

IRCoder: Intermediate Representations Make Language Models Robust Multilingual Code Generators

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Abstract

Code generation has fast become one of the most popular applications of language models (LMs). Nonetheless, research on multilingual aspects of Code-LMs, such as cross-lingual transfer between different programming languages, language-specific data augmentation, and post-hoc LM adaptation, alongside the exploitation of data sources other than the original textual content, has been much sparser than for their natural language counterparts. In particular, most mainstream Code-LMs have been pre-trained on source code files alone. In this work, we investigate the prospect of leveraging readily available compiler *intermediate representations* (IR)—shared across programming languages—to improve the multilingual capabilities of Code-LMs and facilitate cross-lingual transfer. To this end, we first compile **SLTrans**,^{1,2} a parallel dataset consisting of nearly 4M self-contained source code files coupled with their respective intermediate representations. Next, starting from various base Code-LMs (ranging from 1.1B to 7.3B parameters), we carry out continued causal language modelling training on SLTrans, forcing the Code-LMs to (1) learn the IR language and (2) align the IR constructs with respective constructs of various programming languages. Our resulting models, dubbed **IRCoder**, display sizeable and consistent gains across various code generation tasks and metrics, including prompt robustness, multilingual code completion, code understanding, and instruction following.

1 Introduction

Language models for code generation (Code-LMs) are some of the most promising tools for enhancing the productivity of software developers. They have proliferated into automating several parts of the traditional software development lifecycle, including code infilling, comment generation, refactoring,

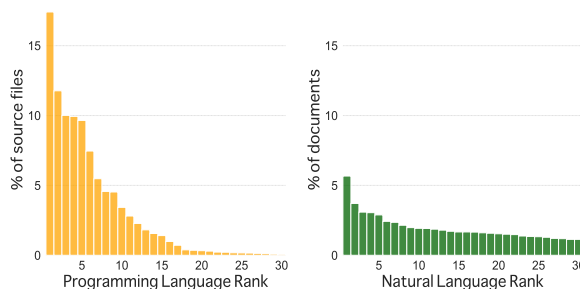


Figure 1: Comparison of the distribution of the top 30 programming languages on GitHub (left) against the top 30 natural languages in the mC4 corpus (right).

and build error prediction (Frömmgen et al., 2024; Dunay et al., 2024), *inter alia*. Despite a strong demand for such capabilities across all programming languages, the benchmarking of Code-LMs has largely been dominated by the most resourced languages. For instance, popular benchmarks such as HumanEval (Chen et al., 2021), MBPP (Austin et al., 2021) and APPS (Hendrycks et al., 2021) all test Code-LMs’ competence only in Python: this can result in misleading conclusions on the global utility of Code-LMs. More recent transpilation-oriented benchmarks like Multipl-E (Cassano et al., 2022) and BabelCode (Orlanski et al., 2023)—that test competence on several languages—have laid bare the gaps in Code-LMs’ performance across different programming languages. For instance, the state-of-the-art DeepSeekCoder’s (Guo et al., 2024) code completion performance in Bash, the most popular shell scripting language, lags its Python pass@1 performance by 30%+ points.

The problem is further exacerbated by the fact that the distribution of programming languages in code corpora is far more skewed than that of natural languages in standard multilingual text corpora. As an example, Ukrainian, considered to be a moderate-to-low-resource natural language (Tracey et al., 2019), comprises a higher proportion of the massively multilingual mC4 corpus (Xue et al., 2021) than Rust (the 13th most popular program-

¹Code: [UKPLab/ac12024-ircoder](https://github.com/UKPLab/ac12024-ircoder)

²Data: [UKPLab/SLTrans](https://github.com/UKPLab/SLTrans) | [TU Data TUDataLib/4246](https://tudata.tudarmstadt.de/dataset/UKPLab_SLTrans)

ming language) does of GitHub³. This relative scarcity in code corpora, however, belies Rust’s criticality to digital systems: Rust is one of only two languages approved for use in Linux kernel development.⁴ Figure 1 illustrates this problem by comparing relative distributions of natural and programming languages in respective multilingual corpora. Moreover, unlike the spread of digital content over natural languages, global code distribution over programming languages changes rapidly, reflecting sudden gains or drops in the popularity of individual programming languages. Such changes mean that consequential programming languages at some point in time, may not have been represented in the pre-training corpora of the Code-LMs. One prominent example is HCL, the fastest growing programming language according to GitHub,⁵ used for configuring production infrastructure deployments, which did not make it into common pre-training corpora for Code-LMs (Li et al., 2023).

The Case for Intermediate Code Representation.

The aforementioned limitations and properties of multilingual code corpora, i.e., skewed and rapidly changing distribution over programming languages, warrant a departure from the conventional approach of pre-training on ever-larger file-level source-code corpora. Indeed, recent evidence points to tangible downstream gains from the adoption of smaller but curated or synthesized data (Gunasekar et al., 2023) as well as from grounding code generation using metadata from language toolchains (Chen et al., 2023a; Gong et al., 2024).⁶ The latter, in principle, allows one to tap into more than half a century of research on programming languages and compilers and utilize views of the source code that often contain additional or more explicitly laid out information. This makes intuitive sense: skewed and fast-evolving distribution of programming languages implies that truly robust multilingual models cannot be obtained from heterogeneous source code alone; instead, some type of *code interlingua* should be leveraged to facilitate cross-lingual transfer from high- to low(er)-resource languages.

In this work, we propose *compiler intermediate representations* (IR) to be this interlingua for grounding source code understanding across heterogeneous languages, allowing for the creation of

all-around stronger models. The IR are the artifacts of transformations performed by the compiler in three sequential phases: frontend, middle-end, and backend transformations. In popular cross-language compiler frameworks, the frontend IR contains language-specific constructs, whereas the backend IR contains the target platform-specific execution constructs. The middle-end IR, however, is agnostic to the source programming language and target execution platform and thus represents, we argue, an ideal shared representation for positive knowledge transfer in multilingual Code-LMs, offering both (1) a way to better semantically align constructs from heterogeneous programming languages and (2) an alternative (and possibly more informative) view of the source code.

Contributions and Research Questions. Our work makes the following contributions: **1)** We create SLTrans, a parallel dataset consisting of nearly 4M pairs of self-contained source code with corresponding IR; **2)** We conduct a systematic investigation of the benefits of grounding Code-LMs in IR, demonstrating sizeable and consistent empirical gains across a broad range of tasks and programming languages; **3)** We create and publicly release a suite of base and instruction-tuned Code-LMs dubbed IRCoder (ranging in size from 1.1B to 7.3B parameters), the result of continued pre-training of state-of-the-art Code-LMs on a mixture of parallel data from SLTrans and monolingual data.

We test whether grounding on IR leads to more effective Code-LMs, aiming to provide answers to the following research questions:

RQ1: Does training with explicit grounding via parallel source code-IR corpora provide benefits over continued pre-training on (unpaired) source code or IR alone?

RQ2: Does grounding on IR improve robustness to prompt perturbations common in human inputs?

RQ3: Does training on parallel source-IR data improve multilingual performance on code completion and understanding, with IR driving the positive knowledge transfer?

RQ4: What effect does pre-training on IR have on multilingual instruction following?

2 Related Work

We provide a concise overview of the three most relevant lines of work: (1) high-quality pre-training data curation, (2) grounding with toolchain metadata, and (3) alignment across and cross-lingual

³GitHub Language Stats

⁴Linux Kernel Lore: Rust introduction for v6.1-rc1

⁵Octoverse Report 2022

⁶Toolchain is a set of tools required to create functional software, e.g., *compiler, linker, libraries, or debugger*.

transfer between languages.

Curated Data For Multilingual Generalization.

Curating high-quality and domain-specific data with instructional value leads to more sample-efficient LM pretraining: Phi-1 (Gunasekar et al., 2023), for example, trained on as few as 7B tokens, performs on a par with models trained on hundreds of times more uncurated data. As Cassano et al. (2023a) shows, curation alone does not suffice for multilingual Code-LMs to generalize to underrepresented and unseen programming languages. Instead, the authors resort to using a bare-bones test case transpiler to translate synthetic test cases to the target language, validating the quality of the synthetic target language data generated this way. This finding aligns with results from (Rozière et al., 2022), where the benefits of such verification have been demonstrated for code translation.

The compiler IR that we leverage in this work is the result of several sequentially executed transformations that—*inter alia*—eliminate dead code, unroll loops, combine expressions, and inline subroutines and thus offer significant instructional value without the need for generating unit tests, as the transformations are guaranteed to preserve the correctness of the source code.

Grounding in Toolchain Metadata. There exists an extensive body of work that leverages the structure of the code as well as information originating from artifacts of various stages of compilation to ground code generation. Starting with compiler frontend artifacts, attempts have been made to leverage Abstract Syntax Trees (ASTs) for grounding source code understanding by linearizing them and encoding with LSTMs (Jiang et al., 2022), GNNs (Zhang et al., 2022), CNNs (Mou et al., 2016), Transformers (Guo et al., 2022), or some combination thereof (Sun et al., 2020). Other modes of reliance on ASTs include (i) using them as a search prior for graph-based decoding (Brockschmidt et al., 2019), (ii) predicting (heuristically selected) paths from the tree as an auxiliary pre-training objective (Tipirneni et al., 2024) and, (iii) leveraging them for data augmentation: heuristic generation of meaning-preserving transformations, leveraged for contrastive learning (Jain et al., 2021; Quiring et al., 2019; Bahrami et al., 2021). Other compiler frontend artifacts such as Data Flow Graphs (DFGs) (Brauckmann et al., 2020) and Control Flow Graphs (CFGs) (Nair et al., 2020) have also been employed in grounding pro-

gram understanding. Finally, there is work (Shojaee et al., 2023; Le et al., 2022) that derives the reward that guides program generation via reinforcement learning (RL) from AST, CFG, and DFG matches between the generated and reference code.

On the opposite end, compiler backend outputs have also been employed to ground Code-LMs, with compilation feedback in text form being favoured by several recent efforts (Jiang et al., 2023; Chen et al., 2023b; Gou et al., 2023) to guide refining of tentative program generations. Concurrent work (Liu et al., 2023) proposed creating an RL reward to guide generation based on the kind and severity of compilation error outputs.

Finally, several existing efforts also leverage the IR produced by the compiler middle-end during its optimization passes, with LLVM being the most frequent choice of IR. IRGen (Li et al., 2022) performs an exploratory study into using the IR itself as a meaning-preserving augmentation to perform contrastive learning on C source code. MulCS (Ma et al., 2023) reports improvements to multilingual code snippet search when the GNN encoder utilizes a custom semantic graph derived from the IR. In the work most closely related to ours, Szafraniec et al. (2023) addresses code translation between four languages, pre-training the translation model using various objectives, including source code to IR translation. Their effort, however, is limited to code translation (i.e., they do not consider any other task) and parallel source-to-IR data only at the function level (i.e., short context). In this work, in contrast, we investigate the general utility (i.e., for a wide range of downstream tasks) of pre-training multilingual Code-LMs using parallel source-to-IR data, scaling additionally up the data collection effort to (i) 12 programming languages and, importantly, (ii) self-contained file-level programs, which, intuitively, allows for grounding of many more source-code concepts (e.g., those instantiated with longer code spans) in IR than function-level alignment. Crucially, we demonstrate that standard LM training on parallel source-to-IR data alone improves the robustness and multilingual ability of Code-LMs, without any architectural interventions and training auxiliary objectives.

Cross-lingual Transfer and Alignment. Most mainstream code generation models (Li et al., 2023; Guo et al., 2024; Nijkamp et al., 2023; Rozière et al., 2023; Chai et al., 2023), due to being pre-trained on GitHub code, are multilingual by default.

Hence, they are subject to the *curse of multilinguality*, i.e., the degradation of model performance on high-resource languages when the number of training languages or the proportion of low-resource data in the pre-training corpus of a multilingual model is scaled up. This is usually caused by negative interference between unrelated languages to which the model can only allocate a fixed capacity (Lauscher et al., 2020; Wu and Dredze, 2020) and is a well-documented phenomenon in natural language models (Arivazhagan et al., 2019; Conneau et al., 2020). Attempts to circumvent it without scaling up the model to impractical sizes have resorted to sparsity (Ansell et al., 2022; Lee and Hwang, 2023), modularity (Pfeiffer et al., 2022) and model merging (Blevins et al., 2024). While the presence of similar phenomena has been verified in multilingual Code-LMs (Orlanski et al., 2023; Athiwaratkun et al., 2023), research into cross-lingual transfer and alignment across programming languages has been rather sparse, exploring a limited set of tasks and languages (Chen et al., 2022) or introducing task-specific architectural interventions (Yuan et al., 2022; Pian et al., 2023), which are hard to scale.

Wang et al. (2020) indicate that separation of model parameters into language-agnostic and language-specific subsets can result in language-specific parameters being the cause of negative interference. We believe this presents an opportunity to minimize such interference by means of a shared intermediate representation rather than language-specific parameters. While it is unclear what such representation would be in the case of natural languages, intermediate compiler representations make an obvious choice for programming languages. Grounding Code-LM pretraining on IR data, we believe, should also improve generalization (including to languages unseen in pretraining) and consequently facilitate cross-lingual transfer in downstream tasks, akin to cross-lingual transfer between non-English languages by models trained on English-centric bi-texts (Gao et al., 2023; Artetxe and Schwenk, 2019). Our experiments on a large array of tasks and programming languages show that this is indeed the case.

3 SLTrans: A Source Code to LLVM IR Translation Pairs Dataset

In order to test the hypotheses we posit in Section 1, we seek to acquire parallel source-IR data for a mixture of low-, medium-, and high-resource

programming languages.

Intermediate Code Representation. We utilize LLVM (Lattner and Adve, 2004) as the intermediate representation of our choice because it possesses many of the qualities we deem beneficial for our objectives. LLVM is the most prevalent IR in existing code corpora (Kocetkov et al., 2023) and one of the few frameworks that maintain a well-developed human-readable IR standard,⁷ rendering its syntax and semantics learnable via language modelling. Additionally, LLVM is adopted as the target IR of many compiler frontends across several programming languages,⁸ mainly due to the ease with which its tooling infrastructure enables upstart languages to attain general availability.

Language	Frontend	Avg. Len. Multiplier	No. Samples	
			Opt-Level -Oz	Opt-Level -O3
C++	clang	5.08x	2,956,611	2,897,477
C	clang	3.26x	419,227	411,332
Python ⁹ [Codon]	codon	11.43x	291,011	284,676
Rust	rustc	21.36x	82,667	74,689
Haskell	ghc	16.58x	61,483	59,378
Go	gollvm	13.87x	55,578	42,241
Fortran	flang	4.59x	35,288	31,299
D	ldc	26.11x	18,111	6,125
Ruby ¹⁰ [Crystal]	crystal	6.78x	13,949	5,787
Nim	nilm	18.84x	2,865	-
Swift	swiftc	8.79x	2,179	1,354
Obj-C	clang	3.88x	403	261
Total:			3,939,372	3,814,619

Table 1: Breakdown of SLTrans across programming languages (with respective compiler frontends).

SLTrans Creation. Extracting LLVM IR from free-form source code in GitHub demands compilable and complete code units, the collection of which comes with several challenges. The proportion of compilable code units in free-form code is abysmally low due to the need for tracking dependencies. Many languages such as C and C++ do not have mature package management systems, which makes following dependency paths across repository boundaries virtually impossible. The problem is further exacerbated by the difficulty of reliably following within-repository file-level dependencies due to aggressive de-duplication of source files during curation of language modelling

⁷<https://llvm.org/docs/LangRef.html>

⁸<https://llvm.org/Projects/WithLLVM/>

⁹We source Python data via a Codon, which implements a statically typed subset of the Python language specification

¹⁰We source Ruby samples via Crystal — a statically typed and compiled derivative of the language

1. Compile to IR Using LLVM Frontend

```

1 #include <stdio.h>
2
3 int main(void)
4 {
5     int i, sum;
6     char number[100];
7     while (1) {
8         i = 0;
9         sum = 0;
10        scanf("%s", number);
11        if (number[0] == '0')
12            break;
13        while (number[i] != '\0') {
14            sum += number[i] - '0';
15            i++;
16        }
17        printf("sum: %d\n", sum);
18    }
19    return 0;
20 }

```



Source Code

2. Filter and Clean LLVM IR

```

1 define dso_local @main() local_unnamed_addr #0 {
2     @entry;
3     @number = alloca [1001 x i8], align 16
4     call void @llvm.lifetime.start.p0(i64 @1681, ptr nonnull @number) #3
5     br label @while.cond
6     @while.cond:
7     @call = call @i32 @__isoc99_scanf(ptr nonnull @.str, ptr nonnull @number) #4
8     @i0 = load i8, ptr @number, align 16, !tbaa i2
9     @icmp = icmp eq i8 @i0, 48
10    br i1 @icmp, label @while.end2, label @while.body7
11    @while.body7:
12    @phi.i8 = phi i8 [%.pre, @while.body7], [%.i0, @while.cond]
13    @kindvars.iv = phi i64 [%.kindvars.iv.next, @while.body7], [0, @while.cond]
14    @sum.i = phi i32 [%.sum, @while.body7], [0, @while.cond]
15    @xcmp5.not = icmp eq i8 @i0, 0
16    br i1 @xcmp5.not, label @while.end, label @while.body7
17    @while.body7:
18    @xconv4 = sext i8 @i0 to i32
19    @xadd = add i32 @sum.i, @xconv4
20    @xadd = add i32 @sum.i, @xconv4
21    @kindvars.iv.next = add nuw i64 @kindvars.iv, 1
22    @arrayidx3.phi.trans.insert = getelementptr @inbounds [1001 x i8], ptr @number, i64 @0, i64 @kindvars.iv.next
23    @i.pre = load i8, ptr @arrayidx3.phi.trans.insert, align 1, !tbaa i5
24    br label @while.cond2, !llvm.loop !8
25    @while.end2:
26    @call1 = call @i32 @printf(ptr nonnull @dereferenceable(1) @.str.1, i32 nonnull @sum.i) #4
27    br label @while.cond
28    @while.cond:
29    call void @llvm.lifetime.end.p0(i64 @1681, ptr nonnull @number) #3
30    ret i32 @0
31 }
32
33 declare void @llvm.lifetime.start.p0(i64 immarg, ptr nocapture) #1
34 declare nonnull i32 @__isoc99_scanf(ptr nocapture nonnull readonly, ...) local_unnamed_addr #2
35 declare nonnull i32 @printf(ptr nocapture nonnull readonly, ...) local_unnamed_addr #2
36 declare void @llvm.lifetime.end.p0(i64 immarg, ptr nocapture) #1@code here

```

LLVM Intermediate Representation

3. Concatenate and Perform Causal LM

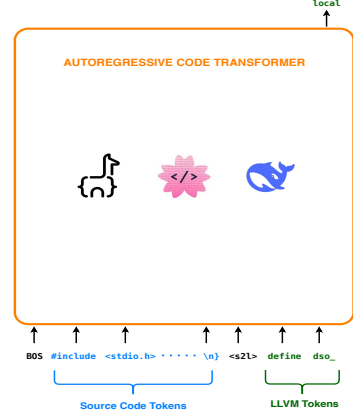


Figure 2: A high-level overview of our parallel data sourcing and training objective. Each source file is compiled via a corresponding LLVM frontend to obtain human-readable IR. The source and IR are then concatenated, and the model is required to auto-regressively predict the tokens of one with the other in context, thus aligning the constructs in the respective programming language with their analogues in LLVM.

code corpora for performance reasons (Allamanis, 2019; Lee et al., 2022): this mangles the repository structure.¹¹ Additionally, there are also obstacles to obtaining *complete* compilation units. Languages such as Rust, Go or Swift simply cannot be compiled at the file level (unless the files are self-contained) as their respective LLVM frontends operate on module or package-level compilation units. As of this writing, multi-file repository-level code language modelling is unsupported by most mainstream code models (Roziere et al., 2023; Li et al., 2023; Nijkamp et al., 2023). As a result, prior attempts at extracting parallel source-IR data have been stymied by the need for language-specific code dependency tracking for successful compilation (Grossman et al., 2023) and thus restricted to function/snippet level code (Szafranec et al., 2023), which is very limiting in terms of coverage of language constructs (Li et al., 2022).

We sidestep the above issues by sourcing self-contained compilation units from accepted solutions to programming contest problems (Rosetta Code, 2023; Mirzayanov, 2020; Puri et al., 2021; Caballero and Sutskever, 2021), which typically do not have cross-file dependencies. We then compile these source files into two IR flavours: size-optimized (-Oz opt-level equivalent) IR and performance-optimized (-O3 opt-level equivalent) IR. We further filter only samples with IR shorter than 2500 code lines. The size-optimized IR allows for larger context windows in LLM inference and is

¹¹A particularly common scenario is a popular repository with several forks being torn apart as the de-duplication pipeline non-deterministically selects disjoint subsets of files from different forks

also more uniform across languages; being used for deployment, the performance-optimized IR is more prevalent in open-domain code corpora. Collecting both enables fine-grained trading-off between the two during language modelling. Finally, given the abundance of near-duplicates in programming contest solutions, we perform MinHash-based (Broder, 1997) de-duplication. The final dataset, dubbed SLTrans, consists of ca. 4M samples across 12 programming languages, totalling 26.2B tokens.¹² A breakdown of SLTrans is given in Table 1.

4 Experimental Setup

Data Preparation. We leverage LLVM IR to ground matching constructs across heterogeneous languages and facilitate cross-lingual transfer: as header data (along with superfluous platform, vendor, and memory layout information) does not contribute to this goal, we remove it from IR before pairing with source code. We choose the size-optimized IR 80% of the time and performance-optimized IR for 20% of the training samples.

Given our computational budget, we could afford to perform continued pretraining on IR-grounded code on approximately 1.5B tokens. Given that (i) this is substantially smaller than the overall size of SLTrans and (ii) acknowledging the skewed language distribution of the dataset, we sub-sample the training corpora using token-level UniMax-1 sampling (Chung et al., 2023), based on the StarCoderBase tokenizer (Li et al., 2023). We select a token budget of 600M tokens this way. We next source 200M tokens of unpaired open-domain IR

¹²Based on the StarCoderBase tokenizer.

Data Mix	CodeText	Unpaired	Paired
OpenWebMath	300M	200M	100M
PeS2o	500M	300M	200M
Git Commits	200M	150M	100M
TheStack	500M	400M	300M
Unpaired IR	-	450M	200M
Source-IR Pairs (SLTrans)	-	-	600M
Total:	1.5B	1.5B	1.5B

Table 2: Token counts for the paired, unpaired, and codetext pre-training dataset (StarCoderBase tokenizer).

code from TheStack (Kocetkov et al., 2023), to allow Code-LMs to better learn the IR itself. Finally, to avoid catastrophic forgetting of pre-trained source-code knowledge, we spend the remaining 700M tokens of our budget on high-quality code and text data: these include math articles from the OpenWebMath dataset (Paster et al., 2023), research articles from the PeS2o dataset (Soldaini and Lo, 2023), source code sampled from language splits in TheStack present in SLTrans and single-file changing GitHub commits.¹³ The breakdown of the final dataset, to which we refer with Paired, is given in Table 2.

Model Training. Aiming for robust findings, we test the effects of IR grounding on six different Code-LMs from three different providers, ranging in size from 1.1B to 7.3B parameters: StarCoderBase (Li et al., 2023) 1.1B, 3.1B, and 7.3B; DeepSeekCoder (Guo et al., 2024) 1.3B and 5.7B; and CodeLlama (Roziere et al., 2023) 6.7B.

We perform continued LM training for each of these models on the Paired dataset built from SLTrans. We introduce two new sentinel tokens—`<s2l>` and `<l2s>`—into the models’ vocabulary and use them, respectively, for two possible directions of grounding (each sampled for 50% of training instances):

```
source_code <s2l> llvm_ir <|EOS|>
llvm_ir <l2s> source_code <|EOS|>
```

We randomly initialize the sentinel tokens’ embeddings from a Gaussian distribution with the mean set to the average of all pre-trained vocabulary embeddings and retain the variance from the models’ initializer configurations.

We rely on LoRA (Hu et al., 2022) for parameter-efficient continued pre-training (we set r to 256 and an α to 128), while keeping the embedding layers trainable. We resort to DeepSpeed (Rasley et al., 2020) Zero Stage-2 to accelerate our training jobs. We train with a maximum sequence length

¹³We source contents before and after the change, along with the commit message

Model	Base	Continued Pre-Training		
		CodeText	Unpaired	Paired (IRCoder)
StarCoderBase 1.1B	8.35	8.39 <i>+0.04</i>	8.59 <i>+0.24</i>	8.76 <i>+0.41</i>
DeepSeekCoder 1.3B	18.34	18.22 <i>-0.12</i>	18.77 <i>+0.43</i>	20.51 <i>+2.17</i>
StarCoderBase 3.1B	12.78	12.75 <i>-0.03</i>	12.97 <i>+0.19</i>	14.36 <i>+1.58</i>
DeepSeekCoder 5.7B	30.47	30.22 <i>-0.25</i>	30.44 <i>-0.03</i>	31.14 <i>+0.67</i>
CodeLlama 6.7B	21.83	21.94 <i>+0.11</i>	22.14 <i>+0.31</i>	24.06 <i>+2.23</i>
StarCoderBase 7.3B	17.94	17.73 <i>-0.21</i>	18.03 <i>+0.09</i>	18.46 <i>+0.52</i>

Table 3: **RQ1:** Multipl-E pass@1 all language average performance comparison between different continued pre-training settings.

of 4096 tokens using the Adam (Kingma and Ba, 2015) optimizer (β values of (0.95, 0.99)) with a base learning rate of $1e - 4$ for the LoRA modules and $4e - 5$ for the embedding layers, employing a cosine schedule (culminates at 10% of the base).

5 Results and Discussion

RQ1: Pairing source code and IR matters.

We first test whether the grounding of source code in IR, i.e., language modelling on paired source-IR instances, actually matters. To this end, we compare the performance of models trained on the Paired data against counterparts trained on (1) the unpaired concatenation of code and IR data (dubbed Unpaired) and (2) just more source-code data (referred to as CodeText). CodeText is derived from the same sources as Paired (see Section 4) but it does not contain any (paired or unpaired) LLVM IR data: instead, we simply upsample other sources to reach 1.5B tokens. The Unpaired is upsampled from all sources except the source-IR pairs from our SLTrans, i.e., compared to CodeText, it additionally samples training examples from the 450M token corpus of (unpaired) LLVM IR code from TheStack. Table 2 details the compositions of Unpaired, and CodeText corpora against our primary Paired corpus.

We benchmark Code-LLMs additionally trained on these three corpora against their base variants on the Multipl-E (Cassano et al., 2022) code completion benchmark (with the pass@1 metric), a transpiled expansion of the popular HumanEval (Chen et al., 2021) benchmark to 18 programming languages. We limit our evaluation to the subset of languages present in SLTrans: C++, D, Go, Python, Ruby, Rust and Swift. We sample $N = 50$ continuations of at most 1024 tokens for all Multipl-

E runs. While the more common standard is to choose $N = 200$, in the interest of efficiency, we follow existing work (Li et al., 2023) that shows that one can obtain reliable pass@k estimates in as few as 20 generations. We always use nucleus sampling with p of 0.9. Our estimates of pass@1 emulate usage scenarios where correctness is paramount. Hence, we utilize a low temperature of 0.2. In contrast, for our pass@10 and pass@25, we mimic scenarios where creativity and diversity of generations are more important and hence use a higher temperature of 0.8. This practice keeps us in line with prior work (Roziere et al., 2023).

Comparison of models’ performance, displayed in Table 3, brings the key insight: while adding unpaired IR data can bring some performance gains (compare Unpaired against Base and CodeText), these gains are much less pronounced than the gains we obtain by adding paired source-IR data to the training mix (Paired vs. Unpaired). These results suggest that the grounding of heterogeneous source code languages in the same IR—rather than mere exposure to (unaligned) IR—drives most of the performance gains. Comparing CodeText and Base, we see that continued training on the data distribution that is similar to that of original pre-training can hurt performance: most models additionally trained on CodeText exhibit small drops in performance compared to respective Base variants. This observation is in line with prior findings (Cassano et al., 2023a) and is likely the result of degradations caused by repeating data in language modeling (Allamanis, 2019).¹⁴

RQ2: Grounding in IR improves robustness to prompt perturbations. We next investigate how our source-IR grounding affects the perturbation robustness of Code-LMs. Such robustness is critical, as malformed and adversarial prompts have been shown to successfully lead to the generation of incorrect (Zhou et al., 2022) and insecure code (Dinh et al., 2023; Wu et al., 2023). Our intuition is that grounding in IR should reduce the vulnerability of Code-LMs to such perturbations, as IR is the result of several transformations that tend to remove the effects of minor semantic variances or even mistakes in the source code. We test our hypothesis using 5 differently seeded ReCode (Wang et al., 2023) transformations of HumanEval to measure robust-

Model	ReCode		
	Format	Syntax	Function
StarCoderBase 1.1B	28.08	26.39	11.31
DeepSeekCoder 1.3B	49.61	44.88	25.13
StarCoderBase 3.1B	38.70	33.29	19.04
DeepSeekCoder 5.7B	62.37	55.43	36.73
CodeLlama 6.7B	54.50	45.23	24.49
StarCoderBase 7.3B	46.30	41.50	23.53
IRCoder 1.1B	30.18 +2.10	27.50 +1.11	12.01 +0.70
IRCoder 1.3B	49.85 +0.24	45.43 +0.55	25.75 +0.63
IRCoder 3.1B	39.78 +1.08	34.42 +1.13	18.80 -0.24
IRCoder 5.7B	65.76 +3.39	59.24 +3.82	38.66 +1.93
IRCoder 6.7B	56.41 +1.91	48.11 +2.88	25.47 +0.98
IRCoder 7.3B	46.62 +0.32	41.82 +0.32	23.76 +0.23

Table 4: **RQ2:** ReCode split average pass@1 comparison between IRCoder and the corresponding base models. For detailed perturbation-level breakdowns in the Format, Syntax, and Function splits refer to Tables 6 to 8 in the Appendix respectively.

ness to three classes of perturbations in Python: code formatting, syntactic variation, and function name mangling. We run three of the four ReCode evaluations using HumanEval as the base dataset. The Format sub-task scrutinizes how robust these models are to source formatting variations, such as turning docstrings into comments and randomly inserting newlines. The Syntax sub-task tests models’ susceptibility to syntactic variation patterns common in human-written code (Chakraborty et al., 2022) such as dead-code blocks and renamed variables. Finally, the Function sub-task tests models’ robustness to conventional variations in function names such as inflectional variations or synonym substitutions. We follow the benchmark authors’ guidance and estimate pass@1 from one greedily sampled output of at most 1024 tokens per prompt.

As evidenced by the detailed results in Table 4, IRCoder displays gains across the board, with particularly significant gains in robustness against syntactic variations that are typical for human-written prompts. Interestingly, the gains for robustness to function header mangling are substantially smaller. We believe that this is the artifact of the benchmark, abundant with prompts that include headers and docstrings, which may underestimate the functional robustness of IR grounding “in the wild”.

RQ3: IR grounding improves multilingual code understanding. We next test the multilingual code completion and understanding capabilities of the models after IR grounding, both in zero-shot and fine-tuning setups. For completion, we re-

¹⁴While the exact pre-training corpora of DeepSeekCoder and CodeLlama is unknown, their data collection pipelines promise large overlaps with our CodeText corpus.

Model		Multipl-E			CodeXGLUE	Code-Text	Commit	Chronicle	HumanEvalFixDocs	
		pass@1	pass@10	pass@25	BLEU-4	ROUGE-2	ROUGE-L	pass@1	pass@10	
StarCoderBase	1.1B	8.35	13.43	16.43	10.05	12.41	33.67	12.23	17.70	
DeepSeekCoder	1.3B	18.34	26.12	31.36	9.63	12.33	33.16	25.48	36.22	
StarCoderBase	3.1B	12.78	19.09	22.62	10.61	14.35	33.70	28.44	42.91	
DeepSeekCoder	5.7B	30.47	41.38	48.04	11.80	13.77	35.18	48.21	61.05	
CodeLlama	6.7B	21.83	34.78	42.50	9.74	14.46	35.91	44.50	56.79	
StarCoderBase	7.3B	17.94	27.38	34.12	10.74	15.22	37.74	40.74	55.27	
IRCoder	1.1B	8.76	14.51	19.32	11.41	13.15	35.04	13.01	18.00	
		+0.41	+1.08	+2.89	+1.36	+0.73	+1.38	+0.78	+0.30	
IRCoder	1.3B	20.51	31.14	37.90	10.79	13.12	34.57	27.07	37.95	
		+2.17	+5.02	+6.54	+1.16	+0.79	+1.41	+1.59	+1.73	
IRCoder	3.1B	14.36	22.58	28.02	11.74	14.29	36.81	28.99	42.76	
		+1.58	+3.49	+5.39	+1.13	-0.06	+1.11	+0.55	-0.15	
IRCoder	5.7B	31.14	45.00	51.29	13.21	14.71	37.15	49.79	66.35	
		+0.67	+3.62	+3.25	+1.41	+0.93	+1.97	+1.57	+4.29	
IRCoder	6.7B	24.06	39.38	47.03	11.15	14.95	36.82	46.59	58.74	
		+2.23	+4.60	+4.53	+1.41	+0.49	+0.91	+2.09	+1.95	
IRCoder	7.3B	18.46	30.43	38.04	11.16	15.88	38.96	44.07	57.38	
		+0.52	+3.05	+3.92	+0.42	+0.67	+1.22	+3.33	+2.11	

Table 5: **RQ3** and **RQ4**: All language average performance comparison between IRCoder and the corresponding base models on multilingual tasks. For detailed language-wise breakdowns in Multipl-E results refer to Tables 9 to 11, CodeXGLUE code to text results refer to Table 12, Commit Chronicle results refer to Tables 13 and 14, and HumanEvalFixDocs results refer to Tables 15 and 16 in the Appendix.

port performance on Multipl-E in terms of pass@1, pass@10, and pass@25. We test zero-shot code understanding on CodeXGLUE (Lu et al., 2021) docstring generation task, which requires models to generate a docstring description given the function code as the prompt. We greedily sample continuations capped at 512 tokens and measure the performance with Smoothed BLEU-4 (Lin and Och, 2004) scores w.r.t. the reference docstrings for the languages present in SLTrans: Python, Ruby, and Go.

Regarding fine-tuning, we benchmark on the Commit Chronicle (Eliseeva et al., 2023) commit message generation task.¹⁵ For the 8 languages present in SLTrans—C, C++, Go, Objective-C, Python, Ruby, Rust and Swift—we fine-tune the IR-grounded Code-LLMs and report the performance in terms of ROUGE-2 and ROUGE-L against the reference commit messages. We randomly partition 80%, 10% and 10% of the data into train, validation, and test splits for the 8 languages present in SLTrans — C, C++, Go, Objective-C, Python, Ruby, Rust and Swift. For languages with a lot of diff samples, we cap the train split at 25,000 samples. We train for 3 epochs with a maximum sequence length of 2048 tokens, using LoRA tuning with an r of 32, α of 16, and a batch size of 16. We use the ADAM optimizer with β of (0.95, 0.99) and a base learning rate of $3e-4$. We employ

¹⁵The task also indirectly tests the commonsense knowledge in various languages as it requires the commit message to be generated purely from the *diff* in the absence of the original code

a cosine scheduler that finishes at 10% of the base learning rate. Unlike continued pre-training, losses are only backpropagated for the continuations in this phase.

Results in Table 5 show that IRCoder significantly and consistently outperforms the base LLMs on all multilingual benchmarks. The language-level breakdown of results (in Appendix A), suggests that grounding in IR facilitates cross-lingual transfer since we observe substantial improvements for low-resource languages.

The results warrant one further point of discussion. Our findings are in contrast with the findings of Orlanski et al. (2023) who show a trade-off between the performance on high and low-resource languages: we, instead, observe gains across the board with no evidence of interference even between typologically disparate programming languages. We find that the IR-grounding also substantially boosts performance on high-resource languages like C++ and Python for which the Code-LLMs have seen hundreds of billions of tokens in pre-training. This contributes to the hypothesis that, despite their large-scale pre-training, Code-LLMs gain a limited understanding of higher-level concepts such as control and data flow (Hooda et al., 2024), instead resorting to superficial attributes such as identifier names for anchoring representations across languages (Ahmed and Devanbu, 2022). IR, instead, quite intuitively, does have the potential to align code representations over such concepts. For example, the single-static assignment (SSA) form used by LLVM alongside trans-

formations such as loop vectorization and register allocation specifies the data flow explicitly; other modifications captured by IR, such as loop simplification, also aid in simplifying the control flow of source code, thus aiding code understanding.

RQ4: Grounding in IR improves multilingual instruction following. Finally, we test if the improvements from IR grounding extend to instruction following. To this end, we perform 3 epochs of instruction tuning on 23.5k instruction-output pairs. We collate 18k instruction-output pairs from EditPackFT (Cassano et al., 2023b), derived by re-formatting the file contents and commit messages of single-file edit GitHub commits. In the interest of preserving natural language ability, we also source a further 5.5k code-adjacent natural language instruction-output pairs from the OASST (Köpf et al., 2023) and OpenOrca (Lian et al., 2023) collections. We perform 3 epochs of instruction tuning on all the base and IRCoder models with a maximum sequence length of 2048 and backpropagate losses on only the continuations. We leverage LoRA tuning with an r of 32, α of 16, and a batch size of 16. We use the ADAM optimizer with β of (0.95, 0.99) and a base learning rate of $3e-4$. We employ a cosine scheduler that finishes at 10% of the base learning rate.

We evaluate instruction following on the HumanEvalFixDocs (Muennighoff et al., 2023) task. The task instructs the model to fix buggy code snippets given the docstring of the correct sub-routine and tests the models’ ability to correct faults such as identifier and operator misuse as well as missing or excess logic. We evaluate for SLTrans languages: C++, Go, Python, and Rust. We benchmark the instruction following ability of our models using pass@1 at temperature 0.2 and pass@10 at temperature 0.8 by sampling 20 continuations of at most 1024 tokens. Again, the first setting is designed to mimic factual generations, and the second is to recreate more creative settings. The task consists of the buggy code followed by the correct docstring and an accompanying instruction to fix the code snippet. Table 5 shows again that IR grounding brings performance gains, with the largest improvements observed for the strongest Code-LMs. This is consistent with existing work which shows that the benefits of instruction tuning are most apparent for strong base models (Muennighoff et al., 2023; Longpre et al., 2023).

6 Conclusion

In this work, we investigated the effects of grounding heterogeneous source-code to a shared intermediate representation (IR) on code understanding and generation abilities of Code-LMs. To this end, we first create SLTrans, a 26.2B token source code-IR parallel dataset containing nearly 4M training examples. We then perform continued pretraining on the corpus that includes parallel source code-IR data from SLTrans for 6 established Code-LMs, demonstrating that IR grounding brings substantial performance gains in prompt robustness, multilingual code completion, code understanding, and instruction following, all while training on data orders of magnitude smaller than Code-LM pretraining corpora. We hope that our encouraging results catalyze broader research efforts on the inclusion of intermediate code representations in pretraining and in the post-hoc adaptation of code language models.

Limitations

We show that compiler IR is a powerful source of cross-lingual alignment that allows for the structures in various languages to be anchored in common IR constructs. However, this is by no means a perfect process. Different frontends make disparate choices regarding how source code must be transformed to IR leading to several ‘dialects’ of IR that are all valid but may slightly differ. While this does not seem to get in the way of our gains, it might have an effect when our approach is extended to newer languages with less mature toolchains.

Additionally, while the middle-end LLVM IR is intended to be a target-platform agnostic representation, this constraint can sometimes be violated due to the presence of platform-specific constants, application binary interface code, and linker logic. For our purposes, this was worked around by some data cleaning and by sourcing the IR consistently from the same platform.

Thirdly, there is a risk that the IR may not be able to anchor all the constructs of a language. While in some languages like C and C++ there is a strong mapping between the language constructs and LLVM ones, in others the association might be less tight. For instance, in Rust, the source code is first transformed to the language’s own IR¹⁶ before the LLVM framework is used. Our results indicate

¹⁶<https://rustc-dev-guide.rust-lang.org/mir/index.html>

that this hasn't gotten in the way so far.

Finally, due to the IR being, on average, several times longer than the source code, there arise constraints on the types of models to which our approach can be applied. Most competitive Code-LMs have a context window of at least 4096 tokens making this largely a non-issue. However, it might pose problems in applying this method to older Code-LMs.

Ethical Risks

Our work does not directly interface with any human annotators, with our data collection and evaluation being completely automated. However, the risk of our improved model being more competent at generating malicious code cannot be ruled out. This is a prospect we haven't explicitly evaluated for. We take mitigating steps by releasing the Docker containers used in our training and evaluation jobs, to minimize the risks to downstream users employing our models and methods.

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A Detailed Results

For completeness, we detail the split and language-wise performance of the models on all tasks discussed in [Section 5](#).

Model	Doc to Comments	Newline After Code	Newline After Doc	Newline Random	Line Split	Tab Indent
StarCoderBase 1.1B	23.40	29.87	31.70	27.42	27.43	28.65
DeepSeekCoder 1.3B	45.43	53.44	50.98	50.60	44.18	53.04
StarCoderBase 3.1B	34.78	39.63	40.85	37.80	40.11	39.02
DeepSeekCoder 5.7B	50.12	61.42	66.38	64.63	64.67	66.98
CodeLlama 6.7B	50.11	56.09	55.87	54.43	52.58	57.92
StarCoderBase 7.3B	40.11	48.59	47.88	44.89	47.53	48.78
IRCoder 1.1B	26.14 +2.74	30.48 +0.61	34.48 +2.78	29.21 +1.78	30.70 +3.27	30.04 +1.39
IRCoder 1.3B	42.46 -2.75	53.97 +0.53	51.44 +0.46	49.44 -1.16	46.34 +2.16	55.23 +2.19
IRCoder 3.1B	37.14 +2.36	40.24 +0.61	39.63 -1.22	40.41 +2.61	40.41 +0.30	40.85 +1.83
IRCoder 5.7B	57.31 +7.19	68.28 +6.86	68.90 +2.52	66.74 +2.11	64.98 +0.31	68.36 +1.38
IRCoder 6.7B	54.18 +4.07	55.85 -0.24	57.92 +2.05	55.48 +1.05	55.71 +3.13	59.33 +1.41
IRCoder 7.3B	40.85 +0.74	43.98 -4.61	48.06 +0.18	48.06 +3.17	49.31 +1.88	49.37 +0.59

Table 6: ReCode Format pass@1 comparison between IRCoder and its corresponding base models.

Model	Dead Code Insert	For While Transform	Operand Swap	Var Renaming CB	Var Renaming Naive	Var Renaming RN
StarCoderBase 1.1B	8.53	32.93	29.14	31.70	29.87	26.18
DeepSeekCoder 1.3B	17.64	52.43	50.52	50.52	50.60	47.56
StarCoderBase 3.1B	14.02	38.41	39.63	38.11	37.81	31.78
DeepSeekCoder 5.7B	23.48	64.35	61.63	64.02	60.52	58.56
CodeLlama 6.7B	16.94	52.95	51.97	54.26	51.78	43.47
StarCoderBase 7.3B	14.96	50.31	50.31	45.63	45.12	42.68
IRCoder 1.1B	10.36 +1.83	33.94 +1.01	31.70 +2.56	32.31 +0.61	30.60 +0.73	26.11 -0.07
IRCoder 1.3B	18.29 +0.65	49.96 -2.47	50.60 +0.08	49.86 -0.66	54.36 +3.76	49.51 +1.95
IRCoder 3.1B	12.19 -1.83	40.11 +1.70	41.87 +2.24	43.11 +5.00	36.93 -0.88	32.31 +0.53
IRCoder 5.7B	26.92 +3.34	66.47 +2.12	65.84 +4.21	67.68 +3.66	66.46 +5.94	62.19 +3.63
IRCoder 6.7B	18.90 +1.96	56.09 +3.14	55.65 +3.68	54.44 +0.18	54.41 +2.36	49.17 +5.70
IRCoder 7.3B	14.85 -0.11	49.77 -0.54	50.46 +0.15	49.63 +4.00	45.85 +0.73	40.36 -2.32

Table 7: ReCode Syntax pass@1 comparison between IRCoder and its corresponding base models.

Model	Camel Case	Butter Fingers	Swap Characters	Change Character Case	Inflectional Variation	Synonym Substitution
StarCoderBase 1.1B	10.24	11.44	13.14	10.33	12.44	10.26
DeepSeekCoder 1.3B	26.99	23.93	26.12	19.65	25.67	28.41
StarCoderBase 3.1B	20.87	18.02	19.42	17.07	20.32	18.56
DeepSeekCoder 5.7B	40.24	34.32	38.47	30.26	40.33	36.76
CodeLlama 6.7B	27.44	25.11	24.41	21.08	23.79	25.09
StarCoderBase 7.3B	26.33	25.02	22.17	19.68	25.39	22.56
IRCoder 1.1B	11.82 +1.58	11.36 -0.08	12.49 -0.65	13.02 +2.69	12.63 +0.19	10.76 +0.50
IRCoder 1.3B	29.94 +2.95	23.17 -0.76	25.67 -0.45	22.06 +2.41	26.76 +1.09	26.88 -1.53
IRCoder 3.1B	21.88 +1.01	17.67 -0.35	18.39 -1.03	15.12 -1.95	20.68 +0.36	19.07 +0.51
IRCoder 5.7B	43.86 +3.62	37.84 +3.52	37.19 -1.28	34.57 +4.31	39.91 -0.42	38.58 +1.82
IRCoder 6.7B	27.11 -0.33	25.17 +0.06	24.56 +0.15	25.78 +4.70	25.44 +1.65	24.77 -0.32
IRCoder 7.3B	26.94 +0.61	24.07 -0.95	22.51 +0.34	20.84 +1.16	25.92 +0.53	22.30 -0.26

Table 8: ReCode Function pass@1 comparison between IRCoder and its corresponding base models.

	Model	C++	D	Go	Python	Ruby	Rust	Swift
StarCoderBase	1.1B	10.22	3.87	12.79	14.26	4.46	9.21	3.64
DeepSeekCoder	1.3B	28.21	9.77	15.87	27.91	21.21	16.46	8.94
StarCoderBase	3.1B	16.64	4.89	15.63	21.51	4.52	16.31	9.98
DeepSeekCoder	5.7B	43.44	13.65	24.64	42.67	33.43	31.79	23.79
CodeLlama	6.7B	26.72	9.67	18.69	31.13	25.28	21.43	19.87
StarCoderBase	7.3B	23.19	7.62	16.76	27.88	16.96	18.81	14.38
IRCoder	1.1B	11.10 +0.88	4.65 +0.78	11.78 -1.01	14.29 +0.03	6.34 +1.88	9.62 +0.21	3.76 +0.12
IRCoder	1.3B	31.79 +3.58	10.57 +0.80	16.17 +0.30	30.61 +2.70	24.35 +3.14	20.91 +4.45	9.14 +0.20
IRCoder	3.1B	16.87 +0.23	5.67 +0.78	17.78 +2.15	21.98 +0.47	11.46 +6.94	16.78 +0.47	9.96 -0.02
IRCoder	5.7B	45.61 +2.17	15.96 +2.41	23.77 -0.87	42.92 +0.25	34.60 +1.17	33.94 +2.15	21.17 -2.62
IRCoder	6.7B	29.12 +2.40	13.02 +3.35	19.10 +0.41	31.11 -0.02	26.28 +1.00	24.37 +2.94	25.45 +5.58
IRCoder	7.3B	23.06 -0.13	11.97 +4.35	16.81 +0.05	25.24 -2.64	19.52 +2.56	19.63 +0.82	12.99 -1.39

Table 9: Multipl-E pass@1 comparison between IRCoder and its corresponding base models.

	Model	C++	D	Go	Python	Ruby	Rust	Swift
StarCoderBase	1.1B	20.81	7.81	17.33	19.97	6.92	12.19	8.87
DeepSeekCoder	1.3B	34.36	16.76	18.98	41.30	37.86	18.94	14.65
StarCoderBase	3.1B	24.16	11.06	18.11	30.86	10.39	22.61	16.43
DeepSeekCoder	5.7B	54.67	22.74	28.78	61.53	46.24	42.96	32.76
CodeLlama	6.7B	45.86	15.56	23.11	52.75	45.87	28.67	31.65
StarCoderBase	7.3B	36.97	16.14	20.21	40.58	33.42	25.63	18.69
IRCoder	1.1B	21.24 +0.43	9.07 +1.18	17.84 +0.51	22.61 +2.64	9.76 +2.84	11.86 -0.33	9.17 +0.30
IRCoder	1.3B	36.42 +5.17	24.27 -0.13	18.95 +1.12	48.67 +4.36	42.39 +12.54	25.48 -0.04	21.82 +1.41
IRCoder	3.1B	29.33 +5.17	10.93 -0.13	19.23 +1.12	35.22 +4.36	22.93 +12.54	22.57 -0.04	17.84 +1.41
IRCoder	5.7B	58.51 +3.84	28.64 +5.90	28.59 -0.19	68.11 +6.58	49.58 +3.34	44.09 +1.13	37.45 +4.69
IRCoder	6.7B	51.76 +5.90	26.14 +10.58	25.48 +2.37	56.71 +3.96	49.40 +3.53	31.28 +2.61	34.89 +3.24
IRCoder	7.3B	39.24 +2.27	20.23 +4.09	19.68 -0.53	45.69 +5.31	36.88 +3.46	27.65 +2.02	23.45 +4.76

Table 10: Multipl-E pass@10 comparison between IRCoder and its corresponding base models.

	Model	C++	D	Go	Python	Ruby	Rust	Swift
StarCoderBase	1.1B	28.19	12.78	19.22	23.04	7.65	13.45	10.69
DeepSeekCoder	1.3B	38.44	20.71	22.79	50.68	43.26	20.13	23.49
StarCoderBase	3.1B	27.38	13.98	20.87	33.89	14.59	24.97	22.68
DeepSeekCoder	5.7B	58.59	28.32	31.11	69.14	53.76	50.84	44.55
CodeLlama	6.7B	57.65	22.86	25.73	62.43	55.96	31.95	40.93
StarCoderBase	7.3B	40.28	20.93	22.14	53.44	44.85	30.80	26.41
IRCoder	1.1B	29.79 +1.60	13.45 +0.67	20.02 +0.80	28.43 +5.39	18.79 +11.14	14.31 +0.86	10.43 -0.26
IRCoder	1.3B	40.55 +2.11	31.89 +11.18	23.47 +0.68	57.84 +7.16	52.46 +9.20	28.63 +8.50	30.44 +6.95
IRCoder	3.1B	35.18 +7.80	14.77 +0.79	23.59 +2.72	46.19 +12.30	28.72 +14.13	24.12 -0.85	23.55 +0.87
IRCoder	5.7B	62.16 +3.57	33.79 +5.47	33.86 +2.75	73.41 +4.27	55.08 +1.32	51.69 +0.85	49.04 +4.49
IRCoder	6.7B	60.08 +2.43	35.27 +12.41	26.31 +0.58	67.49 +5.06	59.88 +3.92	35.39 +3.44	44.77 +3.84
IRCoder	7.3B	47.87 +7.59	27.67 +6.74	21.87 -0.27	56.47 +3.03	49.35 +4.50	30.92 +0.12	32.12 +5.71

Table 11: Multipl-E pass@25 comparison between IRCoder and its corresponding base models.

Model	Go	Python	Ruby
StarCoderBase 1.1B	10.23	12.89	7.03
DeepSeekCoder 1.3B	11.29	14.07	3.52
StarCoderBase 3.1B	10.33	12.78	8.71
DeepSeekCoder 5.7B	10.09	14.15	11.16
CodeLlama 6.7B	9.96	14.33	4.94
StarCoderBase 7.3B	9.54	13.52	9.17
IRCoder 1.1B	12.33 +2.10	12.77 -0.12	9.14 +2.11
IRCoder 1.3B	11.87 +0.58	16.62 +2.55	3.88 +0.36
IRCoder 3.1B	11.99 +1.66	13.34 +0.56	9.88 +1.17
IRCoder 5.7B	11.81 +1.72	16.28 +2.13	11.25 +0.39
IRCoder 6.7B	9.90 -0.06	15.61 +1.28	7.95 +3.01
IRCoder 7.3B	10.71 +1.17	13.49 -0.03	9.28 +0.11

Table 12: CodeXGLUE code-to-text smoothed BLEU-4 comparison between IRCoder and its corresponding base models.

Model	C	C++	Go	Obj-C	Python	Ruby	Rust	Swift
StarCoderBase 1.1B	11.76	13.14	10.55	10.81	13.73	17.44	11.13	10.74
DeepSeekCoder 1.3B	11.96	12.67	12.89	10.02	12.77	16.16	11.53	10.66
StarCoderBase 3.1B	13.19	15.74	13.19	14.36	14.57	17.35	13.81	12.56
DeepSeekCoder 5.7B	14.01	14.48	12.91	12.95	14.13	17.83	12.15	11.72
CodeLlama 6.7B	14.26	14.89	13.96	14.24	14.44	17.73	13.37	12.76
StarCoderBase 7.3B	15.06	17.01	14.56	14.68	15.01	18.38	14.06	12.97
IRCoder 1.1B	11.91 +0.15	12.99 -0.15	11.99 +1.44	12.25 +1.44	14.09 +0.36	18.91 +1.47	11.98 +0.85	11.04 +0.30
IRCoder 1.3B	12.20 +0.24	14.68 +2.01	12.85 +0.04	11.93 +1.91	13.29 +0.52	16.56 +0.40	12.45 +0.92	10.99 +0.33
IRCoder 3.1B	13.39 +0.20	14.69 -1.05	13.88 +0.69	13.95 -0.41	14.51 -0.06	17.41 +0.06	13.64 -0.17	12.81 +0.25
IRCoder 5.7B	14.56 +0.55	16.98 +2.50	14.59 +1.68	13.22 +0.27	14.02 -0.11	18.08 +0.25	14.03 +1.88	12.17 +0.45
IRCoder 6.7B	14.36 +0.10	16.06 +1.17	14.96 +1.00	13.92 -0.32	14.64 +0.20	18.51 +0.78	14.46 +1.09	12.66 -0.10
IRCoder 7.3B	15.32 +0.26	17.75 +0.74	15.76 +1.20	14.92 +0.24	15.98 +0.97	19.26 +0.88	14.98 +0.92	13.09 +0.12

Table 13: CommitChronicle ROUGE-2 comparison between IRCoder and its corresponding base models.

Model	C	C++	Go	Obj-C	Python	Ruby	Rust	Swift
StarCoderBase 1.1B	29.78	35.63	32.56	30.03	35.47	39.56	33.97	32.32
DeepSeekCoder 1.3B	31.87	35.91	33.98	30.59	34.71	34.62	32.86	30.77
StarCoderBase 3.1B	32.76	37.84	36.73	37.72	35.76	37.48	34.23	33.06
DeepSeekCoder 5.7B	32.61	36.25	35.48	32.63	36.56	40.07	34.69	33.16
CodeLlama 6.7B	35.02	37.24	36.82	33.43	33.73	39.75	34.46	33.83
StarCoderBase 7.3B	35.93	38.67	37.24	38.53	38.17	40.97	37.28	35.09
IRCoder 1.1B	32.67 +2.89	34.84 -0.79	34.79 +2.23	33.43 +3.40	35.56 +0.09	40.19 +0.63	35.21 +1.24	33.63 +1.31
IRCoder 1.3B	33.30 +1.43	36.14 +0.23	35.11 +1.13	31.58 +0.99	34.25 -0.46	39.34 +4.72	34.69 +1.83	32.14 +1.37
IRCoder 3.1B	35.29 +2.53	38.21 +0.37	36.90 +0.17	36.83 -0.89	37.01 +1.25	40.40 +2.92	36.07 +1.84	33.76 +0.70
IRCoder 5.7B	36.15 +3.54	39.39 +3.14	37.44 +1.96	34.73 +2.10	36.78 +0.22	41.38 +1.31	36.97 +2.28	34.33 +1.17
IRCoder 6.7B	35.94 +0.92	37.81 +0.57	38.11 +1.29	34.08 +0.65	37.01 +0.28	41.02 +1.27	36.41 +1.95	41.17 +0.34
IRCoder 7.3B	37.52 +1.59	40.48 +1.81	38.96 +1.72	38.59 +0.06	38.69 +0.52	43.17 +2.20	38.41 +1.13	35.82 +0.73

Table 14: CommitChronicle ROUGE-L comparison between IRCoder and its corresponding base models.

Model	C++	Go	Python	Rust
StarCoderBase 1.1B	11.26	10.07	18.87	8.70
DeepSeekCoder 1.3B	24.01	25.89	35.36	16.67
StarCoderBase 3.1B	33.87	27.18	34.92	18.89
DeepSeekCoder 5.7B	52.32	52.89	57.88	29.76
CodeLlama 6.7B	49.39	49.76	51.68	27.17
StarCoderBase 7.3B	44.37	43.77	48.33	26.48
IRCoder 1.1B	11.71 +0.45	10.76 +0.69	19.93 +1.06	9.63 +0.93
IRCoder 1.3B	26.97 +2.96	27.12 +1.23	35.21 -0.15	18.98 +2.31
IRCoder 3.1B	32.99 -0.88	25.48 -1.70	35.67 +0.75	21.82 +4.03
IRCoder 5.7B	53.94 +1.62	52.64 -0.25	58.77 +0.89	33.79 +4.03
IRCoder 6.7B	50.96 +1.57	51.33 +1.57	55.69 +4.01	28.38 +1.21
IRCoder 7.3B	48.62 +4.25	46.04 +2.27	49.52 +1.19	32.11 +5.63

Table 15: HumanEvalFixDocs pass@1 comparison between IRCoder and its corresponding base models.

Model	C++	Go	Python	Rust
StarCoderBase 1.1B	16.91	14.48	26.67	12.74
DeepSeekCoder 1.3B	35.49	40.78	42.94	25.68
StarCoderBase 3.1B	45.39	44.11	54.67	27.16
DeepSeekCoder 5.7B	64.10	60.44	70.59	49.07
CodeLlama 6.7B	61.32	58.73	61.67	45.44
StarCoderBase 7.3B	55.94	58.36	59.56	47.22
IRCoder 1.1B	18.16 +1.25	13.99 -0.49	26.67 -	13.18 +0.44
IRCoder 1.3B	38.41 +2.92	43.11 +2.31	43.15 +0.23	27.11 +1.43
IRCoder 3.1B	42.06 -3.33	45.17 +0.76	55.06 +0.39	25.74 +1.58
IRCoder 5.7B	68.22 +4.12	63.47 +3.03	73.42 +2.83	56.27 +7.20
IRCoder 6.7B	61.87 +0.55	60.59 +1.86	62.04 +0.37	50.44 +5.00
IRCoder 7.3B	57.35 +1.41	59.33 +0.97	60.11 +0.55	52.71 +5.49

Table 16: HumanEvalFixDocs pass@10 comparison between IRCoder and its corresponding base models.