# **Item Response Theory for NLP**

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https://eacl2024irt.github.io/

#### In this session

Motivation

Introducing IRT

IRT Models with Artificial Crowds

The py-irt Package

# **Motivation**

# **Differences between Examples**

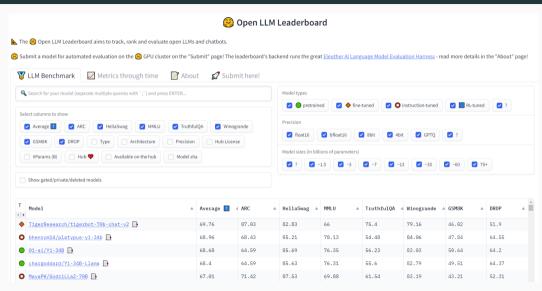
### Natural language inference (NLI)

Premise	Hypothesis	Label	Difficulty
A little girl eating a sucker	A child eating candy	Entailment	easy
People were watching the tournament in the	The people are sitting outside on	Contradiction	hard
stadium	the grass		
Two girls on a bridge dancing with the city	The girls are sisters.	Neutral	easy
skyline in the background			

#### Sentiment analysis (SA)

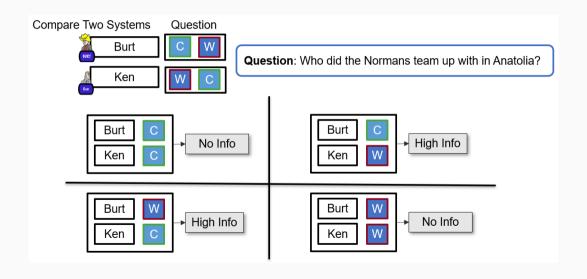
Phrase	Label	Difficulty
The stupidest, most insulting movie of 2002's first quarter.	Negative	easy
Still, it gets the job done - a sleepy afternoon rental.	Negative	hard
An endlessly fascinating, landmark movie that is as bold as anything the cinema has	Positive	easy
seen in years.		
Perhaps no picture ever made has more literally showed that the road to hell is paved	Positive	hard
with good intentions.		

#### Leaderboards

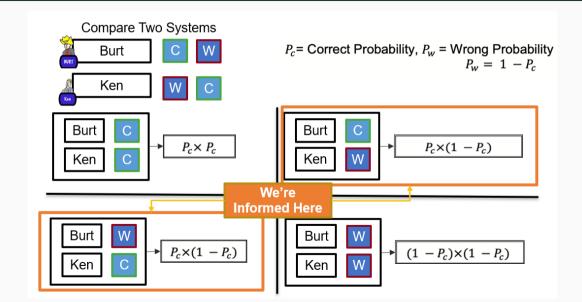


https://huggingface.co/spaces/HuggingFaceH4/open IIm leaderboard

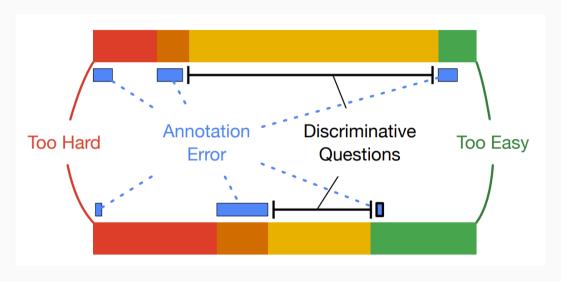
# **Differences in Questions**



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**Introducing IRT** 

# **Psychometrics**

Psychometrics: study of quantitative measurement practices

- Building instruments for measurement
- Development of theoretical approaches to measurement

Item Response Theory (IRT): measure latent traits of test-takers and test questions ("items' ')







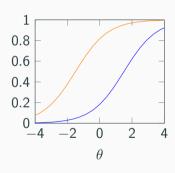
# IRT: 1 Parameter Logistic Model (1PL)

Also known as Rasch model

$$p(y_{ij} = 1|b_i, \theta_j) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\theta_j - b_i)}}$$

 $\theta_j$ : latent ability

b<sub>i</sub>: difficulty



#### **Parameter Estimation**

$$p(y_{ij} = 1|b_i, \theta_j) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-a_i(\theta_j - b_i)}}$$
  
 $p(y_{ij} = 0|b_i, \theta_j) = 1 - p(y_{ij} = 1|b_i, \theta_j)$ 

$$L = \prod_{j=1}^{J} \prod_{i=1}^{I} p(Y_{ij} = y_{ij} | b_i, \theta_j)$$
$$q(\Theta, B) = \prod_{j} \pi_j^{\theta}(\theta_j) \prod_{i} \pi_i^{b}(b_i)$$

### Let's look at the code

Intro to IRT notebook 1-2\_IntroToIrt.ipynb

# **Evaluating DNN Performance with IRT**

Hypothesis	Label	Difficulty
A child eating candy	Entailment	-2.74
The people are sitting out-	Contradiction	0.51
side on the grass		
The girls are sisters.	Neutral	-1.92
Nine women wearing	Contradiction	0.08
dresses sing		
	A child eating candy The people are sitting outside on the grass The girls are sisters.  Nine women wearing	A child eating candy The people are sitting outside on the grass The girls are sisters.  Nine women wearing Contradiction

Phrase	Label	Difficulty
The stupidest, most insulting movie of 2002's first quarter.	Negative	-2.46
Still, it gets the job done - a sleepy afternoon rental.	Negative	1.78
An endlessly fascinating, landmark movie that is as bold as anything	Positive	-2.27
the cinema has seen in years.		
Perhaps no picture ever made has more literally showed that the	Positive	2.05
road to hell is paved with good intentions.		

# IRT for NLP: Human Annotations

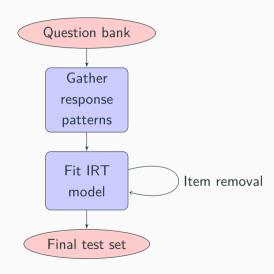
Item Set	Ability Score	Percentile	Test
			Acc.
"Easier"			
Entailment	-0.133	44.83%	96.5%
Contradiction	1.539	93.82%	87.9%
Neutral	0.423	66.28%	88%
"Harder"			
Contradiction	1.777	96.25%	78.9%
Neutral	0.441	67%	83%

#### **Human Bottleneck**

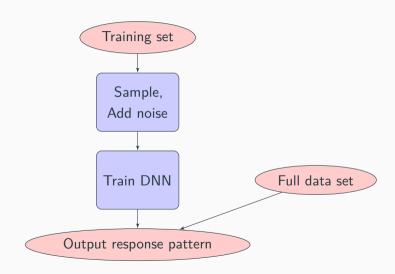
- Gathering human response patterns is expensive
- Can we use ensembles of models to gather response patterns?
- Even if we can, should we?

IRT Models with Artificial Crowds

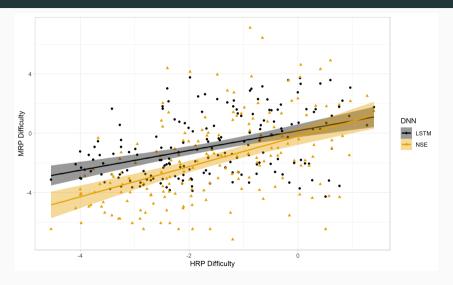
# **Building IRT Test Sets**



#### **Artificial Crowd Construction**

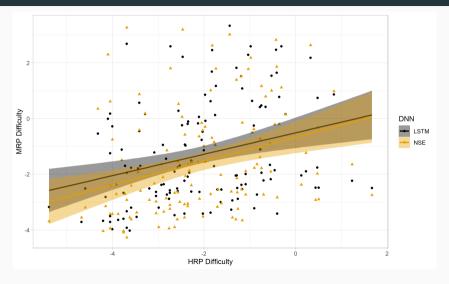


# **Human-Machine Correlation**



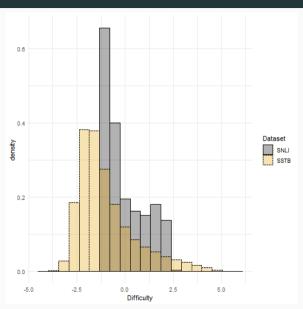
• Spearman  $\rho$  (NLI): 0.409 (LSTM) and 0.496 (NSE).

# **Human-Machine Correlation**

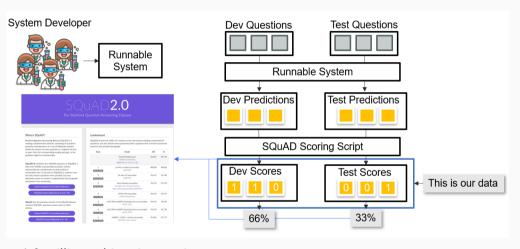


• Spearman  $\rho$  (SA): 0.332 (LSTM) and 0.392 (NSE).

# Difficulty Distribution

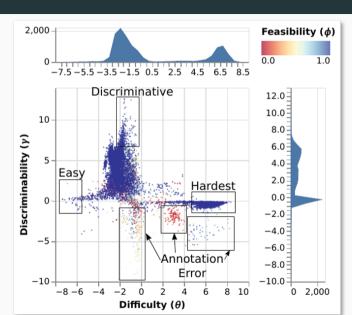


# IRT for Leaderboards (SQuAD)

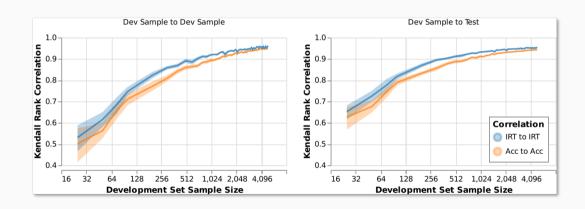


1.9 million subject-item pairs

# IRT for SQuAD



# **Ranking Performance**

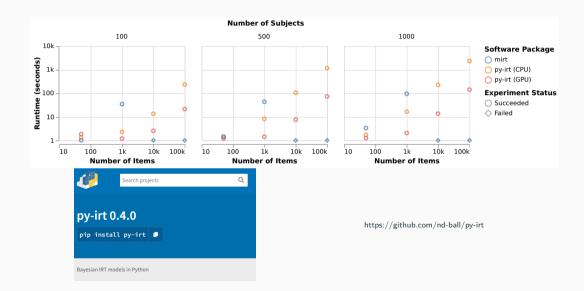


The py-irt Package

# IRT in Python: py-irt

```
{"subject id": "pedro", "responses": {"q1": 1, "q2": 0, "q3": 1, "q4": 0}}
        {"subject id": "pinguino", "responses": {"q1": 1, "q2": 1, "q3": 0, "q4": 0}}
        {"subject id": "ken", "responses": {"q1": 1, "q2": 1, "q3": 1, "q4": 1}}
        {"subject id": "burt", "responses": {"a1": 0, "a2": 0, "a3": 0, "a4": 0}}
py-irt train 1pl data/data.jsonlines output/1pl/
                                                   "irt model": "1pl".
                                                   "item ids": {
         "ability": [
           -1.7251124382019043.
           -0.06789101660251617.
                                                     "2": "q1",
           1.6059941053390503.
           -0.20248053967952728
                                                   "subject ids": {
         "diff": [
                                                     "0": "burt".
           0.008014608174562454,
                                                     "1": "pinguino".
           9.654741287231445.
                                                     "2": "ken",
           -5.5452165603637695.
                                                     "3": "pedro"
           -0.2792229950428009
```

# IRT in Python: py-irt



# Let's look at the code

Intro to IRT notebook 2-2\_pyirt\_example.ipynb

### Break!

- Back in 15 minutes
- Next section: IRT in NLP