

5.2 MEMIT SCALING

5.2.1 EDITING 10K MEMORIES IN ZSRE

Table 1: 10,000 zsRE Edits on GPT-J (6B).

We first test MEMIT on zsRE (Levy et al., 2017), a question-answering task from which we extract 10,000 real-world facts; zsRE tests MEMIT’s ability to add *correct* information. Because zsRE does not contain generation tasks, we evaluate solely on prediction-based metrics. **Efficacy**

measures the proportion of cases where o is the argmax generation given $p(s, r)$, **Paraphrase** is the same metric but applied on paraphrases, **Specificity** is the model’s argmax accuracy on a randomly-sampled unrelated fact that should not have changed, and **Score** is the harmonic mean of the three aforementioned scores; Appendix C contains formal definitions. As Table 1 shows, MEMIT performs best at 10,000 edits; most memories are recalled with generalization and minimal bleedover. Interestingly, simple fine-tuning FT-W performs better than the baseline knowledge editing methods MEND and ROME at this scale, likely because its objective is applied only once.

Editor	Score \uparrow	Efficacy \uparrow	Paraphrase \uparrow	Specificity \uparrow
GPT-J	26.4	26.4 (± 0.6)	25.8 (± 0.5)	27.0 (± 0.5)
FT-W	42.1	69.6 (± 0.6)	64.8 (± 0.6)	24.1 (± 0.5)
MEND	20.0	19.4 (± 0.5)	18.6 (± 0.5)	22.4 (± 0.5)
ROME	2.6	21.0 (± 0.7)	19.6 (± 0.7)	0.9 (± 0.1)
MEMIT	50.7	96.7 (± 0.3)	89.7 (± 0.5)	26.6 (± 0.5)

5.2.2 COUNTERFACT SCALING CURVES

Next, we test MEMIT’s ability to add *counterfactual* information using COUNTERFACT, a collection of 21,919 factual statements (Meng et al. (2022), Appendix C). We first filter conflicts by removing facts that violate the logical condition in Eqn. 5 (i.e., multiple edits modify the same (s, r) prefix to different objects). For each problem size $n \in \{1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 18, 32, 56, 100, 178, 316, 562, 1000, 1778, 3162, 5623, 10000\}$ ¹, n counterfactuals are inserted.

Following Meng et al. (2022), we report several metrics designed to test editing desiderata. **Efficacy Success (ES)** evaluates editing success and is the proportion of cases for which the new object o_i ’s probability is greater than the probability of the true real-world object o_i^c :² $\mathbb{E}_i [\mathbb{P}_G[o_i | p(s_i, r_i)] > \mathbb{P}_G[o_i^c | p(s_i, r_i)]]$. **Paraphrase Success (PS)** is a generalization measure defined similarly, except G is prompted with rephrasings of the original statement. For testing specificity, **Neighborhood Success (NS)** is defined similarly, but we check the probability G assigns to the correct answer o_i^c (instead of o_i), given prompts about distinct but semantically-related subjects (instead of s_i). **Editing Score (S)** aggregates metrics by taking the harmonic mean of ES, PS, NS.

We are also interested in measuring generation quality of the updated model. First, we check that G ’s generations are semantically consistent with the new object using a **Reference Score (RS)**, which is collected by generating text about s and checking its TF-IDF similarity with a reference Wikipedia text about o . To test for fluency degradation due to excessive repetition, we measure **Generation Entropy (GE)**, computed as the weighted sum of the entropy of bi- and tri-gram n -gram distributions of the generated text. See Appendix C for further details on metrics.

Figure 5 plots performance v.s. number of edits on log scale, up to 10,000 facts. ROME performs well up to $n = 10$ but degrades starting at $n = 32$. Similarly, MEND performs well at $n = 1$ but rapidly declines at $n = 6$, losing all efficacy before $n = 1,000$ and, curiously, having negligible effect on the model at $n = 10,000$ (the high specificity score is achieved by leaving the model nearly unchanged). MEMIT performs best at large n . At small n , ROME achieves better generalization at the cost of slightly lower specificity, which means that ROME’s edits are more robust under rephrasings, likely due to that method’s hard equality constraint for weight updates, compared to MEMIT’s soft error minimization. Table 2 provides a direct numerical comparison at 10,000 edits on both GPT-J and GPT-NeoX. FT-W³ does well on probability-based metrics but suffers from complete generation failure, indicating significant model damage.

Appendix B provides a runtime analysis of all four methods on 10,000 edits. We find that MEND is fastest, taking 98 sec. FT is second at around 29 min, while MEMIT and ROME are the slowest at

¹These values come from a log-scale curve: $n_i = \exp(\ln(10,000) * \frac{i}{16})$, for non-negative integers i .

²COUNTERFACT is derived from a set of true facts from WikiData, so o_i^c is always known.

³We find that the weight decay hyperparameter is highly sensitive to the number of edits. Therefore, to evaluate scaling behavior cost-efficiently, we tune it only on $n = 10,000$. See Appendix B.1 for experimental details.