Foundations for Al-assisted formative assessment feedback for short-answer tasks in large-enrollment classes

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11th International Conference on Teaching Statistics (ICOTS)

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Fundamentos para la retroalimentación de evaluación formativa asistida por IA para tareas de respuesta corta en clases de inscripción grande [Google traduccion del Inglés]

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Whova Poll (and resource page access)

How would you describe the value of formative assessment?

- Constructed response (short-answer free text)
- Selected response (multiple choice; select all that apply)

Scan with mobile phone to access resource page:



Figure 1: (QR Code) https://mdbeckman.github.io/ICOTS2022/

Encuesta de Whova (página de recursos)

¿Cómo describiría el valor de la evaluación formativa?

- Respuesta construida (texto libre de respuesta corta)
- Respuesta seleccionada (opción múltiple; seleccione todas las que correspondan)

Escanee con el teléfono móvil para acceder a la página de recursos:



Figure 1: (QR Code) https://mdbeckman.github.io/ICOTS2022/

Motivation

- "Write-to-learn" tasks improve learning outcomes (Graham, et al., 2020)
- Critical for citizen-statisticians to communicate statistical ideas effectively (Gould, 2010)
- Continual practice with communicating improves statistical literacy and promotes retention (Basu, et al., 2013)
- Formative assessment benefits both students & instructors (GAISE, 2016; Pearl, et al., 2012)
- Logistics of constructed response tasks jeopardize use in large-enrollment classes

Motivación

- Las tareas de "escribir para aprender" mejoran los resultados del aprendizaje (Graham, et al., 2020)
- Crítico para que los ciudadanos-estadísticos comuniquen ideas estadísticas de manera efectiva (Gould, 2010)
- La práctica continua con la comunicación mejora la alfabetización estadística y promueve la retención (Basu, et al., 2013)
- La evaluación formativa beneficia tanto a los estudiantes como a los instructores (GAISE, 2016; Pearl, et al., 2012)
- La *logística* de las tareas de respuesta construida pone en peligro el uso en clases de inscripción grande

Goal state

Computer-assisted formative assessment feedback for short-answer tasks in large-enrollment classes, such that instructor burden is similar to small class (\sim 30 students)

- Human-machine collaboration is a promising mechanism to assist rapid, individualized feedback at scale (Basu, 2013)
- Natural language processing (NLP) involves how computers can be programmed to analyze language elements (e.g., text or speech)
- NLP-assisted feedback has previously been studied for essays or long-answer tasks (see e.g., Attali, et al., 2008; Page, 1994)

Estado del objetivo

Retroalimentación de la evaluación formativa asistida por computadora para tareas de respuesta corta en clases de inscripción grande, de modo que la carga del instructor es similar a la clase pequeña (~30 estudiantes)

- La colaboración hombre-máquina es un mecanismo prometedor para ayudar a la retroalimentación rápida e individualizada a escala (Basu, 2013)
- El procesamiento del lenguaje natural (PNL) implica cómo se pueden programar las computadoras para analizar elementos del lenguaje (por ejemplo, texto o voz)
- La retroalimentación asistida por PNL se ha estudiado previamente para ensayos o tareas de respuesta larga (ver, por ejemplo, Attali, et al., 2008; Page, 1994)

Research Questions

- **RQ1**: What level of agreement is achieved among trained human raters labeling (i.e., scoring or marking) short-answer tasks?
- **RQ2**: What level of agreement is achieved between human raters and an NLP algorithm?
- **RQ3**: What sort of NLP representation leads to good clustering performance, and how does that interact with the classification algorithm?

Preprint

Susan Lloyd, Matthew Beckman, Dennis Pearl, Rebecca Passonneau, Zhaohui Li, & Zekun Wang (accepted). Foundations of NLP-assisted formative assessment feedback for short-answer tasks in large enrollment statistics classes. Preprint URL: http://arxiv.org/abs/2205.02829

Preguntas de investigación

- RQ1: ¿Qué nivel de acuerdo se logra entre evaluadores humanos capacitados al etiquetar (es decir, calificar o calificar) tareas de respuesta corta?
- **RQ2**: ¿Qué nivel de acuerdo se logra entre evaluadores humanos y un algoritmo de PNL?
- RQ3: ¿Qué tipo de representación de PNL conduce a un buen rendimiento de agrupación y cómo interactúa eso con el algoritmo de clasificación?

Manuscrito

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Spoilers?!

- **RQ1**: What level of agreement is achieved among trained human raters labeling (i.e., scoring) short-answer tasks?
- **RQ2**: What level of agreement is achieved between human raters and an NLP algorithm?
- **RQ3**: What sort of NLP representation leads to good clustering performance, and how does that interact with the classification algorithm?

Spoilers?!

- RQ1: substantial inter-rater & intra-rater agreement
- RQ2: substantial agreement among human & NLP labeling
- RQ3: in progress, but promising

¡¿Spoilers?!

- **RQ1**: ¿Qué nivel de acuerdo se logra entre evaluadores humanos capacitados al etiquetar (es decir, calificar) tareas de respuesta corta?
- **RQ2**: ¿Qué nivel de acuerdo se logra entre evaluadores humanos y un algoritmo de PNL?
- RQ3: ¿Qué tipo de representación de PNL conduce a un buen rendimiento de agrupación y cómo interactúa eso con el algoritmo de clasificación?

¡¿Spoilers?!

- RQ1: acuerdo sustancial entre evaluadores e intraevaluadores
- RQ2: acuerdo sustancial entre el etiquetado humano y PNL
- RQ3: en progreso, pero prometedor

Methods (Sample)

Study utilized de-identified extant data & scoring rubrics (Beckman, 2015)

- 6 short-answer tasks
- 1,935 students total
- 29 class sections 15 distinct institutions

Métodos (Muestra)

El estudio utilizó datos existentes no identificados y rúbricas de puntuación (Beckman, 2015)

- 6 tareas de respuesta corta
- 1.935 estudiantes en total
- 29 secciones de clase 15 instituciones distintas

Methods (Short-answer task)

4. Walleye is a popular type of freshwater fish native to Canada a States. Walleye fishing takes much more than luck; better fishermen fish using knowledge about proper bait, water currents, geographic fe of the fish, and more. Mark and his brother Dan went on a two-week determine who the better Walleye fisherman is. Each brother had his equipment so they could each fish in different locations and move free They recorded the length of each fish that was caught during the trip, one of them catches larger Walleye on average.	consistently catch larger atures, feeding patterns fishing trip together to own boat and similar ely throughout the area.
a. Should statistical inference be used to determine whether Mark Walleye fisherman? Explain why statistical inference should or shoul scenario.	
	6
b. Next, explain how you would determine whether Mark or Dan is fisherman using the data from the fishing trip. (Be sure to give enoug could easily understand your approach, and how he or she would intercontext of the problem.)	h detail that a classmate
	aort angwar prompt
gure 2: Sample task including a stem and two s	iort-answer promp
gure 2: Sample task including a stem and two s Métodos (tarea de respu	
	esta corta) Ind the Northern United consistently catch larger atures, feeding patterns fishing trip together to own boat and similar ely throughout the area.
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Figure 2: Tarea de muestra que incluye un enunciado y dos indicaciones de respuesta corta.

could easily understand your approach, and how he or she would interpret the result in the context of the problem.)

Methods (RQ1)

- 3 human raters typical of large-enrollment instruction team
- 63 student responses in common for each *combination* of raters to quantify agreement (e.g., pairwise, consensus, etc)
- constraint: sufficient data for intra-rater analysis for person that had labeled 178 responses 6 years prior

Métodos (RQ1)

- 3 evaluadores humanos típicos del equipo de instrucción de inscripción grande
- 63 respuestas de estudiantes en común para cada *combinación* de evaluadores para cuantificar el acuerdo (por ejemplo, por pares, consenso, etc.)
- restricción: datos suficientes para el análisis intraevaluador para la persona que había etiquetado 178 respuestas 6 años antes

Methods (RQ2)

The set of task-responses were randomly split four ways:

- 90% of data for development purposes, were partitioned according to machine-learning best practice:
 - training (72%),
 - development (9%)
 - evaluation (9%)
- 10% of data being held in reserve for more rigorous testing

Two NLP algorithms were compared for accuracy using a subset of student responses (Li et al., 2021).

- LSTM: a logistic regression combined with a Long Short-Term Memory for learning vector representations
- SFRN: Semantic Feature-Wise Transformation Relation Network

Métodos (RQ2)

El conjunto de tareas-respuestas se dividió aleatoriamente en cuatro formas:

- El 90 % de los datos para fines de desarrollo se dividieron de acuerdo con las mejores prácticas de aprendizaje automático:
 - formación (72%),
 - desarrollo (9%)
 - evaluación (9%)
- 10% de los datos se mantienen en reserva para pruebas más rigurosas

Se comparó la precisión de dos algoritmos de PNL utilizando un subconjunto de respuestas de estudiantes (Li et al., 2021).

- LSTM: una regresión logística combinada con una Memoria a Corto Plazo Largo para aprender representaciones vectoriales
- SFRN: Red de relación de transformación semántica basada en características

Methods (RQ3)

Manual pilot of human-generated clustering

- Two reviewers independently evaluated 100 student responses that earned "partial credit" on inference tasks
- Each reviewer provided free-text feedback to each student
- Verbatim feedback captured for each reviewer and cross-tabulated for analysis.

Métodos (RQ3)

Piloto manual de agrupamiento generado por humanos

- Dos revisores evaluaron de forma independiente 100 respuestas de estudiantes que obtuvieron "crédito parcial" en tareas de inferencia
- Cada revisor proporcionó comentarios de texto libre a cada estudiante
- Comentarios textuales capturados para cada revisor y tabulados cruzados para su análisis.

RQ1: What level of agreement is achieved among trained human raters labeling (i.e., scoring) short-answer tasks?

Comparison	Reliability
Rater A & Rater C	$\overline{QWK = 0.83}$
Rater A & Rater D	QWK = 0.80
Rater C & Rater D	QWK = 0.79
Rater A: 2015 & 2021	QWK = 0.88
Raters A, C, & D	FK = 0.70

Reliability interpretation¹: 0.6 < substantial < 0.8 < near perfect < 1.0

Resultados (RQ1)

RQ1: ¿Qué nivel de acuerdo se logra entre evaluadores humanos capacitados al etiquetar (es decir, calificar) tareas de respuesta corta?

Comparación	Confiabilidad
Calificador A y Calificador C	$\overline{QWK=0.83}$
Calificador A y Calificador D	QWK = 0.80
Calificador C y Calificador D	QWK = 0.79
Calificador A: 2015 y 2021	QWK = 0.88
Calificadores A, C y D	FC = 0.70

Interpretación de confiabilidad 1 : 0,6 < sustancial < 0,8 < casi perfecto < 1,0

¹Viera & Garrett (2005)

¹Viera y Garrett (2005)

Results (RQ2)

RQ2: What level of agreement is achieved between human raters and the machine (an NLP algorithm)?

The SFRN algorithm achieved much higher classification accuracy than LSTM $(83\% \text{ vs. } 72\%)^2$. Human & SFRN agreement:

Comparison	Reliability
Rater A & SFRN	QWK = 0.79
Rater C & SFRN	QWK = 0.82
Rater D & SFRN	QWK = 0.74
Raters: A, C, D, & SFRN	FK = 0.68

Reliability interpretation 3 : 0.6 < substantial < 0.8 < near perfect < 1.0

Resultados (RQ2)

RQ2: ¿Qué nivel de acuerdo se logra entre los evaluadores humanos y la máquina (un algoritmo de PNL)?

El algoritmo SFRN logró una precisión de clasificación mucho mayor que LSTM (83 % frente a 72 %) 2 . Acuerdo humano y SFRN:

Comparación	Confiabilidad
Calificador A y SFRN	$\overline{QWK = 0.79}$
Calificador C y SFRN	QWK = 0.82
Calificador D y SFRN	QWK = 0.74
Calificadores: A, C, D y SFRN	FC = 0,68

Interpretación de confiabilidad 3 : 0,6 < sustancial < 0,8 < casi perfecto < 1,0

²SFRN & LSTM comparison excludes instances when human labels disagree ³Viera & Garrett (2005)

²la comparación de SFRN y LSTM excluye instancias en las que las etiquetas humanas no están de acuerdo

³Viera y Garrett (2005)

Results (RQ3 machines)

RQ3: What sort of NLP representation leads to good clustering performance, and how does that interact with the classification algorithm?

- SFRN learns a high-dimension (D = 512) vector representation on training data.
- Experiments with K-means and K-medoids clustering showed SFRN produce more consistent clusters when retrained (0.62), in comparison to other classifiers.⁴
- Highest consistency (0.88; D=50), however, was achieved using a matrix factorization method that produces static representations (WTMF; Guo & Diab, 2011)

Resultados (RQ3 máquinas)

RQ3: ¿Qué tipo de representación de PNL conduce a un buen rendimiento de agrupación y cómo interactúa eso con el algoritmo de clasificación?

- SFRN aprende una representación vectorial de gran dimensión (D = 512) en los datos de entrenamiento.
- Los experimentos con el agrupamiento de K-means y K-medoids mostraron que SFRN produce agrupaciones más consistentes cuando se vuelve a entrenar (0,62), en comparación con otros clasificadores.⁴
- La consistencia más alta (0.88; D=50), sin embargo, se logró usando un método de factorización de matrices que produce representaciones estáticas (WTMF; Guo & Diab, 2011)

⁴Consistency is measured as the ratio of all pairs of responses in a given class per question that are clustered the same way on two runs (in the same cluster, or not in the same cluster).

⁴la consistencia se mide como la proporción de todos los pares de respuestas en una clase determinada por pregunta que se agrupan de la misma manera en dos ejecuciones (en el mismo grupo o no en el mismo grupo).

Results (RQ3 humans)

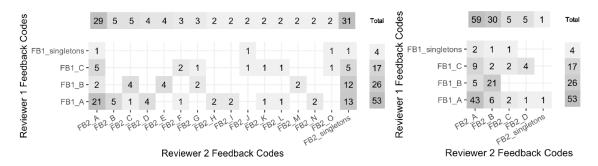


Figure 3: Cross-tabulation of feedback distribution for the two reviewers for the initial feedback (left) compared with the same analysis for the portion of feedback related to the statistical concept at issue (right).

- Reviewer 1 favored feedback on statistical concepts (only).
- Reviewer 2 provided same, plus a quote from the student
- Reviewer 2 parsed her feedback to compare her remarks related to the statistical concepts (only) with the feedback of Reviewer 1.

Resultados (RQ3 humanos) 29 5 5 4 4 3 3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 31 Total \$\frac{9}{60}\$ \$\frac{9}{60}\$

Figure 3: Tabulación cruzada de la distribución de retroalimentación para los dos revisores para la retroalimentación inicial (izquierda) en comparación con el mismo análisis para la porción de retroalimentación relacionada con el concepto estadístico en cuestión (derecha).

- El revisor 1 favoreció la retroalimentación sobre conceptos estadísticos (solo).
- El revisor 2 proporcionó lo mismo, más una cita del estudiante
- El Revisor 2 analizó sus comentarios para comparar sus comentarios relacionados con los conceptos estadísticos (solo) con los comentarios del Revisor 1.

Discussion

- **RQ1**: Substantial agreement achieved among trained human raters provides context for further comparisons
- **RQ2**: NLP algorithm produced agreement reasonably aligned to results achieved by pairs/groups of trained human raters
- **RQ3**: Classification and clustering have competing incentives for dimensionality; Low D is better for cluster stability, High D better for classification reliability.

Discusión

- RQ1: El acuerdo sustancial logrado entre evaluadores humanos capacitados proporciona contexto para comparaciones adicionales
- RQ2: el algoritmo de PNL produjo un acuerdo razonablemente alineado con los resultados logrados por pares/grupos de evaluadores humanos capacitados
- RQ3: La clasificación y el agrupamiento tienen incentivos que compiten por la dimensionalidad; Low D es mejor para la estabilidad del grupo, High D es mejor para la confiabilidad de la clasificación.

Future work

- Study uses extant data from prior study collected from many classes of varying size
 - not a single large class
 - we expect observed results are conservative due to additional variability across institutions and instructors, but will be investigated further
- "Curse of dimensionality" on the machine learning side
- Clustering performance vs semantic meaning
 - clustering is necessary, but not sufficient, for semantic meaning
 - semantic meaning of NLP clusters not yet rigorously studied

Trabajo Futuro

- El estudio utiliza datos existentes de estudios anteriores recopilados de muchas clases de diferentes tamaños
 - ni una sola clase grande
 - esperamos que los resultados observados sean conservadores debido a la variabilidad adicional entre instituciones e instructores, pero se investigarán más a fondo
- "Maldición de la dimensionalidad" en el lado del aprendizaje automático
- Rendimiento de agrupamiento frente a significado semántico
 - el agrupamiento es necesario, pero no suficiente, para el significado semántico
 - el significado semántico de los grupos de PNL aún no se ha estudiado rigurosamente

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Thank You

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Gracias

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