

MULTITASK PROMPTED TRAINING ENABLES ZERO-SHOT TASK GENERALIZATION

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- [BigScience](#)
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- [PromptSource](#)

main 10 branches 5 tags

Go to file Add file Code

VictorSanh handle pagination of /api/datasets endpoint 71abda9 on Jan 19 748 commits

.github/workflows	Resolves PyPi install issue #726 (#727)	last year
assets	track large files with lfs	6 months ago
promptsource	handle pagination of /api/datasets endpoint	3 months ago
test	Merge answer_choices and metadata. (#548)	2 years ago
.gitattributes	track large files with lfs	6 months ago
.gitignore	Fix seqio import for story cloze (#447)	2 years ago
API_DOCUMENTATION.md	Pass on readme + citation (#716)	last year
CITATION.cff	0.2.1 patch release after adding back get_fixed_answer_choices...	last year
CODEOWNERS	Create CODEOWNERS	last year
CONTRIBUTING.md	Language tags (#771)	9 months ago
LICENSE	Initial commit	2 years ago
Makefile	compatibility with black	2 years ago
README.md	update link to hosted version	6 months ago
setup.cfg	compatibility with black	2 years ago
setup.py	v0.2.3 patch release with multiprocessing fixed => remove python ve...	last year

About

Toolkit for creating, sharing and using natural language prompts.

- nlp
- machine-learning
- natural-language-processing

- Readme
- Apache-2.0 license
- Cite this repository
- 1.6k stars
- 26 watching
- 239 forks
- Report repository

Releases 5

v0.2.3: Fix multiprocessing is... Latest on Jul 2, 2022

+ 4 releases

Packages

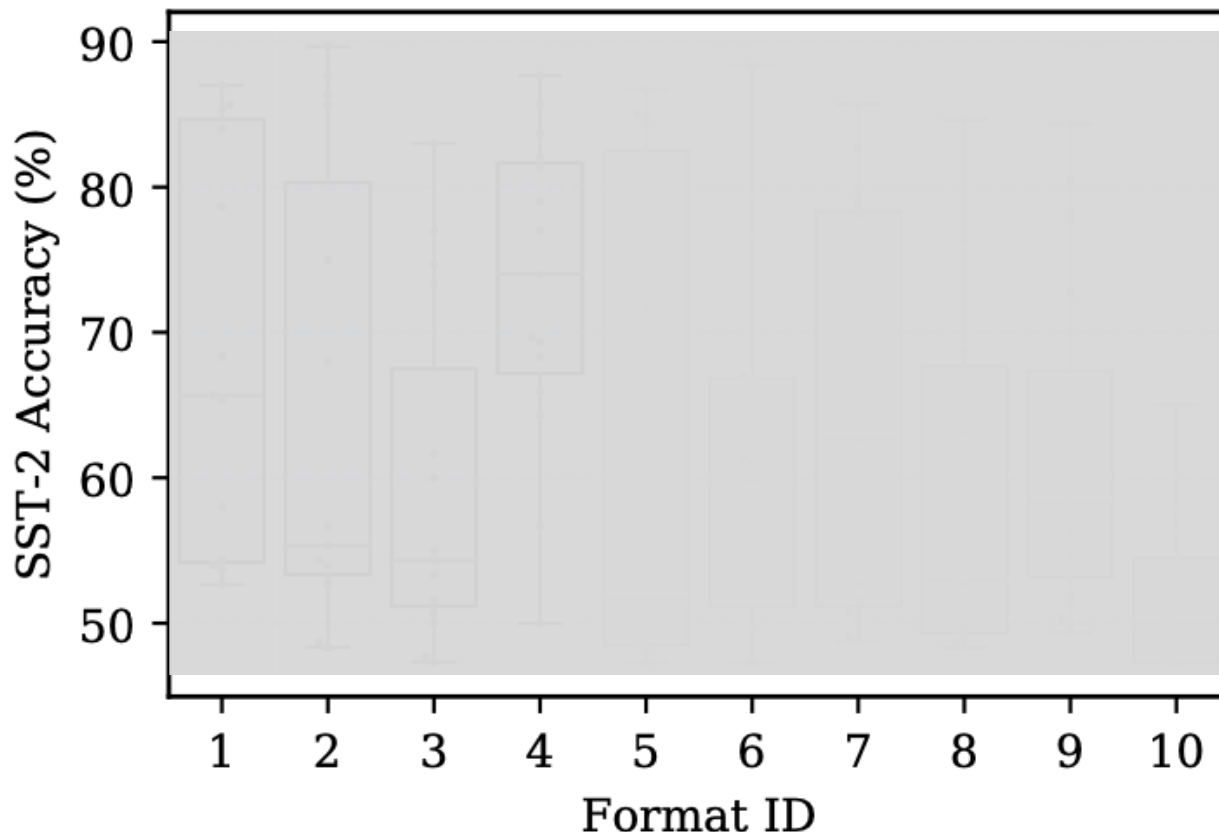
No packages published

creation of large-scale artifacts that are useful for the entire research community.

Challenge 1: **Huge variance** against semantically equivalent prompts

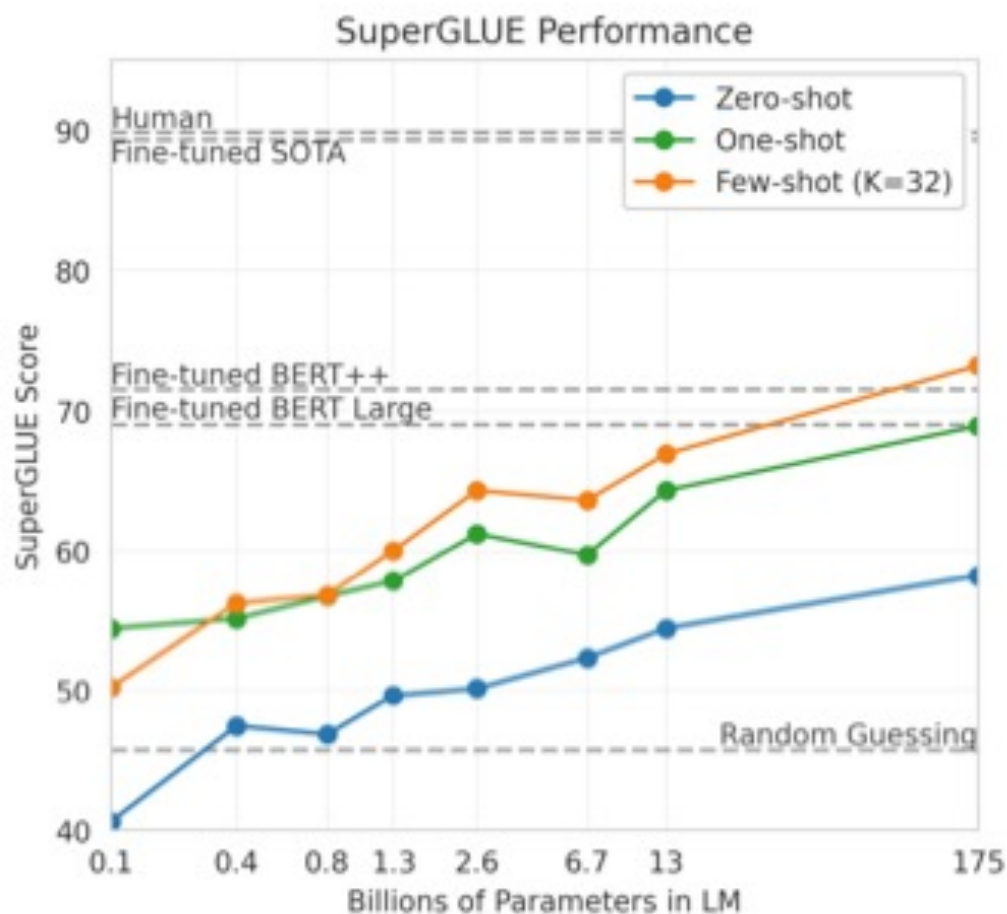
GPT3:

Accuracy Across Formats and Training Sets



1. **Review:** [example] **Answer:** [positive/negative]
2. **Review:** [example] **Question:** Did the author think that the movie was good or bad?
Answer: [good/bad]
3. My review for last night's film: [example] The critics agreed that the movie was [good/bad]
4. Critical reception [edit] In a contemporary review, Roger Ebert wrote [example] Entertainment weekly agreed and the overall critical reception of the film was [good/bad]

Challenge 2: Zero-shot only works with a **giant model (>100B)**



Hypothesis: Large models undergo **implicit** multi-task training in their **pre-training** corpora.

What does "www" stand for in a website browser?

Answer: World Wide Web

How long is an Olympic swimming pool (in meters)?

Answer: 50 meters

What countries made up the original Axis powers in World War II?

Answer: Germany, Italy, and Japan

Which country do cities of Perth, Adelaide & Brisbane belong to?

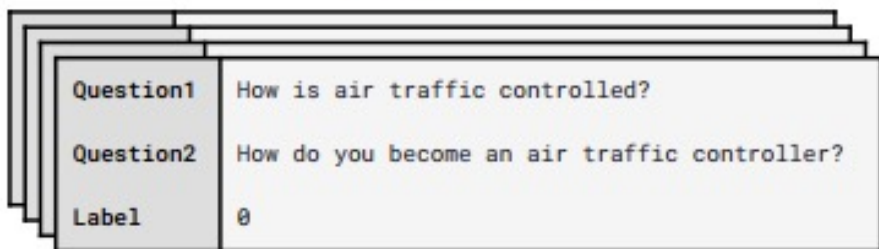
Proposal: Make implicit multi-task learning **explicit**

5-10 prompts for each dataset

Summarization

QQP (Paraphrase)

XSum (Summary)



...i artist Banksy
...believed to be
...hind [...]

4

ona Cardinals

- Better tasks
- More choices

{Question1} {Question2}
Pick one: These questions are duplicates or not duplicates.

I received the questions "{Question1}" and "{Question2}". Are they duplicates?

{Document}
How would you rephrase that in a few words?

First, please read the article: {Document}
Now, can you write me an extremely short abstract for it?

{Choices[label]}

{Choices[label]}

{Summary}

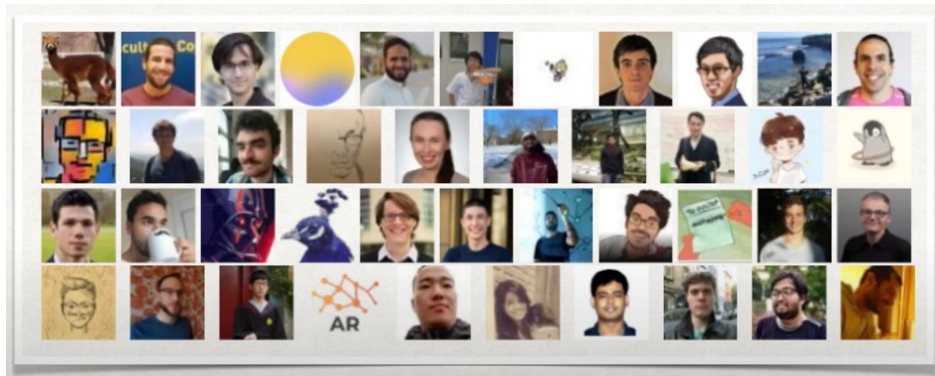
{Summary}

Suppose "The banker contacted the professors and the athlete". Can we infer that "The banker contacted the professors"?

Yes

Proposal: Make implicit multi-task learning **explicit**

Open call for contributing prompts



- 62 Datasets
- 520 prompts

Interface to write, review, and debug prompts

PromptSource

PromptSource is a toolkit for creating, sharing and using natural language prompts.

Recent work has shown that large language models exhibit the ability to perform reasonable zero-shot generalization to new tasks. For instance, [GPT-3](#) demonstrated that large language models have strong zero- and few-shot abilities. [FLAN](#) and [TO](#) then demonstrated that pre-trained language models fine-tuned in a massively multitask fashion yield even stronger zero-shot performance. A common denominator in these works is the use of prompts which have gathered of interest among NLP researchers and engineers. This emphasizes the need for new tools to create, share and use natural language prompts.

Prompts are functions that map an example from a dataset to a natural language input and target output. PromptSource contains a growing collection of prompts (which we call **P3**: Public Pool of Prompts). As of January 20, 2022, there are ~2'000 English prompts for 170+ English datasets in [P3](#).

The screenshot shows the PromptSource interface with three main sections:

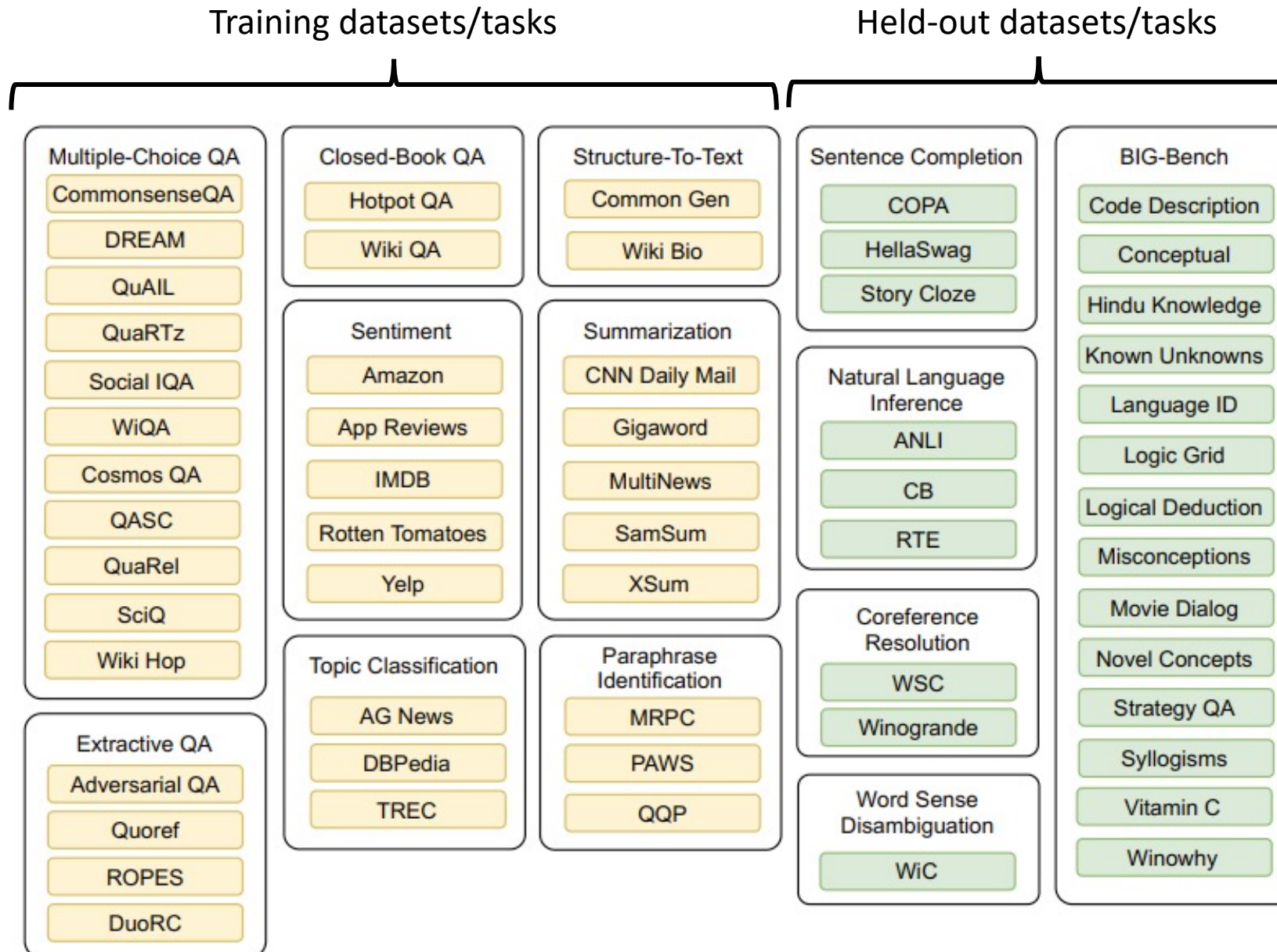
- S1: Exploration**: A window with 'Viewer' and 'SNLI' buttons. It displays a text description of the SNLI corpus and two JSON-style prompt examples:

```
{ premise: "A person...", hypothesis: "A person...", label: 1 }  
{ premise: "The kids...", hypothesis: "All kids...", label: 2 }
```
- S2 + S3 + S4: Creation**: A window with 'Sourcing' and 'SNLI' buttons. It shows a 'Based on the previous passage' field, a 'Sourcing' field with 'Adapted from the BoolQ prompts in Schick & Schütze 2021.', and checkboxes for 'Original Task' and 'Choices in Prompt'. Below are 'Yes ||| No ||| Maybe' and 'Accuracy' buttons, and a code editor with a prompt template:

```
{{premise}} Based on the previous passage, is it true that "{{hypothesis}}"?  
Yes, no, or maybe? |||  
{{ answer_choices[label] }}
```
- S5: Review**: A window with 'Viewer', 'SNLI', and 'Based...' buttons. It shows the rendered prompt and its output for the two examples from S1:

```
"A person..." Based on the previous passage, is it true that "A person..."? Yes, no, or maybe? |||  
Maybe  
"The kids..." Based on the previous passage, is it true that "All kids..."? Yes, no, or maybe? |||  
No
```

T0 Does not see any of the held-out datasets/tasks during training



Training and evaluation:

Base model

T5:

a Transformer-based encoder-decoder language model pretrained with a masked language modeling-style objective.

T0:

11B/3B parameters,
Trained on datasets mentioned earlier.

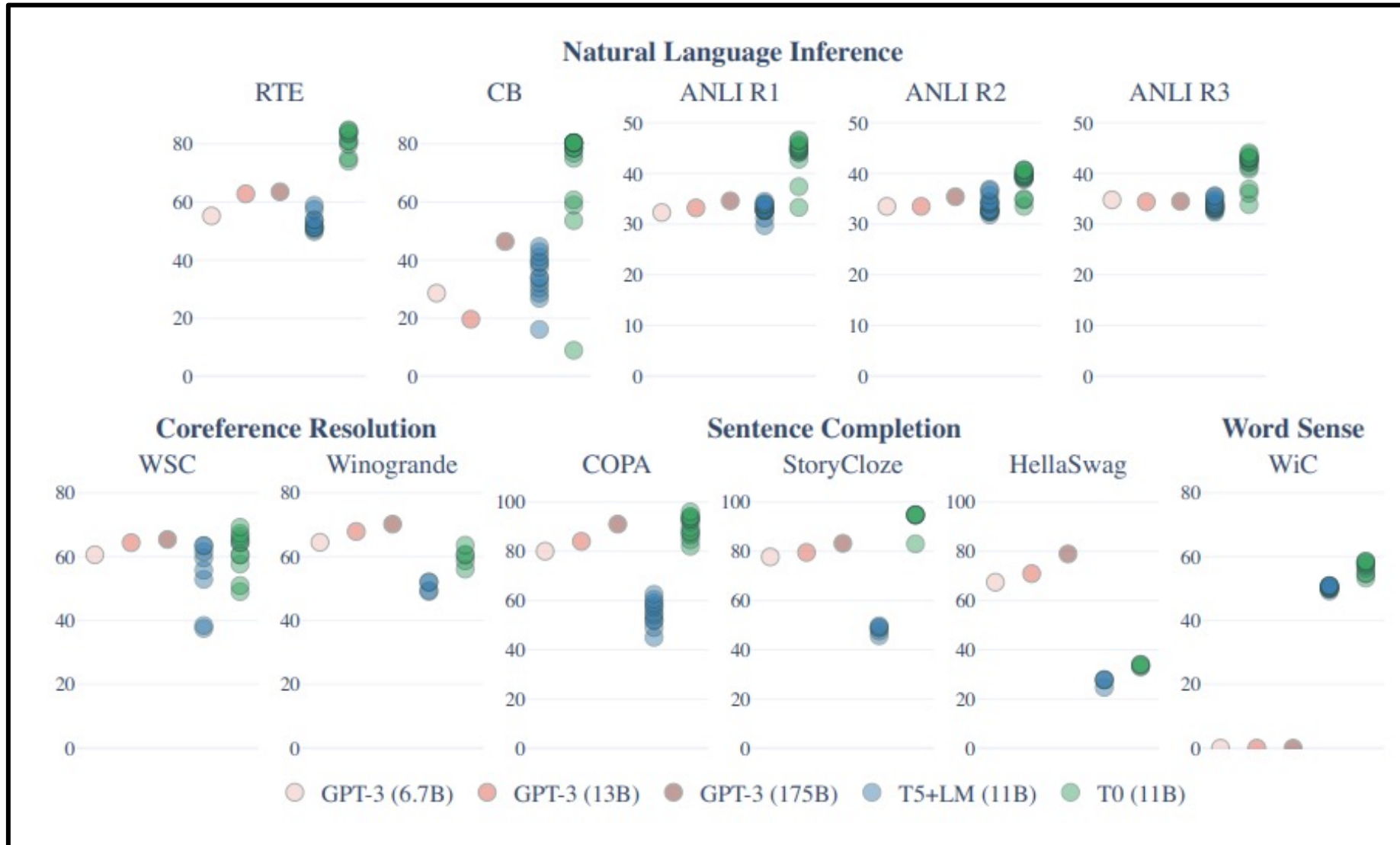
T0+:

Same hyperparameters and size but with added training sets from GPT3's evaluation datasets.

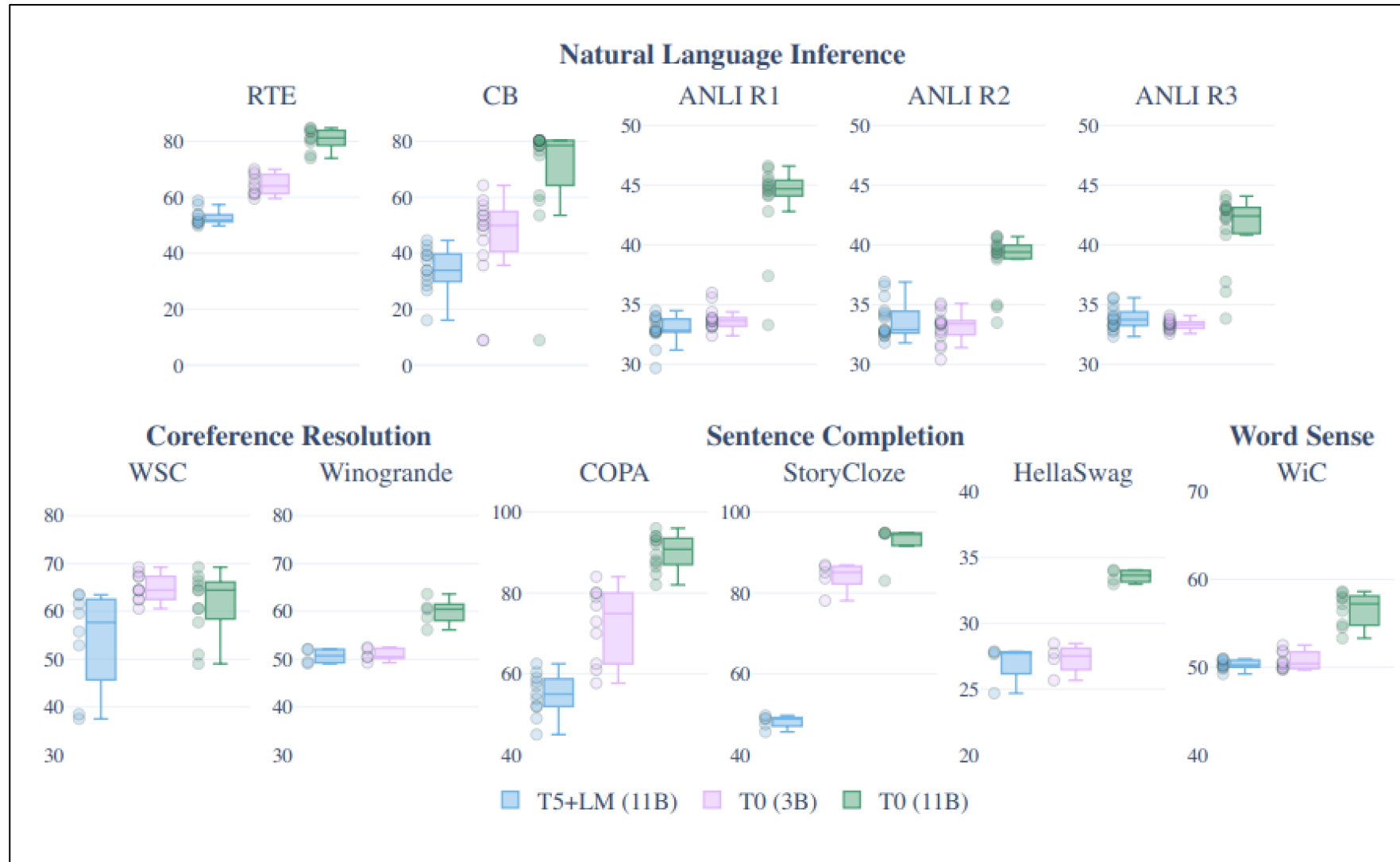
T0++:

Same hyperparameters and size but with added training sets from GPT3's evaluation datasets and SuperGlue.

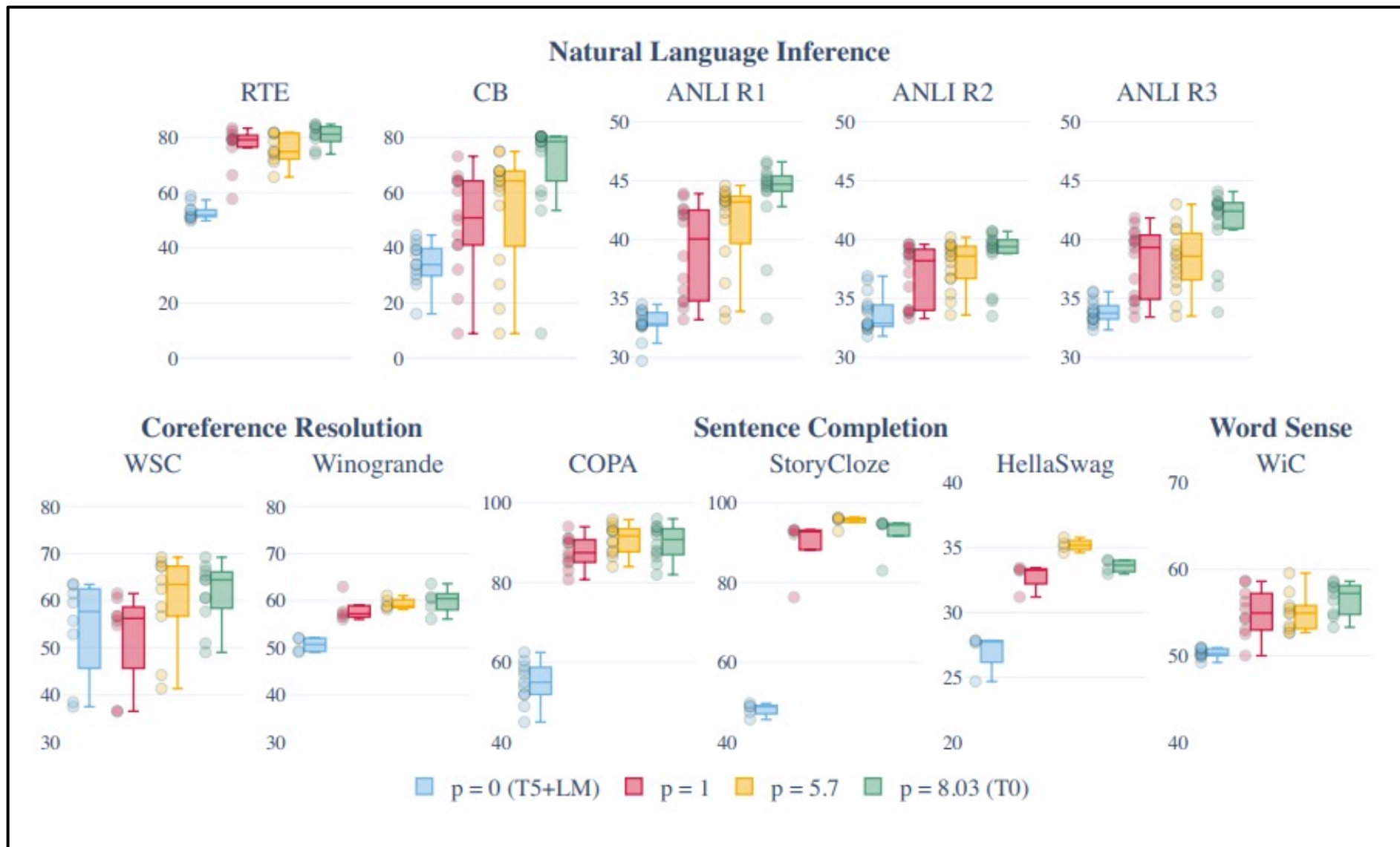
Zero-Shot Performance on Held-out Tasks



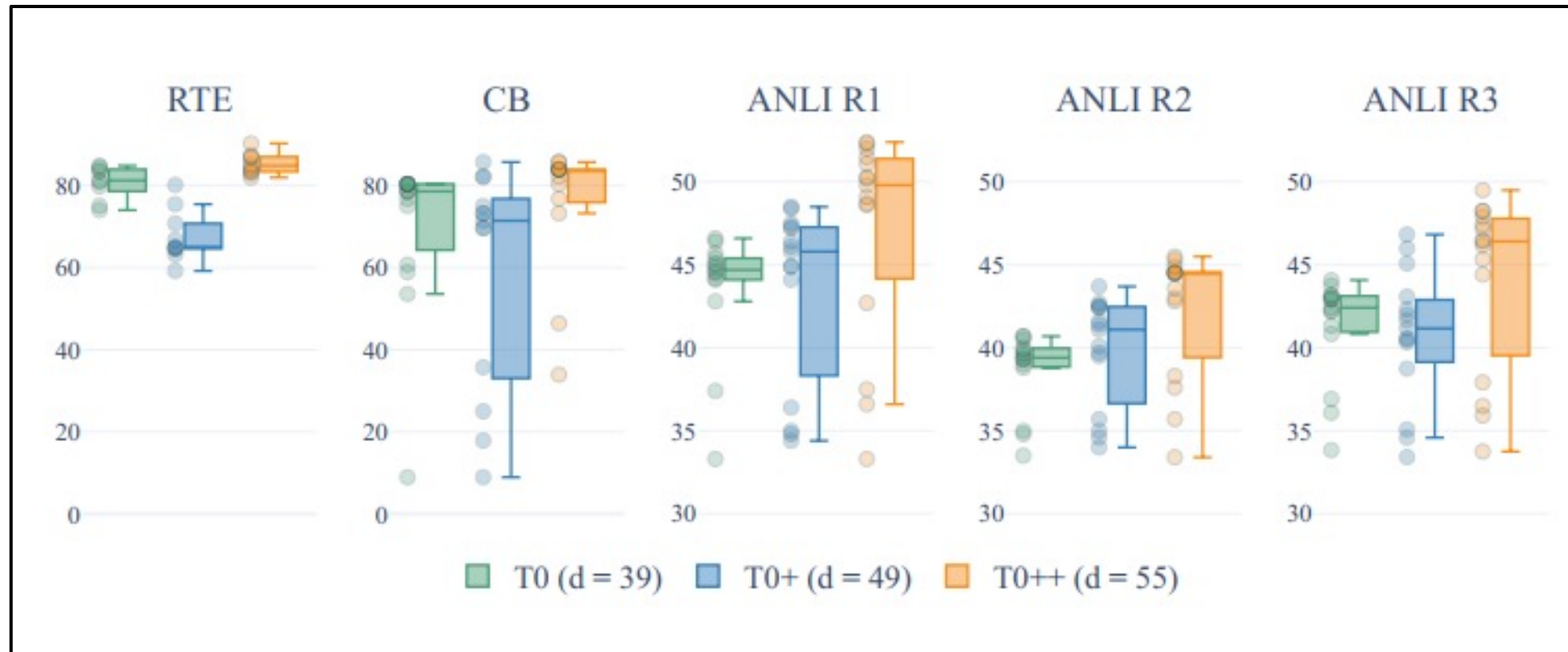
Effect of **size** of the pretrained model



Training on **more diverse prompts** improves **robustness** on held-out tasks



Effect of number of training datasets:



Strengths:

- Effectiveness of multitask prompted training in achieving strong zero-shot generalization abilities.
- Evidence that T0, a smaller model, can outperform larger models like GPT-3 in several held-out tasks, showcasing its efficiency.
- Extensive ablation studies, highlighting the importance of diverse prompts and the impact of increasing the number of datasets in each task.
- Releasing all trained models, the collection of prompts, and the prompt annotation tool to the research community, fostering future work in the area of zero-shot generalization.