A Comprehensive Evaluation of Inductive Reasoning Capabilities and Problem Solving in Large Language Models

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Abstract

Inductive reasoning is fundamental to both human and artificial intelligence. The inductive reasoning abilities of current Large Language Models (LLMs) are evaluated in this research. We argue that only considering induction of rules is too narrow and unrealistic, since inductive reasoning is usually mixed with other abilities, like rules application, results/rules validation, and updated information integration. We probed the LLMs with a set of designed symbolic tasks and found that even state-of-theart (SotA) LLMs fail significantly, showing the inability of LLMs to perform these intuitively simple tasks. Furthermore, we found that perfect accuracy in a small-size problem does not guarantee the same accuracy in a larger-size version of the same problem, provoking the question of how we can assess the LLMs' actual problem-solving capabilities. We also argue that Chain-of-Thought prompts help the LLMs by decomposing the problem-solving process, but the LLMs still learn limitedly. Furthermore, we reveal that few-shot examples assist LLM generalization in out-of-domain (OOD) cases, albeit limited. The LLM starts to fail when the problem deviates from the provided few-shot examples.

1 Introduction

Recently, the development of LLMs has made great progress in various areas of artificial intelligence (AI), especially in Natural Language Processing (NLP). The performance of LLMs like GPT-3.5 (Brown et al., 2020) and GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2023) can even outperform humans on some professional tests, proving their ability to understand and solve complex natural language questions. One of the intriguing abilities of LLMs is reasoning, which is also one of the core abilities of human intelligence.

Reasoning, following this definition (Hurley, 2000), consists of deductive reasoning (Johnson-Laird, 2010), inductive reasoning (Hawthorne, 2021), and abductive reasoning (Douven, 2021).

LLMs show surprisingly high performance on tasks requiring high-level reasoning ability, like programming (Xu et al., 2022) and mathematical problem solving (Imani et al., 2023). However, as the LLMs memorize the statistical word co-occurrences from the pre-training corpora containing such examples, it is hard to know the real reasoning ability of LLMs as they always generate specious answers. Therefore, evaluation at a fundamental level, e.g. symbolic level, is needed to accurately understand the reasoning abilities of LLMs.

This research focuses on inductive reasoning, which is the ability to derive common principles from finite observations. Recent inductive reasoning research in NLP (Yang et al., 2022; Li et al., 2023) focused mainly on rules induction from observations, but inductive reasoning in the real world is more complex than just rules induction.

As inductive reasoning is based on finite observations, which may contain only partial information, we cannot always expect the induced rules or results to be fully correct. Therefore, in the real world, under the surface of rules induction, the ability to validate induced rules/results and merge new rules with previous rules is equally important, and such ability to adapt to changing circumstances is important for building AI models suitable for real-world usage. To evaluate these abilities, we designed three symbolic tasks: 1) Grouping Polygons, 2) ordering named colors (Color Ordering), and 3) shifting characters in English text (Character Mapping).

We then define 3x5 experiments called Rules Application, Rules Induction, Results Validation, Rules Validation, and Rules Incorporation to evaluate the ability to apply rules, induce rules, validate induced results/rules, and merge new rules with previous rules, as depicted in Figure 1. We observe the LLMs failing on these tasks. Subsequent experiments explored the role of few-shot examples for generalization, the scalability of LLM performance with problem size, and the impact of the Chain-of-Thought prompts, namely:

- 1. For evaluated LLMs, the performance varies a lot between different experiments. This unstable LLM performance on symbolic inductive reasoning tasks is in contrast to their stable/robust performance on NLP tasks. Besides the instability, the task accuracy is low even for SotA LLMs, illustrating the weakness of LLMs in symbolic reasoning tasks.
- In addition to low accuracy in Rules Induction and Rules Application, LLMs also perform poorly in Results/Rule Validation and Rules Incorporation. This suggests that besides focusing on the accuracy of LLMs, their ability to validate and check the generated results should be paid attention to.
- LLMs can learn from few-shot examples and generalize beyond the given few-shot examples, but they still fail to learn scalable solutions from the examples, even when decomposing the problem-solving procedures through Chain-of-Thought (CoT) prompting.
- 4. While the LLMs may solve small-sized problems perfectly, the accuracy drops drastically when increasing the problem size. This provokes the question, "How can we prove that the LLM really holds the solution to solve specific types of problems?"

2 Related Research

2.1 Reasoning in LLMs

Reasoning is a core ability of human intelligence and an established research area in machine learning. Previously, even simple natural language reasoning tasks were very challenging for neural models (Santoro et al., 2018; Saxton et al., 2019).

However, the appearance of pre-trained language models like BERT (Devlin et al., 2019), with the commonsense knowledge encoded in the model through pre-training, largely improved the performance on NLP tasks, including reasoning tasks (Helwe et al., 2021). In recent years, with the scaling of model size, data size, and development of new architectures, different abilities have emerged from LLMs (Wei et al., 2022). Reasoning is one of those emerging abilities. Combining tricks like Chain-of-Thought (Wei et al., 2023) and In-Context Learning (Dong et al., 2023), the performance on natural language reasoning tasks is largely improved, even for tasks like mathematical reasoning (Lu et al., 2023), which was hard for neural models.

Evaluating LLMs on natural language reasoning tasks makes it difficult to know their reasoning abilities as they learn word co-occurrence relations from the pre-training corpus to aid in NLP reasoning tasks. To avoid the benefit of the encoded word/sentence/knowledge from pre-training and evaluate the reasoning ability at a more basic level, we create symbolic tasks to isolate semantic meaning to better evaluate LLMs' reasoning abilities.

2.2 LLM Probing

Probing is an important method to understand black-box neural networks with millions of parameters (Alain and Bengio, 2017). It is impossible to analyze them from a purely mathematical standpoint. Using probing tasks and analyzing the results gives us a peek hole to obtain insights into the inner mechanism of LLMs. Probing has proven to be an effective tool for analyzing the behavior of neural networks and their mechanisms since RNNbased networks (Nelson et al., 2020), Transformerbased Pre-trained Models (Johnson et al., 2020; Vulić et al., 2020), and then current, much larger LLMs (Kondo et al., 2023; Wei et al., 2023).

This study centers on symbolic task-based probing of LLMs. Recently, Anil et al. (2022) illustrated LLMs' limitations in tackling long-length problems in parity checking and variable assignment tasks. Additionally, Dziri et al. (2023) examined LLM's capabilities using computational graph-based symbolic tasks like logical grids and multiplication computation. Their findings show that LLMs solve tasks by breaking them into linearized subgraphs and matching each subgraph in the pre-trained corpus. The lack of genuine systematic problem-solving skills is evident when accuracy decreases as the graph depth increases.

Differing from previous research in symbolic probing, we do not aim at evaluating a single or specific ability, rather we set up different experiment configurations to evaluate multiple abilities centered around inductive reasoning.

3 Problem Formulation

3.1 Symbolic Tasks

We argue inductive reasoning requires various abilities. To evaluate those abilities, we designed three



Figure 1: Evaluation Framework

symbolic tasks, explained in the following section.

Polygons Grouping In this task, we describe 30 polygons with different numbers of sides, colors, and material attributes. We also generate 15 grouping rules and the corresponding grouping results from following those rules.

Color Ordering In this task, we automatically generate a color priority dictionary with 20 colors in which a high-priority color should be given a high preference. We also generate corresponding sorted or unsorted color lists with 20 colors based on the color priority. Since we prompt both unsorted color list and color priority into the LLM, to prevent the LLM from just replicating the color priority list from the prompt to achieve a perfect sorted result, we remove five colors and duplicate five color units in the unordered color lists.

Character Mapping In this task, we form character mapping rules by mapping each English character to its three-index right-shifted counterpart, with a wrap-around between Z and A. We sample sentences from the App-Review (Grano et al., 2017) dataset with character lengths from 20 to 100 and mapped results following mapping rules.

3.2 **Prompt Formulation**

The prompt contains information about the target task to posit the LLM adapt to the task. Additionally, we may add few-shot question/prediction pairs for different tasks, named few-shot examples $F = \{f_1, f_2 \dots f_5\}$ to help the LLM respond with

accurate answers. We use five examples for all fewshot experiments. Unless mentioned specifically, the prompt contents introduced below is the default prompt to the LLM in all tasks.

Task Illustration (*T*) The text prompt *T* sent to the LLM contains other necessary information consisting of four parts $T = \{T_d, T_i, T_f, T_r\}$. T_d is the Task Description with general information about the task. T_i is the Response Instruction, which states the LLM responses' expected content. T_f states the expected Response Format, and T_r is an optional Rules Text with the rules used in the tasks.

Units (S) Units S are the available symbolic units in a given task. The LLM L needs to know all symbolic units $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots s_n\}$ prior to solving the corresponding symbolic task. For example, each polygon in the Grouping task is a unit.

Problem (X) After the Task Illustration and Units, we attach the problem text X to the prompt's end, and the LLM's prediction is denoted as $Y = \{y_1, y_2 \dots y_n\}$. The problem text, task illustration, and units differ based on task settings.

3.3 Scalable Solution (*H*)

As LLM solves the problem internally, we call such a hidden problem-solving procedure a solution, which is not a part of the prompt. In our task setting, we expect the LLM to have the Scalable Solution H that can be used to solve the prompted problem in any unit size. The Scalable Solution differs from Rules T_r . For example, in the Mapping



Figure 2: Prompt Template for Rules Application Task of Polygon Grouping

task, the Scalable Solution is mapping each character using its corresponding rules, where mapping rules T_r serve as an input of the scalable solution.

3.4 Task Setting

We set up tasks to probe the LLM's inductive reasoning abilities in applying, inducing, validating, and rectifying results/rules, identifying new rules, and merging them with previous rules. Examples are shown in Table 1. Those tasks are designed on the principle that if the LLM holds the scalable solution H, these tasks are intuitively simple. The same solution can apply to every example, yielding perfect accuracy, as the scalable solution and the tasks remain constant regardless of unit size changes.

Rules Application In this task, we evaluate the ability to apply rules, and the problem text of this task is X_f . The LLM is asked to apply the given rules T_r to those symbolic units S and expect to obtain the correct results Y, formulated as:

$$L(T; S; X) = L(\{T_d, T_f, T_i, T_r\}; S; X_f) \xrightarrow{H} Y$$

Rules Induction In this task, we evaluate the ability to induce rules. We present the correct results Y obtained by applying the (hidden) rules to the given units. We denote the problem text for this task as X_l . We prompt the LLM to induce the (hidden) rules by observing the relation between units

and the correct results, which can be formulated as:

$$L(T; S; X; Y) = L(\{T_d, T_f, T_i\}; S; X_l; Y) \xrightarrow{H} T_r$$

Results Validation In this task, we evaluate the ability to validate the results' correctness and correct the **results** if an error exists. The problem text of this task is X_r . We prompt the LLM with the rules and a (probably) wrong result \hat{Y} with three errors generated randomly with 50% chance. The LLM is required to validate and/or correct the given result \hat{Y} . The LLM first answers whether the given result is correct. It is a binary classification problem denoted as $U_r = \{Yes, No\}$. If $U_r = Yes$, the LLM quits generation by outputting words like *None*. If $U_r = No$, the LLM applies rules to rectify the error and obtain new results \overline{Y} , formulated as:

Let
$$L(\{T_d, T_f, T_i, T_r\}; S; X_r; \hat{Y}) \xrightarrow{H} U_r$$

 $\overline{Y} = \begin{cases} L(T; S; X_r; \hat{Y}; U_r) & \text{if } U_r = No \\ None & \text{if } U_r = Yes \end{cases}$

Rules Validation In this task, we evaluate the ability to validate the correctness of the rules and correct the **rules** if errors exist and the problem text of this task is X_e . The prompted rules \hat{T}_r are possibly wrong and may have three error rules generated randomly in 50% of the experiments, and the prompted correct result can help validate the correctness of the rules. Knowing whether the rules are correct is the first step for solving the problem, so we call that result $U_e = \{Yes, No\}$. If

| | Task Illustration | Units | Pro | blems | Predictions |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rules Induction | Inducing grouping rules through observing the grouping results. | Polygon 1: [3 Sides, Green, Copper], | Group 1:[Polygon 1, Polygon 3,] Group N:[Polygon 7, Polygon N,] | Induce the grouping rules by observing the above results. | Induced Rules: Rule 1: 3 Sides, Green and Copper Rule 2: 5 Sides, Red and Iron |
| Rule Application | Applying grouping rules to given polygons to obtain the grouping results | Polygon 2: [5 Sides, Red, Iron], Polygon N: | Rule 1: 3 Sides, Green and Copper Rule 2: 5 Sides, Red and Iron | Apply the above grouping rules to the given polygons and give the results | Grouping Results: Group 1:[Polygon 1, Polygon 3,] Group N:[Polygon 7, Polygon N,] |
| Results Validation | Validate the correctness of grouping results and rectify them if they are wrong | [10 Sides, Yellow, Plastic] | Rule 1: 3 Sides, Green and Copper Group 1:[Polygon 1, Polygon 2,] Group 2:[Polygon 3, Polygon 6,] | Validate the correctness of the result first and rectify them if it is wrong | Correction Results Or Not: No Corrected Results: Group 1:[Polygon 1, Polygon 3,] Group N:[Polygon 7, Polygon N,] |
| Rules Validation | Validate the correctness of rules and correct them if they are wrong | | Rule 1: 3 Sides, Green and Copper Group 1:[Polygon 1, Polygon 3] Group 2:[Polygon 2, Polygon 6] | Validate the correctness of rules first and rectify them if it is wrong | Correction Rules Or Not: Yes Rules do not need correction |
| Rules Incorporation | Find whether new rules exist in the new results or not if so, induce new rules. | | Rule 1: 3 Sides, Green and Copper Group 1:[Polygon 1, Polygon 3,] Group 2:[Polygon 2, Polygon 6,] | Find whether there exist new rules or not and induce them if necessary | New Rules Or Not: Yes New Inducted Rules: Rule 2: 5 Sides, Red and Iron |

Table 1: Different Task Examples in Polygons Grouping

 $U_e = Yes$, the LLM finishes generation by outputting words like *None* as correct rules do not need correction. If $U_e = No$, the LLM corrects the wrong rules and obtain corrected rules $\overline{T_r}$ based on the correct results Y, which can be formulated as:

Let
$$L(T = \{T_d, T_f, T_i, \hat{T_r}\}; S; X_e; Y) \xrightarrow{H} U_e$$

 $\overline{T_r} = \begin{cases} L(T; S; X_e; Y; U_e) & \text{if } U_e = No \\ None & \text{if } U_e = Yes \end{cases}$

Rules Incorporation In this task, we evaluate the ability to identify new rules and merge new rules with previous rules if new rules exist where the problem text of this task is X_i . The prompted rules \hat{T}_r and the results are correct, but the rules may be a part of the entire rule-set since we withhold three new rules in the given new result with a 50% chance. The LLM refers to the new result and identifies whether we can induce new rules from it or not. Identifying whether new rules exist is the first step, so we denote this binary classification results as $U_i = \{Yes, No\}$. If $U_i = No$, the LLM finishes generation with the word *None*. If $U_i = Yes$, the LLM should induce new rules \hat{T}_r based on the new given results Y, formulated as:

Let
$$L(\{T_d, T_f, T_i, \hat{T_r}\}; S; X; Y) \xrightarrow{H} U_i$$

 $\ddot{T_r} = \begin{cases} L(T; S; X_i; Y; U_i) & \text{if } U_i = Yes \\ None & \text{if } U_i = No \end{cases}$

We show an example of the prompt formulation in Figure 2 for the Rules Application Task for Polygon Grouping. As illustrated in the figure, the prompt first indicates the role of the LLM to posit the LLM in a position to solve the task. The following Problem Description contains the Task Illustration T and Units S which in this example is to group different polygons. Then Response Instruction tells how the model should respond so that the answer generated can be extracted easily. Then Few-Shot examples are optional depending on the experiment setting. Finally, the Prompted Problem contains the Problem X that the LLM should answer following all the information contained in the prompt. The content of each part changes with the different task settings, but all share the same backbone structure.

4 Experiments²

In this study, all those tasks are automatically generated and can be automatically solved by the corresponding program as the solution for each problem is the same. Though humans may not solve the problem with perfect 100% accuracy due to humans making mistakes in following solution procedures like overlooking some rules, this does not mean humans cannot solve this problem as it is not caused by the inability of inductive reasoning. In the optimal situation, the performance for humans should be perfect as the program which is 100%.

4.1 Evaluated LLMs

Davinci (Brown et al., 2020) is a GPT3-based LLM trained with instruction tuning (Ouyang et al., 2022). We use the Text-Davinci-003 version³ which has 175B parameters size.

GPT-3.5 (Brown et al., 2020) is one of the SotA LLMs currently. It is trained with both instruction tuning (Zhang et al., 2023) and RLHF, meaning reinforcement learning from human feedback (Christiano et al., 2023). Compared to Davinci, it is specially trained for chat purposes but still uses GPT-3 as a backbone structure.

¹More details are in the Appendix A.3.

²Please refer to the Appendix for detailed settings of experiments and symbolic tasks.

³For brevity, Davinci is used to denote Text-Davinci-003.

| | | | Rules Application | | | Rules Induction | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|--|
| Model | Task | Zero-shot | | Few-Shot | | Zero-shot | | Few-Shot | |
| | | Par Acc | Full Acc | Par Acc | Full Acc | Par Acc | Full Acc | Par Acc | Full Acc |
| Davinci | Grouping Ordering Mapping | $\frac{75.6}{36.7}$ 6.4 | $\frac{10.0}{0.0}$ 0.0 | 87.9 29.6 10.1 | $\frac{24.0}{0.0}$ 0.0 | $ \begin{array}{c} 23.5 \\ \underline{56.5} \\ \overline{33.0} \end{array} $ | $\frac{1.3}{39.7}$ 3.0 | 85.4 87.0 <u>90.4</u> | $\frac{11.2}{\frac{82.1}{2.0}}$ |
| GPT-3.5 | Grouping Ordering Mapping | 88.5 32.9 33.5 | $\frac{23.7}{0.0}$ 6.3 | $\frac{90.6}{35.5}$ 39.9 | $\frac{33.4}{0.0}$ 10.1 | $ \frac{88.6}{54.5} 68.4 $ | $ \frac{24.2}{46.1} \frac{46.1}{6.8} $ | 91.4 <u>93.6</u> 89.0 | $ \frac{24.4}{88.9} \frac{88.9}{8.0} $ |
| GPT-4 | Grouping Ordering Mapping | 99.5 45.3 62.3 | 95.3 24.4 30.6 | 99.9 52.4 67.1 | 98.8 28.9 47.3 | 95.5 95.4 49.4 | 74.3 <u>96.6</u> 17.1 | 99.9 97.5 93.8 | 97.2 <u>98.8</u> 21.7 |

Table 2: Accuracy on Rules Application and Rules Induction. The best results for one LLM in different tasks in either Rules Application or Rules Induction are underlined, and the best results of all models are bold and underlined. Par Acc and Full Acc means Partial and Full Accuracy.

GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2023) is the current SotA LLM with a strong performance in various tasks. It even performs well on professional tests that require a high-level understanding of natural language.⁴

4.2 Evaluation Criteria

Validation Accuracy means the number of validation problems U that the LLM correctly predicts divided by the total number of examples.

Partial Accuracy means the percentage of subproblems the LLM correctly predicted. It is only counted when sub-problems exist. For example, in the rule correction problem, $U_e = Yes$ means the prompted rules are correct, therefore the subproblems do not exist so such an example is not counted into the calculation of Partial Accuracy.

Full Accuracy means the percentage that the LLM can correctly predict all sub-problems in a given problem. The Full Accuracy is only calculated for examples that have sub-problems.⁵

4.3 Results

4.3.1 Rules Application and Rules Induction

We discuss the Rules Application and Rules Induction together in Table 2 due to their contrasting nature that apply and induce rules and found:

1. For Rules Application, Grouping has the highest accuracy, followed by Mapping, then Ordering. For Mapping, applying mapping rules to text leads to unsemantic text, but LLMs are trained to generate meaningful text using Language Modelling, thus generating unsemantic mapped text is not straightforward. For the Ordering, the same color units exist in the unsorted list. The LLM needs to clarify and put the same colors together, but the LLMs struggle to find such a hidden procedure.

- 2. In Rules Induction, Ordering has the highest accuracy, followed by Grouping, then Mapping. In Ordering, the prompted ordered list equals directly telling the rules even with the deletion and repetition of some colors, leading to high accuracy. In Grouping, the LLM needs to check three polygon attributes to derive the rules, which lowers accuracy. In Mapping, the duplicated and mixed-case characters require the LLM to merge characters and induce case-insensitive rules. Such hidden steps make Mapping the most challenging task.
- 3. The accuracy for Rules Induction is lower than for Rules Application except for Ordering, which we have explained above, showing that Rules Induction is harder. GPT-4 performs better than GPT-3.5 and Davinci in both tasks, possibly due to a much larger pre-train size, instruction tuning size, and model size.
- 4. A high Partial Acc does not mean high Full Acc shows the prediction error scatters in each example rather than converging in several examples, meaning that the LLM tends to make small mistakes in each example.

⁴The evaluated Llama2 gives extremely low accuracy and we put its experiment results and analysis in the Appendix.

⁵We abbreviate Validation Accuracy, Partial Accuracy, and Full Accuracy as Valid Acc, Partial Acc, and Full Acc.

| | | | (1) | | | | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Model | Task | | Zero-Shot | | | Few-Shot | | | |
| | Tubh | Valid Acc | Partial Acc | Full Acc | Valid Acc | Partial Acc | Full Acc | | |
| Davinci | Grouping Ordering Mapping | 51.6 <u>96.0</u> 53.6 | $\frac{28.4}{20.1}$ 1.5 | $\frac{8.6}{2.8}$ 0.0 | 52.0 <u>100</u> 59.0 | 33.5 <u>79.3</u> 12.9 | 15.9 67.5 2.5 | | |
| GPT-3.5 | Grouping Ordering Mapping | 55.6 <u>96.0</u> 50.3 | 27.3 32.6 0.1 | $\frac{10.9}{9.3}$ 0.0 | | 28.2 <u>53.3</u> <u>5.4</u> | $ \begin{array}{r} 11.0 \\ \underline{25.9} \\ 0.9 \end{array} $ | | |
| GPT-4 | Grouping Ordering Mapping | 82.1 <u>100</u> 61.2 | 96.0 98.9 77.3 | 13.1 <u>93.7</u> 8.9 | 92.5 <u>100</u> 68.7 | 93.2 <u>98.7</u> 80.4 | 14.5 <u>95.6</u> 60.0 | | |
| | | | (b) Rules | Validation | | | | | |
| | 75 1 | | Zero-Shot | | | Few-Shot | | | |

(a) Results Validation

| (b) Rules validation | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Model | Task | | Zero-Shot | | | Few-Shot | |
| | | Valid Acc | Partial Acc | Full Acc | Valid Acc | Partial Acc | Full Acc |
| Davinci | Grouping | 50.8 | 51.8 | 7.8 | 46.5 | 66.5 | 19.3 |
| | Ordering | 57.4 | <u>82.1</u> | 2.4 | <u>68.2</u> | <u>77.4</u> | 39.2 |
| | Mapping | 50.3 | 16.2 | <u>11.8</u> | 51.8 | 59.7 | <u>42.0</u> |
| GPT-3.5 | Grouping | 51.3 | 21.2 | 3.9 | 53.0 | 29.1 | 6.4 |
| | Ordering | <u>94.5</u> | <u>55.4</u> | 34.6 | 78.8 | <u>78.3</u> | 47.6 |
| | Mapping | 51.2 | 26.0 | 22.0 | <u>91.8</u> | <u>39.9</u> | 32.7 |
| GPT-4 | Grouping | 67.6 | 89.8 | 52.2 | 90.8 | 93.5 | 59.4 |
| | Ordering | <u>100</u> | 86.5 | 80.3 | <u>100</u> | <u>97.4</u> | <u>96.1</u> |
| | Mapping | 50.7 | 82.2 | 54.6 | 84.2 | 95.5 | 94.3 |

Table 3: Model accuracy on Results Validation and Rules Validation. The best results for one LLM between different tasks are underlined, and the best results of all models are both bold and underlined.

4.3.2 Results Validation and Rules Validation

The Results Validation and Rules Validation are discussed concurrently due to their contrasting nature. The outcomes are presented in Table 3.

- In Results Validation, Mapping has the lowest accuracy, followed by Grouping and Ordering. For Mapping, locating an error requires applying rules to the character at the corresponding index, requiring the LLM to count the sequence length and locate it, but LLMs struggle to do such precise manipulation. For Grouping, the LLM needs to check three attributes to locate the error, which is comparatively easier. For Ordering, identifying an error merely needs checking color units sequentially with the prompted color preference.
- 2. For Rules Validation, Grouping has the lowest accuracy, followed by Mapping and Ordering. For Grouping, LLM has to induce rules from grouping results first and compare them with the possible wrong rules, and such a hidden step increases the difficulty. For Mapping, just

apply the rule to each original and mapped character to check if conflicts exist. It is relatively easier to locate and correct the error. For Ordering, similarly, an ordered color list is another representation of rules, making it easy to both validate and correct.

- 3. LLMs give a low Valid Acc in all tasks except Ordering for reasons explained above. As validation is a binary classification problem, such accuracy means LLMs struggle to validate the correctness of results even for GPT-4, even though GPT-4 scores are slightly better.
- 4. Rules Validation have a higher Partial and Full Acc than Results Validation. This is because the rule sizes are much smaller than the unit size and we have several rules but dozens of units, making Rule Validation easier due to the smaller prediction space.
- 5. In all LLMs, the few-shot can boost the accuracy in Partial Acc and Full Acc while the improvement in Valid Acc differs, showing that



Figure 3: Accuracy Change in Few-Shot Generalization

the ability to learn to validate the results/rules from examples varies.

4.3.3 Rules Incorporation

The Rule Incorporation task can be considered a variant of Rules Induction where the LLM knows partial rules but may need to complete them based on whether the given results contain new rules. From the results in Table 4, we can see:

- In the Zero-Shot setting, LLMs show no obvious preference regarding Valid Acc in either task, while Few-Shot improves it in the Ordering task, but Davinci and GPT-3.5 still fail to identify new rules from results. GPT-4 shows a high Valid Acc, meaning that the ability to validate new rules may be an emergent ability when LLMs reach a certain model size.
- 2. In contrast to Rules Induction, a decrease in Full Acc in Ordering and Grouping tasks is observed, which is counter-intuitive given the partial rules should enhance results as it reduces the prediction space for rules. This may be because even though the prediction space is narrowed, identifying new rules and merging them with existing rules poses another difficulty for LLMs. Conversely, the Mapping tasks benefit from given partial rules, which reveals that rules can be completed by rightshifting three indices, thereby simplifying the rule inference compared to other tasks.

4.3.4 Few-Shot Generalization

The task accuracy of LLMs can be largely improved by adding few-shot examples. However, this is when the few-shot examples are not out-of-distribution with the problem prompted. This leaves a question: *Does the LLM learn the scalable solution of the task or just fit into the answer pattern from few-shot examples?* We discuss this

problem using GPT-4 and the Rules Validation of the Ordering tasks. We set the few-shot examples with three error color preferences, but the final problem includes more. We compare the zero-shot and few-shot settings results depicted in Figure 3:

- The few-shot setting has higher accuracy than the zero-shot setting, proving that the LLM learns to generalize beyond the few-shot examples with three wrong color preferences. Notably, the few-shot setting initially exhibits an accuracy advantage exceeding 20%.
- Providing few-shot examples does not make the LLM generalize to all situations as the accuracy decreases like in the zero-shot setting and even gets close to that accuracy in extreme situations, suggesting LLM only learns limitedly from few-shot examples.
- 3. The increasing trend in Partial Acc after 12 wrong preferences is because the random chance of picking out a wrong color preference increases with more wrong colors.

4.3.5 Increased Unit Size



Figure 4: Accuracy Regarding Increased Polygons Size

Instead of increasing the task's difficulty, we evaluate the situation in which the underlying structure of the task remains fixed, but the unit size increases. GPT-4 has near-perfect Rules Application accuracy in the Polygon Grouping task, indicating it may hold a scalable solution for this. We want to see whether the performance remains stable when the unit sizes increase. The results in Figure 4 show the GPT-4's accuracy with increased polygon size:

 The Full Acc decreases, showing the LLM cannot scale its performance with increased unit size even when small and larger problems share the same structure. This shows that the LLM does not hold the scalable solution despite its high accuracy in small-size problems.

| Model | Task | | Zero-shot | | | Few-Shot | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| | | Valid Acc | Partial Acc | Full Acc | Valid Acc | Partial Acc | Full Acc | | |
| Davinci | Grouping Ordering Mapping | $\frac{51.0}{49.2}$ 49.3 | 30.1 37.9 <u>49.0</u> | 3.9 0.5 <u>5.6</u> | 52.0 <u>87.5</u> 49.3 | 37.2 26.1 <u>87.4</u> | 5.8 3.4 <u>34.5</u> | | |
| GPT-3.5 | Grouping Ordering Mapping | 50.3 51.1 <u>51.4</u> | 33.4 33.3 <u>78.7</u> | 10.9 8.0 <u>28.8</u> | 54.8 66.0 52.0 | 42.5 72.0 <u>91.4</u> | 16.9 39.1 <u>55.2</u> | | |
| GPT-4 | Grouping Ordering Mapping | 99.7 <u>100</u> 95.1 | 96.1 96.2 94.4 | 89.5 82.8 56.0 | 99.5 <u>100</u> 97.2 | <u>98.0</u> 96.1 95.9 | 94.6 89.9 62.3 | | |

Table 4: Model Accuracy on Incorporation. The best results for one LLM between different tasks are underlined and the best results of all models are both bold and underlined.

| CoT Few-Shot Nums | Partial Acc | Full Acc |
|-------------------|-------------|----------|
| w/o CoT 5 Shot | 52.4 | 28.9 |
| CoT-1 Shot | 82.6 | 58.6 |
| CoT-2 Shot | 83.0 | 57.7 |
| CoT-3 Shot | 84.6 | 55.8 |
| CoT-4 Shot | 84.9 | 62.2 |
| CoT-5 Shot | 85.0 | 62.3 |

2. The Partial Acc is relatively stable, meaning the LLM predicts with stable accuracy for each sub-problem. However, the increased unit size enlarges the sub-problem size, which increases the expectation value of prediction error, naturally reducing the Full Acc.

4.3.6 Does Chain-of-Thought help?

In this experiment, we discuss to what extent the Chain-of-Thought (CoT) helps the LLM to solve the task. We evaluate GPT-4 in the Ordering of Rules Application task as even GPT-4 performs poorly in the few-shot setting. The CoT prompt shows the process of checking each color's preference and reordering the list based on acquired preferences. We reveal information on the scalable resolution to the LLM through those intermediate steps. From results in Table 5, we can see that:

- 1. From the results, the CoT-prompted model greatly improves the accuracy, leading to more than 35% accuracy gain in the 5-shot. This shows that the LLM learns to follow intermediate steps exposed by the CoT prompt, but it is still far from perfect accuracy, showing that a scalable solution is not learned.
- 2. We observe an inconsistency in accuracy improvement with increased few-shots. The

accuracy decreases in the two or three-shot settings compared to one-shot, while the enhancement in the five-shot setting over oneshot is just 3.5%. This could be because each Color Ordering example has a different color preference and an unordered list (independent and not correlated with each other), so information from five examples is not substantially better than from just one.

5 Conclusion

In this research, through designed symbolic probing tasks, we probed the LLMs' abilities centered around inductive reasoning, including Rules Induction, Rules Application, Results/Rules Validation, and Rules Incorporation. We found that LLMs fail to correctly induce or apply rules in simple symbolic tasks and cannot or even fail to validate the correctness of results/rules or identify and merge new rules given new results. This suggests that not just improving prediction accuracy, but also making the LLM identify what is correct and wrong, and being able to identify new information from new examples are important.

Our experiments show that near-perfect accuracy in small-sized tasks does not imply that LLM performance scales well to a larger sized task. In this sense, it raises the question: *how can we prove that the LLM knows how to solve a problem/task?*

We also notice that few-shot examples help the model to generalize to unseen situations, but do not make the model able to solve the problem in all situations. Through the CoT-enhanced prompt, we see a significant performance improvement, stating that CoT helps the model to understand the scalable solution of a task in which the CoT prompt exposed more information about scalable solutions.

6 Limitations

We did not evaluate all available LLMs due to limited computational resources and servicerestrictions (area limitation, wait-list, etc.). Instead, we selected several representative and strong LLMs that are easy to access. We are only able to run Llama2 models up to 13B, but we found that they do not even understand the prompt instructions correctly at those model sizes. This is despite following the correct way to prompt it, as described in the Llama2 paper (Touvron et al., 2023)⁶ and in discussions⁷ in the research community⁸. Please refer to Appendix A.1.2 for the results analysis of Llama2. Additionally, as probing research, our final goal was not actually to try to solve the symbolic tasks proposed in this paper, but that may be a separate goal in more powerful future research.

It is also possible that the accuracy can be further improved by using different prompts. We have tried various prompt designs and multiple prompts to make the LLMs give their best performance. The current prompt design gives the best accuracy among the prompts we have experimented with, though we do not deny that other prompts can improve the performance further. However, due to the number of possible prompts being infinite, we cannot exhaust them. We chose the best prompt among all the ones we have tried so far, and keep using it right now.

Additionally, all proposed symbolic tasks may be completely solvable if we prompt the LLM to use an external API like a sorting function or a pre-programmed function or even write its own code/program that can solve the given task. We argue that using such a tool to solve this problem is based on human-constructed knowledge, which equals making the human solve the task, not testing if the model can solve it. From a human perspective, those tasks are solvable even without external tools. Understanding rules, applying rules, discovering errors, and concluding on a general solution to a problem are fundamental aspects of intelligence that should be achieved even without external assistance from outside the model/brain.

7 Ethical Considerations

According to the terms-of-service of the OpenAIprovided API, its output (obtained data, model, etc.) cannot be used to compete with OpenAI.

We declare that we have no such intention of doing so. The purpose of this research is not to develop or produce any model or any data nor any method that aims to compete with OpenAI produced model, including the GPT3 (Text-Davinci) series, GPT-3.5 series, GPT-4 series, and all other OpenAI products (current or future improvements), released or coming models. We ask any follow-up researchers who cite this paper to also refrain from such competition in their follow-up research.

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⁶http://huggingface.co/blog/llama2# how-to-prompt-llama-2

⁷www.reddit.com/r/Localllama/comments/ 155po2p/get_Llama_2_prompt_format_right/

⁸http://twitter.com/osanseviero/

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A Appendix

A.1 Experiment Settings

A.1.1 Model Setting

For the Text-Davinci-003, we set the LLM to have zero temperature. For the GPT-3.5, we used the gpt-3.5-turbo-16k version. We set the temperature as 0 since we want to output for LLM to be stable, determinative, and reproducible. Additionally, we want the LLM to follow the instructions given in the prompt exactly. Setting the temperature is a good solution to make the LLM follow the instructions exactly.

For the GPT-4, we used the June 2023 version. Similarly, we also set the temperature as 0 to make the LLM produce deterministic results.

A.1.2 Llama2

For the Llama2-13b model, we show its experiment results in Table 6 and Table 7 and Table 8.

Regarding the results in Rules Application and Rules Induction, we can see that:

1. From the results in Table 6, we can see that Llama2 fails significantly in both the zero-shot and the few-shot settings. Especially in the Rules Application, the Llama2 gives zero Full Accuracy. Additionally, the Partial Accuracy is also low in Rules Application, even with few-shot examples showing that Llama2 may not be able to learn from those examples. 2. Regarding the Rules Induction, the accuracy is slightly better, even though it is far from satisfying. We can see that except for Ordering, in which the rules are easy to obtain from the prompted ordered color lists, the Llama2 also fails significantly in other tasks. For the Grouping and Mapping task, even with fewshot examples, the Full Accuracy is still only 2.9% and 2.0%.

Regarding the results in Results Validation and Rules Validation. From the results in Table 7.

- 1. Firstly, the Llama2 also fails to validate the correctness of results or rules in both the zero-shot setting and the few-shot setting.
- 2. Similarly, it also fails to correct the results. Even in the Gropuing with the few-shot setting, its performance is still just 8.9%. In other tasks, the performance is simply zero accuracy or close to zero accuracy.
- 3. In the Rules Validation, we have similar results. The Llama2 is also not able to validate the correctness of rules. Additionally, the Full Accuracy is also low.

Regarding the results of Rule Incorporation. From the results in Table 8, we can see:

- 1. The Llama2 also fails to identify new rules. This means that Llama2 cannot find new rules in the given results.
- 2. Additionally, the performance is also low in both the zero-shot setting and the few-shot setting.
- 3. The few-shot examples improve the Partial Accuracy a little, but do not improve the Full Accuracy.

We also did a brief case analysis of Llama2, and we found that in most cases, even following the desired response format to generate the answer is difficult. This means that it is hard to extract Llama2's prediction for the problem as it can be expressed in various ways even when we set its temperature parameter as zero, expecting it to follow the instructions. Additionally, Llama2 seems to repeat some tokens and also generate meaningless noise random tokens, which cannot be considered as an answer since it is meaningless.

| | Rules Application | | | | Rules Induction | | | | |
|--------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Model | Task | Zero | Zero-shot Few-Shot | | -Shot | Zero-shot | | Few-Shot | |
| | | Par Acc | Full Acc | Par Acc | Full Acc | Par Acc | Full Acc | Par Acc | Full Acc |
| Llama2 | Grouping Ordering Mapping | 1.7 <u>34.4</u> <u>8.6</u> | 0.0 0.0 0.0 | 2.7 <u>35.4</u> 2.5 | 0.0 0.0 0.0 | 12.6 38.9 8.3 | 0.0 <u>29.7</u> 0.5 | 24.3 59.4 89.8 | 2.9 <u>40.4</u> 2.0 |

Table 6: Accuracy on Rules Application and Rules Induction. The best results are bold and underlined. Par Acc and Full Acc mean Partial and Full Accuracy respectively.

| | | | (a) Results | Validation | | | | | |
|--------|----------|-------------|------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--|--|
| Model | Task | Zero-Shot | | | | Few-Shot | | | |
| | | Valid Acc | Partial Acc | Full Acc | Valid Acc | Partial Acc | Full Acc | | |
| | Grouping | 58.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 58.0 | 23.5 | 8.9 | | |
| Llama2 | Ordering | 52.3 | 3.4 | 0.0 | 54.6 | 12.7 | 1.3 | | |
| | Mapping | 48.7 | $\overline{0.0}$ | 0.0 | 50.0 | 0.8 | 0.0 | | |
| | | | (b) Rules | Validation | | | | | |
| Model | Task | | Zero-Shot | | | Few-Shot | | | |
| mouer | Tubh | Valid Acc | Partial Acc | Full Acc | Valid Acc | Partial Acc | Full Acc | | |
| | Grouping | 49.3 | <u>9.0</u> | 0.0 | 50.2 | 28.9 | 1.3 | | |
| Llama2 | Ordering | 49.3 | 8.4 | 0.0 | 48.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | | |
| | Mapping | <u>50.3</u> | 8.3 | 3.4 | <u>55.3</u> | 15.8 | <u>8.9</u> | | |

Table 7: Model Accuracy on Results Validation and Rules Validation. The best results are both bold and underlined.

A.2 Task Setting

For the tasks evaluated in this research, we all randomly generated 500 examples for each task. For example, for the Character Mapping task, we randomly sample 500 sentences from datasets with character lengths from 20 to 100. The number of examples is also the same for other tasks. To notice that we have made sure that the possible combination of units is much larger than 500 examples so that it is not likely that we may generate the same examples twice in an experiment. Additionally, we use five random seeds [714, 123, 889, 912, 743], and the results are averaged over 5 random seeds. By fixing random seeds. we can make sure that each run produces the same generation of units, the errors in rules or results, and the new rules in the new given results.

A.2.1 Polygon Grouping Setting

We generate 30 polygons for each input example. Those polygons are randomly generated from the provided color list, sides number list, and material list.

The sides number list is [3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12]

The color list is ['red', 'blue', "while", "black", "yellow", "purple", "gray", "cyan", "brown", "indigo"]

The material list is ['metal', 'plastic', "glass", "sliver", "gold", "copper", "bronze", "diamond", "jade"]

A polygon is generated through sampling from each attribute.

A.2.2 Character Mapping Setting

The text is chosen from the aforementioned App-Review dataset. We filter out sentences with character lengths either longer than 100 characters or shorter than 20 characters. Based on such conditions, we sample 500 examples from the filtered dataset as the data to be evaluated.

A.2.3 Color Ordering Setting

The color list that is used in this research contains the following colors ['Red', 'Blue', 'Green', 'Yellow', 'Orange', 'Purple', 'Pink', 'Brown', 'Black', 'White', 'Gray', 'Silver', 'Gold', 'Indigo', 'Turquoise', 'Cyan', 'Magenta', 'Lavender', 'Maroon', 'Beige', 'Teal', 'Navy', 'Olive', 'Coral', 'Salmon', 'Peach', 'Ivory', 'Tan', 'Lilac', 'Skyblue', 'Mint', 'Slate', 'Turmeric', 'Ruby', 'Emerald', 'Tangerine', 'Pewter', 'Champagne', 'Mauve', 'Brick', 'Forest', 'Mustard', 'Chocolate', 'Sapphire', 'Blush', 'Ash', 'Coral', 'Steel', 'Apricot', 'Pearl']. Each time, we randomly sample 20 colors from the whole list and randomly rank each color in the list to form the color preference dictionary. When prompting the LLM to induce rules based on correct output examples, we partition long color lists into several sub-lists to prevent the model from directly copying the given results to obtain the correct color preference without reasoning. The LLM should be able to merge those lists to produce the whole color preferences list.

A.3 Prompt Examples

As illustrated in the examples, first, we prompt the Role of the LLM to posit its general target of the task. Then, we prompt with a more detailed explanation of the tasks and provide detailed information about what the task is. After the Problem Description, we write the Response Instruction, which illustrates what answer we expect the model to respond with. We also added the Response Format to the LLM to make it generate the content following that format to let us extract the answers easily by parsing the output of the LLM. Then, depending on the task setting, we may attach the optional Few-Shots Examples after the Response Format. Notice that any content that is closed by the "" bracket pair is a placeholder. It will be replaced by the actual answer or prompted units. For example, "First Example Rules" means that this is the first example among few-shots examples. In the actual prompt, it will be replaced by actual rules. Also, the same for the "First Example Polygons", in which we will prompt the model with actual polygons that the model needs to group using the rules. Finally, after the Few-Shots Examples, we attach the actual prompted problem to the model with corresponding rules and polygons by replacing "Rules" and "Polygons" with the actual initiated rules and polygons for the problem.

We also show the prompt of other symbolic tasks. The prompts used for Character Mapping in all tasks are in Figure 5 and 6, which shows the prompt for Rules Application, Rules Induction, Results Validation, Rules Validation, and Rules Incorporation, respectively.

The prompts used for Polygons Grouping in all tasks are in Figure 7 and 8, which shows the prompt for Rules Application, Rules Induction, Results Val-

idation, Rules Validation, and Rules Incorporation, respectively.

The prompts used for Color Ordering in all tasks are in Figure 9 and 10, which shows the prompt for Rules Application, Rules Induction, Results Validation, Rules Validation, and Rules Incorporation, respectively.

| Model | Task | | Zero-shot | | | Few-Shot | |
|--------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Valid Acc | Partial Acc | Full Acc | Valid Acc | Partial Acc | Full Acc |
| Llama2 | Grouping Ordering Mapping | 48.0 42.1 <u>51.3</u> | 2.7 4.4 8.5 | 0.0 0.0 0.0 | 50.6 42.1 <u>51.3</u> | 13.4 4.6 21.1 | 0.0 0.0 <u>7.7</u> |

Table 8: Model Accuracy on Incorporation. The best results for one LLM between different tasks are underlined, and the best results of all models are both bold and underlined.

| Mapping Rule Application | Mapping Rules Induction | Mapping Results Validation |
|--|---|--|
| You are a helpful assistant, and you are supposed to factor are a helpful assistant, and you are supposed to factor are you can there, you you you are supposed to make the provide the support of the support below. Problem Description | You are an inductive reasoner, and you can induct rules form examples correctly. You are given pairs of source text and altered text, and you are supposed to find the rules that map each English character to another. Problem Description "You are given a set of pairs of source text and altered text, and you are supposed to find out the rules that map each English character in the source text to the corresponding altered text, and you are supposed to find out the rules that map each English character in the source text to the corresponding altered text, and you are supposed to find out the rules that map each English character. In you should treat the uppercase and lowercase as the same character, where the uppercase and lowercase as the same character. "Your final maves to this problem should contain the following information: 1. The rules are used to map each English character to another. 2. Do not produce redundant rules, which means if direc are to on the threat the uppercase and lowercase as the same character. "Response Format English characters' the source text when a should only market the support of the source the source that the source text of the threat text and the source text out and the source text and should only market text the source text and the source text and sould only market text text the source text and the source text and the source text distribution of the source text and the source text and the source text distribution of the source text and the source text and the source text distribution of the source text and the source text and the source text distribution of the source text and the source t | Vau are an accurate error-checking anxistant, and you can identify errors convectly. You have access to several pre-defined rules that maps each English character to another English character, and you are given an Original and Mered Lex pair. The Altered string is obtained by mapping each English character in the Original lext one by one sumption general-final english character in the Original lext one by one sumption of the Internet and the Internet in the Original lext one by one sumption of the Internet and the Internet in the Original lext one by one sumption of the Internet in the Original lext one by one sumption of the Internet in the Original lext one provide the Internet internet in the Original lext one given and or first between the mapping from the dimeter and restify it. Problem Description Compared in the Internet internet in another English character is an asymptotic locket, where is wrong and locate the error. Rules Harrison rules work for bob Uppercase and Lowercesses: (Rules) Notice: Those rules only work for the English alphabet, and if you encounter non- English characters like space, numbers, question marks, etc. you don't have to check it. Response Instruction Harrison 2. If the result is invalid, respond with the restified Altered result. Response Format Harrison H |
| Remember your response must follow the response format. | | The above RectifiedAlteredText is just a variable, and you should replace it with the actual rectified altered text. Ouestion |
| | | Now try your best to answer the question for the following Original and Altered pair: Original: {Original} |
| | | Altered: {Altered} Remember your response should follow the response format. |

Figure 5: Prompt Template for Mapping in Rules Application, Rules Induction and Results Validation

| Mapping Rules Validation | Mapping Rules Incorporation |
|--|--|
| You are an error rectifier. You have access to several pre-defined nules that map each English character to another English character and you are given an Original text one by one using those pre-defined rules. Problem Description Problem Description Problem Description Problem Constraints and the constraint of the Original and Altered text pair. The Altered string is obtained by mapping each English character in the Original text one by one using those rules may be distincted, so the rules may have be correct argument. You are supposed to rectify flower rules are composed to except the rules are the original and Altered string pair, you can identify whether the given rules are correct or not. Response Instruction 1. Are the rules correct or not? 1. If the result is a rule take index of the rules and the Original and Altered string pair, you can identify whether the given rules are correct or not. 1. Are the rules correct or not? 1. If the result is New Yorking the rules and the Original and Altered string pair, you can identify whether the given rules are correct or not. 1. Are the rules correct or not? 1. If the result is New Yorking the rules and the Original and Altered string pair, you can identify whether the given rules are correct or not? 1. If the result is New Yorking the rules correct for how examples solve the problem. Response Format Tory You should respond with there is no rule to correct. 2. If the result is New, you should respond with there is no rule to correct. 3. If there easile is New Yorking informations or not intervent the worker the question using the above Response Format to determine whether the following rule contain incorrect rules or not: [Tablem] Tory work but answer the question using the above Response Format to determine whether the following rule contain incorrect rules or not: [Tablem] New, you need to induct whether there are wrong rules existing in the given pre-defined mapping rules, and your response should follow the response format. | You are an inductive reasoner. You have access to several pre-defined rules that map each English character to another English character, and you are given an Original and Altered text pair. The Altered string is obtained by mapping each English character in the Original text one by one using those pre-defined rules. Problem Description The the end of the end o |
| | |

Figure 6: Prompt Template for Mapping in Rules Validation and Rules Incorporation

Figure 7: Prompt Template for Grouping in Rules Application, Rules Induction and Results Validation



Figure 8: Prompt Template for Grouping in Rules Validation and Rules Incorporation

| Ordering Rules Application | Ordering Rules Induction | Ordering Results Validation |
|---|--|--|
| You are a helpful assistant, and you are supposed to | 1 | You are an accurate error-checking assistant, and you can identify errors correctly. You |
| follow the instructions that I give to you and perform the | | have access to pre-defined ordering rules that show the preference of colors, and you |
| task as far as you can. Here, we want to sort the given | | are given ordering results based on those pre-defined ordering rules. However, the |
| color lists that follow certain color preferences. | You are an inductive reasoner, and you can induct rules from | grouping results may not be correct. You are supposed to find out whether the given |
| color lists that follow certain color preferences. | examples correctly. You are given an ordering result that the elements | ordering results are correct or not. If not, you should be able to identify the errors and |
| Problem Description | of the ordered result are different colors. You are supposed to find out | correct them. |
| rioden Description | the preference of the different colors, which means what color has the | |
| You will be given a set of rules that presents the color | highest rank. | Problem Description |
| preferences. You will be given an unordered color list, | | |
| and you should output the ordered list following the color | Problem Description | You are given pre-defined ordering preferences that show the preference of colors, and |
| and you should output the ordered list following the color preferences. | | you are given ordering results based on those pre-defined ordering rules. However, the |
| preferences. | You are given an ordered list where, instead of ordering the numbers, | grouping results may not be correct. You are supposed to find out whether the given |
| Color Set | the elements of the ordered list are colors. Through analyzing the | ordering results are correct or not. If not, you should be able to identify the errors and |
| Color Set | unordered list and the ordered list, you are required to find out the rank | correct them. |
| | of different colors | |
| You have access to the following colors: | of unicidin colors. | Color Set |
| {colors} | Color Set | |
| | | You have access to the following colors: |
| Response Instruction | You have access to the following colors: | (colors) |
| ***** | (colors) | |
| Your final answer to this problem should contain the | (colors) | Response Instruction |
| following information: | Barris I and a | |
| 1. The resorted color list that is based on the given color | Response Instruction | Your final answer to this problem should contain the following information: |
| preferences and unordered color list. | New Colorest discuttion doubt continues for the fillening | 1. Whether the given ordering results are correct or not. |
| | Your final answer to this problem should contain the following information: | 2. If not, what is/are the error/errors and the rectified one/ones. |
| Response Format | | |
| | The analyzed ranks of different colors. | Response Format |
| Following the Response Instruction, the format should be: | | |
| Sorted Color List: | Response Format | Correct Results or Not: |
| 1. Color 1. | | Ves or No |
| 2. Color_2. | Color Ranking: | Rectified Results: |
| 3. Color 3. | 1. Rank 1 Color_1 | 1. If the result is Yes, you should respond with "There is no error to correct". |
| | 2. Rank 2 Color_2 | 2. If the result is No, you should respond with the rectified pair of colors in the |
| The above Color x is just a variable here that does not | 3. Rank 3 Color_3 | following format, which means the color with the wrong priority (left-hand side) shoul |
| hold any actual meaning. You should replace Color x | 4. Rank 4 Color_4 | be replaced with the right-hand side color. |
| with actual colors from the given data. | | For example: |
| 5 | Color_x above is just a variable here that does not hold any actual | The correct ordering results are: |
| Question | meaning. You should replace Color_x with actual colors from the | Wrong Priority Color: Color x -> Rectified Priority Color: Color y |
| - | given data. | whong monty count count_x = Recand monty count count_y |
| You have access to the following color preference rules | | Color x and Color y above is just a variable that does not hold any meaning. You |
| that describe the correct color preference rank that you | Question | should replace Color x with actual colors from the given data. |
| can use to sort the following unordered color list but do | | should replace Color_x with actual colors from the given data. |
| not output the color preference rank directly, and you | Now try your best to induct the mapping rules from the following | Question |
| should sort the following color list according to the | Original and Altered pair: | Question |
| following color preference rules: | Original: {Original} | |
| {color preference} | Altered: {Altered} | You have access to the following color preference rules that describe the correct color preference: |
| (consi_preterence) | | preserence: |
| Now try your best to sort the following unordered color | Remember your response should follow the response format. | |
| list according to the given color preference rules above, | | {color_preference} |
| | | |
| and your response should follow the response format. | | You have the following Ordered Color results that may not be correct: |
| Don't just copy the color preference rank above, but try to | | |
| sort the following color list according to the given color preference rules above: | | {OrderedLists} |
| | | |
| {UnOrderedLists} | | Now you need to induct whether the ordered colors follows the color preference rules |
| | | or not and your response should follow the response format. |

Figure 9: Prompt Template for Ordering in Rules Application, Rules Induction and Results Validation



Figure 10: Prompt Template for Ordering in Rules Validation and Rules Incorporation