

Testing Your Question Answering Software via Asking Recursively

2021 36th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE)



Presenter: Zhu Jie

2022.3.17

Authors

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Master Student (2020 - Now)

Wuhan University

- *Intelligent Software Engineering*
- *Software Testing*
- *Natural Language Processing*



A screenshot of a GitHub profile page for Songqiang Chen. The profile picture shows a young man with short dark hair, wearing a light-colored jacket over a dark shirt. Below the picture, his name "Songqiang Chen" is displayed in a bold, sans-serif font. To the right of the picture is a vertical menu with links: ABOUT, RESEARCH INTERESTS, PUBLICATIONS, EDUCATION, AWARDS, and BLOG. The background of the page is a solid dark grey.

PUBLICATIONS

A collection of featured articles, presentations or talks~ (*: corresponding author)

CONFERENCE PAPER - TESTING YOUR QUESTION ANSWERING SOFTWARE VIA ASKING RECURSIVELY —  ACM SIGSOFT DISTINGUISHED PAPER

Songqiang Chen, Shuo Jin, and Xiaoyuan Xie*

IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE'21, CCF-A)

CONFERENCE PAPER - PROPERTY-BASED TEST FOR PART-OF-SPEECH TAGGING TOOL

Shuo Jin, **Songqiang Chen**, and Xiaoyuan Xie*

IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE'21 NIER Track, CCF-A)

CONFERENCE PAPER - VALIDATION ON MACHINE READING COMPREHENSION SOFTWARE WITHOUT ANNOTATED LABELS: A PROPERTY-BASED METHOD

Songqiang Chen, Shuo Jin, and Xiaoyuan Xie*

ACM Joint European Software Engineering Conference and Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (FSE'21, CCF-A)

JOURNAL PAPER - MULA: A JUST-IN-TIME MULTI-LABELING SYSTEM FOR ISSUE REPORTS

Xiaoyuan Xie*, Yuhui Su*, **Songqiang Chen***, Lin Chen, Jifeng Xuan, and Baowen Xu

IEEE Transactions on Reliability (TR)

CONFERENCE PAPER - WHERE TO HANDLE AN EXCEPTION? RECOMMENDING EXCEPTION HANDLING LOCATIONS FROM A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Xiangyang Jia*, **Songqiang Chen**, Xingqi Zhou, Xintong Li, Run Yu, Xu Chen*, and Jifeng Xuan

IEEE/ACM International Conference on Program Comprehension (ICPC'21, CCF-B)

CONFERENCE PAPER - STAY PROFESSIONAL AND EFFICIENT: AUTOMATICALLY GENERATE TITLES FOR YOUR BUG REPORTS

Songqiang Chen, Xiaoyuan Xie*, Bangguo Yin, Yuanxiang Ji, Lin Chen, and Baowen Xu

IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE'20, CCF-A)

JOURNAL PAPER - SMAPGAN: GENERATIVE ADVERSARIAL NETWORK-BASED SEMI-SUPERVISED STYLED MAP TILE GENERATION METHOD

Xu Chen, **Songqiang Chen**, Tian Xu, Bangguo Yin, Jian Peng, Xiaoming Mei, and Haifeng Li*

IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing (TGRS, CCF-B)

JOURNAL PAPER - GENERATING MULTI-SCALE MAPS FROM SATELLITE IMAGES VIA SERIES GENERATIVE ADVERSARIAL NETWORKS

Xu Chen, Bangguo Yin, **Songqiang Chen**, Haifeng Li, and Tian Xu*

IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Letters (GRSL, CCF-C)

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News Interest Awards Publications Services Experience Students

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- *Software Testing(Metamorphic testing and Mutation testing)*
- *Program Slicing and Analysis*
- *Debugging and Fault Localization*
- *Search-based Software Engineering*
- *Machine Learning*

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Latest News

- 博士后招聘
- Congratulations to Songqiang Chen for his Master's National Scholarship !
- Congratulations to Zhiyi Zhang for her Outstanding master graduates of Wuhan University in 2020 !
- Congratulations to Jiewei Zhang for her Master's National Scholarship !
- Call for paper: the 4th International Workshop on Metamorphic Testing will be held in conjunction with ICSE 2019: [MET 2019](#).

Researchers are welcome to submit your papers to MET2019!

Research Interests

Software Testing Program Slicing and Analysis Debugging and Fault-localization Search-based Software Engineering Evolutionary Computing Machine Learning

Research Team

CSTAR

Center of Software Testing, Analysis,
and Reliability

Computer School of Wuhan University

- *Software Testing*
- *Software Reliability and Quality*
- *Program Analysis*
- *Debugging and Fault Localization*
- *Machine Learning*



Jifeng Xuan



Xiaoyuan Xie



Songqiang Chen

 CSTAR

首页 研究组简介 动态 团队成员 论文 活动 联系我们 English Version

您现在的位置: 首页 / 论文

论文

2021
2020
2019
2018
2017
2016
2015
2014
2013 及以前

2021

Journal

■ Journal Paper

METRIC+: A Metamorphic Relation Identification Technique Based on Input Plus Output Domains.
Chang-Ai Sun, An Fu, Pak-Lok Poon, Xiaoyuan Xie, Huai Liu, Tsong Yueh Chen. *IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering*, vol. 47, no. 9, 2021, pp. 1764-1785.

Probabilistic Path Prioritization for Hybrid Fuzzing.
Lei Zhao, Pengcheng Cao, Yue Duan, Heng Yin, Jifeng Xuan. *IEEE Transactions on Dependable and Secure Computing*, to appear.

缺陷报告质量研究综述.
邹卫琴, 张静宣, 张霄伟, 陈林, 玄铭峰. 软件学报, to appear.

▲ Conference Paper

Testing Your Question Answering Software via Asking Recursively. ACM distinguished paper award

Songqiang Chen, Shuo Jin, and Xiaoyuan Xie. *Proceedings of the 36th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE 2021)*, Melbourne, Australia, Nov. 15-19, 2021.

Demystifying "Bad" Error Messages in Data Science Libraries.
Yida Tao, Zhihui Chen, Yepang Liu, Jifeng Xuan, Zhiwu Xu, Shengchao Qin. *Proceedings of the 29th ACM Joint European Software Engineering Conference and Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE 2021)*, Athens, Greece, August 23-28, 2021, pp. 818-829.

Validation on Machine Reading Comprehension Software without Annotated Labels: A Property-Based Method.
Songqiang Chen, Shuo Jin, and Xiaoyuan Xie. *Proceedings of the 29th ACM Joint European Software Engineering Conference and Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE 2021)*, Athens, Greece, August 23-28, 2021.

Where to Handle an Exception? Recommending Exception Handling Locations from a Global Perspective.
Xiangyang Jia, Songqiang Chen, Xinqi Zhou, Xintong Li, Run Yu, Xu Chen, Jifeng Xuan. *Proceedings of the 29th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Program Comprehension (ICPC 2021)*, Madrid, Spain, May 18-20, 2021.

Towards Understanding Tool-chain Bugs in the LLVM Compiler Infrastructure.
Xiaoyuan Xie, Haolin Yang, Qiang He, Lin Chen. *Proceedings of the 28th IEEE International Conference on Software Analysis, Evolution and Reengineering (SANER 2021)*, Honolulu, HI, USA, March 9-12, 2021.

Property-based Test for Part-of-Speech Tagging Tool.
Shuo Jin, Songqiang Chen, and Xiaoyuan Xie. *Proceedings of the 36th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE 2021)*, New Ideas and Emerging Results track, Melbourne, Australia, Nov. 15-19, 2021.

<http://cstar.whu.edu.cn/cn/index.html>

Why Choose This Paper?

- ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper
- A simple and novel idea
- SE for ML paper

ISE: “ML for SE” or “SE for ML”

ML for SE



1. Code Intelligence

(code generation/completion/edit/repair/representation/search/clone/reuse/type prediction/smells/verification/debug/api...)

2. Documentation

(code comment/review/var naming/app user review/bug report/commit message/release notes/github/stackoverflow/developer talks&vlogs...)

3. Quality and Maintenance

(testing/log/AIOps/performance/bug detection/code changes...)

ISE: “ML for SE” or “SE for ML”

SE for ML

- 1. Model Evaluation and **Testing**
(such as testing QA/autopilot/machine translation software)
- 2. Model Interpretation and Explainability
- 3. Auto ML



Background

Background: Mutation/Metamorphic/Fuzz Testing

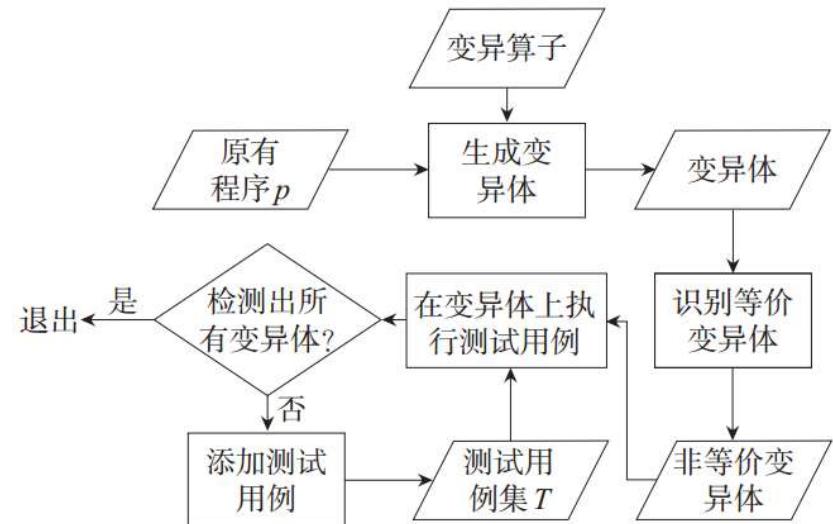
What is Mutation Testing(变异测试)?

- Motivation: Who guards the guardian? Who tests the tests?
- Target: Improve the test cases of program
- Idea: If we mutate the original program, the tests **still pass**. There will be **two possible reasons**: the original program is logically equal to the mutated program / Or the tests could not detect all possible cases of the program.

```
输入: a, x, y
1. z=x;
2. z=z+y;
3. if (a>0)
4.   return z;
5. else
6.   return 2*x+z;
```

测试用例	$a=1$	$a=-1$
原有程序	$x+y$	$3x+y$
变异体1	$x+y+1$	$3x+y+3$
变异体2	$x+y-1$	$3x+y-1$
变异体12	$x+y$	$3x+y+2$

其中：
变异体1(一阶变异体):
将第一行变异为 $z=++x$
变异体2(一阶变异体):
将第二行变异为 $z=z+--y$
变异体12(二阶变异体):
合并变异体1和变异体2
两个测试用例:
(1) $a=1$ (2) $a=-1$



[1] 软件测试：一个软件工艺师的方法（原书第4版）
[2] <https://www.cnblogs.com/TongWee/p/4505289.html>

Background: Mutation/Metamorphic/Fuzz Testing

What is Metamorphic Testing(蜕变测试)?

- Motivation: Oracle Problem (How could we test a software when we don't know expected output)
- Example: we want to test function which computes $\sin(x)$
- Metamorphic testing: we could calculate the result of a random num such as 1.3, then we check if $f(1.3) == f(\pi-1.3)$, $f(1.3) == -f(2\pi-1.3)$
- Advantages: we could test a program we know nothing about
- Key procedures: Build Metamorphic Relation(such as $\sin(x)==\sin(\pi-x)$)
- Applications: Machine Learning Software, Complex Software

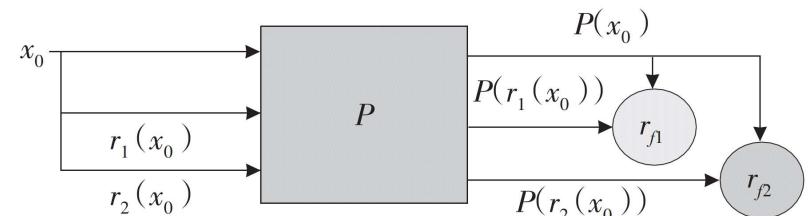


Fig.1 Illustration of metamorphic testing

[1] 钟文康, 葛季栋, 陈翔, 李传艺, 唐泽, 骆斌. 面向神经机器翻译系统的多粒度蜕变测试. 软件学报, 2021, 32(4): 1051-1066.
<http://www.jos.org.cn/1000-9825/6221.htm>

[2] 董国伟, 徐宝文, 陈林, 聂长海, 王璐璐. 蜕变测试技术综述[J]. 计算机科学与探索, 2009, 3(2): 130-143.

Background: Metamorphic Testing

蜕变关系设计



基于蜕变测试的文本定位系统稳定性测试

Stability Evaluation for Text Localization Systems via Metamorphic Testing

晏荣杰 王思琪 闫艺宣 高红雨 严俊



蜕变测试

• 概念

- 一种黑盒测试方法，能有效缓解Oracle问题

• 方法

- 通过检查程序的多个执行结果之间的关系来测试程序，这种关系称为蜕变关系

• 例子

- 验证某个系统计算 $\sin(x)$ 是否正确

构建蜕变关系 $\sin(\pi-x)=\sin(x)$

当 $\sin(\pi-x)$ 与 $\sin(x)$ 值不相等的时候，系统一定存在问题

强调的是验证系统对多种输入应该满足的关系，而不是直接验证输出结果的正确性。

• 保留语义的蜕变关系

- Increasing brightness (MR_{ib})
- Decreasing brightness (MR_{db})
- Channel switch (MR_{cs})



Fig. 4 保留语义的蜕变关系示例

蜕变关系设计

• 非保留语义的蜕变关系

- Perspective transformation (MR_{pt})
- Watermarking (MR_{wm})
- Masking (MR_{ma})



Fig. 5 非保留语义的蜕变关系示例

[1] 基于蜕变测试的文本定位系统稳定性测试 https://www.bilibili.com/video/BV1b64y1Y7UY?spm_id_from=333.337.search-card.all.click

[2] <http://www.is.cas.cn/ztzl2016/2021xsnh/2021hbzs/>

Background: Mutation/Metamorphic/Fuzz Testing

What is Fuzz Testing(模糊测试)?

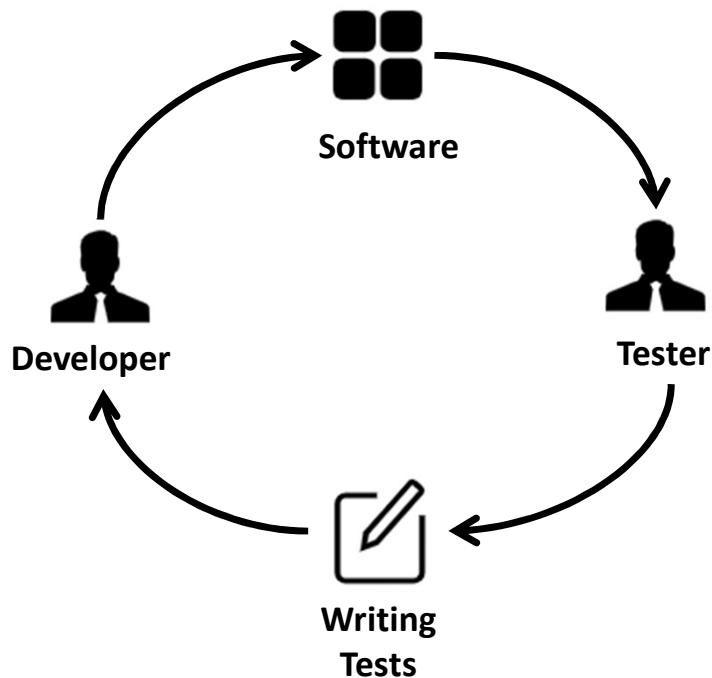
- Definition: Fuzzing or fuzz testing is an automated software testing technique that involves **providing invalid, unexpected, or random data as inputs** to a computer program.
- History: 1988, Prof. Barton Miller was testing the reliability of UNIX command line programs. But due to the heavy rain, there were some unexpected wrong inputs sent to the program, which caused the program to terminate.
- Motivation: We cannot list every possible case or predict every exception
- Application: Security & Vulnerability, Software Testing

- USENIX SEC 2022
 - SyzScope: Revealing High-Risk Security Impacts of Fuzzer-Exposed Bugs in Linux kernel
- ICSE 2022
 - μAFL: Non-intrusive Feedback-driven Fuzzing for Microcontroller Firmware
 - BeDivFuzz: Integrating Behavioral Diversity into Generator-based Fuzzing
 - CONFETTI: Amplifying Concolic Guidance for Fuzzers
 - Demystifying the Dependency Challenge in Kernel Fuzzing
 - Evaluating and Improving Neural Program-Smoothing-based Fuzzing
 - Fuzzing Class Specifications
 - GraphFuzz: Library API Fuzzing with Lifetime-aware Dataflow Graphs
 - Linear-time Temporal Logic guided Greybox Fuzzing
 - Muffin: Testing Deep Learning Libraries via Neural Architecture Fuzzing
 - [One Fuzzing Strategy to Rule Them All]
 - On the Reliability of Coverage-Based Fuzzer Benchmarking
 - Path Transitions Tell More: Optimizing Fuzzing Schedules via Runtime Program States
 - R2Z2: Detecting Rendering Regressions in Web Browsers through Differential Fuzz Testing
 - Semantic Image Fuzzing of AI Perception Systems
 - Free Lunch for Testing: Fuzzing Deep-Learning Libraries from Open Source
 - WindRanger: A Directed Greybox Fuzzer driven by Deviation Basic Block
 - MOREST: Model-based RESTful API Testing with Execution Feedback
 - Controlled Concurrency Testing via Periodical Scheduling
 - Combinatorial Testing of RESTful APIs
 - Automated Testing of Software that Uses Machine Learning APIs
 - FADATest: Fast and Adaptive Performance Regression Testing of Dynamic Binary Translation Systems
 - Nessie: Automatically Testing JavaScript APIs with Asynchronous Callbacks

[1] <https://zhuanlan.zhihu.com/p/43432370>

[2] <https://github.com/wcventure/FuzzingPaper>

Problem: Could all software be “tested”?



Front-End Software

- GUI Automatic Testing is not fully developed
- Take much manual effort to check every page
- Difficult to test on every possible environment (device)



AI Software

- Difficult to define equivalent classes
- Impossible to list every case
- Lack of interpretability and explainability

Background: Testing Untestable

How to test an AI software (intelligent software)?

The image displays two side-by-side screenshots of AI-powered interfaces.

Left Side (Microsoft Bing):

- Search bar: 阿凡达2什么时候上映
- Results count: 97,200 条结果
- Filters: 时间不限, 自适应缩放
- Result snippet:

2022年12月16日在
根据 3 个来源

截止到2021年10月7日，《阿凡达2》将在**2022年12月16日**在北美公映。《阿凡达2》的剧本由导演詹姆斯·卡梅隆在新西兰一家农场“闭关”创作完成。

《阿凡达2》是由詹姆斯·卡梅隆执导，萨姆·沃辛顿、佐伊·索尔达娜等主演的科幻电影，于**2022年12月16日**在北美公映。该片是系列电影《阿凡达》的第2部。
- Links:

阿凡达2什么时候上映?_百度知道 - Baidu
zhidao.baidu.com

阿凡达2_百度百科
baike.baidu.com

Right Side (DensePhrase Demo):

- Language: 中文 (简体) / English
- Input field: 翻译 (Translation)
- Text area: 0 / 5,000
- Project information: DensePhrase Demo, Project by Jinyuk Lee, Mujeen Sung, Alexander Wetig, Jaewoo Kang, Danqi Chen, Korea University, Princeton University
- Description: From 5 million Wikipedia articles, DensePhrases searches phrase-level answers to your questions or retrieve relevant passages in real-time. More details are in our [ACL21 paper](#) and [EMNLP21 paper](#). You can type in any natural language question below and get the results in real-time. Retrieved phrases are denoted in **boldface** for each passage. Current model is case-sensitive and the best results are obtained when queries have proper letter cases (e.g., "Name Apple's products" not "name apple's products"). Our current demo has the following specs:
- Specs:
 - Accuracy: 40.8% on Natural Questions (open), Latency: ≈100ms/Q (with at least top 10 results)
 - Resources: 11GB GPU, 100GB RAM
 - [Code link](#) | Contact: [Jinyuk Lee](mailto:jinyuk.lee@jhu.edu) (jinyuk.lee.jhu@gmail.com)
- Example search: When was GitHub launched?
15 results (163ms)
- Result snippet:

On June 4, 2018, Microsoft announced it had reached an agreement to acquire GitHub for US\$7.5 billion. The purchase closed on October 26, 2018. GitHub was developed by Chris Wanstrath, PJ Hyett, Tom Preston-Werner and Scott Chacon using Ruby on Rails, and started in **February 2008**. The company, GitHub, Inc., has existed since 2007 and is located in San Francisco. On February 24, 2009, GitHub team members announced, in a talk at Yahoo! headquarters, that within the first year of being online, GitHub had accumulated over 46,000 public repositories, 17,000 of which were formed in the previous month alone. At that time, about 6,200 repositories had been forked at least once and 4,600 had been merged.
- GitHub logo and footer text: Development of the GitHub platform began on October 19, 2007. The site was launched in **April 2008** by Tom Preston-Werner, Chris Wanstrath, P. J. Hyett and Scott Chacon after it had been made available for a few months prior as a beta release. Projects on GitHub can be accessed and manipulated using the standard Git command-line interface and all of the standard Git commands work with it. GitHub also allows registered and non-registered users to browse public repositories on the site. Multiple desktop clients and Git plugins have also been created by GitHub and other third parties that integrate with the platform.
- Mathematical annotations: $f(s|D,q)=101.57$, $f(s|D,q)=100.54$

Background: Model Evaluation Metrics

BLEU

candidate: the cat sat on the mat

reference: the cat is on the mat

那么各个bleu的值如下：

就 $bleu_2$,对 candidate中的5个词, {the cat, cat sat, sat on, on the, the mat} , 查找是否在 reference中, 发现有3个词在reference中, 所以占比就是0.6

$$bleu_1 = \frac{5}{6} = 0.83$$

$$bleu_2 = \frac{3}{5} = 0.60$$

$$bleu_3 = \frac{1}{4} = 0.25$$

$$bleu_4 = \frac{0}{3} = 0.00$$

Background: Model Evaluation Metrics

BLEU

$$BLEU = BP \times \exp\left(\sum_{n=1}^N w_n \log p_n\right)$$

长度过短句子的
惩罚因子

$$w_n = 1/N$$

最大语法的阶
数，实际取4。

出现在答案译文
中的 n 元词语接续组占
候选译文中 n 元词语
接续组总数的比例。

$$BP = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } c > r \\ e^{(1-r/c)} & \text{if } c \leq r \end{cases}$$

c 为候选译文中单词的个数， r 为答
案译文中与 c 最接近的译文单词个数。

BLEU 分值范围：0 ~ 1，分值越高表示译文质量越好，分值
越小，译文质量越差。

Background: Model Evaluation Metrics

ROUGE

C: a cat is on the table

S1: there is a cat on the table

上面例子的 ROUGE-1 和 ROUGE-2 分数如下：

$$ROUGE - 1 = \frac{|a, cat, is, on, the, table|}{|there, is, a, cat, on, the, table|} = \frac{6}{7}$$

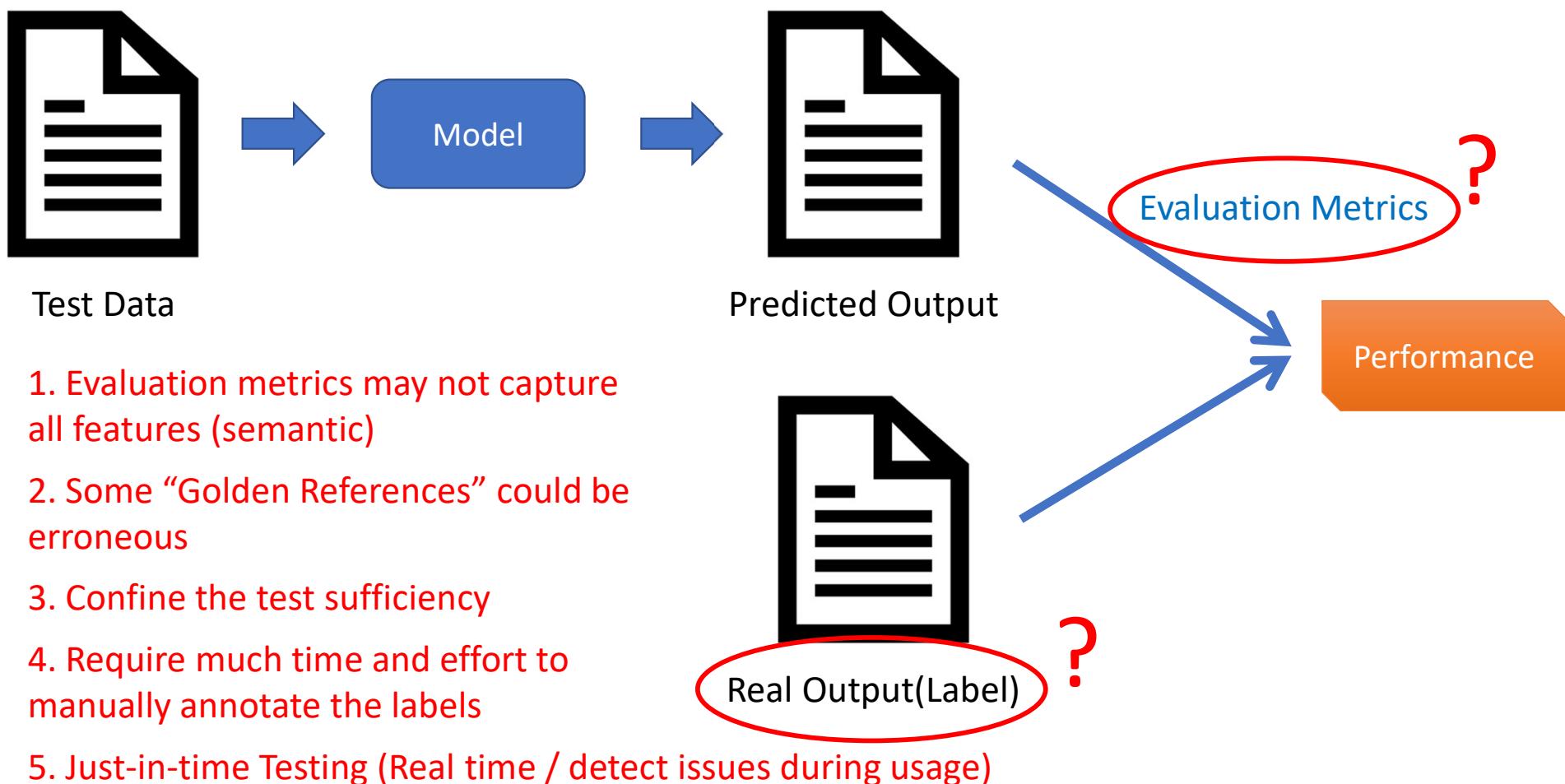
$$ROUGE - 2 = \frac{|(a, cat), (on, the), (the, table)|}{|(there, is), (is, a), (a, cat), (cat, on), (on, the), (the, table)|} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Background: Model Evaluation Metrics

ROUGE

$$\text{ROUGE - N} = \frac{\sum_{S \in \{\text{ReferenceSummaries}\}} \sum_{gram_N \in S} Count_{match}(gram_N)}{\sum_{S \in \{\text{ReferenceSummaries}\}} \sum_{gram_N \in S} Count(gram_N)}$$

Background: Model Evaluation



Background: Testing Untestable

Bad Case Mining for Machine Translation using Back Translation

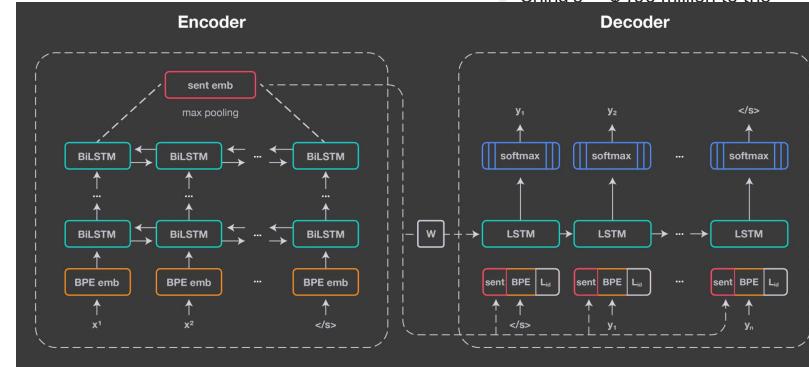
- Bad Case: Cases that could not receive expected result
- Back Translation: A common data augmentation method
- Translate source sentence to a sentence in another language, and then translate back into the original language
- Finally, compute the similarity between source sentence and target sentence (Representation of sentences: LASER)

Eg: "周杰伦是一位华语乐坛的实力唱将，他的专辑卖遍了全球" —>

"Jay Chou is a strength singer in the Chinese music scene, his albums are sold all over the world." —>

"周杰伦是中国音乐界的优秀歌手，他的专辑畅销全世界。"

	Chinese (translated)
some- thing <i>can never be changed,</i> live with it or break with it!	你必须承认，有些东西是永 远无法改变的，无法改变的， 无法改变的，无法改变的！



LASER

The State Department followed up by issuing a fact sheet Tuesday, showing how U.S. contributions to global agencies far surpass China's -- \$400 million to the

United Nations

元：联合国难民事务高级专员办事处是10万美元，而中国是10万美元；联合国难民事务高级专员办事处是10万美元，而中国是10万美元。

微信翻译

@stephen 你用微信翻译看看上面文字的翻译结果，是bug吗

有bug，数字全部错了

[1] Zheng W, Wang W, Liu D, et al. Testing untestable neural machine translation: An industrial case[C]//2019 IEEE/ACM 41st International Conference on Software Engineering: Companion Proceedings (ICSE-Companion). IEEE, 2019: 314-315.

[2] Wang W, Zheng W, Liu D, et al. Detecting failures of neural machine translation in the absence of reference translations[C]//2019 49th Annual IEEE/IFIP International Conference on Dependable Systems and Networks—Industry Track. IEEE, 2019: 1-4.

Bad Case

Introduction

Is it possible to transfer this method to other AI software?

- Metamorphic Testing: Testing the Untestable
- Question Answering Software?

Google search results for "When was the first railroad built in the United States?". The search bar shows the query. Below it, a snippet of text reads: "1827: The first railroad in North America — the Baltimore & Ohio — is chartered by Baltimore merchants. 1830: The first regularly-scheduled steam-powered rail passenger service in the U.S. begins operation in South Carolina, utilizing the U.S.-built locomotive The Best Friend of Charleston." The word "1830" is highlighted in red.

Google search results for "In which country was the first railroad built in 1830?". The search bar shows the query. Below it, a snippet of text reads: "The railroad was first developed in Great Britain. A man named George Stephenson successfully applied the steam technology of the day and created the world's first successful locomotive. The first engines used in the United States were purchased from the Stephenson Works in England." The word "Great Britain" is highlighted in red.

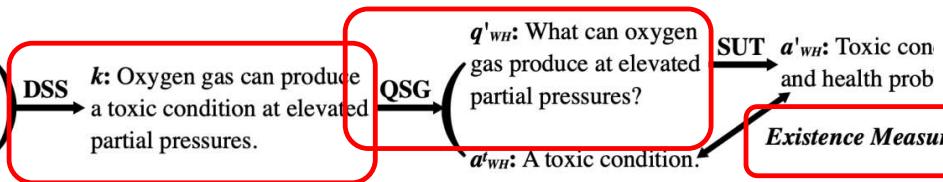
**There is a violation between the two answers
(Actually, the first railroad is built in United States on 1827-02-28)**

Implementation

Overview of the procedures

q_{WH} : When can oxygen gas produce a toxic condition?

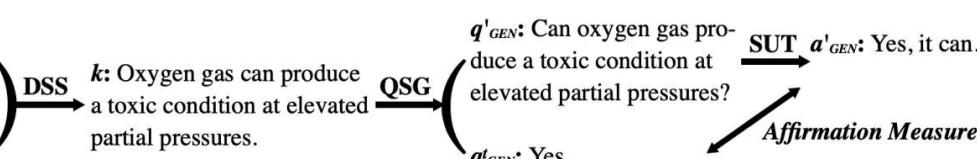
a_{WH} : At elevated partial pressures.



(a) Test Process of MR1

q_{WH} : When can oxygen gas produce a toxic condition?

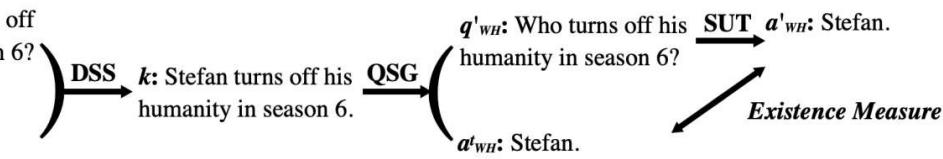
a_{WH} : At elevated partial pressures.



(b) Test Process of MR2

q_{GEN} : Does Stefan turn off his humanity in season 6?

a_{GEN} : Yes.



(c) Test Process of MR3

Fig. 1. Proposed Recursive Metamorphic Relations

你好！因为当氧气浓度超过70%的时候，高纯度氧气会对人体产生危害，也就是所谓的“氧气”中毒。吸入在标准大气压下80%或更高纯度的氧气2-3个小时，会引起鼻子不通、咳嗽、咽喉疼痛、胸痛、呼吸困难等症状，若是在更高的压力下吸入氧气，会在更短的时间内出现以上症状。若是吸入有压力的纯氧，可能损害肺功能和中枢神经系统，从而导致眩晕、感觉迟钝、刺痛感觉、视觉及听觉受损、肌肉抽动、意识减退和痉挛。

DSS: Declarative Sentence Synthesis

QSG: Question Sentence Generation

k: Knowledge(Declarative Sentence)

Question Definition:

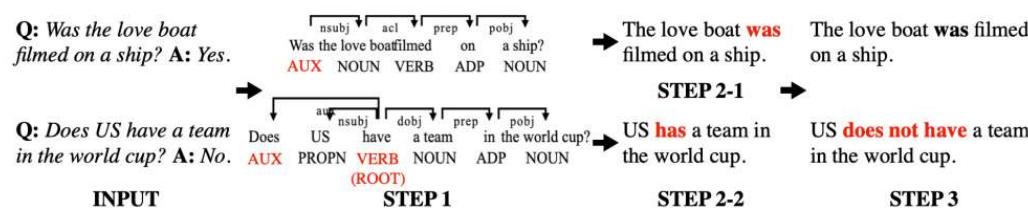
WH: wh-question(what when who how many)

GEN: general question

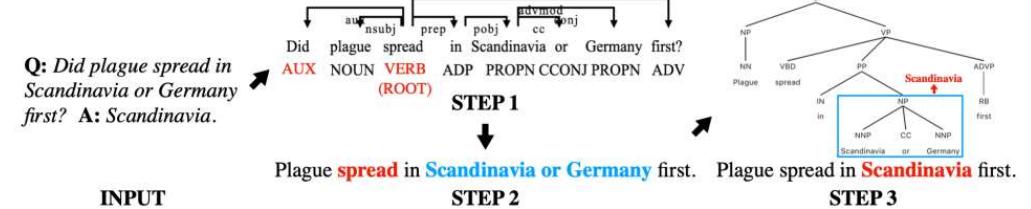
ALT: alternative question

Abbr.	Type	Examples
WH	wh-question	Q: Who was Emma's brother? A: Duke Richard II. Q: How many soldiers were in each Tumen? A: 10,000.
GEN	general question	Q: Is this the last year for once upon a time? A: Yes. Q: Does a cow have to be pregnant to lactate? A: No.
ALT	alternative question	Q: Is the UK a state or a country? A: A country. Q: Is a potato a tuber or a vegetable? A: A tuber.

Declaration Sentence Synthesis



(a) Declarative Sentence Synthesis from General Question



(b) Declarative Sentence Synthesis from Alternative Question

Rule	Example
$WH \text{ } be \text{ } noun_1? \rightarrow noun_1 \text{ } be \text{ } a_{WH}.$	<i>How is the speed of light in all reference frames?</i> + <i>The same.</i> → <i>The speed of light is the same in all reference frames.</i>
$WH \text{ } do \text{ } noun_1 \text{ } verb_1 \dots? \rightarrow noun_1 \text{ } verb'_1 \text{ } a_{WH} \dots$	<i>What does the sea monster with a female upper body hold in its claws?</i> + <i>A sword.</i> → <i>The sea monster with a female upper body holds a sword in its claws.</i>
$WH \text{ } modal \text{ } noun_1 \text{ } verb_1 \dots? \rightarrow noun_1 \text{ } modal \text{ } verb_1 \text{ } a_{WH} \dots$	<i>When can oxygen gas produce a toxic condition?</i> + <i>At elevated partial pressures.</i> → <i>Oxygen gas can produce a toxic condition at elevated partial pressures.</i>
$\text{Whose } noun_1 \text{ } be \text{ } noun_2? \rightarrow a_{WH} \text{ } noun_1 \text{ } be \text{ } noun_2.$	<i>Whose theory was the theory of continental drift?</i> + <i>Alfred Wegener.</i> → <i>Alfred Wegener's theory was the theory of continental drift.</i>

WH: wh-words like “what”, “how”, “when”, “who”, etc. **modal:** modal words like “can”, “must”, “would”, etc. **verb/verb'**: verb phrase and its adaption to the tense and number of auxiliary.

(c) Typical Heuristic Rules for Declarative Sentence Synthesis from Wh-Question

Fig. 2. Process and Example of Declarative Sentence Synthesis

[1] Spacy简介: <https://www.jianshu.com/p/e6b3565e159d>

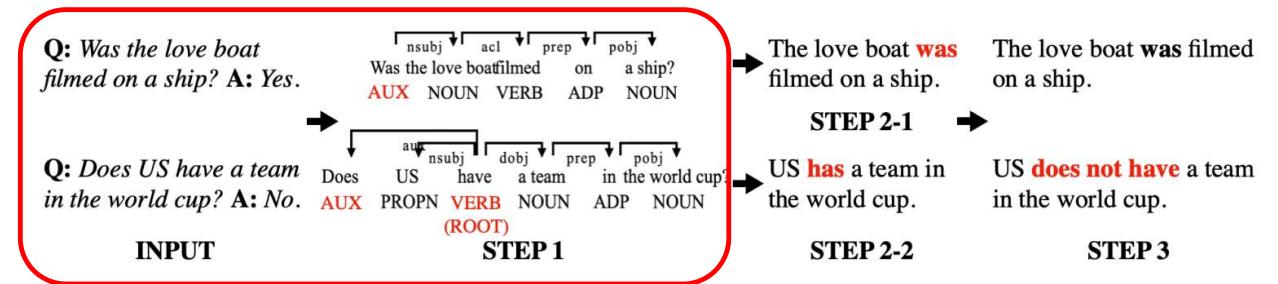
[2] Pattern简介: <https://python.freelycode.com/contribution/detail/1609>

Declaration Sentence Synthesis

Step1: POS tagging(词性标注) and Dependency Parsing (using Spacy)

Step2: Adjust the place of AUX
(AUX could be “be/can/may” or “do/did”)
(might need to transform the tense and number)

Step3: Negate k if answer is “No”



(a) Declarative Sentence Synthesis from General Question

[1] Spacy简介: <https://www.jianshu.com/p/e6b3565e159d>

[2] Pattern简介: <https://python.freelycode.com/contribution/detail/1609>

After DSS ...

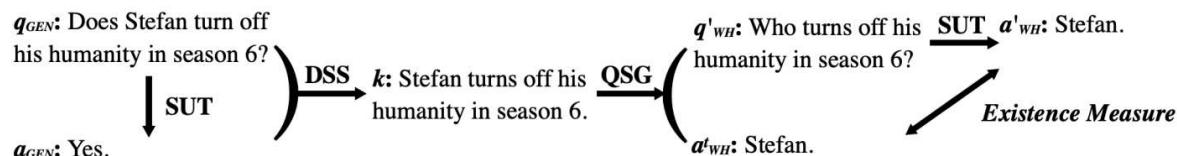
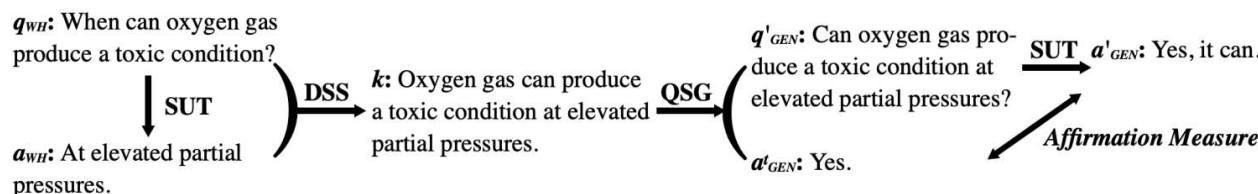
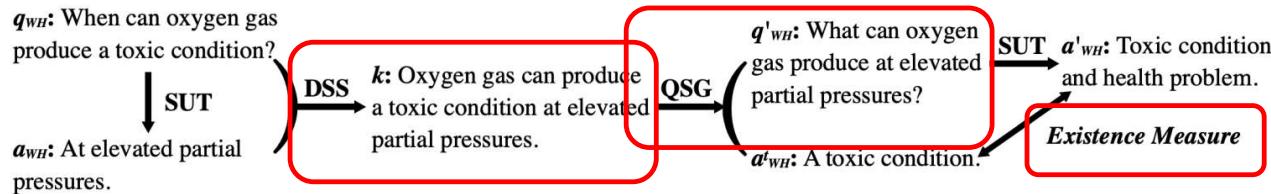
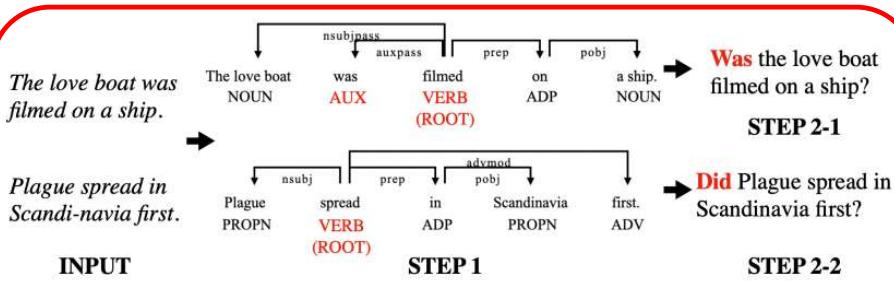


Fig. 1. Proposed Recursive Metamorphic Relations

Question Sentence Generation



(a) General Question Sentence Generation

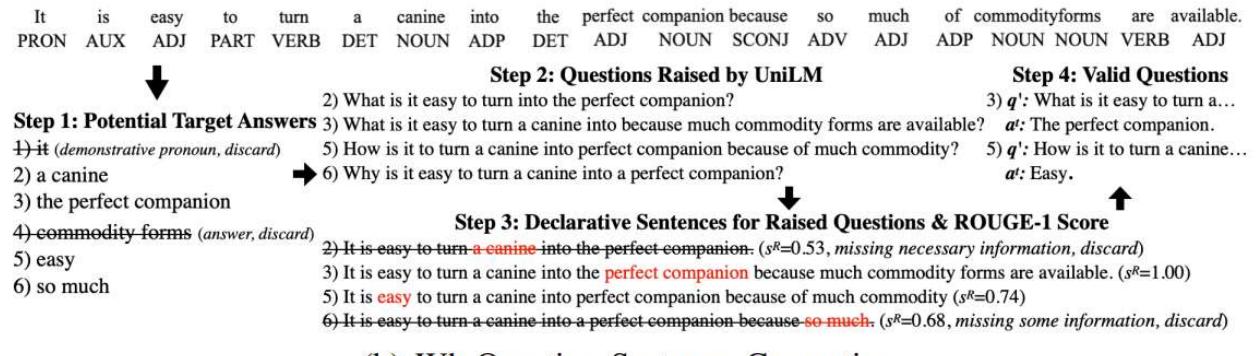


Fig. 3. Process and Example of Follow-up Question Sentence Generation

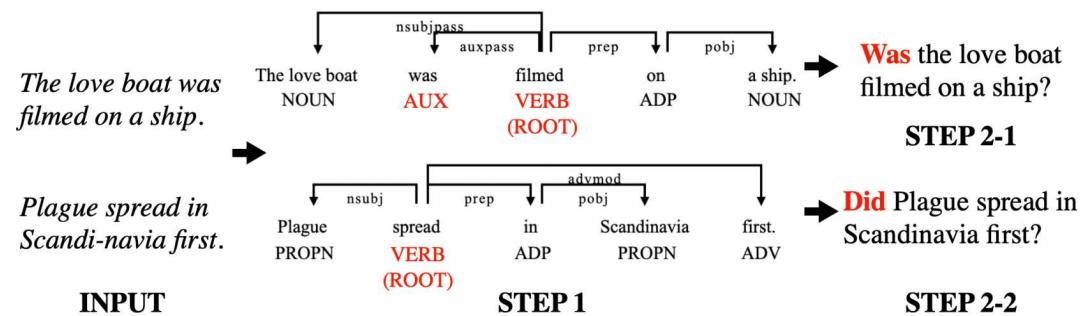
Question Sentence Generation (General question)

Step1: POS tagging(词性标注) and Dependency Parsing (using Spacy)

Step2: Check if AUX exists

(AUX could be “be/can/may” or “do/did”)

Step2-1: If AUX exists, move it to the beginning of the whole sentence.



(a) General Question Sentence Generation

Step2-2: If AUX doesn't exist, use Pattern Library to recognize the tense and number of VERB(ROOT). And Insert a do with suitable tense and number.

[1] Spacy简介: <https://www.jianshu.com/p/e6b3565e159d>

[2] Pattern简介: <https://python.freelycode.com/contribution/detail/1609>

Question Sentence Generation (Wh-question)

It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because so much of commodityforms are available.
PRON AUX ADJ PART VERB DET NOUN ADP DET ADJ NOUN SCONJ ADV ADJ ADP NOUN NOUN VERB ADJ



Step 2: Questions Raised by UniLM

Step 1: Potential Target Answers

1) ~~it~~ (demonstrative pronoun, discard)

2) a canine

3) the perfect companion

4) ~~commodity forms~~ (answer, discard)

5) easy

6) so much

2) What is it easy to turn into the perfect companion?

3) What is it easy to turn a canine into because much commodity forms are available?

q' : What is it easy to turn a...

a' : The perfect companion.

4) How is it to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity?

q' : How is it to turn a canine...

5) Why is it easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion?

a' : Easy.

6) Why is it easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion?

a' : Easy.

Step 3: Declarative Sentences for Raised Questions & ROUGE-1 Score

2) It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion. ($s^R=0.53$, missing necessary information, discard)

3) It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because much commodity forms are available. ($s^R=1.00$)

5) It is easy to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity ($s^R=0.74$)

6) It is easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion because so much. ($s^R=0.68$, missing some information, discard)



(b) Wh-Question Sentence Generation

Step1: Choose proper target answers

Step2: Produce the corresponding questions

Question Sentence Generation (Wh-question)

It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because so much of commodityforms are available.

PRON	AUX	ADJ	PART	VERB	DET	NOUN	ADP	DET	ADJ	NOUN	SCONJ	ADV	ADJ	ADP	NOUN	NOUN	VERB	ADJ
------	-----	-----	------	------	-----	------	-----	-----	-----	------	-------	-----	-----	-----	------	------	------	-----



Step 2: Questions Raised by UniLM

- 2) What is it easy to turn into the perfect companion?
3) What is it easy to turn a canine into because much commodity forms are available? a^t : The perfect companion.
4) ~~it (demonstrative pronoun, discard)~~ 5) How is it to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity? q' : How is it to turn a canine...
1) ~~a canine~~ 6) Why is it easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion? a^t : Easy.
- Step 1: Potential Target Answers
1) ~~it (demonstrative pronoun, discard)~~
2) a canine
3) the perfect companion
4) ~~commodity forms (answer, discard)~~
5) easy
6) so much
- Step 2: Questions Raised by UniLM
2) What is it easy to turn into the perfect companion?
3) What is it easy to turn a canine into because much commodity forms are available? a^t : The perfect companion.
4) ~~it (demonstrative pronoun, discard)~~ 5) How is it to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity? q' : How is it to turn a canine...
1) ~~a canine~~ 6) Why is it easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion? a^t : Easy.
- Step 3: Declarative Sentences for Raised Questions & ROUGE-1 Score
2) ~~It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion. ($s^R=0.53$, missing necessary information, discard)~~
3) It is easy to turn a canine into the **perfect companion** because much commodity forms are available. ($s^R=1.00$)
5) It is **easy** to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity ($s^R=0.74$)
6) ~~It is easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion because **so much**. ($s^R=0.68$, missing some information, discard)~~

Step 4: Valid Questions



Step 3: Declarative Sentences for Raised Questions & ROUGE-1 Score

Step1:

POS tagging and dependency parsing

(b) Wh-Question Sentence Generation

Question Sentence Generation (Wh-question)

It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because so much of commodity forms are available.

PRON AUX ADJ PART VERB DET NOUN ADP DET ADJ NOUN SCONJ ADV ADJ ADP NOUN NOUN VERB ADJ



Step 1: Potential Target Answers

- 1) ~~it~~ (demonstrative pronoun, discard)
- 2) a canine
- 3) the perfect companion
- 4) ~~commodity forms~~ (answer, discard)
- 5) easy
- 6) so much



Step 2: Questions Raised by UniLM

2) What is it easy to turn into the perfect companion?

3) What is it easy to turn a canine into because much commodity forms are available? *a^t: The perfect companion.*

4) How is it to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity? *q^t: How is it to turn a canine...*

5) Why is it easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion? *a^t: Easy.*

Step 4: Valid Questions

3) *q^t:* What is it easy to turn a...

a^t: The perfect companion.

5) *q^t:* How is it to turn a canine...

Step 3: Declarative Sentences for Raised Questions & ROUGE-1 Score

2) ~~It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion.~~ ($s^R=0.53$, missing necessary information, discard)

3) It is easy to turn a canine into the ~~perfect companion~~ because much commodity forms are available. ($s^R=1.00$)

5) It is ~~easy~~ to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity ($s^R=0.74$)

6) ~~It is easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion because so much.~~ ($s^R=0.68$, missing some information, discard)



(b) Wh-Question Sentence Generation

Step1:

Extract noun phrases and adjective phrases

(some unsuitable answers, such as phrases, with demonstrative pronouns and the original answer, are excluded from potential target answers)

Question Sentence Generation (Wh-question)

It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because so much of commodity forms are available.
PRON AUX ADJ PART VERB DET NOUN ADP DET ADJ NOUN SCONJ ADV ADJ ADP NOUN NOUN VERB ADJ



Step 1: Potential Target Answers

1) ~~it~~ (demonstrative pronoun, discard)

2) a canine

3) the perfect companion

4) ~~commodity forms~~ (answer, discard)

5) easy

6) so much

Step 2: Questions Raised by UniLM

- 2) What is it easy to turn into the perfect companion?
- 3) What is it easy to turn a canine into because much commodity forms are available?
- 5) How is it to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity?
- 6) Why is it easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion?



Step 4: Valid Questions

- 3) q' : What is it easy to turn a...
 a' : The perfect companion.
- 5) q' : How is it to turn a canine...
 a' : Easy.



Step 3: Declarative Sentences for Raised Questions & ROUGE-1 Score

- 2) It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion. ($s^R=0.53$, missing necessary information, discard)
- 3) It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because much commodity forms are available. ($s^R=1.00$)
- 5) It is easy to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity ($s^R=0.74$)
- 6) It is easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion because so much. ($s^R=0.68$, missing some information, discard)

(b) Wh-Question Sentence Generation

Step2:

Use UniLM to raise a reasonable question for each target answer

(UniLM is a pretrained language model which is good at generative QA/summarization/question generation)

[1] UniLM简介: <https://cloud.tencent.com/developer/article/1573393>

Question Sentence Generation (Wh-question)

It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because so much of commodity forms are available.
PRON AUX ADJ PART VERB DET NOUN ADP DET ADJ NOUN SCONJ ADV ADJ ADP NOUN NOUN VERB ADJ



Step 1: Potential Target Answers

1) ~~it~~ (demonstrative pronoun, discard)

2) a canine

3) the perfect companion

4) ~~commodity forms~~ (answer, discard)

5) easy

6) so much

Step 2: Questions Raised by UniLM

- 2) What is it easy to turn into the perfect companion?
- 3) What is it easy to turn a canine into because much commodity forms are available?
- 5) How is it to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity?
- 6) Why is it easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion?



Step 4: Valid Questions

- 3) q' : What is it easy to turn a...
 a' : The perfect companion.
- 5) q' : How is it to turn a canine...
 a' : Easy.



Step 3: Declarative Sentences for Raised Questions & ROUGE-1 Score

- 2) It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion. ($s^R=0.53$, missing necessary information, discard)
- 3) It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because much commodity forms are available. ($s^R=1.00$)
- 5) It is easy to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity ($s^R=0.74$)
- 6) It is easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion because so much. ($s^R=0.68$, missing some information, discard)

(b) Wh-Question Sentence Generation

Problem:

Not every question generated by UniLM is reasonable

(Unreasonable question may lead to potential false positive issues)

Question Sentence Generation (Wh-question)

It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because so much of commodity forms are available.

PRON AUX ADJ PART VERB DET NOUN ADP DET ADJ NOUN SCONJ ADV ADJ ADP NOUN NOUN VERB ADJ



Step 2: Questions Raised by UniLM

- Step 1: Potential Target Answers**
- 1) ~~it (demonstrative pronoun, discard)~~
 - 2) a canine
 - 3) the perfect companion
 - 4) ~~commodity forms (answer, discard)~~
 - 5) easy
 - 6) so much
- Step 2: Questions Raised by UniLM**
- 2) What is it easy to turn into the perfect companion?
 - 3) What is it easy to turn a canine into because much commodity forms are available?
 - 4) ~~How is it to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity?~~
 - 5) How is it to turn a canine into a perfect companion?
- Step 3: Declarative Sentences for Raised Questions & ROUGE-1 Score**
- 2) ~~It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion. ($s^R=0.53$, missing necessary information, discard)~~
 - 3) It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because much commodity forms are available. ($s^R=1.00$)
 - 5) It is easy to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity ($s^R=0.74$)
 - 6) ~~It is easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion because so much. ($s^R=0.68$, missing some information, discard)~~
- Step 4: Valid Questions**
- 3) q' : What is it easy to turn a...
 a' : The perfect companion.
 - 5) q' : How is it to turn a canine...
 a' : Easy.



(b) Wh-Question Sentence Generation

Solution:

Use target answer and question raised by UniLM to produce new declarative sentence(knowledge)

Then compute the similarity between the generated knowledge and original knowledge

(somewhat similar to the idea of back-translation we mentioned before)

Question Sentence Generation (Wh-question)

It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because so much of commodityforms are available.
PRON AUX ADJ PART VERB DET NOUN ADP DET ADJ NOUN SCONJ ADV ADJ ADP NOUN NOUN VERB ADJ



Step 1: Potential Target Answers

1) ~~it~~ (demonstrative pronoun, discard)

2) a canine

3) the perfect companion

4) ~~commodity forms~~ (answer, discard)

5) easy

6) so much

Step 2: Questions Raised by UniLM

2) What is it easy to turn into the perfect companion?

3) What is it easy to turn a canine into because much commodity forms are available?

4) How is it to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity?

5) Why is it easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion?

6) Why is it easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion?

Step 4: Valid Questions

3) q' : What is it easy to turn a...

a' : The perfect companion.

5) q' : How is it to turn a canine...

a' : Easy.



Step 3: Declarative Sentences for Raised Questions & ROUGE-1 Score

2) It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion. ($s^R=0.53$, missing necessary information, discard)

3) It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because much commodity forms are available. ($s^R=1.00$)

5) It is easy to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity ($s^R=0.74$)

6) It is easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion because so much. ($s^R=0.68$, missing some information, discard)

(b) Wh-Question Sentence Generation

Step3:

Filter out questions whose corresponding similarity is greater than 0.7 (in Rouge-1)

(somewhat similar to the idea of back-translation we mentioned before)

Question Sentence Generation (Wh-question)

It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion because so much of commodityforms are available.

PRON AUX ADJ PART VERB DET NOUN ADP DET ADJ NOUN SCONJ ADV ADJ ADP NOUN NOUN VERB ADJ



Step 1: Potential Target Answers

1) ~~it~~ (demonstrative pronoun, discard)

2) a canine

3) the perfect companion

4) ~~commodity forms~~ (answer, discard)

5) easy

6) so much

Step 2: Questions Raised by UniLM

2) What is it easy to turn into the perfect companion?

3) What is it easy to turn a canine into because much commodity forms are available?

4) How is it to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity?

5) Why is it easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion?

6) Why is it easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion?

Step 4: Valid Questions

3) q' : What is it easy to turn a...

a' : The perfect companion.

5) q' : How is it to turn a canine...

a' : Easy.



Step 3: Declarative Sentences for Raised Questions & ROUGE-1 Score

2) ~~It is easy to turn a canine into the perfect companion.~~ ($s^R=0.53$, missing necessary information, discard)

3) It is easy to turn a canine into the ~~perfect companion~~ because much commodity forms are available. ($s^R=1.00$)

5) It is ~~easy~~ to turn a canine into perfect companion because of much commodity ($s^R=0.74$)

6) ~~It is easy to turn a canine into a perfect companion because so much.~~ ($s^R=0.68$, missing some information, discard)

(b) Wh-Question Sentence Generation

Step4: Get Valid Questions

After 3 steps before, we finally generate the wh-questions from the declarative sentence(knowledge)

(and also the corresponding answer directly from potential target answer in step1)

After DSS and QSG ...

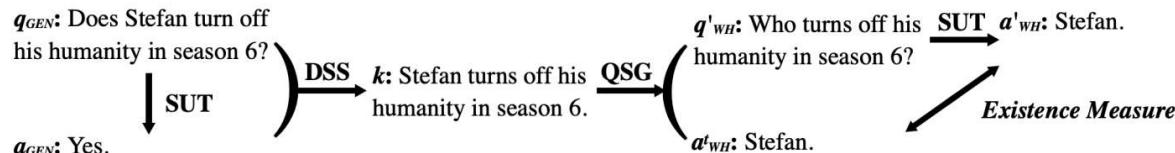
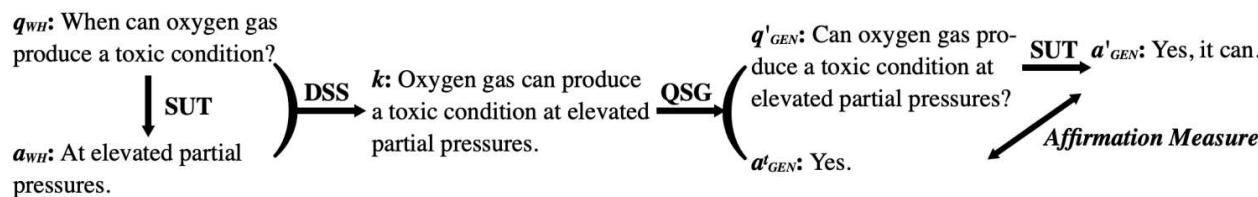
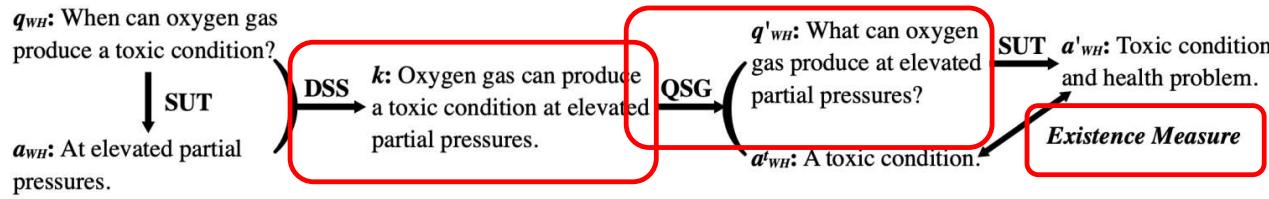
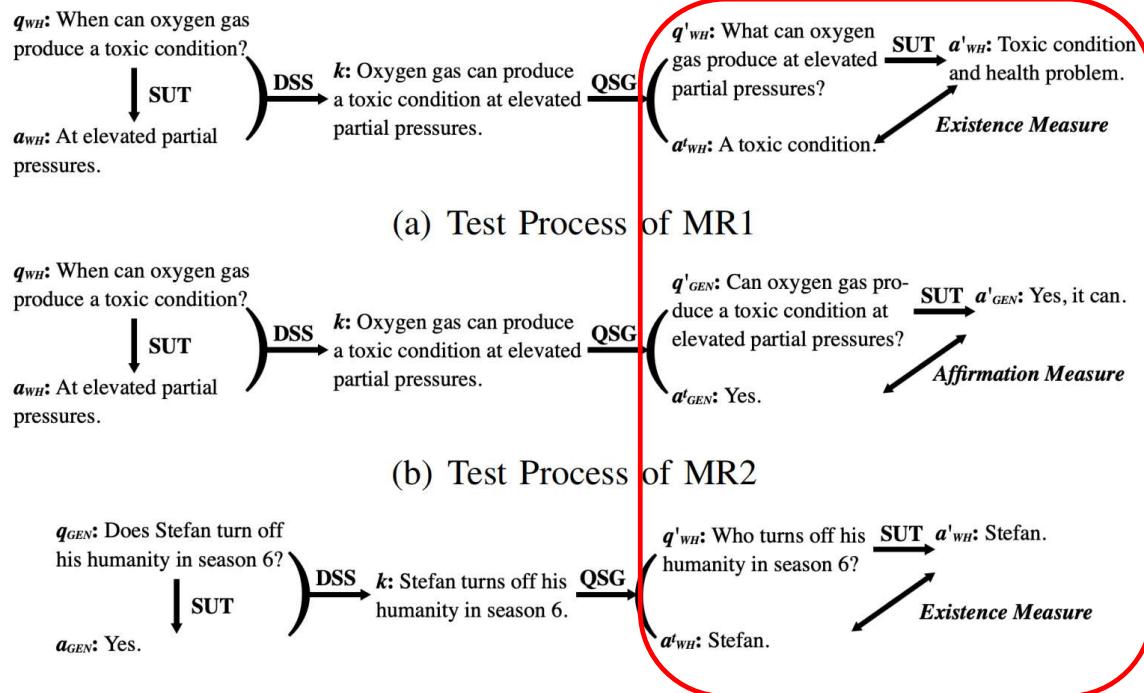


Fig. 1. Proposed Recursive Metamorphic Relations

Violation Measurement: Existence Measure



Step1: Discard stop words

Step2: Compute cosine similarity between each word in α'_{WH} and α^t_{WH}

Step3: Average all the word-wise maximum similarity into an overall score to indicate the existence

Step4: Report violation if score < 0.6

Violation Measurement: Existence Measure

If we want to conduct existence measurement on α_{WH}^t = “the president of Egypt” and α'_{WH} = “egyptian president”
(Whether α'_{WH} contains α_{WH}^t)

Step1: Discard stop words

Step2: Compute cosine similarity between each word in α'_{WH} and α_{WH}^t

Step3: Average all the word-wise maximum similarity into an overall score to indicate the existence

Step4: Report violation if score < 0.6

TABLE III
EXAMPLE OF EXISTENCE MEASUREMENT

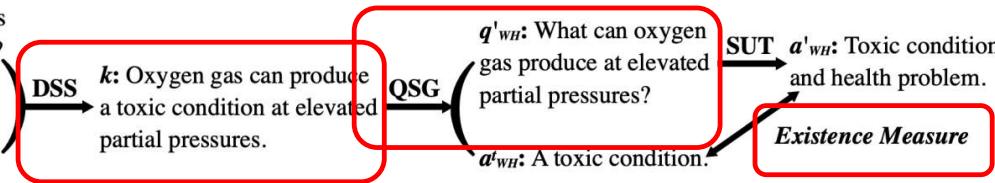
	egyptian	president	(maximum)
president	0.2363	1.0000	1.0000
egypt	0.7443	0.2128	0.7443

$$\text{Score} = (1.0000 + 0.7443) / 2 = 0.8722 > 0.6$$

Implementation

q_{WH} : When can oxygen gas produce a toxic condition?

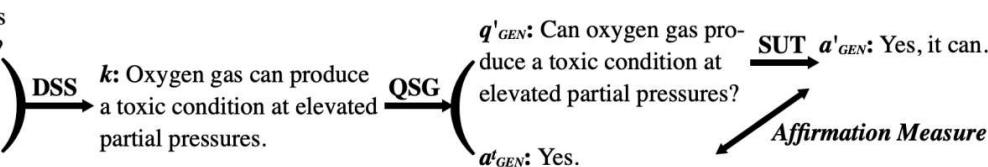
a_{WH} : At elevated partial pressures.



(a) Test Process of MR1

q_{WH} : When can oxygen gas produce a toxic condition?

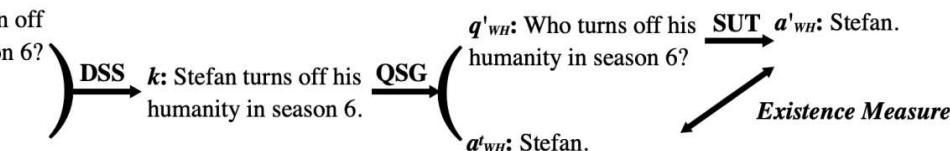
a_{WH} : At elevated partial pressures.



(b) Test Process of MR2

q_{GEN} : Does Stefan turn off his humanity in season 6?

a_{GEN} : Yes.



(c) Test Process of MR3

Fig. 1. Proposed Recursive Metamorphic Relations

Module Definition:

SUT: software under test(QA software)

DSS: Declarative Sentence Synthesis

QSG: Question Sentence Generation

k: Knowledge(Declarative Sentence)

Question Definition:

WH: wh-question(what when who how many)

GEN: general question

ALT: alternative question

Abbr.	Type	Examples
WH	wh-question	Q: Who was Emma's brother? A: Duke Richard II. Q: How many soldiers were in each Tumen? A: 10,000.
GEN	general question	Q: Is this the last year for once upon a time? A: Yes. Q: Does a cow have to be pregnant to lactate? A: No.
ALT	alternative question	Q: Is the UK a state or a country? A: A country. Q: Is a potato a tuber or a vegetable? A: A tuber.

Experiment

Experiment: SQuAD Dataset

The screenshot shows the SQuAD Explorer interface. At the top, it displays the SQuAD logo and the text "SQuAD 2.0 The Stanford Question Answering Dataset". Below this, there are two main sections: "What is SQuAD?" and "Leaderboard".

What is SQuAD?

Stanford Question Answering Dataset (SQuAD) is a reading comprehension dataset, consisting of questions posed by crowdworkers on a set of Wikipedia articles, where the answer to every question is a segment of text, or *span*, from the corresponding reading passage, or the question might be unanswerable.

SQuAD2.0 combines the 100,000 questions in SQuAD1.1 with over 50,000 unanswerable questions written adversarially by crowdworkers to look similar to answerable ones. To do well on SQuAD2.0, systems must not only answer questions when possible, but also determine when no answer is supported by the paragraph and abstain from answering.

[Explore SQuAD2.0 and model predictions](#)

[SQuAD2.0 paper \(Rajpurkar & Jia et al. '18\)](#)

Leaderboard

SQuAD2.0 tests the ability of a system to not only answer questions, but also abstain when presented with a question based on the provided paragraph.

Rank	Model	Date
1	Human Performance Stanford University (Rajpurkar & Jia et al. '18)	Jun 04, 2021
2	IE-Net (ensemble) RICOH_SRCB_DML	Feb 21, 2021
3	FPNet (ensemble) Ant Service Intelligence 1	May 16, 2021
4	IE-NetV2 (ensemble) RICOH_SRCB_DML	Apr 06, 2020
	SA-Net on Albert (ensemble) QIANXIN	

[1] <https://rajpurkar.github.io/SQuAD-explorer/>

[2] <https://zhuanlan.zhihu.com/p/137828922>

Article: Endangered Species Act

Paragraph: “... Other legislation followed, including the Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929, a *1937 treaty* prohibiting the hunting of right and gray whales, and the *Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940*. These *later laws* had a low cost to society—the species were relatively rare—and little *opposition* was raised.”

Question 1: “Which laws faced significant opposition?”

Plausible Answer: *later laws*

Question 2: “What was the name of the *1937 treaty*?”

Plausible Answer: *Bald Eagle Protection Act*

Figure 1: Two unanswerable questions written by crowdworkers, along with plausible (but incorrect) answers. Relevant keywords are shown in blue.

	SQuAD 1.1	SQuAD 2.0
Train		
Total examples	87,599	130,319
Negative examples	0	43,498
Total articles	442	442
Articles with negatives	0	285
Development		
Total examples	10,570	11,873
Negative examples	0	5,945
Total articles	48	35
Articles with negatives	0	35
Test		
Total examples	9,533	8,862
Negative examples	0	4,332
Total articles	46	28
Articles with negatives	0	28

Table 2: Dataset statistics of SQuAD 2.0, compared to the previous SQuAD 1.1.

Experiment: BoolQ Dataset

BoolQ is a dataset totally composed of general questions obtained from Google Search queries and paired with passages from Wikipedia that are considered sufficient to deduce the answer. The answer is expected to be either “Yes” or “No” (or sentences with similar meanings [13]). It has 9.4k training samples and 3.3k test samples.

BoolQ: Exploring the Surprising Difficulty of Natural Yes/No Questions

Christopher Clark^{*1}, Kenton Lee[†], Ming-Wei Chang[†], Tom Kwiatkowski[†]

Michael Collins^{†2}, Kristina Toutanova[†]

^{*}Paul G. Allen School of CSE, University of Washington
csquared@cs.uw.edu

[†]Google AI Language

{kentonl, mingweichang, tomkwiat, mjcollins, kristout}@google.com

-
- Q:** Has the UK been hit by a hurricane?
P: The Great Storm of 1987 was a violent extratropical cyclone which caused casualties in England, France and the Channel Islands ...
A: Yes. [An example event is given.]
- Q:** Does France have a Prime Minister and a President?
P: ... The extent to which those decisions lie with the Prime Minister or President depends upon ...
A: Yes. [Both are mentioned, so it can be inferred both exist.]
- Q:** Have the San Jose Sharks won a Stanley Cup?
P: ... The Sharks have advanced to the Stanley Cup finals once, losing to the Pittsburgh Penguins in 2016 ...
A: No. [They were in the finals once, and lost.]
-

Figure 1: Example yes/no questions from the BoolQ dataset. Each example consists of a question (**Q**), an excerpt from a passage (**P**), and an answer (**A**) with an explanation added for clarity.

[1] <https://github.com/google-research-datasets/boolean-questions>

[2] <https://paperswithcode.com/dataset/boolq>

Experiment: NatQA Dataset

NatQA is one abstractive QA dataset, which means it requires the model to return answers that are not mere substrings of the reference passage. We use the version provided by UnifiedQA where each question is appended with a reference passage. It includes 98k wh-questions and 299 general and alternative questions⁵, which are then divided into 97k training samples and 11k test samples.

Natural Questions: A Benchmark for Question Answering Research

Tom Kwiatkowski^{♦◊♦} Jennimaria Palomaki[♦] Olivia Redfield^{◊♦} Michael Collins^{♦◊♦▼}
Ankur Parikh[▼] Chris Alberti[▼] Danielle Epstein^{◊♦} Illia Polosukhin^{◊♦} Jacob Devlin[◊]
Kenton Lee[▼] Kristina Toutanova[▼] Llion Jones[◊] Matthew Kelcey^{◊♦} Ming-Wei Chang[▼]
Andrew M. Dai^{♦◊} Jakob Uszkoreit[♦] Quoc Le^{♦◊} Slav Petrov[♦]

Google Research
natural-questions@google.com

[1] <https://aclanthology.org/Q19-1026.pdf>

[2] <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2005.00700v3.pdf>

Example 1

Question: what color was john wilkes booth's hair

Wikipedia Page: John_Wilkes_Booth

Long answer: Some critics called Booth “the handsomest man in America” and a “natural genius”, and noted his having an “astonishing memory”; others were mixed in their estimation of his acting. He stood 5 feet 8 inches (1.73 m) tall, had jet-black hair, and was lean and athletic. Noted Civil War reporter George Alfred Townsend described him as a “muscular, perfect man” with “curling hair, like a Corinthian capital”.

Short answer: jet-black

Example 2

Question: can you make and receive calls in airplane mode

Wikipedia Page: Airplane_mode

Long answer: Airplane mode, aeroplane mode, flight mode, offline mode, or standalone mode is a setting available on many smartphones, portable computers, and other electronic devices that, when activated, suspends radio-frequency signal transmission by the device, thereby disabling Bluetooth, telephony, and Wi-Fi. GPS may or may not be disabled, because it does not involve transmitting radio waves.

Short answer: BOOLEAN:NO

Example 3

Question: why does queen elizabeth sign her name elizabeth r

Wikipedia Page: Royal_sign-manual

Long answer: The royal sign-manual usually consists of the sovereign’s regnal name (without number, if otherwise used), followed by the letter R for Rex (King) or Regina (Queen). Thus, the signs-manual of both Elizabeth I and Elizabeth II read Elizabeth R. When the British monarch was also Emperor or Empress of India, the sign manual ended with R I, for Rex Imperator or Regina Imperatrix (King-Emperor/Queen-Empress).

Short answer: NULL

Figure 1: Example annotations from the corpus.

Experiment: Unified QA

Unified QA: Why do we need different QA model?

- Motivation: There are different models for different types of questions. But the ability of inference should be unified.
- Idea: Make a unified QA pretrained model / **Unifying QA solutions**
- Implementation: based on T5
- How to use: Fine-tune the pretrained model into specialized models for better performance on the specific QA tasks

How did they fine-tune the QA model?

- Dataset to fine-tuned: SQuAD2 BoolQ NatQA (236422 samples)
- Pretrained-Model: UnifiedQA (T5)
- Evaluation(When to stop): Exact Match(EM) Score (per 5000 steps)
- Device: RTX3090(24GB memory)

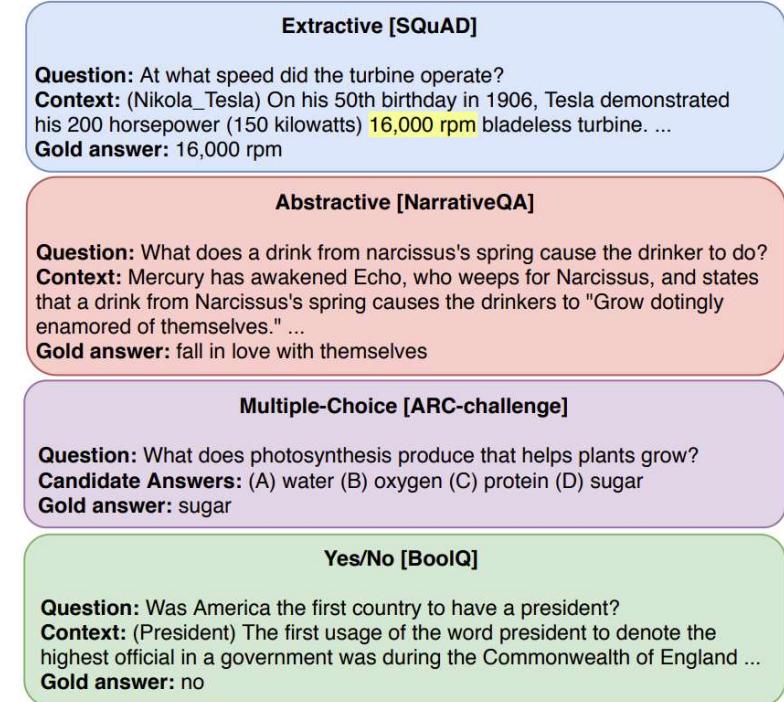


Figure 1: Four formats (color-coded throughout the paper) commonly used for posing questions and answering them: Extractive (EX), Abstractive (AB), Multiple-Choice (MC), and Yes/No (YN). Sample dataset names are shown in square brackets. We study generalization and transfer across these formats.

[1] <https://github.com/allenai/unifiedqa>

[2] UnifiedQA: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2005.00700.pdf>

Evaluation

Evaluation

评审标准



Academic Services

- Program Co-Chair: The 29th IEEE International Conference on Software Analysis, Evolution and Reengineering (SANER 2022)
- Program Co-Chair: The 36th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE 2021)
- General Co-Chair: The 22nd International Systems and Software Product Line Conference (SPLC 2018)
- Steering Committee Member: The International Systems and Software Product Line Conference (SPLC)
- Editorial Board: Software Testing, Verification and Validation (STVR) (since 2019)
- Editorial Board: IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering (TSE) (since 2019)
- Editorial Board: Empirical Software Engineering (EMSE) (since 2020)
- New Ideas and Emerging Results Co-Chair: The 45th International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2023)
- Tool Demonstration Co-Chair: The 44th International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2022)
- Tool Demonstration Co-Chair: The 35th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE 2020)
- Artifact Evaluation Co-Chair: The ACM SIGSOFT International Symposium on Software Testing and Analysis (ISSTA 2019)
- Publicity Co-Chair: The 36th International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME 2020)
- Publicity Co-Chair: The IEEE International Conference on Software Testing, Verification, and Validation (ICST 2019)
- Publicity Co-Chair: The IEEE International Working Conference on Source Code Analysis and Manipulation (SCAM 2017)
- PC Co-Chair: The Asian Workshop for ICST 2017
- Local Chair: The 20th International Systems and Software Product Line Conference (SPLC 2016)
- PC Co-Chair: The 10th International Workshop on Automation of Software Testing (AST 2015)
- PB Member: The 42nd International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2020)

SANER 2022

Evaluation Criteria

Submissions will be evaluated by at least three program committee members. The evaluation will focus on the novelty, originality, importance to the field, proper research methods, and presentation of the submissions. We strongly encourage authors to make available all data and software they use in their work, in order for verification and replication of their results.

ASE 2021

- (1) Soundness: The extent to which supported by a rigorous application
- (2) Significance: The extent to which important with respect to open software
- (3) Novelty: The extent to which the original and is clearly explained with
- (4) Recoverability, Replicability and which the paper shared information reasonable to share. Note that this example, qualitative interview transcript de-identification risk, and industry
- (5) Presentation: The extent to which includes clear descriptions and explanations in English language, absence of major tables, and adherence to the for

ICSE 2022

Review Criteria

Each paper submitted to the Technical Track will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Soundness: The extent to which the paper's contributions and/or innovations address its research questions and are supported by rigorous application of appropriate research methods
- Significance: The extent to which the paper's contributions can impact the field of software engineering, and under which assumptions (if any)
- Novelty: The extent to which the contributions are sufficiently original with respect to the state-of-the-art
- Verifiability and Transparency: The extent to which the paper includes sufficient information to understand how an innovation works; to understand how data was obtained, analyzed, and interpreted; and how the paper supports independent verification or replication of the paper's claimed contributions
- Presentation: The extent to which the paper's quality of writing meets the high standards of ICSE, including clear descriptions, as well as adequate use of the English language, absence of major ambiguity, clearly readable figures and tables, and adherence to the formatting instructions provided below.

Evaluation

1 Soundness

2 Significance

3 Novelty

4 Reproducibility

5 Presentation

可重现 (Reproducibility)

方法和实验是否可重现！

Open Science Policy	ICSE 2022
<p>The research track of ICSE 2022 is governed by the ICSE 2022 Open Science policies. In summary, the steering principle is that all research results should be accessible to the public and, if possible, empirical studies should be reproducible. In particular, we actively support the adoption of open data and open source principles and encourage all contributing authors to disclose (anonymized and curated) data to increase reproducibility and replicability. Note that sharing research data is not mandatory for submission or acceptance. However, sharing is expected to be the default, and non-sharing needs to be justified. We recognize that reproducibility or replicability is not a goal in qualitative research and that, similar to industrial studies, qualitative studies often face challenges in sharing research data. For guidelines on how to report qualitative research to ensure the assessment of the reliability and credibility of research results, see the Q&A page.</p> <p>Upon submission to the research track, authors are asked</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to make their data available to the program committee (via upload of supplemental material or a link to an anonymous repository) – and provide instructions on how to access this data in the paper; or• to include in the paper an explanation as to why this is not possible or desirable; and• to indicate if they intend to make their data publicly available upon acceptance. <p>Supplementary material can be uploaded via the HotCRP site or anonymously linked from the paper submission. Although PC members are not required to look at this material, we strongly encourage authors to use supplementary material to provide access to anonymized data, whenever possible. Authors are asked to carefully review any supplementary material to ensure it conforms to the double-anonymous policy (described above). For example, code and data repositories may be exported to remove version control history, scrubbed of names in comments and metadata, and anonymously uploaded to a sharing site to support review. One resource that may be helpful in accomplishing this task is this blog post.</p> <p>Upon acceptance, authors have the possibility to separately submit their supplementary material to the ICSE 2022 Artifact Evaluation track, for recognition of artifacts that are reusable, available, replicated or reproduced.</p>	<p>ICSE 2022</p>

此外，实验验证：

- 实验设计：
 - 过程、度量方式
- 实验分析：
 - 有深度的分析

其实是 evaluation，必须应该写清楚结果和评估对比。但是你在对比其他技术的时候，你也必须说清楚你的方法为什么会 work？审稿人不只是想看到你的方法是 work 的，他更想看到你对问题和方法的理解的深刻性。比如你的方法有不 work 的情况吗？在哪些情况下 work？可以推广到其他情况吗？千万不要让审稿人觉得你的方法不可重现，因为这个很容易说服其他审稿人也这么认为，然后就被拒

Evaluation: Research Questions

RQ1: The overall effectiveness of QAASKER

RQ2: Validity of the revealed violations

RQ3: Types of the revealed true violations

RQ4: Helpfulness to fix the revealed answering issues

可重现 (Reproducibility)

方法和实验是否可重现！

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Upon submission to the research track, authors are asked:

- to make their data available to the program committee (via upload of supplemental material or a link to an anonymous repository) – and provide instructions on how to access this data in the paper; or
- to include in the paper an explanation as to why this is not possible or desirable; and
- to indicate if they intend to make their data publicly available upon acceptance.

Supplementary material can be uploaded via the HotCRP site or anonymously linked from the paper submission. Although PC members are not required to look at this material, we strongly encourage authors to use supplementary material to provide access to anonymized data, whenever possible. Authors are asked to carefully review any supplementary material to ensure it conforms to the double-anonymous policy (described above). For example, code and data repositories may be required to remove version control history, scrubbed of names in comments and metadata, and anonymously uploaded to a sharing site to support review. One resource that may be helpful in accomplishing this task is this blog post.

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- 实验分析：
 - 有深度的分析

其实是 evaluation, 必须应该写清楚结果和评估对比。但是你在对比其他技术的时候，你也必须说清楚你的方法为什么会 work? 审稿人不只是想看到你的方法是 work 的, 他更想看到你对问题和方法的理解的深刻性。比如你的方法有不 work 的情况吗? 在哪些情况下 work? 可以推广到其他情况吗? 千万不要让审稿人觉得你的方法不可重现, 因为这个很容易说服其他审稿人也这么认为, 然后就被拒

RQ1: The overall effectiveness of QAASKER

What is the definition of effectiveness?

- Demonstrates the effectiveness of QAASKER to reveal the answering issues without the need for the ground truth labels

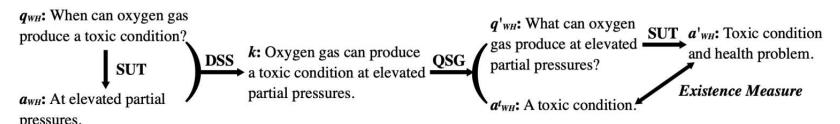
Why could MR2 and MR3 find more violation than MR1?

- MR1: WH question=>WH question
- MR2: WH question=>General question
- MR3: General question=>WH question
- Reason(conjecture): UnifiedQA Overfit the training sample?** Could only pass the test cases whose question is of the frequent types among the training samples from their corresponding dataset
- Indicate the potential insufficient generalization of UnifiedQA to figure out the questions of distinct types across datasets

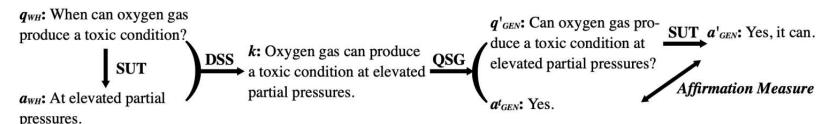
TABLE V
VIOLATION RATE AT EACH MR ON THREE DATASETS

Dataset	MR1	MR2	MR3
SQuAD2	37.05%	65.85%	90.91%
BoolQ	—	—	72.78%
NatQA	51.98%	96.92%	46.15%

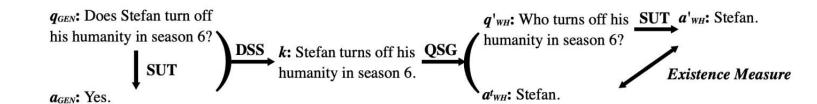
—: MR1 and MR2 cannot be applied on BoolQ as it only contains general questions.



(a) Test Process of MR1



(b) Test Process of MR2



(c) Test Process of MR3

Fig. 1. Proposed Recursive Metamorphic Relations

RQ2: Validity of the Revealed Violations

What is next after we obtain lots of violations?

- We need to evaluate the validity of the revealed violations
- Valid Violation(factuality): at least one incorrect answer from the source and follow-up question

What may cause the invalid violation (false positive)?

- Generating Questions and Measurement of semantic similarity is challenging

How to detect invalid violation (false positive)?

- Perform the inspection manually and independently (2 people)
- Check the validity of all violations (at most 100)

TABLE VI
VALIDITY RATE OF THE REVEALED VIOLATIONS

Dataset	MR1	MR2	MR3
SQuAD2	81/100 (81%)	100/100 (100%)	9/10 (90%)
BoolQ	–	–	87/100 (87%)
NatQA	85/100 (85%)	100/100 (100%)	5/6 (83%)

Meaningful and convincing

RQ3: Types of the Revealed True Violations

What is next after we inspect invalid violations?

- We could further study the details of valid violations
- What we could do and what we couldn't do

What kinds of violations QAAKeR could detect?

- <NoAnswer> for answerable questions
- Format mismatch between the answer and the question
- Irrelevant content of the answer
- Grammatical error
- Missing information in the answer

TABLE VII
NUMBER OF ERRONEOUS ANSWERS ON TRUE VIOLATIONS

Dataset	MR1	MR2	MR3
SQuAD2	22 , 59	25 , 75	4 , 5
BoolQ	–	–	18 , 69
NatQA	44 , 41	58 , 42	0 , 5

1. “A , B” means that in A (B) violations the source (follow-up) output is wrong.
2. As a reminder, when the source answer is wrong, the correctness of the follow-up answer cannot be assessed and thus we do not consider it wrong.

RQ3: Types of the Revealed True Violations

What kinds of violations QAsKeR could detect?

- <NoAnswer> for answerable questions
- Format mismatch between the answer and the question
- Irrelevant content of the answer
- Grammatical error
- Missing information in the answer

TABLE VII
EXAMPLES OF REVEALED ANSWERING ISSUES

#	Example 1	Example 2-1	Example 2-2
Reference Passage	... The IPCC receives funding through ... while UNEP meets the cost of the Depute Secretary the network renewed Carrie Diaries for ... The CW canceled the series after two seasons Li Tan, the son-in-law of a powerful official, instigated a revolt against Mongol rule in 1262 ...
Question	What does UNEP fund?	What film does not have a season 3?	Did Li Tan lead a revolt in 1262?
Expected Ans	IPCC's deputy secretary	The Carrie Diaries	Yes
UnifiedQA Ans	<NoAnswer>	No	Instigated
#	Example 3	Example 4	Example 5
Reference Passage	... Some broadcasts are free-to-air ... some are encrypted and require a monthly subscription the VideoGuard pay-TV scrambling system owned by NDS, a Cisco Systems company Shi Tianze was a Han Chinese who lived in the Jin dynasty ... His father was Shi Bingzhi ...
Question	What require to view monthly subscription?	What is Cisco systems?	Who was Shi Bingzhi?
Expected Ans	Some encrypted broadcasts	The parent company of NDS	Shi Tianze's father
UnifiedQA Ans	Sky	The name of the company that	His father

RQ4: Helpfulness to Fix the Revealed Answering Issues

How could the revealed violations help fix the QA software?

- Violation rate about all MRs decreases a lot (**By retrain a new model using training data augmented**)
- Reference-based test metric stays stable (original:0.5574 → retrained:0.5483)

TABLE V

VIOLATION RATE AT EACH MR ON THREE DATASETS

Dataset	MR1	MR2	MR3
SQuAD2	37.05%	65.85%	90.91%
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—: MR1 and MR2 cannot be applied on BoolQ as it only contains general questions.

TABLE IX

VIOLATION RATE AFTER FIXING WITH TRAINING DATA EXPANDING

Dataset	MR1	MR2	MR3
SQuAD2	30.62% (6.43%)	0.13% (65.72%)	48.65% (42.26%)
BoolQ	—	—	29.70% (43.08%)
NatQA	22.24% (29.74%)	0.02% (96.90%)	31.58% (14.57%)

Values in brackets indicate the improvement to the corresponding rates in Table V.

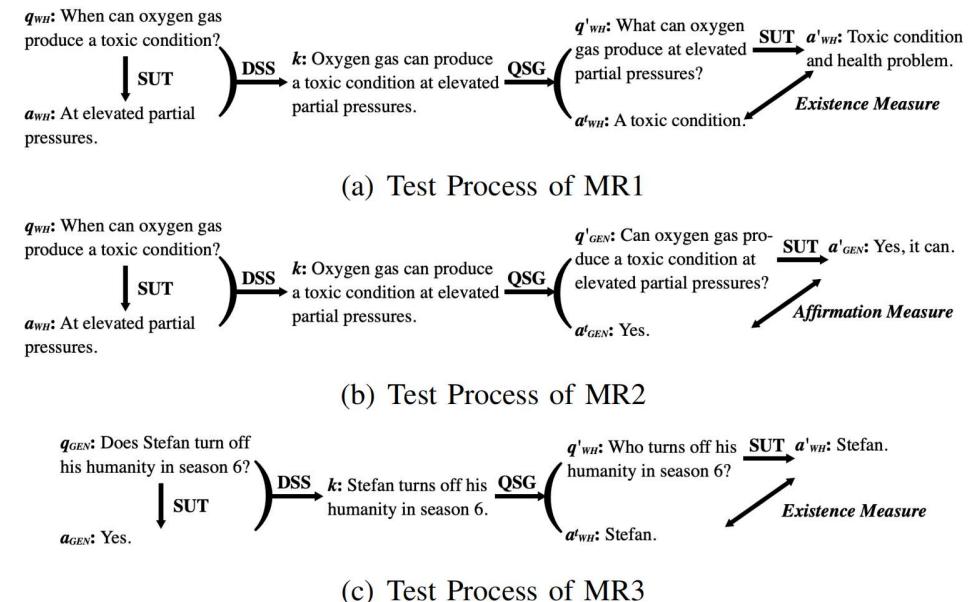


Fig. 1. Proposed Recursive Metamorphic Relations

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Other conclusions from the study?

- It is not that easy to repair all the issues revealed by QAASKER
- Retraining a model with the samples expanded **could not solve all** violation problems.
- The proposed MRs are helpful for improving the performance and the **improvement is quite substantial**
- QAASKER is a **testing method**, which is necessary for the reliability checking of QA software output and the in-depth problem revealing of QA software

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Values in brackets indicate the improvement to the corresponding rates in Table V.

Small-Scale Trial by hand on Google

Why manual study?

- Google Search service can only answer wh-questions
- The returned results vary in forms (e.g., sometimes an exact phrase and occasionally a paragraph with one span in bold)
- This trial could show the **potential of QAASKER to reveal the real-life bugs**

The screenshot shows a Google search results page. The search bar at the top contains the query "When was the first railroad built in the United States?". Below the search bar, there are several navigation links: 全部 (selected), 新闻, 图片, 购物, 地图, 更多, and 工具. The main search result is a bolded date: "1830". Below this, there are two snippets of text: "1827: The first railroad in North America — the Baltimore & Ohio — is chartered by Baltimore merchants." and "1830: The first regularly-scheduled steam-powered rail passenger service in the U.S. begins operation in South Carolina, utilizing the U.S.-built locomotive The Best Friend of Charleston."

How did they conduct the manual trial?

- Randomly pick 20 wh-questions from MKQA
- Get answers from Google by entering questions manually
- Run QAASKER to generate new questions and their target answers
- Input the new questions as queries and obtain answers
- Finally, 5 of 20 test cases trigger a violation

The screenshot shows a Google search results page. The search bar at the top contains the query "In which country was the first railroad built in 1830?". Below the search bar, there are several navigation links: 全部 (selected), 图片, 新闻, 购物, 地图, 更多, and 工具. The main search result is the word "Great Britain". Below this, there is a snippet of text: "The railroad was first developed in Great Britain. A man named George Stephenson successfully applied the steam technology of the day and created the world's first successful locomotive. The first engines used in the United States were purchased from the Stephenson Works in England."

Threats to Validity

➤ **Representativeness of the test object(QA software) and the datasets:**

- UnifiedQA is a state of-the-art QA algorithm (only method to unify the solutions)
- QA software: Open-world QA and Closed-world QA (Google, UnifiedQA)
- Datasets and Benchmarks: classic and have been widely used

➤ **Tools that we use to realize the proposed MR (results and implementation details)**

- Design various methods to avoid the false positive violations (Wh-question generation and semantic similarity measurement are not perfect: Limited NLP techniques)
- Inspect the factuality of the revealed violations: 80% is valid

➤ **Manual inspection and categorization of the revealed violations (subjective bias)**

- Alleviate the bias from subjective cognition (deliver a tutorial and perform Cohen's Kappa statistics)
- The agreement rate between two inspectors is substantial (0.79)

Cohen's kappa 系数值	一致性强度
<0.20	较差
0.21-0.40	一般
0.41-0.60	中等
0.61-0.80	较强
0.81-1.00	强

Conclusion

Advantage

Metamorphic testing

- *Break the reliance on the pre-annotated labels of test cases*
- *Enable the flexible just-in-time test and the extensible test that can leverage the massive unlabeled data in real-life usages*
- *A general method which could test all kinds of QA software*

Why is this paper distinguished

如何判断（你自己的）研究工作的价值【论文精读】

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新意度 × 有效性 × 问题大小 = 价值

评审标准

1
10
100

1
10
100

1
10
100

别人也会沿着你的方向往下做

3人正在看，已装填 110 条弹幕



A 发个友善的弹幕见证当下



SANER 2022
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ICSE 2022

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Why is this paper distinguished

- **Significance:** QA Software Testing (AI software testing)
- **Novelty:** Metamorphic testing + Sentence transformation + Question Generation
- **Soundness:** Sufficient introduction of procedures; Full of **examples** in the paper
- **Reproducibility:** Dive into the experiment results; Categorize and Analyze
- **Presentation:** Concrete (with sufficient figures and tables)



My Thoughts

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- A simple, clear and creative idea is not enough

Thanks

Zhu Jie

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