



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

Large language models in programming education

OVERVIEW OF EXISTING PRACTICES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

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■ **Outline**

- How were we (humans) used to programming computers?
- Programming with large language models (LLMs)
- Existing practice: selected examples
- Future directions

- **Different ways we (humans) used to program computers**
- **Programming** is writing **computer code (program)**, based on an **algorithm**, to solve a **problem**.^[1]

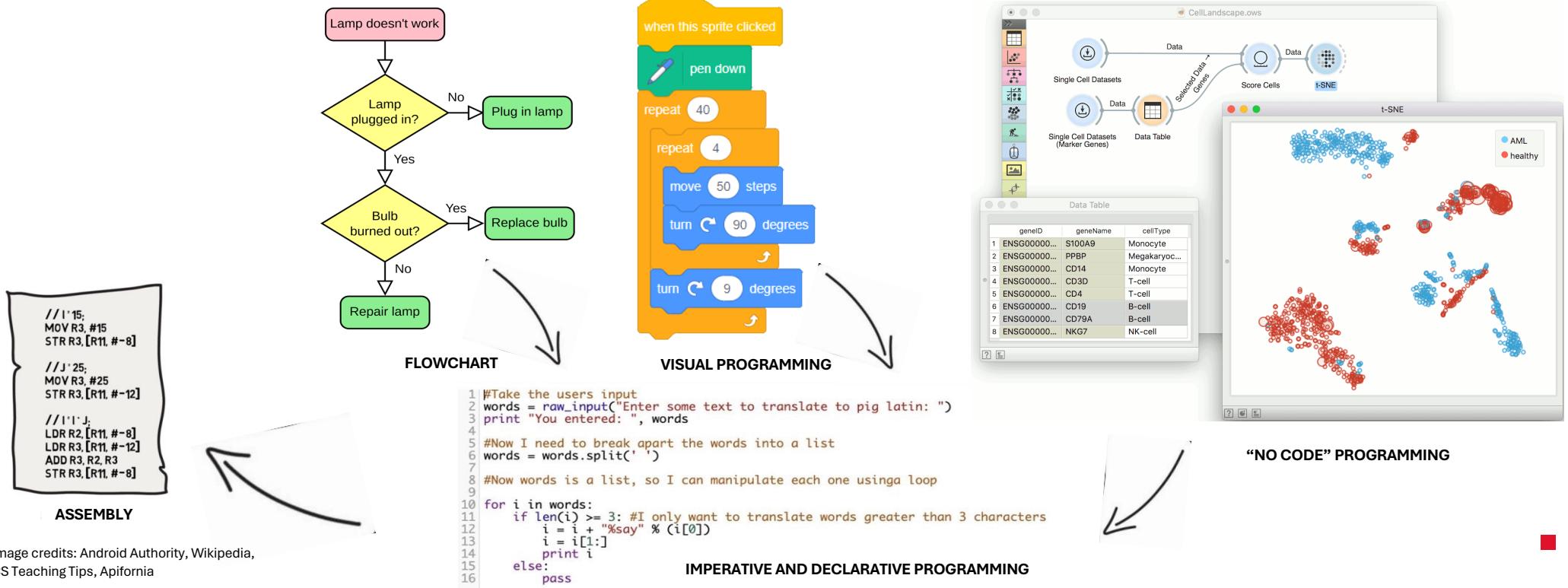
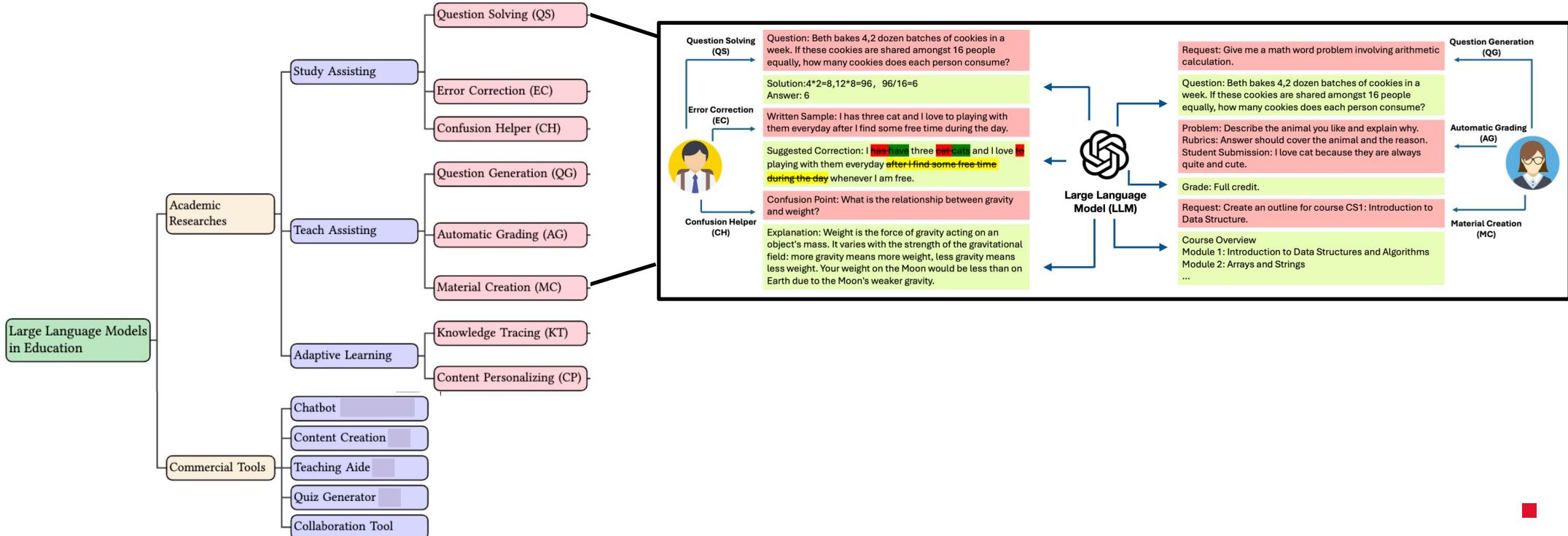


Image credits: Android Authority, Wikipedia, CS Teaching Tips, Apiforia

- Large language models in education
- Taxonomy of LLMs for education applications:^{[2][3]}



- Large language models in education
- Existing datasets and benchmarks are constructed for **text-rich educational downstream tasks**, with an emphasis on QS (question solving), EC (error correction), QG (question generation), and AG (automatic grading).^[2]

Table 1: Summary of existing datasets and benchmarks in the area of LLMs for education.

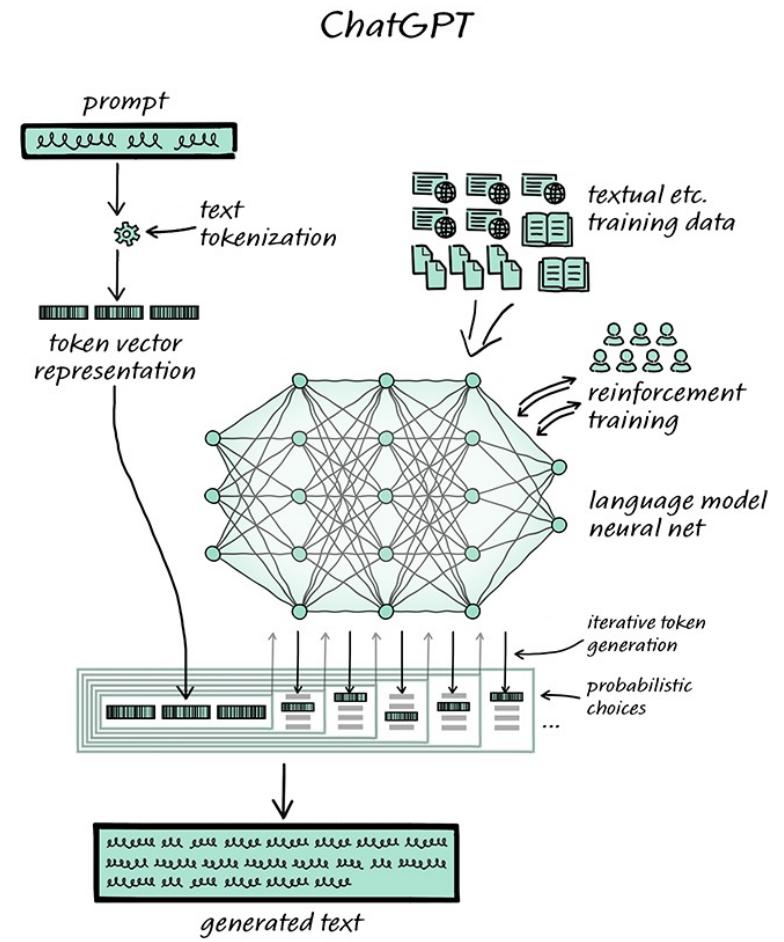
Dataset&Benchmark	App	User	Subject	Level	Language	Modality	Amount
Defects4J	EC	student	computer science	professional	EN & Java	text& code	357
ManyBugs	EC	student	computer science	professional	EN & C	text& code	185
IntroClass	EC	student	computer science	professional	EN & C	text& code	998
QuixBugs	EC	student	computer science	professional	EN & multi	text& code	40
Bugs2Fix	EC	student	computer science	professional	EN & Java	text& code	2.3M
CodeReview	EC	student	computer science	professional	EN & Multi	text& code	642
CodeReview-New	EC	student	computer science	professional	EN & Multi	text& code	15

Table 1: Summary of existing datasets and benchmarks in the area of LLMs for education.

Dataset&Benchmark	App	User	Subject	Level	Language	Modality	Amount
GSM8K	QS	student	math	K-12	EN	text	8.5K
MATH	QS	student	math	K-12	EN	text	12.5K
Dolphin18K	QS	student	math	K-12	EN	text	18K
DRAW-1K	QS	student	math	comprehensive	EN	text	1K
Math23K	QS	student	math		ZH	text	23K
Ape210K	QS	student	math	K-12	EN, ZH	text	210K
MathQA	QS	student	math	K-12		text	37K
ASDiv	QS	student	math	K-12	EN	text & image	2K
IconQA	QS	student	math	K-12	EN	text & table	107K
TQA	QS	student	science	K-12	EN	text & image	26K
Geometry3K	QS	student	geometry	K-12	EN	text & image	3K
AI2D	QS	student	science	K-12	EN	text & image	5K
SCIENCEQA	QS	student	science	K-12	EN	text & image	21K
MedQA	QS	student	medicine	professional	EN	text	40K
MedMCQA	QS	student	medicine		EN	text	200K
TheoremQA	QS	student	science	college	EN	text	800
Math-StackExchange	QS	student	math		EN	text	310K
TABMWP	QS	student	math	K-12	EN	text	38K
ARC	QS	student	comprehensive		EN	text	7.7K
C-Eva	QS	student	comprehensive	comprehensive	ZH	text	13.9K
GAOKAO-bench	QS	student	comprehensive		ZH	text	2.8K
AGIEval	QS	student	comprehensive	comprehensive	EN, ZH	text	8k
MMLU	QS	student	comprehensive		EN	text	1.8K
CMMLU	QS	student	comprehensive	comprehensive	ZH	text	11.9K
SuperCLUE	QS	student	comprehensive		ZH	text	15.9K
LANG-8	EC	student	linguistic	language training	Multi	text	1M
CLANG-8	EC	student	linguistic		Multi	text	2.6M
CoNLL-2014	EC	student	linguistic	language training	EN	text	58K
BEA-2019	EC	student	linguistic		EN	text	686K
SIGHAN	EC	student	linguistic	language training	ZH	text	12K
CTC	EC	student	linguistic		ZH	text	218K
FCGEC	EC	student	linguistic	language training	ZH	text	41K
FlaCGEC	EC	student	linguistic		ZH	text	13K
GECCC	EC	student	linguistic	language training	CS	text	83K
RULEC-GEC	EC	student	linguistic		RU	text	12K
Falko-MERLIN	EC	student	linguistic	language training	GE	text	24K
COWS-L2H	EC	student	linguistic		ES	text	12K
UA-GEC	EC	student	linguistic	language training	UK	text	20K
RONACC	EC	student	linguistic		RO	text	10K
Defects4J	EC	student	computer science	professional	EN & Java	text& code	357
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CodeReview	EC	student	computer science		EN & Multi	text& code	642
CodeReview-New	EC	student	computer science	professional	EN & Multi	text& code	15
SciQ	QG	teacher	science	MOOC	EN	text	13.7K
RACE	QG	teacher	linguistic		K-12	EN	text
FairytalesQA	QG	teacher	literature	MOOC	EN	text	10K
LearningQ	QG	teacher	comprehensive		EN	text	231K
KHANQ	QG	teacher	science	MOOC	EN	text	1K
EduQG	QG	teacher	comprehensive		EN	text	3K
MCQL	QG	teacher	comprehensive	MOOC	EN	text	7.1K
Televic	QG	teacher	comprehensive		EN	text	62K
CLC-FCE	AG	teacher	linguistic	standardized test	EN	text	1K
ASAP	AG	teacher	linguistic		K-12	EN	text
TOEFL11	AG	teacher	linguistic	standardized test	EN	text	1K
ICLE	AG	teacher	linguistic		EN	text	4K
HSK	AG	teacher	linguistic	standardized test	ZH	text	10K

■ Large language model-based programming

- Three main **opportunities**:^[4]
 - Generation of code from specification
(text to code)
 - Generation of ancillary tools such as test cases
(code to code)
 - Generation of explanations or suggestions
(code to text)



<https://writings.stephenwolfram.com/2023/02/what-is-chatgpt-doing-and-why-does-it-work/>

- **Large language model-based programming**

- **Pedagogical approaches for explaining code:**^[5]

- **“Explain in Plain English” (EiPE)**

- Students explain the purpose of code fragments at an abstract level

- **Code tracing**

- Students need to understand how the code executes and “predict” its behaviour (changes to memory and internal state) and output

- **Pair programming**

- Students explain their code and their thinking process to their partner

- **Misconception-based feedback**

- Students follow prompts based on common misconceptions to guide discussion about code

■ Example practices: code explanation

- Setting: e-book on Web software development [5]
- Goal: integrate explanations generated by LLMs into Computer Science classrooms.
- Research questions:
 - RQ1: How do students engage with the generated explanations, and which types of explanations do they use most frequently? For what types of code snippets do students request explanations?
 - RQ2: What are the characteristics of explanations that students rate as most and least helpful?
- Approach: Use of LLMs to generate three types of explanations:
 - Line-by-line explanation
 - List of important concepts
 - High-level summary of the code
- A total of 13 code snippets * 5 code explanations * 3 types of explanations = **195 explanations** were generated and added to two chapters of the e-book. ■

Code snippet: JavaScript program that uses the Deno runtime to launch a Web server.

```
import { serve } from "https://deno.land/std@0.140.0/http/server.ts";
let count = 0;
const handleRequest = (request) => {
  if (request.method === "POST") {
    count++;
  }
  return new Response(count);
};
serve(handleRequest, { port: 7777 });
```

Line-by-line

- The first line imports the ‘serve’ function from the ‘server’ module in the ‘std’ library from version 0.140.0 of the Deno runtime.
- The second line declares a ‘count’ variable and initializes it to ‘0’.
- The third line defines a ‘handleRequest’ function that takes a ‘request’ parameter. This function increments the value of ‘count’ if the ‘request’ method is ‘POST’.
- The fourth line returns a new ‘Response’ object containing the value of ‘count’.
- The fifth line calls the ‘serve’ function, passing in the ‘handleRequest’ function and an options object. The options object sets the ‘port’ property to ‘7777’.

Concepts/purpose

The purpose of this code is to create a simple server that counts how many POST requests it receives.

Summary

Codex: # Summarize and explain the goal of the above code

- A web server is listening on port 7777. The handleRequest function is called when a request is accepted. What is the structure of the Deno module system? Deno supports ES Modules.

GPT-3: # Summarize and explain this code snippet

- This code snippet creates a web server that listens on port 7777 and returns "Hello world!" for every request.

Measures: (i) explanation view time; (ii) number of views; and (iii) subjective ratings.

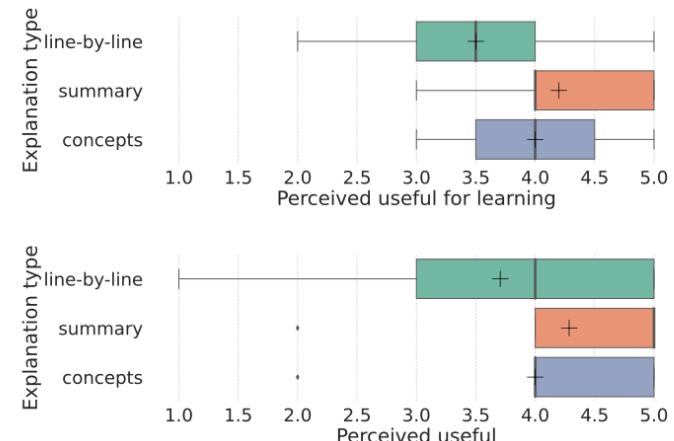


Figure 2: Boxplot of explanation usefulness ratings with + indicating mean. Although most viewed among students, line-by-line explanations were rated least helpful.

176 explanations,
58 students,
Summer 2022

Comparing Code Explanations Created by Students and Large Language Models

Authors:  Juho Leinonen,  Paul Denny,  Stephen MacNeil,  Sami Sarsa,  Seth Bernstein,  Joanne Kim
 Andrew Tran,  Arto Hellas [Authors Info & Claims](#)

ITICSE 2023: Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education V. 1 • June 2023 •
Pages 124–130 • <https://doi.org/10.1145/3587102.3588785>

■ Example practices: code explanation

- Setting: 1st-year programming course, ~1,000 students [6]
- Goal: comparison of code explanations created by students vs those generated by LLMs
- Research questions:
 - RQ1: To what extent do code explanations created by students and LLMs differ in accuracy, length, and understandability?
 - RQ2: What aspects of code explanations do students value?
- Approach: two lab sessions
 - Lab A: students created explanations (purpose and summary) for three code snippets
 - Lab B (2 weeks after): students were shown a random sample of four explanations created by the students in Lab A or generated by GPT-3, and assessed them based on accuracy, understandability, and length.

Lab A: function definitions

```
double AverageNegativeValues(int values[], int length)
{
    int i, sum, count;
    i = 0;
    sum = 0;
    count = 0;

    while (i < length) {
        if (values[i] < 0) {
            sum = sum + values[i];
            count++;
        }
        i++;
    }

    return (double)sum / count;
}
```

```
int LargestValue(int values[], int length)
{
    int i, max;

    max = values[0];
    for (i = 1; i < length; i++) {
        if (values[i] > max) {
            max = values[i];
        }
    }

    return max;
}

int CountZeros(int values[], int length)
{
    int i, count;

    count = 0;
    for (i = 0; i < length; i++) {
        if (values[i] == 0) {
            count++;
        }
    }

    return count;
}
```

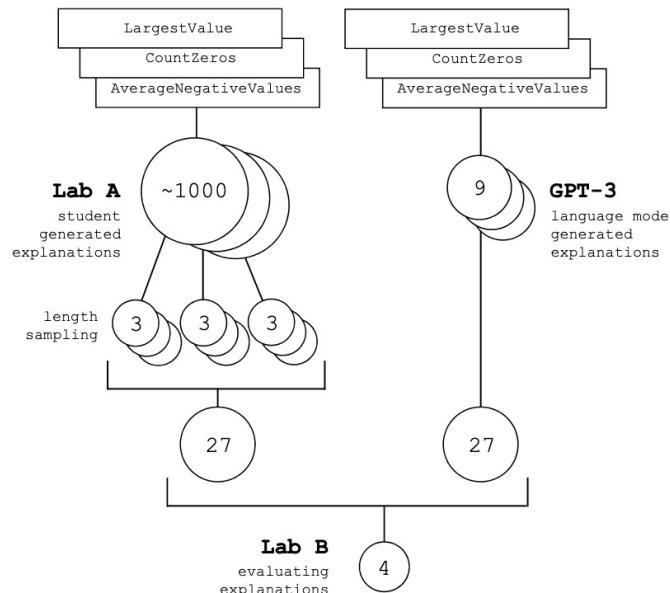


Figure 2: Overview of the data generation and sampling. In Lab B, each student was allocated four code explanations to evaluate, selected at random from a pool of 54 code explanations, half of which were generated by students in Lab A, and half of which were generated by GPT-3.

Table 1: Descriptive statistics of student responses on code explanation quality. The responses that were given using a Likert-scale have been transformed so that 1 corresponds to ‘Strongly disagree’ and 5 corresponds to ‘Strongly agree’.

	Student-generated		LLM-generated	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Easy to understand	3.75	4.0	4.12	4.0
Accurate summary	3.78	4.0	4.0	4.0
Ideal length	2.75	3.0	2.66	3.0
Length (chars)	811	738	760	731

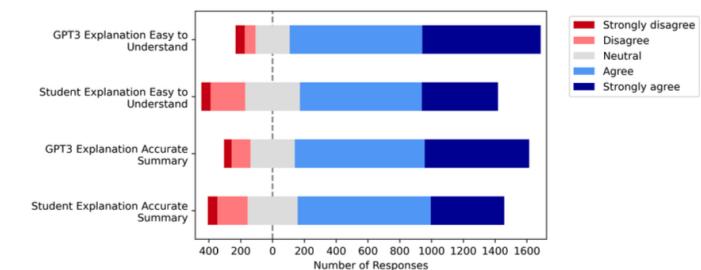
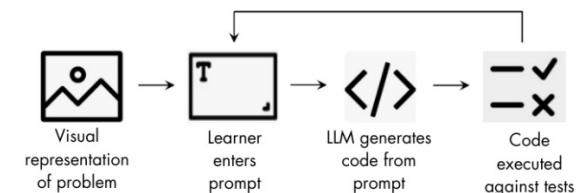


Figure 3: Distribution of student responses on LLM and student-generated code explanations being easy to understand and accurate summaries of code.

963 explanations (Lab A),
954 students (Lab B),
2022 ■

■ Example practices: code generation

- **Setting:** 1st-year programming course in Python ^[7]
- **Goal:** propose a new type of programming problem to teach coding based on Prompt Problems and related ways of assessing it
- **Research questions:**
 - RQ1: How do students interact with Prompt Problems while learning to program?
 - RQ2: How do students perceive Prompt Problems affecting their learning of programming concepts?
- **Approach:** “Promptly” tool
 - Each prompt problem consists of a visual representation of a problem (no textual description is given) and a set of associated test cases used to verify the code generated by the LLM.



Promptly interface & example exercises

1 Class Registration — 2 Exercise #1 — 3 Exercise #2 — 4 Exercise #3

Enter your name: Bob
Hello Bob
> |

Visual representation of problem (in this case, an animation illustrates user interaction with program)

Write me a Python program that asks the user to enter their name, and then prints the word "Hello" followed by a space, followed by their name

Prompt entry

Write your ChatGPT prompt here

CLICK HERE TO ASK CHATGPT!

ChatGPT response:

```
print("Hello " + input("Enter your name: "))
```

Code Running response:

You pass \(^o^)/ !

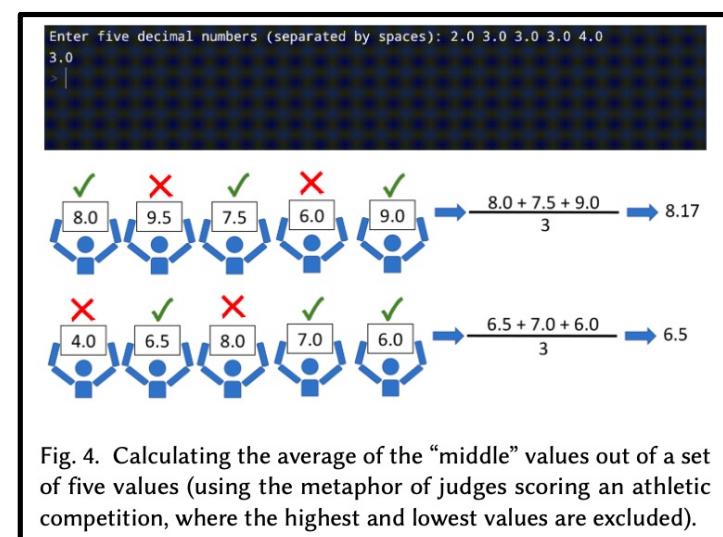
Execution output (in this case, a success message as all tests pass)

BACK NEXT

Enter a number: 3
Child
> |

AGE	CATEGORY
Below 8	Child
8-12	Tween
13-19	Teenager
20 or above	Adult

Fig. 3. Producing a categorization based on age.



Results of student interactions

Pilot study
54 students
July 2023

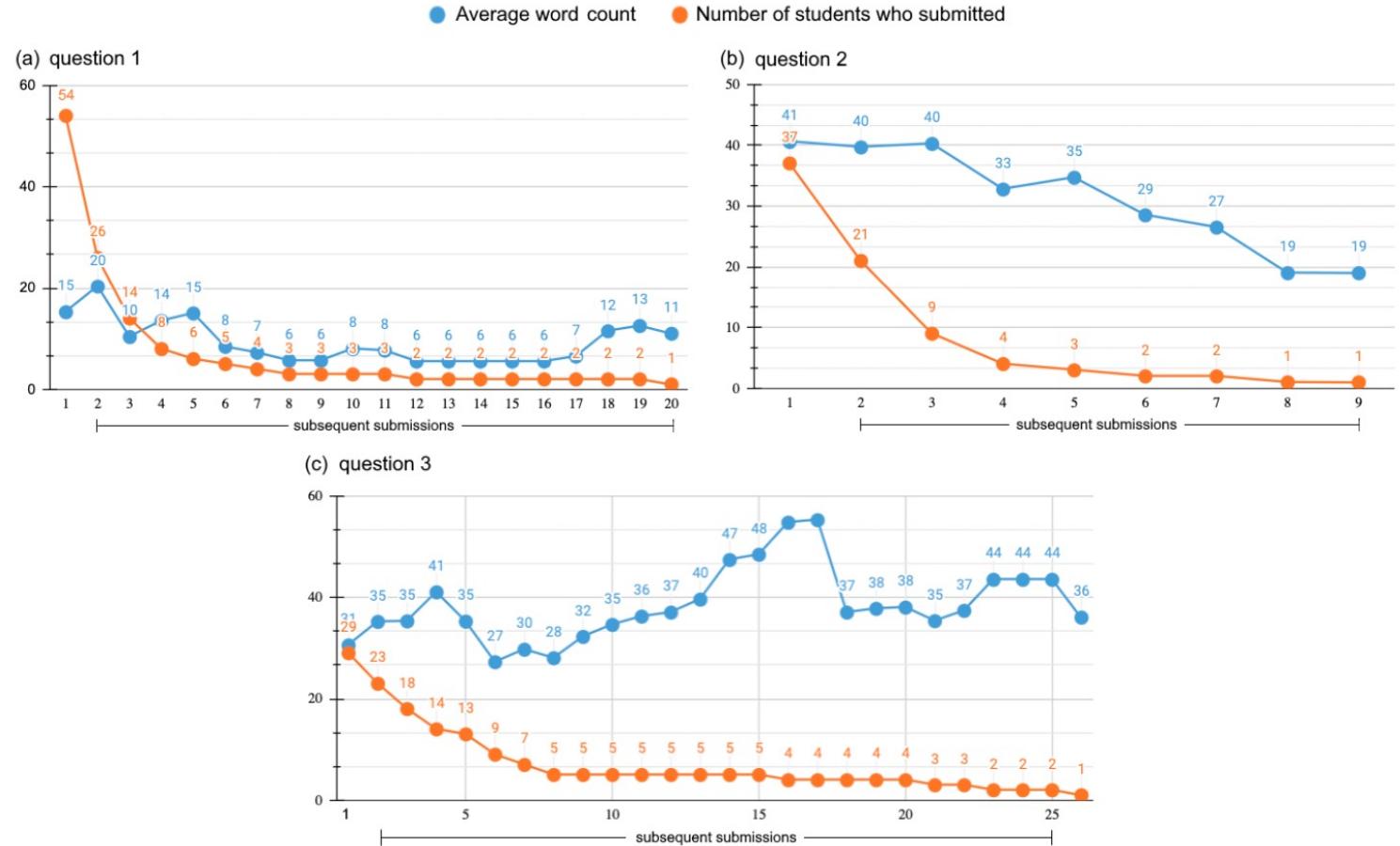


Fig. 5. The average number of words in each subsequent submission and number of participants that submitted. On the x-axis, 1 is the initial submission (attempt) per question and 2- are subsequent submissions (attempts).

Results of student interactions

Large scale study

202 students (Lab 10)

147 students (Lab 11)

2,939 prompt submissions

August 2023

(a) Lab 10 Excercise 1

```
counter([0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 0]) => 2
counter([10, 20, 30]) => 0
counter([0, 0, 0, 0, 999]) => 4
```

(b) Lab 10 Excercise 2

```
initials('abd def ghi') => 'ADG'
initials('xxx') => 'X'
initials('Hi world') => 'HW'
```

(c) Lab 10 Excercise 3

```
repeat([1, 2, 3, 4]) => [1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 4, 4]
repeat([5]) => [5, 5, 5, 5, 5]
repeat([2, 0, 1, 3]) => [2, 2, 1, 3, 3, 3]
```

(d) Lab 11 Excercise 1

```
scramble("mossy", 1) => 'npttz'
scramble("racecar", 3) => 'udfhfd'u
scramble("hello", 0) => 'hello'
scramble("hello", -1) => 'gdkkn'
scramble("zoo", 2) => 'bqq'
```

(e) Lab 11 Excercise 2

```
arrange("AaBbCcDd") => 'ABCDdcba'
arrange("MOM DAD") => 'ADDMMO'
arrange("Mom Dad") => 'DMomda'
arrange("A Testing TEST") => 'AESTTTtsnige'
arrange("A1B2 !@ C3D4") => 'ABCD'
```

(f) Lab 11 Excercise 3

```
speak("Hello World!") => 'H3ll0 W0rld!'
speak("STEAK") => '5734K'
speak("Programming is easy") => 'Pr0gr4mm1ng 15 345y'
```

Problem	Students			Submissions			Words in Prompts			
	Total	Correct	First Try	Count	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max
Lab10-1	202	118	32	884	4.37	1	30	25.79	7	76
Lab10-2	108	108	74	212	1.96	1	10	27.39	8	93
Lab10-3	107	104	67	224	2.09	1	20	34.78	8	119
Lab11-1	147	105	39	491	3.34	1	27	41.11	9	198
Lab11-2	97	82	20	502	5.17	1	28	43.96	16	86
Lab11-3	80	60	5	626	7.82	1	47	54.07	23	115

Table 1. Summary of student interactions with the Prompt Problems in Labs 10 and 11. For students, we provide the total number of unique students that attempted each problem (Total), the number who got it correct (Correct), and the number who got it correct on the first try (First Try). For submissions, we provide the total number of prompt submissions made for that problem (Count), the mean number of submissions (Mean), the minimum number of submissions any student had to correctly solve the problem (Min), and the maximum number of submissions any student had whether correct or incorrect (Max). To describe the words in submitted correct prompts, we provide the average number of words in correct prompts (Mean), the minimum number of words in correct prompts (Min), and the maximum number of words in correct prompts (Max).

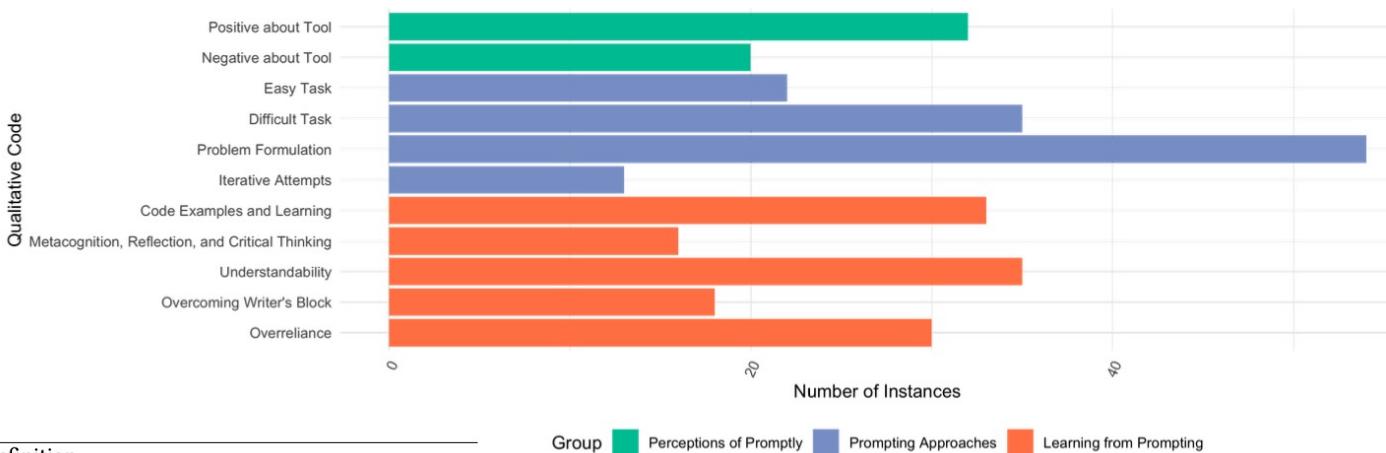
RQ1: How do students interact with Prompt Problems while learning to program? ■

Results of student interactions

Large scale study
202 students (Lab 10)
147 students (Lab 11)
August 2023

Theme	Code	Code Definition
Perceptions of the Tool	Positive Sentiment Towards Tool	Student expresses a form of positive sentiment towards Promptly as a tool (e.g., UI, feedback).
	Negative Sentiment Towards Tool	Student expresses a negative sentiment towards Promptly as a tool.
Prompting Approaches	Easy Task(s)	Student indicates that the task of successfully generating a prompt was easy.
	Difficult Task(s)	Student indicates that the task of successfully generating a prompt was difficult.
	Problem Formulation	Students response discusses their approach or experiences with formulating a description of the problem.
	Iterative Attempts	Student discusses their experience with or approach to iterative modifications to their initially incorrect prompt(s) or creation of successive new prompts.
Learning from Prompting	Code Examples and Learning	Student mentions learning from seeing different approaches to the solution, as generated via ChatGPT.
	Metacognition	Student mentions their thought processes.
	Understandability	Student mentions aspects of the generated code that improves or limits their ability to interpret it.
	Overcoming Writers Block	Students indicate that prompting, as a skill, is or could be useful for situations where they know the task to perform but are unsure of how to form an initial solution.
	Overreliance	Student indicates they might come to rely on prompting.

Table 2. The table of themes, codes, and code definitions.



RQ2: How do students perceive Prompt Problems affecting their learning of programming concepts? ■

Next-Step Hint Generation for Introductory Programming Using Large Language Models

Authors:  Lianne Roest,  Hieke Keuning,  Johan Jeuring [Authors Info & Claims](#)

ACE '24: Proceedings of the 26th Australasian Computing Education Conference • January 2024 • Pages 144–153

• <https://doi.org/10.1145/3636243.3636259>

■ Example practices: code generation

■ Setting: introductory Python exercises [8]

■ Goal: how to design prompts for LLMs to produce **next-step hints** and enhance them with explanations.

■ Research questions:

- RQ1: To what extent can we use LLMs to generate informative and effective next-step hints for Python introductory programming exercises?
- SQ1 What prompt characteristics are suitable for generating effective next-step hints with LLMs?
- SQ2 What are students' and experts' perceptions of the quality of LLM-generated next-step hints?

■ Approach: “StAP-tutor” (Step Assisted Programming tutor)

- Input is a dataset with sequences of steps students take when solving a programming problem (148 participants)
- Sequences are used to engineer a prompt for generating next-step hints
- StAP-tutor allows the students to practice Python with the help of next-step hints.

Exercise for prompt engineering

Pies

A single pie costs A dollars and B cents in the cafe. Calculate how many dollars and cents one needs to pay for N pies.

Input: The program receives three numbers

A - how many dollars a pie costs;

B - how many cents a pie costs;

N - how many pies do you need to buy

Output: Print out two numbers: the cost of N pies in dollars and cents.

Example hints using different prompt instructions

Prompt	Hint
<code>v1 = int(input()) v2 = int(input()) v3 = int(input()) v2= v2 * v3 v1= v1 * v3</code>	<i>What is the next step</i> The next step is to calculate the total cost of N pies by adding v1 and v2.
<code>v1 = int(input()) v2 = int(input()) v3 = int(input()) v2= v2 * v3 v1= v1 * v3</code>	<i>Give a hint for the next step</i> The next step should involve calculating the total cost of N pies using the updated values of v1 and v2, and then converting the total cost into dollars and cents.
<code>v1 = int(input()) v2 = int(input()) v3 = int(input()) v2= v2 * v3 v1= v1 * v3</code>	<i>Explain the next step for a student</i> It seems like you are trying to calculate the total cost of N pies. You have correctly multiplied the cents by the number of pies, but you also need to multiply the dollars by the number of pies. You can do this by updating the value of v1 to be v1 multiplied by v3. Then you can use the updated values of v1 and v2 to calculate the total cost of N pies.

StAP Tutor

Log out

Choose exercise:

Count Clumps

Restart exercise

Type code here:

```
1 n = int(input())
2 list = []
3
4 for i in range(n):
5     list.append(int(input()))
6
7 def count_clumps():
8
```

Rating:

Please rate the hint

The hint is clear.

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

The hint is helpful.

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

The hint fits my work.

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

Other comments?

Submit

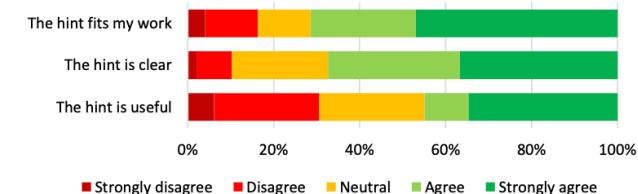


Figure 4: Student hint ratings (n=48).

■ Example practices: code generation

■ Goal: extend “simple” benchmarks for code generation to more “complex” scenarios. [9]

Table 1: Existing Benchmarks for Code Generation

Benchmark	Time	Language	Manual/Automated	Source	Granularity	#Tasks	#Tests	#LOC	#Tokens	Input Information
Concode [35]	2018	Java	Automated	Github	Function-level	2,000	-	-	26.3	NL
CoNaLA [66]	2018	Python	Automated	Stack Overflow	Statement-level	500	-	1	-	NL
APPS [32]	2021	Python	Automated	Contest Sites	Competitive	5,000	13.2	21.4	58	NL + Example Inputs/Outputs
HumanEval [21]	2021	Python	Manual	-	Function-level	164	7.7	11.5	24.4	NL + Function Signature + Example Inputs/Outputs
MBPP [15]	2021	Python	Manual	-	Function-level	974	3.0	6.8	24.2	NL
math-qa [15]	2021	Python	Manual	Math Study Sites	Statement-level	2,985	-	7.6	24.6	NL
Multi-HumanEval [14]	2022	Multilingual	Manual	-	Function-level	164	7.7	11.5	24.4	NL + Function Signature + Example Inputs/Outputs
MBXP [14]	2022	Multilingual	Manual	-	Function-level	974	3.0	6.8	24.2	NL
multi-math-qa [14]	2022	Multilingual	Manual	Math Study Sites	Statement-level	2,985	-	7.6	24.6	NL
CodeContests [43]	2022	Python, C++	Automated	Contest Sites	Competitive	165	203.7	59.8	184.8	NL + Example Inputs/Outputs
DS-1000 [40]	2022	Python	Automated	Stack Overflow	Statement-level	1,000	1.6	3.8	12.8	NL
HumanEval+ [44]	2023	Python	Manual	-	Function-level	164	774.8	11.5	24.4	NL + Function Signature + Example Inputs/Outputs
CoderEval [67]	2023	Python, Java	Automated	Github	Function-level	230	-	30	108.2	NL + Function Signature
ClassEval	2023	Python	Manual	-	Class-level	100	33.1	45.7	123.7	Class Skeleton

HumanEval

```
from typing import List
Import Statements
def has_close_elements(numbers: List[float], threshold: float) -> bool: Signature
    """ Check if in given list of numbers, are any two numbers closer to each other than
    given threshold.
    """
    >>> has_close_elements([1.0, 2.0, 3.0], 0.5)
    False
    >>> has_close_elements([1.0, 2.8, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 2.0], 0.3)
    True"""
Functional Description
```

MBPP

```
Functional Description
"Write a python function to find the first repeated character in a given string."
```



Figure 1: Examples in Existing Benchmarks

Evaluating Large Language Models in Class-Level Code Generation

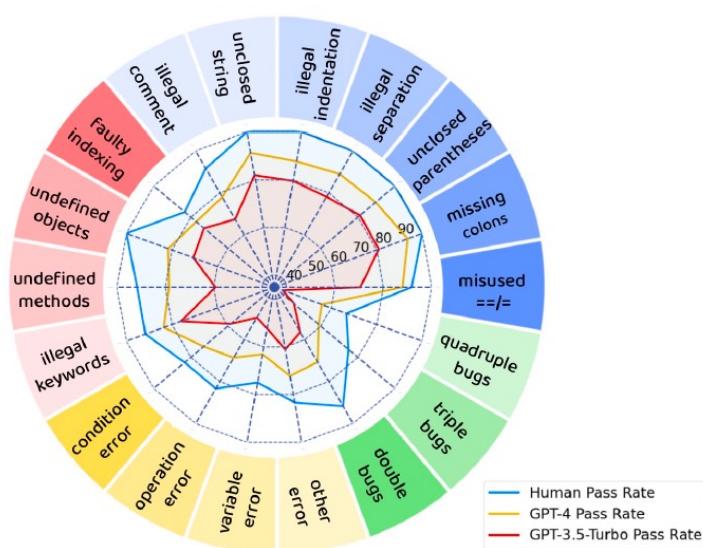
Authors: Xueying Du, Mingwei Liu, Kaixin Wang, Hanlin Wang, Junwei Liu, Yixuan Chen, Jiayi Feng,
 Chaofeng Sha, Xin Peng, Yiling Lou [Authors Info & Claims](#)

ICSE '24: Proceedings of the IEEE/ACM 46th International Conference on Software Engineering • May 2024 • Article No.: 81 •
 Pages 1–13 • <https://doi.org/10.1145/3597503.3639219>

<pre>from datetime import datetime</pre>	Import Statements
<pre>class VendingMachine:</pre>	Class Name
<pre> """This is a class to simulate a vending machine, including adding products, inserting coins, purchasing products, viewing balance, replenishing product inventory, and displaying product information.""" </pre>	Class Description
<pre> def __init__(self): self.inventory = [] self.balance = 0</pre>	Class Constructor
<pre> def purchase_item(self, item_name):</pre>	Method Signature
<pre> """ Purchases a product from the vending machine and returns the balance after the purchase.</pre>	Functional Description
<pre> :param item_name: str, the name of the product to be purchased, which should be in the vending machine.</pre>	Parameter/Return
<pre> :return: If successful, returns the balance of the vending machine after the product is purchased, float, if the product is out of stock, returns False.</pre>	Description
<pre>>>> vendingMachine.inventory = {'Coke': {'price': 1.25, 'quantity': 10}}</pre>	Example Input/Output
<pre>>>> vendingMachine.balance = 1.25</pre>	Description
<pre>>>> vendingMachine.purchase_item('Coke')</pre>	Description
<pre>0.0</pre>	Description
<pre>>>> vendingMachine.inventory</pre>	Description
<pre>{'Coke': {'price': 1.25, 'quantity': 9}}</pre>	Description
<pre>def restock_item(self, item_name, quantity):</pre>	Method Signature
<pre> """</pre>	Functional Description
<pre> Replenishes the inventory of a product already in the vending machine.</pre>	Parameter/Return
<pre> :param item_name: The name of the product to be replenished, str, which should be in the vending machine.</pre>	Description
<pre> :param quantity: The quantity of the product to be replenished, int, which is greater than 0.</pre>	Description
<pre> :return: If the product is already in the vending machine, returns True, otherwise, returns False.</pre>	Description
<pre>>>> vendingMachine.inventory = {'Coke': {'price': 1.25, 'quantity': 10}}</pre>	Example Input/Output
<pre>>>> vendingMachine.restock_item('Coke', 10)</pre>	Description
<pre>True</pre>	Description
<pre>>>> vendingMachine.inventory</pre>	Description
<pre>{'Coke': {'price': 1.25, 'quantity': 20}}</pre>	Description

Figure 2: An Example of Class Skeleton in ClassEval

■ Example practices: LLM debugging



- ✓ Dataset: 4,253 code examples (from LeetCode)
- ✓ 4 “bug” categories (syntax, reference, logic, misc)
- ✓ Comparative analysis (GPT-3.5, GPT-4, CodeLLama, BLOOM)

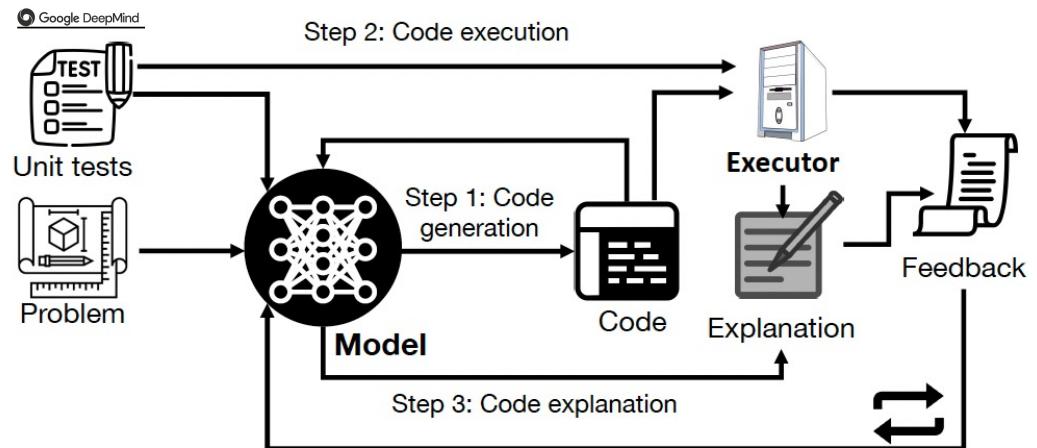


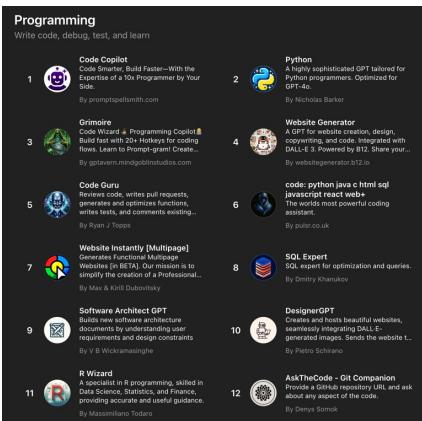
Figure 1: SELF-DEBUGGING for iterative debugging using a large language model. At each debugging step, the model first generates new code, then the code is executed and the model explains the code. The code explanation along with the execution results constitute the feedback message, based on which the model infers the code correctness and then adds this message to the feedback. The feedback message is then sent back to the model to perform more debugging steps. When unit tests are not available, the feedback can be purely based on code explanation.

- ✓ Focus on *rubber-duck debugging* (no human intervention)
- ✓ Tested against several benchmarks, with baseline improvements of 2% - 12%.



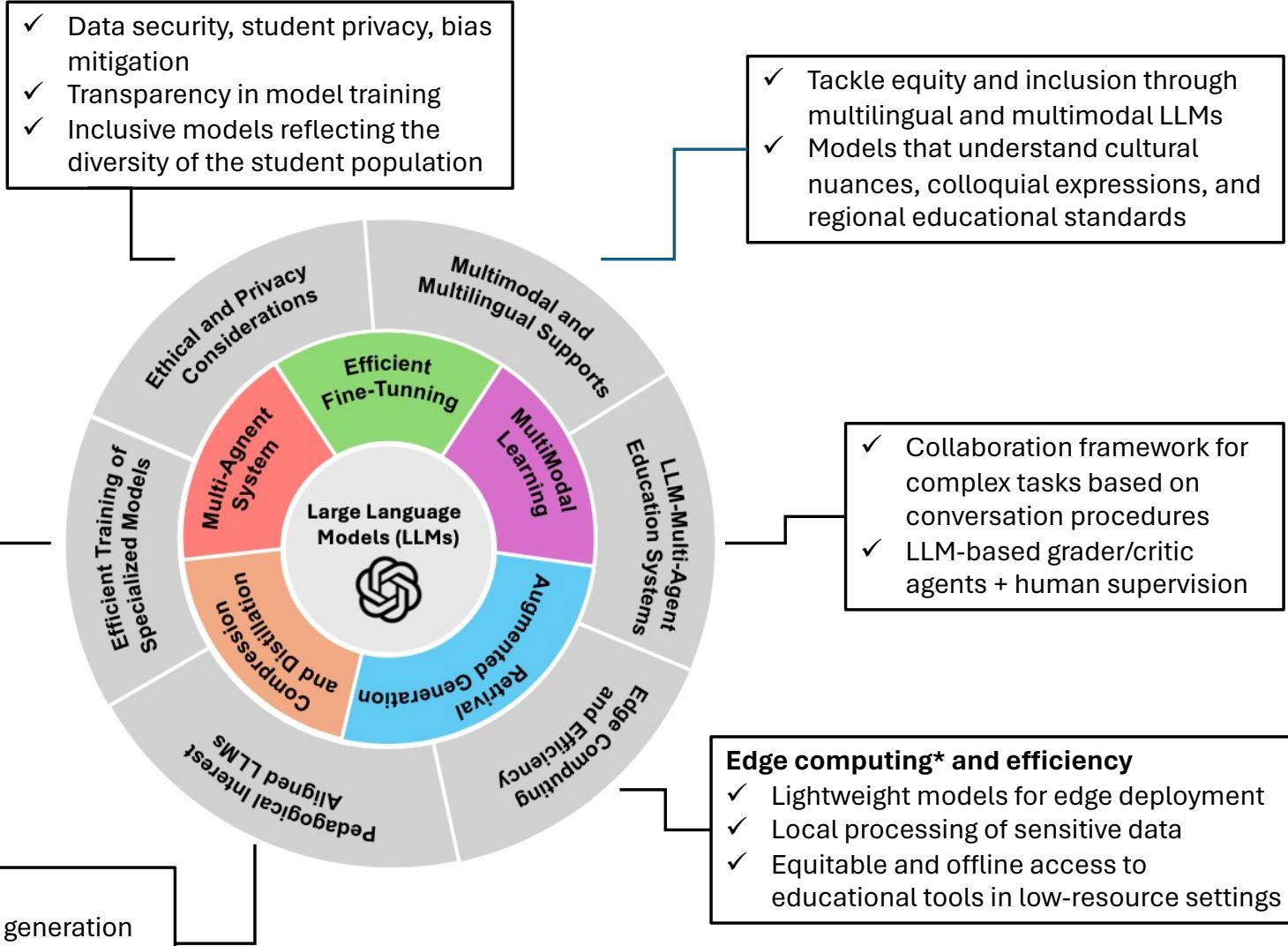
■ Future directions [2]

- ✓ LLMs tailored to specific domains



Pedagogical interest-aligned LLMs

- ✓ Add prior information, through advanced generation techniques (such as RAG*)
- ✓ Collect large pedagogical datasets to fine-tune LLMs



RAG (retrieval-augmented generation): improve the accuracy of LLMs with facts fetched from external sources

Edge computing: processing data closer to the end user, to reduce latency and increase content delivery speed

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