

Measuring the Effect of Disfluency in Multilingual Knowledge Probing Benchmarks

Template-Based Benchmarks Underestimate Multilingual Factual Retrieval

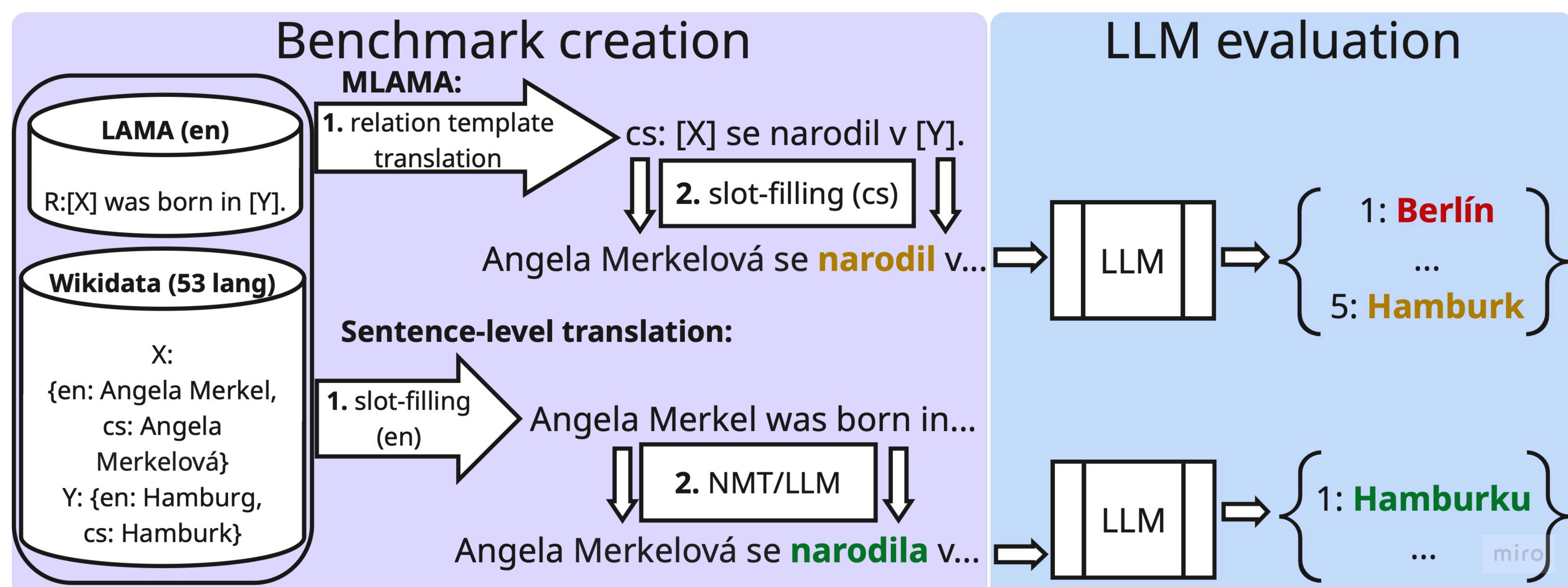
English factual benchmarks like LAMA:
(Petroni et al., 2019)

- prompt LLM with template filled with NEs

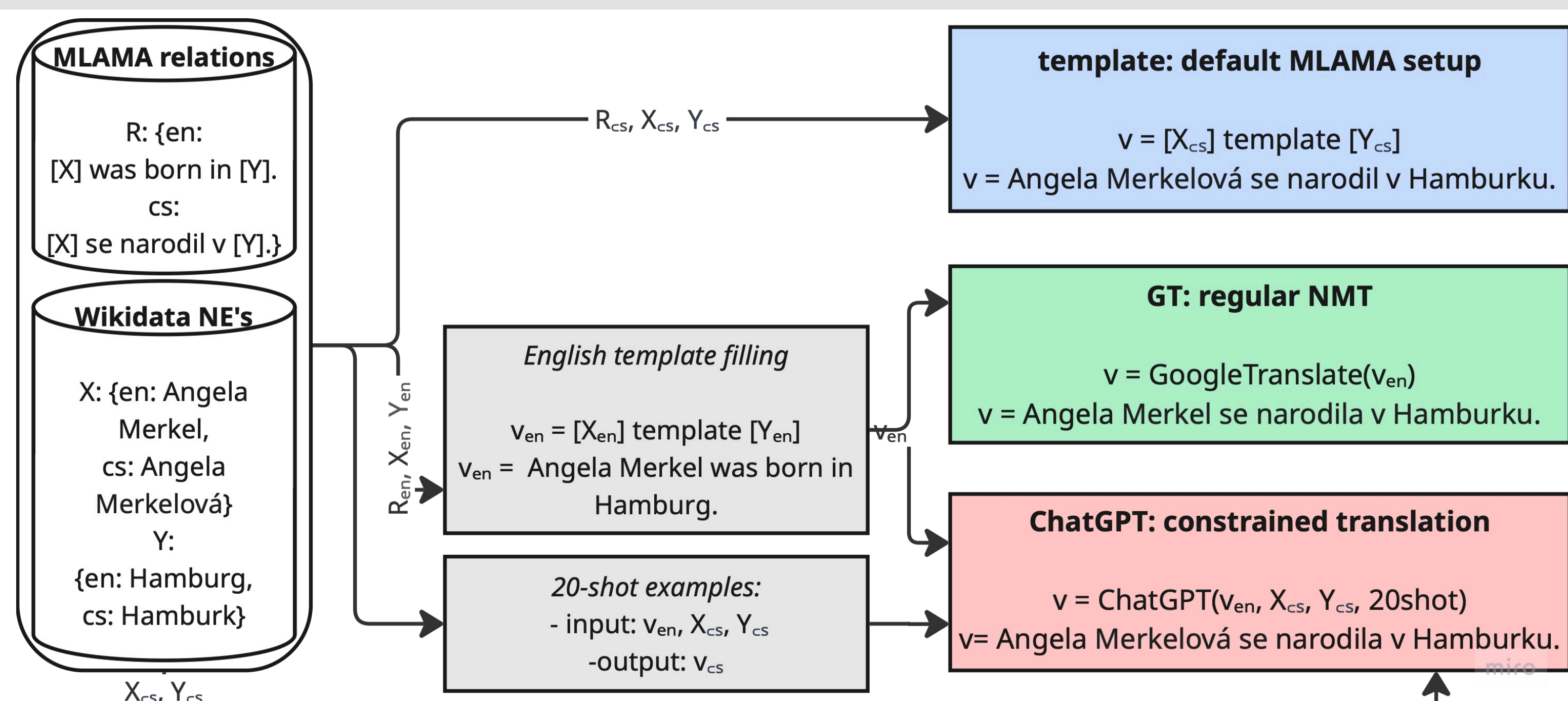
multilingual benchmarks like MLAMA:
(Kassner et al., 2021)

- translate templates and NEs separately
- ungrammatical or poorly worded prompts

How much do we lose with disfluencies?



Method



Languages	4 Slavic (ru, cs, uk, hr)	5 Non-Slavic (es, zh, vi, id, da)
Verbalizations	Template, GT, ChatGPT	Template, GT
Relations	15	8
Model	Llama 2-7b base (Touvron et al., 2023)	
Metrics	$R@n \uparrow$: correct object in top n ranks Correct object ranks distribution \downarrow	

Sentence-level translation improves retrieval in 7 of 9 languages

R@1 scores

Verbalization	Slavic				Non-Slavic				
	ru	cs	uk	hr	es	zh	vi	id	da
Template	.512	.579	.488	.707	.725	.020	.587	.547	.568
GT	.586	.670	.525	.704	.725	.059	.765	.786	.640
ChatGPT	.545	.615	.492	.653	—	—	—	—	—

Results

Why does GT perform better than ChatGPT?

One of the factors - **explicitation**: adding descriptions to NEs

Template: Times было написано в английский язык.

Times was-N written-N in English-NOM language.NOM

GT: Журнал Times издавался на английском языке.

Journal Times was.issued.M in English-INS lang-INS

Discussion

How to prompt languages multilingually?

Rihanna was born in Barbados: en -> ja

basic word order - SOV:

リアーナ は バルバドス 国籍 である
Rihanna TOP Barbados nationality COP

masking → リアーナ は <MASK> 国籍である

topicalization - SVO:
リアーナ の 国籍 は バルバドス です。
Rihanna GEN nat-ty TOP Barbados COP

masking → リアーナ の 国籍 は <MASK> です。

OK for encoders
lacks info for decoders

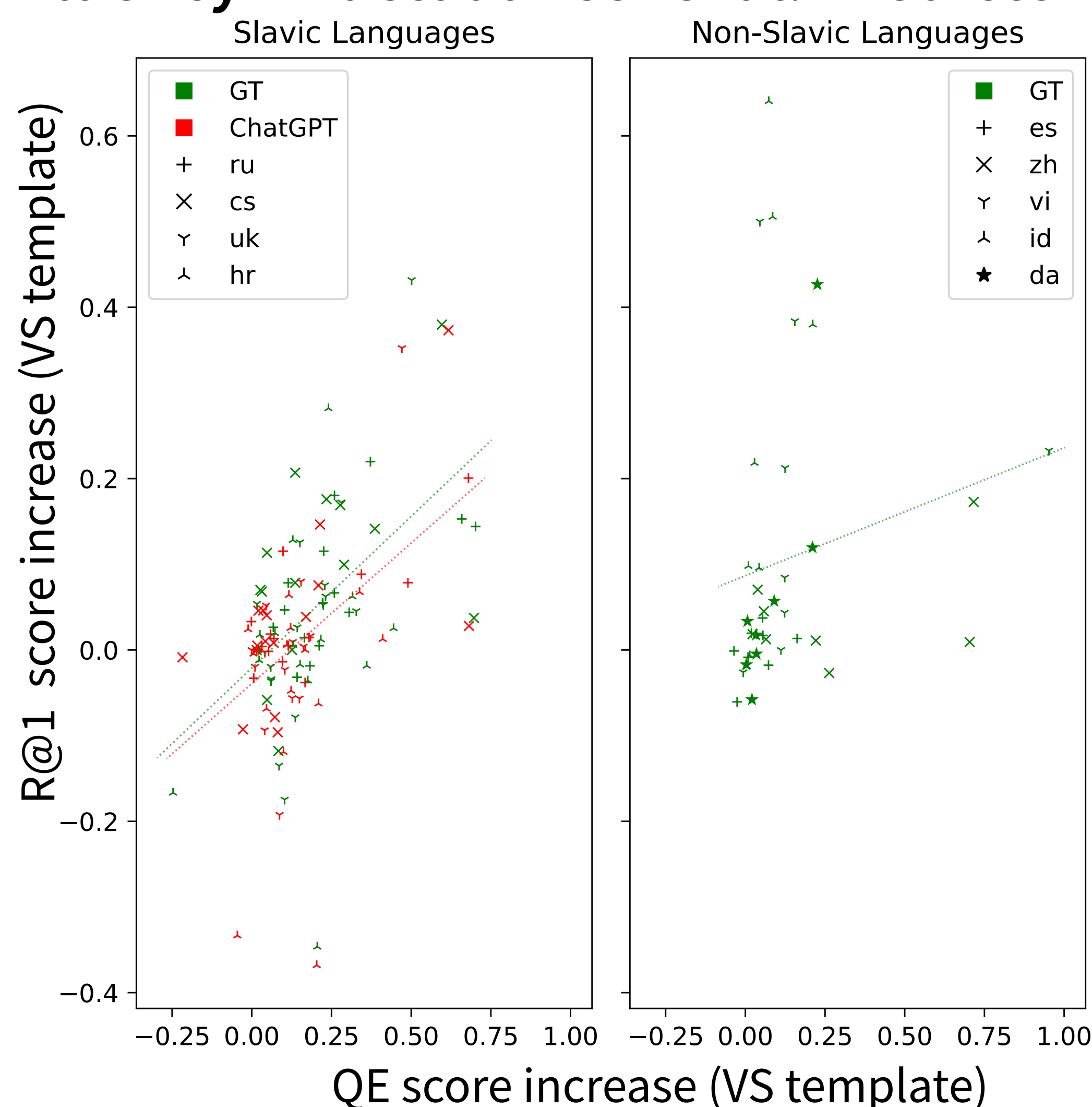
OK for encoders and decoders

Perspectives

Conclusions

- for most languages, templates significantly decrease factual retrieval
- simple translation of full sentences with NMT helps
- we need to think more how to:
 - evaluate grammaticality multilingually
 - adapt the behavioral datasets of the encoder “era” to decoder models

Fluency \propto Factual Retrieval: Predictors



Correct NE ranks move towards 1

