# Towards Automated Error Discovery: A Study in Conversational AI

Anonymous ACL submission

#### Abstract

Although LLM-based conversational agents demonstrate strong fluency and coherence, they continue to exhibit behavioral errors, such as inconsistencies and factual inaccuracies. Detecting and mitigating these errors is critical for developing trustworthy systems. However, current response correction methods rely heavily on large language models (LLMs), which require information about the nature of an error or hints about its occurrence for accurate 011 detection. This limits their ability to identify errors not defined in their instructions or covered by external tools, such as those aris-014 ing from updates to the response-generation model or shifts in user behavior. In this work, we introduce Automated Error Discovery, a framework for detecting and defining behav-018 ioral errors in conversational AI, and propose SEEED (Soft-clustering Extended Encoder-Based Error Detection), an encoder-based alternative to LLMs for error detection. We enhance the Soft Nearest Neighbor Loss by amplifying distance weighting for negative samples and introduce Label-Based Sample Ranking to select highly contrastive examples for better representation learning. SEEED outper-027 forms adapted baselines across multiple errorannotated dialogue datasets, improving the accuracy for detecting novel behavioral errors by up to 8 points and demonstrating strong gener-031 alization to unknown intent detection.<sup>1</sup>

### 1 Introduction

033

Behavioral errors in conversational agents refer to system responses that deviate from the expectations of natural dialogue, such as those exhibiting inconsistencies or a lack of basic social competence (Wang et al., 2024; Kumar et al., 2023; Kirk et al., 2023). Preventing these errors is essential for maintaining user trust in such systems (Hsu



Figure 1: LLM-based response correction pipeline: (1) The response-generation model produces an initial response based on user input. (2) The feedback LLM, or in self-correcting systems the response-generation model itself, evaluates the candidate for errors, often using external tools. Recent work shows that LLMs require information about the nature of an error or hints about its occurrence for accurate detection. (3) The response-generation model refines its output according to the feedback.

and Lin, 2023; Luger and Sellen, 2016). For this purpose, current response correction mechanisms typically use large language models (LLMs) to detect these errors and generate feedback, guiding the response-generation model to refine its output accordingly (Miao et al., 2024; Madaan et al., 2023; Shinn et al., 2023; Gou et al., 2024; Shridhar et al., 2024; Xu et al., 2024; Peng et al., 2023). Figure 1 illustrates this process.

While effective at generating feedback, LLMs require information about the nature of an error or hints about its occurrence for accurate detection (Mendonça et al., 2024; Tyen et al., 2024; Finch et al., 2023b), reducing their ability to iden-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>We provide our code on GitHub (last accessed May 5, 2025).

tify errors not defined in their instructions or covered by external tools. This limitation becomes especially problematic when user behavior shifts or response-generation models are updated to meet evolving requirements (Madotto et al., 2021; Liu and Mazumder, 2021; Wang et al., 2019; Hancock et al., 2019), as these changes may lead to the emergence of new error types.

056

057

061

064

067

071

073

074

084

098

In this work, we introduce Automated Error Discovery as a framework for detecting and defining behavioral errors in conversational AI, and propose SEEED (Soft-clustering Enhanced Encoder-Based Error Detection) as an alternative to LLM-based error detection. Our contributions are as follows:

- We introduce Automated Error Discovery as a new task that involves (1) detecting known and novel error types, and (2) generating definitions for newly discovered error types.
- We propose SEEED, a novel approach that combines an open-source LLM with lightweight encoders for error detection. In contrast to prior work, SEEED employs soft clustering in the classification step, enabling more contextually coherent groupings.
  - We introduce Label-Based Sample Ranking, a novel sampling strategy for contrastive learning that selects highly contrastive examples based on their behavioral errors for improved representation learning.
  - We enhance the Soft Nearest Neighbor Loss (Frosst et al., 2019) by introducing a margin parameter to amplify the effect of distance weighting for negative samples.

SEEED outperforms adapted baselines, including GPT-40 (Ouyang et al., 2022) and Phi-4 (Abouelenin et al., 2025), by up to 8 points in identifying novel error types on the FEDI (Petrak et al., 2024), Soda-Eval (Mendonça et al., 2024), and ABCEval (Finch et al., 2023a) datasets. Additionally, it demonstrates strong generalization to intent detection, achieving up to a 17-point improvement in accuracy for identifying unknown intents over state-of-the-art methods.

#### 2 Related Work

In recent years, research in conversational AI has
focused on reducing behavioral errors in agent
responses, primarily through supervised learning

from error and feedback signals collected by human 102 expert annotators (Dubey et al., 2024; Lee et al., 103 2024; Xu et al., 2023; Finch et al., 2023a; Havrilla 104 et al., 2023; Rafailov et al., 2023; Ung et al., 2022; 105 Ouyang et al., 2022; Bai et al., 2022). To facilitate 106 data collection, semi-automated methods have been 107 developed to analyze existing dialogue data (Petrak 108 et al., 2023; See and Manning, 2021; Higashinaka 109 et al., 2015). However, these approaches lack pre-110 cision and still necessitate substantial manual ef-111 fort. As a result, recent studies have explored using 112 LLMs to generate and annotate dialogue data with 113 behavioral errors (Mendonça et al., 2024; Petrak 114 et al., 2024), but the quality of the resulting datasets 115 remains debated (Yang et al., 2023; Ji et al., 2023; 116 Zhang et al., 2023), as LLMs require explicit guid-117 ance to detect such errors (Tyen et al., 2024; Stechly 118 et al., 2024; Finch et al., 2023b). This limitation 119 also restricts the effectiveness of LLM-based re-120 sponse correction mechanisms (Miao et al., 2024; 121 Madaan et al., 2023; Shinn et al., 2023) in handling 122 behavioral errors during deployment, even when 123 supplemented by external tools, such as web search 124 for claim verification (Gou et al., 2024; Shridhar 125 et al., 2024; Xu et al., 2024; Peng et al., 2023). It 126 hinders their applicability in scenarios where new 127 types of behavioral errors emerge due to shifting 128 user behavior or updates to the response-generation 129 model (Luo et al., 2023; Mi et al., 2020; Roller 130 et al., 2020). 131

In this work, we introduce Automated Error Discovery as a framework for detecting and defining behavioral errors in conversational AI. In addition, we propose SEEED, an encoder-based approach for error detection that provides an alternative to LLMs for this task. 132

133

134

135

136

137

138

139

140

141

142

143

144

145

146

147

148

149

150

151

#### **3** Automated Error Discovery

We define Automated Error Discovery as a specialization of Generalized Category Discovery (Vaze et al., 2022), extended to include the generation of definitions for newly discovered behavioral error types. Generalized Category Discovery assumes that during training, only a subset of the complete class distribution is accessible. The goal is to train a model capable of extrapolating from the learned patterns to discriminate between data from both seen and unseen classes during inference.

We distinguish two sub-tasks, <u>Error Detection</u> and <u>Error Definition Generation</u>, and define the following formal setup:



Figure 2: Schematic overview of SEEED, comprising three distinct components: Summary Generation, Error Detection, and Error Definition Generation (*e* denotes the identified behavioral error). Our training procedure is illustrated with a focus on the concept of Label-Based Sample Ranking.

•  $E = E^K \cup E^U$  is the set of all behavioral error types.  $E^K = \{(e_i, d_i)\}_{i=1}^m$  is the set of known error types, with  $e_i$  as the error identifier and  $d_i$  as its definition.  $E^U$  denotes the set of unknown error types.  $E^K \cap E^U = \emptyset$ .

152

153

154

155

159

160

161

162

164

165

166

169

170

171

•  $C = C^K \cup C^U$  denotes the set of all dialogue contexts T, with  $C^K$  as the set of all T associated with a behavioral error e from  $E^K$ .  $C^U$  is the set of dialogues associated with unknown behavioral errors.  $C^K \cap C^U = \emptyset$ .

 We define a dialogue context T as a sequence of user-agent utterances (turns). Depending on the use case, T may be associated with additional features, such as external knowledge documents in knowledge-grounded dialogues. We refer to these additional features as W<sub>T</sub>.<sup>2</sup>

**Error Detection** Given an error detection function  $\mathcal{H} : \mathbb{R}^d \mapsto \mathbb{N}$  and a dialogue context  $T \in C$ , the task is to determine the behavioral error  $e \in E$ associated with the last agent utterance in T:

$$e = \mathcal{H}(T, W_T)$$
, where  $e \in E$  and  $T \in C$  (1)

173 $\mathcal{H}$  must not access any data in  $E^U$  during training.174Error Definition Generation When  $e \notin E^K$ ,175the task is to generate a definition d conditioned176on the identified set of related dialogue contexts177 $C_e \subseteq C^U$ .3

### 4 SEEED – Soft-Clustering Extended Encoder-Based Error Detection

178

179

180

182

183

184

185

186

187

188

189

190

191

192

194

195

196

197

198

199

200

201

202

203

204

205

206

207

210

Figure 2 presents a schematic overview of SEEED. Since detecting behavioral errors requires understanding contextual dependencies, such as references to earlier utterances (Petrak et al., 2024; Mendonça et al., 2024; Finch et al., 2023a), we first prompt an LLM to generate a summary of the dialogue context. Next, both the dialogue context and its summary are processed through separate Transformer-based encoders and then combined using a linear neural layer to produce an aggregated representation. Finally, we apply a soft-clustering algorithm to identify the corresponding behavioral error type. If the identified error type is not among the known types, we prompt an LLM to generate its definition.

In contrast to hard-clustering algorithms like k-Means, which have been predominantly used in prior work on related tasks (Liang et al., 2024; An et al., 2024; Vaze et al., 2022), soft-clustering algorithms allow data points to belong to multiple clusters, facilitating more contextually coherent groupings.

#### 4.1 Summary Generation

We prompt Llama-3.1 8B-Instruct (Dubey et al., 2024) to summarize the dialogue context, and instruct the model to focus on information indicative of behavioral errors in the last agent utterance. We use few-shot prompting and include directives to circumvent pre-trained safety mechanisms, enabling analysis of dialogues that may contain harmful language. For the knowledge-grounded

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>In this work, W is relevant only as external knowledge in the knowledge-grounded subset of FEDI (Petrak et al., 2024)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>In practical implementations, this new data can be used to enhance  $\mathcal{H}$ . To avoid the emergence of an overly granular set of behavioral errors, we suggest applying a threshold to  $|C_e|$ .

297

298

300

dialogues in FEDI (Petrak et al., 2024), we additionally incorporate relevant external knowledge
documents into the prompt. Figure 2 shows an
example summary. We provide the full prompt in
Appendix A.

We do not provide error type definitions for summary generation to prevent the detection model from learning shortcut patterns associated with known behavioral errors, as this could compromise its ability to identify novel error types.

#### 4.2 Error Detection

216

217

218

219

220

224

225

227

228

234

236

237

239

240

241

242

243

244

245

246

247

249

250

253

For error detection, we first produce an aggregated representation of the dialogue context and its summary, and then apply NNK-Means (Shekkizhar and Ortega, 2022) to identify the corresponding error type. This expands Equation 1 as follows:

 $e = \mathcal{H}(T, W_T, o_T)$ , where  $o_T$  is the summary
(2)

NNK-Means (Shekkizhar and Ortega, 2022) is a soft-clustering algorithm that uses non-negative kernel regression to model local geometric relationships and assign weighted cluster memberships.

**Training Objective** For fine-tuning the encoders, we employ a joint loss function that combines multi-class cross-entropy,  $\mathcal{L}_{ce}$ , with the Soft Nearest Neighbor Loss (Frosst et al., 2019),  $\mathcal{L}_{snl}$ :

$$\mathcal{L} = \alpha \mathcal{L}_{ce} + \mathcal{L}_{snl} \tag{3}$$

 $\alpha$  regulates the contribution of  $\mathcal{L}_{ce}$ . This formulation encourages the discrimination between known behavioral error types while enhancing the robustness of the learned representation space, thereby facilitating generalization to unseen data. SNL contributes to this by smoothing decision boundaries through distance-based weighting of neighboring samples:

$$\mathcal{L}_{snl} = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \log \left( \frac{\sum_{\substack{j=1, j \neq i, \\ y_i = y_j}}^{N} \exp\left(-\frac{S_{ij}}{\tau}\right)}{\sum_{\substack{k=1, \\ k \neq i}}^{N} \exp\left(-\frac{S_{ik}}{\tau}\right) + \epsilon} \right)$$
(4)

N denotes the batch size.  $\tau$  denotes the temperature and  $\epsilon$  is a small constant included to prevent arithmetic errors.  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$  represents the similarity matrix. We compute each element as follows:  $S_{ij} = \frac{x_i \cdot x_j}{\|x_i\| \|x_j\|} - m \cdot \mathbb{I}(y_i \neq y_j)$ , where  $\mathbb{I}(y_i \neq y_j)$  is 1 if error types  $y_i$  and  $y_j$  differ, and 0 otherwise. We introduce m as a positive scalar margin to amplify the distance weighting for negative

pairs. To further enhance effectiveness, we utilize Label-Based Sample Ranking to augment the batch with one positive and negative counterpart,  $x^+$  and  $x^-$ , for each sample x, selected from the pool of training data. These additional samples are used exclusively to compute  $\mathcal{L}_{snl}$ .

Label-Based Sample Ranking We introduce Label-Based Sample Ranking (LBSR) as a novel sampling strategy to amplify the effect of distancebased weighting in SNL (Frosst et al., 2019). We build upon the concept of Local Inconsistency Sampling (LIS), as proposed by An et al. (2024). LIS assumes that samples of the same class should be proximate in representation space (Jiang et al., 2023) and that samples near the decision boundary are more susceptible to misclassification, rendering them particularly valuable as positive counterparts in contrastive learning. To identify such samples, LIS measures prediction inconsistency and entropy based on the t-distribution of cluster assignments derived from k-Means clustering.

In LBSR, we employ NNK-Means (Shekkizhar and Ortega, 2022) for clustering and leverage label information available during training to classify each sample as either a positive or negative instance relative to its ground truth error type  $e \in E^K$ . Specifically, we define positive samples for e as those for which e is the ground truth label, and negative samples as those assigned to e despite having a different ground truth label. We further distinguish between the following categories:

- **Soft Positives** Samples assigned to *e* with *e* as the ground truth label.
- Hard Positives Samples assigned to a different type but with *e* as the ground truth label.
- **Soft Negatives** Samples with a different ground truth label, assigned to *e*, and near its decision boundary (high inconsistency).
- Hard Negatives Samples with a different ground truth label, assigned to *e*, and near its centroid (low inconsistency).

Figure 2 provides an illustration. We utilize the algorithms proposed by An et al. (2024) to compute inconsistency and entropy, then normalize and average them to derive a single relevance score. Algorithm 1 outlines our implementation and highlights the key differences from LIS in violet.

Algorithm 1 Label-Based Sample Ranking

```
Require: X \in \mathbb{R}^{|C^K| \times d}, Y \in \mathbb{Z}^{|E^K|}, top_k \in \mathbb{Z}
 1: Init hard_pos[i] = [], soft_pos[i] = [],
      negs[i] = [] for each i in set(Y)
 2:
 3:
 4: nnk = NNKMeans(|set(Y)|).fit(X, Y)
 5: preds, centers = nnk.predict(X)
 6: rel_score, inconsistency =
      scoring(X, preds, centers, top_k)
 7:
 8:
 9: for i = 0 to |X| do
      pred, y = (preds[i], Y[i])
10:
11:
      rel, inc = (rel_score[i],
        inconsistency[i])
12:
      if pred == y then
13:
        soft_pos[y] += [(i, rel, inc)]
14:
      else
15:
16:
        hard_pos[y] += [(i, rel, inc)]
        negs[pred] += [(i, rel, inc)]
17:
18:
19: # sort hard positives desc by relevance
20: hard_pos = sort(hard_pos,
21:
      key=lambda z:z[1], 'desc')
22:
23: # sort negs desc by their inconcsistency score
24: negs = {e: sort(v, key=lambda z:z[2],
      'desc') for e, v in negs.items()}
25:
26: # split them into soft and hard negs; sort them
27: # desc by their relevance score
28: soft_negs = {e: sort(v[:len(v)//2],
29:
      key=lambda z:z[1], 'desc') for e, v
      in negs.items()}
30:
31: hard_negs = {e: sort(v[len(v)//2:],
      key=lambda z:z[1], 'desc') for e, v
32:
33:
      in negs.items()}
34:
35: return soft_pos, hard_pos, soft_neg,
      hard_neg
36:
```

We denote X as the aggregated representations of all dialogue contexts in  $C^K$  and their summaries, and Y as the sequence of corresponding ground truth behavioral errors from  $E^K$ . preds and centers denote the predicted behavioral errors and assigned cluster centers. scoring calculates the entropy and inconsistency values by considering the top\_k nearest neighbors, and returns the relevance scores and inconsistency values.

We sort the samples in negs in descending order of inconsistency, assigning the first half to soft\_negatives and the second half to hard\_negatives for the corresponding behavioral error type. Finally, we sort hard\_pos, soft\_pos, hard\_neg, and soft\_neg according to their relevance scores in descending order. 313

314

315

316

317

318

319

320

321

322

323

324

325

327

328

331

333

334

335

336

337

339

340

341

342

344

345

346

347

348

349

350

352

354

357

358

359

During training, given a sample  $x \in C^K$  of  $e \in E^K$ , we randomly decide to dequeue  $x^-$  from hard\_neg[e] or soft\_neg[e]. If both are exhausted, we sample  $x^-$  from a different error type. Similarly, we dequeue  $x^+$  from hard\_pos[e] or sample it from soft\_pos[e]. If hard\_pos[e] is exhausted, we sample  $x^+$  from soft\_pos[e]. In our implementation, we ensure  $x^+ \neq x$ .

#### 4.3 Error Definition Generation

We employ Llama-3.1 8B-Instruct (Dubey et al., 2024) to generate definitions for newly discovered behavioral errors. We prompt the model to produce definitions that characterize the problem present in the associated dialogue contexts. To enrich the prompt with additional context, we include the corresponding dialogue summaries. Similarly to dialogue summary generation, we incorporate directives to circumvent pre-trained safety mechanisms to enable the analysis of dialogues with inappropriate language. Additionally, we include three randomly sampled definitions of known behavioral errors from the target dataset to encourage alignment.<sup>4</sup> Figure 2 shows an example output. We provide the full prompt in Appendix A.

### **5** Experiments

We evaluate Error Detection and Error Definition Generation separately. For Error Detection, we vary the ratio of known to novel error types (openness) from 25% to 75% and perform ablation studies for a detailed assessment of SEEED. For Error Definition Generation, we perform a manual analysis to evaluate the alignment of generated definitions with ground truth definitions. To assess the generalizability of SEEED, we conduct intent detection experiments across the same range of openness used in the Error Detection experiments.

**LLM Baselines** For LLM-based error detection, we use GPT-40 (Ouyang et al., 2022) and Phi-4 (Abouelenin et al., 2025) as baselines, representing recent state-of-the-art models. Following Mendonça et al. (2024), we prompt both models to detect behavioral errors and provide rationales for their decisions. For in-context learning, we include

308

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Preliminary experiments indicated that this yields better alignment with the existing error types in the dataset.

Openness	Method		FED	I-Error				AF	CEval				Soc	la-Eval		
openness		H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI	H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI	H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI
	Random	0.11	0.12	0.11	_	_	0.10	0.11	0.09	_	_	0.13	0.17	0.10	_	_
	GPT-4o (in-context)	0.14	0.19	0.11	_	_	0.32	0.47	0.25	_	_	0.0	0.33	0.0	_	
250	Phi-4 (in-context)	0.09	0.12 (4.07)	0.07 (4.04)		_	0.12	0.14 (4.33)	0.11 (4.14)		_	0.03	0.12 (4.21)	0.02 (1.02)	_	_
25%	Phi-4 (finetuned)	0.15	0.19	0.13 (1.02)	_	_	0.24	0.29 (4.18)	0.21 (4.04)	_	_	0.16	0.30 (4.03)	0.11 (1.11)	_	-
	KNN-Contrastive	0.33	0.30 (1.11)	0.37 (†.26)	0.06	0.10	0.38	<b>0.55</b> (\.08)	0.30 (1.05)	0.07	0.46	0.27	<b>0.41</b> (\phi.08)	0.20 (1.20)	0.08	0.16
	SynCID	0.27	0.40 (1.21)	0.20 (1.09)	0.06	0.11	0.53	0.45 (4.02)	0.68 (1.43)	0.03	0.41	0.31	0.38 (1.05)	0.26 (1.26)	0.11	0.14
	LOOP	0.26	0.37 (1.18)	0.19 (1.08)	0.09	0.10	0.51	0.43 (4.04)	0.63 (	0.01	0.37	0.33	0.36 (1.03)	0.31 (1.31)	0.07	0.13
	SEEED	0.38	<b>0.41</b> (#.22)	0.34 (1.23)	0.19	0.19	0.53	$0.46~(\Downarrow.01)$	<b>0.68</b> ( <sup>+.43</sup> )	0.21	0.45	0.40	<b>0.41</b> (1.08)	<b>0.39</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.39)	0.15	0.17
	Random	0.11	0.13	0.10	_	_	0.08	0.12	0.06	_	_	0.10	0.11	0.10	_	_
	GPT-4o (in-context)	0.17	0.18	0.17	_	_	0.37	0.28	0.42	_	_	0.23	0.28	0.19	_	_
500	Phi-4 (in-context)	0.07	0.09 (4.09)	0.06 (4.11)	_	_	0.02	0.11 (4.17)	0.09 (4.33)	_	_	0.10	0.16 (4.12)	0.07 (4.12)	_	_
50%	Phi-4 (finetuned)	0.14	0.21 (1.03)	0.11 (4.06)	—	—	0.24	0.31 (4.03)	0.19 (4.23)	—	—	0.18	0.29 (0.01)	0.13 (4.06)	—	_
	KNN-Contrastive	0.26	0.33 (1.15)	0.21 (1.04)	0.07	0.09	0.54	0.64 (1.36)	0.47 (1.05)	0.10	0.48	0.28	0.38 (1.10)	0.23 (1.04)	0.06	0.13
	SynCID	0.26	0.34 (1.16)	0.21 (1.04)	0.04	0.09	0.59	0.55 (1.27)	0.64 (1.22)	0.11	0.47	0.27	0.40 (1.12)	0.21 (1.02)	0.09	0.11
	LOOP	0.22	0.39 (1.21)	0.16 (4.01)	0.07	0.07	0.45	0.48 (1.20)	0.43 (1.01)	0.03	0.41	0.24	0.55 (1.27)	0.16 (4.03)	0.11	0.16
	SEEED	0.33	<b>0.48</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.30)	0.22 (1.05)	0.13	0.15	0.64	<b>0.67</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.39)	0.62 (1.20)	0.29	0.51	0.37	0.49 (1.21)	<b>0.30</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.11)	0.19	0.19
	Random	0.12	0.12	0.12	-	-	0.12	0.13	0.11	_	_	0.11	0.14	0.09	_	_
	GPT-4o (in-context)	0.16	0.15	0.17	_	_	0.39	0.32	0.49	_	_	0.24	0.19	0.31	_	
	Phi-4 (in-context)	0.08	0.11 (4.04)	0.06 (4.11)		_	0.09	0.13 (4.19)	0.08 (4.41)		_	0.06	0.15 (4.04)	0.09 (4.22)	_	_
75%	Phi-4 (finetuned)	0.12	0.22 (1.07)	0.08 (4.09)	—	—	0.17	0.28 (4.04)	0.12 (4.37)	—	—	0.11	0.26 (1.07)	0.15 (4.16)	—	_
	KNN-Contrastive	0.22	0.37 (1.22)	0.16 (4.01)	0.06	0.07	0.47	0.60 (1.28)	0.44 (4.05)	0.11	0.46	0.27	0.42 (1.23)	0.19 (4.12)	0.04	0.09
	SynCID	0.23	0.36 (1.21)	0.17	0.06	0.01	0.54	0.59 (1.27)	0.50 (1.01)	0.07	0.44	0.25	0.22 (1.03)	0.28 (4.03)	0.02	0.06
	LOOP	0.25	0.43 (1.28)	0.18 (1.01)	0.05	0.01	0.48	0.69 (1.37)	0.37 (4.12)	0.07	0.44	0.22	0.31 (1.12)	0.17 (4.14)	0.07	0.08
	SEEED	0.37	<b>0.64</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.49)	0.26 <sup>†</sup> (1.09)	0.16	0.17	0.60	<b>0.75</b> <sup>†</sup> ( <sup>+.43</sup> )	<b>0.50</b> ( <b>(</b> .01)	0.21	0.47	0.42	<b>0.61</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.42)	<b>0.32</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.01)	0.12	0.14

Table 1: Results of our error detection experiments, averaged over three independent runs. The random baseline assigns equal probability to all error types, sampling from a uniform distribution. The deltas indicate differences from the GPT-40 results.  $\dagger$  marks statistically significant improvements in Acc-K or Acc-N over the top-performing baseline, as determined by a t-test with p-value  $\leq 0.05$ . To ensure comparability, novel behavioral errors were randomly sampled once per run and degree of openness (see Appendix C for details).

all ground truth error definitions in the prompt, but only provide examples for known types. For finetuning Phi-4, we restrict training to known error types. We provide more details in Appendix B.

361

364

**Encoder-Based Baselines** We adapt Syn-CID (Liang et al., 2024) and LOOP (An et al., 2024), two state-of-the-art methods for intent detection, for error detection. Both require multi-stage training and contrastive learning with k-Nearest Neighbors, as originally proposed by Zhou et al. (2022), which we refer to as KNN-Contrastive in our experiments. Appendix B provides more details.

**Datasets** We evaluate on the error-annotated subset of FEDI (Petrak et al., 2024), FEDI-Error, 374 Soda-Eval (Mendonça et al., 2024), and ABCE-375 val (Finch et al., 2023a). FEDI-Error and Soda-376 Eval consist of synthetically generated data. While FEDI-Error focuses on task-oriented and documentgrounded dialogues intentionally generated to ex-379 hibit behavioral errors, Soda-Eval comprises errorannotated open-domain dialogues automatically extracted from SODA (Kim et al., 2023). ABCEval contains human-bot open-domain dialogues for evaluating dialogue system behavior. For intent detection, we use CLINC (Larson et al., 2019), BANKING (Casanueva et al., 2020), and Stack-Overflow (Xu et al., 2015). We provide more de-387

tails, including dataset statistics and error type distributions, in Appendix C.

389

390

391

392

393

394

395

396

397

398

400

401

402

403

404

405

406

407

408

409

410

**Evaluation Metrics** We evaluate performance using the H-Score (Saito and Saenko, 2021), the harmonic mean of accuracy on classes included and excluded during training (e.g., known and novel error types), denoted as Acc-K and Acc-N, respectively. For cluster quality, we use the ARI (Hubert and Arabie, 1985) and NMI (Strehl and Ghosh, 2002) scores.<sup>5</sup> ARI measures agreement between cluster assignments, while NMI captures cluster entropy. A low ARI score indicates random assignments, and a low NMI score suggests the algorithm failed to capture meaningful patterns in the data.

**Implementation** Following SynCID (Liang et al., 2024) and LOOP (An et al., 2024), we use the pre-trained bert-base-uncased model (Devlin et al., 2019) for both the summary and context encoders, and set m = 0.3. We provide experiments with different values for m in Appendix D. In Appendix B, we provide additional implementation details, including hyperparameters, infrastructure, input, and output formats.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>For ARI and NMI, we use the implementation provided in Sciki-learn (last accessed May 3, 2025).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>For bert-base-uncased, Phi-4-mini-instruct and Llama-3.1 8B-Instruct, we utilize the models provided in the Hugging Face Model Hub (last accessed May 3, 2025).

Method		С	LINC				BA	NKING				Stac	kOverflow		
	H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI	H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI	H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI
KNN-Contrastive	0.64	0.88	0.50	0.61	0.86	0.51	0.85	0.36	0.51	0.80	0.56	0.82	0.43	0.47	0.64
SynCID	0.77	0.93 (1.05)	0.65 (1.15)	0.71	0.90	0.64	0.86 (1.01)	0.51 (1.15)	0.59	0.84	0.70	0.80 (4.02)	0.63 (1.20)	0.53	0.70
LOOP	0.81	0.93 (1.05)	0.72 (1.22)	0.76	0.92	0.63	0.89 (1.04)	0.49 (1.13)	0.62	0.86	0.76	0.91 (1.09)	0.66 (1.23)	0.67	0.78
SEEED	0.84	<b>0.95</b> (1.07)	<b>0.76</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.26)	0.75	0.91	0.79	0.93 ( <sup>(108)</sup>	<b>0.69</b> <sup>†</sup> ( <sup>(†.33)</sup>	0.69	0.86	0.87	0.93 ( <sup>1.12</sup> )	<b>0.83</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.40)	0.75	0.82

Table 2: Results of our intent detection experiments, averaged over three independent runs and all levels of openness (see Appendix D.5 for detailed results). The deltas show differences from KNN-Contrastive.  $\dagger$  marks statistically significant improvements in Acc-K or Acc-N over the top-performing baseline, as determined by a t-test with p-value  $\leq 0.05$ . Unknown intents were randomly sampled once per run and level of openness.

### 5.1 Error Detection

411

432

433

434

435

436

**Encoder-Based Baselines** The results in Table 1 412 show that SEEED consistently improves perfor-413 mance across all datasets. We observe that exten-414 415 sive dialogue contexts are more prone to misclassification, suggesting that many of the included 416 utterances may be irrelevant or detrimental to iden-417 tifying the error exhibited in the last agent utterance. 418 Ambiguous error types also pose a significant chal-419 lenge. For example, in FEDI (Petrak et al., 2024), 420 both Ignore Expectation and Ignore Request de-421 scribe situations where the agent fails to fulfill the 422 user request. We find that augmenting dialogue 423 contexts with synthetically generated descriptions 424 mitigates these issues, particularly enhancing the 425 detection of novel error types. However, the effec-426 tiveness depends on the quality of the generated 427 428 descriptions. While SEEED generates summaries relevant to error detection, SynCID (Liang et al., 429 2024) derives new descriptions from the context, 430 often introducing hallucinations into the data. 431

> We provide further analysis in Appendix D, including ablation experiments with SynCID and LOOP, as well as experiments combining LOOP with LBSR, demonstrating that LBSR can further enhance the performance of LOOP.

**LLM Baselines** As shown in Table 1, LLMs ex-437 hibit limitations in detecting behavioral errors. Us-438 ing in-context learning, Phi-4 frequently performs 439 below the random baseline. Fine-tuning improves 440 the detection of known behavioral errors, occa-441 sionally surpassing GPT-40, for example, in the 442 75% openness experiments on FEDI-Error (Petrak 443 et al., 2024) and Soda-Eval (Mendonça et al., 2024). 444 However, the impact of fine-tuning on detecting 445 novel behavioral errors is marginal. The model fre-446 447 quently outputs No Error Found, indicating limited generalizability. Ambiguous error type definitions 448 further degrade performance, e.g., GPT-40 often 449 confuses Commonsense Contradiction with Unin-450 terpretable in ABCEval (Finch et al., 2023a) due 451

to overlapping definitions. We provide additional analysis in Appendix D.

Ablation Experiments Table 3 presents the results of our ablation study on the FEDI-Error dataset (Petrak et al., 2024). The first row shows the performance of SEEED without any ablations, while each subsequent row reports results with the respective component removed to assess its contribution. The experiments excluding NNK-Means (Shekkizhar and Ortega, 2022) use k-Means for clustering (including LBSR). The experiments without LBSR randomly sample the positive counterparts from the training data (same error type), and the experiments excluding SNL (Frosst et al., 2019) were restricted to the cross-entropy objective.

Method		FEDI-Error										
methou	H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI							
SEEED w/o NNK-Means	<b>0.36</b> 0.34	<b>0.49</b> 0.41 ( <b>↓</b> .08)	<b>0.31</b> 0.29 (4.02)	<b>0.18</b> 0.17	0.18 <b>0.19</b>							
LBSR w/o negs. w/o LBSR	0.27 0.26	0.28 (4.13) 0.27 (4.01)	0.27 (4.02) 0.26 (4.01)	0.15 0.12	0.13 0.10							
SNL w/o margin w/o SNL	0.24 0.21	0.26 (4.01) 0.24 (4.02)	0.22 (4.04) 0.19 (4.03)	0.09 0.06	0.10 0.06							
w/o summaries	0.18	0.21 (4.03)	0.16 (4.03)	0.02	0.04							

Table 3: Results of our ablation experiments, averaged over three independent runs and all levels of openness. The deltas show differences from the preceding row.

Excluding NNK-Means results in substantial performance degradation, highlighting the advantages of soft-clustering for this task. LBSR augments the effectiveness of SNL, especially when the negative counterparts were included. Omitting the margin parameter further reduces the efficacy of SNL. Excluding the dialogue summaries, effectively reducing SEEED to cross-entropy optimization from dialogue contexts, reduces the performance even further.

**Error Definition Generation** Table 4 presents excerpts from our manual analysis of Error Def-

478

479

467

452

453

454

455

456

457

458

459

460

461

462

463

464

465

484

485

486

487

488

489

490

491

492

493

494

495

496

497

498

499

502

504

505

inition Generation, demonstrating the ability of Llama-3.1 8B-Instruct (Dubey et al., 2024) to produce fluent and informative error type definitions based on our prompt design. We provide the full results for this experiment in Appendix D.

Dataset	<b>Ground Truth</b>	Generated	Acc-N
FEDI-Error	Attribute Error When the system fails to cor- rectly extract or under- stand the necessary slots or attributes from the user's utterance, this is called an attribute error.	Attribute Error When the system fails to accu- rately extract or under- stand necessary informa- tion from a user utter- ance that is necessary for task completion.	0.27
ABCEval	<b>Ignore</b> Responses that are completely off-topic, fail to address the asked question, or are other- wise completely inappro- priate in the context are considered to be ignor- ing the other speaker.	<b>Off-Topic Response</b> The response deviates from the topic, fails to answer the posed ques- tion, or is contextually inappropriate, indicating a disregard for the other speaker.	0.61
Soda-Eval	Antisocial Contains un- safe or inappropriate be- haviour.	<b>Disrespectful</b> Character- ized by the use of offen- sive language, deroga- tory terms, and aggres- sive tone, which can cause emotional distress.	0.33

Table 4: Excerpts of definitions generated for novel behavioral errors in the 25%-openness experiments, along with their corresponding prediction accuracy (Acc-N).

For generation, we consider ten dialogue contexts and their summaries, each associated by SEEED with the corresponding ground truth error types.<sup>7</sup> We find that including summaries has a positive impact, as they provide contextual information that highlights the error exhibited in the last agent utterance. For instance, in Soda-Eval (Mendonça et al., 2024), the generated definitions better capture the nature of the error and offer more details compared to the original definitions.

**Intent Detection** Table 2 presents the results of our intent detection experiments. SEEED significantly improves performance, particularly in detecting unknown intents. For example, compared to LOOP (An et al., 2024), it improves the accuracy of detecting unknown intents by up to 17 points on StackOverflow (Xu et al., 2015) and the accuracy of detecting known intents by up to 4 points on BANKING (Casanueva et al., 2020). Figure 3 also shows that SEEED produces more compact and well-separated clusters, similar to LOOP, and gen-



Figure 3: t-SNE visualization of the representation space for the ten most common intents in the Stack-Overflow dataset from the 25% openness experiments. *Scala* and *Bash* (dotted lines) are two of the intents considered unknown in these experiments.

eralizes well to unseen intents, such as *Scala* and *Bash*. Meanwhile, SynCID (Liang et al., 2024) and KKN-Contrastive (Zhou et al., 2022) demonstrate comparatively poorer inter-class separability, indicating potential confusion between distinct intent types.

506

507

508

509

510

511

512

513

514

515

516

517

518

519

520

521

522

523

525

526

527

528

529

530

531

532

533

The datasets used focus on intent detection at the utterance level, without incorporating dialogue contexts or external knowledge sources. This simplification supports higher detection accuracy and improved cluster quality.

### 6 Conclusion

In this work, we introduce Automated Error Discovery, a framework for detecting and defining behavioral errors in conversational AI, and propose SEEED as an encoder-based alternative to LLMs for error detection. SEEED outperforms adapted baselines, including GPT-40, across all levels of openness and achieves state-of-the-art performance in unknown intent detection. Our experiments highlight the impact of our enhancements to the Soft Nearest Neighbor Loss and the efficacy of Label-Based Sample Ranking. We also show the effectiveness of LLMs in generating definitions for novel behavioral errors identified by SEEED. Our results indicate that SEEED is a scalable approach with the potential to enhance response correction pipelines through improved error detection capabilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Due to its small size, this threshold could not be applied to ABCEval (Finch et al., 2023a).

#### 7 Limitations

534

536

538

539

540

541

542

546

547

548

549

552

553

554

557

559

560

565

566

567

568

570

571

573

577

579

580

583

**Our Approach** For fine-tuning SEEED, LBSR is crucial. If NNK-Means (Shekkizhar and Ortega, 2022) fails to identify soft positives for a given error type and hard positives are exhausted, LBSR cannot generate positive counterparts. However, we did not observe this issue in our experiments, considering it a theoretical limitation that is not addressed by LIS (An et al., 2024) either.

For summary generation, we use Llama-3.1 8B-Instruct (Dubey et al., 2024), despite its pretrained safety mechanisms. To reduce interference when handling harmful or inappropriate language, we include explicit prompt instructions. We did not observe any limitations in our experiments, though these instructions may not generalize to other LLMs.

**Datasets Used** The FEDI (Petrak et al., 2024) and Soda-Eval (Mendonça et al., 2024) datasets exhibit inherent qualitative variability due to their synthetic nature. Both are unique for their size and diversity of behavioral error types. In contrast, ABCEval (Finch et al., 2023a) is considerably smaller but remains highly representative of real-world scenarios due to its distinctive characteristics.

Error Detection Experiments Our experimental setup strictly follows prior peer-reviewed work. However, it remains a simplified simulation of realworld conditions due to assumptions made for reproducibility: (1) We assume that dialogue contexts always end with an erroneous agent utterance. (2) The encoder-based approaches assume the total number of error types to be known during the final clustering step, whereas in real-world applications, this number must be estimated. (3) The prompts used for LLM-based approaches include the definitions of novel behavioral errors, omitting only in-context examples. This may be considered an advantage over encoder-based approaches. (4) For knowledge-grounded dialogues, we assume ground truth knowledge documents to be given.

Our results indicate relatively poor performance of LLMs in error detection, aligning with prior work (Tyen et al., 2024; Finch et al., 2023b; Mendonça et al., 2024). For Phi-4 (Abouelenin et al., 2025), we followed best practices from the Hugging Face documentation without further parameter or prompt tuning. Performance may improve with alternative configurations.

#### References

- Abdelrahman Abouelenin, Atabak Ashfaq, Adam Atkinson, Hany Awadalla, Nguyen Bach, Jianmin Bao, Alon Benhaim, Martin Cai, Vishrav Chaudhary, Congcong Chen, Dong Chen, Dongdong Chen, Junkun Chen, Weizhu Chen, Yen-Chun Chen, Yi-ling Chen, Qi Dai, Xiyang Dai, Ruchao Fan, Mei Gao, Min Gao, Amit Garg, Abhishek Goswami, Junheng Hao, Amr Hendy, Yuxuan Hu, Xin Jin, Mahmoud Khademi, Dongwoo Kim, Young Jin Kim, Gina Lee, Jinyu Li, Yunsheng Li, Chen Liang, Xihui Lin, Zeqi Lin, Mengchen Liu, Yang Liu, Gilsinia Lopez, Chong Luo, Piyush Madan, Vadim Mazalov, Arindam Mitra, Ali Mousavi, Anh Nguyen, Jing Pan, Daniel Perez-Becker, Jacob Platin, Thomas Portet, Kai Qiu, Bo Ren, Liliang Ren, Sambuddha Roy, Ning Shang, Yelong Shen, Saksham Singhal, Subhojit Som, Xia Song, Tetyana Sych, Praneetha Vaddamanu, Shuohang Wang, Yiming Wang, Zhenghao Wang, Haibin Wu, Haoran Xu, Weijian Xu, Yifan Yang, Ziyi Yang, Donghan Yu, Ishmam Zabir, Jianwen Zhang, Li Lyna Zhang, Yunan Zhang, and Xiren Zhou. 2025. Phi-4mini technical report: Compact yet powerful multimodal language models via mixture-of-loras. CoRR, abs/2503.01743.
- Wenbin An, Wenkai Shi, Feng Tian, Haonan Lin, QianYing Wang, Yaqiang Wu, Mingxiang Cai, Luyan Wang, Yan Chen, Haiping Zhu, and Ping Chen. 2024. Generalized category discovery with large language models in the loop. In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: ACL 2024*, pages 8653–8665, Bangkok, Thailand. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Yuntao Bai, Andy Jones, Kamal Ndousse, Amanda Askell, Anna Chen, Nova DasSarma, Dawn Drain, Stanislav Fort, Deep Ganguli, Tom Henighan, Nicholas Joseph, Saurav Kadavath, Jackson Kernion, Tom Conerly, Sheer El Showk, Nelson Elhage, Zac Hatfield-Dodds, Danny Hernandez, Tristan Hume, Scott Johnston, Shauna Kravec, Liane Lovitt, Neel Nanda, Catherine Olsson, Dario Amodei, Tom B. Brown, Jack Clark, Sam McCandlish, Chris Olah, Benjamin Mann, and Jared Kaplan. 2022. Training a helpful and harmless assistant with reinforcement learning from human feedback. *CoRR*, abs/2204.05862.
- Iñigo Casanueva, Tadas Temcinas, Daniela Gerz, Matthew Henderson, and Ivan Vulic. 2020. Efficient intent detection with dual sentence encoders. *CoRR*, abs/2003.04807.
- Jacob Devlin, Ming-Wei Chang, Kenton Lee, and Kristina Toutanova. 2019. BERT: Pre-training of deep bidirectional transformers for language understanding. In Proceedings of the 2019 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies, Volume 1 (Long and Short Papers), pages 4171–4186, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Association for Computational Linguistics.

585

586

633

634

635

636

637

638

639

640

641

- 643 Abhimanyu Dubey, Abhinav Jauhri, Abhinav Pandey, Abhishek Kadian, Ahmad Al-Dahle, Aiesha Letman, Akhil Mathur, Alan Schelten, Amy Yang, Angela Fan, Anirudh Goyal, Anthony Hartshorn, Aobo Yang, Archi Mitra, Archie Sravankumar, Artem Korenev, Arthur Hinsvark, Arun Rao, Aston Zhang, Aurélien Rodriguez, Austen Gregerson, Ava Spataru, Baptiste Rozière, Bethany Biron, Binh Tang, Bobbie Chern, Charlotte Caucheteux, Chaya Nayak, Chloe Bi, Chris Marra, Chris McConnell, Christian Keller, Christophe Touret, Chunyang Wu, Corinne Wong, Cristian Canton Ferrer, Cyrus Nikolaidis, Damien Allonsius, Daniel Song, Danielle Pintz, Danny Livshits, David Esiobu, Dhruv Choudhary, Dhruv Mahajan, Diego Garcia-Olano, Diego Perino, Dieuwke Hupkes, Egor Lakomkin, Ehab AlBadawy, Elina Lobanova, Emily Dinan, Eric Michael Smith, Filip Radenovic, Frank Zhang, Gabriel Synnaeve, Gabrielle Lee, Georgia Lewis Anderson, Graeme Nail, Grégoire Mialon, Guan Pang, Guillem Cucurell, Hailey Nguyen, Hannah Korevaar, Hu Xu, Hugo Touvron, Iliyan Zarov, Imanol Arrieta Ibarra, Isabel M. Kloumann, Ishan 664 Misra, Ivan Evtimov, Jade Copet, Jaewon Lee, Jan Geffert, Jana Vranes, Jason Park, Jay Mahadeokar, Jeet Shah, Jelmer van der Linde, Jennifer Billock, Jenny Hong, Jenya Lee, Jeremy Fu, Jianfeng Chi, Jianyu Huang, Jiawen Liu, Jie Wang, Jiecao Yu, 670 Joanna Bitton, Joe Spisak, Jongsoo Park, Joseph Rocca, Joshua Johnstun, Joshua Saxe, Junteng Jia, Kalyan Vasuden Alwala, Kartikeya Upasani, Kate 673 Plawiak, Ke Li, Kenneth Heafield, Kevin Stone, and 674 et al. 2024. The llama 3 herd of models. CoRR, abs/2407.21783. 675
  - Sarah E. Finch, James D. Finch, and Jinho D. Choi.
     2023a. Don't forget your ABC's: Evaluating the state-of-the-art in chat-oriented dialogue systems. In *Proceedings of the 61st Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, pages 15044–15071, Toronto, Canada. Association for Computational Linguistics.

677

678

679

688

702

- Sarah E. Finch, Ellie S. Paek, and Jinho D. Choi. 2023b. Leveraging large language models for automated dialogue analysis. In Proceedings of the 24th Annual Meeting of the Special Interest Group on Discourse and Dialogue, pages 202–215, Prague, Czechia. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Nicholas Frosst, Nicolas Papernot, and Geoffrey E. Hinton. 2019. Analyzing and improving representations with the soft nearest neighbor loss. In *Proceedings of the 36th International Conference on Machine Learning, ICML 2019, 9-15 June 2019, Long Beach, California, USA*, volume 97 of *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research*, pages 2012–2020. PMLR.
- Zhibin Gou, Zhihong Shao, Yeyun Gong, Yelong Shen, Yujiu Yang, Nan Duan, and Weizhu Chen. 2024. CRITIC: large language models can self-correct with tool-interactive critiquing. In *The Twelfth International Conference on Learning Representations*, *ICLR 2024, Vienna, Austria, May 7-11, 2024*. Open-Review.net.

Braden Hancock, Antoine Bordes, Pierre-Emmanuel Mazare, and Jason Weston. 2019. Learning from dialogue after deployment: Feed yourself, chatbot! In *Proceedings of the 57th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics*, pages 3667– 3684, Florence, Italy. Association for Computational Linguistics. 703

704

706

707

710

711

712

713

714

715

717

719

720

721

722

723

724

725

726

727

728

729

730

731

732

733

734

735

736

737

738

739

740

741

742

743

744

745

747

748

749

750

751

752

753

754

755

756

- Alexander Havrilla, Maksym Zhuravinskyi, Duy Phung, Aman Tiwari, Jonathan Tow, Stella Biderman, Quentin Anthony, and Louis Castricato. 2023. trlX: A framework for large scale reinforcement learning from human feedback. In *Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, pages 8578–8595, Singapore. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Ryuichiro Higashinaka, Masahiro Mizukami, Kotaro Funakoshi, Masahiro Araki, Hiroshi Tsukahara, and Yuka Kobayashi. 2015. Fatal or not? finding errors that lead to dialogue breakdowns in chat-oriented dialogue systems. In *Proceedings of the 2015 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, pages 2243–2248, Lisbon, Portugal. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Chin-Lung Hsu and Judy Chuan-Chuan Lin. 2023. Understanding the user satisfaction and loyalty of customer service chatbots. *Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services*.
- Edward J. Hu, Yelong Shen, Phillip Wallis, Zeyuan Allen-Zhu, Yuanzhi Li, Shean Wang, Lu Wang, and Weizhu Chen. 2022. Lora: Low-rank adaptation of large language models. In *The Tenth International Conference on Learning Representations, ICLR 2022, Virtual Event, April 25-29, 2022.* OpenReview.net.
- Lawrence J. Hubert and Phipps Arabie. 1985. Comparing partitions. *Journal of Classification*, 2:193–218.
- John D. Hunter. 2007. Matplotlib: A 2d graphics environment. *Comput. Sci. Eng.*, 9(3):90–95.
- Ziwei Ji, Nayeon Lee, Rita Frieske, Tiezheng Yu, Dan Su, Yan Xu, Etsuko Ishii, Ye Jin Bang, Andrea Madotto, and Pascale Fung. 2023. Survey of hallucination in natural language generation. *ACM Comput. Surv.*, 55(12).
- Zhen Jiang, Yongzhao Zhan, Qirong Mao, and Yang Du. 2023. Semi-supervised clustering under a "compactcluster" assumption. *IEEE Trans. Knowl. Data Eng.*, 35(5):5244–5256.
- Hyunwoo Kim, Jack Hessel, Liwei Jiang, Peter West, Ximing Lu, Youngjae Yu, Pei Zhou, Ronan Bras, Malihe Alikhani, Gunhee Kim, Maarten Sap, and Yejin Choi. 2023. SODA: Million-scale dialogue distillation with social commonsense contextualization. In Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing, pages 12930–12949, Singapore. Association for Computational Linguistics.

758

766 767

Computational Linguistics.

Sachin Kumar, Vidhisha Balachandran, Lucille Njoo,

Antonios Anastasopoulos, and Yulia Tsvetkov. 2023.

Language generation models can cause harm: So

what can we do about it? an actionable survey. In

Proceedings of the 17th Conference of the European

Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics, pages 3299-3321, Dubrovnik, Croatia. As-

Stefan Larson, Anish Mahendran, Joseph J. Peper,

Christopher Clarke, Andrew Lee, Parker Hill,

Jonathan K. Kummerfeld, Kevin Leach, Michael A.

Laurenzano, Lingjia Tang, and Jason Mars. 2019. An

evaluation dataset for intent classification and out-of-

scope prediction. In Proceedings of the 2019 Confer-

ence on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Pro-

cessing and the 9th International Joint Conference

on Natural Language Processing (EMNLP-IJCNLP),

pages 1311–1316, Hong Kong, China. Association

Harrison Lee, Samrat Phatale, Hassan Mansoor, Thomas

Mesnard, Johan Ferret, Kellie Lu, Colton Bishop,

Ethan Hall, Victor Carbune, Abhinav Rastogi, and

Sushant Prakash. 2024. RLAIF vs. RLHF: scaling

reinforcement learning from human feedback with

AI feedback. In Forty-first International Conference

on Machine Learning, ICML 2024, Vienna, Austria,

Quentin Lhoest, Albert Villanova del Moral, Yacine Jernite, Abhishek Thakur, Patrick von Platen, Suraj

Patil, Julien Chaumond, Mariama Drame, Julien Plu,

Lewis Tunstall, Joe Davison, Mario Šaško, Gun-

jan Chhablani, Bhavitvya Malik, Simon Brandeis,

Teven Le Scao, Victor Sanh, Canwen Xu, Nicolas

Patry, Angelina McMillan-Major, Philipp Schmid,

Sylvain Gugger, Clément Delangue, Théo Matussière, Lysandre Debut, Stas Bekman, Pierric Cis-

tac, Thibault Goehringer, Victor Mustar, François

Lagunas, Alexander Rush, and Thomas Wolf. 2021.

Datasets: A community library for natural language

processing. In Proceedings of the 2021 Conference

on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Process-

ing: System Demonstrations, pages 175-184, Online and Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Association

Jinggui Liang, Lizi Liao, Hao Fei, and Jing Jiang. 2024.

Synergizing large language models and pre-trained smaller models for conversational intent discovery.

In Findings of the Association for Computational Lin-

guistics: ACL 2024, pages 14133-14147, Bangkok,

Thailand. Association for Computational Linguistics.

for Computational Linguistics.

for Computational Linguistics.

July 21-27, 2024. OpenReview.net.

sociation for Computational Linguistics.

- 773 774

772

- 775 776
- 778
- 779
- 784
- 785

790 791

803

809

810 811

812

813

814 815

- Hannah Rose Kirk, Andrew M. Bean, Bertie Vidgen, Bing Liu and Sahisnu Mazumder. 2021. Lifelong and Paul Röttger, and Scott A. Hale. 2023. The past, continual learning dialogue systems: Learning durpresent and better future of feedback learning in large ing conversation. In Thirty-Fifth AAAI Conference language models for subjective human preferences on Artificial Intelligence, AAAI 2021, Thirty-Third and values. In Proceedings of the 2023 Conference Conference on Innovative Applications of Artificial on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Process-Intelligence, IAAI 2021, The Eleventh Symposium ing, pages 2409–2430, Singapore. Association for on Educational Advances in Artificial Intelligence, EAAI 2021, Virtual Event, February 2-9, 2021, pages 15058-15063. AAAI Press.
  - Ewa Luger and Abigail Sellen. 2016. "like having a really bad pa": The gulf between user expectation and experience of conversational agents. Proceedings of the 2016 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.

816

817

818

819

820

821

822

823

824

825

826

827

828

829

830

831

832

833

834

835

836

837

838

839

840

841

842

843

844

845

846

847

848

849

850

851

852

853

854

855

856

857

858

859

860

861

862

863

864

865

866

867

868

869

870

871

872

- Yun Luo, Zhen Yang, Fandong Meng, Yafu Li, Jie Zhou, and Yue Zhang. 2023. An empirical study of catastrophic forgetting in large language models during continual fine-tuning. CoRR, abs/2308.08747.
- Aman Madaan, Niket Tandon, Prakhar Gupta, Skyler Hallinan, Luyu Gao, Sarah Wiegreffe, Uri Alon, Nouha Dziri, Shrimai Prabhumoye, Yiming Yang, Shashank Gupta, Bodhisattwa Prasad Majumder, Katherine Hermann, Sean Welleck, Amir Yazdanbakhsh, and Peter Clark. 2023. Self-refine: Iterative refinement with self-feedback. In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 36: Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems 2023, NeurIPS 2023, New Orleans, LA, USA, December 10 - 16, 2023.
- Andrea Madotto, Zhaojiang Lin, Zhenpeng Zhou, Seungwhan Moon, Paul Crook, Bing Liu, Zhou Yu, Eunjoon Cho, Pascale Fung, and Zhiguang Wang. 2021. Continual learning in task-oriented dialogue systems. In Proceedings of the 2021 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing, pages 7452-7467, Online and Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- John Mendonça, Isabel Trancoso, and Alon Lavie. 2024. Soda-eval: Open-domain dialogue evaluation in the age of LLMs. In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2024, pages 11687-11708, Miami, Florida, USA. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Fei Mi, Liangwei Chen, Mengjie Zhao, Minlie Huang, and Boi Faltings. 2020. Continual learning for natural language generation in task-oriented dialog systems. In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2020, pages 3461-3474, Online. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Ning Miao, Yee Whye Teh, and Tom Rainforth. 2024. Selfcheck: Using LLMs to zero-shot check their own step-by-step reasoning. In The Twelfth International Conference on Learning Representations.
- Long Ouyang, Jeffrey Wu, Xu Jiang, Diogo Almeida, Carroll L. Wainwright, Pamela Mishkin, Chong Zhang, Sandhini Agarwal, Katarina Slama, Alex Ray, John Schulman, Jacob Hilton, Fraser Kelton, Luke

932

986

987

988

Miller, Maddie Simens, Amanda Askell, Peter Welinder, Paul F. Christiano, Jan Leike, and Ryan Lowe. 2022. Training language models to follow instructions with human feedback. In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 35: Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems 2022, NeurIPS 2022, New Orleans, LA, USA, November 28 - December 9, 2022.

873

874

881

882

885

892

894

900

901

902

903

904

905

906

907

908

909

910

911

912

913

915

916

917

918

919

920

921

925

927

930

931

- Adam Paszke, Sam Gross, Francisco Massa, Adam Lerer, James Bradbury, Gregory Chanan, Trevor Killeen, Zeming Lin, Natalia Gimelshein, Luca Antiga, Alban Desmaison, Andreas Köpf, Edward Z. Yang, Zachary DeVito, Martin Raison, Alykhan Tejani, Sasank Chilamkurthy, Benoit Steiner, Lu Fang, Junjie Bai, and Soumith Chintala. 2019. Pytorch: An imperative style, high-performance deep learning library. In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 32: Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems 2019, NeurIPS 2019, December 8-14, 2019, Vancouver, BC, Canada, pages 8024-8035.
- Fabian Pedregosa, Gaël Varoquaux, Alexandre Gramfort, Vincent Michel, Bertrand Thirion, Olivier Grisel, Mathieu Blondel, Peter Prettenhofer, Ron Weiss, Vincent Dubourg, Jake VanderPlas, Alexandre Passos, David Cournapeau, Matthieu Brucher, Matthieu Perrot, and Edouard Duchesnay. 2011. Scikit-learn: Machine learning in python. J. Mach. Learn. Res., 12:2825-2830.
- Baolin Peng, Michel Galley, Pengcheng He, Hao Cheng, Yujia Xie, Yu Hu, Qiuyuan Huang, Lars Liden, Zhou Yu, Weizhu Chen, and Jianfeng Gao. 2023. Check your facts and try again: Improving large language models with external knowledge and automated feedback. Preprint, arXiv:2302.12813.
- Dominic Petrak, Nafise Moosavi, Ye Tian, Nikolai Rozanov, and Iryna Gurevych. 2023. Learning from free-text human feedback - collect new datasets or extend existing ones? In Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing, pages 16259–16279, Singapore. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Dominic Petrak, Thy Thy Tran, and Iryna Gurevych. 2024. Learning from implicit user feedback, emotions and demographic information in task-oriented and document-grounded dialogues. In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2024, pages 4573-4603, Miami, Florida, USA. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Rafael Rafailov, Archit Sharma, Eric Mitchell, Christopher D. Manning, Stefano Ermon, and Chelsea Finn. 2023. Direct preference optimization: Your language model is secretly a reward model. In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 36: Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems 2023, NeurIPS 2023, New Orleans, LA, USA, December 10 - 16, 2023.
- Stephen Roller, Y-Lan Boureau, Jason Weston, Antoine Bordes, Emily Dinan, Angela Fan, David Gunning,

Da Ju, Margaret Li, Spencer Poff, Pratik Ringshia, Kurt Shuster, Eric Michael Smith, Arthur Szlam, Jack Urbanek, and Mary Williamson. 2020. Open-domain conversational agents: Current progress, open problems, and future directions. CoRR, abs/2006.12442.

- Kuniaki Saito and Kate Saenko. 2021. Ovanet: One-vsall network for universal domain adaptation. In 2021 IEEE/CVF International Conference on Computer Vision, ICCV 2021, Montreal, QC, Canada, October 10-17, 2021, pages 8980-8989. IEEE.
- Abigail See and Christopher Manning. 2021. Understanding and predicting user dissatisfaction in a neural generative chatbot. In Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Special Interest Group on Discourse and Dialogue, pages 1-12, Singapore and Online. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Sarath Shekkizhar and Antonio Ortega. 2022. Nnkmeans: Data summarization using dictionary learning with non-negative kernel regression. In 30th European Signal Processing Conference, EUSIPCO 2022, Belgrade, Serbia, August 29 - Sept. 2, 2022, pages 2161-2165. IEEE.
- Noah Shinn, Federico Cassano, Ashwin Gopinath, Karthik Narasimhan, and Shunyu Yao. 2023. Reflexion: language agents with verbal reinforcement learning. In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, volume 36, pages 8634-8652. Curran Associates, Inc.
- Kumar Shridhar, Koustuv Sinha, Andrew Cohen, Tianlu Wang, Ping Yu, Ramakanth Pasunuru, Mrinmaya Sachan, Jason Weston, and Asli Celikyilmaz. 2024. The ART of LLM refinement: Ask, refine, and trust. In Proceedings of the 2024 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (Volume 1: Long Papers), pages 5872–5883, Mexico City, Mexico. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Kaya Stechly, Karthik Valmeekam, and Subbarao Kambhampati. 2024. On the self-verification limitations of large language models on reasoning and planning tasks. CoRR, abs/2402.08115.
- Alexander Strehl and Joydeep Ghosh. 2002. Cluster ensembles - A knowledge reuse framework for combining multiple partitions. J. Mach. Learn. Res., 3:583-617.
- Gladys Tyen, Hassan Mansoor, Victor Carbune, Peter Chen, and Tony Mak. 2024. LLMs cannot find reasoning errors, but can correct them given the error location. In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: ACL 2024, pages 13894–13908, Bangkok, Thailand. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Megan Ung, Jing Xu, and Y-Lan Boureau. 2022. SaFeR-Dialogues: Taking feedback gracefully after conversational safety failures. In Proceedings of the 60th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational

1046

1047

1073 1074 1075

1076

1077

1078

1079

1081

1082

1084

1086

1087

1088

1090

1093

1094

1095

1096

1098

991 992

99

- 99 90
- 997 998
- 999 1000 1001
- 1003
- 1004 1005 1006
- 1007 1008
- 1 1
- 10
- 1013 1014
- 1015 1016
- 1017 1018
- 1019 1020
- 1021 1022 1023
- 1024 1025
- 1026 1027 1028
- 1029 1030
- 1031 1032
- 1033
- 1033 1035
- 1035
- 1037 1038

1039 1040

1041

1042 1043

1043 1044

1044

*Linguistics (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, pages 6462–6481, Dublin, Ireland. Association for Computational Linguistics.

Sagar Vaze, Kai Han, Andrea Vedaldi, and Andrew Zisserman. 2022. Generalized category discovery. In *IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition, CVPR 2022, New Orleans, LA, USA, June 18-24, 2022*, pages 7482–7491. IEEE.

Weikang Wang, Jiajun Zhang, Qian Li, Mei-Yuh Hwang, Chengqing Zong, and Zhifei Li. 2019. Incremental learning from scratch for task-oriented dialogue systems. In *Proceedings of the 57th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics*, pages 3710–3720, Florence, Italy. Association for Computational Linguistics.

- Yuxia Wang, Minghan Wang, Muhammad Arslan Manzoor, Fei Liu, Georgi Nenkov Georgiev, Rocktim Jyoti Das, and Preslav Nakov. 2024. Factuality of large language models: A survey. In *Proceedings of the* 2024 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing, pages 19519–19529, Miami, Florida, USA. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Michael L. Waskom. 2021. seaborn: statistical data visualization. J. Open Source Softw., 6(60):3021.
- Thomas Wolf, Lysandre Debut, Victor Sanh, Julien Chaumond, Clement Delangue, Anthony Moi, Pierric Cistac, Tim Rault, Remi Louf, Morgan Funtowicz, Joe Davison, Sam Shleifer, Patrick von Platen, Clara Ma, Yacine Jernite, Julien Plu, Canwen Xu, Teven Le Scao, Sylvain Gugger, Mariama Drame, Quentin Lhoest, and Alexander Rush. 2020. Transformers: State-of-the-art natural language processing. In *Proceedings of the 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing: System Demonstrations*, pages 38–45, Online. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Jiaming Xu, Peng Wang, Guanhua Tian, Bo Xu, Jun Zhao, Fangyuan Wang, and Hongwei Hao. 2015. Short text clustering via convolutional neural networks. In *Proceedings of the 1st Workshop on Vector Space Modeling for Natural Language Processing*, pages 62–69, Denver, Colorado. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Jing Xu, Megan Ung, Mojtaba Komeili, Kushal Arora, Y-Lan Boureau, and Jason Weston. 2023. Learning new skills after deployment: Improving open-domain internet-driven dialogue with human feedback. In Proceedings of the 61st Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Volume 1: Long Papers), pages 13557–13572, Toronto, Canada. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Wenda Xu, Daniel Deutsch, Mara Finkelstein, Juraj Juraska, Biao Zhang, Zhongtao Liu, William Yang Wang, Lei Li, and Markus Freitag. 2024. LLMRefine: Pinpointing and refining large language models via fine-grained actionable feedback. In *Findings of the*

Association for Computational Linguistics: NAACL 2024, pages 1429–1445, Mexico City, Mexico. Association for Computational Linguistics.

- Dongjie Yang, Ruifeng Yuan, Yuantao Fan, Yifei Yang, Zili Wang, Shusen Wang, and Hai Zhao. 2023. RefGPT: Dialogue generation of GPT, by GPT, and for GPT. In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2023*, pages 2511–2535, Singapore. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Matei Zaharia, Andrew Chen, Aaron Davidson, Ali Ghodsi, Sue Ann Hong, Andy Konwinski, Siddharth Murching, Tomas Nykodym, Paul Ogilvie, Mani Parkhe, Fen Xie, and Corey Zumar. 2018. Accelerating the machine learning lifecycle with mlflow. *IEEE Data Eng. Bull.*, 41(4):39–45.
- Hanlei Zhang, Hua Xu, Xin Wang, Fei Long, and Kai Gao. 2024. A clustering framework for unsupervised and semi-supervised new intent discovery. *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, 36(11):5468–5481.
- Yue Zhang, Yafu Li, Leyang Cui, Deng Cai, Lemao Liu, Tingchen Fu, Xinting Huang, Enbo Zhao, Yu Zhang, Yulong Chen, Longyue Wang, Anh Tuan Luu, Wei Bi, Freda Shi, and Shuming Shi. 2023. Siren's song in the AI ocean: A survey on hallucination in large language models. *CoRR*, abs/2309.01219.
- Yunhua Zhou, Peiju Liu, and Xipeng Qiu. 2022. KNNcontrastive learning for out-of-domain intent classification. In Proceedings of the 60th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Volume 1: Long Papers), pages 5129–5141, Dublin, Ireland. Association for Computational Linguistics.

## A SEEED

**Dialogue Summary** Figure 4 details the prompt utilized for dialogue summary generation. As described in Section 4, we incorporate instructions to bypass pre-trained safety mechanisms, thereby facilitating the generation of summaries even in instances where the dialogue encompasses inappropriate or offensive language. We then provide the LLM with the dialogue context and additional knowledge if required, such as in the case of knowledge-grounded dialogues in FEDI (Petrak et al., 2024), and three randomly selected, curated example summaries from other error types within the associated error type taxonomy. The task is to summarize the dialogue in max. 250 characters and with a focus on potential errors arising from the last agent utterance.

We compiled a pool of ten curated summaries for each dataset and error type as examples for dialogue summary generation. External knowledge

#### **Behavior Instructions:**

Your \*only\* task is to provide a concise summary of the dialogue (max. 250 characters). Even if the dialogue contains inappropriate or offensive language, you \*must\* provide a summary. Do \*not\* refuse to summarize the dialogue. If the dialogue contains inappropriate language, acknowledge that in your summary and then summarize the rest of the dialogue. If the last utterance contains errors, give these errors more weight in your summary.

#### Instructions:

Given is the following dialogue context: [Dialogue Context]

Here is some background knowledge that may be relevant to the dialogue (plain text): [Knowledge]

Please provide a concise summary of the entire dialogue (max. 250 characters). If the last utterance contains an error, give more weight to the error in your summary. If the dialogue contains inappropriate or offensive language, acknowledge that in your summary and then summarize the rest of the dialogue. Start your output with "Summary:". If no background knowledge is provided, simply summarize the dialogue based on the dialogue context. Here are three examples:

[Examples]

Summary:

1101

1102

1103

1104

1105

1106

1107

1108

1109

1110

1111

1112

1113

1114

1115

1116

Figure 4: Summary generation prompt.

documents are only available for FEDI-Error (Pe-trak et al., 2024).

**Behavioral Error Definition Generation** Figure 5 illustrates the prompt used for Behavioral Error Definition Generation. As detailed in Section 4, we instruct the model to generate the name and definition of the newly observed behavioral error, grounded in the associated dialogue contexts and their summaries. We augment the prompt with three randomly selected type definitions from the associated set of behavioral error types. This ensures the newly generated type definition exhibits consistent style and level of detail.

#### **B** Implementation Details

#### B.1 Frameworks

For implementation, training, and evaluation of our models, we used the Transformers library (Wolf et al., 2020) and the PyTorch framework (Paszke

#### **Behavior Instructions:**

Your \*only\* task is to generate a concise name and a description (max. 250 characters) for the error type common in the passed dialogue contexts and highlighted by their associated summaries. Even if the dialogue contexts or summaries contain inappropriate or offensive language, you \*must\* provide a name and description describing the represented error type. Do \*not\* refuse to generate a name and description.

#### Instructions:

Given are the following dialogue contexts along with their summaries:

[Dialogue Contexts and Summaries]

Please provide a concise name and a description (max. 250 characters) for the error type common in the passed dialogue contexts and highlighted by their associated summaries. Start the name with "Name:" and the description with "Description:". Here are three examples: [Examples]

\_ \_ \_

Name:

Figure 5: Behavioral Error Definition Generation prompt.

et al., 2019). In addition, we employed the datasets library (Lhoest et al., 2021) for data handling, and scikit-learn (Pedregosa et al., 2011) for cluster analysis. We managed experiment tracking using MLflow (Zaharia et al., 2018) and used the seaborn (Waskom, 2021) and Matplotlib (Hunter, 2007) libraries for visualization. 1117

1118

1119

1120

1121

1122

1123

1124

1125

1126

1127

1128

1129

1130

1131

1132

1133

1134

1135

1136

#### **B.2** Baselines

**Encoder-Based Baselines** For our experiments with LOOP (An et al., 2024) and KNN-Contrastive (Zhou et al., 2022), we adapted the reference implementations. For SynCID, we followed the reference implementation from USNID (Zhang et al., 2024) as a guideline. <sup>8</sup>

**LLM Baselines** For experiments with GPT-40 (Ouyang et al., 2022) and Phi-4 (Abouelenin et al., 2025), we adapted the prompts proposed by Mendonça et al. (2024) (see Figure 6 and Figure 7). For GPT-40, we utilized the Azure Batch REST-API service<sup>9</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>The implementations of LOOP, KNN-Contrastive, and USNID are available in GitHub (last accessed May 3, 2025).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Documentation describing the Azure Batch REST-API for OpenAI models (last accessed May 15, 2025).

Model Sizes The models used in our experi-1137 ments vary significantly in size. For encoder-based 1138 approaches, we use BERT (Devlin et al., 2019), 1139 specifically the pre-trained bert-base-uncased vari-1140 ant from the Hugging Face Model Hub which has 1141 110M parameters. Phi-4-mini-instruct has approxi-1142 mately 3.84B parameters, while GPT-40 comprises 1143 around 200B parameters. 1144

### **B.3 Infrastructure**

1145

1146

1147

1148

1149

1150

1151

1152

1153

1154

1155

1156

1157

1158

1159

1160

1161

1162 1163

1164

1165

1166

1167

1168

1169

1170

1171

1172

1173

1174

1175

1176

1177

1178

1179

1180

1181

1182

1183

For training the encoder-based models, we used a single NVIDIA L40 GPU per run. Fine-tuning SEEED required approximately three hours of GPU compute time on average. Fine-tuning Syn-CID (Liang et al., 2024) took about eight hours, excluding the time spent generating the required synthetic data in a preliminary step. LOOP (An et al., 2024) was the most computationally expensive, averaging 72 hours due to the LLM inference step in its second training stage. For fine-tuning Phi-4 (Abouelenin et al., 2025), we used a single NVIDIA H100 PCIe GPU per run, with training taking an average of eight hours.

It is important to note that a full evaluation was conducted after each training epoch.

#### **B.4** Hyperparameters

**Encoder-Based Approaches** We trained the encoder-based models using a learning rate of 1e-5. For SynCID (Liang et al., 2024), LOOP (An et al., 2024), and KNN-Contrastive (Zhou et al., 2022), we followed the hyperparameter configurations specified in their respective publications. Both SynCID and LOOP use a two-stage training procedure, consisting of 100 epochs in the first stage and 50 in the second. SEEED was trained for a total of 50 epochs. For the Soft Nearest Neighbor Loss (Frosst et al., 2019), we set the margin parameter to m = 0.3. The batch size was fixed at 16 for all experiments.

For NNK-Means (Shekkizhar and Ortega, 2022), we followed the hyperparameter configuration outlined in the original publication.

**LLM-Based Baselines** For Phi-4 (Abouelenin et al., 2025), we used a batch size of eight and adopted the hyperparameter configuration described in the fine-tuning script provided in the Hugging Face model repository.<sup>10</sup> Specifically, we used LoRA (Hu et al., 2022) with a rank of r = 16 and a dropout rate of 0.05. For GPT-40 (Ouyang1184et al., 2022), we disabled the safety mechanism on1185the server side.1186

#### **B.5** Input and Output Sequences

**Encoder-Based Approaches** We used a consistent input and output sequence format across all encoder-based approaches, including Syn-CID (Liang et al., 2024), LOOP (An et al., 2024), KNN-Contrastive (Zhou et al., 2022), and SEEED. Each sequence began with the *[CLS]* token and ended with the *[SEP]* token. The *[SEP]* token was also used to segment individual utterances within a dialogue.

**LLM-Based Baselines** For experiments with Phi-4 (Abouelenin et al., 2025) and GPT-40 (Ouyang et al., 2022), we adapted the prompt format proposed by Mendonça et al. (2024).

#### **Behavior Instructions:**

You are an expert dialogue evaluator. Identify all errors or issues present in the last utterance, and only in the last utterance. That is, do not identify issues that may occur in the dialogue history.

#### Instructions:

Consider the following dyadic dialogue context: [Dialogue Context]

The second partner is about to say the following: [Error Utterance]

#### [Knowledge]

Does it represent an error? We distinguish the following error types:

[Error Types, Definitions and Examples]

Please provide an overall evaluation of the response from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent), together with a reasoning (max. 100 words).

Present your final decision of the Top-3 error types in list format (less than three is also fine). Put the error type name in square brackets and add your rating after a comma, like so: 1. Decision: [Ignore Question], Rating: 5. Finally, provide your reasoning starting with "Reasoning:". Here is an example output:

#### [Example]

#### 1. Decision:

Figure 6: GPT-40 prompt.

1187

1188

1189

1190

1191

1192

1193

1194

1195

1196

1197

1198

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>Example script for fine-tuning Phi-4 (last accessed May 12, 2025).

Figure 7 illustrates the prompt structure used in the GPT-40 experiments. We provided examples for known behavioral error types. For novel types, we only provided the definitions. This ensured that the predicted behavioral errors could be mapped to integers via exact match, allowing us to measure Acc-N and Acc-K and ensure a fair evaluation. Knowledge was exclusively incorporated for the document-grounded dialogues in the FEDI dataset (Petrak et al., 2024).

#### **Behavior Instructions:**

You are an expert dialogue evaluator. Your task is to identify the communication error or issue present in the last utterance.

#### Instructions:

1201

1202

1203

1204

1206

1207

1208

1209

1210

Consider the following dyadic dialogue context: [Dialogue Context]

The second partner is about to say the following: [Error Utterance]

#### [Knowledge]

Does it represent an error? We distinguish the following error types: [Error Types and Definitions]

Provide your final decision in square brackets like so: Decision: [Ignore Question]. Finally, provide the reasoning for your decision starting with "Reasoning:" (max. 100 words).

Decision:

Figure 7: Phi-4 prompt.

Figure 7 illustrates the prompt structure used in 1211 the Phi-4 experiments. The format closely resem-1212 bles that of GPT-40, except that we exclude exam-1213 ples for behavioral error types and do not require 1214 a rating. Mendonça et al. (2024) did not specify 1215 their prompt format for Phi-4, so we adapted the 1216 GPT-40 prompt based on the available information. 1217 To ensure a fair comparison with the encoder-based 1218 approaches, we restricted the list of error types to 1219 known types during training. 1220

#### С **Experimental Setup**

#### C.1 Dataset Statistics 1222

1221

1223

1224

Table 5 presents the dataset statistics for the errorannotated subset of FEDI (Petrak et al., 2024).

Train Valid Test Total Error Type Ignore Question 1,868 246 242 2,356 Ignore Request 1,054 117 137 Ignore Expectation 1,215 152 159 109 Attribute Error 854 96 737 88 Factually Incorrect 98 Topic Trans. Error 365 54 43 Conversationality 55 4 5 Lack of Sociality 25 42 266 Unclear Intention 322 35 45 6.736 840 857 8.433

Table 5: Dataset statistics FEDI-Erro
---------------------------------------

FEDI Error

1,308

1,526

1,059

923

462

64

333

402

The dataset adheres to an 80/10/10 partitioning, albeit with a heterogeneous representation of behavioral errors.

	ABCE	val		
Error Type	Train	Valid	Test	Total
Lack of Empathy	52	6	7	65
Commonsense Contradiction	57	7	8	72
Incorrect Fact	27	3	4	34
Self Contradiction	14	2	2	18
Partner Contradiction	8	1	1	10
Redundant	11	1	2	14
Ignore	68	8	9	85
Irrelevant	74	9	10	93
Uninterpretable	1	1	1	3
	312	38	44	394

Table 6: Dataset statistics ABCEval.

Table 6 shows the dataset statistics for ABCEval (Finch et al., 2023a). The dataset is characterized by its limited size and heterogeneous distribution, rendering it less ideal for fine-tuning. Nevertheless, in our opinion this configuration reflects the inherent challenges of real-world application scenarios, justifying its utilization. Furthermore, it was collected during human-bot interaction, suggesting a higher level of quality compared to synthetic data (Yang et al., 2023; Zhang et al., 2023).

The dataset partitioning for ABCEval was performed following the distribution employed in FEDI (Petrak et al., 2024). The original dataset did not provide explicit splits, as it was primarily constructed for the evaluation of LLMs. It also contained another behavioral error type, Antisocial, which we excluded as it was associated with only two samples.

1227

1228

1229

1230

1231

1232

1233

1234

1235

1237

1238

1239

1240

1241

1242

1243

1244

1245

1225

	Soda-	Eval		
Error Type	Train	Valid	Test	Total
Engagement	3,582	1,015	516	5,113
Coherence	3,570	1,024	576	5,170
Repetition	1,589	494	215	2,298
Assumption	1,382	381	194	1,957
Commonsense	1,355	358	176	1,889
Non Textual	316	100	51	467
Fluency	309	83	40	432
Antisocial	202	57	35	294
Gender Pronoun	643	183	97	923
	12,948	3,695	1,900	18,543

Table 7: Dataset statistics Soda-Eval.

Table 7 shows the dataset statistics for Soda-Eval (Mendonça et al., 2024). We reused the dataset as provided by the authors in the Hugging Face Dataset Hub.<sup>11</sup> The dataset is significantly larger than the error-annotated subset of FEDI (Petrak et al., 2024), but its distribution across error types demonstrates analogous heterogeneity.

1246

1247

1248

1249

1250

1251

1252 1253

1254

1255

1256

1257

1258

1259

1260

1261

1262

1263

1264

1265

1268

1269

1270

1271

1272

1273

Dataset	Train	Valid	Test
CLINC	15,000	3,000	4,500
BANKING	10,000	1,540	1,540
StackOverflow	15,269	856	851

Table 8: Dataset statistics intent detection datasets.

Table 8 presents the statistics of the intent detection datasets utilized in our experiments. CLINC (Larson et al., 2019) was developed to evaluate the performance of intent detection systems in out-of-domain scenarios. It encompasses 150 distinct intents across ten domains: Banking, Travel, Home, Work, Utility, Small Talk, Meta, Auto & Commute, Kitchen & Dining, and Credit Cards. BANKING (Casanueva et al., 2020) was designed for intent detection in the banking sector, comprising online banking customer service queries. It includes 77 unique intents. StackOverflow (Xu et al., 2015) was constructed for short text classification and clustering tasks. It provides labels for 20 predefined tags, such as WordPress, Oracle, SVN, Apache, Hibernate, and others. This dataset is commonly applied to intent detection tasks.

#### **C.2 Novel Behavioral Error Type** Configurations

Table 9 shows the novel behavioral error type configurations from our error detection experiments

(Table 1). We randomly sampled them once per dataset, run, and level of openness.

Openness	Dataset	Iteration 1	Iteration 2	Iteration 3
25%	FEDI-Error	Factually Incorrect, Ignore Request	Lack of Sociality, Ig- nore Question	Conversationality, Attribute Error
	ABCEval	Uninterpretable, Commonsense Contradiction	Incorrect Fact, Self Contradiction	Partner Contradic tion, Ignore
	Soda-Eval	Antisocial, Engage- ment	Non Textual, Gen- der Pronoun	Assumption, Flu ency
50%	FEDI-Error	Factually Incorrect, Lack of Sociality, Conversationality, Unclear Intention	Ignore Request, Ig- nore Question, Lack of Sociality, Unclear Intention	Ignore Question Lack of Sociality Conversationality, Ignore Expectation
	ABCEval	Incorrect Fact, Un- interpretable, Irrele- vant, Commonsense Contradiction	Ignore, Partner Con- tradiction, Incorrect Fact, Commonsense Contradiction	Commonsense Con tradiction, Ignora Incorrect Fact, Irre evant
	Soda-Eval	Coherence, Non Textual, Common- sense, Fluency	Fluency, Non Tex- tual, Commonsense, Repetition	Coherence, As sumption, Gende Pronoun, Repetitio
75%	FEDI-Error	Topic Transition Er- ror, Attribute Er- ror, Unclear Inten- tion, Ignore Ques- tion, Lack of Social- ity, Factually Incor- rect	Unclear Intention, Ignore Request, Topic Transition Er- ror, Ignore Question, Lack of Sociality, Attribute Error	Lack of Sociality Ignore Expectation Topic Transition E ror, Attribute Erro Ignore Question, Ig nore Request
	ABCEval	Partner Contradic- tion, Commonsense Contradiction, Lack of Empathy, Irrele- vant, Ignore, Unin- terpretable	Ignore, Lack of Empathy, Irrelevant, Self-Contradiction, Redundant, Partner Contradiction	Ignore, Partne Contradiction, Self Contradiction Commonsense Contradiction, Ro dundant, Irrelevant
	Soda-Eval	Assumption, Com- monsense, Fluency, Repetition, Coher- ence, Non Textual	Fluency, Assump- tion, Non Textual, Antisocial, Com- monsense, Gender Pronoun	Assumption, Cohe ence, Non Textua Commonsense, Ar tisocial, Gender Pro noun

Table 9: Novel behavioral error type configurations.

#### D **Additional Analysis**

#### **D.1** Error Detection — Detailed Analysis

Encoder-Based Approaches Extensive dialogue contexts are more prone to misclassification, suggesting that many of the included utterances may 1280 be irrelevant or detrimental to identifying the er-1281 ror exhibited in the last agent utterance. Based on 1282 preliminary experiments and supported by our ab-1283 lation study (Table 3), we found that incorporating 1284 dialogue summaries has a positive impact on perfor-1285 mance, mitigating this issue to some extent, though 1286 not fully resolving it. Another challenge arises 1287 from ambiguous error types, which hinder the clear 1288 assignment of dialogue contexts to specific categories. Additionally, we found that severe class 1290 imbalance in the distribution of behavioral error 1291 types negatively affects classification performance, 1292 regardless of the level of openness. This issue is 1293 particularly evident in FEDI (Petrak et al., 2024) 1294 (e.g., for Conversationality) and ABCEval (Finch 1295 et al., 2023b) (e.g., for Uninterpretable). We elab-1296 orate on this in the following paragraph, which analyzes LLM performance in more detail. 1298

1276

1277

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Soda-Eval in the Hugging Face Dataset Hub (last accessed April 02, 2025).

**LLM-Based Approaches** Considering the reasonings generated by GPT-40 (Ouyang et al., 2022) and Phi-4 (Abouelenin et al., 2025) revealed that target behavioral error types are frequently confused. For instance, in the FEDI dataset (Petrak et al., 2024) Ignore Expectation and Ignore Request errors are frequently misclassified as Ignore Request and Topic Transition Error, respectively. Ignore Expectation and Ignore Request describe similar situations, wherein the system response fails to satisfy the user request. Ignore expectation considers the situation from the perspective of the task description, while *Ignore Request* addresses potential technical limitations in the response-generation system, obvious from the generated response. While Phi-4 is likely to return incorrect results in such cases, GPT-40 often ranks the correct error type within its top three predictions.

1299

1300

1301

1302

1304

1305

1306

1307

1308

1310

1311

1312

1313

1314

1315

1316

1317

1318

1319

1321

1322

1323

1325

1326

1327

1328

1329

1330

1331

1333

1334

1335

1337

1338

1339

1340

1342

1343

1345

1346

1347

1348

1349

1350

In contrast to FEDI, ABCEval (Finch et al., 2023a) proposes more general error types. For instance, we observe that *Redundant* is very frequently predicted incorrectly. It addresses situations in which any part of the response is repetitive. Accordingly, Phi-4 also associates situations with this error type where the system utterance has the same tonality or emotionality, or where words are repeated. Similarly, GPT-40 frequently confuses *Commonsense Contradiction* with *Uninterpretable*, because of overlapping definitions. Both error types address illogical and difficult-to-interpret statements.

For Soda-Eval (Mendonça et al., 2024), we assume that the brevity of error descriptions presents a significant challenge. For example, Engagement, which is defined as Lacks a behavior or emotion expected from the situation, does not provide an operational definition for the term behavior, resulting in frequent misclassifications. Similarly, Coherence is frequently misclassified in situations involving implicit knowledge. For example, a system that recommends medical consultation in response to a user stating they feel unwell, without an explicit request for advice, is often labeled as a Coherence error. Given the prevalence of such situations in the ground truth data, we assume that this issue stems from limited human supervision in the annotation process, as Soda-Eval, like FEDI, is a synthetically generated dataset. However, using the prompts adapted from Mendonça et al. (2024), both GPT-40 and Phi-4 address these anomalies in their provided reasoning by suggesting the absence of errors in certain utterances.

#### **D.2** Margin Parameter Experiments

We conducted a series of closed-world experiments 1352 using SEEED to identify the most effective value 1353 for the margin parameter m in the Soft Nearest 1354 Neighbor Loss (Frosst et al., 2019). The experi-1355 ments utilized dialogue contexts and correspond-1356 ing summaries as input data. For the purpose of 1357 isolating the effects of the loss function, SEEED 1358 was reduced to its core joint loss component, with 1359 LBSR and NNK-Means (Shekkizhar and Ortega, 1360 2022) disabled. Table 10 shows the results.

1351

1361

1362

1363

1364

1365

1366

1367

1368

1369

1370

1371

1372

1373

1374

1375

1376

1377

1378

1379

1380

1381

1383

1384

1385

1386

1387

1388

1389

1391

Margin	FE	DI-Err	or	A	BCEva	l	Soda-Eval			
in an gin	Acc-K	ARI	NMI	Acc-K	ARI	NMI	Acc-K	ARI	NMI	
0.0	0.27	0.04	0.07	0.57	0.07	0.47	0.39	0.13	0.20	
0.3	0.29	0.06	0.10	0.57	0.08	0.48	0.43	0.14	0.21	
0.5	0.27	0.04	0.09	0.52	0.06	0.45	0.40	0.13	0.20	
0.7	0.27	0.05	0.09	0.50	0.05	0.42	0.41	0.12	0.18	
1.0	0.28	0.05	0.08	0.56	0.06	0.45	0.42	0.14	0.20	

Table 10: Results of our margin parameter experiments, each averaged over three independent runs.

Our results indicate that a margin value of m = 0.3 yields the most promising overall performance, particularly for detecting known error types and enhancing cluster quality. Notably, performance differences emerge early in the training process. For instance, on FEDI-Error (Petrak et al., 2024), we observe that with m = 0.3, Acc-K, ARI, and NMI attain significantly higher average values from epoch seven onward. In contrast, the trajectory of the loss function remains largely unaffected by variations in the margin parameter.

While we acknowledge that the impact of m may vary across experimental configurations, our findings suggest that m = 0.3 represents a strong empirical baseline.

# D.3 Ablation Experiments with SynCID and LOOP

Table 11 presents the results of our ablation experiments with SynCID (Liang et al., 2024) and LOOP (An et al., 2024). Both employ a multistage training procedure. The first stage focuses on learning patterns associated with known behavioral error types, while the second stage aims to improve the robustness of the representation space through contrastive learning. To this end, each method introduces a novel data sampling strategy: kNN-based filtering in SynCID and local inconsistency sampling (LIS) in LOOP. The results demonstrate that these components contribute substantially to the overall performance of each method.

Openness	Method		FED	I-Error				AB	CEval				Sod	a-Eval		
openness	Methou	H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI	H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI	H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI
	SynCID	0.27	0.40	0.20	0.06	0.11	0.53	0.45	0.68	0.03	0.41	0.31	0.38	0.26	0.11	0.14
	w/o Stage 2	0.27	0.40	0.20	0.06	0.11	0.50	0.44 (4.01)	0.64 (4.04)	0.04	0.42	0.31	0.35 (4.03)	0.27 (1.01)	0.10	0.14
25%	LOOP (LIS)	0.26	0.37	0.19	0.09	0.10	0.51	0.43	0.63	0.01	0.37	0.33	0.36	0.31	0.07	0.13
	w/o Stage 2	0.25	0.34 (4.03)	0.20 (1.01)	0.06	0.08	0.46	0.38 (4.05)	0.60 (4.03)	0.01	0.38	0.28	0.35 (4.01)	0.24 (4.07)	0.05	0.11
	LOOP (LBSR)	0.28	0.36 (4.01)	0.23 (1.04)	0.11	0.10	0.61	0.55 (1.12)	0.68 (0.05)	0.06	0.43	0.34	0.38 (1.02)	$0.30~(\Downarrow.01)$	0.09	0.14
	SEEED	0.38	0.41	0.34	0.19	0.19	0.53	0.46	0.68	0.21	0.45	0.40	0.41	0.39	0.15	0.17
	SynCID	0.26	0.34	0.21	0.04	0.09	0.59	0.55	0.64	0.11	0.47	0.27	0.40	0.21	0.09	0.11
	w/o Stage 2	0.26	0.28 (4.06)	0.24 (1.03)	0.03	0.07	0.53	0.46 (4.09)	0.65 (4.01)	0.10	0.46	0.26	0.40	0.19 (4.02)	0.08	0.11
50%	LOOP (LIS)	0.22	0.39	0.16	0.07	0.07	0.45	0.48	0.43	0.03	0.41	0.24	0.55	0.16	0.11	0.16
	w/o Stage 2	0.21	0.36 (4.03)	0.15 (4.01)	0.04	0.07	0.37	0.42 (4.07)	0.36 (4.07)	0.03	0.40	0.25	0.49 (4.06)	0.17 (1.01)	0.09	0.15
	LOOP (LBSR)	0.25	0.40 (1.01)	0.18 (1.02)	0.06	0.07	0.46	0.58 (1.10)	0.41 (4.02)	0.08	0.46	0.25	0.58 (1.03)	0.16	0.13	0.17
	SEEED	0.33	0.48	0.22	0.13	0.15	0.64	0.67	0.62	0.29	0.51	0.37	0.49	0.30	0.19	0.19
	SynCID	0.23	0.36	0.17	0.06	0.01	0.54	0.59	0.50	0.07	0.44	0.25	0.22	0.28	0.02	0.06
	w/o Stage 2	0.22	0.35 (4.01)	0.16 (1.01)	0.01	0.06	0.54	0.58 (4.01)	0.51 (1.01)	0.09	0.45	0.24	0.27 (1.05)	0.15 (4.13)	0.02	0.04
75%	LOOP (LIS)	0.25	0.43	0.18	0.05	0.01	0.48	0.69	0.37	0.07	0.44	0.22	0.31	0.17	0.07	0.08
	w/o Stage 2	0.21	0.39 (4.04)	0.14 (4.04)	0.01	0.05	0.43	0.64 (4.05)	0.34 (4.03)	0.03	0.40	0.22	0.29 (4.02)	0.18 (1.01)	0.07	0.09
	LOOP (LBSR)	0.25	0.44 (1.01)	0.17~(0.01)	0.01	0.05	0.51	0.71 (1.02)	0.40 (1.03)	0.08	0.45	0.26	0.43 (1.12)	0.19 (1.02)	0.11	0.08
	SEEED	0.37	0.64	0.26	0.16	0.17	0.60	0.75	0.50	0.21	0.47	0.42	0.61	0.32	0.12	0.14

Table 11: Results of our ablation experiments with SynCID and LOOP, including the results of SEEED for direct comparison. We also compare LOOP when trained with its original stage two data sampling procedure, LIS, and our proposed LBSR.

Removing the second training stage in either SynCID or LOOP leads to a drop in average performance, with Acc-K being more negatively affected than Acc-N. Furthermore, the performance of LOOP exhibits a greater dependency on the second training stage compared to SynCID. This suggests that the first training stage of SynCID is more effective than that of LOOP. Substituting LIS in the second stage of LOOP with LBSR yields further performance gains.

1392

1393

1394

1395

1396

1397

1398

1400

1401

1402

1403

1404

1405

1406

#### **D.4** Behavioral Error Type Definition Generation

FEDI-Error Tables 12, 13, 14, and 15 present the behavioral error definitions generated for the FEDI-Error dataset (Petrak et al., 2024).

Ground Truth	Generated	Acc-N
Ignore Expectation	Misaligned Response	0.31
When the system's fails	A system response that	
to meet the user's expec-	fails to accurately un-	
tation, this is called an	derstand or address the	
ignore expectation error.	user's needs.	
In this error type, the		
system either overlooks		
or disregards important		
information provided by		
the user, resulting in an		
incomplete response		

Table 12: FEDI-Error behav. error type definitions (1).

For the error types Factually Incorrect, Ignore 1407 Request, Lack of Sociality, Ignore Question, Con-1408 versationality, and Attribute Error, we used the 1409 25% openness models for behavioral error detec-1410

tion. For Ignore Expectation, we used the 50% openness model from the third run, and for Topic Transition Error, we used the 75% openness model from the first run. To generate each type definition, we included ten dialogue contexts identified by SEEED as belonging to the respective error type in the prompt.

Ground Truth	Generated	Acc-N
Conversationality Bad conversationality occurs when the system fails to maintain a coherent and natural conversation flow, e.g., the system repeats its previous re- sponses or contradicts itself without recogniz- ing or asking for new or missing information	Inconsistency When the system's responses lack coherence, often repeating itself or contradicting previous statements without seeking or acknowl- edging new or missing information. This leads to poor communication, damaging user trust and confidence	0.40
<b>Unclear</b> Intention When the system fails to accurately comprehend and address the user's intended objective, this is referred to as an unclear intention error. This error often arises due to ambiguous or incomplete user inputs, conflicting context, or limitations	Misaligned     Goal       A     misaligned     goal       occurs when the system       misinterprets the user's       objective, often due to       unclear or conflicting       user input. This error       can stem from the       user's       ambiguous, incomplete,       or inconsistent with the       context	0.33

Table 13: FEDI-Error behav. error type definitions (2).

The generated definitions generally show strong 1418 alignment with the original error definitions. How-

1411

1412

1413

1414

1415

1416

1423

1424

1425

1426

1427

ever, some instances tend to reflect specific situational patterns observed in the corresponding dialogues, e.g., in the case of *Ignore Question* and *Ignore Request*.

<b>Ground Truth</b>	Generated	Acc-N 0.28	
Ground Truth Topic Transition Error If the system's response abruptly shifts to a dif- ferent or previously dis- cussed topic without a logical connection or ad- equate context, this is called a topic transition error. This error disrupts the flow and coherence of the conversation, caus- ing confusion and frus- tration for the human par-	Generated Abrupt Topic Shift An abrupt topic shift er- ror occurs when a sys- tem's response suddenly changes to a new topic without a clear connec- tion to the current con- text. This can disrupt the conversation flow and cause confusion, lead- ing to frustration and de- creased trust in the sys- tem's responses.		
Inicipant Ignore Request When the system fails to take action on a user's re- quest, this is called an ig- nore request error. This error can occur due to various reasons, such as misinterpretation of the request, technical limita- tions, or system glitches.	<b>Disregarded Request</b> The system does not di- rectly address the user's request. This can hap- pen due to misunder- standings or system is- sues, leading to user frus- tration and communica- tion breakdown.	0.33	
Factually Incorrect If the response provided by the system contains in- formation that is factu- ally wrong or inaccurate, this is referred to as a fac- tually incorrect error	Misinformation When the system provides in- correct information, this is called misinforma- tion. This can happen when the system's world knowledge is outdated, incomplete, or simply wrong	0.20	
Lack of Sociality When the system's responses overlook social conven- tions and fail to include basic greetings or ex- hibit toxic and disre- spectful behavior or lan- guage, this is referred to as a lack of sociality er- ror	Insensitive Interaction This error occurs when a system's responses dis- regard social norms, ex- hibit impoliteness, or employ toxic and conde- scending language	0.24	

Table 14: FEDI-Error behav. error type definitions (3).

**ABCEval** Table 16, 17, and 21 illustrate the effectiveness of our approach in generating behavioral error type definitions for the ABCEval dataset (Finch et al., 2023a).

Ground Truth	Generated	Acc-N	
Ignore Question When the system fails to ad- dress the user's question, this is called an ignore question error. Instead of providing a relevant response or clarification, the system disregards the user's input and contin- ues with its predefined dialogue flow or fails to provide any meaningful response	Unaddressed Request The system neglects the user's question, failing to provide a relevant re- sponse. This can lead to frustration and ulti- mately interrupt the con- versation.	0.21	
Attribute Error When the system fails to cor- rectly extract or under- stand the necessary slots or attributes from the user's utterance, this is called an attribute error. 	Attribute Error When the system fails to accu- rately extract or under- stand necessary informa- tion from a user utter- ance that is necessary for task completion.	0.27	

Table 15: FEDI-Error behav. error type definitions (4).

For the error types Uninterpretable, Commonsense Contradiction, Incorrect Fact, Self Contradiction, Partner Contradiction, and Ignore, we used the 25% openness models for error detection (see Table 9).

1	429
1	430
1	431
1	432

1428

<b>Ground Truth</b>	Generated	Acc-N
Uninterpretable A re-	Ambiguous A response	1.0
sponse is uninterpretable	is ambiguous if parts of	
if it is difficult to under-	it are unclear in the dia-	
stand the intended mean-	logue context.	
ing of part or all of the		
response in the context		
of the dialogue.		
Ignore Responses that	Off-Topic Response	0.61
are completely off-topic,	The response deviates	
fail to address the asked	from the topic, fails to	
question, or are other-	answer the posed ques-	
wise completely inappro-	tion, or is contextually	
priate in the context are	inappropriate, indicating	
considered to be ignor-	a disregard for the other	
ing the other speaker.	speaker.	
Commonsense Contra-	Inconsistent Reasoning	0.63
diction To identify con-	A response that contains	
tradictions of common-	significant logical flaws	
sense, judge whether a	or contradictions, goes	
vast majority of peo-	against the general un-	
ple would agree that the	derstanding of most peo-	
response doesn't make	ple, or makes assump-	
sense because the re-	tions without a solid ba-	
sponse:	sis.	

Table 16: ABCEval behav. error type definitions (1).

\_

1439

.....

1440 1441

1442

1443

1444

1445

**Ground Truth** Generated Acc-N Incorrect Fact Incorrect Misinformation Misin-0.50 facts occur when the reformation occurs when sponse includes informaa turn contains information that is either: (1) tion that is not verififalse, (2) unproven, (3) able. A turn could be highly controversial, (4) considered misinformed highly implausible, (5) if it inaccurately repreclearly misleading. If sents historical facts, oran organization, person, ganizations, persons, or place, etc. ... places. Self Contradiction Self Contradiction 0.50 Self contradictions Speaker 2 provides inforoccur when the system mation that contradicts says something that previous statements or is a contradiction of is implausible given what they have said the context. This can previously or it is happen within a single extremely implausible turn or across multiple based on ... turns Partner Contradiction Misunderstanding 1.0 When the Partner contradictions system occur when the system: makes assumptions (1) shares an assumption about the user that are about the user that ... impossible to infer from the conversation, asks repetitive questions or exhibits memory lapses about previsous user statements. Lack of Empathy A re-Insensitive Response In-0.43 sponse displays a lack of sensitive responses ocempathy when: (1) it incur when a speaker dicates a misunderstandfails to acknowledge the ing of how the user feels user's emotions, often based on what Speaker due to a misinterpre-1 just said, (2) the tone, tation of their feelings emotion, or sentiment of or an inappropriate tone. the response is clearly in-This can be seen in reappropriate for what the sponses that seem disuser just said, (3) ... missive or unemotional.

For Irrelevant and Lack of Empathy, we em-

ployed the 75% openness model from run one, and

for Redundant, we used the 75% openness model

from run two. Due to the small size of the dataset,

it was not always possible to include ten dialogue

contexts in the prompt for Behavioral Error Type

Definition generation.

Table 17: ABCEval behav. error type definitions (2).

For instance, the test split contains only one example each for *Partner Contradiction* and *Uninterpretable*. Nonetheless, we find the quality of the generated type definitions to be comparable to those produced for the FEDI-Error dataset (Petrak et al., 2024).

Ground Truth	Generated	Acc-N		
Redundant A response	Unnecessary Repeat A	0.50		
is repetitive if: (1) it	response is redundant if			
repeats something from	it repeats information al-			
earlier in the dialogue,	ready shared or asks a			
(2) it includes asking	question with a known			
a question whose an-	answer. This can oc-			
swer has been already	cur in various forms,			
shared. If any part of	such as direct repetition,			
the response is repeti-	rephrased questions, or			
tive, then it should be la-	unnecessary elaboration.			
beled as repetitive. Note	However, repetition can			
that sometimes repeti-	be justified in cases			
tion is useful, such as	where it serves a purpose			
for emphasis, acknowl-	like emphasis, acknowl-			
edgement, clarification,	edgment, or additional			
or elaboration, and	explanation.			
Irrelevant If a response	Disconnected Response	0.40		
fails to continue the cur-	A response is considered			
rent discussion or jumps	disconnected if it fails			
to a new and off-topic	to build upon the previ-			
discussion, it is consid-	ous turn, instead intro-			
ered to be irrelevant. Re-	ducing a new topic or			
sponses that are irrele-	question. This type of			
vant feel abrupt and in-	response can disrupt the			
terrupt the discussion,	conversation flow.			

Table 18: ABCEval behav. error type definitions (3).

**Soda-Eval** Tables 19, 20, and 21 illustrate the generated error type definitions for the Soda-Eval dataset (Mendonça et al., 2024).

1446

1447

1448

<b>Ground Truth</b>	Generated	Acc-N	
<b>Coherence</b> Contradicts or ignores prior informa- tion in the dialogue.	<b>Inconsistency</b> Fails to maintain a logical con- nection with previous statements.	0.18	
<b>Commonsense</b> Lacks common knowledge and logic.	Missing World Knowl- edge Fails to demon- strate basic understand- ing of the world. In the context of a set of dyadic dialogues, this error type might manifest as con- versations where one par- ticipant expects the other to possess knowledge or behave in a way that is not grounded in reality.	0.14	
Assumption Infers infor- mation not available in the dialogue context.	<b>Misattribution</b> A re- sponse that incorrectly assigns information or characteristics to a dia- logue participant, entity, or context that is not ex- plicitly stated or implied within the dialogue.	0.24	

Table 19: Soda-Eval behav. error type definitions (1).

For engagement, antisocial, non textual, gender 1449 pronoun, assumption, and fluency, we employed 1450 the 25% openness models for clustering (see Table 9). For coherence and commonsense, we utilized the 50% openness model from the first run, and for repetition, the 50% openness model from the second run. For the generation of each error type, we included ten dialogue contexts associated by our approach with the respective error type into 1457 the prompt. The error type definitions originally defined by Mendonça et al. (2024) are concise and lack detail. This differs from the error type definitions generated by our approach, which exhibit a closer alignment with the situational contexts rep-1462 resented in the dialogues.

1451

1452

1453

1454

1455

1456

1458

1459

1460

1461

1463

Ground Truth	Generated	Acc-N
Antisocial Contains un- safe or inappropriate be- haviour.	<b>Disrespectful</b> Character- ized by the use of offen- sive language, deroga- tory terms, and aggres- sive tone, which can cause emotional distress.	0.33
<b>Fluency</b> Contains typos or other grammatical er- rors.	<b>Clarity</b> The response from speaker 2 contains spelling/grammar errors.	0.30
Gender Pronoun Goes against normative pro- noun.	Gender Pronoun Mis- match The use of pro- nouns that do not consis- tently align with the gen- der identity of the indi- viduals being referred to result in a mismatch be- tween the pronouns used and the gender norms ex- pected in the dialogue.	0.29
Non Textual Includes narrative elements or ref- erences unexpected in- side a turn of a dyadic interaction.	Narrative Elements The responses contain narrative elements or references that are not coherent within a round of dyadic interaction and may disrupt the expected flow of the dialogue.	0.29
Repetition Repeats prior information in the dia- logue.	Redundancy This error occurs when a speaker unnecessarily repeats in- formation that has al- ready been stated in the dialogue, failing to pro- vide new or relevant information, or simply rephrasing what has al- ready been said.	0.15

Table 20: Soda-Eval behav. error type definitions (2).

Ground Truth	Generated	Acc-N		
Engagement Lacks a be-	Emotional Dissonance	0.39		
haviour or emotion ex-	The response lacks a be-			
pected from the situa-	haviour or emotion that			
tion.	is typically associated			
	with the situation, lead-			
	ing to an incongruous			
	tone or atmosphere.			

Table 21: Soda-Eval behav. error type definitions (3).

#### **D.5** Intent Detection Results

Table 22 presents the complete results of our intent 1465 detection experiments. Overall, SEEED demon-1466 strates promising performance, particularly in de-1467 tecting unknown intents. For instance, it im-1468 proves Acc-N up to +0.28 points in the CLINC 1469 dataset (Larson et al., 2019) and by up to +0.531470 points in the StackOverflow dataset (Xu et al., 1471 2015), compared to KNN-Contrastive (Zhou et al., 1472 2022). 1473

Openness	Method CLINC			BANKING					StackOverflow							
openness	Wiethou	H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI	H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI	H-Score	Acc-K	Acc-N	ARI	NMI
	KNN-Contrastive	0.67	0.91	0.53	0.75	0.91	0.50	0.90	0.34	0.68	0.87	0.45	0.84	0.31	0.56	0.73
250	SynCID	0.80	0.95 ( <sup>(1.04)</sup>	0.69 (1.16)	0.83	0.94	0.64	0.87 (4.03)	0.50 (1.16)	0.70	0.89	0.72	0.86 (1.02)	0.62 (1.31)	0.66	0.78
25%	LOOP	0.85	0.93 (1.02)	0.78 ( <sup>1.25</sup> )	0.85	0.95	0.63	0.90	0.48 (1.14)	0.73	0.90	0.73	0.89 (1.05)	0.62 (1.31)	0.73	0.82
	SEEED	0.82	0.93 (1.02)	0.74 (1.21)	0.79	0.93	0.79	<b>0.92</b> (1.02)	<b>0.70</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.36)	0.77	0.90	0.87	<b>0.90</b> (1.06)	<b>0.84</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.53)	0.77	0.83
-	KNN-Contrastive	0.62	0.87	0.48	0.60	0.86	0.58	0.80	0.45	0.53	0.81	0.65	0.82	0.54	0.51	0.67
500	SynCID	0.77	0.95 ( <sup>1.08</sup> )	0.64 (1.16)	0.71	0.90	0.66	0.85 (1.05)	0.54 (1.09)	0.60	0.84	0.72	0.76 (4.06)	0.69 (1.15)	0.52	0.71
50%	LOOP	0.80	<b>0.95</b> (1.08)	0.69 (1.21)	0.75	0.92	0.63	0.90 (1.10)	0.48 (1.03)	0.63	0.86	0.80	<b>0.92</b> (1.10)	0.71 (1.17)	0.71	0.80
	SEEED	0.83	0.94 (1.07)	<b>0.75</b> <sup>†</sup> ( <sub>1.27</sub> )	0.74	0.91	0.79	<b>0.94</b> ( <sup>+.14</sup> )	<b>0.68</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.23)	0.69	0.87	0.89	0.90 (1.08)	<b>0.87</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.33)	0.78	0.84
	KNN-Contrastive	0.63	0.85	0.50	0.49	0.82	0.44	0.85	0.29	0.33	0.72	0.57	0.81	0.43	0.34	0.52
750	SynCID	0.73	0.89 (1.04)	0.62 (1.12)	0.60	0.86	0.63	0.85	0.50 (1.21)	0.47	0.78	0.66	0.78 (4.03)	0.57 (1.14)	0.40	0.60
75%	LOOP	0.79	0.92 (1.07)	0.68 (1.18)	0.68	0.90	0.64	0.87 (1.02)	0.51 (1.22)	0.50	0.81	0.76	0.92 (11)	0.64 (1.21)	0.57	0.72
	SEEED	0.87	<b>0.97</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.12)	<b>0.78</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.28)	0.72	0.90	0.79	<b>0.93</b> (1.08)	<b>0.69</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.40)	0.60	0.82	0.86	<b>0.97</b> (†.16)	<b>0.77</b> <sup>†</sup> (↑.34)	0.71	0.78

Table 22: The complete results of our intent discovery experiments, averaged across three runs. The deltas denote the differences to KNN-Contrastive which we consider as the baseline for these experiments.  $\dagger$  denotes statistical significance compared to all baseline approaches, as determined by a t-test with p-value  $\leq 0.05$ . The H-Score aggregates Acc-K and Acc-N and was therefore excluded from statistical significance tests. To ensure comparability, unknown intents were randomly sampled once per run and level of openness.