

Homework 4

Due Tue, December 11

CS 485, UMass Amherst, Fall 2024

Overview

This short homework is focused on reading and writing. Please submit answers to Gradescope as a PDF.

1 Project presentation: reaction to one project

Consult your notes on the project presentations.

Write reflections on one of the projects with at least two short paragraphs: one paragraph summarizing the work (include the main research question, what they did, and what they found), and one paragraph with your questions about the work or future work, and any other thoughts.

2 Reading a current research paper

Here, you'll read a current research paper and comment on it. We advise reading the paper in two passes: First, read the abstract and skim through the rest of the pages to see, at a high level, what was done. Then, read the paper itself, taking notes on things you didn't understand and want to follow up on. You may have to dig deeper into only a few things, instead of every single thing that you see.

Choose a recent paper from any of the major NLP or NLP-related ML conferences, such as ACL, NAACL, EMNLP, ICLR, or COLM. We suggest either of these two papers, which are focused on experiments or interviews with human users:

- Jay Cunningham, Su Lin Blodgett, Michael Madaio, Hal Daumé Iii, Christina Harrington, Hanna Wallach. "Understanding the Impacts of Language Technologies' Performance Disparities on African American Language Speakers." Findings of ACL 2024. <https://aclanthology.org/2024.findings-acl.761/>.
- Chenglei Si, Navita Goyal, Tongshuang Wu, Chen Zhao, Shi Feng, Hal Daumé III, Jordan Boyd-Graber. "Large Language Models Help Humans Verify Truthfulness – Except When They Are Convincingly Wrong." NAACL 2024. <https://aclanthology.org/2024.naacl-long.81/>

3 Overview of paper

3.1

What paper did you select?

3.2

What is the main research question the authors are trying to address? (in only one or two sentences, please)

3.3

Why is this question or problem important? (in a few sentences)

3.4

What did the authors do to investigate the question? What were their main findings? (Please write approximately a paragraph.)

4 Discussion of paper

Each of the following should be approximately a paragraph.

4.1

What are the most interesting things you learned from the paper?

4.2

What questions do you have about the paper? What things do you wish were clarified better?

4.3

What are limitations does the paper have? Does it have any limitations that the authors failed to note?

4.4

What ideas for related work, future work, or applications do you have from this paper?

4.5

Any other thoughts?