





Constructing Trajectory Data for Generalist GUI Agents

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Date: 19 Feb 2025





Today

- 1. Background of Computer Use Agents
- 2. Building GUI Agent Data with OS-Genesis
- 3. Future Directions and Early Attempts

Part1 | Computer Use Agents



The Feasibility of Jarvis AI from Marvel in Real Life

Once out of reach, but we are turning it into reality.















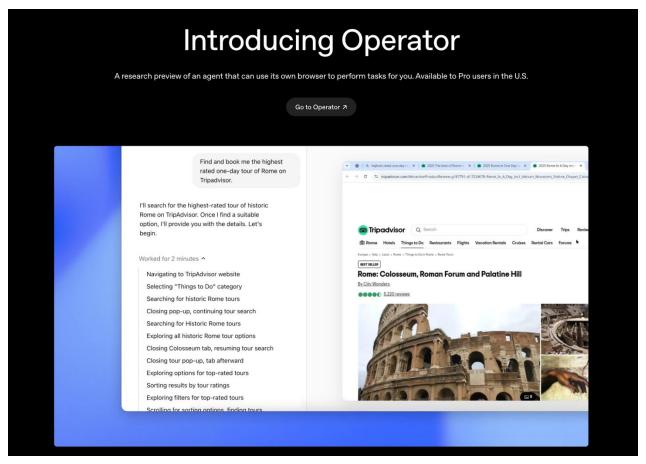


Both academia and industry are building computer use agents



Claude Computer Use

Both academia and industry are building computer use agents



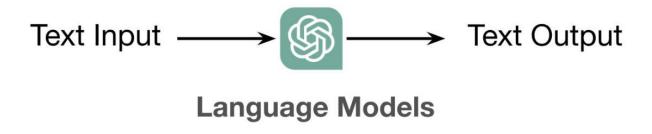
OpenAI Operator

They are quite promising for achieving Digital Automation.

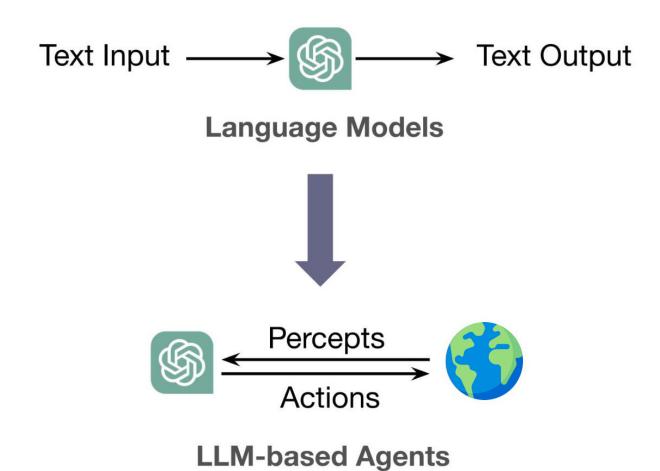
Can we transform a (V)LM into such computer / GUI agents?

Of course! But it is a non-trivial job!

Recap: Language Agents



Recap: Language Agents



But this is not enough.

Agents are promising, but building powerful agents is challenging.

- 1. Agents need to follow human instructions.
- 2. Agents need to perform planning and action.
- 3. Agents need to perceive envs. and the applications they are interacting with.

Best Way to build Computer Use Agents

Behavioral Cloning / Imitation Learning.



Sounds good, but where is our data?

Data Scarcity

Data curation is much more expensive than you think.

Take Scale AI as an example.

Not to mention scenario/domain - specific data.



Alexandr Wang 📀 🔳 @alexandr_wang · Jan 24

An interview today where I talk about how it relates to the US/China race and DeepSeek's score:



From cnbc.com

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Data Scarcity

How about having the machine collect data?

- 1. Pre-defined tasks are required, but they may not align with the environment.
- 2. Limited diversity and a poor success rate.

Data Scarcity

So, our goals are as follows:

- 1. Eliminate human involvement.
- 2. Obtain high-quality Trajectory data.
- 3. Diversity and Scalability.

Part2 | Building GUI Agent Data with OS-Genesis



OS-Genesis Automating GUI Agent Trajectory Construction via Reverse Task Synthesis

Qiushi Sun*, Kanzhi Cheng*, Zichen Ding*, Chuanyang Jin*, Yian Wang Fangzhi Xu, Zhenyu Wu, Liheng Chen, Chengyou Jia, Zhoumianze Liu Ben Kao, Guohao Li, Junxian He, Yu Qiao, Zhiyong Wu













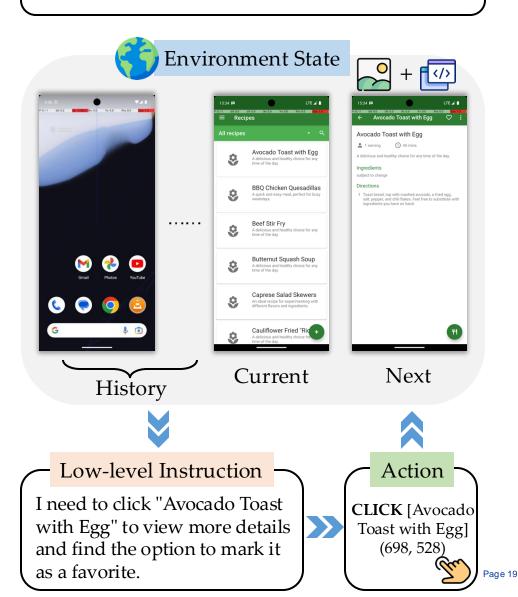
GUI Trajectory Data

The best data format of GUI agents

- 1. A high-level instruction that defines the overall goal the agent aims to accomplish
- 2. A series of low-level instructions that each describe specific steps required
- 3. Actions (e.g., CLICK, TYPE) 🦭
- 4. States, which include visual representations like screenshots and textual representations such as allytree []

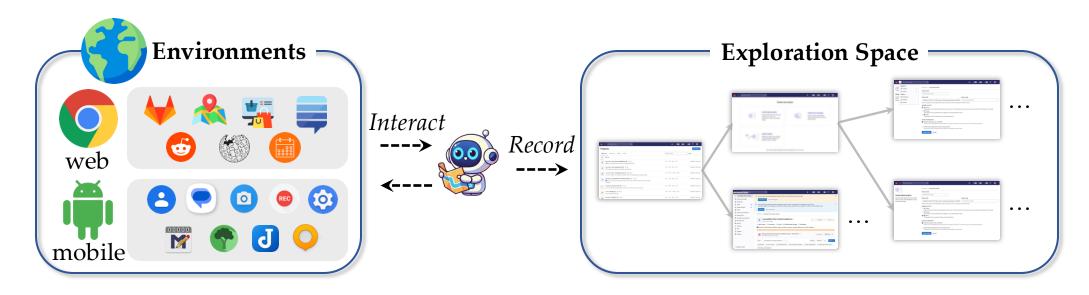
High-level Instruction

Mark the 'Avocado Toast with Egg' recipe as a favorite in the Broccoli app.



Interaction-Driven Functional Discovery is a rule-based process that explores dynamic GUI environments by interacting with UI elements. It uncovers functionalities through interaction triples

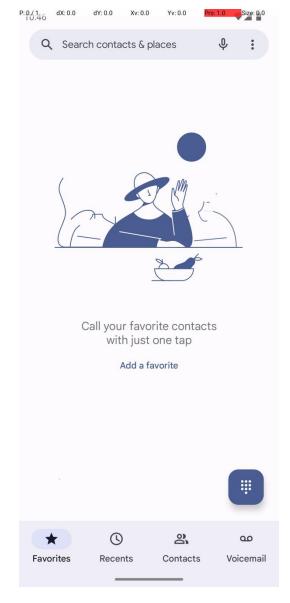
We collect: <Screen1, action, Screen2>



Dynamic Environments

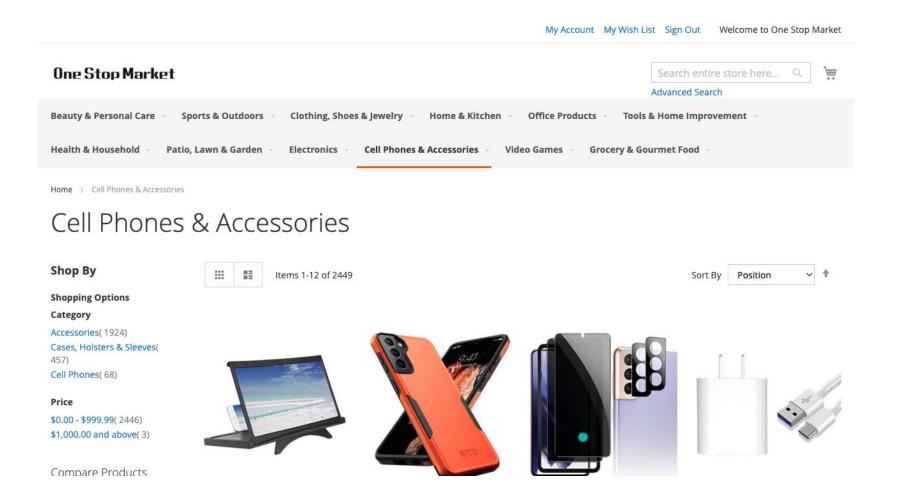




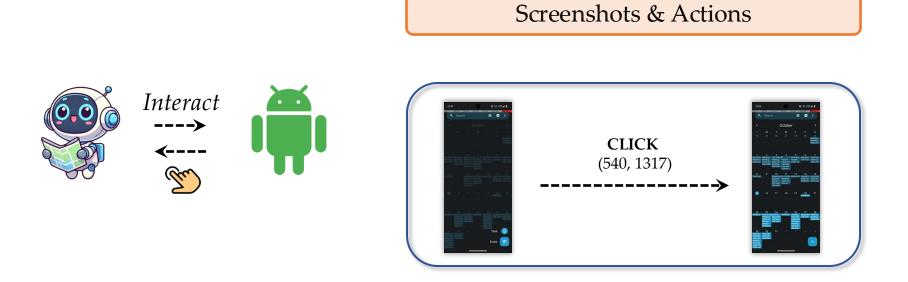


Dynamic Environments

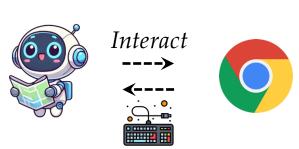




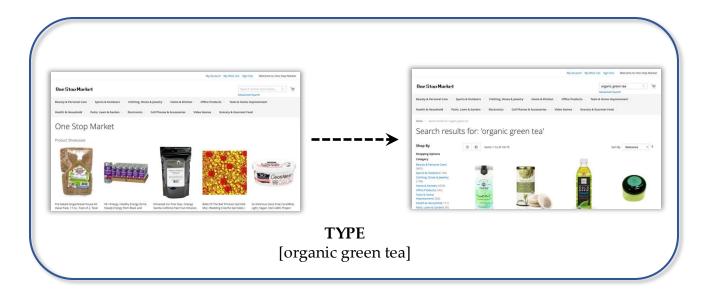
Retroactively interpreting changes in the GUI environment caused by actions.



Retroactively interpreting changes in the GUI environment caused by actions.

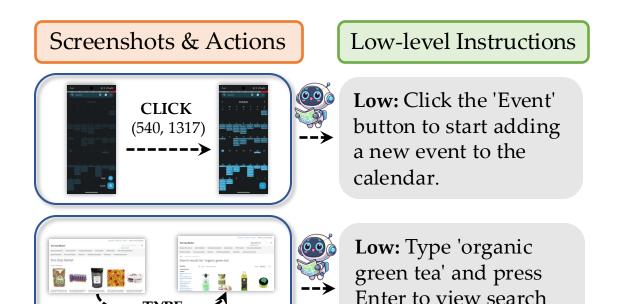


Screenshots & Actions



[organic green tea]

Retroactively interpreting changes in the GUI environment caused by actions, this process generates executable low-level instructions



results.

The data we synthesized:

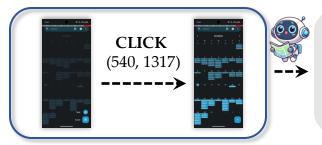
- 1. Grounded
- 2. Actionable

Retroactively interpreting changes in the GUI environment caused by actions, this process generates executable low-level instructions, which are then transformed into broader, goal-oriented high-level tasks

Screenshots & Actions

Low-level Instructions

High-level Instruction



Low: Click the 'Event' button to start adding a new event to the calendar.



High: In Simple Calendar Pro, create a new event titled 'Team Meeting' scheduled for October 15, 2023, at 10:00 AM. Save the event after filling in the details.

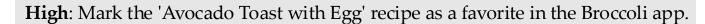


Low: Type 'organic green tea' and press Enter to view search results.



High: Search for 'organic green tea' and filter the results to show only products under the 'Health & Household' category, sorted by price from lowest to highest.

After reverse task synthesis generates task instructions, they are automatically executed in the GUI environment to build complete trajectories.





High: Set a reminder for the 'Review session for Annual Report' scheduled on October 18th in Simple Calendar Pro and save the changes.



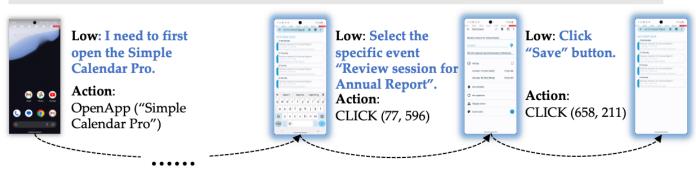
Trajectories collected! But is this all?

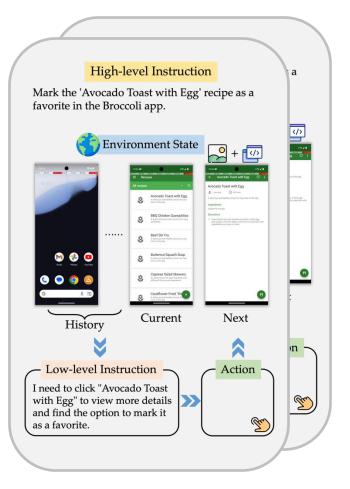
Let's consider data quality and synthesis efficiency.

High: Mark the 'Avocado Toast with Egg' recipe as a favorite in the Broccoli app.



High: Set a reminder for the 'Review session for Annual Report' scheduled on October 18th in Simple Calendar Pro and save the changes.





Data Quality Control

Tasks are executed by machines, not all of them are successful.

Previous approach:

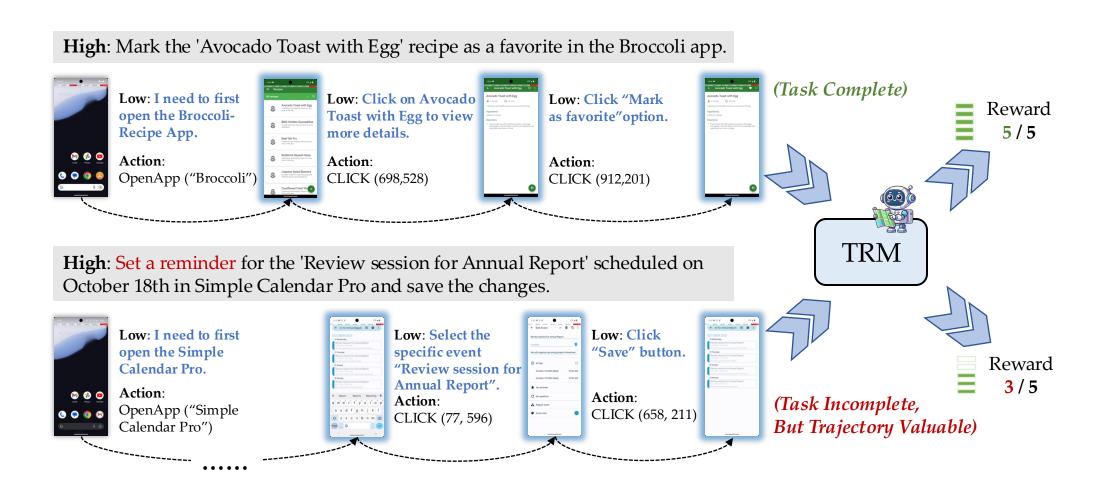
1. Training all data at once - what about the quality?

2. Discarding all incomplete Trajectories - what about the efficiency?

Thus, we introduce a Trajectory Reward Model to handle this.

Reward Modeling

We introduce a Trajectory Reward Model for weighted sampling in training.



Models

Data Synthesis



GPT-40



Qwen-VL Qwen2-VL-72B-Instruct

Backbones

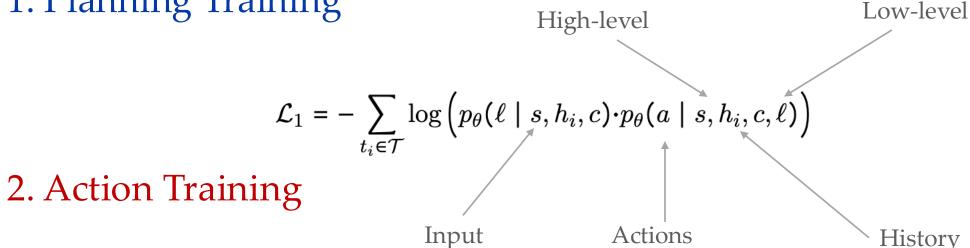




Training Strategies

Leverage trajectory characteristics to train GUI agents with complete capabilities

1. Planning Training



$$\mathcal{L}_2 = -\sum_{t_i \in \mathcal{T}} \log p_{\theta}(a \mid s, c, \ell)$$

Training Strategies

After Training, our agents will generate ReACT-Style output

Examples:

Step 1: To create a new folder in Markor, I need to first open the Markor app.

Step 2: To create a new folder, I need to click on the "Create a new file or folder" button, which is indicated by the plus icon.

```
action: { "action type": "click", "x": 964.5, "y": 2074.5 }
```

Step 3: I need to change the folder name to folder_20241224. The current text field for the folder name is visible and editable.

```
action:
```

```
{"action_type":"type","text":"folder_20241224","x":373.5,"y":552.0}
```

. . .

Baselines

We adapt / build the following forward baselines

- Zero-Shot. Advanced prompting-based agents, such as M3A.
- Task-Driven. GUI Trajectories synthesized using pre-defined tasks. Given initial screenshots of the app/web page and task examples, use GPT-4 to generate high-level instructions and collect data.
- Self-Instruct. Builds on Task-Driven by adding self-instructed tasks.

Setting: Screenshot + A11ytree

Experiments: Mobile

Base Model	Strategies	AndroidWorld	AndroidControl-High AndroidControl-Low				
			SR	Type	SR	Type	
GPT-40	Zero-Shot (M3A)	23.70	53.04	69.14	69.59	80.27	
InternVL2-4B	Zero-Shot	0.00	16.62	39.96	33.69	60.65	
	Task-Driven	4.02	27.37	47.08	66.48	90.37	
	Task-Driven w. Self Instruct	7.14	24.95	44.27	66.70	90.79	
	OS-Genesis	15.18	33.39	56.20	73.38	91.32	
InternVL2-8B	Zero-Shot	2.23	17.89	38.22	47.69	66.67	
	Task-Driven	4.46	23.79	43.94	64.43	89.83	
	Task-Driven w. Self Instruct	5.36	23.43	44.43	64.69	89.85	
	OS-Genesis	16.96	35.77	64.57	71.37	91.27	
Qwen2-VL-7B	Zero-Shot	0.89	28.92	61.39	46.37	72.78	
	Task-Driven	6.25	38.84	58.08	71.33	88.71	
	Task-Driven w. Self Instruct	9.82	39.36	58.28	71.57	89.73	
	OS-Genesis	17.41	44.54	66.15	74.17	90.72	

Table 1: Performance on AndroidWorld and AndroidControl benchmarks.

Findings: OS-Genesis + Opensource VLM > Propriety Models + Complex Prompting

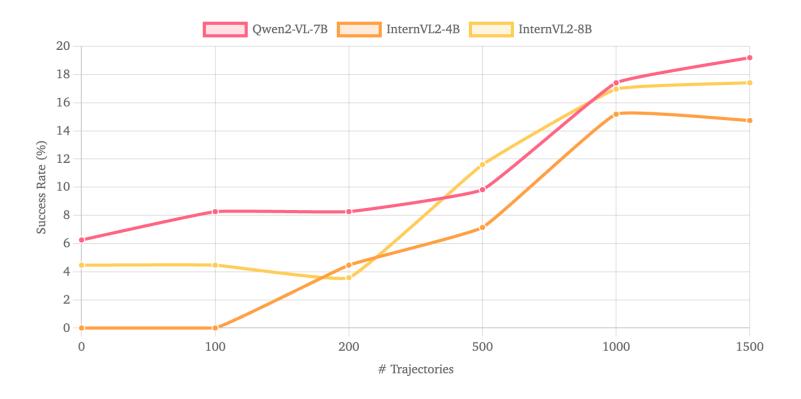
Experiments: Web

Base Model	Strategies	Shopping	CMS	Reddit	Gitlab	Maps	Overall
GPT-40	Zero-Shot	14.28	21.05	6.25	14.29	20.00	16.25
InternVL2-4B	Zero-Shot	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Task-Driven	5.36	1.76	0.00	9.52	5.00	4.98
	Task-Driven w. Self Instruct	5.36	3.51	0.00	9.52	7.50	5.81
	OS-Genesis	10.71	7.02	3.13	7.94	7.50	7.88
InternVL2-8B	Zero-Shot	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Task-Driven	3.57	7.02	0.00	6.35	2.50	4.56
	Task-Driven w. Self Instruct	8.93	10.53	6.25	7.94	0.00	7.05
	OS-Genesis	7.14	15.79	9.34	6.35	10.00	9.96
Qwen2-VL-7B	Zero-Shot	12.50	7.02	6.25	6.35	5.00	7.47
	Task-Driven	8.93	7.02	6.25	6.35	5.00	7.05
	Task-Driven w. Self Instruct	8.93	1.76	3.13	4.84	7.50	5.39
	OS-Genesis	7.14	8.77	15.63	15.87	5.00	10.79

Table 2: Performance on WebArena benchmarks.

Analysis

How Scaling Trajectory Data Improves Agentic Ability?



Insight: Generally improves, but will saturate.

Analysis

How Far are we from Human Data?

Let's first take a look at high-level instructions.

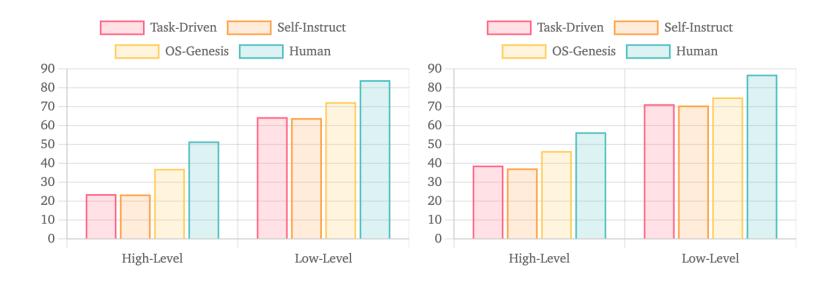


Insight: Reverse Task Synthesis Elicits Better Executability.

Analysis

How Far are we from Human Data?

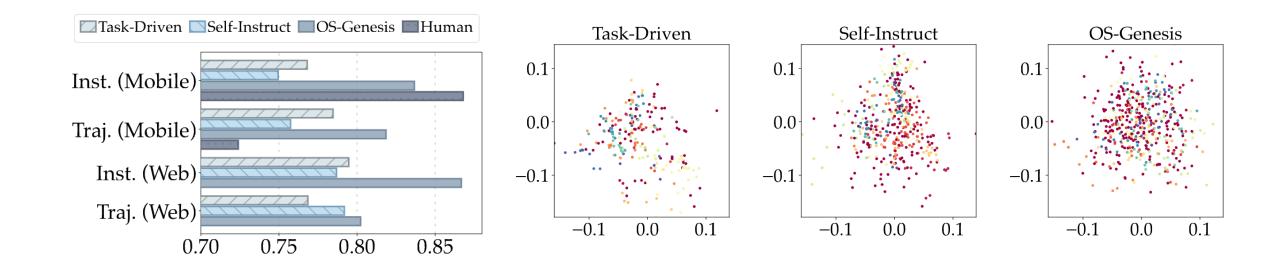
Then, OS-Genesis v.s. Human-annotated Trajectories.



Insight: OS-Genesis achieves ~80% of human data's effectiveness.

Analysis

How about our data diversity?



Insight: Significantly better than Forward methods and approaches the human level.

Checkpoints & Data Access



Checkpoints & Data Access



e.g., https://www.modelscope.cn/models/OS-Copilot/OS-Genesis-8B-AC

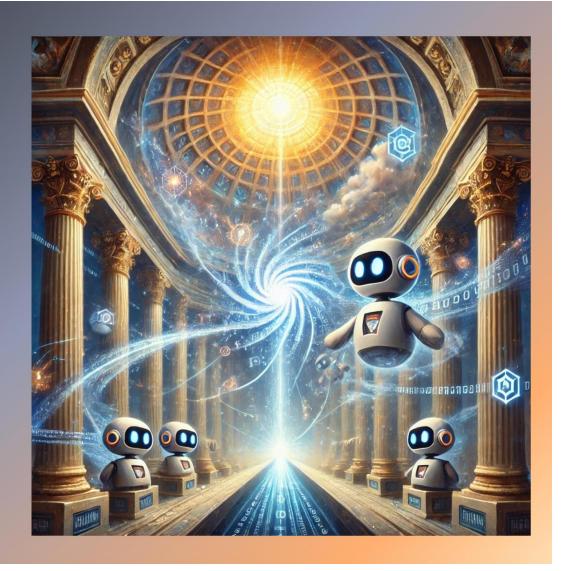
Our Project

OS-Genesis

Automating GUI Agent Trajectory Construction via Reverse Task Synthesis

Introducing OS-Genesis, a *manual-free* data pipeline for synthesizing GUI agent trajectory. OS-Genesis is characterized by the following core features:

- Interaction-driven: Agents actively explore GUI environments through stepwise interactions to discover functionalities and generate data.
- Reverse Task Synthesis: OS-Genesis retroactively derives meaningful low/high-level task instructions from observed interactions and state changes, enabling the construction of diverse and executable trajectories without pre-defined tasks.
- **Trajectory Data:** We construct and release high-quality mobile and web trajectories to accelerate GUI agents research.
- Performance: OS-Genesis significantly outperforms other synthesis methods on benchmarks like AndroidWorld and WebArena.
- X arXiv Code Checkpoints Quanta



Part3 | Future Directions and Early Attempts



We are just standing at the dawn of a long journey

There is still so much to do, such as:

- 1. Better action models
- 2. More advanced agent scheduling algorithms
- 3. Stronger planning capabilities
- 4. Safety, robustness and efficiency of agents

Let's look at some examples.



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Let's look at some examples.





SeeClick: Harnessing GUI Grounding for Advanced Visual GUI Agents

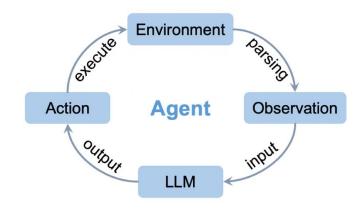
Kanzhi Cheng, Qiushi Sun, Yougang Chu, Fangzhi Xu, Yantao Li, Jianbing Zhang, Zhiyong Wu





GUI Agents depend on structured text face inherent limitations:

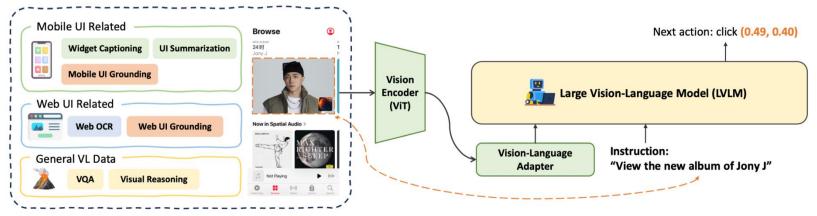
Instruction: Download the e-receipt with the last name Smith and confirmation number X123456989.



- Structured text representation is **not always available** (e.g. iOS and Desktop platform)
- Structured texts are **inconsistent**, with different representations across different platform (e.g., HTML, XLM, Accessibility Tree, ...)

Our contribution:

- GUI Grounding Pre-training: We applied GUI grounding continual pre-training to Qwen-VL to develop SeeClick
- An intuitive manner to perform element localization
- The first large-scale web grounding dataset

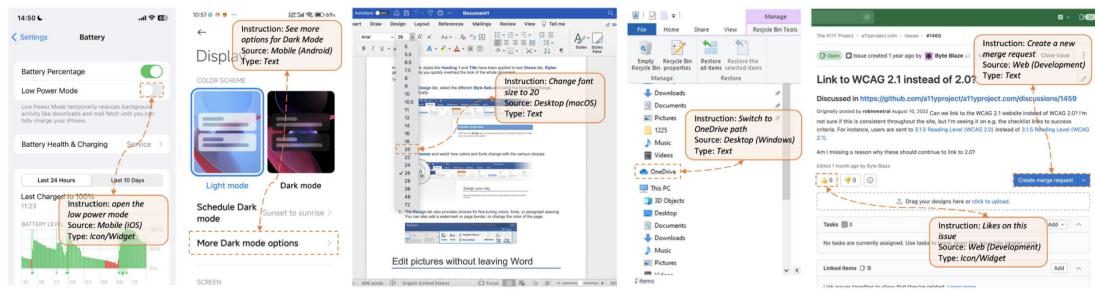


(a) Overview of SeeClick's framework and GUI grounding pre-training.



Figure 3: Example of two types of elements automatically collected from the webpage.

ScreenSpot: A Specialized GUI Grounding Benchmark



(b) Examples of the proposed GUI grounding benchmark ScreenSpot.

LVLMs	Model	Model GUI		Mobile		Desktop		Web	
LVLIVIS	Size	Specific	Text	Icon/Widget	Text	Icon/Widget	Text	Icon/Widget	Average
MiniGPT-v2	7B	X	8.4%	6.6%	6.2%	2.9%	6.5%	3.4%	5.7%
Qwen-VL	9.6B	×	9.5%	4.8%	5.7%	5.0%	3.5%	2.4%	5.2%
GPT-4V	-	×	22.6%	24.5%	20.2%	11.8%	9.2%	8.8%	16.2%
Fuyu	8B	✓	41.0%	1.3%	33.0%	3.6%	33.9%	4.4%	19.5%
CogAgent	18B	✓	67.0%	24.0%	74.2%	20.0%	70.4%	28.6%	47.4%
SeeClick	9.6B	✓	78.0 %	52.0%	72.2%	30.0%	55.7%	32.5%	53.4%



OS-ATLAS: A Foundation Action Model For Generalist GUI Agents

Zhiyong Wu^{1*}, Zhenyu Wu^{1,2*}, Fangzhi Xu^{1*}, Yian Wang^{2*}, Qiushi Sun³, Chengyou Jia¹, Kanzhi Cheng¹, Zichen Ding¹, Liheng Chen³, Paul Pu Liang⁴, Yu Qiao¹

¹Shanghai Al Lab, ²Shanghai Jiaotong University, ³University of Hong Kong, ⁴MIT

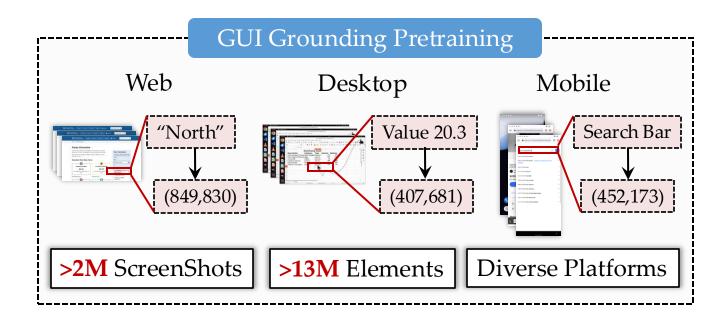








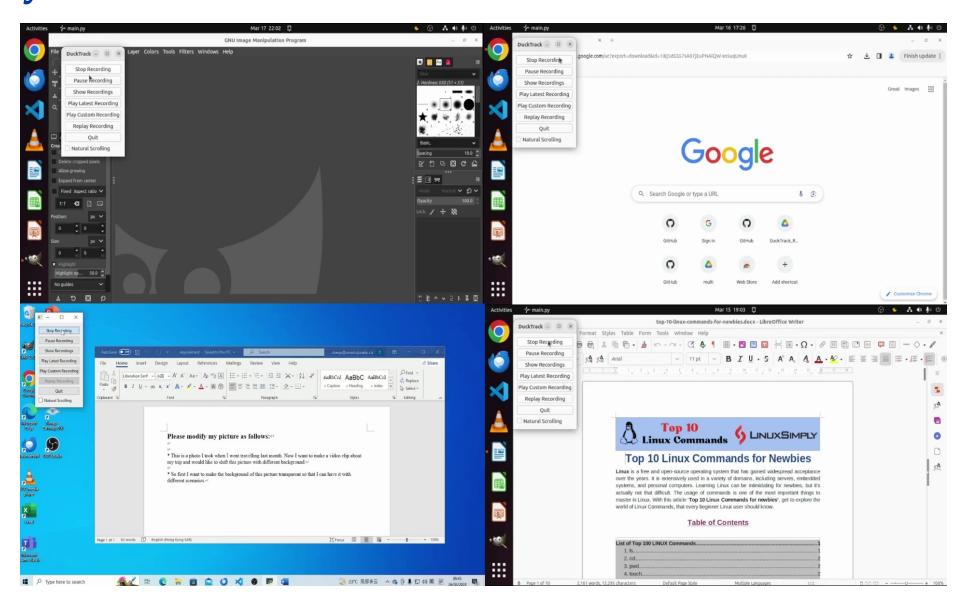
Infrastructure and Data Synthesis



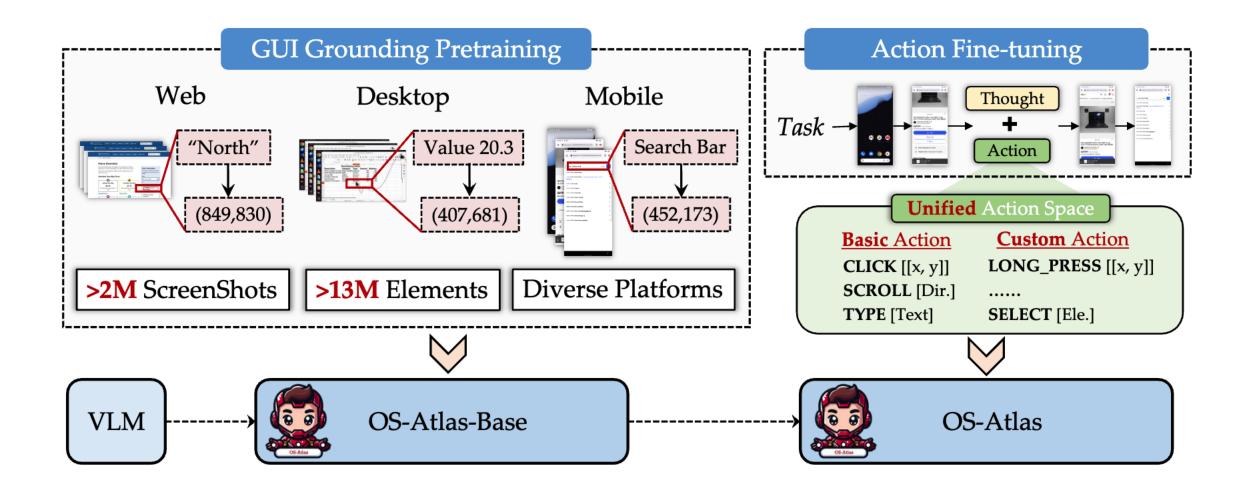
Dataset		#Screens	Open	#Elements		
Dataset	Web	Mobile	Desktop	Source	#121CHIEHUS	
SeeClick	270K	94K	-	✓	3.3M	
Ferret-UI	-	124K	-	X	<1M	
GUICourse	73K	9K	-	\checkmark	10.7M	
CogAgent	400K	-	-	X	70 M	
OS-Atlas	1.9M	285K	54K	✓	13.58M	

- 1. The first multi-platform GUI grounding data synthesis toolkit, including Windows, MacOS, Linux, Android, and the Web.
- 2. Comprises over 2.3M distinct screenshots and more than 13 million GUI elements.

Data Synthesis with Random Walk



Two Stage Training



Visual Grounding Performance



Grounding Models]	Mobile	Ι	Desktop		Ava	
Grounding Models	Text	Icon/Widget	Text	Icon/Widget	Text	Icon/Widget	Avg.
Fuyu	41.00	1.30	33.00	3.60	33.90	4.40	19.50
CogAgent	67.00	24.00	74.20	20.00	70.40	28.60	47.40
SeeClick	78.00	52.00	72.20	30.00	55.70	32.50	53.40
InternVL-2-4B	9.16	4.80	4.64	4.29	0.87	0.10	4.32
Qwen2-VL-7B	61.34	39.29	52.01	44.98	33.04	21.84	42.89
UGround-7B	82.80	60.30	82.50	63.60	80.40	70.40	73.30
OS-Atlas-Base-4B	85.71	58.52	72.16	45.71	82.61	63.11	70.13
OS-Atlas-Base-7B	93.04	72.93	91.75	62.86	90.87	74.27	82.47

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- 1. Better action models
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- 3. Stronger planning capabilities
- 4. Safety, robustness and efficiency of agents

Let's look at some examples.

Multi-Agent Algorithms

Published as a conference paper at COLM 2024

Corex: Pushing the Boundaries of Complex Reasoning through Multi-Model Collaboration

Qiushi Sun^{⋄▽}*Zhangyue Yin[♠] Xiang Li[♠] Zhiyong Wu^{⋄†} Xipeng Qiu[♠] Lingpeng Kong[▽]
[⋄]Shanghai AI Laboratory [▽]The University of Hong Kong

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AgentStore: Scalable Integration of Heterogeneous Agents As Specialized Generalist Computer Assistant

Chengyou Jia^{1,2}, Minnan Luo^{1,*}, Zhuohang Dang¹, Qiushi Sun^{2,3}, Fangzhi Xu^{1,2}, Junlin Hu², Tianbao Xie³ Zhiyong Wu^{2,*}

¹Xi'an Jiaotong University ²Shanghai Artificial Intellegence Laboratory ³The University of Hong Kong

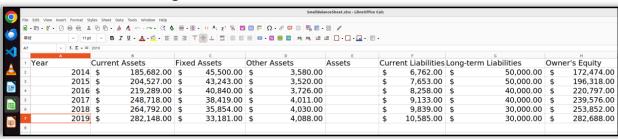






Can a Single Agent handle a variety of OS tasks?

Task_1: In a new sheet with 4 headers "Year", "CA changes", "FA changes", and "OA changes", calculate the annual changes for the Current Assets, Fixed Assets, and Other Assets columns.



Sheet Agent

SheetAgent specialize in sheet processing

pip install openpyxl && lsof | grep '.xlsx'

Step 2: Create new sheet and add headers

ws new = wb.create sheet(title=sheet name)

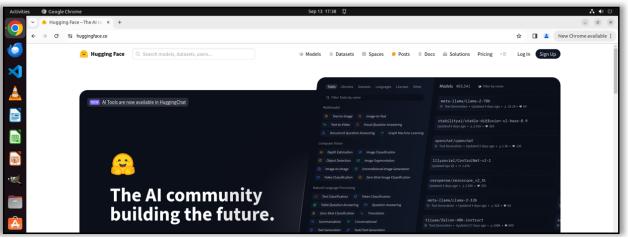
ws_new.append(headers), wb.save(file_path)

Step 3: Insert table for the required data

Step 1: Install and locate

for row in range(2, ws_original.max_row + 1): year = ws_original.cell(arg).value,... ws_new.append([year, ...])

Task_2: Find the daily paper and take down the meta information of papers on 1st March, 2024 in the opened . pptx file. Please conform to the format and complete others.





Different specialist agents are required to collaborate system-wide tasks

SubTask 1: Find papers and extract meta info

Step 1: Click daily papers to browsing

Step 2: Filter results by choosing1st March

Step 3: Extract info for selecting papers

subtask complete

message passing

SubTask 2: write meta info into pptx

Step 1: Install package and locate .pptx file

Step 2: load content for current .pptx file

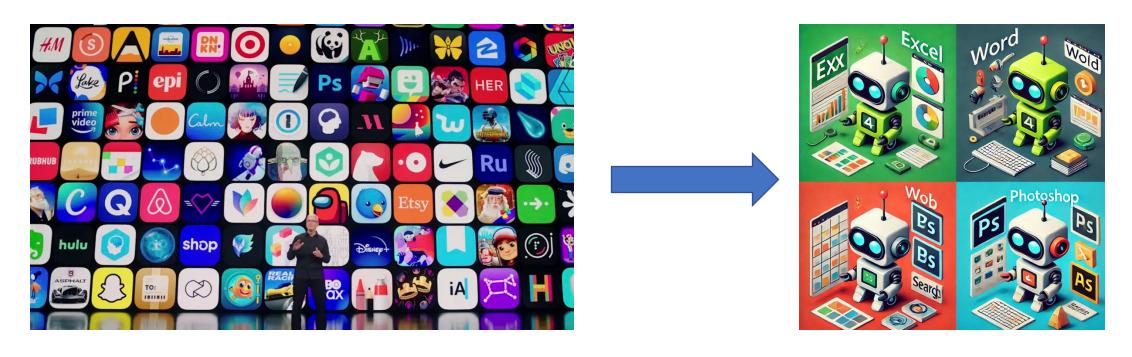
Step 3: Write info into corresponding file

Step 4: Save and overwrite the original file

Generalist Agent: lack of specialized abilities.

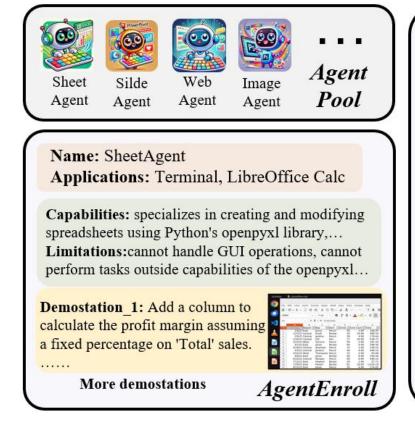
Specialized Agent: Unable to generalize to system-level tasks.

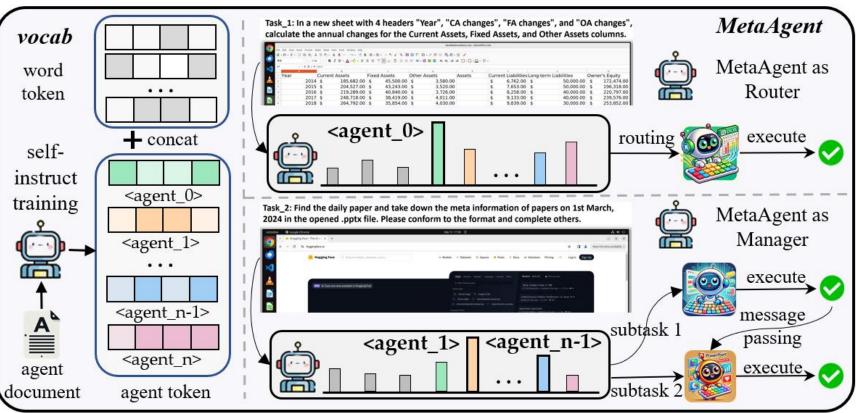
From APPStore to AgentStore:



Build an open and scalable platform for dynamically integrating various agents.

AgentStore



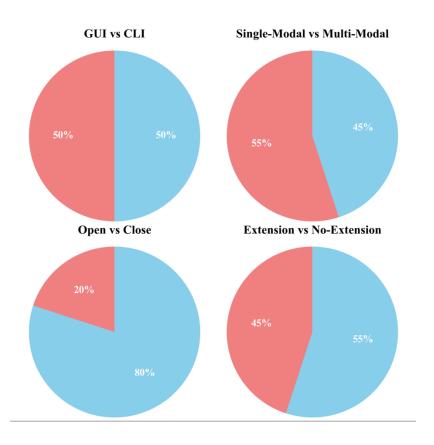


- 1. Quickly integrate their own specialized agents into the platform, similar to the functionality of the App store.
- 2. We introduce a novel MetaAgent with AgentToken strategy, to select the most suitable agent(s) to complete tasks.

Specialized agents in AgentStore

Table 6: The presentation of agents in the AgentPool.

	CLI or GUI?	Single or Multi Modal?	Open or Close Base Model?	Domain for OSworld	Support Extension?
OSAgent	GUI	Multi	Close	OS	✓
Friday (Wu et al., 2024)	CLI	Single	Close	OS	✓
SheetAgent	CLI	Single	Close	Calc	X
CalcAgent	GUI	Multi	Close	Calc	✓
SlideAgent	CLI	Single	Close	Impress	X
ImPressAgent	GUI	Multi	Close	Impress	✓
WordAgent	CLI	Single	Close	Writer	×
WriterAgent	GUI	Multi	Close	Writer	✓
VLCAgent	GUI	Multi	Close	VLC	✓
MailAgent	GUI	Multi	Close	TB	✓
ChromeAgent	GUI	Multi	Close	Chrome	✓
WebAgent (He et al., 2024)	GUI	Multi	Close	Chrome	X
VSAgent	GUI	Multi	Open	VSC	×
VSGUIAgent	CLI	Single	Close	VSC	✓
GimpAgent	GUI	Multi	Close	GIMP	✓
ImageAgent	CLI	Single	Open	GIMP	✓
Searcher C		Single	Close	-	X
GoogleDrive	CLI	Single	Close	-	X
CoderAgent	CLI	Single	Open	-	X
VisionAgent	CLI	Multi	Open	-	X



Performance

Agont	Base	Success Rate (%)									
Agent	Dase	OS*	Calc	Impress	Writer	VLC	TB	Chrome	VSC	GIMP	AVG
CogAgent	GogVLM	1.60	2.17	0.00	4.35	6.53	0.00	2.17	0.00	0.00	1.32
MMAgent	GPT-4o	14.44	4.26	6.81	8.70	9.50	6.67	15.22	30.43	0.00	11.21
CRADLE	GPT-4o	8.00	0.00	4.65	8.70	6.53	0.00	8.70	0.00	38.46	7.81
Friday*	GPT-4o	15.20	25.50	0.00	21.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.39	15.38	11.11
Open-Inter*	GPT-4o	12.80	12.76	0.00	13.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.39	15.38	8.94
AgentStore(GT)	Hybrid	20.00	36.17	10.63	47.83	47.06	40.00	34.78	47.82	38.46	29.54
AgentStore(ICL)	Hybrid	9.60	0.00	2.13	4.34	35.29	33.33	30.43	30.43	15.38	13.55
AgentStore(FT)	Hybrid	8.80	27.65	4.26	13.04	41.17	40.00	34.78	8.60	15.38	17.34
AgentStore(AT)	Hybrid	13.86	31.91	8.51	39.13	47.06	40.00	32.61	39.13	30.77	23.85

AgentStore achieved a success rate of 23.85% on highly challenging OSWorld benchmark. (Claude 3.5 Sonnet: 22%)

Rank	Model
1	AgentStore (AgentToken)
Oct 24, 2024	Shanghai Al Lab
	Shanghai Al Lab, '24
2	Agent S w/ GPT-4o
Oct 11, 2024	Simular Research
	Simular Research, '24
3	Agent S w/ Claude-3.5
Oct 11, 2024	Simular Research
	Simular Research, '24
4	AgentStore (Fine-Tuning)
Oct 24, 2024	Shanghai Al Lab
	Shanghai Al Lab, '24
5	AgentStore (In-Context Learning)
Oct 24, 2024	Shanghai Al Lab
	Shanghai Al Lab, '24
6	GPT-4 Vision
Mar 20, 2024	OpenAl
	OpenAl, '23



We are just standing at the dawn of a long journey

There is still so much to do, such as:

- 1. Better action models
- 2. More advanced agent scheduling algorithms
- 3. Stronger planning capabilities
- 4. Safety, robustness and efficiency of agents

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Stay tuned!







Thanks for listening

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