

Evaluating the Logical Reasoning Ability of ChatGPT and GPT-4

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Abstract

Harnessing logical reasoning ability is a comprehensive natural language understanding endeavor. With the release of Generative Pre-trained Transformer 4 (GPT-4), highlighted as "advanced" at reasoning tasks, we are eager to learn the GPT-4 performance on various logical reasoning tasks. This report analyses multiple logical reasoning datasets, with popular benchmarks like LogiQA and ReClor, and newly-released datasets like AR-LSAT. We test the multi-choice reading comprehension and natural language inference tasks with benchmarks requiring logical reasoning. We further construct a logical reasoning out-of-distribution dataset to investigate the robustness of ChatGPT and GPT-4. We also make a performance comparison between ChatGPT and GPT-4. Experiment results show that ChatGPT performs significantly better than the RoBERTa fine-tuning method on most logical reasoning benchmarks. GPT-4 shows even higher performance on our manual tests. Among benchmarks, ChatGPT and GPT-4 do relatively well on well-known datasets like LogiQA and ReClor. However, the performance drops significantly when handling newly released and out-of-distribution datasets. Logical reasoning remains challenging for ChatGPT and GPT-4, especially on out-of-distribution and natural language inference datasets.

1 Introduction

Logical reasoning is essential to human intelligence, and incorporating logical reasoning abilities into natural language understanding (NLU) systems has been an active research interest from the beginning of artificial intelligence (Cresswell, 1973) (Kowalski, 1979) (Iwańska, 1993). Researchers have been exploring various approaches to achieve this goal, including rule-based methods, symbolic systems (MacCartney and Manning,

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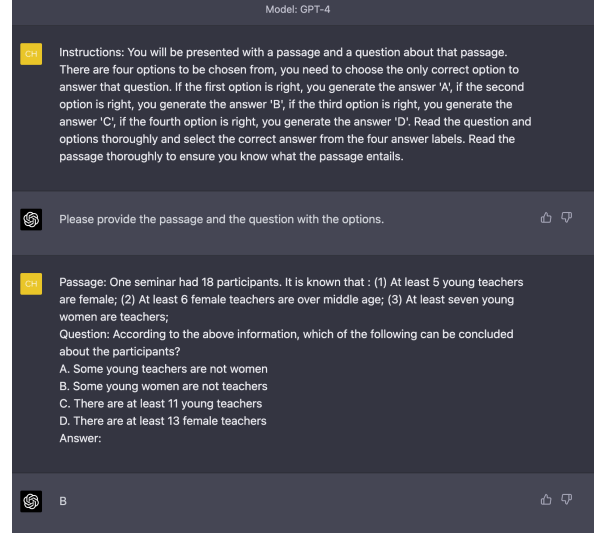


Figure 1: Instruction and question format for logical reading comprehension tasks.

2007a), fine-tuning large language models (Wang et al., 2018), and combining both neural and symbolic approaches (Li and Srikumar, 2019).

In the traditional logical and semantic approach, computational linguists developed symbolic systems utilizing First-Order-Logic (FOL) or Natural Logic (MacCartney and Manning, 2007a) to tackle fundamental inference tasks. Rule-based models struggle to unravel problems like the RTE challenge (Dagan et al., 2005) with hand-crafted rules and theorem provers. Formal logic reasoning adopted by early researchers came up with symbolic systems and hand-crafted rules, where knowledge was represented explicitly using formal logic or other symbolic representations. With rules, the systems can process deduction operations. However, these approaches face challenges in handling ambiguity and scalability. They are brittle when dealing with real-world natural language data.

The era of neural network models sees the rise of large-scale NLI datasets as popular benchmarks. For example, the SNLI (Bowman et al., 2015) and

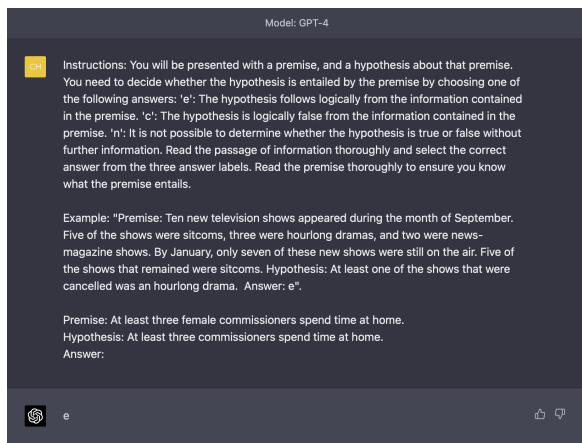


Figure 2: Instruction and question format for natural language inference tasks.

the Multi-genre NLI (MNLI) (Williams et al., 2018) datasets are created through crowd-sourcing, featuring an immense data size and broad coverage. They catalyze the development of models with better representation abilities and become the go-to benchmark for natural language understanding research. The giant leap in model performance comes with the advent of Transformer-based (Vaswani et al., 2017) language models like BERT (Devlin et al., 2018) when the training schemes of such models enable them to access colossal unlabelled corpora. As a result, building language models with trillions of parameters become possible (Brown et al., 2020) (Raffel et al., 2019). The paradigm of pre-training and fine-tuning has since become the dominant solution to textual inference tasks. Researchers fine-tune language models on task-specific datasets after pre-training models on massive text corpora. Large pre-trained language models (LMs) achieve beyond-human performances on popular NLI and MRC benchmarks, urging for more sophisticated benchmarks in textual inference.

NLP research on logical reasoning regains momentum with the recent releases of a handful of datasets, notably LogiQA and Reclor. The datasets are collected from logical reasoning exams such as Chinese Civil Servant Exams and Law School Admission Test (LSAT). These tests are challenging even for humans and are golden-labeled data with good quality. Logical reasoning is exploited in many probing tasks over large Pre-trained Language Models (PLMs) and downstream tasks like question-answering and dialogue systems. PLMs perform poorly compared to traditional benchmarks. Despite the progress made so far, achieving

human-like logical reasoning capabilities in NLU systems remains a challenging task.

Generative Pre-trained Transformer 4 (GPT-4) (OpenAI, 2023), as well as ChatGPT, is a newly-released language model developed by OpenAI, designed to understand and generate multi-modal contents. GPT-4 is promoted to possess even more powerful capabilities in tasks that require logical reasoning.

Logical reasoning is essential to human intelligence, enabling us to draw conclusions, make predictions, and solve problems based on given information. Incorporating logical reasoning into language models like GPT-4 can revolutionize natural language understanding (NLU) systems, making them more accurate, robust, and capable of understanding complex information in natural language.

The evaluation of ChatGPT and GPT-4 for logical reasoning tasks explores their performance on several logical reasoning benchmarks, detailing the strengths and limitations of ChatGPT and GPT-4 in this domain. We will discuss two tasks for evaluating GPT-4’s logical reasoning abilities: multi-choice reading comprehension and natural language inference. Both tasks are reasoning-heavy and serve as a playground for testing models’ reasoning abilities. Several logical reasoning datasets have been released under the two tasks. These benchmarks proved to be difficult to solve for PLMs. We hope this report will shed more light on the logical reasoning ability of ChatGPT and GPT-4. Our contributions are as follows:

1. We test ChatGPT and GPT-4 on two logical reasoning tasks: multi-choice reading comprehension and natural language inference. We conduct experiments on multiple logical reasoning benchmarks to analysis the logical reasoning ability of ChatGPT and GPT-4.
2. We construct an out-of-distribution logical reasoning dataset further to investigate the robustness of ChatGPT and GPT-4.
3. Our experiments show that both ChatGPT and GPT-4 are good at solving well-known logical reasoning reading comprehension benchmarks but struggle at handling out-of-distribution datasets. Their performances on natural language inference tasks requiring logical reasoning still need improving.

Passage: For a television program about astrology, investigators went into the street and found twenty volunteers born under the sign of Gemini who were willing to be interviewed on the program and to take a personality test. The test confirmed the investigators' personal impressions that each of the volunteers was more sociable and extroverted than people are on average. This modest investigation thus supports the claim that one's astrological birth sign influences one's personality.

Question: Which one of the following, if true, indicates the most serious flaw in the method used by the investigators?

A. People born under astrological signs other than Gemini have been judged by astrologers to be much less sociable than those born under Gemini.

B. There is not likely to be a greater proportion of people born under the sign of Gemini on the street than in the population as a whole.

C. People who are not sociable and extroverted are not likely to agree to participate in such an investigation.

D. The personal impressions the investigators first formed of other people have tended to be confirmed by the investigators' later experience of those people.

Figure 3: A multi-choice reading comprehension example from the LogiQA 2.0 dataset.

Premise: Ten new television shows appeared during the month of September. Five of the shows were sitcoms, three were hourlong dramas, and two were news-magazine shows. By January, only seven of these new shows were still on the air. Five of the shows that remained were sitcoms.

Hypothesis: At least one of the shows that were cancelled was an hourlong drama.

Label: Entailment

Figure 4: An NLI example from the ConTRoL dataset.

2 Evaluation Settings

We consider multi-choice reading comprehension and natural language inference tasks for our evaluation. Multi-choice reading comprehension is heavily tested on large language models for these tasks often have clearly-formed and high-quality datasets. On the other hand, the natural language inference task is a fundamental task for evaluating reasoning abilities. The datasets and the evaluation settings are provided as follows.

2.1 Datasets

2.1.1 Multi-choice Reading Comprehension

Machine reading is a popular task in NLP. In the typical multiple-choice task setting, given a passage and a question, a system is asked to select the most appropriate answer from a list of candidate answers.

LogiQA is a dataset specifically designed for multi-choice question-answering tasks that involve logical reasoning. The dataset is adopted from the Chinese Civil Service Examination, translated into

English, and released in Chinese and English. The dataset has been updated to the 2.0 version ¹, where the data size has been enlarged. We choose the test sets of both the Chinese and English versions for our evaluation. Figure 3 shows an example from the LogiQA 2.0 test set.

ReClor is another logical reasoning dataset designed for reading comprehension tasks requiring logical reasoning. It collects question-answering examples from the LSAT exams ², which are targeted to testing human logical reasoning abilities. We use the development set for our testing because the test set does not include gold labels.

2.1.2 Natural Language Inference

Natural language inference is the task of deciding the logical relationship between a hypothesis and a premise. The typical scheme is a text classification where the model needs to choose one from three labels: entailment, contradiction, and neutral.

ConTRoL (Liu et al., 2020) is an NLI dataset that further investigates contextual reasoning under the NLI framework. It has 36.2% of premise-hypothesis pairs under the category of logical reasoning. Figure 4 shows an example from the ConTRoL dataset.

MED (Yanaka et al., 2019b) and **HELP** (Yanaka et al., 2019a) are two NLI datasets focusing on monotonicity reasoning, which is an essential concept in Natural Logic (MacCartney and Manning, 2007b). The datasets are generated through monotonicity rules and only investigate monotonicity-related inference specifically. Similar to the NLI section of our dataset, MED and HELP investigate basic logic phenomena in natural language, which is monotonicity in particular. For the HELP dataset, we use the train set for our evaluation. Here is an example from the HELP dataset:

Premise: Tom said that neither parents had ever been to Boston.

Hypothesis: Tom said that neither one of his parents had ever been to Boston.

Label: Entailment

ConjNLI (Saha et al., 2020) is a challenging stress test for NLI over conjunctive sentences, where the premise differs from the hypothesis by having conjuncts being removed, added, or replaced. Logical reasoning about conjunctions is heavily tested in ConjNLI. Premise-hypothesis

¹<https://github.com/csitfun/LogiQA2.0>

²<https://www.lsac.org/lsat>

Dataset	LogiQA 2.0 test	LogiQA 2.0 zh test	ReClor dev	AR-LSAT test	LogiQA 2.0 ood
Size	1572	1594	500	230	1354
RoBERTa	48.76	35.64	55.01	23.14	33.22
ChatGPT	52.37	53.18	57.38	20.42	38.44
GPT-4	75.26 (73/97)	51.76 (44/85)	92.00 (92/100)	18.27 (19/104)	48.21 (54/112)

Table 1: ChatGPT and GPT-4 performance on the Logical multi-choice machine reading comprehension task (accuracy %). “LogiQA 2.0 zh test” refers to the test set of the LogiQA 2.0 Chinese version. “LogiQA 2.0 ood” represents the out-of-distribution data of LogiQA 2.0.

pairs are created automatically by applying conjunct operations on collected conjunctive sentences. Here is an example from the ConjNLI dataset:

Premise: In Quebec, an allophone is a resident, usually an immigrant, whose mother tongue or home language is neither French nor English.

Hypothesis: In Quebec, an allophone is a resident, usually an immigrant, whose mother tongue or home language is not French.

Label: Entailment

TaxiNLI (Joshi et al., 2020) is an NLI dataset re-annotated on the MNLI dataset with fine-grained category labels. The annotation includes logical categories like connectives, mathematical, and deduction. Here is an example from the TaxiNLI dataset:

Premise: and that you’re very much right but the jury may or may not see it that way so you get a little anticipate you know anxious there and go well you know.

Hypothesis: Even if you’re correct, I think the jury would pick up on that.

Label: Contradiction

2.1.3 Out-of-distribution Data

AR-LSAT (Wang et al., 2022) is a new dataset of analytical reasoning questions from the Law School Admission Test. Released in 2022, it has 2064 questions, each describing a reasoning game belonging to three dominant types: (1) ordering game, (2) grouping game, and (3) assignment game. It is noticed that each question has five options rather than four. Figure 5 shows an example from the AR-LSAT test set.

Besides, we construct a **LogiQA 2.0 out-of-distribution dataset**, which incorporates the newly released Chinese Civil Servant Exam from 2022. The test set is a collection of logical reasoning tests designed by experts from 2022 onwards. We release our data at <https://github.com/csitfun/LogiQA2.0>.

Context: A loading dock consists of exactly six bays numbered 1 through 6 consecutively from one side of the dock to the other. Each bay is holding a different one of exactly six types of cargo fuel, grain, livestock, machinery, produce, or textiles. The following apply: The bay holding grain has a higher number than the bay holding livestock. The bay holding livestock has a higher number than the bay holding textiles. The bay holding produce has a higher number than the bay holding fuel. The bay holding textiles is next to the bay holding produce.

Question: Which one of the following CANNOT be the type of cargo held in bay 4?

A."grain",
B."livestock",
C."machinery",
D."produce",
E."textiles"

Answer: A

Figure 5: An example from the AR-LSAT dataset.

2.2 Experiment Setting

We take RoBERTa-base (Liu et al., 2019) as our baseline model. Following a fine-tuning scheme, we use Huggingface’s RoBERTa-base model as our pre-trained language model. RoBERTa-base is trained on the training set for 5 epochs for each dataset.

For ChatGPT and GPT-4, we follow an instruction-prompt scheme for both Natural Language Inference and multi-choice reading comprehension tasks. The instruction for multi-choice reading comprehension tasks is shown in Figure 1. The instruction we use for the multi-choice reading comprehension task is in Appendix A.

The instruction for multi-choice reading comprehension tasks is shown in Figure 2. The instruction we use for the natural language inference task is in Appendix B.

For evaluating ChatGPT, We use the Eval³ framework provided by OpenAI, a suite for evaluating

³<https://github.com/openai/evals>

Dataset	ConTRoL test	ConjNLI test	HELP	MED	TaxiNLI test
Size	805	623	35891	5382	10071
RoBERTa	48.76	38.94	39.47	46.83	49.91
ChatGPT	58.45	47.03	42.13	55.02	57.30
GPT-4	58.18 (64/110)	61.00 (61/100)	53.33 (56/105)	75.79 (72/95)	75.47 (80/106)

Table 2: ChatGPT and GPT-4 performance on the natural language inference task (accuracy %).

OpenAI models and an open-source registry of benchmarks. The model we choose is gpt-3.5-turbo (Version March 14, 2023). Apart from task structure, we offer an in-context example to each API call to guarantee controlled output.

GPT-4 has been limited access to subscribe users from March 14, 2023. The API for GPT-4 isn’t released by far, we conduct our evaluation manually using its Chat UI, which is illustrated in 1. We use two Plus accounts to do the evaluation.

3 Results

3.1 Experiment results on the multi-choice reading comprehension tasks

Table 1 shows the results of the multi-choice reading comprehension datasets.

3.1.1 The performance of ChatGPT

ChatGPT shows a performance increase compared to the baseline model on several long-standing benchmarks. The accuracy of the LogiQA 2.0 test set is 53.37%, nearly 4 points higher than the RoBERTa base model. The performance gap of ChatGPT and RoBERTa is salient when testing on the Chinese version of LogiQA 2.0, which indicates the performance consistency of ChatGPT in both Chinese and English languages. ChatGPT yields the best performance on the ReClor dataset with an accuracy of 57.38%, compared with RoBERTa’s 55.01% accuracy. However, ChatGPT experiences a huge performance drop on out-of-distribution datasets. On the AR-LSAT test set, the accuracy is only 20.42%, lower than the performance of RoBERTa base. On LogiQA 2.0 ood, the performance is 38.44%, still lower than that of RoBERTa base. From the experiments above, ChatGPT performs well on well-known Logical reasoning like LogiQA and ReClor. The accuracy of ChatGPT surpasses fine-tuning methods by a small margin. However, when tested on the newly released dataset, namely AR-LSAT, and on LogiQA 2.0 out-of-distribution dataset, the performance declined significantly.

Despite its limitations, ChatGPT still represents a significant advancement in natural language understanding and demonstrates the potential of language models to reason logically.

3.1.2 The performance of GPT-4

GPT-4 performs remarkably better than ChatGPT when doing manual tests on LogiQA and ReClor. On the LogiQA 2.0 test set, GPT-4 yields an accuracy of 75.26%. Yet on the Chinese LogiQA 2.0 test set, GPT-4’s performance drop on the Chinese version dataset is noticeable with a 51.76% accuracy. On the ReClor dev set (ReClor also does not include gold labels on its test), GPT-4 reaches a 92.00% accuracy which is remarkable. However, when tested on the AR-LSAT test set, GPT-4 performs surprisingly worse with only an 18.27% accuracy. The test result on LogiQA 2.0 ood data shows that GPT-4 only gets 48.21% correctness, which is significantly lower than that on the ReClor dataset as well. We will not haste to the conclusion, but it’s safe to say that GPT-4’s performance drop on out-of-distribution datasets is noticeable.

3.2 Experiment results on the natural language inference task

Table 2 shows the results on the natural language inference datasets.

3.2.1 The performance of ChatGPT

ChatGPT performs better than the RoBERTa model on the logical reasoning NLI datasets we test. On the ConTRoL test set (805 instances), the accuracy is 58.45%, higher than the RoBERTa-base model by nearly 10 percent. On the ConjNLI test set (623 instances), ChatGPT yields 47.03% accuracy, which outperforms RoBERTa by around 9 percent. On the HELP dataset (35891 instances), ChatGPT gets a 42.31% accuracy, around 3 points higher than that of RoBERTa. On the MED dataset (5382 instances), ChatGPT gives 55.02% accuracy, nearly 9 percent higher than that of RoBERTa. On the TaxiNLI test set (10071 instances), ChatGPT gives 57.30% accuracy, over 7 percent higher than that

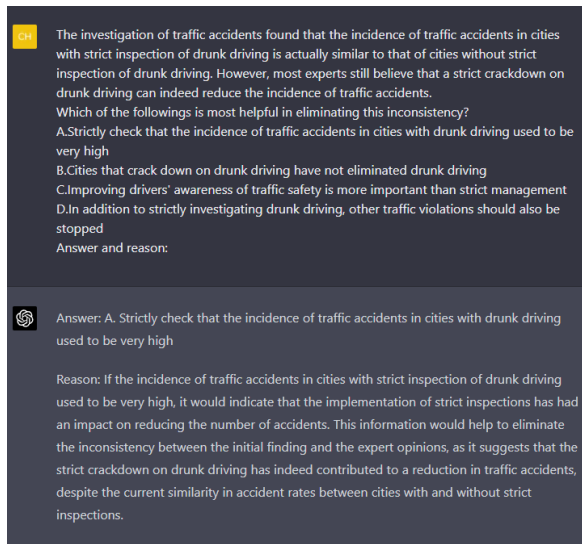


Figure 6: An GPT-4 generation example where the model answers the question correctly.

of RoBERTa. Since it is noticed that ChatGPT is not good at following NLI task instructions, we provide an in-context example to help the model generate task labels, as shown in Figure 2. Overall, the results show that ChatGPT surpasses fine-tuned RoBERTa by only a small margin compared to its performance on the reading comprehension task.

3.2.2 The performance of GPT-4

We tested GPT-4's performance on five NLI datasets. Generally, GPT-4 performs better than ChatGPT though the results are not surprising. On ConTRoL test set, GPT-4 performs as fair as ChatGPT, yielding a 58.18% accuracy. It performs slightly better on ConjNLI test set and HELP, where its accuracy is 61.00% and 53.33% respectively. It performs much better on MED and TaxiNLI, where the performance reaches 75.79% and 75.47% accordingly.

The results on the five NLI datasets indicate that GPT-4 does not show an impressive performance on logical reasoning natural language inference compared to that of multi-choice reading comprehension. We also notice that in the natural language inference task scenario, GPT-4 cannot output labels steadily even though the instruction is provided. From this, we infer that GPT-4 is not good at following the instruction for the natural language inference task, though it is well-trained to follow the instruction for the multi-choice reading comprehension task.

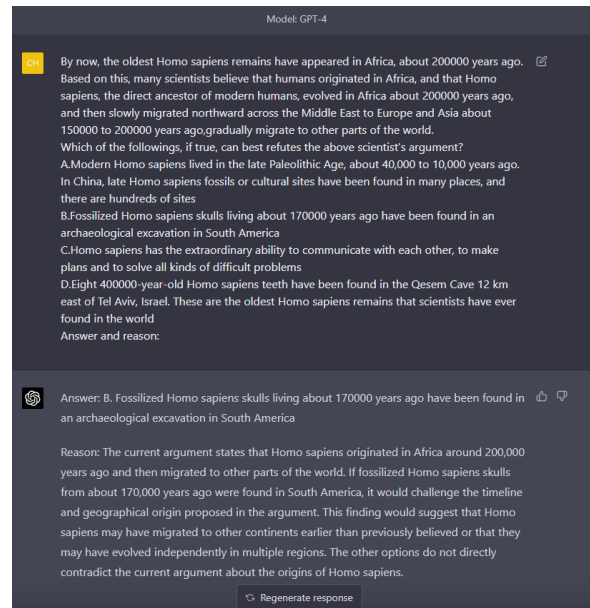


Figure 7: An GPT-4 generation example where the model answers the question incorrectly.

4 Analysis

The experiment results show that ChatGPT and GPT-4 surpass RoBERTa on most logical reasoning benchmarks, including popular benchmarks like LogiQA and ReClor and less-known datasets like AR-LSAT. However, the performance drop on out-of-distribution datasets is noticeable for both GPT models, indicating they struggle to handle new and unfamiliar data. Thus, we conduct more case studies with the GPT-4 chat UI and further analyze its abilities.

4.1 Answer and Reason

For GPT-4 manual tests, we record the answers GPT-4 gives and the reasoning for the answer. Figure 6 gives an example of GPT-4's answer and reasoning. In this example, GPT-4 did it correctly. From the paragraph's inconsistency between the similar drunk driving rate both with and without drunk driving checks, and the claim that the strict checks lower the drunk driving rate, GPT-4 chooses a fact prior to the contemporary situation that the drunk driving rate used to be high before strict checks, to solve this contradiction.

Figure 7 shows an example where GPT-4 generates the wrong answer and reasoning. The passage talks about whether humans originated from Africa. If we find older fossils in other parts of the world, then the conclusion would be challenged. GPT-4 does not have a thorough understanding of the

Dataset	LogiQA 2.0 ood	ConTRoL
# instances	20	20
in context	45.00 (9/20)	65.00 (13/20)
w/o context	25.00 (5/20)	35.00 (7/20)

Table 3: GPT-4 performance with/without context.

problem. It only focuses on establishing the chronological order of events. The failure to attend to the location of the fossils leads to the wrong answer.

In our assessment of GPT-4 on the logiQA dataset, we inspected the first 10 errors made by the model. Four were categorized as logical errors, such as affirming the question, negating the hypothesis, and begging the question. Three were identified as scope errors, including attributing predicates to incorrect subjects or assigning characters to the wrong objects. The remaining three falls in the inability to resolve semantic ambiguity, wherein GPT-4 selected a merely qualified response when asked for an optimal one. However, this limited sample of errors does not entail the conclusion that GPT-4 is incompetent to handle reasoning questions, as there are also instances where it accurately identifies the correct answer. GPT-4’s occasional selection of wrong answers suggests that further examination is necessary to determine whether some features in the questions may trigger such incorrect choices.

4.2 In-Context Learning

In this section, we test the in-context learning ability of GPT-4. We observe that GPT-4 is prone to output more correct answers within the same conversation window after approximately eight conversation rounds; GPT-4’s accuracy increases after seeing more examples. During this procedure, no feedback is provided to the conversation.

To exemplify this phenomenon, we conduct an experiment on the LogiQA 2.0 ood data and the ConTRoL dataset, each representing a typical test case for the task of multi-choice reading comprehension and natural language inference. We randomly select 20 instances from each dataset for the following testing. Remember that GPT-4’s performance is not competitive on these two datasets.

We first test the 20 instances from the same conversation window; then, we test each instance of 20 in a new conversation window. The testing results are shown in Table 3. For the LogiQA 2.0 ood dataset, GPT-4 yields 9 correct answers when the

20 examples are in the same conversation window. However, without the context, the number of correct answers drops to 5. For the ConTRoL dataset, we find that GPT-4 answers 13 questions correctly with the context, and it drops to 7 without the context. Appendix C shows an example where GPT-4 answers the question correctly inside the context while does not give the correct answer in a new conversation window.

4.3 Chain-of-Thought Prompting

Chain-of-Thought (CoT) prompting is explored by many researchers and shows promising results on complex multi-step reasoning tasks (Kojima et al., 2023). This section explores zero-shot CoT prompting for GPT-4 on logical reasoning datasets. The experiment is conducted on the LogiQA 2.0 ood data. We select 20 instances where GPT-4 has previously answered incorrectly. For this round, we add the prompt "Let’s think step by step" to the instruction. By adding this prompt, GPT-4 generates longer reasoning texts exemplifying the reasoning steps and correctly answers 4 questions out of 20.

Overall, the evaluation of the logical reasoning ability of ChatGPT and GPT-4 highlights the importance of developing more sophisticated benchmarks in textual inference to improve NLU systems’ logical reasoning abilities further. The results also suggest that there is still room for improvement in language models’ logical reasoning abilities, particularly when handling out-of-distribution datasets. Researchers need to continue developing more sophisticated benchmarks in textual inference to improve NLU systems’ logical reasoning abilities further. Exploring new approaches to training language models that can better handle out-of-distribution datasets and other challenges associated with real-world applications is important.

5 Conclusion

We evaluate the logical reasoning ability of ChatGPT and GPT-4 on multiple logical reasoning datasets, including multi-choice reading comprehension and natural language inference tasks. We test on popular benchmarks, as well as less-known NLI datasets and newly-released ones. The experiment results show that ChatGPT and GPT-4 outperform the traditional fine-tuning method on most logical reasoning benchmarks, indicating that these two models can better reason logically. However, both models face challenges in handling new and

out-of-distribution data. Besides, ChatGPT and GPT-4 do not perform astonishingly well on the natural language inference task requiring logical reasoning.

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A Instruction and Prompt for the multi-choice reading comprehension task

Instructions: You will be presented with a passage and a question about that passage. There are four options to be chosen from, you need to choose the only correct option to answer that question. If the first option is right, you generate the answer 'A', if the second option is right, you generate the answer 'B', if the third option is right, you generate the answer 'C', if the fourth option is right, you generate the answer 'D'. Read the question and options thoroughly and select the correct answer from the four answer labels. Read the passage thoroughly to ensure you know what the passage entails.

B Instruction and Prompt for the natural language inference task

Instructions: You will be presented with a premise and a hypothesis about that premise. You need to decide whether the hypothesis is entailed by the premise by choosing one of the following answers: 'e': The hypothesis follows logically from the information contained in the premise. 'c': The hypothesis is logically false from the information contained in the premise. 'n': It is not possible to determine whether the hypothesis is true or false without further information. Read the passage of information thoroughly and select the correct answer from the three answer labels. Read the premise thoroughly to ensure you know what the premise entails.

C GPT-4 Answers with/without Context

Example:

The gold label is "B"

Question:

Crimes involving the use of guns are more likely to lead to homicides than other types of crimes, but most crimes involving the use of guns do not lead to homicides. Therefore, it is not necessary to distinguish the illegal use of guns as a serious criminal offense from other criminal offenses in criminal law.

According to the logical loopholes in the above argument, which of the following options is the most similar?

A. Obese people are more likely to suffer from heart disease than normal-weight people. However, obesity accounts for only a small proportion of China's population. Therefore, in China, there is no need for medical and health circles to emphasize the risk of heart disease

B. Promiscuous sex is more likely to be infected with AIDS than regular sex. However, only a small proportion of people who have promiscuous sex are infected with AIDS. Therefore, there is no need to emphasize the harm of promiscuous sex in the publicity of AIDS prevention

C. The popular view is that smoking is more likely to cause lung cancer than non-smoking. However, in some countries, the proportion of lung cancer patients with a smoking history is not higher than that of the total population. Therefore, the above popular view is likely to be a prejudice

D. High-income people are more able to enjoy life than low-income people. But many high-income people claim to be unhappy. Therefore, the pursuers of a happy life do not have to pay attention to the level of income

Answer and reason:

GPT-4 output:

With context:

A. Obese people are more likely to suffer from heart disease than normal weight people. However, obesity accounts for only a small proportion of China's population. Therefore, in China, there is no need for medical and health circles to emphasize the risk of heart disease.

Reason: Both the original argument and option A have the same logical loophole. In the original argument, it is stated that crimes involving guns are more likely to lead to homicides but most don't, concluding that there is no need to distinguish the illegal use of guns as a serious criminal offense. Similarly, in option A, it is stated that obese people are more likely to suffer from heart disease but obesity accounts for only a small proportion of the population, concluding that there is no need to emphasize the risk of heart disease in China. Both arguments downplay the importance of addressing a specific risk or issue based on the fact that it doesn't affect a majority or large proportion of the population, even though the consequences are more severe for the affected individuals.

Without context:

B. Promiscuous sex is more likely to be infected with AIDS than regular sex. However, only a small proportion of people who have promiscuous sex are infected with AIDS. Therefore, there is no need to emphasize the harm of promiscuous sex in the publicity of AIDS prevention

Reason: Both the original argument and option B exhibit a similar logical flaw. The original argument acknowledges that gun-related crimes are more likely to lead to homicides, yet concludes that there is no need to treat such crimes as distinctively serious because most gun-related crimes do not lead to homicides. Similarly, option B acknowledges that promiscuous sex is more likely to result in AIDS infection, but concludes that there is no need to emphasize the harm of promiscuous sex in AIDS prevention efforts because only a small proportion of people engaging in promiscuous sex contract AIDS. Both arguments downplay the increased risk associated with specific behaviors or situations by focusing on the fact that not all instances of those behaviors or situations lead to negative outcomes.