SCITAT: A Question Answering Benchmark for Scientific Tables and Text Covering Diverse Reasoning Types

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Abstract

Scientific question answering (SQA) is an important task aimed at answering questions based on papers. However, current SQA datasets have limited reasoning types and neglect the relevance between tables and text, creating a significant gap with real scenarios. To address these challenges, we propose a QA benchmark for scientific tables and text with diverse reasoning types (SCITAT). To cover more reasoning types, we summarize various reason-011 ing types from real-world questions. To involve both tables and text, we require the questions to incorporate tables and text as much as possible. Based on SCITAT, we propose a strong baseline (CAR), which combines various reasoning methods to address different reasoning types and process tables and text at the same time. 017 CAR brings average improvements of 12.9% 019 over other baselines on SCITAT, validating its effectiveness. Error analysis reveals the challenges of SCITAT, such as complex numerical 021 calculations and domain knowledge.

1 Introduction

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Scientific Question Answering (SQA) plays a crucial role in addressing research questions based on scientific papers (Tsatsaronis et al., 2015; Lee et al., 2023). Advancing SQA development can significantly accelerate knowledge acquisition (Taylor et al., 2022; AI4Science and Quantum, 2023). However, the dense technical terms and heterogeneous data representations in papers present challenges for the SQA task (Pramanick et al., 2024).

To evaluate and enhance the model capabilities in SQA, numerous datasets are proposed (Pampari et al., 2018; Pappas et al., 2020; Jin et al., 2019). However, existing datasets exhibit the following limitations, as shown in Table 1. Firstly, the **reasoning types are relatively narrow**, failing to capture the complexity of real scenarios, such as data analysis, which is frequently encountered in actual queries. Secondly, prior works **focus only on split**

Dataset	Re	asoni	ing T	уре	1	Evidence	
Dataset	L	Ν	D	Т	Text	Table	ТаТ
BioRead	 ✓ 				1		
QASA	1	1	1		1		
SciGen			1			1	
SciTab	1	1				1	
SPIQA	1	1			1	1	
SciTaT	1	1	1	1	✓	1	1

Table 1: Comparison of SCITAT to recent SQA datasets. TaT denotes Table and Text. L, N, D, and T denote the reasoning type of Look Up, Numerical Reasoning, Data Analysis, and Tabulation, with examples in Figure 1. We introduce the datasets in Appendix A.1.

text and tables (Lee et al., 2023; Moosavi et al., 2021; Pramanick et al., 2024), overlooking the relevance between tables and text, thereby limiting their applicability (Wang et al., 2022). To address the limitations, in this paper: *(i)* We introduce a new SQA benchmark, covering diverse real-scenery reasoning types and considering tables and text simultaneously. *(ii)* To enhance the performance on the benchmark, we propose a strong baseline, which is capable of handling multiple reasoning types and processing tables and text simultaneously.

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Firstly, we propose a QA benchmark for scientific tables and text (SCITAT), which are collected from papers in arXiv.org. To fit the actual scenario, we summarize various reasoning types from the real questions raised by researcher (see Figure 1). To ensure the questions involve both tables and text, we request questions that involve both tables and text as much as possible. Overall, SCITAT contains 953 questions derived from 871 papers. Data analysis reveals that SCITAT encompasses 4 reasoning types and 13 subtypes, covering the types summarized from the real questions in SparkRA (Wu et al., 2024a) and previous works (Lu et al., 2023; Wu et al., 2024b). SCITAT not only requires the model to look up information and numerical reasoning but also requires complex

(Yang et al., 2019), BERT	ased Pars with prior ⊺base ^β ar ecognizer	works. Pre-tr nd large ^B (De ' (Lyu and Tit	ck-Transformers rained embeddings used are inn vvlin et al., 2019), Graph Recate ov, 2018; Zhang et al., 2019) ar	gorization,	which can	Look Up	Question: What pre-trained embedding did the prior work that lachieved the best performance on Penn-Treebank? Rationale: To find the the prior work that Answer: XLnet-large
Model	UAS	LAS	Model	AMR1.0	AMR2.0	÷.	Question: How much does Stack-Transformer differ on
Dozat and Manning	95.7	94.0	Lyu and Titov (2018) (G.R.)	73.7	74.4	Numerie	average from previous work using BERT base?
(2016)	00.1	0110	Naseem et al. (2019) ^B	-	75.5	Reasonii	Rationale: To calculate how much different
F-Gonz. and G-Rodr. (2019)	96.0	94.4	Zhang et al. (2019) (G.R.) ^B	71.3	77.0		Answer: -0.3
Moh. and Hen. $(2020)^{\beta}$	96.7	95.0	Cai and Lam (2020) ^β	74.0	78.7		Question:
Mrini et al. (2019) ^x	97.3	96.3	Cai and Lam (2020) (G.R.) $^{\beta}$	75.4	80.2	_i~_]	How does the multi-task learning affect Transformer
a) Transformer	94.4±0.1	1 92.6±0.2	a*) Transformer	68.8±0.1	75.9±0.3	Data	Rationale: We first analyze the performance
b) Transformer + (multask)	96.0±0.1	1 94.4±0.1	a) Transformer	69.2±0.2	77.2±0.2	Analysis	Answer: The multi-task learning significantly
e) Stack-Transformer			b) Transformer + (multask)	74.0±0.2	78.0±0.1		
(buff)	96.3±0.0) 94.7±0.0	e) Stack-Transformer (buff)	75.1±0.3	78.8±0.1	6	Question: Identify the models whose performance is between
c) Stack-Transformer	96.2±0.1	1 94.7±0.0	c) Stack-Transformer	75.4±0.0	79.0±0.1	Ê	71.0 and 73.8 on AMR1.0 and output them in json.
Table 2: Test-set performan English Penn-Treebank.	ce prior art	t on the	Table 3: Test-set performance ar and AMR2.0 in terms of Smatch.		n the AMR1.0	Tabulati	on Rationale: To assess the UAS of these models, Answer: [{"Model":, "AMR1.0":},]

Figure 1: Illustrations of the reasoning types in SCITAT. The tables and text (left) show color-coded spans for question context. The questions (right) are examples of 4 reasoning types, with their rationales and answers.

data analysis and tabulation, effectively meeting the needs of researchers in real-world scenarios.

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Considering the challenges of SCITAT, we propose a strong baseline to process scientific data by integrating reasoning methods (CAR). **To handle multiple reasoning types**, CAR includes two modules: Calculator and Reasoner. **To process tables and text**, Calculator extracts and calculates numerical information from tables and text, which is then provided to Reasoner for further reasoning.

We construct a series of baselines on SCITAT. Experimental results reveal that CAR outperforms other baselines with 12.9% on average, proving the effectiveness of the combination of Calculator and Reasoner. However, the Exact Match of CAR using gpt-40 is still below 50%, which indicates that SCITAT serves as a challenging benchmark. Error analysis reveals the main challenges of SCITAT, such as context grounding, complex numerical calculation, and the need for domain knowledge.

Our contributions are as follows:

- 1. To the best of our knowledge, we develop SCITAT, the first QA benchmark for scientific tables and text, covering diverse reasoning types based on real scenarios.
- 2. We propose CAR, a strong baseline to solve various reasoning types and process tables and text by integrating reasoning methods.
- 3. We conduct a series of experiments, providing results and error analysis to highlight the challenges of SCITAT, thereby guiding the direction for future improvements.

2 SCITAT Dataset

The input for the task associated with SCITAT consists of scientific tables, text, and a question, and the output is the corresponding answer. Moreover, we annotate the rationale of each question. For brevity, we refer to each question, its corresponding rationale, and answer, as an instance. We begin by describing the construction process of SCITAT. We employ a framework combining automatic annotation with manual annotation to enhance both the quality and efficiency of the annotation process, as illustrated in Figure 2. 101

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2.1 Paper Preparation

First, we introduce the data source and preparation of the scientific papers in SCITAT. We select papers from the "Artificial Intelligence", "Computation and Language", and "Machine Learning" subfields of "Computer Science" following previous datasets (Lee et al., 2023; Moosavi et al., 2021; Lu et al., 2023). We collect LaTeX code from papers published between January 2020 and July 2023 on arxiv.org, using a heuristic method to extract all the tables with their corresponding captions and labels, and text in each paper. The tables are normalized into the List[List[str]] format. To ensure the inclusion of both tables and text, we filter out papers without tables. Additionally, to guarantee the relevance of the tables and text in the context, the context we provide when annotating the question is a paragraph that mentions tables and the tables mentioned. Specifically, we randomly select at least one paragraph from the paper that

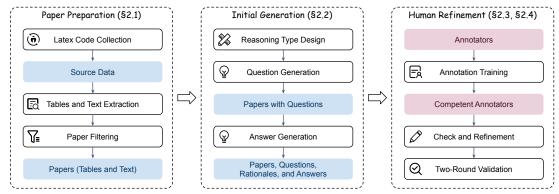


Figure 2: The overview of our annotation process. The blue boxes represent the data, the pink boxes represent the annotators, and the white boxes with solid lines represent the annotation procedures.

mentions tables and the tables that are mentioned as the context of the question.

2.2 Initial Generation

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To observe the reasoning types that researchers might query, we select SParkRA (Wu et al., 2024a), a platform specifically designed to provide QA services for researchers in the context of scientific papers. We hypothesize that the reasoning types observed in these questions are comparable to those found in real-world inquiries. We randomly select 650 questions and categorize their reasoning types. To account for potentially unobserved reasoning types, we also incorporate reasoning types from previous datasets (Lu et al., 2023; Wu et al., 2024b). Finally, we summarize 4 reasoning types and 13 subtypes for SCITAT, as shown in Table 4.

We assign a reasoning type to each context, in-149 cluding a paragraph and mentioned tables. Manu-150 ally annotating scientific questions and answers is time-consuming and prone to introducing annota-152 tion artifacts since it requires substantial domain ex-153 pertise and a deep understanding of the paper (Ben-154 der and Friedman, 2018; Pramanick et al., 2024). To address these challenges, we leverage the exten-156 sive knowledge and powerful instruction-following 157 capabilities of LLMs following previous works 158 (Wu et al., 2024b; Zhang et al., 2024). Specifically, 159 we utilize gpt-40 (OpenAI et al., 2024) to generate questions and answers. We guide the LLM to 161 generate questions aligned with the reasoning type 162 based on the context using three-shot prompt, with 163 requirements outlined in Figure 3. We employ a 165 Chain-of-Thought (CoT) (Wei et al., 2022) prompt with three demonstrations, guiding the LLM to generate the rationale and answer for each ques-167 tion according to the context. Detailed prompts are provided in Appendix B.1. 169

2.3 Human Refinement

Since LLMs cannot guarantee the reasonableness of the questions or the correctness of the answers, we employ manual checks and refinement. (i) For the context, annotators are tasked with verifying that the extracted tables and text are consistent with the original paper and removing any incorrect ones. (*ii*) For the questions, annotators should refine them following the guidelines in Figure 3. (iii) For the rationales and answers, annotators are required to verify their correctness and correct any errors. Due to the diverse reasoning types in SCITAT, our answers include both short-form and free-form types. Annotators are instructed to extract one or more tokens for short-form answers and use complete sentences for free-form answers. (iv) For the answer source, annotators are prompted to select the source of the answer, which may include Text, Table, or Table and Text, and identify the relevant tables. Annotators are compensated \$1 per instance. 170

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2.4 Quality Control

To ensure the quality of SCITAT, we implement rigorous quality control strategies.

2.4.1 Competent Annotators

The annotators we employ are all graduate students majoring in artificial intelligence. Initially, the annotators undergo training sessions to learn the task and the annotation interface (see Appendix C.1) and are required to annotate 20 questions. We retain those with Exact Match $\geq 95\%$ and provide constructive feedback on their mistakes.

2.4.2 Two-round Validation

After the instances are submitted by the annotator, a two-round validation process is implemented, consisting of manual verification and revision. (*i*)

The requirements for generating questions

- 1. The question must meet the reasoning type.
- 2. The question is best answered by referring to both the tables and the text simultaneously.
- 3. The question should be with fewer statements and more reasoning and calculation.

Figure 3: The requirements for generating questions.

Statistics	Long-context	Short-context
Questions	953	953
Papers	871	871
Avg. Tables	5.2	1.1
Avg. Cells	60.8	56.6
Avg. Paragraphs	80.2	1.0
Avg. Paragraph	83.4	113.0

Table 2: The statistics of SCITAT. Avg. Tables and Avg. Cells indicate the average number of tables and the average number of cells per table. Avg. Paragraphs and Avg. |Paragraph| indicate the average number of paragraphs and the average length of each paragraph.

Statistics	Table	Text	TaT	Total
Short-form answers	234	13	93	340
Free-form answers	308	67	238	613
Total	542	80	331	953

Table 3: Question distribution over different answers and sources in SCITAT. TaT denotes the source of the Table and Text.

In the first round, a verifier examines each instance to ensure that the annotations adhere to the specified guidelines. If errors are found, the verifier communicates with the annotator and requests the corresponding corrections. (*ii*) In the second round, a different annotator reviews all the instances again. Any identified errors are discussed with the verifier and revised as needed.

2.5 Data Analysis

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2.5.1 Basic Statistics

To better evaluate the reasoning ability across dif-215 ferent context lengths, we propose two settings: 216 long-context and short-context. In the long-context 217 setting, the model should answer questions based 218 on the whole paper. In the short-context setting, 219 the model is required to answer questions based on a single paragraph and the tables referenced within that paragraph. We present the statistics of SCITAT in the long-context and short-context settings, as illustrated in Table 2. We also show the question distribution over different answers and sources in 225 Table 3. Notably, over 1/3 of the questions in SCI-226

TAT require reasoning that involves both tables and text simultaneously.

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2.5.2 Reasoning Types

We analyze the distribution of reasoning types in SCITAT, as shown in Table 4. It can be found that SCITAT has a variety of reasoning types evenly distributed. Among these types, Data Analysis and Tabulation are identified as common patterns based on observations of real queries and are rarely represented in existing datasets.

3 CAR

CAR is designed to address the questions on the context of scientific tables and text. Given that SC-ITAT combines diverse reasoning types, CAR is composed into two modules: Calculator and Reasoner, as illustrated in Figure 4, which focus on different reasoning types. To process tables and text simultaneously, the Calculator extracts and computes the numerical information from the context and the Reasoner can derive the final answer based on the calculated information. The prompts we use are presented in Appendix B.2.

3.1 Calculator

The input to the Calculator consists of a question and the scientific context (including tables and text), and the output provides the numerical information necessary to answer the question. Specifically, we prompt the LLM to generate a program function based on the context to answer the question. Unlike other Program-of-Thought (PoT) methods (Gao et al., 2023; Chen et al., 2023) that require the program to return the answer directly, the function is designed to return a sentence explicitly describing the numerical information, as illustrated in Figure 4. Once the function is obtained, it is executed to extract the numerical information.

3.2 Reasoner

The Reasoner takes as input a question, the scientific context, and the numerical information obtained from the Calculator to produce the final an-

Reasoning Type	Subtypes	Description	%
Look Up (4.7)	Table Look Up	Search for specific tables	2.7
Look Op (4.7)	Span Look Up	Search for spans in tables or paragraphs	2.0
	Arithmetic Calculation	Numerical calculations	11.1
	Comparison	Comparison of values	8.2
Numerical Reasoning (46.0)	Aggregation	Combines multiple data points into a single metric	3.9
Numericai Keasonnig (40.0)	Ranking	Arranges items in a specific order	7.0
	Counting	Counting occurrences	9.2
	Domain Knowledge Calculation	Calculations requiring domain knowledge	6.5
	Descriptive Analysis	Summarize or interpret to spot patterns and trends	23.3
Data Analysis (40.9)	Anomaly Detection	Detect deviations and their causes	7.0
	Causal Analysis	Investigate cause-and-effect relationships	10.6
Tabulation (8.4)	-	Standardizing the formats of tables/subtables	8.4

Table 4: The reasoning types, the description of their subtypes, and their proportion in SCITAT. The number in parentheses is the proportion of each reasoning type.

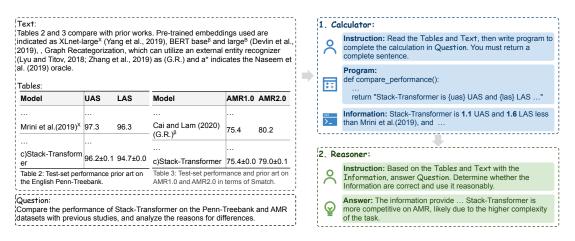


Figure 4: The overview of CAR, which consists of two modules: (*i*) Calculator generates code to compute the numerical information required for solving the question. (*ii*) Reasoner continues the reasoning process based on the information provided by the Calculator to answer the question.

swer. Specifically, we utilize a CoT prompt (Wei et al., 2022) to guide the LLM through a step-bystep reasoning process based on the context and information, leading to the final answer. However, since the information may not always be accurate or helpful, we further prompt the LLM to engage in reflection, evaluating the correctness and relevance of the extracted information during reasoning.

4 Experiments

4.1 Settings

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4.1.1 Metrics

278Due to the significant difference in token counts279between free-form answers and short-form answers280(see Table 11 in Appendix E.1), we evaluate the281two types of answers separately. For short-form282answers, we use Exact Match (EM) to assess cor-283rectness, while for free-form answers, we use F1284and BERTScore F1 (BERTScore) (Zhang* et al.,

2020) to evaluate accuracy, following previous studies (Zhu et al., 2021; Moosavi et al., 2021). EM measures the proportion of the predicted result that exactly match the gold answer. F1 calculates the overlap between predicted and gold answers based on their bag-of-words representation. BERTScore evaluates the similarity between generated text and reference text by calculating the cosine similarity of their word embeddings.

4.1.2 Models

We employ the open-source LLM Llama3.1-Instruct (Llama3.1) (Dubey et al., 2024) and the closed-source LLM gpt-40 (OpenAI et al., 2024) to evaluate SCITAT. Llama3.1 is among the topperforming open-source models, while gpt-40 is one of the leading closed-source models.

4.1.3 Baselines

We compare CAR with Direct QA (Pramanick et al., 2024), CoT (Wei et al., 2022), and PoT (Gao

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et al., 2023; Chen et al., 2023) methods. Direct QA refers to prompting the LLM to directly answer the questions. The specific prompts for the baselines are provided in Appendix B.2. Given the long-context setting, where the context length is considerable, we adopt zero-shot prompts in experiments to prevent exceeding the context limit.

4.2 Main Experiments

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The results of comparing CAR with other baselines on SCITAT are shown in Table 5. The results reveal that: (*i*) CAR significantly outperforms other baselines across different models and settings, achieving an average improvement of 12.9% on all metrics, highlighting its effectiveness. (*ii*) Despite improvement, CAR still demonstrates suboptimal performance, as both EM and F1 remain below 50.0, and while BERTScore is relatively high (Moosavi et al., 2021; Zhao et al., 2024a), it remains under 80.0, reflecting the challenge of SCITAT. We also observe that:

Baselines Among the three baselines, CoT 324 achieves the highest overall performance, while Direct QA exhibits lower EM, and PoT shows lower F1 and BERTScore. Considering that a diverse range of reasoning types in SCITAT, CoT is relatively better at handling these types of questions 329 (Wei et al., 2022; Wu et al., 2024b; Pramanick et al., 2024). Direct QA, due to its lack of reasoning, is prone to computational errors and incorrect grounding, and tends to generate longer answers for shortform answers, resulting in an EM score of zero 334 (Snell et al., 2024). On the other hand, since the program typically returns shorter answers (see Appendix E.1), the PoT method is less effective at answering free-form questions.

Context Settings CAR demonstrates a more significant improvement in the long-context setting than the short-context setting. Due to the dense knowledge presented in the paper, directly answering questions based on the entire paper may confuse the model, preventing it from focusing on the relevant tables and text (Lee et al., 2023; Pramanick et al., 2024). In contrast, CAR uses the Calculator to extract and compute useful numerical information from the paper, effectively guiding the Reasoner and avoiding the need to search for answers directly within the whole paper.

351Answer TypesCAR shows more significant im-352provements in short-form answers than free-form

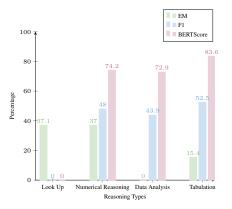


Figure 5: The average performance of CAR across three models on four reasoning types.

answers. For short-form answers, the Reasoner typically only needs to verify the correctness of the result of the Calculator and extract the answer. In contrast, for free-form answers, the Reasoner often needs to perform additional analysis based on the numerical information provided by the Calculator, which results in less significant improvement compared to short-form answers. 353

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Reasoning Types We present the average performance of three models on different reasoning types in Figure 5. Specifically, the F1 and BERTScore for the type of Look Up are both 0 as all questions in this type correspond to short-form answers. The EM for the type of Data Analysis is also 0, as all the answers to this reasoning type are freeform. We can also observe that: (i) The models perform worst on Data Analysis, which requires more comprehensive capabilities, such as numerical computation, logical reasoning, summarization (Wu et al., 2024b). (ii) The F1 and BERTScore on Tabulation are the highest, but the EM is the lowest, indicating the difficulty of this reasoning type. While the predicted result may be close to the gold answer, achieving an exact match remains challenging. This highlights the need for more effective evaluation metrics for this reasoning type. (iii) There is still significant room for improvement in the types of Look Up and Numerical Reasoning, underscoring the overall difficulty of SCITAT.

4.3 Ablation Experiments

To demonstrate the effectiveness of CAR, we perform an ablation study by removing each module and reversing the order of the two modules. Specifically, when only the Reasoner is retained, it is the same as the CoT baseline. When reversing, we first apply the Reasoner module and then feed its output into the Calculator, which verifies and

Model	Scale	Method	EM	Long-co F1	ntext BERTScore	EM	Short-co F1	ntext BERTScore
		Direct QA	0.0	30.6	66.4	0.0	30.7	66.5
		CoT	13.0	29.5	65.6	20.6	41.4	71.6
	8B	PoT	4.4	21.7	54.0	17.1	21.5	49.9
		CAR	24.8	37.5	69.7	24.2	44.3	73.2
Llama3.1		Δ	+19.1	+10.2	+7.7	+11.6	+13.1	+10.5
		Direct QA	0.0	31.6	67.5	0.0	33.6	68.7
		CoT	30.3	36.8	69.9	32.1	44.1	73.1
	70B	PoT	5.3	28.8	61.7	36.8	35.6	64.0
		CAR	35.9	41.7	71.8	40.7	46.2	74.4
		Δ	+24.2	+9.3	+5.4	+17.7	+8.4	+5.8
		Direct QA	0.0	29.8	67.3	0.0	39.6	71.5
gpt-4o -	CoT	31.3	41.3	72.7	32.2	46.8	75.5	
	РоТ	5.0	15.0	44.4	28.3	31.2	59.8	
		CAR	37.5	41.8	73.1	43.7	47.1	75.7
		Δ	+25.4	+13.1	+11.6	+23.5	+7.9	+6.8

Table 5: Performance comparison of different models and methods. The best results of each model under each setting are annotated in **bold**. Δ refers to the average improvement of CAR compared with other baselines.

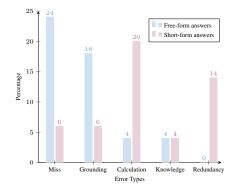


Figure 6: The distribution of error types of CAR on free-form answers and short-form answers.

corrects any numerical errors to produce the final result. We perform experiments using Llama3.1 in the short-context setting, with results presented in Table 6. The significant performance drop confirms the validity of CAR. The results also suggest that: (*i*) Given the diverse reasoning types in SCITAT, relying on a single reasoning method is insufficient to derive accurate answers. Especially, the EM of the Calculator is very low since we prompt the program to return the entire numerical information instead of the simple answer. (*ii*) Furthermore, as discussed in §4.2, the program struggles with freeform responses, so depending solely on its output for the final answer limits performance on SCITAT.

4.4 Error Analysis

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In this section, we analyze the erroneous data of CAR using Llama3.1-70B. Specifically, we randomly select 25 error instances with BERTScore below 60 from the results corresponding to free-

Scale	Method	EM	F1	BERTScore
	CAR	24.2	44.3	73.2
8B	Reasoner	20.6	41.4	71.6
ðБ	Calculator	0.3	30.8	62.8
	Reversing	21.5	21.4	47.2
	CAR	40.7	46.2	74.4
70B	Reasoner	32.1	44.1	73.1
700	Calculator	0.0	42.0	70.4
	Reversing	37.1	35.9	65.1

Table 6: The ablation results of CAR, compared with only Reasoner, only Calculator, and reversing the two modules (denoted as *Reversing*) on SCITAT on the short-context setting.

form answers and another 25 instances with EM of 0 from the results corresponding to short-form answers. We manually categorize the error types, as illustrated in Figure 6. It can be observed that the distribution of error types for free-form answers and short-form answers differs significantly. Examples of different error types are provided in Appendix D. We proceed with a detailed analysis.

(*i*) Miss refers to the omission of part of the answer, such as when only some sub-questions are addressed in a multi-part question, or when data analysis is limited to summarizing phenomena without providing conclusions or insights. (*ii*) Grounding refers to locating incorrect relevant context according to the question. (*iii*) Calculation denotes errors in applying numerical formulas, coding mistakes, or computational inaccuracies in complex calculations. (*iv*) Knowledge refers to errors in responses due to the lack of domain-specific knowledge. (*v*) Redundancy refers to the generation of

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unnecessary responses that result in an EM of zero.

The reasoning types for both free-form and shortform answers in SCITAT exhibit diversity and are not entirely identical. Compared to previous datasets, SCITAT presents the following main challenges: (*i*) Different error types are associated with free-form and short-form answers, which require the design of distinct methods for each. (*ii*) The need to integrate various reasoning types and process both tables and text, while requiring the model to possess strong domain-specific knowledge in the scientific domain. We outline these challenges to inspire future work in developing methods that address these issues, aiming to enhance model performance in scientific QA on tables and text.

5 Related Works

5.1 Scientific QA Datasets

Early SQA datasets were designed in a clozestyle format, which limited the difficulty of these datasets (Pampari et al., 2018; Pappas et al., 2018). To address this issue, PubMedQA (Jin et al., 2019), QASPER (Dasigi et al., 2021), and QASA (Lee et al., 2023) employ humans to annotate questions and answers over papers, and SciInstruct (Zhang et al., 2024) collects questions from sources like textbooks and synthesizes answers using LLMs. However, these works primarily focus on text, without considering the tables often appearing in papers. Therefore, SciGen (Moosavi et al., 2021) focuses on generating relevant descriptions based on tables in papers, SciTab (Lu et al., 2023) concentrates on the table fact verification task, and SPIQA (Pramanick et al., 2024) is designed for QA based on tables and images.

Nevertheless, the reasoning types of existing datasets are relatively limited, since they do not involve diverse reasoning types, such as Data Analysis and Tabulation, that frequently occur in real scenarios. Moreover, they overlook the relevance between tables and text, limiting their application (Chen et al., 2020; Wang et al., 2022). Therefore, we propose SCITAT, a QA benchmark for scientific tables and text with diverse reasoning types.

5.2 QA Datasets for Tables and Text

473 Previous QA datasets for tables and text mainly
474 focus on Look Up and Numerical Reasoning in
475 the Wikipedia and financial domains. For example, HybridQA (Chen et al., 2020) annotates QA
477 pairs over Wikipedia tables and text, which primar-

ily focuses on look up spans in the context. TAT-QA (Zhu et al., 2021), FinQA (Chen et al., 2021), and DocMath-Eval (Zhao et al., 2024b) primarily address the numerical reasoning task in the financial domain. Among them, DocMath-Eval (Zhao et al., 2024b) collects data from previous datasets and annotates the Python program for each question. However, their reasoning types are relatively limited, which significantly differs from the scientific QA scenarios in real-world applications. A comparison SCITAT with previous datasets for tables and text is shown in Table 7 of Appendix A.2.

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Considering the reasoning types of existing datasets, previous works introduce programs to obtain the final answer (Gao et al., 2023; Chen et al., 2023). For instance, TAT-LLM (Zhu et al., 2024) proposes to first extract relevant context and generate equations or logical reasoning steps to execute them and derive the answer. Hpropro (Shi et al., 2024) provides commonly used program functions, allowing the LLM to directly call them during program generation. However, these methods can not apply directly to SCITAT, as SCITAT also involves reasoning types, such as Data Analysis, which requires free-form answers, challenging to be solved by the program alone (Wu et al., 2024b). Therefore, we propose CAR, which combines multiple reasoning types to enhance performance on SCITAT.

6 Conclusion

To address the limitations of previous scientific QA datasets, which involve limited reasoning types and fail to consider the relevance between tables and text, we propose SCITAT, the QA benchmark for scientific tables and text with diverse reasoning types. To incorporate diverse reasoning types, we analyze the questions posed by researchers and combine the types in prior works, summarizing 4 reasoning types with 13 subtypes. To ensure that the questions encompass both tables and text, we require the questions include both elements whenever possible. For SCITAT, we introduce CAR, a strong baseline that combines reasoning methods to enhance the performance across various reasoning types, with handling both tables and text. Experimental results show that CAR outperforms other baselines by an average of 12.9%, demonstrating its effectiveness. Error analysis reveals that the challenges in SCITAT, such as grounding relevant context, complex numerical reasoning, and the need for domain-specific knowledge.

528 Limitations

(*i*) SCITAT currently supports only the English language. Future versions will include additional languages. (*ii*) Currently, we focus on single-turn QA for scientific tables and texts in SCITAT. Multiturn dialogues on scientific tables and text will be explored in future work.

535 Ethics Statement

All datasets and models used in this paper are publicly available, and our utilization of them strictly complies with their respective licenses and terms of use.

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A Comparison with Previous Datasets

A.1 Comparison with Previous Scientific QA Datasets

Table 1 presents the comparison of SCITAT with previous scientific QA datasets. We first introduce the existing datasets. BioRead (Pappas et al., 2018) is a cloze-style QA dataset on the biomedical papers, which only conteains the reasoning type of Look Up and focuses only on the text. QASA (Lee et al., 2023) is QA datasets on papers in AI and ML fields, but only concentrates on the text in papers, and lack the reasoning type of Tabulation. SciGen (Moosavi et al., 2021) aims to generate descriptions according to the tables in the papers in the field of Computer Science. SciTab (Lu et al., 2023) aims to judge the claims according to the scientific tables in the field of Computer Science, which only contains the reasoning types of Lok Up and Numerical Reasoning. SPIQA (Pramanick et al., 2024) is mulmimodal QA dataset on the scientific papers, which only focus on the split text and tables, ignoring the relevance between tables and text, and lacking the reasoning type of Data Analysis and Tabulation. It can be seen that SC-ITAT contains more diverse reasoning types and consider the relevance between tables and text.

A.2 Comparison with Previous QA Datasets for Tables and Text

Table 7 present the comparison of SCITAT with previous QA datasets over tabular and textual data and scientific QA datasets. It can be seen that SCITAT contains more diverse and closer to reallife user questions.

B Prompt

1020In this section, we show the prompts we use to1021synthesize data and conduct experiments.

B.1 Prompt for Generating Data

Table 8 provides the prompt for generating questions, rationales, and answers when constructing SCITAT.

B.2 Prompt for Experiments

Table 9 shows the prompt to build the baselines in our experiments, and Table 10 shows the prompt used by CAR.

C Manual Annotation Procedure

C.1 Annotator Training Process

We recruit students from Computer Science or Ar-1032 tificial Intelligence programs who are willing to 1033 participate in the annotation task, offering a com-1034 pensation of \$1 per instance. Initially, we provide a 1035 detailed explanation of the task, including its defini-1036 tion, the specific responsibilities of the annotators, 1037 and how to use the annotation interface. We thor-1038 oughly explain the requirements for the questions, 1039 rationales, and answers, as well as how to select 1040 the source of the answers, as stated in §2.3. Ad-1041 ditionally, we provide three examples and explain 1042 possible scenarios that might arise. Finally, we 1043 clarify the annotation deadline and inform them 1044 that the data will undergo additional checks. To 1045 promptly detect any errors or biases in the annota-1046 tions, we sent the data in batches. After the two-1047 round validation on the already annotated data, we 1048 communicate with the annotators to address any 1049 issues and proceed to send the next batch of data. 1050

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C.2 Statistics of the Manual Annotation Procedure

On average, annotating a single data point required 10 minutes per annotator. The annotation process for the 953 instances was completed in approximately two months. The first round of annotations was conducted by 10 annotators, with two additional annotators performing two-round validation.

C.3 Annotating Interface

The annotation process is conducted using a custom tool developed by us. Figure 7, Figure 8, Figure 9, and Figure 10 show the overall user interface for the manual annotation.

D Case Study for Error Analysis

In this section, we show examples of different error types, as shown in Figure 11, Figure 12, Figure 13, Figure 14, and Figure 15.

E Additional Experiments

E.1 Statistics of The Number of Output Tokens

In this section, we show the comparison of the
number of tokens output by different methods and
the number of tokens of gold answers. (i) It can
be found that the number of tokens output by PoT
is consistently lower than that of other methods,1071
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Dataset	Domain		Reasoning	Туре		R
		Look Up	Numerical Reasoning	Data Analysis	Tabulation	-
HybridQA (Chen et al., 2020)	Wiki	1	X	×	×	X
TAT-QA (Zhu et al., 2021)	Finance	1	✓	×	×	X
FinQA (Chen et al., 2021)	Finance	X	✓	×	×	X
DocMath-Eval (Zhao et al., 2024b)	Finance	1	✓	×	×	1
SciTaT	Science	1	1	1	1	1

Table 7: Comparison of SCITAT to recent QA datasets over tabular and textual data. Wiki denotes Wikipedia, and R denotes Rationale.

Table} Paragraph}	
You are a highly intelligent and obedient academic field question generation system.	
Generate a question referring to the table and paragraph above which meets the requirements in t	the questio
description "{Type}".	
The generated question must meet:	
. The question should be with fewer statements and more reasoning and calculation.	
2. The question must be answerable based on the paragraph alone, and not answerable only based on	the table.
3. The question must meet the question description.	
4. Do not generate multiple questions or sub-questions at once.	
Examples:	
Examples}	
The prompt for Generating Rationales and Answers	
Table }	
Paragraph }	
Based on the information in the Table and Paragraph, please answer the question "{Question}".	
Represent your answer with: "Reason: <your reason=""> Answer: <your answer="">"</your></your>	
f there are multiple questions, you need to answer them one by one, and the answers are separated by	, "
Examples:	
Examples }	

Table 8: The prompts for generating the questions, rationales, and answers of SCITAT.

whether it is a short-form answer or a free-form an-1076 swer, which explains to a certain extent the reason 1077 why PoT has low performance, especially on the 1078 free-form answers. (ii) On the contrary, the num-1079 ber of tokens output by the Direct QA is generally 1080 high, which also reveals the reason why its EM is 1081 1082 0 on the short-form answers. (iii) And CAR is the closest in quantity to the number of tokens of gold 1083 answer, which shows that CAR can adapt to obtain 1084 answers of various reasoning types. 1085

The prompt for DirectQA

Based on the information in the Table and Paragraph, you should answer the question. If there are multiple questions, you need to answer them one by one, and the answers are separated by "

. Table (including its label, caption, and content): {Table} Paragraph: {Paragraph}

Please answer the question "{Question}".

The prompt for CoT

Based on the information in the Table and Paragraph, you should answer the question. Represent your answer with: "Reason: <Your Reason> Answer: <Your Answer>". If there are multiple questions, you need to answer them one by one, and the answers are separated by "

".

Table (including its label, caption and content): {Table} Paragraph: {Paragraph}

Please answer the question "{Question}".

The prompt for PoT

Table (including its label, caption and content): {Table} Paragraph: {Paragraph} Read the above Table and Paragraph, and then write code to answer the question "{Question}". Please **directly use** the information such as numbers in tables and paragraphs, do not define tables and then process them. You must return the answer 'ans = ' at the end of the code instead of 'print'. Attention that if there are multiple questions, you need to answer them one by one, and the answers are separated by

"

Table 9: The prompts for baselines.

The prompt for Calculator

Table (including its label, caption, and content): {Table} Paragraph: {Paragraph} Read the above Table and Paragraph, and then write code to answer the question "{Question}". Please **directly use** the information such as numbers in tables and paragraphs, do not define tables and then process them. You must return the answer 'ans = ' at the end of the code instead of 'print'. You cannot return just one or a few numbers or words, you must return a complete sentence.

The prompt for Reasoner

Based on the Table and Paragraph with the Tips, you should answer the question. Please determine whether the tips are correct, use the tips reasonably in Reason, and organize the Answer into an appropriate form. Represent your answer with: "Reason: <Your Reason> Answer: <Your Answer>". Attention that if there are multiple questions, you need to answer them one by one, and the answers are separated by

".

Table (including its label, caption, and content): {Table} Paragraph: {Paragraph} Tips: {Tips} Please answer the question "{Question}".

Table 10: The prompts for CAR.

Now on Page 1, total 222 pages	Select the Specific Page
Aready annotated 0 / 222 instances	
Paper Information	
URL: http://arxiv.org/pdf/2006.08332v1	
Reasoning Type: Domain knowledge Caculation	
Question: Based on the information provided in the paragraph and the table, if the Statistical Machine Translation system's parallel sentences and achieves a BLEU score of 41, estimate the BLEU score improvement necessary for the Proposed neurosystem to achieve an average BLEU score improvement of 10% across similar datasets.	
Predicted Answer: Reason: The Statistical Machine Translation (SMT) system has a BLEU score of 41. A 10% improvement mean a BLEU score improvement of 10% of 41. Therefore, the necessary BLEU score improvement for the Proposed neural r system over the SMT system would be 0.10 * 41. Answer: 4.1 (an improvement to a BLEU score of 45.1 is needed for a 10% in	machine translation
Paragraph	
\section {Sanskrit Hindi Machine Translation Systems} \label{Sanskrit Hindi Machine Translation Systems} The comparison proposed system are shown in Table. \ref{tab:comp} \begin{itemize} \subsection{Sanskrit-Hindi Anusaarka-2009} \item Ap \textbf{rule based} MT system \cite{bharati2009anusaaraka}. \item The insights for the system are taken from Panini's Ash Developed By:Chinmaya International Foundation (CIF), Indian Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad (IIIT-H) and at Department of Sanskrit Studies. \item Tool:\textbf{Samsadhani} It is a Language accessor cum machine translation syste the following encodings Unicode-Devanagari, WX-alphabetic, Itrans 5.3, Velthuis (VH), Harward Kyoto (KH), Sanskrit Libra can be displayed in either Devanagari script or in Roman Diacritical Notation. The system has a Sanskrit language analyser	proach:It is a tadhyayi. \item University of Hyderabad em. Input can be of an of ry Project (SLP). Output

Figure 7: The user interface, showing the paper information and the paragraph.

Tables

Table 1:

Label: tab:comp

Caption: Comparison of Sanskrit Hindi Translation systems

\textbf{Sanskrit-Hindi (Rule Based)}	\textbf{Sanskrit-Hindi (Statistical)}	Sanskrit Hindi (Proposed)}
The system fails when extended to large domains. It is developed for domains like kids stories, building interactive media and e-learning substance for kids.	Sanskrit-Hindi text corpora has been collected or developed manually from the literature, health, news and tourism domains.	The proposed system is based on neural machine translation technique that covers all domains in general based on the dataset used.
Hand crafted rules based on Panini's Ashtadhyayi.	Based on Bayes theorem. Similar words assigned random numbers.	Word embedding used, similar words have close numbers.
Separate modules like tokenizer, sandhi splitter, morph analyser, parser, word sense disambiguation, part of speech tagger, chunker, Hindi lexical transfer and a Hindi language generator used to get translation.	SMT system have three separate main components-The translation model, reordering model, and the language model.SMT would evaluate fluency of a sentence in a target language a few words at a time using N-gram language model.	Proposed system learns complex relationship between languages as one single model. Proposed model considers the entire sentence.

Figure 8: The user interface, showing the tables.

Annotation Information	
Correct Reasoning Type	
Arithemetic Caculation	~
levised Question	
Based on the information provided in the paragraph and the table, if the Statistical Machine Translation system's dataset consists of 24k para achieves a BLEU score of 41, estimate the BLEU score improvement necessary for the Proposed neural machine translation system to achieve	
Revised Rationale	
Reason: The Statistical Machine Translation (SMT) system has a BLEU score of 41. A 10% improvement over this score would mean a BLEU sc 10% of 41. Therefore, the necessary BLEU score improvement for the Proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system would be a statement of the proposed neural machine translation system over the SMT system over the system over	
levised Answer	
4.1	

Figure 9: The user interface, showing the annotation information.

Answer From	
Table	~
Select Relevant Tables	
✓ tab:comp	
If Remain: Remain Remove	

Figure 10: The user interface, showing the choice for the answer source, relevant tables, and if to remain.

α values, from tho the SZ-E derived f In any c	that se obs co-bas rom is ase, 7	the clus servable sed netw nformal Table 7	ter values of for Wikiped orks. Textbo language ne also shows t	textbook-bas dia corpora-b ook-based To wspaper arti- that all value ceptions: the	sed networks based network CNs are aga cles about t e distributio	s become see rks – the sa in hardly dis opics related ons along th	emingly indis me observat stinguishable l to economi e x and y a	ve, for higher stinguishable ion concerns e from TCNs ccs (SZ-Eco). axis are now more corpus	Question: Which tables illustrate the indistinguish ability of textbook-based networks from Wikipedia corpora-based networks for higher \$\\alpha\$ values, and how does the paragraph support this observation?
SZ-All SZ-Eco TB WP-All WP-Eco WP-Top-1	SZ-All	SZ-Eco 1.332,3 × 10 	TB -15 6.661,3 × 10 ⁻¹ 2.133,0 × 10 ⁻¹ 	WP-All -16 3.774,8 × 10 ⁻¹⁷	WP-Eco ⁵ 3.774,8 × 10 ⁻¹⁵ ⁵ 1.554,3 × 10 ⁻¹⁵	$1.332.3 \times 10^{-15}$	WP-Top-3 2.164,6 × 10 ⁻²⁹⁹ 1.332,3 × 10 ⁻¹⁵ 6.661,3 × 10 ⁻¹⁶ 0.000,2 6.944,0 × 10 ⁻⁰⁵ 0.477,5	$\begin{array}{c} \hline \textbf{Zeit-All} \\ \hline 1.443,3 \times 10^{-15} \\ 1.110,2 \times 10^{-16} \\ 1.554,3 \times 10^{-15} \\ 2.109,4 \times 10^{-15} \\ 2.109,4 \times 10^{-15} \\ 1.443,3 \times 10^{-15} \\ \end{array}$	Predicted Answer: WP-All vs WP-Eco, WP-Top-1 vs WP-Top-3, and WP-Top-1 vs WP-Top-3.
WP-Top-3 Zeit-All	-	-	Ξ		alues:	Ξ	-	1.443,3 × 10 ⁻¹⁵	Gold Answer: Table tab:cws-x
SZ-All SZ-Eco TB WP-All WP-Top-1 WP-Top-3 Zeit-All Table 7:	SZ-All	1.000,0	6.661,3 × 10 ⁻¹⁶ 1.221,2 × 10 ⁻¹⁵ 	$3.774.8 \times 10^{-15}$ $1.554.3 \times 10^{-15}$ $1.176.7 \times 10^{-09}$ 	WP-Eco 3.774,8 × 10 ⁻¹⁵ 1.554,3 × 10 ⁻¹⁵ 5.162,5 × 10 ⁻¹⁴ 6.728,1 × 10 ⁻⁰⁵ 	WP-Top-1 1.086,4 × 10 ⁻⁵⁴ 1.332,3 × 10 ⁻¹⁵ 1.477,7 × 10 ⁻¹¹ 3.734,6 × 10 ⁻⁰⁵ 4.078,8 × 10 ⁻¹¹ —	WP-Top-3 2.445,3 × 10 ⁻⁷¹ 1.332,3 × 10 ⁻¹⁵ 4.872,1 × 10 ⁻¹⁶ 0.012,6 3.815,2 × 10 ⁻⁰⁶ 0.000,9 —	$\begin{array}{c} \hline \textbf{Zeit-All} \\ \hline 1.443,3 \times 10^{-15} \\ 1.110,2 \times 10^{-16} \\ 1.767,3 \times 10^{-10} \\ 7.908,8 \times 10^{-12} \\ 2.109,4 \times 10^{-15} \\ 1.042,1 \times 10^{-12} \\ 3.153,0 \times 10^{-14} \\ - \hline \end{array}$	The paragraph mentions that for higher \$\\alpha\$ values, that the cluster values of textbook-based networks become seemingly indistinguishable from those observable for Wikipedia corpora-based networks.

Figure 11: The case for the error type of "Miss".

We propose two ca ndividual can acquire	by the a	ge of 23.	The res	ilts are giv	en in Table I	. We f	irst es		
laily acquisition time,	then we	deduce th	e number	of sentend	es acquired a	nnually			
			awake	occ.	Cumul. pe	r year	Millio	on sent.)	
	Age	Sleep	time	sent.	Analysis 1		Analys		Question:
		Hours	-2H	per day	bi-sent.	L1	L2	bi-sent.	How does the calculated cumulative number of bi-sentences by the en
Infant	1	16	6	5,760	1.1	1.1			
Young child	2	16	6	5,760	2.1	3.2			of a Bachelor's degree differ between Analysis 1 and Analysis 2 based
	3	14	8	7,680	3.5	6.0			; on the interpretation of the data in Table \ref{tab1}?
	4~5	12	10	9,600	5.3	9.5			
Beg.prim.school	6	12	10	9,600	8.8	16.5			Predicted Answer:
	7~9	11	11	10,560	10.7	20.3			We cannot calculate the difference between Analysis 1 and Analysis 2
End prim. school	10	11	11	10,560	16.5	31.9			based on the data in Table \\ref{tab1}.
	11	10	12	11,520	18.6	36.1			
	12	10	12	11,520	20.7	40.3			Gold Answer:
	13	9	13	12,480	23.0	44.9			
End middle school	14~17	8	14	13,440	25.4	49.8			Analysis 1 is 42.6 million, and Analysis 2 is 3.7 million; the difference is
End high school	18	8	14	13,440	35.2	69.4			38.9 million bi-sentences.
	$19 \sim 20$	8	14	13,440	37.7	70.6	1.2	1.2	1 '
End Bachelor	$21 \sim 22$	8	14	13,440	42.6	73.1	3.7	3.7	
End Master	23	8	14	13,440	47.5	75.5	6.1	6.1	

Figure 12: The case for the error type of "Grounding".

The results from the COMPAS dataset are detailed in Fig. 3, where minority population density, disparity, and loss measures are shown. In this scenario, the optimal control method shows comparable performance to RL-based algorithms. Specifically, TRPO and PPO reach a terminal state with a loss value of 0.574, which achieves the same level of performance compared to the proposed optimal control method. This similarity in performance is attributed to the lesser disparity in representation between different gender attributes within the COMPAS dataset.

Table 3: COMPAS: Terminal State with Initial $\lambda_0^1 = 0.6$ and $\lambda_0^2 = 0.4$									
Environment M_1^*									
Fair-agnostic Fair-aware Dynamic-aware									
	ERM	Minimax	DRO	\mathbf{PG}	TRPO	PPO	Optim		
Density-2 \uparrow	0.271	0.256	0.184	0.263	0.264	0.257	0.274		
Disparity \downarrow	0.522	0.529	0.153	0.435	0.489	0.442	0.516		
Loss \downarrow	0.770	0.803	1.391	0.848	0.808	0.858	0.764		
		Envi	ronment	M_2^*					
	Fair-agnostic	Fair-a	ware	D	Dynamic-aware				
	ERM	Minimax	DRO	PG	TRPO	PPO	Optim		
Density-2 \uparrow	0.316	0.298	0.075	0.317	0.317	0.317	0.317		
Disparity \downarrow	0.684	0.702	0.925	0.863	0.683	0.683	0.683		
$\mathrm{Loss}\downarrow$	0.577	0.605	1.296	0.594	0.574	0.574	0.574		

Question: Which algorithm ranks the highest in terms of minimizing both disparity and loss across Environment \$M^{\\ast}_2\$? Predicted Answer: TRPO Gold Answer: TRPO, PPO, and Optim

E. 12	TT1	6		
Figure 15:	The case	for the error	type of	'Calculation".

In particular, given a graph, we first extract all cycles out of it. Then, all edges that are not inside the cycles are considered motifs. We consider combining cycles with more than two coincident nodes into a motif. Although this method cannot extract complex motifs like single-input and multi-input motifs, it can generate the most important motifs, such as ring structures in biochemical molecules and the feed-forward loop motif. By adopting this simple but general motif extraction method, we can explain a GNN model without any domain knowledge, making our explanation model more applicable. Need to be noted that, even though the motif extraction rule cannot extract singleinput and multi-input motifs, these motifs can be implicitly identified by our attention layer. Experiments in the table 2 demonstrate it.

Question: Using the explanation method described in the paragraph, calculate the number of motifs in a biochemical molecule represented by a graph where all nodes form a single ring and there are no other connecting edges outside this cycle.	
Predicted Answer: 1	
Gold Answer: 0	

Results on guantitative studies for different explanation methods. Note that since the Sparsity cannot be fully controlled, we report Fidelity scores
(The less the better) under similar Sparsity levels for five real-world datasets. For two synthetic datasets, BA-Shape and BA-2Motif, we report
accuracy. S is the sparsity value. K is the maximum number of edges required by baseline models. Our MotifExplainer does not need this required
hyper-parameter. The best performances on each dataset are shown in bold .

ł		MUTAG S=0.7	PTC S=0.7	NCI1 S=0.7	PROTEINS S=0.7	IMDB S=0.7	BA-2Motif K=5	s BA-Shape K=5
<u>.</u>				(Fidelity)			. (A	ccuracy)
Ľ	GNNExplainer	0.260	0.441	0.365	0.453	0.365	0.742	0.925
ι.	PGExplainer	0.241	0.388	0.402	0.521	0.225	0.926	0.963
i.	SubgraphX	0.287	0.227	0.303	0.021	0.167	0.774	0.874
i.	ReFine	0.221	0.349	0.409	0.435	0.127	0.932	0.954
Ł	MotifExplainer	0.031	0.129	0.115	-0.030	0.101	1.0	1.0

Figure 14: The case for the error type of "Knowledge".

4 X	AI Queries as Computation Problems	
from (Au	tion, we consider successively the 9 XAI queries demard, Koriche, and Marquis 2020), as listed in ad we present them in formal terms.	Question: If the task requires solving EMC and DPI queries successively, with EMC taking 10 minutes and DPI taking 5 minutes, what is the total time taken
XAI query	Description	to perform 3 EMC queries and 2 DPI queries?
EMC DPI ECO	Enumerating Minimum-Cardinality explanations Deriving one Prime Implicant explanation Enumerating COunterfactual explanations	Predicted Answer: 3 EMC queries take 3 x 10 = 30 minutes, and 2 DPI queries take 2 x 5 =
CIN EIN	Counting the INstances associated with a given class Enumerating the INstances associated with a given class	10 minutes. Therefore, the total time taken to perform 3 EMC queries and 2 DPI queries is 30 + 10 = 40 minutes.
IMA IIR	Identifying MAndatory features or forbidden features in a given class Identifying IRrelevant features in a given class	Gold Answer: 40 minutes
IMO MCP	Identifying MOnotone (or anti-monotone) features in a given class Measuring Closeness of a class to a Prototype	
	Table 1: Some XAI queries.	

Figure 15: The case for the error type of "Redundancy".

Model	Scale	Method	Long-c Short-form Answers		Short-c Short-form Answers	
-	-	Gold Answer	1.5	45.1	1.5	45.1
	8B	Direct QA CoT PoT CAR	$ \begin{array}{c c} 120.3 \\ 35.8 \\ 5.3 \\ 24.3 \end{array} $	$ 197.7 \\ 75.4 \\ 26.6 \\ 54.8 $	$ \begin{array}{c c} 109.3 \\ 23.3 \\ 2.8 \\ 21.4 \end{array} $	$ 135.1 \\ 74.4 \\ 25.1 \\ 53.8 $
Llama3.1	70B	Direct QA CoT PoT CAR	$ \begin{array}{c c} 118.9 \\ 5.9 \\ 3.6 \\ 17.1 \end{array} $	$220.1 \\ 44.2 \\ 30.0 \\ 43.5$	$ \begin{array}{c} 118.9 \\ 14.3 \\ 3.3 \\ 16.5 \end{array} $	$220.1 \\ 46.2 \\ 36.4 \\ 43.0$
gpt-4o	-	Direct QA CoT PoT CAR	151.2 30.1 3.0 10.6	$213.2 \\ 84.5 \\ 24.4 \\ 67.0$	$ \begin{array}{c} 105.7 \\ 20.7 \\ 4.6 \\ 10.6 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} 141.6\\ 69.1\\ 52.4\\ 82.4 \end{array} $

Table 11: Statistics of the number of tokens of gold answers and different results.