

# Efficient Few-Shot Clinical Task Adaptation with Large Language Model

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# **Foundation Model Selection**

Method	Chest 1-shot 5-shot 10-shot			Colon 1-shot 5-shot 10-shot			Endo 1-shot 5-shot 10-shot		
CLIP (ViT-B)	$51.52 \pm 1.35$	$52.03 \pm 0.51$	$52.34 \pm 1.09$	$78.22 \pm 6.41$	$83.85 \pm 5.86$	$85.53 \pm 1.98$	48.93 ± 4.18	$54.69 \pm 5.86$	59.53 ± 1.55
MAE (ViT-B)	$54.64 \pm 1.59$	$63.47 \pm 0.60$	$66.08 \pm 1.41$	$82.50 \pm 4.60$	$90.62 \pm 2.74$	$94.27 \pm \textbf{2.22}$	$58.19 \pm 5.20$	$65.66 \pm 2.05$	$69.43 \pm 1.01$
Sup ViT-B	$55.13 \pm 1.72$	$63.28 \pm 0.63$	$65.16 \pm 0.56$	$84.87 \pm 3.32$	$93.26 \pm 2.03$	$95.51 \pm 1.25$	$57.02 \pm 8.75$	$65.24 \pm 3.24$	$68.51 \pm 1.38$
GLIP (Swin-L)	$54.87 \pm 1.49$	$61.87 \pm 0.79$	$64.85 \pm 1.54$	$86.41 \pm 3.32$	$92.18 \pm 1.98$	$95.57 \pm 1.86$	$60.17 \pm 4.61$	$65.99 \pm 3.52$	$70.69 \pm 0.85$
Sup Swin-L	$56.21 \pm 1.67$	$64.07 \pm 1.16$	$65.94 \pm 0.75$	$85.35 \pm 5.27$	$94.54 \pm 2.51$	$96.66 \pm 1.39$	$61.49 \pm 4.65$	$66.87 \pm 2.02$	$72.39 \pm 0.92$
DAViT	$53.73 \pm 1.35$	$62.63 \pm 0.85$	$64.80\pm0.55$	85.36 ± 4.39	$91.29 \pm 4.08$	$95.21 \pm 1.72$	$56.18 \pm 6.00$	$64.34 \pm 5.11$	$68.26 \pm 2.73$

Table 1. Comparison with baselines in 1-shot, 5-shot, and 10-shot settings across all tasks in MedFMC. The average mAUC on the validation set is reported.

observations:

- Swin-Transformer pre-trained on ImageNet-21K consistently outperforms others.
- Advanced foundation models trained on natural images do not exhibit superiority in adaptation to few-shot clinical tasks.

#### **Core Techniques**



# Implementation

- Vision backbone: The officially implemented Swin-Transformer pre-trained on ImageNet-21K (named as swin-large\_in21k-pre-3rdparty\_in1k-384\* in MMPretrain).
- Language supervision: GPT-4 for contextualization, BERT pretrained on PubMed as the masked language model.
- Optimizer: AdamW, batch size = 4, learning rate = 1e-4. Validation set for model selection.
- Data augmentation: center cropping, random cropping, and random horizontal flipping.
- Ensemble: Averaging the output scores of 2-4 models trained with different random seeds, class-wise ensemble, no TTA.

# **Efficient Fine-tuning with Partial Freezing**

Backbone	Adaption Method	1-shot	Chest 5-shot	10-shot	1-shot	Colon 5-shot	10-shot	1-shot	Endo 5-shot	10-shot
Swin-L	Full-Model Fine-Tuning	$58.89 \pm 0.74$	$65.10 \pm 0.82$	$67.25 \pm 0.65$	$87.65 \pm 2.82$	$94.21 \pm 3.81$	$96.35 \pm 0.95$	$59.35 \pm 5.02$	$68.21 \pm 2.76$	$69.72 \pm 1.52$
	Linear Probe	$54.18 \pm 1.19$	$61.16 \pm 0.89$	$64.30\pm0.66$	$84.36 \pm 5.21$	$94.50 \pm 1.79$	$95.67 \pm 0.73$	$55.55 \pm 6.53$	$64.53 \pm 3.72$	$72.15 \pm 0.67$
	Adapter	$56.21 \pm 1.67$	$64.07 \pm 1.16$	$65.94 \pm 0.75$	$85.35 \pm 5.27$	$94.54 \pm 2.51$	$96.66 \pm 1.39$	$61.49 \pm 4.65$	$66.87 \pm 2.02$	$72.39 \pm 0.92$
	LoRA	$53.43 \pm 1.64$	$65.54 \pm 0.79$	$69.49 \pm 0.13$	$87.84 \pm 5.63$	$97.21 \pm 1.23$	$97.49 \pm 1.80$	$58.98 \pm 4.95$	$67.69 \pm 3.01$	$74.11 \pm 0.53$
	Visual Prompt Tuning	$56.37 \pm 1.15$	$64.51 \pm 1.34$	$64.29 \pm 1.63$	$81.67 \pm 3.80$	$92.13 \pm 3.55$	$95.42 \pm 0.56$	$60.13 \pm 6.13$	$67.26 \pm 2.23$	$70.99 \pm 1.31$
	Ours	$\textbf{59.92} \pm 1.29$	$\textbf{66.90} \pm 0.62$	$69.73 \pm 0.32$	$\textbf{91.50} \pm 2.47$	$\textbf{97.51} \pm 1.16$	$\textbf{97.85} \pm 1.25$	$\textbf{62.51} \pm 4.65$	$\textbf{70.13} \pm 2.37$	$\textbf{74.85} \pm 0.61$
	Full-Model Fine-Tuning	$57.06 \pm 1.83$	$63.96 \pm 0.20$	$66.12\pm0.41$	$81.55 \pm 3.62$	$92.74 \pm 3.41$	$95.23 \pm 0.72$	58.59 ± 7.44	$64.02 \pm 5.91$	$70.04 \pm 1.39$
	Linear Probe	$53.69 \pm 0.97$	$61.12 \pm 1.60$	$65.14 \pm 0.28$	$\textbf{78.88} \pm \textbf{7.89}$	$92.72 \pm 1.84$	$96.03 \pm 1.36$	$55.34 \pm 6.83$	$63.46 \pm 5.59$	$70.36 \pm 0.67$
VET B	Adapter	$55.13 \pm 1.72$	$63.28 \pm 0.63$	$65.16 \pm 0.56$	$84.87 \pm 3.32$	$93.26 \pm 2.03$	$95.51 \pm 1.25$	$57.02 \pm 8.75$	$65.24 \pm 3.24$	$68.51 \pm 1.38$
V11-B	LoRA	$54.84 \pm 1.67$	$65.20\pm0.55$	$67.92 \pm 0.70$	$78.19 \pm 6.50$	$93.70 \pm 2.38$	$94.95 \pm 1.80$	$55.91 \pm 9.36$	$66.97 \pm 1.72$	$72.12 \pm 1.27$
	Visual Prompt Tuning	$56.87 \pm 2.00$	$63.89 \pm 0.47$	$65.60\pm0.34$	$83.95 \pm 5.58$	$88.90 \pm 1.51$	$91.29 \pm 3.43$	$59.54 \pm 8.28$	$64.55 \pm 5.04$	$67.52 \pm 1.88$
	Ours	$\textbf{59.14} \pm 1.31$	$\textbf{65.47} \pm 0.61$	$\textbf{68.35} \pm 0.65$	$\textbf{87.69} \pm 3.39$	$\textbf{94.54} \pm 1.79$	$\textbf{96.22} \pm 1.54$	$\textbf{61.01} \pm 6.80$	$\textbf{67.62} \pm 2.13$	$72.65 \pm 1.61$





#### **Efficient Fine-tuning with Partial Freezing**



# From One-hot Labels to LLM-Contextualized Semantic Guidance



Figure 5. The inter-class correlation matrices obtained by different language supervision methods on the ChestDR task. Left: Encoding category names. Middle: a template method using masked language models without contextualization. Right: our method leveraging large language models for label contextualization. It can be observed that the context generated by large language models plays a crucial role in fine-grained category distinguishing.

# From One-hot Labels to LLM-Contextualized Semantic Guidance

Method	Adaption	Semantic Supervision	1-shot	5-shot	10-shot
Swin-L	fine-tuning (frozen-stage = 1)	None	$59.92 \pm 1.29$	$66.90 \pm 0.62$	$69.73 \pm 0.32$
Swin-L	fine-tuning (frozen-stage = 1)	class-name	$59.08 \pm 1.22$	$68.02 \pm 0.66$	$70.37 \pm 0.78$
Swin-L	fine-tuning (frozen-stage = 1)	template	$57.32 \pm \textbf{4.59}$	$68.38 \pm 0.50$	$70.72 \pm 0.63$
Swin-L	fine-tuning (frozen-stage = 1)	context (ours)	62.95 ± 0.19	$69.24 \pm 0.60$	$71.41 \pm 0.37$
ViT-B/16	visual prompt tuning	None	$56.87 \pm 2.00$	$63.89 \pm 0.47$	$65.60 \pm 0.34$
ViT-B/16	visual prompt tuning	class-name	$58.64 \pm 1.35$	$65.72 \pm 0.93$	$67.35 \pm 0.98$
ViT-B/16	visual prompt tuning	template	$54.51 \pm 3.30$	$\textbf{65.94} \pm \textbf{0.70}$	$67.96 \pm 0.51$
ViT-B/16	visual prompt tuning	context (ours)	<b>59.66</b> ± 1.69	$66.31 \pm 0.94$	$68.58 \pm 0.40$

Table 3. Comparison of different language supervision methods on the ChestDR task in 1-shot, 5-shot, and 10-shot settings, where "None" indicates the use of only one-hot labels. The average mAUC on the validation set is reported.

		1-shot		
Method	exp	mAp	mAUC	
vpt	1	19.23	57.70	
vpt+semantic label	1	21.63	61.19	
swin	1	20.33	59.22	
swin+semantic label	1	22.35	61.90	
vpt	2	15.45	55.60	
vpt+semantic label	2	17.62	59.88	
swin	2	17.79	59.06	
swin+semantic label	2	18.04	62.01	
swin	3	17.26	56.68	
swin+semantic label	3	18.18	61.07	
swin	4	18.31	58.46	
swin+semantic label	4	18.72	60.04	
swin	5	18.15	60.24	
swin+semantic label	5	19.04	61.28	

# Severe Inconsistency in Optimal Early Stopping Time for Different Categories

- Issue: In few-shot multi-label classification, some categories achieve optimal
  performance with very few iterations, and further iterations result in overfitting on those
  categories. Conversely, other categories may require many iterations to reach optimal
  performance.
- Method: Class-wise Ensemble.



# Thanks

# http://arxiv.org/abs/2312.07125