Supplementary Material for Image-Grounded Conversations: Multimodal Context for Natural Question and Response Generation



Table 1: Example conversations in $IGC_{Twitter}$.



Figure 1: Sunburst visualization of distributions of n-gram sequences (with $n \le 6$) in questions in VQG, IGC_{Twitter}, and IGC_{Crowd}. IGC_{Twitter} is the most diverse set, with the lighter-colored part of the circle indicating sequences with less than 0.1% representation in the dataset.



Figure 2: Comparison of IGC questions with VQG (Mostafazadeh et al., 2016) and VQA (Antol et al., 2015) questions in terms of vocabulary size, percentage of abstract terms, and inter-annotation textual similarity. The COCO (Lin et al., 2014) image captioning dataset is also included as a point of reference. The IGC_{Twitter} dataset has by far the largest vocabulary, making it a more challenging dataset for training purposes. The IGC_{Crowd}, followed in order by IGC_{Twitter}, exhibit the highest ratio of abstract to concrete terms. Broadly, abstract terms refer to intangibles, such as concepts, qualities, and feelings, whereas concrete terms refer to things that can be experienced with the five senses. Conversational content may often involve more abstract concepts than captions or questions directly targeting visible image content.

The right-hand plot in compares the interannotation textual similarity of our IGC_{Crowd} questions using a smoothed BLEU metric (Lin and Och, 2004). Contextually grounded questions of IGC_{Crowd} are competitive with VQG in interannotation similarity.

References

- Stanislaw Antol, Aishwarya Agrawal, Jiasen Lu, Margaret Mitchell, Dhruv Batra, C. Lawrence Zitnick, and Devi Parikh. 2015. VQA: Visual question answering. In *Proc. ICCV*.
- Chin-Yew Lin and Franz Josef Och. 2004. Automatic evaluation of machine translation quality using longest common subsequence and skip-bigram statistics. In *Proc. ACL*.
- Tsung-Yi Lin, Michael Maire, Serge Belongie, James Hays, Pietro Perona, Deva Ramanan, Piotr Dollr, and C. Lawrence Zitnick. 2014. Microsoft coco: Common objects in context. In *Proc. ECCV*.
- Nasrin Mostafazadeh, Ishan Misra, Jacob Devlin, Margaret Mitchell, Xiaodong He, and Lucy Vander-



Figure 3: Distribution of the number of tokens across subsections of the datasets. On average, IGC_{Twitter} has longer sentences.

wende. 2016. Generating natural questions about an image. In *Proc. ACL*.