

	# Tasks	Examples
Language Modelling	20	WikiText-103, The Pile: PG-19, arXiv, FreeLaw, ...
Reading Comprehension	3	RACE-m, RACE-h, LAMBADA
Question Answering	3	Natural Questions, TriviaQA, TruthfulQA
Common Sense	5	HellaSwag, Winogrande, PIQA, SIQA, BoolQ
MMLU	57	High School Chemistry, Astronomy, Clinical Knowledge, ...
BIG-bench	62	Causal Judgement, Epistemic Reasoning, Temporal Sequences, ...

Table 5 | All evaluation tasks. We evaluate *Chinchilla* on a collection of language modelling along with downstream tasks. We evaluate on largely the same tasks as in Rae et al. (2021), to allow for direct comparison.

## 4.2. Results

We perform an extensive evaluation of *Chinchilla*, comparing against various large language models. We evaluate on a large subset of the tasks presented in Rae et al. (2021), shown in Table 5. As the focus of this work is on optimal model scaling, we included a large representative subset, and introduce a few new evaluations to allow for better comparison to other existing large models. The evaluation details for all tasks are the same as described in Rae et al. (2021).

### 4.2.1. Language modelling

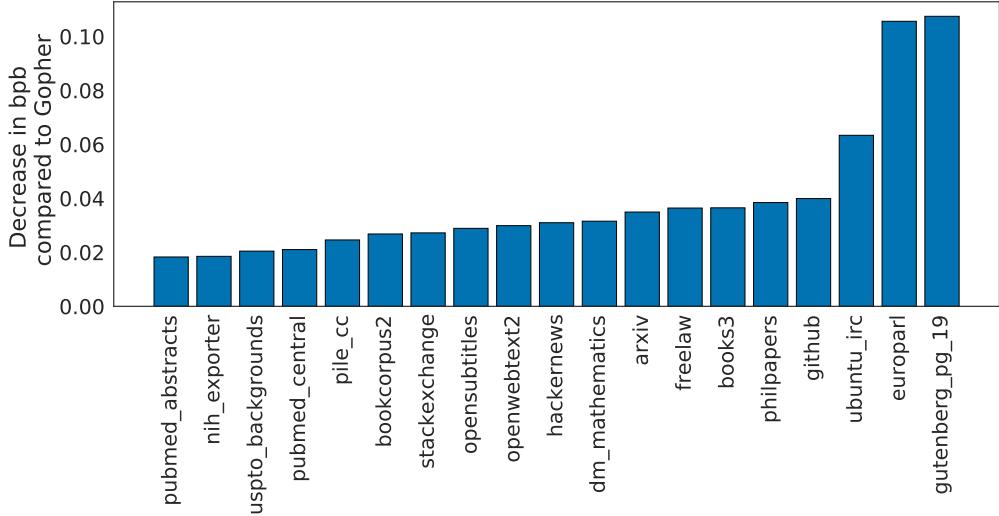


Figure 5 | Pile Evaluation. For the different evaluation sets in The Pile (Gao et al., 2020), we show the bits-per-byte (bpb) improvement (decrease) of *Chinchilla* compared to *Gopher*. On all subsets, *Chinchilla* outperforms *Gopher*.

*Chinchilla* significantly outperforms *Gopher* on all evaluation subsets of The Pile (Gao et al., 2020), as shown in Figure 5. Compared to Jurassic-1 (178B) Lieber et al. (2021), *Chinchilla* is more performant on all but two subsets—dm\_mathematics and ubuntu\_irc—see Table A5 for a raw bits-per-byte comparison. On Wikitext103 (Merity et al., 2017), *Chinchilla* achieves a perplexity of 7.16 compared to 7.75 for *Gopher*. Some caution is needed when comparing *Chinchilla* with *Gopher* on these language modelling benchmarks as *Chinchilla* is trained on 4x more data than *Gopher* and thus train/test set leakage may artificially enhance the results. We thus place more emphasis on other

Random	25.0%
Average human rater	34.5%
GPT-3 5-shot	43.9%
<i>Gopher</i> 5-shot	60.0%
<b><i>Chinchilla</i> 5-shot</b>	<b>67.6%</b>
Average human expert performance	89.8%
June 2022 Forecast	57.1%
June 2023 Forecast	63.4%

Table 6 | **Massive Multitask Language Understanding (MMLU)**. We report the average 5-shot accuracy over 57 tasks with model and human accuracy comparisons taken from [Hendrycks et al. \(2020\)](#). We also include the average prediction for state of the art accuracy in June 2022/2023 made by 73 competitive human forecasters in [Steinhardt \(2021\)](#).

tasks for which leakage is less of a concern, such as MMLU ([Hendrycks et al., 2020](#)) and BIG-bench ([BIG-bench collaboration, 2021](#)) along with various closed-book question answering and common sense analyses.

#### 4.2.2. MMLU

The Massive Multitask Language Understanding (MMLU) benchmark ([Hendrycks et al., 2020](#)) consists of a range of exam-like questions on academic subjects. In [Table 6](#), we report *Chinchilla*'s average 5-shot performance on MMLU (the full breakdown of results is shown in [Table A6](#)). On this benchmark, *Chinchilla* significantly outperforms *Gopher* despite being much smaller, with an average accuracy of 67.6% (improving upon *Gopher* by 7.6%). Remarkably, *Chinchilla* even outperforms the expert forecast for June 2023 of 63.4% accuracy (see [Table 6](#)) ([Steinhardt, 2021](#)). Furthermore, *Chinchilla* achieves greater than 90% accuracy on 4 different individual tasks—`high_school_gov_and_politics`, `international_law`, `sociology`, and `us_foreign_policy`. To our knowledge, no other model has achieved greater than 90% accuracy on a subset.

In [Figure 6](#), we show a comparison to *Gopher* broken down by task. Overall, we find that *Chinchilla* improves performance on the vast majority of tasks. On four tasks (`college_mathematics`, `econometrics`, `moral_scenarios`, and `formal_logic`) *Chinchilla* underperforms *Gopher*, and there is no change in performance on two tasks.

#### 4.2.3. Reading comprehension

On the final word prediction dataset LAMBADA ([Paperno et al., 2016](#)), *Chinchilla* achieves 77.4% accuracy, compared to 74.5% accuracy from *Gopher* and 76.6% from MT-NLG 530B (see [Table 7](#)). On RACE-h and RACE-m ([Lai et al., 2017](#)), *Chinchilla* greatly outperforms *Gopher*, improving accuracy by more than 10% in both cases—see [Table 7](#).

#### 4.2.4. BIG-bench

We analysed *Chinchilla* on the same set of BIG-bench tasks ([BIG-bench collaboration, 2021](#)) reported in [Rae et al. \(2021\)](#). Similar to what we observed in MMLU, *Chinchilla* outperforms *Gopher* on the vast majority of tasks (see [Figure 7](#)). We find that *Chinchilla* improves the average performance by 10.7%, reaching an accuracy of 65.1% versus 54.4% for *Gopher*. Of the 62 tasks we consider, *Chinchilla* performs worse than *Gopher* on only four—`crash_blossom`, `dark_humor_detection`,

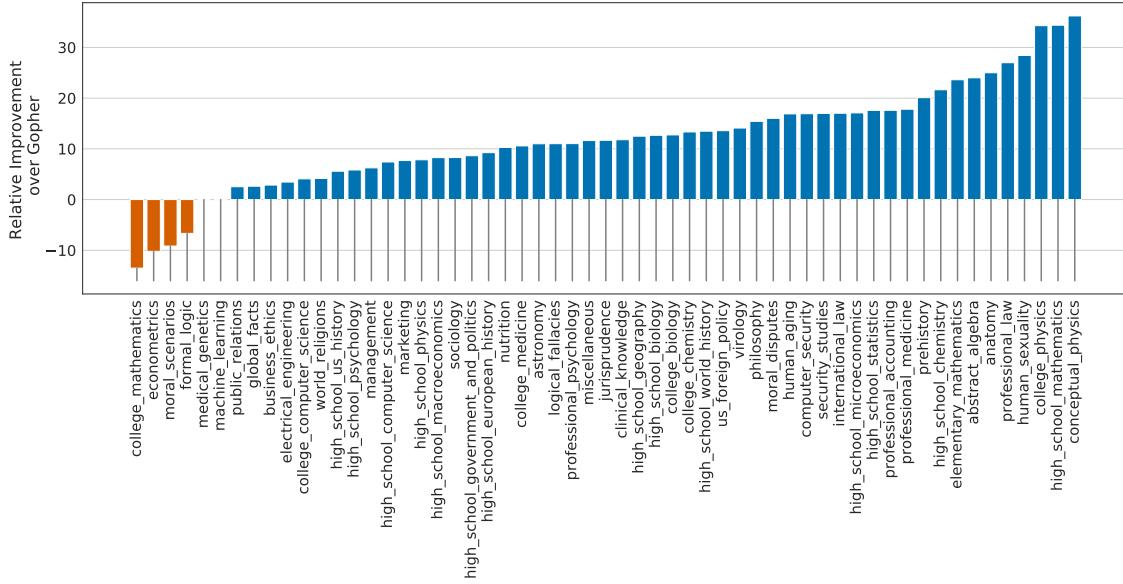


Figure 6 | **MMLU results compared to *Gopher*** We find that *Chinchilla* outperforms *Gopher* by 7.6% on average (see Table 6) in addition to performing better on 51/57 individual tasks, the same on 2/57, and worse on only 4/57 tasks.

	<i>Chinchilla</i>	<i>Gopher</i>	GPT-3	MT-NLG 530B
LAMBADA Zero-Shot	<b>77.4</b>	74.5	76.2	76.6
RACE-m Few-Shot	<b>86.8</b>	75.1	58.1	-
RACE-h Few-Shot	<b>82.3</b>	71.6	46.8	47.9

Table 7 | **Reading comprehension.** On RACE-h and RACE-m (Lai et al., 2017), *Chinchilla* considerably improves performance over *Gopher*. Note that GPT-3 and MT-NLG 530B use a different prompt format than we do on RACE-h/m, so results are not comparable to *Gopher* and *Chinchilla*. On LAMBADA (Paperno et al., 2016), *Chinchilla* outperforms both *Gopher* and MT-NLG 530B.

`mathematical_induction` and `logical_args`. Full accuracy results for *Chinchilla* can be found in Table A7.

#### 4.2.5. Common sense

We evaluate *Chinchilla* on various common sense benchmarks: PIQA (Bisk et al., 2020), SIQA (Sap et al., 2019), Winogrande (Sakaguchi et al., 2020), HellaSwag (Zellers et al., 2019), and BoolQ (Clark et al., 2019). We find that *Chinchilla* outperforms both *Gopher* and GPT-3 on all tasks and outperforms MT-NLG 530B on all but one task—see Table 8.

On TruthfulQA (Lin et al., 2021), *Chinchilla* reaches 43.6%, 58.5%, and 66.7% accuracy with 0-shot, 5-shot, and 10-shot respectively. In comparison, *Gopher* achieved only 29.5% 0-shot and 43.7% 10-shot accuracy. In stark contrast with the findings of Lin et al. (2021), the large improvements (14.1% in 0-shot accuracy) achieved by *Chinchilla* suggest that better modelling of the pre-training data alone can lead to substantial improvements on this benchmark.