CMB International Global Markets | Equity Research | Company Update

SenseTime (20 HK)

Unveiled large model SenseNova with live demo

SenseTime hosted a Tech Day event on 10 Apr unveiling self-developed large model set SenseNova. SenseNova consists of NLP, content generation, automated data annotation and custom model training capabilities. In the event, SenseTime showed live demo of ChatGPT-like chatbot SenseChat that can write invitation, tell story, comprehend legal documents and Midjourney-like text-to-image generator. Sensenova API interfaces and services will be provided to enterprise customers. We continue to like SenseTime for its leading position in large AI model.

- Unveiled foundation model set SenseNova. SenseTime hosted a Tech Day event unveiling "SenseNova" with live demo on 10 Apr. SenseNova is a foundation model set with variety of capabilities in NLP (natural language processing), content generation, automated data annotation and custom model training. SenseNova offers API interfaces and services targeting enterprise customers. SenseTime's current AI infrastructure supports up to 20 large models with over 100-billions parameters to train simultaneously.
- Generative AI models: Text to image and digital human. Besides LLM, SenseTime also showcased various generative AI models and applications that support 1) text-to-image creation (SenseMirage 秒画), 2) 2D/3D digital human (SenseAvatar 如影) and 3) 3D scenario/ object generation (SenseSpace 琼宇 and SenseThings 格物). SenseTime demonstrated application scenarios in education, advertising and short video creation.
- Other Al-as-a-services (AlaaS): CV inference & annotation. SenseTime also provides CV model inference and automated data annotation services. SenseTime's Chief Scientist Prof. Wang Xiaogang demonstrated the SenseAnnotation 明眸 (mingmou.sensetime.com) that provides annotation services based on image classification and detection models.
- Leading in large AI model race. We think SenseTime is in a leading position in terms of large AI model capabilities and that AlaaS could provide recurring revenue in the long term. SenseTime has over 27,000 GPUs that can support up to 20 large models with over 100-bn parameters to train simultaneously. Maintain BUY.

Earnings Summary

(YE 31 Dec)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Revenue (RMB mn)	4,700	3,809	4,980	6,355	8,267
YoY growth (%)	36.4	(19.0)	30.8	27.6	30.1
Operating profit (RMB mn)	(3,316)	(3,941)	(4,298)	(3,776)	(3,003)
Net profit (RMB mn)	(17,140.1)	(6,044.8)	(4,295.8)	(3,824.3)	(3,101.5)
Adjusted net profit (RMB mn)	(1,381.4)	(4,688.0)	(3,795.9)	(3,314.5)	(2,570.3)
EPS (Reported) (RMB cents)	(173.64)	(18.93)	(12.84)	(11.43)	(9.27)
Consensus EPS (RMB cents)	(173.64)	(18.93)	(9.10)	(6.80)	na
EV/Sales (x)	11.3	16.4	13.2	10.6	8.3
ROE (%)	(316.7)	(19.9)	(15.6)	(15.8)	(15.0)
Net gearing (%)	(46.2)	(10.5)	(5.4)	2.3	9.9

Source: Company data, Bloomberg, CMBIGM estimates



BUY (Maintain)

Target Price HK\$3.45 (Previous TP HK\$3.45) Up/Downside 3.7% Current Price HK\$3.33

China Software & IT Services

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Bowen LI (852) 3761 8957 libowen@cmbi.com.hk

Stock Data

Mkt Cap (HK\$ mn)	111451.5
Avg 3 mths t/o (HK\$ mn)	996.1
52w High/Low (HK\$)	6.30/1.11
Total Issued Shares (mn)	25948.8
Source: FactSet	

14.9%

14.8%

Shareholding Structure

SOP		
Softbank		

Source: HKEx

Share Performance					
	Absolute	Relative			
1-mth	32.7%	30.0%			
3-mth	52.1%	60.0%			
6-mth	109.4%	82.7%			

Source: FactSet



Related Reports:

- SenseTime (20 HK) "Leading in the China large AI model race" – 29 Mar 2023 (<u>link</u>)
- 商汤科技 (20 HK) "投资者交流日纪 要 - 持续发展人工智能即服务模式" -5 Dec 2022 (link)



SenseTime Tech Day

Figure 1: SenseNova is a foundation model set with variety of capabilities in NLP (natural language processing), content generation, automated data annotation and custom model training.



Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM

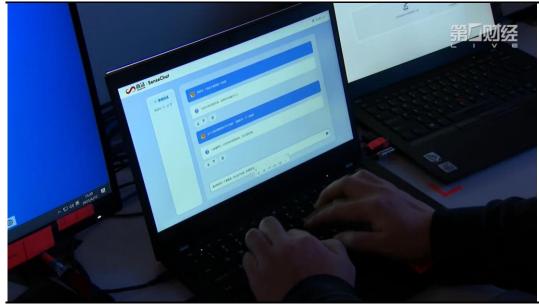
Figure 2: SenseTime has developed large-scale language model (LLM) with 180bn parameters.

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自研中文	逻辑推演	兼具理解	知识自动
语言大模型	与智能	广度与深度	及时更新
_		_	-
· 1800亿参数中文大语言模型	· 互动式引导过程中精进判	 ・在多轮对话、问诊与编程等 	· 生成更可信, 更准确和更
 支持问答、理解与生成等全 面的中文语言能力 	断力与创作智能	垂域表现突出,并全方位覆 盖各种应用	安全的文本和对话
・支持超长文本知识理解		 支持企业服务、城市管理、 汽车出行等垂类 	

Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM



Figure 3: SenseTime showed live demo on its Chatbot SenseChat



Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM

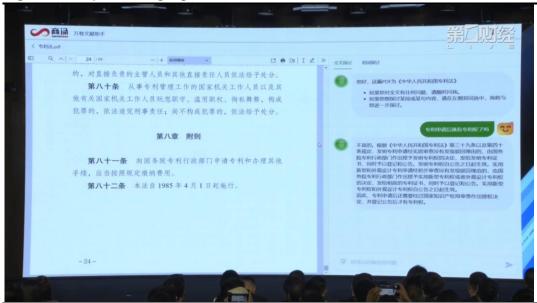
Figure 4: SenseChat can help write advertising slogan...

+ 新增对话 带现写一个 0	● #805-148.5.489359*5645
	 当语言成为约约优势,世界将为约翰开大门。
	Jeanwardteleanar I

Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM



Figure 5: comprehending legal documents...



Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM

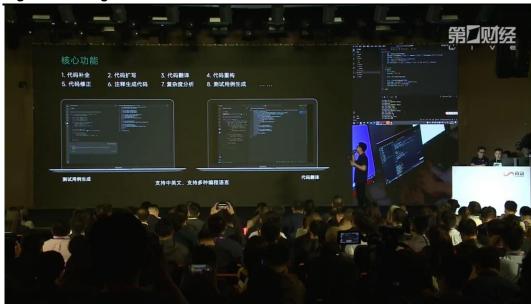
Figure 6: writing story...

M 商词 SenseChat	言に見ていた。
+ 新聞対話 用印を合作…と D 教化写一个语言…	• - AZH 7 2 HILLIN
	他从在中的公司的规则、低下了法、不平衡的口的的问题。中的时、1882了,1822月的不过从了了,中却有新的小花以及了对的说,他感到的现在 想、于我他们跟你已经打开出力,到下心来的肉、2022年之、小花高的公司了一个大击,他用心地用了起来。小花一起已绝儿们回了家,做了 用来是野肉、从那么饭、小花冲的公时三心二带了,他也加以来的时间一个事。因为他知道,只能可是于他都已得起来之。
	1979、1943年1970年8月1日、1979年9、小田中,小花田5三0二年、197971938、8月13111日三日18日、月以泉244年8一年年,年,長年2月17日25、1274年18月11日、日本11日日日和400,11日日二十年四、千年三〇二年。
-	

Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM

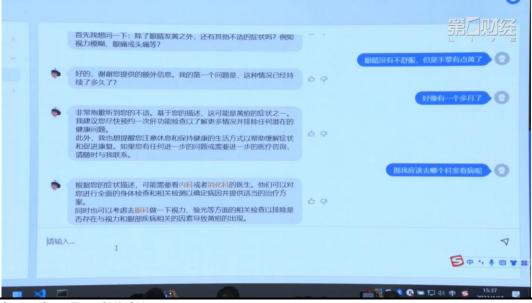


Figure 7: coding...



Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM

Figure 8: even medical consultation...



Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM

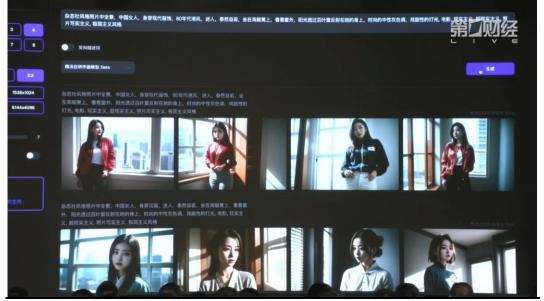


Figure 9: SenseTime also unveiled generative AI models with image-to-text, digital human capabilities

理速度快 可自训练 生成模型开源社区 B端 API 服务	
	 世 速 度 快

Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM

Figure 10: SenseTime's image-to-text platform



Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM



Figure 11: SenseTime's digital human generation...



Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM

Figure 12: can generate content in different languages.

	D* #*	<text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text>
	路 /	Ø
28	2 1000 1000 1000 1000 11中之 第四回	1 1 1224 1 12242 1 12244
	142,000	 1 2234 1 2012 1 2004 1 2014 1 2014

Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM



Figure 13: 3D scenarios and object generation



Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM

Figure 14: SenseTime's provides large model training and inference services



Source: SenseTime, CMBIGM



Valuation

Maintain BUY with target price of HK\$3.45

Maintain BUY with unchanged target price of HK\$3.45. Our target price is based on 18x FY23E EV/Sales, in-line with China AI peers. We believe the breakthrough in AI large models and supportive policies will continue to drive sector re-rating. We observed that China AI market-cap weighted EV/sales has re-rated from 4.4x to 12.1x YTD.

We use EV/sales as valuation methodology as AI deployment is still in an early stage that short term earnings are distorted by high R&D, marketing expense and depreciation related to heavy capex for computing infrastructure.

Figure	15:	Peers	comparison

			Market Cap	Price	ТР	EV/sa	les (x)	P	/S	Sales CAGR	EPS CAGR	FCF margin
Company	Ticker	Rating	(US\$ mn)	(LC)	(LC)	FY23E	FY24E	FY23E	FY24E	FY21- 24E	FY21- 24E	FY21
China Al con	npanies											
SenseTime	20 HK	BUY	14,198	3.33	3.45	13.2	10.6	19.3	15.1	11%	n.a.	-74%
Ainnovation	2121 HK	NR	1,852	26.00	N/A	4.8	3.1	5.5	3.5	62%	n.a.	-33%
Cambricon	688256 CH	NR	12,083	207.59	N/A	67.5	48.2	69.2	49.5	33%	n.a.	-179%
Arcsoft	688088 CH	NR	2,417	41.00	N/A	20.0	15.4	22.9	17.6	18%	40%	11%
Hikvision	002415 CH	BUY	61,261	45.05	37.44	4.2	3.6	4.3	3.8	11%	5%	11%
Dahua	002236 CH	HOLD	11,620	26.38	11.07	2.3	2.0	2.3	2.0	7%	6%	1%
					Mean	18.7	16.4	20.6	15.2	24%	17%	-43%
					Median	9.0	7.1	12.4	9.4	15%	6%	-16%
Global AI co	mpanies											
Palantir	PLTR US	NR	16,856	8.02	N/A	6.6	5.5	7.6	6.4	20%	n.a.	21%
UiPath	PATH US	NR	9,069	16.28	N/A	7.2	5.9	8.8	7.2	27%	n.a.	4%
C3.ai	AI US	NR	2,443	21.76	N/A	6.4	5.3	9.2	7.7	20%	n.a.	-21%
Nvidia	NVDA US	NR	667,130	270.03	N/A	24.7	22.3	24.8	22.3	21%	37%	28%
Ambarella	AMBA US	NR	2,813	71.07	N/A	7.8	9.2	8.3	9.9	8%	n.a.	13%
					Mean	10.5	9.6	11.8	10.7	19%	37%	9%
					Median	7.2	5.9	8.8	7.7	20%	37%	13%

Source: Bloomberg, CMBIGM estimates

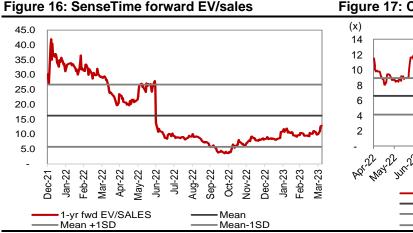
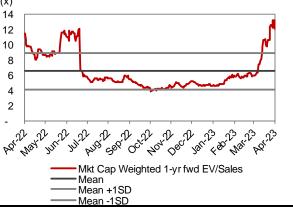


Figure 17: China Al mkt-cap weighted fwd EV/sales



Source: Bloomberg, CMBIGM

Source: Bloomberg, CMBIGM *companies include SenseTime (20 HK), Alnnovation (2121 HK), Cambricon (688256 CH), Arcsoft (688088 CH), Hikvision (002415 CH) and Dahua (002236 CH)



Financial Summary

INCOME STATEMENT	2020A	2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
Revenue	3,446	4,700	3,809	4,980	6,355	8,267
Cost of goods sold	(1,014)	(1,423)	(1,266)	(2,114)	(2,824)	(3,656)
Gross profit	2,432	3,278	2,542	2,867	3,531	4,611
Operating expenses	(4,580)	(6,594)	(6,483)	(7,165)	(7,307)	(7,614)
Selling expense	(537)	(682)	(901)	(1,022)	(1,047)	(1,088)
Admin expense	(1,590)	(2,298)	(1,568)	(1,629)	(1,655)	(1,727)
R&D expense	(2,454)	(3,614)	(4,014)	(4,514)	(4,606)	(4,799)
Operating profit	(2,148)	(3,316)	(3,941)	(4,298)	(3,776)	(3,003)
Interest income	175	188	261	197	169	169
Interest expense	(113)	(34)	(55)	(90)	(131)	(191)
Other income/expense	(10,234)	(13,979)	(2,597)	(309)	(268)	(224)
Pre-tax profit	(12,319)	(17,142)	(6,333)	(4,501)	(4,006)	(3,249)
Income tax	161	(36)	240	170	152	123
After tax profit	(12,158)	(17,177)	(6,093)	(4,330)	(3,855)	(3,126)
Minority interest	(0)	(37)	(48)	(34)	(30)	(25)
Net profit	(12,158)	(17,140)	(6,045)	(4,296)	(3,824)	(3,101)
Adjusted net profit	(878)	(1,381)	(4,688)	(3,796)	(3,314)	(2,570)
BALANCE SHEET	2020A	2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
Current assets	31,726	28,084	21,524	20,049	20,717	21,359
Cash & equivalents	11,428	16,530	7,963	6,628	7,273	7,652
Account receivables	4,584	5,776	6,072	5,622	5,294	5,132
Inventories	716	496	617	927	1,277	1,703
Financial assets at FVTPL	0	273	632	632	632	632
Other current assets	14,977	4,991	6,213	6,213	6,213	6,213
Contract assets	22	19	27	27	27	27
Non-current assets	6,753	8,860	15,903	16,012	15,854	15,612
PP&E	1,906	2,909	6,999	7,073	6,885	6,616
Right-of-use assets	336	432	315	315	315	315
Intangibles	108	225	333	368	398	425
Other non-current assets	4,402	5,294	8,256	8,256	8,256	8,256
Total assets	38,479	36,944	37,427	36,061	36,571	36,971
Current liabilities	9,822	2,795	3,323	4,634	6,691	8,604
Short-term borrowings	594	0	321	391	673	867
Account payables	1,724	2,290	2,473	3,650	5,351	6,965
Other current liabilities	7,744	177	460	529	811	1,006
Contract liabilities	244	172	208	271	346	451
Non-current liabilities	49,589	2,162	5,090	5,347	7,655	9,268
Long-term borrowings	423	340	2,907	4,537	6,818	8,394
Bond payables	66	45	12	12	12	12
Other non-current liabilities	49,100	1,778	2,171	798	825	863
Total liabilities	59,411	4,957	8,413	9,981	14,346	17,872
Share capital	0	0	0	0	0	0
Retained earnings	(21,713)	(40,149)	(46,194)	(50,490)	(54,314)	(57,416)
Other reserves	645	72,042	75,164	76,560	76,560	76,560
Total shareholders equity	(21,068)	31,893	28,970	26,070	22,246	19,144
Minority interest	136	95	44	9	(21)	(46)
Total equity and liabilities	38,479	36,944	37,427	36,061	36,571	36,971



CASH FLOW	2020A	2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
Operating						
Profit before taxation	(12,319)	(17,142)	(6,333)	(4,501)	(4,006)	(3,249)
Depreciation & amortization	570	658	968	1,010	1,110	1,200
Tax paid	(13)	(38)	(11)	170	152	123
Change in working capital	(1,290)	(2,026)	(101)	1,405	1,779	1,492
Others	11,823	16,062	2,393	(106)	(38)	23
Net cash from operations	(1,229)	(2,485)	(3,084)	(2,022)	(1,004)	(412)
Investing						
Capital expenditure	(1,306)	(1,266)	(5,167)	(1,119)	(952)	(957)
Others	(5,765)	(283)	(4,131)	197	169	169
Net cash from investing	(7,070)	(1,548)	(9,298)	(922)	(783)	(789)
Financing						
Dividend paid	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net borrowings	13,327	4,769	3,389	1,699	2,563	1,771
Proceeds from share issues	0	4,643	0	0	0	0
Others	(141)	(34)	(60)	(90)	(131)	(191)
Net cash from financing	13,186	9,378	3,329	1,609	2,432	1,579
Net change in cash						
Cash at the beginning of the year	6,673	11,428	16,530	7,963	6,628	7,273
Exchange difference	(131)	(243)	487	0	0	0
Cash at the end of the year	11,428	16,530	7,963	6,628	7,273	7,652
GROWTH	2020A	2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
YE 31 Dec						
Revenue	13.9%	36.4%	(19.0%)	30.8%	27.6%	30.1%
Gross profit	41.5%	34.8%	(22.4%)	12.8%	23.2%	30.6%
PROFITABILITY	2020A	2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
YE 31 Dec						
Gross profit margin	70.6%	69.7%	66.8%	57.6%	55.6%	55.8%
Operating margin	(62.3%)	(70.6%)	(103.5%)	(86.3%)	(59.4%)	(36.3%)
Adj. net profit margin	(25.5%)	(29.4%)	(123.1%)	(76.2%)	(52.2%)	(31.1%)
Return on equity (ROE)	na	(316.7%)	(19.9%)	(15.6%)	(15.8%)	(15.0%)
GEARING/LIQUIDITY/ACTIVITIES	2020A	2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
YE 31 Dec						
Net debt to equity (x)	na	(0.5)	(0.1)	(0.1)	0.0	0.1
Current ratio (x)	3.2	10.0	6.5	4.3	3.1	2.5
Receivable turnover days	293.5	319.3	493.6	345.5	241.9	169.3
Inventory turnover days	206.2	155.4	160.5	160.0	165.0	170.0
Payable turnover days	227.8	128.9	189.9	175.3	200.9	206.9
VALUATION	2020A	2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
YE 31 Dec						
P/B	na	4.1	3.8	3.7	4.4	5.1
EV	57,653.4	52,995.0	62,597.3	65,631.4	67,548.9	68,940.6
EV/Sales	16.7	11.3	16.4	13.2	10.6	8.3

Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates. Note: The calculation of net cash includes financial assets.



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