**Table 3.** Performance and uncertainty metrics for interrogative type classification

| Interrogative Type | (1) Logical conditions for interrogative type assignment | (2) Classification performance evaluation, out of training sample performance (N = 300) | | | (3) N assigned (PRISM data) | (4) Monte-Carlo uncertainty estimation Mean (SD) entropy |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Accuracy | F1 | Support | | |
| Hobson's Choice | Classified when the interrogative is declarative or imperative (1B = Yes) and/or has a presupposition (3A = Yes). And allows for no alternative responses (2C = 0). | 0.997 | 0.966 | 14 | 778 | 0.060 (0.224) |
| Why | Identified when the interrogative has a presupposition (3A = Yes) and offers only one alternative (2C = 1). | 0.997 | 0.968 | 15 | 449 | 0.006 (0.046) |
| Whether | Identified when the interrogative expects a yes/no answer (2A = Yes and 2C = 2) or lists a defined number of options (2B = Yes and 2C $>$ 1, but not undefined). | 0.937 | 0.895 | 88 | 2365 | 0.019 (0.116) |
| Which | Classified when the number of options is undefined (2C = Undefined) and it is an opinion or not a description (4A = Opinion or No). | 0.897 | 0.748 | 68 | 1428 | 0.111 (0.270) |
| What/ How | Classified when the interrogative has an undefined answer space (2C = Undefined) and requests a description (4A = Yes). | 0.923 | 0.893 | 103 | 2633 | 0.046 (0.188) |
| Not an interrogative | When it neither requests an answer (1A = No) nor takes a declarative/imperative form (1B = No). | 0.993 | 0.833 | 7 | 177 | 0.606 (0.323) |

*Note.* The names in the format 1A–4B represent the different fine-tuned BERT classifiers. Details of how those were trained can be found in §2.2.5. Note that in column (3), five of the 300 were not assigned to any category (see discussion in §2.3.3). Support in (3) means number of observations in this category on the out-of-training-sample data. F1 is the harmonic mean of recall and precision. 2C = 0 in the definition of Hobson's Choice is operationalised as the substantively equivalent implementation of no assignment to another interrogative type. This allows to ensure mutual exclusivity among interrogative types, because of the OR operator in this definition. N = number, SD = standard deviation. PRISM data are by Kirk et al. (2024)