

Less is More: Empowering GUI Agent with Context-Aware Simplification

- Appendix -

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<https://github.com/JiuTian-VL/SimpAgent>

A. GUI navigation tasks

Android In The Wild (AITW) [11] consists of 30k instructions and 715k operation trajectories in the context of smartphone environments. However, the original train-test split carries the risk of overfitting due to overlapping instructions between the training and test sets, as well as the presence of multiple similar trajectories per instruction [2]. Therefore, we adopt the instruction-wise split scheme proposed by SeeClick [2] for the AITW dataset to achieve a fair evaluation. we follow the same data processing settings in SeeClick. The action space of AITW consists of 12 actions: CLICK, TYPE, SELECT, SCROLL UP, SCROLL DOWN, SCROLL LEFT, SCROLL RIGHT, PRESS BACK, PRESS HOME, PRESS ENTER, STATUS TASK COMPLETE, STATUS TASK IMPOSSIBLE.

Mind2Web [3] comprises over 2000 open-ended tasks collected from 137 real websites, originally for text-based web agents, provides only HTML observations. To support visual agents, we extracted screenshots and target bounding boxes. Since full-page captures (e.g. 1920×12000) are impractical for LVLMS, we follow the same data processing settings in SeeClick, cropping around target elements, standardizing the resolution to 1920×1080. The action space of Mind2Web consists of 2 actions: CLICK, TYPE.

GUI-Odyssey [9] is a comprehensive dataset for training and evaluating cross-app navigation agents, consisting of 7,735 episodes from 6 mobile devices. We follow the same data processing and evaluation settings in GUI-Odyssey. The action space of GUI-Odyssey consists of 9 actions: CLICK, SCROLL, LONG PRESS, TYPE, COMPLETE, IMPOSSIBLE, HOME, BACK, RECENT.

AndroidControl [7] encompasses 14,548 unique tasks across 833 Android apps, offering both high and low-level instructions to explore the level of task complexity an agent can handle. We follow the same data processing and eval-

uation settings in OS-Atlas [13]. The action space of AndroidControl consists of 9 actions: CLICK, SCROLL, LONG PRESS, TYPE, NAVIGATE HOME, NAVIGATE BACK, OPEN APP, WAIT, TERMINATE.

B. Implementation Details

We use Qwen2VL-2B as our base model. For different datasets, we adopt the same data organization format following SeeClick [2]. We parse the executed actions in JSON format, dividing them into two parts: action.type and action.value. Next, we introduce the format and examples of the training and testing data.

For the 4A data format, we use the same prompt in SeeClick to execute each step of the agent.

```
"<image>Please generate the next move according to the ui screenshot, instruction and previous actions. Instruction: What's on the menu at Domino's?. Previous actions: Step0: {\"action.type\": PRESS HOME}. Step1: {\"action.type\": CLICK, \"click.point\": (524,865)}. Step2: {\"action.type\": TYPE, \"typed.text\": \"menu at Domino's\"}. Step3: {\"action.type\": CLICK, \"click.point\": (325,156)} . "
```

For the 4AO data format, we use the following prompt to execute each step of the agent.

```
"Please generate the next move according to the instruction, previous actions, previous ui screenshot and current ui screenshot. Instruction: What's on the menu at Domino's?. Image0:<image> Step0:{\"action.type\": PRESS HOME} . Image1:<image> Step1:{\"action.type\": CLICK, \"click.point\": (524,865)} . Image2:<image> Step2:{\"action.type\": TYPE, \"typed.text\": \"menu at Domino's\"} . Image3:<image> Step3:{\"action.type\": CLICK, \"click.point\": (325,156)} . Image4:<image> "
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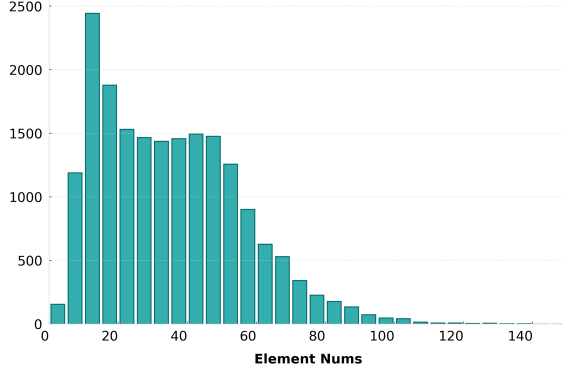


Figure 1. The distribution of element nums in AITW dataset.

For the AITW [11] and GUI-Odyssey [9] datasets, we employ four low-resolution historical images, adhering to the 4AO format proposed by SeeClick. Each image’s longest side is scaled to 512 pixels, maintaining the aspect ratio and ensuring the resolution stayed within 512x512.

For AndroidControl [7] and Mind2Web [3] datasets, we adopt the same setting in ShowUI, retaining two high-resolution historical images, with a maximum of 1280 tokens. We choose not to use four due to GPU memory constraints.

We use bfloat16 precision for training. All experiments are conducted with LoRA fine-tuning, applying a rank of 8 and an alpha value of 16 exclusively for the language model. We leverage DeepSpeed Zero-2 and utilize flash attention to accelerate training. For AITW and GUI-Odyssey, we use the same training strategy in SeeClick, with a learning rate of $3e-5$ and a global batch size of 64. For AndroidControl, we use a learning rate of $3e-4$ and a global batch size of 128. For Mind2Web, we use a learning rate of $3e-4$ and a global batch size of 16.

C. The statistical Analyses of GUI Navigation Datasets

In Figure 1, We present the distribution of the element nums included in screenshots from the AITW dataset. The number of elements per screenshot typically falls within the range of 10 to 100, reflecting the characteristic of GUI scenes having a large number of visual elements.

In Figure 2, we present the distribution of the target element ratio in the Mind2Web dataset. It is evident that most elements occupy less than 3% of the entire screen, a characteristic that contributes to the difficulty in element localization in GUI scenes.

D. More detailed results

In Tables 1, 2, 3, we present the performances on all subsets of each navigation dataset. On AITW (6.5 steps on average), our SimpAgent significantly outperforms ShowUI,

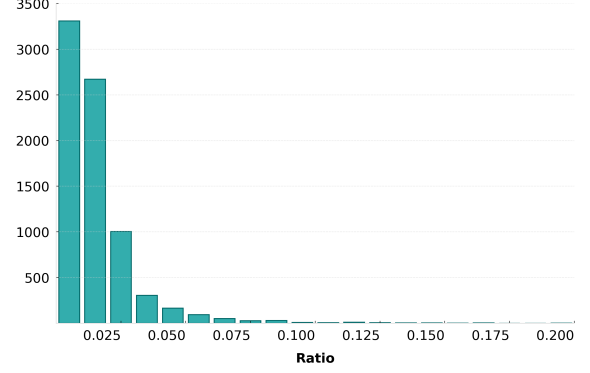


Figure 2. The distribution of target element ratio in Mind2Web dataset.

except the “Single” subset (1.5 steps on average). We attribute it to the large-scale grounding pre-training of ShowUI, which enhances its single-horizon task completion ability. On GUI-Odyssey (15.4 steps on average), SimpAgent achieves the performance gains of 3.41% on the “Multi-Apps” subset (22.3 steps on average), 3.58% on the “Shopping” subset (18.2 steps on average), demonstrating its superior ability of accomplishing long-horizon tasks. On Mind2Web, our SimpAgent and SimpAgent-M produce new state-of-the-art performances on three out-of-domain test sets. Our SimpAgent-M is slightly inferior to SimpAgent and comparable with the baseline Qwen2VL on the “Cross-Website” test set, and the performance gap is relatively small. We speculate that the insignificant performance difference may be due to the limited size of the “Cross-Website” set (only 177 tasks), which is insufficient to yield reliable experimental conclusions.

E. Case Study

In Figure 3, we present more navigation tasks. The baseline model (fine-tuned Qwen2-VL) is unable to complete these steps. In contrast, the visualizations show that our SimpAgent can effectively reduce interference and correctly identify relevant elements while ignoring irrelevant ones. In Figure 4, we present more cases about the attention difference between w/ and w/o consistency guidance. These visualizations demonstrate that the historical action tokens pay more attention to the adjacent historical vision tokens under the setting of consistency guidance, facilitating a better information aggregation. In Figure 5 and 6, we present the complete task execution trajectory of SimpAgent.

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Method	#P.T.	#Param.	General	Install	GoogleApps	Single	WebShopping	Overall
GPT-4V [10]	-	-	41.7	42.6	49.8	72.8	45.7	50.5
QwenVL [1]	-	9.6B	49.5	59.9	46.9	64.7	50.7	54.3
SeeClick [2]	850K	9.6B	54.0	66.4	54.9	63.5	57.6	59.3
Qwen2VL* [12]	-	2B	59.4	71.7	64.2	71.8	63.0	66.0
Qwen2VL [12]	-	2B	61.2	73.5	72.1	73.8	64.2	69.0
Iris [4]	850K	9.6B	61.5	71.4	58.3	66.4	60.2	63.6
ShowUI [8]	256K	2B	63.9	72.5	69.7	77.5	66.6	70.0
SimpAgent	-	2B	64.3	75.5	73.7	75.8	67.0	71.3
SimpAgent-M	-	2B	64.1	75.8	74.0	76.2	67.2	71.5

Table 1. Step success rate on AITW, divided by domains. “#P.T.” and “#Param.” denote the number of pre-training GUI datasets and parameters, respectively. “*” means the variant utilizing only action history. “-M” denotes only applying masking-based element pruning without inference FLOPs reduction.

Method	#Param.	Cross-Task			Cross-Website			Cross-Domain		
		Ele.Acc	Op.F1	Step SR	Ele.Acc	Op.F1	Step SR	Ele.Acc	Op.F1	Step SR
Qwen-VL [1]	9.6B	15.9	86.7	13.3	13.2	83.5	9.2	14.1	84.3	12.0
CogAgent [5]	18B	22.4	53.0	17.6	18.4	42.4	13.4	20.6	42.0	15.5
SeeClick [2]	9.6B	28.3	87.0	25.5	21.4	80.6	16.4	23.2	84.8	20.8
Qwen2VL* [12]	2B	49.7	89.1	45.0	46.8	86.5	40.9	45.4	86.6	40.5
Qwen2VL [12]	2B	51.6	88.6	46.7	48.5	85.7	42.2	48.3	87.0	44.6
Iris [4]	9.6B	33.5	87.1	32.0	31.2	82.2	26.2	32.8	85.1	28.8
ShowUI [8]	2B	39.9	88.6	37.2	41.6	83.5	35.1	39.4	86.8	35.2
SimpAgent	2B	51.0	89.2	47.1	48.7	86.0	42.8	46.9	86.5	43.3
SimpAgent-M	2B	52.4	89.4	48.7	48.2	85.8	42.2	49.0	88.2	45.0

Table 2. Performance comparison on Mind2Web across different settings. We report element accuracy (Ele.Acc), operation F1 (Op.F1), and step success rate (Step SR). “#Param.” denotes the number of parameters. “*” means the variant utilizing only action history. “-M” denotes only applying masking-based element pruning without inference FLOPs reduction.

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Method	#P.T.	#Param.	Tool	Information	Shopping	Media	Social	Multi-Apps	Overall
GPT-4V [10]	-	-	23.49	20.16	19.15	16.92	13.83	19.02	18.76
GPT-4o [6]	-	-	20.81	16.28	31.91	15.38	21.28	16.67	20.39
CogAgent [5]	140M	18B	15.66	10.74	9.15	11.66	13.08	10.73	11.84
QwenVL [1]	-	9.6B	83.11	65.70	62.43	76.38	76.12	73.10	72.81
Qwen2VL* [12]	-	2B	80.35	62.42	59.52	71.11	72.75	67.91	69.01
Qwen2VL [12]	-	2B	83.71	67.44	64.79	77.19	79.08	76.97	74.86
OdysseyAgent [9]	-	9.6B	85.16	68.53	62.87	76.49	77.61	74.83	74.25
SimpAgent	-	2B	84.91	69.89	66.45	78.05	79.21	78.24	76.02
SimpAgent-M	-	2B	86.57	70.08	67.65	79.78	81.04	79.21	77.39

Table 3. Step success rate on GUI-Odyssey Test-Random split. “#P.T.” and “#Param.” denote the number of pre-training GUI datasets and parameters, respectively. “*” means the variant utilizing only action history. “-M” denotes only applying masking-based element pruning without inference FLOPs reduction.

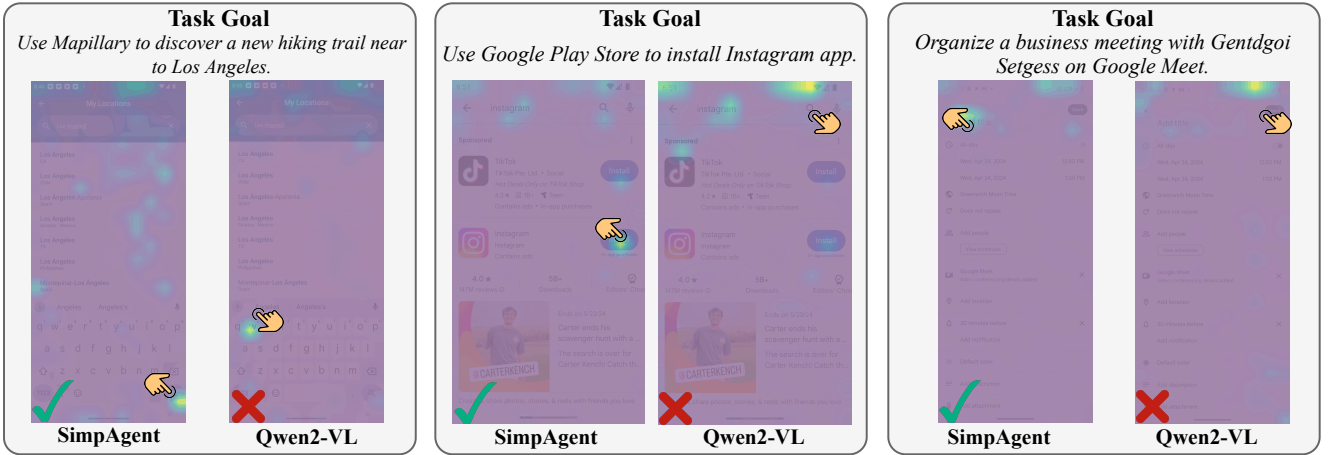


Figure 3. Illustration of navigation steps in the GUI-Odyssey dataset. SimpAgent distinguishes the correct element among various confusing elements. This demonstrates the effectiveness of our proposed Masking-based Element Pruning method.

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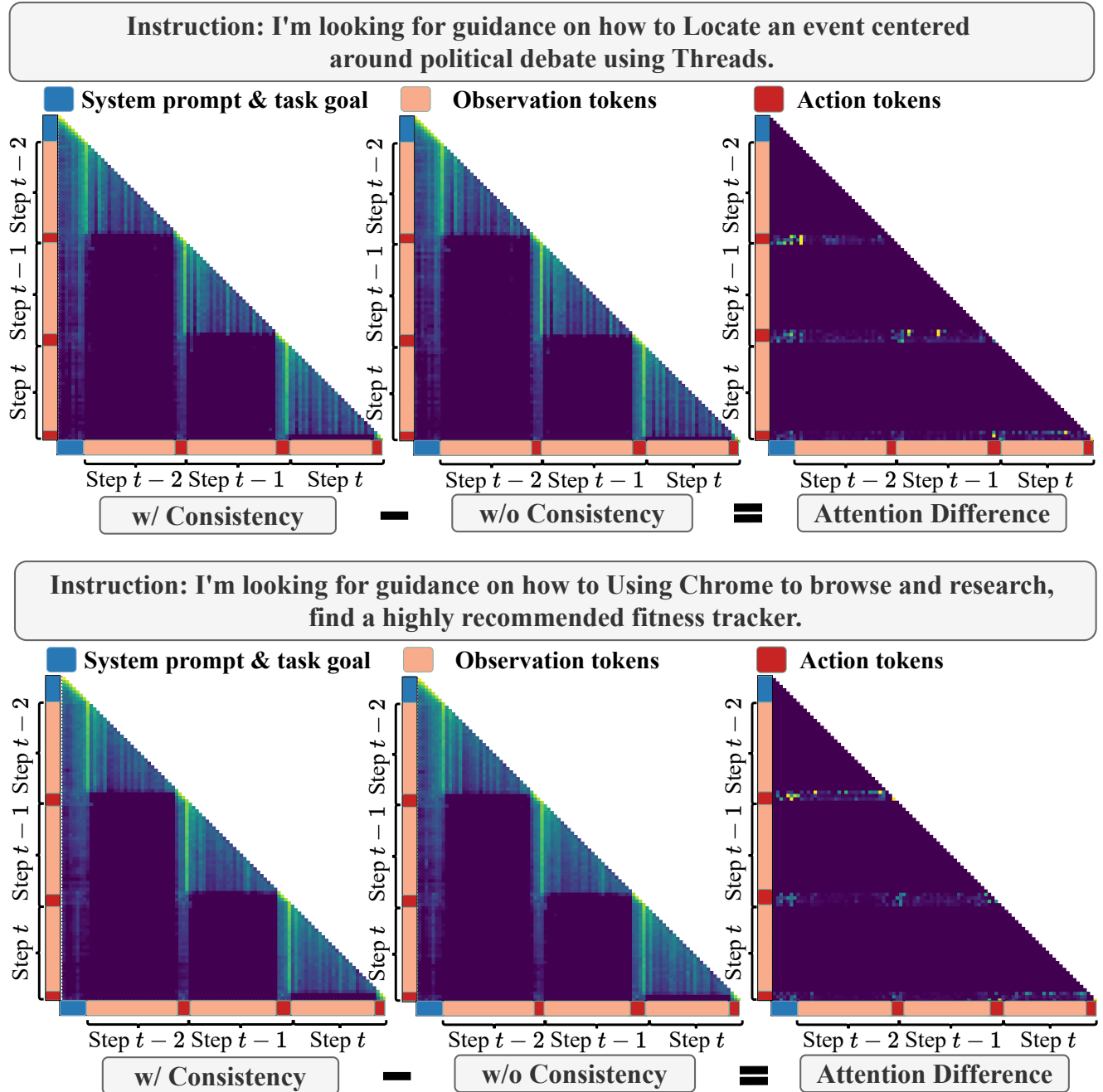


Figure 4. Illustration of attention maps in agent models w/ and w/o consistency guidance, and their attention difference map. The **attention difference map** shows that action tokens pay more attention (highlighted positions) to historical observation tokens when they act as query tokens with consistency guidance. This attention comparison demonstrates that consistency guidance can promote the information aggregation from observations to actions and facilitate the history compression.

Instruction: Calculate the fare options to go from the south station to the north station.

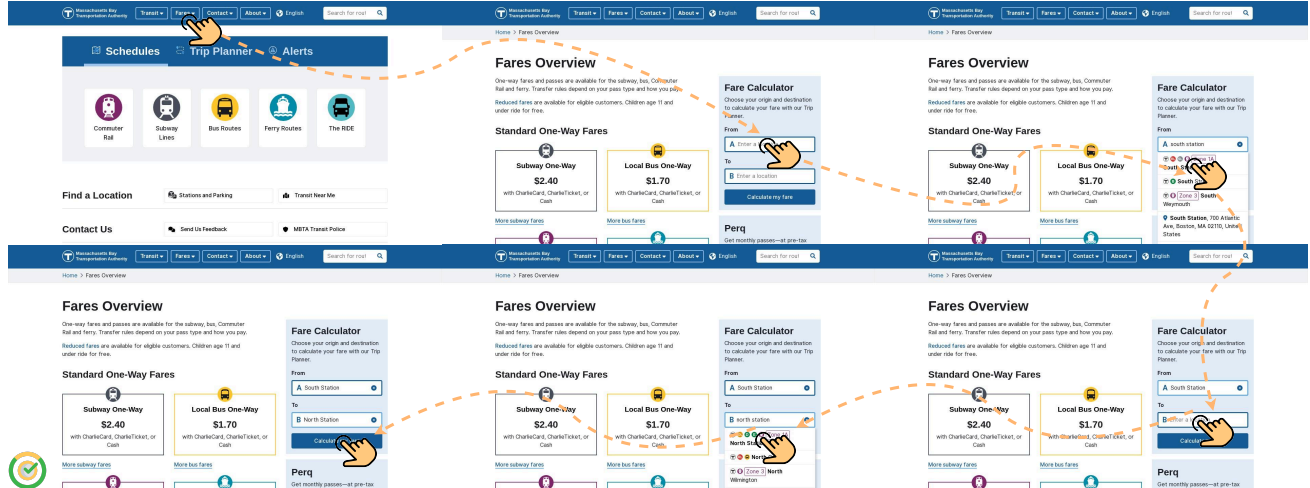


Figure 5. The real-world application of SimpAgent when adapted to downstream GUI navigation tasks.

Instruction: Find a Lenovo laptop under \$800 and create a price alert for 400\$.

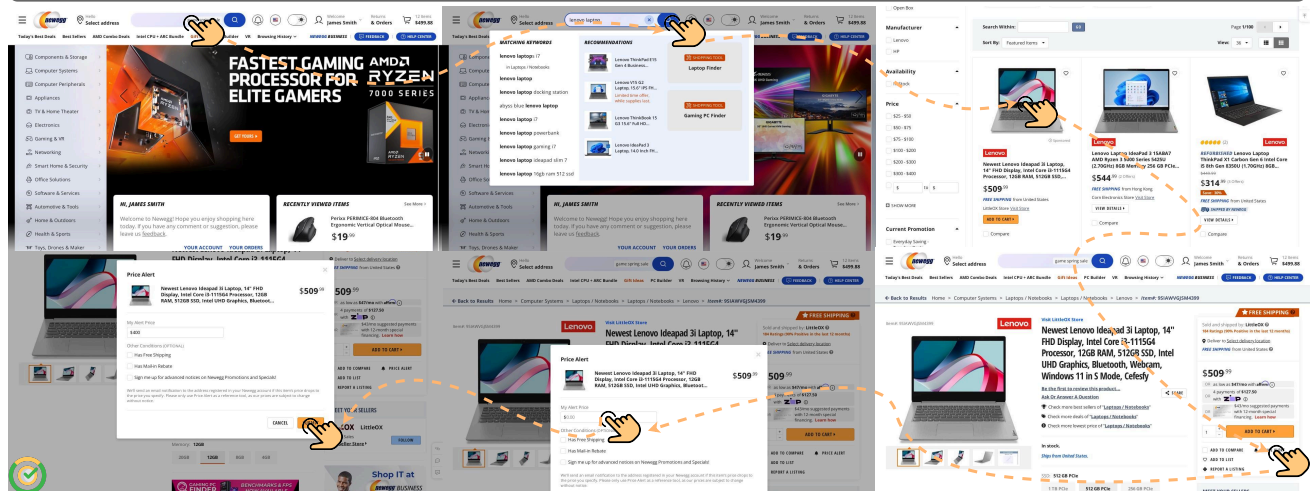


Figure 6. The real-world application of SimpAgent when adapted to downstream GUI navigation tasks.