Edinburgh Clinical NLP at SemEval-2024 Task 2: Fine-tune your model unless you have access to GPT-4

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Abstract

The NLI4CT task assesses Natural Language Inference systems in predicting whether hypotheses entail or contradict evidence from Clinical Trial Reports. In this study, we evaluate various Large Language Models (LLMs) with multiple strategies, including Chain-of-Thought, In-Context Learning, and Parameter-Efficient Fine-Tuning (PEFT). We propose a PEFT method to improve the consistency of LLMs by merging adapters that were fine-tuned separately using triplet and language modelling objectives. We found that merging the two PEFT adapters improves the F1 score (+0.0346) and consistency (+0.152) of the LLMs. However, our novel methods did not produce more accurate results than GPT-4 in terms of faithfulness and consistency. Averaging the three metrics, GPT-4 ranks joint-first in the competition with 0.8328. Finally, our contamination analysis with GPT-4 indicates that there was no test data leakage.1

1 Introduction

Extracting insights from Clinical Trial Reports (CTRs) is vital for advancing personalised medicine, yet manual analysis of these vast datasets is impractical. The Natural Language Inference for Clinical Trial Data (NLI4CT) task (Jullien et al., 2024)² addresses this challenge by evaluating Natural Language Inference (NLI) systems' ability to understand and reason within this domain.

In this study, we evaluate various LLMs, such as LLaMA2 (Touvron et al., 2023b), Mistral (Jiang et al., 2023), MistralLite (Yin Song and Chen Wu and Eden Duthie, 2023), and GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2023). We employed prompting strategies like In-context Learning (ICL) and Chain-of-Thought (CoT) to improve their accuracy. We also proposed

a Parameter-Efficient Fine-Tuning (PEFT) method that merges independently fine-tuned adapters trained with distinct objectives, namely a triplet loss and a language modelling (LM) loss, to improve the consistency of the LLMs.

Our findings reveal that our novel PEFT method improves the F1 and consistency scores of the LLMs. However, GPT-4 produces more accurate results than all of the models we considered, coleading the competition leaderboard. Although GPT-4 places fifth in the F1 score, its high faithfulness and consistency scores highlight its potential for a reliable prediction in the clinical domain. Lastly, we conduct a contamination analysis of GPT-4 to check whether instances of the NLI4CT dataset were included in GPT-4's pre-training data.

2 Background

2.1 Task overview

The NLI4CT task leverages a collection of CTRs and expert-annotated hypotheses. This iteration places a heightened emphasis on faithfulness (robustness to semantic changes) and consistency (stability against semantic preserving alterations). Aside from this focus, the composition of the dataset and the task objective remains identical to the previous iteration (Jullien et al., 2023a,b). Table 1 contains statistics for each data split, organised by sample, section, and label types.

Section Types Each CTR consists of four sections: "Eligibility criteria", "Intervention", "Results", and "Adverse events". Hypotheses are sentences claiming information in a CTR section.

Sample Types The task presents two sample types: "Single" and "Comparison". "Single" samples provide all relevant evidence within one CTR, while "Comparison" samples require cross-referencing information from two CTRs.

Task Objective The task objective is to classify the relationship between hypotheses and corre-

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¹Our code is available at https://github.com/ EdinburghClinicalNLP/semeval_nli4ct.

²https://sites.google.com/view/nli4ct/

| Split | Total | Sample Type | | Section Type | | | | Label Type | |
|-------|-------|-------------|------------|--------------|-------------|---------|----------------|------------|-------|
| Spire | | Single | Comparison | Intervention | Eligibility | Results | Adverse Events | Ent. | Con. |
| Train | 1,700 | 1,035 | 665 | 396 | 486 | 322 | 496 | 850 | 850 |
| Dev | 200 | 140 | 60 | 36 | 56 | 56 | 52 | 100 | 100 |
| Test | 5,500 | 2,553 | 2,947 | 1,542 | 1,419 | 1,235 | 1,304 | 1,841 | 3,659 |

Table 1: Dataset statistics of each split, categorised by sample, section, and label types.

sponding CTR(s) as "entailment" or "contradiction". "Entailment" implies that the hypothesis is supported by the CTR(s), while a "contradiction" classification suggests inconsistency.

2.2 Related work

LLMs demonstrated promising results in the medical domain. For example, Liévin et al. (2022) conducted evaluations on LLMs, including Codex (Chen et al., 2021) and Instruct-GPT (Ouyang et al., 2022) using zero-shot, fewshot, and CoT prompting. These LLMs show comprehension of complex medical questions, recall of domain knowledge, and nontrivial reasoning.

Despite the increasing use of general LLMs, domain adaptive fine-tuning remains a prevailing approach in the medical domain (Lehman et al., 2023). As LLMs continue to grow in size, PEFT gains preference over full-parameter fine-tuning due to its resource efficiency. Gema et al. (2023) proposed a two-stage PEFT framework, one for domainadaptive pre-training and one for downstream finetuning, to adapt LLaMA (Touvron et al., 2023a) to the clinical outcome prediction tasks. Even though Gema et al. (2023) introduced the idea of combining multiple adapters, they did not explicitly merge the adapter weights. Chronopoulou et al. (2023) proposed AdapterSoup, which performs averaging of the weights of PEFT adapters trained on the same objective function and different domains to improve the model's performance.

Extending the adapter merging idea, we introduced a novel method to merge PEFT adapters that are trained on different training objectives: triplet loss and LM loss. We compared this method with strategies without parameter fine-tuning, such as zero-shot inference, ICL, and CoT.

3 System Overview

We experimented with two strategies. The first involved no fine-tuning, aiming to comprehend LLMs' inherent ability to solve clinical tasks. The second employed our proposed PEFT method to

improve the consistency of the model. Both systems ingest CTR-hypothesis pairs, predicting the correct label one token at a time from left to right.

3.1 Without Parameter Fine-tuning

The system with no fine-tuning utilises the pretrained general LLMs for prediction. We experimented with multiple prompting strategies:

Zero-shot Employing the LLMs without any fine-tuning and examples.

In-Context Learning (ICL) Adapting the LLMs by providing examples of how to perform a task. Due to the maximum context length of the LLMs, we limit experiments to two examples (2-shot).

Chain-of-Thought (CoT) Prompting LLMs with a phrase (e.g., "Let's think step by step") (Kojima et al., 2022), encouraging a sequential reasoning. ICL + CoT Adapting the LLMs with ICL examples that are augmented with reasoning steps.

Figure 1 shows the workflow of the system. Firstly, we prepare the ICL examples. The normal ICL strategy requires the CTR section, the hypothesis, and the true label. Meanwhile, the ICL+CoT strategy requires ICL examples with reasons. We use ChatGPT (gpt-3.5-turbo-0613) to generate reasoned ICL examples as it has demonstrated sufficient clinical understanding (Falis et al., 2024). Similar to He et al. (2023), We prompt ChatGPT with a phrase "Reason the answer step by step" along with the CTR section, statement, and true label from the training dataset. The true labels and generated explanations using the ICL strategy are then stored. See Appendix B.1 for ChatGPT's hyperparameters used for generating explanations.

Second, we retrieve the ICL examples using either a random or BM25 retriever. Random retriever fetches ICL examples randomly, while the BM25 retriever fetches the most similar training data to the hypothesis sentence in question. We skip this step if we do not intend to use ICL.

Third, we choose the prompt template. If CoT is not used, the ordinary prompt is employed. This prompt instructs LLMs to answer using only one word, either "Contradiction" or "Entailment". If

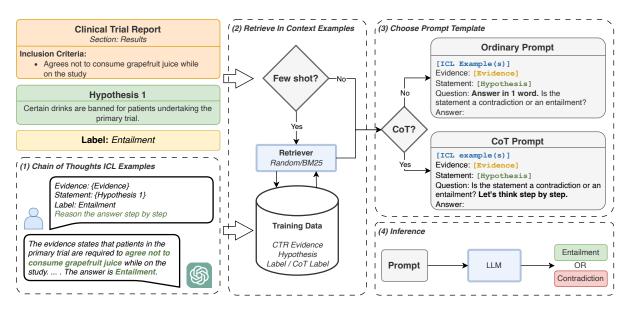


Figure 1: Our inference schema with multiple prompting strategies (without fine-tuning). For Chain-of-Thought examples, Natural Language Explanation was generated using ChatGPT (He et al., 2023).

CoT is used, the CoT prompt is used to instruct LLMs to think step by step. Refer to Figure 1.(3) and Appendix D for both final prompt designs.

Finally, the LLMs ingest the prompted input to generate an answer. To obtain the prediction, we checked which label appears last in the generated answer (either "Entailment" or "Contradiction").

3.2 With Parameter Fine-tuning

We used LoRA (Hu et al., 2022) to fine-tune the parameters Φ_0 of a pretrained LLM $P_{\Phi_0}(y \mid x)$ on a training dataset $\mathcal{Z} = \{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1,\dots,N}$. LoRA only trains a small number of additional parameters θ where $|\theta| \ll |\Phi_0|$; the parameters θ introduced by LoRA are used to define a new set of parameters Φ for the LLM, such that $\Phi = \Phi_0 + \Delta\Phi(\theta)$. The training objective for the additional parameters θ introduced by LoRA can be defined as:

$$\underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{(x,y) \in \mathcal{Z}} f\left(P_{\Phi_0 + \Delta\Phi(\theta)}\left(y \mid x\right)\right).$$

In our proposed method, we fine-tune two adapters using different training objectives, namely a Language Modelling objective (used to train the adapter parameters θ_{LM}) and a supervised learning objective based on the triplet loss (Balntas et al., 2016) (used to train the adapter $\theta_{triplet}$).

In the supervised learning setting, we train LLMs using a triplet loss, with CTR serving as an anchor. Each CTR is associated with a pair of hypotheses, one contradiction and one entailment. The triplet loss encourages LLMs to map the entailment hy-

pothesis closer to the CTR and the contradiction hypothesis to be far from the CTR.

$$L(a, p, n) = \max(0, d(a, p) - d(a, n) + \alpha),$$

where a, p, and n denote the averaged last hidden states of the LLM for the anchor (CTR), positive sample (entailment hypothesis), and negative sample (contradiction hypothesis), respectively. α is a margin.

We hypothesise that LM fine-tuning can improve the accuracy of the model on knowledge-intensive domain-specific downstream tasks, while supervised fine-tuning aids the model in distinguishing syntactically similar but semantically different data points and vice versa. Merging both adapters aims to achieve the best of both fine-tuning methods:

$$heta_{ ext{merged}} = rac{1}{2} \left(heta_{ ext{LM}} + heta_{ ext{triplet}}
ight).$$

This process resulted in one merged LoRA adapter, which can be re-attached to the original LLM. The base LLM, equipped with the merged LoRA, processes similarly prompted input, generating either "Entailment" or "Contradiction". Refer to Figure 2 for an illustration of the workflow.

4 Results

The results shown in Table 2 can help us answer multiple research questions:

RQ 1: Can zero-shot LLMs perform well?

In a zero-shot setting, MistralLite-7B showed zero performance across all metrics due to it outputting

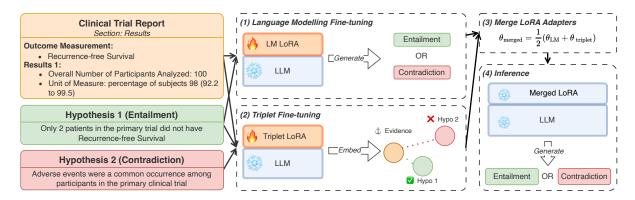


Figure 2: Our proposed fine-tuning scheme on SemEval 2024-Task 2. We suggested merging Adapters trained through Language Modelling (LM) Fine-tuning based on language modelling loss (in predicting either "Entailment" or "Contradiction") with Adapters trained through Triplet Fine-tuning based on triplet loss.

| Model | F1 | Faith. | Con. | Avg. |
|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Mistral-7B-Instruct | 0.6525 | 0.1343 | 0.4154 | 0.4007 |
| + 1-shot | 0.6639 | 0.1111 | 0.4127 | 0.3959 |
| + 2-shot | 0.6685 | 0.1343 | 0.4246 | 0.4091 |
| + CoT | 0.4708 | 0.5926 | 0.5077 | 0.5237 |
| + CoT + 1-shot | 0.5835 | 0.5706 | 0.5493 | 0.5678 |
| + CoT + 2-shot | 0.5944 | 0.6065 | 0.5650 | 0.5886 |
| MistralLite-7B | - | - | - | - |
| + 1-shot | 0.5389 | 0.4109 | 0.4826 | 0.4775 |
| + 2-shot | 0.4665 | 0.6597 | 0.5413 | 0.5558 |
| + CoT | - | - | - | - |
| + CoT $+$ 1-shot | 0.5628 | 0.4664 | 0.4973 | 0.5088 |
| + CoT + 2-shot | 0.5801 | 0.4977 | 0.5164 | 0.5314 |
| LLaMA2-7B-Chat | 0.6417 | 0.1192 | 0.4159 | 0.3923 |
| + 1-shot | 0.6451 | 0.1678 | 0.4376 | 0.4168 |
| + 2-shot | 0.6308 | 0.1701 | 0.4304 | 0.4104 |
| + CoT | 0.6369 | 0.3009 | 0.4775 | 0.4718 |
| + CoT + 1-shot | 0.6101 | 0.3924 | 0.4855 | 0.4960 |
| + CoT + 2-shot | 0.5607 | 0.4630 | 0.4925 | 0.5054 |
| LLaMA2-13B-Chat | 0.6069 | 0.4502 | 0.4940 | 0.5170 |
| + 1-shot | 0.6303 | 0.3345 | 0.4882 | 0.4843 |
| + 2-shot | 0.6169 | 0.4016 | 0.5012 | 0.5066 |
| + CoT | 0.6028 | 0.5012 | 0.5116 | 0.5385 |
| + CoT + 1-shot | 0.6346 | 0.5312 | 0.5360 | 0.5673 |
| + CoT $+$ 2-shot | 0.5919 | 0.6123 | 0.5549 | 0.5864 |
| GPT-4 | 0.7751 | 0.9479 | 0.7754 | 0.8328 |

Table 2: Results on the test set across various LLMs with multiple prompting strategies (no fine-tuning).

an empty string. This suggests that, without any prompting strategies, it did not understand the given instruction. Mistral-7B-Instruct, LLaMA2-7B-Chat, and LLaMA2-13B-Chat show some degree of performance in the F1, faithfulness, and consistency metrics. Among the three, LLaMA2-13B-Chat achieved the highest faithfulness and consistency scores. GPT-4 stood out with the highest scores in all metrics, suggesting its strong performance even without any prompting strategies

applied. This begs the question of whether any prompting strategies can be applied to help the relatively smaller LLMs perform better.

RQ 2: Can smaller LLMs perform on par with GPT-4 with prompting strategies?

In-Context Learning We investigated 1- and 2-shot settings using BM25. 1-shot setting consistently improved the performance of the LLMs (see Appendix C comparing random and BM25 ICL examples). With an ICL example, MistralLite-7B understood how to answer the prompted input. Mistral-7B-Instruct, LLaMA2-7B-Chat, and LLaMA2-13B-Chat also showed performance improvement compared to the zero-shot setting, albeit marginal. The 2-shot setting did not improve the LLMs consistently. Mistral-7B-Instruct showed an improvement in all metrics with 2-shot settings, while the other LLMs see F1 score drops, albeit the faithfulness and consistency may be improved.

Chain-of-Thought We investigated CoT in a zero-shot setting. Similarly to the zero-shot setting, MistralLite-7B showed zero performance in all metrics due to outputting an empty string. We saw drops in F1 scores for Mistral-7B-Instruct, LLaMA2-7B-Chat, and LLaMA2-13B-Chat, and improved the faithfulness and consistency scores. This indicates the efficacy of CoT in ensuring faithful and consistent answers from LLMs, albeit it may marginally harm the accuracy of the model.

In-Context Learning + Chain-of-Thought Since ICL improves the LLMs' F1 score, and CoT improves the faithfulness and consistency scores, we investigated the combination of both. The results show that ICL + CoT improves LLMs across metrics. Considering the averaged score,

2-shot ICL and CoT improve all LLMs except for MistralLite-7B.

Despite employing these strategies, the LLMs could not outperform GPT-4, particularly in terms of faithfulness and consistency. This suggests that while combining ICL and CoT is beneficial, it is still challenging to achieve parity with GPT-4.

RQ 3: Can fine-tuned smaller LLMs perform on par with GPT-4?

| Model | F1 | Faith. | Con. | Avg. |
|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Mistral-7B-Instruct | 0.7689 | 0.7662 | 0.7140 | 0.7497 |
| MistralLite-7B | 0.7478 | 0.8727 | 0.7220 | 0.7808 |
| LLaMA2-7B-Chat | 0.6073 | 0.7176 | 0.6146 | 0.6465 |
| LLaMA2-13B-Chat | 0.6766 | 0.7731 | 0.6610 | 0.7036 |
| Meditron-7B | 0.1980 | 0.9560 | 0.6165 | 0.5902 |

Table 3: Results on the test set across various LLMs with parametric-efficient fine-tuning.

As we may have reached the limit of performance using prompting strategies, we investigated employing fine-tuning the smaller LLMs.

Can LoRA fine-tuning improve the performance of LLMs? Table 3 presents the performance for each LLM fine-tuned with LoRA. Notably, fine-tuning leads to improvements across all metrics for all LLMs. MistralLite-7B is the best-performing LLM after fine-tuning with 0.7808 averaged scores, and it is notably better in terms of faithfulness and consistency scores compared to the other models. The fine-tuned Meditron-7B did not show a satisfactory overall performance. The subsequent experiment in merging LoRA adapters will focus on using MistralLite-7B as the base model.

| Model | F1 | Faith. | Con. | Avg |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| MistralLite-7B | | | | |
| + θ_{LM} | 0.7478 | 0.8727 | 0.7220 | 0.7808 |
| + Avg (θ_{LM} , $\theta_{triplet}$) | 0.7824 | 0.8391 | 0.7372 | 0.7862 |

Table 4: Results on the test set with our proposed merging adapters fine-tuning.

Can merging LoRA adapters improve the performance of LLMs? Table 4 displays results obtained through fine-tuning MistralLite-7B with only LM adapter θ_{LM} and the average of θ_{LM} and $\theta_{triplet}$ adapters. The merged θ_{LM} and $\theta_{triplet}$ adapters improve the overall performance of the LLM (joint-fourth in the competition). It achieves

a better F1 score of 0.7824 (+0.0346), indicating that merging LoRA adapters may improve the predictive performance of LLMs. We noticed a lower faithfulness score (+0.0336) and a higher consistency score (+0.0152). This indicates the model struggles to understand semantic changes introduced by deliberate alterations but can understand semantically similar data better.

4.1 Contamination Analysis on GPT-4

Inspired by Carlini et al. (2022), we assessed whether instances of the NLI4CT dataset were included in GPT-4's pre-training data. We prompted GPT-4 with: 1) System instruction: "You are a helpful assistant on the SemEval task. Complete the given statement.", 2) Truncation of half of the statement to prompt GPT-4 to infer the remaining. (refer to Appendices B.7 and D.3 for details)

We define two metrics: *extractable match*, checking if the predicted half of the statement by GPT-4 is included in the original half, and *partial match*, assessing how sequentially each token of the predicted half of the statement is included in the original half. In the test set, GPT-4 recorded an extractable match score of 0.033 and a partial match score of 0.322. The low extractable match score may indicate that GPT-4 has not seen the test data during its pretraining, whereas the higher partial match score may indicate GPT-4's ability to identify keywords from CTRs.

5 Conclusion

This study assesses the performance of various LLMs, employing diverse strategies such as CoT, ICL, and PEFT. We propose a PEFT method, merging independent adapters fine-tuned separately using triplet and LM losses. Our proposed PEFT method improves the F1 and consistency scores but reduces faithfulness — our best fine-tuned model, MistralLite-7B + LM LoRA + Triplet LoRA, achieved an average score of 0.7862. However, it does not outperform GPT-4 in terms of faithfulness and consistency: GPT-4 ranks jointfirst in the competition with an average score of 0.8328. A contamination analysis on GPT-4 revealed no NLI4CT test data leakage, indicated by a low extractable match score (0.033), and showcased its ability to identify keywords from CTRs with a relatively high partial match score (0.322).

Limitations

Due to the scope of the study and the limited resources, we opted to only experiment with GPT-4 in a zero-shot setup. However, our proposed strategies that improved the performance of smaller LLMs could also be used to enhance GPT-4. Albeit the promising performance of the LLMs, particularly GPT-4, the predictions may still be inaccurate and should not be used in a clinical setting without human supervision.

We conducted a contamination analysis inspired by Carlini et al. (2022) and concluded that there may be no test data leakage during the pretraining of GPT-4. However, we acknowledge that contamination analysis alone may not be sufficient in proving test data leakage.

Acknowledgements

APG was supported by the United Kingdom Research and Innovation (grant EP/S02431X/1), UKRI Centre for Doctoral Training in Biomedical AI at the University of Edinburgh, School of Informatics. PM was partially funded by ELIAI (The Edinburgh Laboratory for Integrated Artificial Intelligence), EPSRC (grant no. EP/W002876/1), an industry grant from Cisco, and a donation from Accenture LLP; and is grateful to NVIDIA for the GPU donations. BA was partially funded by Legal and General PLC as part of the Advanced Care Research Centre and by the Artificial Intelligence and Multimorbidity: Clustering in Individuals, Space and Clinical Context (AIM-CISC) grant NIHR202639. For the purpose of open access, The authors have applied a Creative Commons attribution (CC BY) licence to any author-accepted manuscript version arising. Experiments from this work are conducted mainly on the Edinburgh International Data Facility³ and supported by the Data-Driven Innovation Programme at the University of Edinburgh.

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| Parameter | Value |
|-------------------|---|
| Model Name | gpt-3.5-turbo-0613 |
| API Version | 2023-03-15-preview |
| Temperature | 0 |
| Top P | 0 |
| Frequency Penalty | 0 |
| Presence Penalty | 0 |
| Max new token | 256 |
| System Prompt | You are a helpful clinician's assistant |
| | designed to identify if a clinical state- |
| | ment is a contradiction or an entail- |
| | ment to the presented evidence. |
| Prompt | Evidence: [Evidence] |
| | Statement: [Statement] |
| | Question: Answer in 1 word. Is the |
| | statement a contradiction or an entail- |
| | ment? |
| | Answer: [Label] |
| | Reason the answer step by step |

Table 5: Azure API call hyperparameters.

A Experimental setup

We use HuggingFace's Transformers (Wolf et al., 2020) and PEFT (Mangrulkar et al., 2022) libraries for the experiments. All inferences and fine-tuning experiments were run on two NVIDIA A100-40GB GPUs.

For models without parameter fine-tuning (prompting strategies, subsection 3.1), in-context examples were retrieved from the Training set (for both random and BM25 retrievers). Additionally, the Dev set was used to evaluate and select the optimal prompt design. Models with parameter fine-tuning (subsection 3.2) were trained using the Training set, and the Dev set was utilised to determine the best checkpoint.

B Hyperparameters

B.1 ChatGPT Hyperparameters for the generation of Natural Language Explanation

We prompted GPT-3.5 (model name: gpt-3.5-turbo-0613) with hyperparameters as shown in Table 5. The generation process took approximately 2 hours and cost \$2.

B.2 GPT-4 generation hyperparameters

We prompted GPT-4 (model name: gpt-4) with the ordinary prompt as shown in Figure 1. We set temperature=0 to ensure that the model's generation is deterministic. The maximum generation length is 8. The generation process took approximately 2 hours and cost \$77.

| Hyperparameter | Value |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Epoch | 10 |
| Gradient accumulation step | 32 |
| Optimiser | AdamW |
| Learning rate | 0.001 |
| Weight decay | 0.01 |
| Max sequence length | 2048 |

Table 6: Language Modelling training hyperparameters.

| Hyperparameter | Value |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Epoch | 10 |
| Gradient accumulation step | 32 |
| Optimiser | AdamW |
| Learning rate | 0.00001 |
| Weight decay | 0.01 |
| Max sequence length | 1024 |
| Triplet loss margin | 1.0 |
| Triplet loss p | 2 |
| Triplet loss ϵ | 1e-7 |

Table 7: Triplet training hyperparameters.

B.3 Non GPT-4 generation hyperparameters

All models (apart from GPT-4) were loaded in BFloat16 to ensure that they fit into our resources. We used do_sample=False to ensure that the model's generation is deterministic. The maximum generation length is 8 new tokens for non-CoT experiments and 100 for CoT experiments.

B.4 Language Modelling training hyperparameters

LM training used the hyperparameters detailed in Table 6. The LLM's maximum sequence length is adjusted to fit on two NVIDIA A100-40GB GPUs.

B.5 Triplet training hyperparameters

Triplet training used the hyperparameters detailed in Table 7. The LLM's maximum sequence length is adjusted to fit on two NVIDIA A100-40GB GPUs. Triplet training demands more memory because we need to generate three hidden representations during training (i.e., anchor, positive, negative), necessitating a reduction in sequence length.

B.6 PEFT Hyperparameters

All LLMs and training methods (i.e., LM and triplet training) used the same LoRA hyperparameters as shown in Table 8.

| Hyperparameter | Value | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
| r | 16 | | | |
| alpha | 32 | | | |
| dropout | 0.0 | | | |
| target_modules | ["k_proj", "q_proj", "v_proj"] | | | |

Table 8: LoRA Hyperparameters.

| Model | ICL | F1 | Faith. | Con. | Avg. |
|---------------------|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Mistral-7b-Instruct | Random: 1-shot | 0.6694 | 0.0856 | 0.4086 | 0.3879 |
| Mistral-7b-Instruct | BM25: 1-shot | 0.6639 | 0.1111 | 0.4127 | 0.3959 |
| Mistral-7b-Instruct | Random: 2-shot | 0.6639 | 0.1458 | 0.4294 | 0.4130 |
| Mistral-7b-Instruct | BM25: 2-shot | 0.6685 | 0.1343 | 0.4246 | 0.4091 |
| MistralLite-7B | Random: 1-shot | 0.6622 | 0.0150 | 0.3854 | 0.3542 |
| MistralLite-7B | BM25: 1-shot | 0.5389 | 0.4109 | 0.4826 | 0.4775 |
| MistralLite-7B | Random: 2-shot | 0.5097 | 0.5023 | 0.5164 | 0.5095 |
| MistralLite-7B | BM25: 2-shot | 0.4665 | 0.6597 | 0.5413 | 0.5558 |
| LLaMA2-7B-Chat | Random: 1-shot | 0.6613 | 0.0116 | 0.3864 | 0.3531 |
| LLaMA2-7B-Chat | BM25: 1-shot | 0.6451 | 0.1678 | 0.4376 | 0.4168 |
| LLaMA2-7B-Chat | Random: 2-shot | 0.6387 | 0.1250 | 0.4180 | 0.3939 |
| LLaMA2-7B-Chat | BM25: 2-shot | 0.6308 | 0.1701 | 0.4304 | 0.4104 |
| LLaMA2-13B-Chat | Random: 1-shot | 0.6585 | 0.3113 | 0.4724 | 0.4807 |
| LLaMA2-13B-Chat | BM25: 1-shot | 0.6303 | 0.3345 | 0.4882 | 0.4843 |
| LLaMA2-13B-Chat | Random: 2-shot | 0.6230 | 0.4074 | 0.4935 | 0.5080 |
| LLaMA2-13B-Chat | BM25: 2-shot | 0.6169 | 0.4016 | 0.5012 | 0.5066 |

Table 9: Comparison of In-Context Learning Models Using Random and BM25 Retrievers on the Test set

B.7 Contamination Analysis on GPT-4

For the Contamination Analysis, we utilised the same settings as those described in Appendix B.2, specifically setting the maximum number of generated tokens to 8. This was done to prevent the incorrect biases due to excessively lengthy predictions by GPT-4, as our evaluation method focuses on determining whether the prediction is included within the ground truth.

C Ablation study on Random vs Relevance-based In-Context Examples

We also compared the performance of the model by using random and relevant ICL examples. As shown in Table 9, we found that relevant ICL examples helped the LLMs achieve better faithfulness and consistency scores, while the F1 scores may be impacted. For that reason, we opted to use relevance-based ICL examples for the ICL-based runs.

D Prompt Examples

Here, we provide examples of the prompts used in our experiments. The black text within the box represents the prompt input text, the red text represents the prediction of the models, and the blue text represents the ground truth.

D.1 Base Prompt for Zero-shot and In-Context Learning

Base Prompt

You are a helpful assistant.

«In-Context Learning Examples»

Evidence: Primary trial: Adverse Events 1: Total: 0/15 (0.00%) Adverse Events 2:

Total:

Secondary trial: Adverse Events 1: Total: 0/442 (0.00%) Adverse Events 2:

Statement: the primary trial and the secondary trial do not have any recorded adverse events for their participants. crypt is a pitlike depression or tubular recess.

Question: Answer in 1 word. Is the statement a contradiction or an entailment?

Answer: Entailment

Ground Truth: Entailment

D.2 Chain-of-Thought for Zero-shot and In-Context Learning

Chain-of-Thought

You are a helpful assistant.

«In-Context Learning Examples»

Evidence:

Primary trial:

Adverse Events 1:

Total: 0/15 (0.00%)

Adverse Events 2:

Total:

Secondary trial:

Adverse Events 1:

Total: 0/442 (0.00%)

Adverse Events 2:

Statement: the primary trial and the secondary trial do not have any recorded adverse events for their participants. crypt is a pitlike depression or tubular recess.

Question: Is the statement a contradiction

or an entailment?

Let's think step by step

Answer: Great, let's analyze the statement and the evidence provided to determine if it's ... because the evidence shows that there are no adverse events recorded for the participants in either trial.

Therefore, the answer is Entailment."

Ground Truth: Entailment

D.3 Contamination Analysis on GPT-4

Extractable Match

You are a helpful assistant on the semeval task. Complete the given statement.

Evidence:

Primary trial:

Outcome Measurement:

Number of Participants With Reduction in CTCs Following High-dose Chemotherapy With Purged Autologous Stem Cell Products

Number of circulating tumor cells (CTCs) measured at one month post autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (AHST), considered both as longitudinal values and compared to the baseline number of CTCs.

Time frame: Baseline to 1 month post

AHST
Results 1:

Arm/Group Title: High-dose Chemother-

apy

Arm/Group Description: Carboplatin + Cyclophosphamide + Thiotepa

Carboplatin: Target AUC of 20, then divided into 4 doses given by vein (IV) days -6, -5, -4, -3 prior to stem cell infusion.

Thiotepa: $120mg/m^2$ by vein days -6, -5, -4, -3 prior to stem cell infusion.

Stem Cell Transplant : Stem Cell Transplant on Day 0.

Cyclophosphamide: $1.5gm/m^2$ by vein days -6, -5, -4, -3 prior to stem cell infusion. Overall Number of Participants Analyzed: 21

Measure Type: Number

Unit of Measure: participants 9

Statement: less than half of the primary trial participants had a Reduction in circulating tumor cells Following High-dose

Chemotherapy With Pur

Ground Truth: Following High-dose Chemotherapy With Purged Autologous Stem Cell Products

Partial Match

You are a helpful assistant on the semeval task. Complete the given statement.

Evidence:

Primary trial:

Adverse Events 1:

Total: 3/12 (25.00%)

Hemoglobin 1/12 (8.33%)

Alkaline phosphatase 1/12 (8.33%)

Dehydration 1/12 (8.33%)

Syncope 2/12 (16.67%)

Dyspnea 1/12 (8.33%)

Hypotension 1/12 (8.33%)

Secondary trial:

Adverse Events 1:

Total: 0/115 (0.00%)

Deep vein thrombosis * [1]0/115 (0.00%)

Adverse Events 2: Total: 1/119 (0.84%)

Deep vein thrombosis * [1]1/119 (0.84%) Statement: on both the primary and secondary clinical trials, syncope was

reported as an adverse event in the

Ground Truth: emerged as the most common adverse occurrence in the patient groups