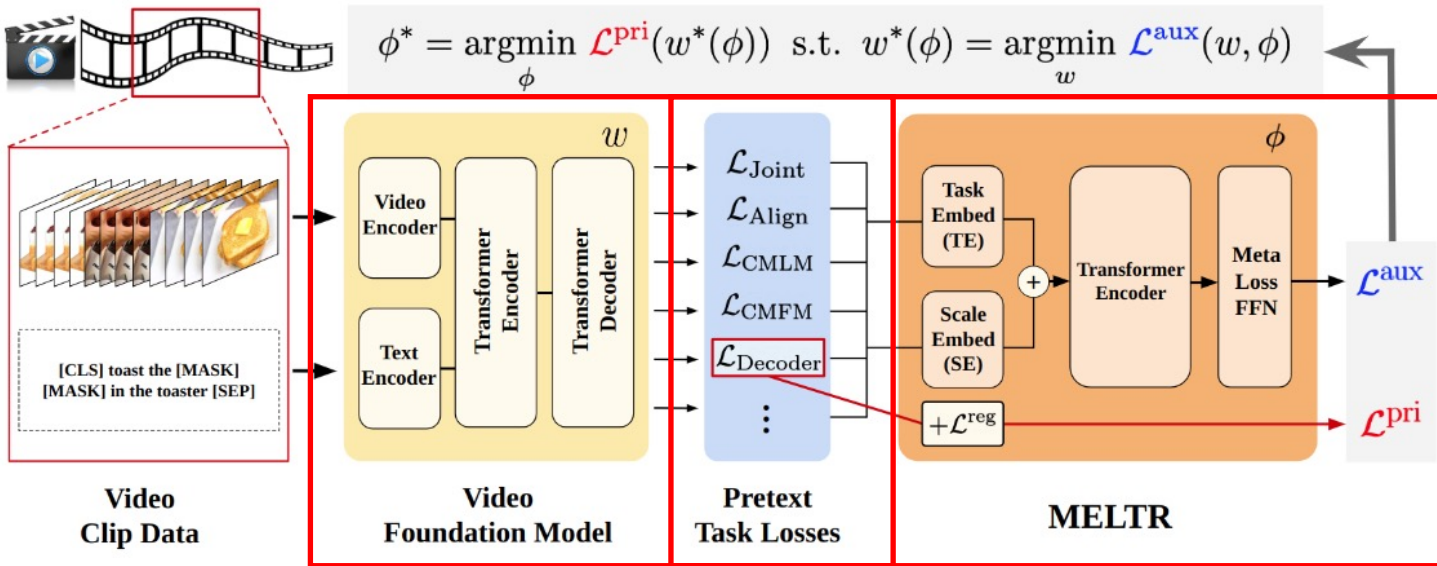
## Meta Loss Transformer (MELTR)



- A plug-in module for meta auxiliary learning
- Adopt Transformer architecture.
- MELTR is optimized to help learning of the primary task.



## Meta Loss Transformer (MELTR)

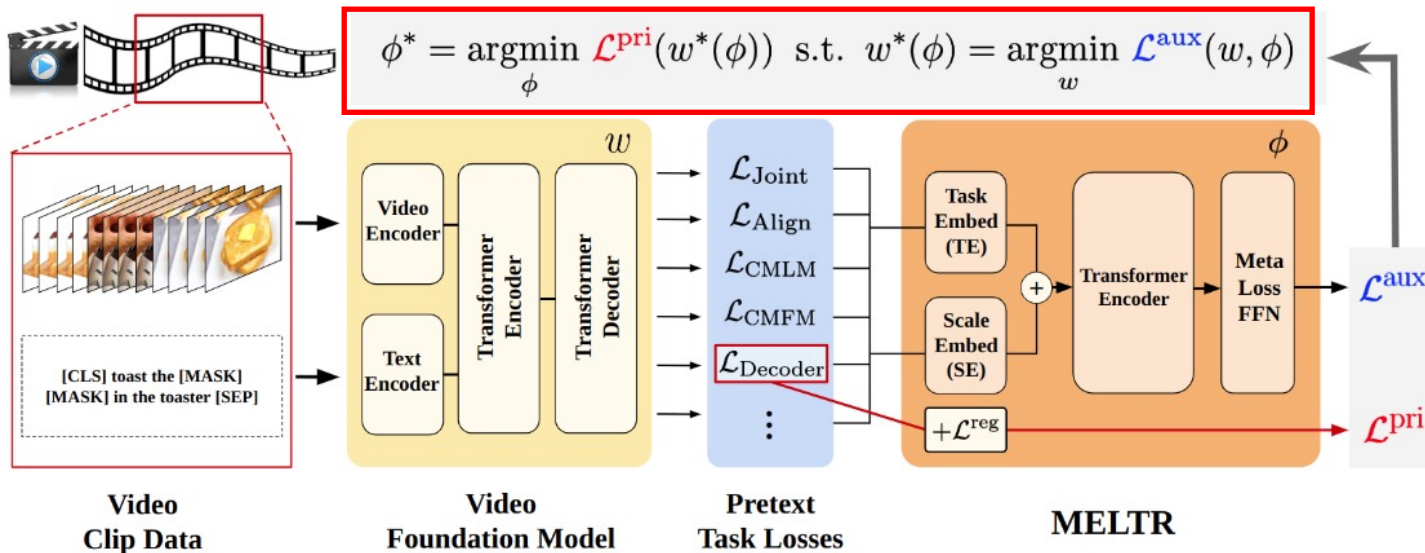


- Calculate losses:  
 $\ell_t = \mathcal{L}_t(\mathcal{F}(x; w), y_t)$
- Transform losses into a single unified loss:  
 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{aux}} := \text{MELTR}(\ell; \phi)$
- Regularization term:

$$\mathcal{L}^{\text{pri}} = \mathcal{L}_0 + \gamma \mathcal{L}^{\text{reg}}, \quad \mathcal{L}^{\text{aux}} = \text{MELTR}(\ell; \phi)$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{\text{reg}} = \left| \text{MELTR}(\ell; \phi) - \sum_{t=0}^T \ell_t \right|$$

## Meta Loss Transformer (MELTR)



- Objective function

$$\phi^* = \arg \min_{\phi} \mathcal{L}^{\text{pri}}(w^*(\phi))$$

$$\text{s.t. } w^*(\phi) = \arg \min_w \mathcal{L}^{\text{aux}}(w, \phi)$$

- For  $K$  steps, update backbone foundation model:

$$w^{(k+1)} = w^{(k)} - \alpha \cdot \nabla_w \mathcal{L}^{\text{aux}}$$

- Then, update MELTR:

$$\phi^* = \phi - \beta \cdot \nabla_{\phi} \mathcal{L}^{\text{pri}}(w^{(K)}(\phi))$$

$$= \phi + \beta \cdot (\nabla_w \mathcal{L}^{\text{pri}} \cdot \nabla_{\phi} \nabla_w \mathcal{L}^{\text{aux}})$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{\text{pri}} = \mathcal{L}_0 + \gamma \mathcal{L}^{\text{reg}}, \quad \mathcal{L}^{\text{aux}} = \text{MELTR}(\ell; \phi)$$

## Quantitative results

Models	Action	TGIF-QA		MSVD-QA
		Transition	Frame	
HME [61]	73.9	77.8	53.8	33.7
HCRN [62]	75.0	81.4	55.9	36.1
QueST [63]	75.9	81.0	59.7	36.1
ClipBERT [64]	82.9	87.5	59.4	-
Violet [16]	92.5	95.7	62.3 <sup>†</sup>	47.9
Violet + MELTR	<b>95.4</b>	<b>97.5</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>51.7</b>

Video question answering

Models	BA <sup>↑</sup>	F1 <sup>↑</sup>	MAE <sup>↓</sup>	Corr <sup>↑</sup>
MuT	83.0	82.8	0.870	0.698
FMT	83.5	83.5	0.837	0.744
UniVL	84.6	84.6	0.781	0.767
UniVL + MELTR	<b>85.3</b>	<b>85.4</b>	<b>0.759</b>	<b>0.789</b>

Multi-modal sentiment analysis on CMU-MOSI

Models	R@1 <sup>↑</sup>	R@5 <sup>↑</sup>	R@10 <sup>↑</sup>	MedR <sup>↓</sup>
HGLMM-FV-CCA [55]	4.6	21.6	14.3	75
HowTo100M [35]	8.2	35.3	24.5	24
ActBERT [29]	9.6	26.7	38.0	19
MIL-NCE [56]	15.1	38.0	51.2	10
COOT [57]	16.7	40.2	25.3	9
TACo [24]	29.6	59.7	72.7	9
VideoCLIP [58]	32.2	62.6	<b>75.0</b>	-
UniVL-Joint [7]	22.2	52.2	66.2	5
UniVL-Align [7]	28.9	57.6	70.0	4
UniVL + MELTR <sup>-</sup>	33.4	62.5	73.3	<b>3</b>
UniVL + MELTR	<b>33.7</b>	<b>63.1</b>	74.8	<b>3</b>

Text-to-video retrieval on YouCook2

Models	Modality	BLEU-3	BLEU-4	METEOR	ROUGE-L	CIDEr
EMT [65]	V	7.53	4.38	11.55	27.44	0.38
CBT [27]	V	-	5.12	12.97	30.44	0.64
ActBERT [29]	V	8.66	5.41	13.30	30.56	0.65
VideoBERT [28]	V	6.33	3.81	10.81	27.14	0.47
COOT [57]	V	17.97	11.30	19.85	37.94	0.57
VideoBERT [28]	V+T	7.59	4.33	11.94	28.80	0.55
DPC [66]	V+T	7.60	2.76	18.08	-	-
AT+Video [67]	V+T	-	9.01	17.77	36.65	1.12
UniVL [7]	V	16.46	11.17	17.57	40.09	1.27
UniVL + MELTR	V	17.35	11.98	18.19	41.28	1.38
UniVL [7]	V+T	23.87	17.35	22.35	46.52	1.81
UniVL + MELTR	V+T	<b>24.12</b>	<b>17.92</b>	<b>22.56</b>	<b>47.04</b>	<b>1.90</b>

Video captioning on YouCook2

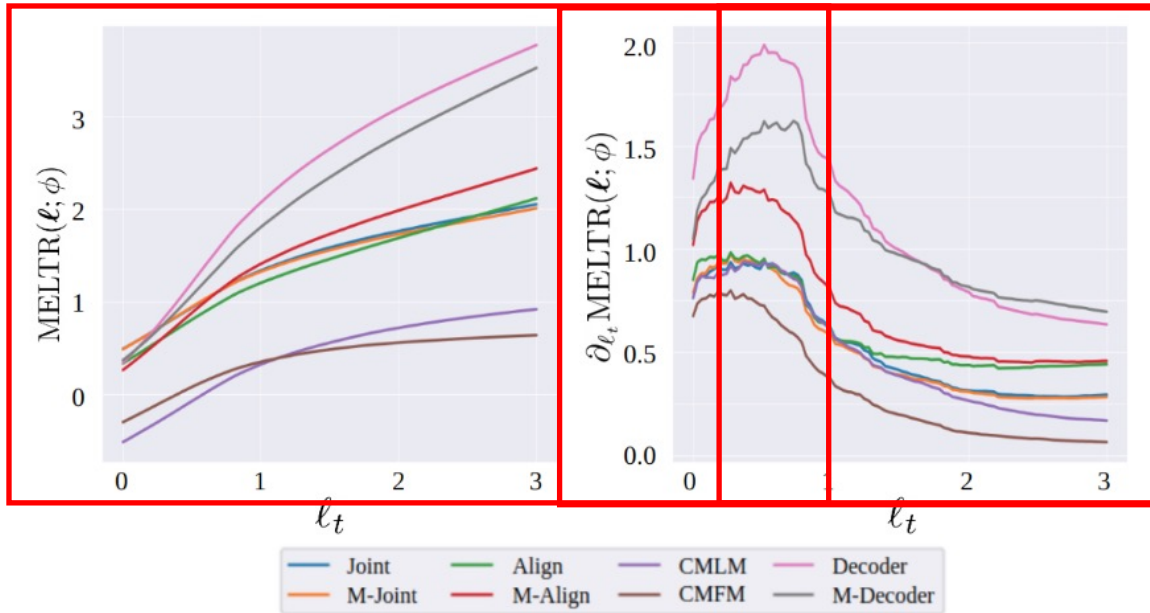
Models	Modality	BLEU-3	BLEU-4	METEOR	ROUGE-L	CIDEr
PickNet [68]	V	-	35.6	26.8	58.2	41.0
PickNet [68]	V+T	-	38.9	27.2	59.5	42.1
MARN [69]	V	-	40.4	28.1	60.7	47.1
SibNet [70]	V	-	40.9	27.5	60.2	47.5
OA-BTG [71]	V	-	41.4	28.2	-	46.9
POS-VCT [72]	V	-	42.3	<b>29.7</b>	<b>62.8</b>	49.1
ORG-TRL [73]	V	-	43.6	28.8	62.1	50.9
UniVL* [7]	V	53.42	41.79	28.94	60.78	50.04
UniVL + MELTR	V	<b>55.88</b>	<b>44.17</b>	29.26	62.35	<b>52.77</b>

Video captioning on MSRVT

Models	R@1 <sup>↑</sup>	R@5 <sup>↑</sup>	R@10 <sup>↑</sup>	MedR <sup>↓</sup>
MIL-NCE [56]	9.9	24.0	32.4	29.5
JSFusion [59]	10.2	31.2	43.2	13
HowTo100M [35]	14.9	40.2	52.8	9
HERO [26]	16.8	43.4	57.7	-
ClipBERT [60]	22.2	46.8	59.9	6
TACo [24]	19.2	44.7	57.2	7
UniVL-Joint [7]	20.6	49.1	62.9	6
UniVL-Align [7]	21.2	49.6	63.1	6
UniVL + MELTR	<b>28.5</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>4</b>
Violet [16]	31.7 <sup>†</sup>	60.1 <sup>†</sup>	74.6 <sup>†</sup>	<b>3<sup>†</sup></b>
Violet + MELTR	<b>33.6</b>	<b>63.7</b>	<b>77.8</b>	<b>3</b>
All-in-one [17]	34.4	65.4	75.8	-
All-in-one + MELTR	<b>38.6</b>	<b>74.4</b>	<b>84.7</b>	-

Text-to-video retrieval on MSRVT 11 / 14

## Analysis: Non-linear loss transformation



- Non-linearly correlated.
- $\partial_{\ell_t} MELTR(\ell; \phi)$  have relatively higher values around  $\ell_t = 0.5$ .
  - Focus on reasonably challenging samples
- MELTR is more sensitive to  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{Decoder}}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{M-Decoder}}$  than  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{CMFM}}$ .

$$\partial_{\ell_t} MELTR(\ell; \phi) := \frac{\partial}{\partial \ell_t} MELTR(\ell; \phi)$$

## Analysis: Adaptive task re-weighting

Models	Coefficient of each task								Video captioning on YouCook2				
	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Joint}}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{M-Joint}}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Align}}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{M-Align}}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CMLM}}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CMFM}}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Decoder}}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{M-Decoder}}$	BLEU-3	BLEU-4	METEOR	ROUGE-L	CIDEr
(A)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	22.79	16.54	21.73	45.85	1.78
(B)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	23.42	17.14	22.27	46.65	1.85
(C)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	21.72	15.93	20.89	45.16	1.79
(D)	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	21.99	16.10	21.09	45.35	1.85
(E)	1	1	1	1	1	0	8	8	23.31	17.23	21.98	46.26	1.85
<b>MELTR</b>	ADAPTIVE								<b>24.12</b>	<b>17.92</b>	<b>22.56</b>	<b>47.04</b>	<b>1.90</b>

- MELTR **learns to integrate various pretext task losses into one loss function** to boost the performance of the target downstream task.
- By plugging MELTR into various foundation models, our method **outperformed video foundation models as well as task-specific models** on a wide range of downstream tasks.
- We provide in-depth qualitative analyses of how MELTR adequately **transforms** individual loss functions and **melts** them into an effective unified loss function.