# SWE-SQL: Illuminating LLM Pathways to Solve User SQL Issues in Real-World Applications

### **Abstract**

Resolution of complex SQL issues persists as a significant bottleneck in realworld database applications. Current Large Language Models (LLMs), while adept at text-to-SQL translation, have not been rigorously evaluated on the more challenging task of debugging on SQL issues. In order to address this gap, we introduce BIRD-CRITIC, a new SQL issue debugging benchmark comprising 530 carefully curated PostgreSQL tasks (BIRD-CRITIC-PG) and 570 multi-dialect tasks (BIRD-CRITIC-MULTI), which are distilled from authentic user issues and replayed within new environments to facilitate rigorous and contamination-free evaluation. Baseline evaluations on BIRD-CRITIC underscore the task's complexity, with the leading reasoning model O3-MINI achieving only 38.87% success rate on BIRD-CRITIC-PG and 33.33% on BIRD-CRITIC-MULTI. Meanwhile, realizing open-source models for database tasks is crucial which can empower local development while safeguarding data privacy. Therefore, we present SIX-GYM (Sql-fIX-Gym), a training environment for elevating the capabilities of open-source models specifically for SQL issue debugging. This environment leverages SQL-**Rewind** strategy, which automatically generates executable issue-solution datasets by reverse-engineering issues from verified SQLs. However, popular trajectorybased fine-tuning methods do not explore substantial supervisory signals. We further propose f-Plan Boosting, which extracts high-level debugging plans automatically from SQL solutions, enabling the teacher LLMs to harvest and produce 73.7% more successful trajectories for training. We integrate these components into an open-source agent, BIRD-FIXER. Based on Qwen-2.5-Coder-14B, BIRD-FIXER raises its success rate to 38.11% on BIRD-CRITIC-PG and 29.65% on BIRD-CRITIC-MULTI, surpassing many leading proprietary models such as Claude-3.7-Sonnet and GPT-4.1, marking a significant step toward democratizing sophisticated SQL-debugging capabilities for both research and industry.

### 1 Introduction

Relational Databases (RDBs) serve as the bedrock for data storage and information retrieval across countless modern applications, ranging from financial systems to web services and scientific research

<sup>\*</sup>Equal contribution. † Corresponding author.

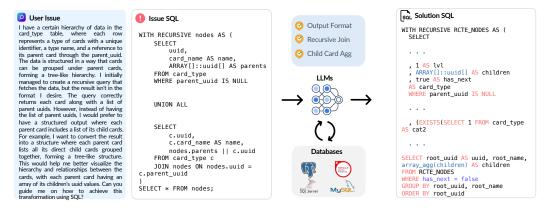


Figure 1: Illustration of the SQL issue debugging process in BIRD-CRITIC. It should start with a user issue query (left) and issue SQL query (center-left), LLMs will produce a corrected SQL solution (right) based on reasoning and interaction with the environment.

platforms [9, 37, 21, 38]. Structured Query Language (SQL), as the standard language for interacting with these systems, is thus a critical interface for data manipulation, querying, and administration [3, 2]. Despite its widespread adoption and apparent simplicity for basic operations, mastering SQL and troubleshooting complex queries or unexpected behaviors remains a significant challenge for users of all experience levels. The complexity of query semantics, diverse behaviors across different SQL operations (Create, Read, Update, Delete), evolving database features, and the need to understand underlying data schemas contribute to a steep learning curve and frequent user issues.

Resolving these SQL issues often demands considerable manual efforts, domain expertise, and time, representing a significant bottleneck in data-driven workflows and software development cycles [1, 27, 13, 43, 14]. Support forums, Q&A sites, and internal helpdesks, such as StackOverflow, are replete with user requests seeking assistance in debugging faulty queries, optimizing performance, or understanding why a query generates unexpected results. Therefore, automating this process holds huge value in improving productivity and reducing reliance on specialized human experts.

Recent advancements in Large Language Models (LLMs) have demonstrated remarkable capabilities in natural language understanding and code generation [6, 57, 8, 41, 54], notably achieving impressive results in converting natural language descriptions into SQL queries (text-to-SQL) [26, 49, 31, 24]. However, diagnosing and fixing existing incorrect or suboptimal SQL code presents more complex challenges. As shown in Figure 1, debugging such issues requires not only understanding the user's intent, often in a verbose and long-context description, but also analyzing the query logic underneath, identifying subtle errors, and intensively interacting with the database schema. Despite the practical importance of this task, the capabilities of current LLMs in SQL issue resolution have not been systematically investigated.

In this work, we are targeting to bridge this critical gap by two primary contributions. First, we present **BIRD-CRITIC**, a carefully curated benchmark built from authentic StackOverflow bug-fix threads. It comes in two subsets: (1) BIRD-CRITIC-PG with 530 PostgreSQL-only tasks, and (2) BIRD-**CRITIC-MULTI**, whose 570 tasks are distributed across 4 major dialects: PostgreSQL and MySQL as open-source databases, SOL Server and Oracle as community-friendly cloud-based platforms with free developer editions. Each task undergoes rigorous reconstruction where the underlying knowledge structures and debugging heuristics are extracted, and the scenario is reproduced within a controlled sandbox environment by new RDBs and conditions. This process ensures that tasks remain relevant while minimizing potential exposure to pre-training data. Furthermore, execution accuracy (EX) in standard text-to-SQL is inadequate for the diverse types of issues in BIRD-CRITIC, frequently leading to false negatives. Specifically, tasks involving database state changes, i.e., via Data Manipulation Language (DML) or Data Definition Language operations (DDL), frequently permit multiple functionally equivalent solutions that may differ syntactically or include non-impacting elements [56, 4]; reliance on strict EX matching would incorrectly penalize such valid SQL solutions. Therefore, each task is augmented with custom evaluation scripts containing specific test cases designed to evaluate functional correctness, enabling precise calculation of task success rates. Our baseline evaluations on BIRD-CRITIC underscore the complexity of SQL issue debugging, in which

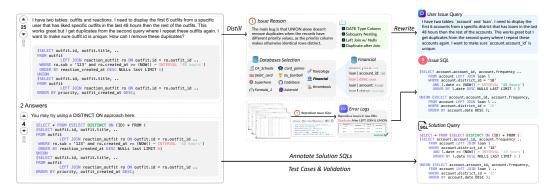


Figure 2: Example task structure within the BIRD-CRITIC benchmark, demonstrating the transformation from a user-reported issue and error SQL to a revised SQL solution.

even advanced reasoning models, O3-mini, only achieves a 38.87% success rate on BIRD-CRITIC-PG and 33.33% on BIRD-CRITIC-MULTI.

Second, inspired by prior work on code generation environments [30], we propose SIX-GYM (SQL-FIX-GYM), a training environment designed to enhance the SQL debugging capabilities of open-source models. A core innovation within SIX-GYM is the **SQL-Rewind** strategy, an automated methodology for generating large-scale, executable issue-solution datasets. This strategy operates by taking verified, correct SQL queries and systematically introducing plausible errors, effectively reverse-engineering realistic debugging scenarios. A common practice [30, 18] of such environments involves using an advanced teacher LLM to generate successful task execution trajectories for finetuning student smaller models. However, we find that this approach underutilizes the guidance available from ground-truth or reference solutions, potentially limiting the quantity and diversity of effective training trajectories. To address this, we introduce the **Functional Plan** (f-plan) **Boosting** strategy. This method first infers the underlying debugging logic by comparing the problematic SQL and the correct solution, representing this logic as a step-by-step pseudo-functional code plan. Afterwards, guided by this f-plan, a teacher LLM employs our designed agent scaffold, **SQL-ACT**, to execute the debugging task within the environment. This plan-guided approach generates a significant 73.7% increase in more successful trajectories, providing richer data for fine-tuning open-source models, particularly smaller ones, to effectively interact with the database environment and debug complex SQL issues. The agent fine-tuned using this f-plan boosted data is termed BIRD-FIXER.

Our experiments demonstrate that BIRD-FIXER significantly enhances the performance of open-source models from various families. Notably, BIRD-FIXER fine-tuned on <code>Qwen-2.5-Coder-14B</code> achieves a 38.11% Success Rate (SR) on BIRD-CRITIC-PG and 29.65% on BIRD-CRITIC-MULTI, surpassing the performance of the highly capable models such as Claude-3.7-Sonnet and GPT-4.1. This result marks a significant advancement towards democratizing sophisticated SQL debugging capabilities for both research and practical industry applications.

# 2 Problem Definition

In this paper, we introduce a more complex but realistic task of SQL issue resolution. This task starts with a user-provided issue SQL query  $\sigma_{issue}$ , a natural language problem description  $\mathcal{P}$  detailing the issue and intent, and the database schema  $\mathcal{S}$ . The goal is to generate a revised SQL query ( $\sigma_{pred}$ ) that corrects the fault while preserving the user's intent. This mapping is:

$$\sigma_{\text{pred}} = f_{\theta}(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{\text{issue}}).$$
 (1)

The desired output  $\sigma_{pred}$  must satisfy the user's underlying intentions as inferred from the triplet  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{issue})$ . In BIRD-CRITIC, we annotated referenced ground-truth solution SQLs as  $\sigma^*$  and develop tailored evaluation scripts (detailed in Section 3) for each task, enabling precise evaluation of the functional correctness of predicted solution SQLs.

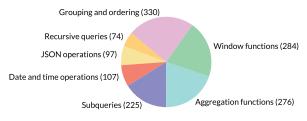


Figure 3: Distribution of issue categories in all BIRD-CRITIC, derived from an analysis of SQL usage in the real-world database applications. A detailed distribution is in Appendix E.

Table 1: Data Characteristics

STATISTIC	PG	MULTI
Total Issues	530	570
# of query-like issues	291	304
# of management issues	88	104
# of personalization issues	151	162
user query length (mean/max)	162.98/1046	165.75/1058
issue SQL length (mean/max)	133.29/1262	125.86/1254
solution SQL length (mean/max)	112.64/853	117.46/859
# distinct test cases	365	317
# of preprocess SQLs	643	571
# of clean_up SQLs	287	262
inter-agreement	94.53	92.98

# 3 BIRD-CRITIC Benchmark

**Annotator Group.** BIRD-CRITIC is developed via a multi-stage annotation converting raw user issues into executable, verifiable tasks. This involves two annotation groups: 1) 10 qualified database/SQL annotators, who pass strict entry test as detailed in Appendix B.1 and systematic training shown in Appendix B.2 to promise the quality of annotation; 2) 3 senior database experts/scientists for final data collection decision. This process is visually outlined in Figure 2.

**Environment Setup.** We leverage relational databases from the BIRD-SQL development set [26] chosen for its domain diversity across real data-science tasks (California Schools, Financial, Superheroes) and its permissive license. We migrate their original SQLite schemas to PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQL Server, and Oracle, four widely used production-grade dialects. During migration, we go beyond direct dialect translation by refining table and column names. We adjust data types and introduce guarded alterations to schema components to reduce potential information leakage (see Appendix A.2). To pair these databases with realistic debugging scenarios, we collect SQL issue queries from Stack Overflow, following a strict protocol shown in Appendix A.3.

Issue Reproduction. Following the initial collection of candidate issues, we start reproducing them in our environment in following produces as illustrated in Figure 2: (1) Distilling Intent and Error: Precisely identifying the user's underlying goal and the specific reason of the issue exhibited by  $\sigma_{\text{issue}}$ . The core reason of the issue is documented. (2) Schema Mapping: Assigning the issue to one of the adapted BIRD-SQL database schemas (S) that provides a suitable context for the problem. (3) Reproducibility Verification: We adapt and execute  $\sigma_{\text{issue}}$  against the chosen database, verifying through execution logs that the error appears as expected. This entire process transforms a potentially ambiguous web forum post into a standardized, reproducible problem instance  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{\text{issue}})$  ready for solution annotation.

**Solution SQL & Evaluation Script Annotation.** Annotators carefully review the reproduced issue  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{issue})$  and craft a new  $\sigma^*$ . This annotation requires ensuring that  $\sigma^*$  can accurately fulfill the user's objective as inferred from  $\mathcal{P}$  and the context of  $\sigma_{issue}$ . Also, to ensure robust evaluation, each task is annotated with evaluation scripts consisting of specific test cases written by Python and SQLs. Details can be found in Appendix C. We report the **Success Rate** (**SR** %), considering a task solved only when  $\sigma_{pred}$  successfully passes **all** test cases in its evaluation script.

**Validation.** After annotation, BIRD-CRITIC undergoes cross-validation, with annotators exchanging data for review. This verification involves three steps: (1) enhancing test case functions with additional test cases for robust SQL code validation; (2) *red teaming* the SQL by introducing errors to make sure evaluation scripts can flag these errors. (3) Annotators first attempt to resolve disagreements through discussion. Persistent issues are escalated to the expert team for final determination, which may involve modification or rejection of the disputed annotation.

**Benchmark Statistics.** Table 1 summarizes the key properties of the BIRD-CRITIC benchmark, and Figure 3 visualizes the distribution of its underlying knowledge categories. The distribution of benchmark, is detailed in Appendix E. A side-by-side comparison with standard text-to-SQL benchmarks (Table 6 in Appendix E.1) exposes three distinctive challenges introduced by BIRD-CRITIC: non-query-like problems, multi-dialect complexities, and the most verbose but authentic user

queries. As far as we know, BIRD-CRITIC is the first debugging benchmark for SQL applications. These aspects establish BIRD-CRITIC as a crucial benchmark for rigorously evaluating LLM proficiency in solving authentic SQL issues.

# 4 SIX-GYM: An Automated SQL Debugging Environment for LLMs

This section introduces SIX-GYM, a dedicated training environment for enhancing the SQL debugging capabilities of LLMs. This environment is built upon **SQL-Rewind**, which is responsible for the automated generation of a comprehensive suite of SQL issue instances.

**Overview.** GYM-like datasets have proven effective for training LLMs as agents for complex tasks [30]. However, manually collecting and annotating these datasets is labor-intensive and difficult to scale, especially for debugging tasks. Thus, we introduce **SQL-Rewind**, which addresses this by inverting the debugging paradigm: starting with correct SQL queries ( $\sigma^*$ ) and systematically introducing realistic issues to generate issue SQLs ( $\sigma_{issue}$ ) and user issue query  $\mathcal{P}$ . This approach enables efficient creation of large-scale training data without human annotation. The pseudo-algorithm is shown in Appendix H.1.

**Solution SQL Collection.** We begin with raw StackOverflow issue data and enforce two principles against data overlap: (i) any issue used to construct BIRD-CRITIC tasks is excluded from SIX-GYM, and (ii) SQL-Rewind operates only on the 12 databases in the training databases of BIRD-SQL, while BIRD-CRITIC evaluation is confined to databases drawn solely from the BIRD-SQL dev set. We mine new candidate SQLs via rule-based regular expressions, then leverage Gemini-2.0-Flash to align table and column references to 12 databases in SIX-GYM, while preserving the original SQL's logical structure. To validate these adapted SQL queries as ground truth solutions, each was executed against its target database; only those queries that completed without error and yielded a non-null result were accepted into our final corpus of solution SQLs ( $\sigma^*$ ).

Synthetic Issue Generation and Automated Verification. We employ Gemini-2.0-Flash to automate the entire process of issue reproduction and verification. Initially, the model summarizes issue reasons  $(r_{issue})$  and modifies solution SQL  $(\sigma^*)$  to create issue SQL  $(\sigma_{issue})$  guided by  $r_{issue}$ . Concurrently, it generates evaluation scripts T comprising test cases designed to be passed by solution SQLs but failed by issue SQLs. The model then automatically validates whether the logic of triplet  $\langle \sigma_{issue}, r_{issue}, \sigma^* \rangle$  is coherent and whether the evaluation script accurately identifies errors while allowing solution SQLs to pass. This validation process undergoes 3 iterative refinements; if the components are deemed compatible, the data is added to our collection.

**User Issue Query Generation.** Finally, we employ Gemini-2.0-Flash again to simulate a realistic user issue description  $\mathcal{P}$ . The generated  $\mathcal{P}$  includes the user intent, issue description, and requirements. Each  $\mathcal{P}$  must be logically consistent with  $\langle \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{issue}, T, \sigma^* \rangle$ . It undergoes up to 3 rounds of optimization by the model to reduce hallucinations. The resulting tuples are collected as final data. Using this SQL-Rewind strategy, we successfully generate approximately 3,301 high-quality synthetic data instances, forming a training environment we term SIX-GYM.

# 5 BIRD-FIXER: Elevating Open-Source LLMs to an SQL Issue Fixer

### 5.1 Agent Scaffold: SQL-ACT

ReAct [46] interleaves internal reasoning (thoughts  $t_i$ ), external actions  $(a_i)$ , and observations  $(o_i)$ , and has proved highly effective for state-of-the-art code agents [30, 41, 42]. Building upon this paradigm, we introduce SQL-ACT, a specialized agent scaffold tailored for SQL tasks, particularly targeting challenges presented in benchmarks like BIRD-CRITIC. Unlike tool-based agents whose action space is restricted to a finite, hand-crafted set of operations, SQL-ACT treats arbitrary SQL commands as actions, dramatically enlarging the space of possible manipulations and enabling richer, more flexible debugging strategies.

At each step the agent emits a tuple  $(t_i, \sigma_i, o_i)$ , where  $\sigma_i$  is the SQL statement executed at step i. The complete execution trajectory is therefore  $\tau = ((t_1, \sigma_1, o_1), (t_2, \sigma_2, o_2), \dots, (t_n, \sigma_n, o_n))$ . As

Table 2: Success Rate (SR %) of different models on BIRD-CRITIC-PG and BIRD-CRITIC-MULTI, grouped by each issue and dialect categories. **Bold numbers indicate the highest score** in each column, and <u>underlined</u> numbers indicate the second highest. "Quer." = query-like issues, "Mana." = data-management issues, "Pers." = personalized-function issues. "PG." = PostgreSQL, "My." = MySQL, "Server" = SQL-Server.

Model	BIRD-CRITIC-PG				BIRD-CRITIC-MULTI				
1,2000	Quer.	Mana.	Pers.	Overall	PG.	My.	Server	Oracle	Overall
		Gene	ral-Pur	pose Mode	els				
Meta-Llama-3.1-8B	18.21	22.73	11.26	16.98	13.04	13.27	21.43	3.06	12.81
Phi-4	30.24	37.50	25.83	30.19	25.72	27.55	23.47	8.16	22.63
Deepseek-V3	25.09	35.23	28.48	27.74	27.17	26.53	21.43	14.29	23.86
Gemini-2.0-Flash	27.84	44.32	29.14	30.94	27.54	22.45	31.63	7.14	23.86
Meta-Llama-3.3-70B	27.84	32.95	27.81	28.68	26.81	22.45	28.57	14.29	24.21
Qwen2.5-Coder-32B	31.62	38.64	24.50	30.75	28.26	24.49	30.61	9.18	24.74
Claude-3.7-Sonnet	27.15	43.18	35.10	32.08	32.61	30.61	21.43	18.37	27.89
GPT-4.1	<u>31.27</u>	<u>55.68</u>	<u>38.41</u>	<u>37.36</u>	36.23	28.57	29.59	9.18	29.12
Reasoning Models									
Gemini-2.0-Flash-Thinking	27.15	53.41	33.11	33.21	28.99	35.71	37.76	19.39	30.00
Claude-3.7-Sonnet-Thinking	29.55	45.45	35.76	33.96	35.51	31.63	27.55	15.31	30.00
O1-Preview-2024-09-12	29.90	53.41	37.09	35.85	40.94	33.67	33.67	11.22	33.33
O3-Mini-2025-01-31	32.30	57.95	40.40	38.87	41.30	26.53	32.65	<u>18.37</u>	33.33

shown in Section 6.2, SQL-ACT is not only simpler to implement than TOOL-ACT but also delivers consistently higher accuracy in SQL issues solutions.

# 5.2 Trajectory Collection and Agent Fine-Tuning

**f-Plan Boosting.** The standard "gym-style" practice involves a strong teacher LLM on the environment and logs only those trajectories that reach the reference solution. In our experiments, running Gemini-2.0-Flash with SQL-ACT on SIX-GYM produces just 1,254 successful trajectories, which just utilizes 38.0% of the data.

To augment successful trajectories, we introduce **f-Plan Boosting**, a two-phase self-distillation loop:

- (1) Backward inference. Given the problem  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{\text{issue}})$  and its corrected query  $\sigma^*$ , the teacher annotates a step-by-step symbolic functional plan  $F = (f_1, \ldots, f_k)$ , where each  $f_i$  represents an abstract debugging operation that maps  $\sigma_{\text{issue}}$  toward  $\sigma^*$ . Since such plan contains few tokens yet exhibits more structured format, it is especially amenable to execution by LLMs [7, 20].
- (2) Forward validation. Using only the context  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{\text{issue}})$  and the candidate plan F, the teacher LLM regenerates a solution by SQL-ACT. The plan is accepted *iff* the regenerated solution SQL passes every test cases in T, producing a reliable pair  $\langle (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{\text{issue}}), F \rangle$ . After rollout we discard F and retain only the executable trace  $\tau' = ((t_1, \sigma_1, o_1), \dots, (t_n, \sigma_n, o_n))$ .

A single pass of f-Plan Boosting produces total 2,178 successful trajectories, an increase of **73.7%** over the vanilla collection pipeline, which we then use to fine-tune the open-source models via Low-Rank Adaptation (LoRA) [16].

Generative Thought Mode (GTM). The generalization of the agent can degrade when it predicts thoughts and actions jointly, because the model tends to overfit to the SQL patterns seen during fine-tuning. To counter this problem, we introduce a Generative Thought Mode (GTM), which explicitly decouples the two predictions, akin to how Skip-gram in Word2Vec separates target and context words [28]. Let  $M_O$  be the fine-tuned model,  $M_B$  the original base model, and  $H_{i-1} = ((t_1, \sigma_1, o_1), \ldots, (t_{i-1}, \sigma_{i-1}, o_{i-1}))$  the interaction history. During the inference step i, the fine-tuned model first proposes a thought–action pair  $(t_i, \sigma_i) = M_O(H_{i-1})$ , from which only the thought  $t_i$  is extracted. The SQL action is then generated by the base model,  $\sigma_i = M_B(H_{i-1}, t_i)$ , leveraging its wide-coverage knowledge of diverse SQL dialects. GTM preserves the specialized debugging

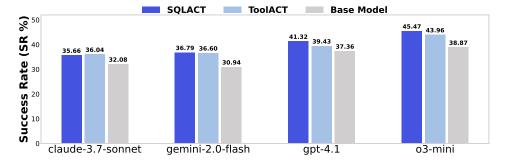


Figure 4: LLM agent performance for BIRD-CRITIC-PG. TOOACT employs constrained toolkit as actions, while SQLACT executes SQLs as actions.

logic learned by  $M_O$ , fully taking advantage of generative features of auto-regressive models [53], while mitigating overfitting of SQL patterns during training.

# 6 Experiments

### 6.1 SetUp

Models. We evaluate the performance of several popular and strong LLMs across two primary categories, including general-purpose models: Gemini-2.0-Flash, GPT-4.1, Claude-3.7-Sonnet, Qwen-2.5-Coder-32B, Meta-Llama-3.1-8B, Meta-Llama-3.3-70B, Phi-4 and DeepSeek-V3. The second category consists of models specifically renowned for their advanced reasoning capabilities: O3-mini, O1-preview, Gemini-2.0-Flash-Thinking, and Claude-3.7-Sonnet-Thinking. The implementation details are in Appendix G.2.

Advanced Agentic Methods. Agentic workflows have shown considerable promise for addressing complex tasks. Accordingly, we also benchmark LLM agent performance on BIRD-CRITIC. Broadly, agentic systems can be classified into two main categories based on their action types. The first, which we term TOOL-ACT, involves agents employing pre-defined tools tailored to specific tasks. We implement Tool-Act guided by SOTA agents Spider-Agent [23] and InterCode [45] in SQL tasks. The second category, CODE-ACT [41], allows for more flexible, free-form actions where LLMs generate code to perform operations. In the context of this research, we implement a specific variant called SQL-ACT, where the LLMs generate SQL queries as their actions as introduced in Section 5.1.

### 6.2 Main Results

**Baseline Results.** An evaluation of mainstream Large Language Models (LLMs) on BIRD-CRITIC is detailed in Table 2. We can observe that:

- (1) **Superior Performance of Reasoning-Oriented Models.** A clear performance advantage is evident for reasoning-oriented LLMs. These models surpass general-purpose counterparts by an average Success Rate (SR) of 6.13 % on PostgreSQL issues and 8.03 % on multi-dialect issues. This disparity underscores the computationally intensive, reasoning-driven nature of SQL-issue debugging, a task that demonstrably benefits from models capable of intermediate inferential steps.
- (2) **Persistent Challenge Posed by SQL Issue Debugging.** Despite ongoing advancements in LLM capabilities, BIRD-CRITIC continue to present a considerable challenge. The top-performing model, O3-Mini-2025-01-31, achieves an overall SR of only 38.87% on PostgreSQL issues and 33.33% on multi-dialect issues, leaving large head-room for future research.

### (3) Heterogeneous Difficulty Across Issue Categories.

An analysis of performance across distinct SQL issue categories reveals clear differences in difficulty. Issues related to data management, such as DML operations: insertions, deletions, updates, and DDL operations like schema modifications, are found to be relatively more manageable. On average, reasoning models achieved a 52.6% SR and general-purpose models a 38.8%

Table 3: Detailed comparison of BIRD-FIXER with other strong baselines on BIRD-CRITIC-PG and BIRD-CRITIC-MULTI.  $\Delta$  shows relative improvement of BIRD-FIXER compared to base model.

Model	BIRD-CRITIC-PG (SR %, †)				BIF	C-MULTI (SR	<b>%</b> ,↑)	
	Base	SQL-ACT	BIRD-FIXER	$\Delta(\%)$	Base	SQL-ACT	BIRD-FIXER	$\Delta(\%)$
Llama-3.1-8B	16.98	16.42	24.34	+43.34	12.81	13.64	18.25	+42.46
Qwen-2.5-Coder-7B	23.40	26.60	31.32	+33.84	17.89	17.19	21.58	+20.58
Qwen-2.5-Coder-14B	31.32	31.13	38.11	+21.68	24.04	23.33	29.65	+23.36
Phi-4	30.19	29.43	38.11	+26.23	22.63	19.80	27.89	+20.58

SR in data management. Issues associated with Personalized functions also demonstrate moderate success rates. In contrast, Query-like issues present the greatest challenge for all LLMs.

These issues require an understanding of logical flaws within complex SELECT statements, particularly those involving joins, subqueries, aggregations, and conditional filtering. Unlike more standardized data management operations, SELECT queries exhibit remarkable diversity in their logic, structure, and intent, mostly reflected by the wide variety of underlying business requirements they serve, making their error patterns significantly harder to predict and correct. As evidenced in Figure 5, Query-like issues contain the most diverse functions, leading to the lowest performance of both general-purpose and reasoning models, which presents a strong negative correlation.

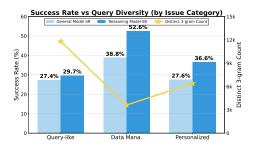


Figure 5: Success Rate vs Query Diversity (by Issue Category). It shows a strong negative correlation (r = -0.89) between n-gram of tokens and model performance after normalization.

- (4) **Dialect-Specific Performance Variations.** Model effectiveness exhibits notable dependency on the specific SQL dialect, as observed within the BIRD-CRITIC-MULTI. Specifically, Gemini-2.0-Flash-Thinking demonstrates the lower performance on PostgreSQL with a 28.99% SR. In contrast, it becomes the most proficient for SQL Server (37.76% SR), with a clear margin over other evaluated models in that dialect. Such variations are plausibly attributable to differential distributions of SQL dialects within the respective training corpora of these models, suggesting that the composition of training data significantly influences dialect-specific debugging capabilities.
- (5) **Agentic Workflow Performance.** Figure 4 compares the performance of different LLM-based agents on BIRD-CRITIC-PG. The results show that agentic workflows markedly boost LLM accuracy on issue debugging tasks, which benefits from iterative interaction with its environment. Additionally, the SQL-ACT agent mostly outperforms the TOOL-ACT agent, suggesting that the richer, more flexible action space offered by SQL-ACT better equips LLMs to address the diverse and uncertain challenges encountered during debugging.

# 6.3 Performance Analysis of BIRD-FIXER

Overall Performance of BIRD-FIXER. Table 3 reports the performance gains achieved by BIRD-FIXER across three model families: Llama, Qwen, and Phi, which range from roughly 7B to 14B parameters. For each model, BIRD-FIXER delivers substantial improvements, demonstrating that the benefits of SQL-ACT + f-plan and SIX-GYM are architecture-agnostic and scalable. The table also exposes a limitation of small language models (SLMs) in agentic workflow only by inference: on several models, agent performance actually declines, suggesting that long, complicated interaction histories can overwhelm SLMs. By contrast, our methods equip these compact models with richer interaction capabilities, enabling them to navigate complex environments far more effectively. This benefit is especially valuable for privacy-sensitive SQL workloads: running a 7–14B parameter agent locally avoids any exposure of proprietary data to cloud services. Notably, BIRD-FIXER based on 14B base models, e.g., Qwen-2.5-Coder-14B, BIRD-FIXER presents competitive performance to

Table 4: Trajectory Generation Efficiency Comparison. **Baseline:** Standard SQL-ACT rollout with a single attempt (temperature=0). f-Plan (Ours): A single rollout guided by functional plans extracted from issue–solution pairs (temperature=0). **Rejection Sampling:** Up to 5 trials per instance (temperature=0.8), with early stopping when a successful trajectory is obtained. **Reject** + f-Plan: Combination of rejection sampling (up to 5 trials) with f-Plan guidance.

Method	Max Tries	Successful Traj.	Avg Tries	DB Time (min)	Cost (\$)
Baseline	1	1,254	1.0	306	8.47
f-Plan	1	2,178	1.0	324	27.44
Rejection Sampling	5	1,910	4.2	1,377	108.05
Reject + $f$ -Plan	5	2,560	1.7	810	41.16

O3-mini and outperforms the Claude-3.7-Sonnet agent on BIRD-CRITIC-PG, suggesting a promising path toward this goal of privacy while keeping effectiveness.

Generalization to Multi-Dialect SQL Issue Debugging. Although BIRD-FIXER is fine-tuned only on PostgreSQL trajectories within SIX-GYM, it generalizes robustly to other SQL dialects, as evidenced by the multi-dialect results in Table 3. That is because GTM elicits each model to produce a reusable debugging strategy trained in SIX-GYM while keeping pretrained knowledge of dialect variation. In conclusion, BIRD-FIXER exhibits strong cross-dialect reasoning without any extra data collection or further training, underscoring its practicality for heterogeneous database stacks.

### 6.4 Trajectory Sampling Comparison

To better illustrate the efficiency and effectiveness of f-Plan Boosting, we compare it against widely used trajectory augmentation approaches. We evaluate four strategies for trajectory generation, using Gemini-2.0-Flash as the teacher model on **SIX-GYM**.

As shown in Table 4, f-Plan Boosting yields 73.7% more successful trajectories than the baseline while maintaining similar runtime and overhead. By contrast, rejection sampling increases success rates modestly but at the cost of  $4.2\times$  more attempts and  $4.5\times$  longer execution time. When combined, rejection sampling and f-Plan achieve the best overall trade-off, generating 2,560 trajectories with reduced average attempts (1.7) and a 62% reduction in cost relative to rejection sampling alone. These results demonstrate that f-Plan provides an effective and efficient approach to trajectory augmentation during rollout in complex environments. Other detailed comparison can be found in Appendix E.3.

# 6.5 Ablation Study of BIRD-FIXER

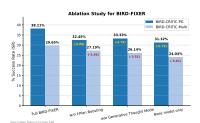


Figure 6: Ablation study of components in BIRD-FIXER.

Figure 6 shows the ablation study of BIRD-FIXER, highlighting:

**GTM** (Generative Thought Mode): Removing GTM causes the fine-tuned model  $M_O$  to predict both thought and SQL action directly. The performance drop to 33.33% indicates that GTM effectively leverages the base model  $M_B$  for SQL generation guided by  $M_O$ 's thought, mitigating overfitting to SQL patterns and better utilizing  $M_B$ 's broad SQL knowledge.

f-Plan Boosting: Using only trajectories from the vanilla collection pipeline reduces performance to 32.45% in BIRD-CRITIC-PG, highlighting f-Plan Boosting's importance in generating diverse, high-quality training trajectories crucial for complex reasoning tasks.

# 6.6 Error Analysis

To understand *how far* current LLM-based agents still are from fully resolving user-reported SQL issues, we sample 100 failed tasks from BIRD-CRITIC-PG by 4 agents based on: O3-mini, GPT-4.1, Claude-3.7-Sonnet, and BIRD-FIXER. It can be concluded that current agents exhibit four distinct error modes reflecting different levels of reasoning deficiency: **Projection Mismatch errors** 

(26.9%), where models misinterpret output requirements by, for instance, adding unexpected columns or misapplying aggregations, suggesting limitations in semantic understanding of user intent and schema alignment; Chain of Errors (27.3%), characterized by cascading failures due to partial problem resolution that overlooks dependent issues such as sequence updates accompanying primary key modifications, revealing difficulties in multi-step causal reasoning and consistency maintenance; The database engine only reports the most superficial issue, masking a deeper, dependent error that is the true root cause. For instance, a type mismatch error might be reported, but the underlying problem could be an incorrect join that brought together the wrong columns in the first place. **Incorrect Logic (44.5%)**, the most prevalent, highlighting fundamental misunderstandings of data structures or transformation methodologies, particularly in complex operations like JSON array manipulation, leading to syntactically plausible but semantically flawed SQL; and Syntax Errors (29.3%), indicating technical implementation flaws such as type mismatches (e.g., DATE versus TIMESTAMP) or improperly formatted intervals, especially in specialized SQL contexts like recursive queries. The detailed examples for each category are in Figure 8. These findings highlight that future improvements should emphasize logical and schema-aware reasoning, cross-step dependency tracking, and dialect-robust SQL generation rather than mere syntactic refinement.

# 7 Related Work

**Large Language Models for Text-to-SQL.** The automated conversion of natural language queries into Structured Query Language (SQL), known as Text-to-SQL, has garnered significant attention due to its practical utility in the era of big data [51, 44, 34, 17]. The advent of LLMs has notably advanced the capabilities in this domain. For instance, DIN-SQL [32], DAIL-SQL [10], TA-SQL [35], and Chase-SQL [33] have demonstrated SQTA performance on standard benchmarks like Spider [48] and BIRD [26], primarily by leveraging in-context learning with powerful foundation models like GPT-4. Also Supervised fine-tuning can fuel smaller LLMs towards stronger text-to-SQL parsers as evidenced by XiYanSQL[11], Arctic[52], OmniSQL [25], CodeS [24], and SHARE [36]. Beyond direct generation, agentic workflows such as MAC-SQL [40], InterCode [45], which empowers LLMs to interact with database environments and gather contextual information, are pushing the boundaries of LLM cognition in handling complex and previously unseen databases. Concurrently, the field is evolving towards addressing more sophisticated, industry-relevant Text-to-SQL challenges. Initiatives like Beaver [5] and the Spider 2.0 [23] signify a shift from end-user focused queries to tasks requiring deeper BI knowledge and handling of larger schemas. This progression naturally leads to a critical, but underexplored, question: Can LLMs effectively diagnose and resolve issues within existing, user-provided SQL queries?

**LLMs for Program Repair.** Program repair provides a complementary lens through which to evaluate and enhance the reasoning abilities of LLMs. At the function level, DEBUGBENCH [39] offers a multi-language suite that stresses fundamental programming logic. Repository-scale efforts such as SWE-BENCH [19] move closer to realistic software engineering, while follow-up studies, including SWE-LANCE [29] and MULTI-SWE [50] highlight the limitations of even sophisticated LLM-driven agents on complex, multi-language projects (e.g. Python, Java). Despite this rapid progress in general-purpose code fixing, *SQL-specific debugging remains largely unexplored*, even though databases are the backbone of most data-centric applications. To the best of our knowledge, our work is the first to formally cast SQL issue repair as a benchmark task, and to propose methods that adapt and augment open-source LLMs for automated SQL debugging.

### 8 Conclusion

We introduced **BIRD-CRITIC**, the first benchmark for SQL issue debugging tasks. Experiments show that SOTA LLMs solve fewer than 40% SR, underscoring the challenge. We also create **SIX-GYM**, an automated training environment which can produce thousands of high-quality agent trajectories without human annotation. Built on top of these trajectories, we proposed **SQL-Act**, a lightweight agent scaffold, and applied trajectory-level augmentation (*f-plan*) to fine-tune open-source LLMs, leading to the **Bird-Fixer**. Despite using only 7–14 B parameter backbones, BIRD-FIXER outperforms larger proprietary models and generalizes across four SQL dialects without additional training. Our research charts a path toward robust, real-world SQL issue debugging assistants.

# 9 Acknowledgments

We thank the anonymous reviewers and committees for their helpful comments, suggestions and organizations. We thank John Yang for early discussion and suggestions. Reynold Cheng, Jinyang Li, Xiaolong Li, Ge Qu, Nan Huo, Xiaohan Xu, and Ziwei Tang were supported by the Research Grant Council of Hong Kong (RGC Project HKU 17202325), the University of Hong Kong (Project 2409100399), and the HKU Faculty Exchange Award 2024 (Faculty of Engineering).

### References

- [1] Alireza Ahadi, Julia Prior, Vahid Behbood, and Raymond Lister. Students' syntactic mistakes in writing seven different types of sql queries and its application to predicting students' success. In *Proceedings of the 47th ACM Technical Symposium on Computing Science Education*, pages 401–406. ACM, 2016.
- [2] Michael Armbrust, Reynold S. Xin, Cheng Lian, Yin Huai, Davies Liu, Joseph K. Bradley, Xiangrui Meng, Tomer Kaftan, Michael J. Franklin, Ali Ghodsi, and Matei Zaharia. Spark SQL: relational data processing in spark. In Timos K. Sellis, Susan B. Davidson, and Zachary G. Ives, editors, *Proceedings of the 2015 ACM SIGMOD International Conference on Management of Data, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, May 31 June 4, 2015*, pages 1383–1394. ACM, 2015.
- [3] Donald D. Chamberlin and Raymond F. Boyce. SEQUEL: A structured english query language. In *Proceedings of the 1974 ACM SIGMOD Workshop on Data Description, Access and Control*, pages 249–264. ACM, 1974.
- [4] Bikash Chandra, Ananyo Banerjee, Udbhas Hazra, Mathew Joseph, and S. Sudarshan. Automated grading of sql queries. In *35th IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE)*, pages 1630–1633. IEEE, 2019.
- [5] Peter Baile Chen, Fabian Wenz, Yi Zhang, Devin Yang, Justin Choi, Nesime Tatbul, Michael Cafarella, Çağatay Demiralp, and Michael Stonebraker. Beaver: an enterprise benchmark for text-to-sql. *arXiv* preprint arXiv:2409.02038, 2024.
- [6] Wenhu Chen, Xueguang Ma, Xinyi Wang, and William W. Cohen. Program of thoughts prompting: Disentangling computation from reasoning for numerical reasoning tasks. *Trans. Mach. Learn. Res.*, 2023, 2023.
- [7] Wenhu Chen, Xueguang Ma, Xinyi Wang, and William W. Cohen. Program of thoughts prompting: Disentangling computation from reasoning for numerical reasoning tasks. *Transactions on Machine Learning Research*, 2023. ISSN 2835-8856.
- [8] Xinyun Chen, Maxwell Lin, Nathanael Schärli, and Denny Zhou. Teaching large language models to self-debug. In *The Twelfth International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2024.
- [9] C. J. Date. An Introduction to Database Systems. Addison-Wesley / Pearson, 8th edition, 2003.
- [10] Dawei Gao, Haibin Wang, Yaliang Li, Xiuyu Sun, Yichen Qian, Bolin Ding, and Jingren Zhou. Text-to-sql empowered by large language models: A benchmark evaluation. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2308.15363*, 2023.
- [11] Yingqi Gao, Yifu Liu, Xiaoxia Li, Xiaorong Shi, Yin Zhu, Yiming Wang, Shiqi Li, Wei Li, Yuntao Hong, Zhiling Luo, Jinyang Gao, Liyu Mou, and Yu Li. A preview of xiyan-sql: A multi-generator ensemble framework for text-to-sql. arXiv preprint arXiv:2411.08599, 2024. URL https://arxiv.org/abs/2411.08599.
- [12] Zhipeng Gao, Xin Xia, David Lo, John C. Grundy, Xindong Zhang, and Zhenchang Xing. I know what you are searching for: Code snippet recommendation from stack overflow posts. *ACM Trans. Softw. Eng. Methodol.*, 32(3):80:1–80:42, 2023.
- [13] Sneha Gathani, Peter Lim, and Leilani Battle. Debugging database queries: A survey of tools, techniques, and users. In *CHI '20: CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Honolulu, HI, USA, April 25-30, 2020*, pages 1–16. ACM, 2020.

- [14] Sabaat Haroon, Chris Brown, and Muhammad Ali Gulzar. Desql: Interactive debugging of SQL in data-intensive scalable computing. *Proc. ACM Softw. Eng.*, 1(FSE):767–788, 2024.
- [15] Edward J. Hu, Yelong Shen, Phillip Wallis, Zeyuan Allen-Zhu, Yuanzhi Li, Shean Wang, Lu Wang, and Weizhu Chen. Lora: Low-rank adaptation of large language models. In *The Tenth International Conference on Learning Representations, ICLR 2022, Virtual Event, April* 25-29, 2022, 2022.
- [16] Edward J Hu, yelong shen, Phillip Wallis, Zeyuan Allen-Zhu, Yuanzhi Li, Shean Wang, Lu Wang, and Weizhu Chen. LoRA: Low-rank adaptation of large language models. In *International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2022.
- [17] Nan Huo, Jinyang Li, Bowen Qin, Ge Qu, Xiaolong Li, Xiaodong Li, Chenhao Ma, and Reynold Cheng. Micro-act: Mitigate knowledge conflict in question answering via actionable self-reasoning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2506.05278*, 2025.
- [18] Naman Jain, Jaskirat Singh, Manish Shetty, Liang Zheng, Koushik Sen, and Ion Stoica. R2e-gym: Procedural environments and hybrid verifiers for scaling open-weights swe agents. *arXiv* preprint arXiv:2504.07164, 2025.
- [19] Carlos E Jimenez, John Yang, Alexander Wettig, Shunyu Yao, Kexin Pei, Ofir Press, and Karthik R Narasimhan. SWE-bench: Can language models resolve real-world github issues? In *The Twelfth International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2024.
- [20] Anubha Kabra, Sanketh Rangreji, Yash Mathur, Aman Madaan, Emmy Liu, and Graham Neubig. Program-aided reasoners (better) know what they know. In *Proceedings of the 2024 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, Mexico City, Mexico, June 2024. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- [21] Sean Kandel, Andreas Paepcke, Joseph M. Hellerstein, and Jeffrey Heer. Enterprise data analysis and visualization: An interview study. *IEEE Trans. Vis. Comput. Graph.*, 18(12): 2917–2926, 2012.
- [22] Yuhang Lai, Chengxi Li, Yiming Wang, Tianyi Zhang, Ruiqi Zhong, Luke Zettlemoyer, Wen-Tau Yih, Daniel Fried, Sida I. Wang, and Tao Yu. DS-1000: A natural and reliable benchmark for data science code generation. In Andreas Krause, Emma Brunskill, Kyunghyun Cho, Barbara Engelhardt, Sivan Sabato, and Jonathan Scarlett, editors, *International Conference on Machine Learning, ICML 2023, 23-29 July 2023, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA*, volume 202 of *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research*, pages 18319–18345. PMLR, 2023.
- [23] Fangyu Lei, Jixuan Chen, Yuxiao Ye, Ruisheng Cao, Dongchan Shin, Hongjin SU, ZHAOQING SUO, Hongcheng Gao, Wenjing Hu, Pengcheng Yin, Victor Zhong, Caiming Xiong, Ruoxi Sun, Qian Liu, Sida Wang, and Tao Yu. Spider 2.0: Evaluating language models on real-world enterprise text-to-SQL workflows. In *The Thirteenth International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2025.
- [24] Haoyang Li, Jing Zhang, Hanbing Liu, Ju Fan, Xiaokang Zhang, Jun Zhu, Renjie Wei, Hongyan Pan, Cuiping Li, and Hong Chen. Codes: Towards building open-source language models for text-to-sql. *Proceedings of the ACM on Management of Data*, 2(3):1–28, 2024.
- [25] Haoyang Li, Shang Wu, Xiaokang Zhang, Xinmei Huang, Jing Zhang, Fuxin Jiang, Shuai Wang, Tieying Zhang, Jianjun Chen, Rui Shi, et al. Omnisql: Synthesizing high-quality text-to-sql data at scale. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2503.02240*, 2025.
- [26] Jinyang Li, Binyuan Hui, Ge Qu, Jiaxi Yang, Binhua Li, Bowen Li, Bailin Wang, Bowen Qin, Ruiying Geng, Nan Huo, et al. Can Ilm already serve as a database interface? a big bench for large-scale database grounded text-to-sqls. Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 36, 2024.
- [27] Floris Miedema, Janet Spacco, and Raymond Lister. Patterns of SQL mistakes among novice programmers: An exploratory study. In *Proc. 26th ACM Conf. on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education (ITiCSE)*, pages 55–61. ACM, 2021. doi: 10.1145/3456565. 3456622.

- [28] Tomas Mikolov, Ilya Sutskever, Kai Chen, Greg S Corrado, and Jeff Dean. Distributed representations of words and phrases and their compositionality. *Advances in neural information processing systems*, 26, 2013.
- [29] Samuel Miserendino, Michele Wang, Tejal Patwardhan, and Johannes Heidecke. Swe-lancer: Can frontier llms earn \$1 million from real-world freelance software engineering? *arXiv* preprint arXiv:2502.12115, 2025.
- [30] Jiayi Pan, Xingyao Wang, Graham Neubig, Navdeep Jaitly, Heng Ji, Alane Suhr, and Yizhe Zhang. Training software engineering agents and verifiers with swe-gym, 2024. URL https://arxiv.org/abs/2412.21139.
- [31] Mohammadreza Pourreza and Davood Rafiei. Din-sql: Decomposed in-context learning of text-to-sql with self-correction. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 36: 36339–36348, 2023.
- [32] Mohammadreza Pourreza and Davood Rafiei. DIN-SQL: Decomposed in-context learning of text-to-SQL with self-correction. In *Thirty-seventh Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems*, 2023. URL https://openreview.net/forum?id=p53QDxSIc5.
- [33] Mohammadreza Pourreza, Hailong Li, Ruoxi Sun, Yeounoh Chung, Shayan Talaei, Gaurav Tarlok Kakkar, Yu Gan, Amin Saberi, Fatma Ozcan, and Sercan O Arik. CHASE-SQL: Multi-path reasoning and preference optimized candidate selection in text-to-SQL. In *The Thirteenth International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2025. URL https://openreview.net/forum?id=CvGqMD50tX.
- [34] Bowen Qin, Binyuan Hui, Lihan Wang, Min Yang, Jinyang Li, Binhua Li, Ruiying Geng, Rongyu Cao, Jian Sun, Luo Si, Fei Huang, and Yongbin Li. A survey on text-to-sql parsing: Concepts, methods, and future directions. In *arXiv*:2208.13629, 2022.
- [35] Ge Qu, Jinyang Li, Bowen Li, Bowen Qin, Nan Huo, Chenhao Ma, and Reynold Cheng. Before generation, align it! a novel and effective strategy for mitigating hallucinations in text-to-SQL generation. In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics ACL 2024*. Association for Computational Linguistics, August 2024.
- [36] Ge Qu, Jinyang Li, Bowen Qin, Xiaolong Li, Nan Huo, Chenhao Ma, and Reynold Cheng. SHARE: An SLM-based hierarchical action CorRection assistant for text-to-SQL. Association for Computational Linguistics, 2025.
- [37] Margo I. Seltzer, Keith Bostic, Michael Stonebraker, and Joseph M. Hellerstein, editors. *Readings in Database Systems, 4th Edition*. MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 2005.
- [38] Ashish Thusoo, Joydeep Sen Sarma, Namit Jain, Zheng Shao, Prasad Chakka, Ning Zhang, Suresh Anthony, Hao Liu, and Raghotham Murthy. Hive a petabyte scale data warehouse using hadoop. In *Proceedings of the 26th International Conference on Data Engineering, ICDE 2010, March 1-6, 2010, Long Beach, California, USA*, pages 996–1005. IEEE Computer Society, 2010.
- [39] Runchu Tian, Yining Ye, Yujia Qin, Xin Cong, Yankai Lin, Yinxu Pan, Yesai Wu, Hui Haotian, Liu Weichuan, Zhiyuan Liu, and Maosong Sun. DebugBench: Evaluating debugging capability of large language models. In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: ACL 2024*, pages 4173–4198, aug 2024.
- [40] Bing Wang, Changyu Ren, Jian Yang, Xinnian Liang, Jiaqi Bai, Linzheng Chai, Zhao Yan, Qian-Wen Zhang, Di Yin, Xing Sun, et al. Mac-sql: A multi-agent collaborative framework for text-to-sql. In *Proceedings of the 31st International Conference on Computational Linguistics*, pages 540–557, 2025.
- [41] Xingyao Wang, Yangyi Chen, Lifan Yuan, Yizhe Zhang, Yunzhu Li, Hao Peng, and Heng Ji. Executable code actions elicit better llm agents. In *ICML*, 2024.

- [42] Xingyao Wang, Boxuan Li, Yufan Song, Frank F. Xu, Xiangru Tang, Mingchen Zhuge, Jiayi Pan, Yueqi Song, Bowen Li, Jaskirat Singh, Hoang H. Tran, Fuqiang Li, Ren Ma, Mingzhang Zheng, Bill Qian, Yanjun Shao, Niklas Muennighoff, Yizhe Zhang, Binyuan Hui, Junyang Lin, Robert Brennan, Hao Peng, Heng Ji, and Graham Neubig. Openhands: An open platform for AI software developers as generalist agents. In *The Thirteenth International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2025.
- [43] Zuozhi Wang, Avinash Kumar, Shengquan Ni, and Chen Li. Demonstration of interactive runtime debugging of distributed dataflows in texera. *Proc. VLDB Endow.*, 13(12):2953–2956, 2020.
- [44] Navid Yaghmazadeh, Yuepeng Wang, Isil Dillig, and Thomas Dillig. Sqlizer: query synthesis from natural language. *Proceedings of the ACM on Programming Languages*, 1(OOPSLA): 1–26, 2017.
- [45] John Yang, Akshara Prabhakar, Karthik R Narasimhan, and Shunyu Yao. Intercode: Standardizing and benchmarking interactive coding with execution feedback. In *Thirty-seventh Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems Datasets and Benchmarks Track*, 2023.
- [46] Shunyu Yao, Jeffrey Zhao, Dian Yu, Nan Du, Izhak Shafran, Karthik R. Narasimhan, and Yuan Cao. React: Synergizing reasoning and acting in language models. In *The Eleventh International Conference on Learning Representations, ICLR 2023, Kigali, Rwanda, May 1-5, 2023*. OpenReview.net, 2023.
- [47] Ziyu Yao, Daniel S. Weld, Wei-Peng Chen, and Huan Sun. Staqc: A systematically mined question-code dataset from stack overflow. In *Proceedings of the 2018 World Wide Web Conference on World Wide Web*, WWW 2018, Lyon, France, April 23-27, 2018, pages 1693– 1703. ACM, 2018.
- [48] Tao Yu, Rui Zhang, Kai Yang, Michihiro Yasunaga, Dongxu Wang, Zifan Li, James Ma, Irene Li, Qingning Yao, Shanelle Roman, Zilin Zhang, and Dragomir Radev. Spider: A large-scale human-labeled dataset for complex and cross-domain semantic parsing and text-to-SQL task. In *Proceedings of the 2018 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, page 3911–3921, 2018.
- [49] Tao Yu, Rui Zhang, Kai Yang, Michihiro Yasunaga, Dongxu Wang, Zifan Li, James Ma, Irene Li, Qingning Yao, Shanelle Roman, Zilin Zhang, and Dragomir Radev. Spider: A large-scale human-labeled dataset for complex and cross-domain semantic parsing and text-to-SQL task. In *Proceedings of the 2018 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, pages 3911–3921, 2018.
- [50] Daoguang Zan, Zhirong Huang, Wei Liu, Hanwu Chen, Linhao Zhang, Shulin Xin, Lu Chen, Qi Liu, Xiaojian Zhong, Aoyan Li, et al. Multi-swe-bench: A multilingual benchmark for issue resolving. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2504.02605*, 2025.
- [51] John M. Zelle and Raymond J. Mooney. Learning to parse database queries using inductive logic programming. In *Proceedings of the Fourteenth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Ninth Conference on Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence*, pages 1050–1055, 1996.
- [52] Bohan Zhai, Canwen Xu, Yuxiong He, and Zhewei Yao. Excot: Optimizing reasoning for text-to-sql with execution feedback. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2503.19988*, 2025.
- [53] Lunjun Zhang, Arian Hosseini, Hritik Bansal, Mehran Kazemi, Aviral Kumar, and Rishabh Agarwal. Generative verifiers: Reward modeling as next-token prediction. In *The Thirteenth International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2025.
- [54] Tianyu Zheng, Ge Zhang, Tianhao Shen, Xueling Liu, Bill Yuchen Lin, Jie Fu, Wenhu Chen, and Xiang Yue. OpenCodeInterpreter: Integrating code generation with execution and refinement. In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: ACL 2024*, pages 12834–12859, Bangkok, Thailand, August 2024. Association for Computational Linguistics.

- [55] Yaowei Zheng, Richong Zhang, Junhao Zhang, Yanhan Ye, and Zheyan Luo. LlamaFactory: Unified efficient fine-tuning of 100+ language models. In *Proceedings of the 62nd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Volume 3: System Demonstrations)*. Association for Computational Linguistics, 2024.
- [56] Qi Zhou, Joy Arulraj, Shamkant B. Navathe, William Harris, and Dong Xu. Automated verification of query equivalence using satisfiability modulo theories. *Proc. VLDB Endowment*, 12(11):1276–1288, 2019.
- [57] Terry Yue Zhuo, Vu Minh Chien, Jenny Chim, Han Hu, Wenhao Yu, Ratnadira Widyasari, Imam Nur Bani Yusuf, Haolan Zhan, Junda He, Indraneil Paul, Simon Brunner, Chen GONG, James Hoang, Armel Randy Zebaze, Xiaoheng Hong, Wen-Ding Li, Jean Kaddour, Ming Xu, Zhihan Zhang, Prateek Yadav, Naman Jain, Alex Gu, Zhoujun Cheng, Jiawei Liu, Qian Liu, Zijian Wang, David Lo, Binyuan Hui, Niklas Muennighoff, Daniel Fried, Xiaoning Du, Harm de Vries, and Leandro Von Werra. Bigcodebench: Benchmarking code generation with diverse function calls and complex instructions. In *The Thirteenth International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2025. URL https://openreview.net/forum?id=YrycTjllL0.

# **NeurIPS Paper Checklist**

### 1. Claims

Question: Do the main claims made in the abstract and introduction accurately reflect the paper's contributions and scope?

Answer: [Yes]

Justification: The abstract and introduction clearly state the paper's contributions and scope, aligning well with the methodology and experimental results.

### Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the abstract and introduction do not include the claims made in the paper.
- The abstract and/or introduction should clearly state the claims made, including the contributions made in the paper and important assumptions and limitations. A No or NA answer to this question will not be perceived well by the reviewers.
- The claims made should match theoretical and experimental results, and reflect how much the results can be expected to generalize to other settings.
- It is fine to include aspirational goals as motivation as long as it is clear that these goals are not attained by the paper.

### 2. Limitations

Question: Does the paper discuss the limitations of the work performed by the authors?

Answer: [Yes]

Justification: We discussed the limitations of the work in Appendix I.

### Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper has no limitation while the answer No means that the paper has limitations, but those are not discussed in the paper.
- The authors are encouraged to create a separate "Limitations" section in their paper.
- The paper should point out any strong assumptions and how robust the results are to violations of these assumptions (e.g., independence assumptions, noiseless settings, model well-specification, asymptotic approximations only holding locally). The authors should reflect on how these assumptions might be violated in practice and what the implications would be.
- The authors should reflect on the scope of the claims made, e.g., if the approach was only tested on a few datasets or with a few runs. In general, empirical results often depend on implicit assumptions, which should be articulated.
- The authors should reflect on the factors that influence the performance of the approach. For example, a facial recognition algorithm may perform poorly when image resolution is low or images are taken in low lighting. Or a speech-to-text system might not be used reliably to provide closed captions for online lectures because it fails to handle technical jargon.
- The authors should discuss the computational efficiency of the proposed algorithms and how they scale with dataset size.
- If applicable, the authors should discuss possible limitations of their approach to address problems of privacy and fairness.
- While the authors might fear that complete honesty about limitations might be used by reviewers as grounds for rejection, a worse outcome might be that reviewers discover limitations that aren't acknowledged in the paper. The authors should use their best judgment and recognize that individual actions in favor of transparency play an important role in developing norms that preserve the integrity of the community. Reviewers will be specifically instructed to not penalize honesty concerning limitations.

# 3. Theory assumptions and proofs

Question: For each theoretical result, does the paper provide the full set of assumptions and a complete (and correct) proof?

Answer: [NA]

Justification: This paper does not include theoretical results, and therefore does not contain formal theorems or proofs.

### Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper does not include theoretical results.
- All the theorems, formulas, and proofs in the paper should be numbered and crossreferenced.
- All assumptions should be clearly stated or referenced in the statement of any theorems.
- The proofs can either appear in the main paper or the supplemental material, but if they appear in the supplemental material, the authors are encouraged to provide a short proof sketch to provide intuition.
- Inversely, any informal proof provided in the core of the paper should be complemented by formal proofs provided in appendix or supplemental material.
- Theorems and Lemmas that the proof relies upon should be properly referenced.

# 4. Experimental result reproducibility

Question: Does the paper fully disclose all the information needed to reproduce the main experimental results of the paper to the extent that it affects the main claims and/or conclusions of the paper (regardless of whether the code and data are provided or not)?

Answer: [Yes]

Justification: In Appendix G, we provide the alias of the LLMs used, model implementation details, and agent design specifics. Additionally, in Appendix K, we include all the prompts utilized in the experiments. We include the code and data in the supplementary material.

### Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- If the paper includes experiments, a No answer to this question will not be perceived well by the reviewers: Making the paper reproducible is important, regardless of whether the code and data are provided or not.
- If the contribution is a dataset and/or model, the authors should describe the steps taken to make their results reproducible or verifiable.
- Depending on the contribution, reproducibility can be accomplished in various ways. For example, if the contribution is a novel architecture, describing the architecture fully might suffice, or if the contribution is a specific model and empirical evaluation, it may be necessary to either make it possible for others to replicate the model with the same dataset, or provide access to the model. In general, releasing code and data is often one good way to accomplish this, but reproducibility can also be provided via detailed instructions for how to replicate the results, access to a hosted model (e.g., in the case of a large language model), releasing of a model checkpoint, or other means that are appropriate to the research performed.
- While NeurIPS does not require releasing code, the conference does require all submissions to provide some reasonable avenue for reproducibility, which may depend on the nature of the contribution. For example
  - (a) If the contribution is primarily a new algorithm, the paper should make it clear how to reproduce that algorithm.
- (b) If the contribution is primarily a new model architecture, the paper should describe the architecture clearly and fully.
- (c) If the contribution is a new model (e.g., a large language model), then there should either be a way to access this model for reproducing the results or a way to reproduce the model (e.g., with an open-source dataset or instructions for how to construct the dataset).
- (d) We recognize that reproducibility may be tricky in some cases, in which case authors are welcome to describe the particular way they provide for reproducibility. In the case of closed-source models, it may be that access to the model is limited in some way (e.g., to registered users), but it should be possible for other researchers to have some path to reproducing or verifying the results.

## 5. Open access to data and code

Question: Does the paper provide open access to the data and code, with sufficient instructions to faithfully reproduce the main experimental results, as described in supplemental material?

Answer: [Yes]

Justification: The code and data used to reproduce the main experimental results are provided in the supplementary material.

### Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that paper does not include experiments requiring code.
- Please see the NeurIPS code and data submission guidelines (https://nips.cc/public/guides/CodeSubmissionPolicy) for more details.
- While we encourage the release of code and data, we understand that this might not be possible, so "No" is an acceptable answer. Papers cannot be rejected simply for not including code, unless this is central to the contribution (e.g., for a new open-source benchmark).
- The instructions should contain the exact command and environment needed to run to reproduce the results. See the NeurIPS code and data submission guidelines (https://nips.cc/public/guides/CodeSubmissionPolicy) for more details.
- The authors should provide instructions on data access and preparation, including how
  to access the raw data, preprocessed data, intermediate data, and generated data, etc.
- The authors should provide scripts to reproduce all experimental results for the new proposed method and baselines. If only a subset of experiments are reproducible, they should state which ones are omitted from the script and why.
- At submission time, to preserve anonymity, the authors should release anonymized versions (if applicable).
- Providing as much information as possible in supplemental material (appended to the paper) is recommended, but including URLs to data and code is permitted.

# 6. Experimental setting/details

Question: Does the paper specify all the training and test details (e.g., data splits, hyperparameters, how they were chosen, type of optimizer, etc.) necessary to understand the results?

Answer: [Yes]

Justification: We provide detailed information on the experimental setup, including model specifications, training procedures, and testing configurations in Appendix G.

### Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- The experimental setting should be presented in the core of the paper to a level of detail that is necessary to appreciate the results and make sense of them.
- The full details can be provided either with the code, in appendix, or as supplemental
  material.

### 7. Experiment statistical significance

Question: Does the paper report error bars suitably and correctly defined or other appropriate information about the statistical significance of the experiments?

Answer: [Yes]

Justification: All the results shown in the paper are based on experiments run three times for each model and report the average results. This approach ensures that the results reflect consistent performance across multiple runs, accounting for any variability

- The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- The authors should answer "Yes" if the results are accompanied by error bars, confidence intervals, or statistical significance tests, at least for the experiments that support the main claims of the paper.

- The factors of variability that the error bars are capturing should be clearly stated (for example, train/test split, initialization, random drawing of some parameter, or overall run with given experimental conditions).
- The method for calculating the error bars should be explained (closed form formula, call to a library function, bootstrap, etc.)
- The assumptions made should be given (e.g., Normally distributed errors).
- It should be clear whether the error bar is the standard deviation or the standard error
  of the mean.
- It is OK to report 1-sigma error bars, but one should state it. The authors should preferably report a 2-sigma error bar than state that they have a 96% CI, if the hypothesis of Normality of errors is not verified.
- For asymmetric distributions, the authors should be careful not to show in tables or figures symmetric error bars that would yield results that are out of range (e.g. negative error rates).
- If error bars are reported in tables or plots, The authors should explain in the text how they were calculated and reference the corresponding figures or tables in the text.

### 8. Experiments compute resources

Question: For each experiment, does the paper provide sufficient information on the computer resources (type of compute workers, memory, time of execution) needed to reproduce the experiments?

Answer: [Yes]

Justification: In Appendix G, we provide detailed compute resources required for both the training and experiments.

### Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- The paper should indicate the type of compute workers CPU or GPU, internal cluster, or cloud provider, including relevant memory and storage.
- The paper should provide the amount of compute required for each of the individual experimental runs as well as estimate the total compute.
- The paper should disclose whether the full research project required more compute than the experiments reported in the paper (e.g., preliminary or failed experiments that didn't make it into the paper).

### 9. Code of ethics

Question: Does the research conducted in the paper conform, in every respect, with the NeurIPS Code of Ethics https://neurips.cc/public/EthicsGuidelines?

Answer: [Yes]

Justification: The research conducted in the paper adheres to the NeurIPS Code of Ethics. We have reviewed the guidelines and ensured that the work aligns with the ethical standards outlined, including considerations related to data privacy and model fairness.

### Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the authors have not reviewed the NeurIPS Code of Ethics.
- If the authors answer No, they should explain the special circumstances that require a
  deviation from the Code of Ethics.
- The authors should make sure to preserve anonymity (e.g., if there is a special consideration due to laws or regulations in their jurisdiction).

### 10. Broader impacts

Question: Does the paper discuss both potential positive societal impacts and negative societal impacts of the work performed?

Answer: [Yes]

Justification: We discuss the broader impacts in the Appendix J.

- The answer NA means that there is no societal impact of the work performed.
- If the authors answer NA or No, they should explain why their work has no societal impact or why the paper does not address societal impact.
- Examples of negative societal impacts include potential malicious or unintended uses (e.g., disinformation, generating fake profiles, surveillance), fairness considerations (e.g., deployment of technologies that could make decisions that unfairly impact specific groups), privacy considerations, and security considerations.
- The conference expects that many papers will be foundational research and not tied to particular applications, let alone deployments. However, if there is a direct path to any negative applications, the authors should point it out. For example, it is legitimate to point out that an improvement in the quality of generative models could be used to generate deepfakes for disinformation. On the other hand, it is not needed to point out that a generic algorithm for optimizing neural networks could enable people to train models that generate Deepfakes faster.
- The authors should consider possible harms that could arise when the technology is being used as intended and functioning correctly, harms that could arise when the technology is being used as intended but gives incorrect results, and harms following from (intentional or unintentional) misuse of the technology.
- If there are negative societal impacts, the authors could also discuss possible mitigation strategies (e.g., gated release of models, providing defenses in addition to attacks, mechanisms for monitoring misuse, mechanisms to monitor how a system learns from feedback over time, improving the efficiency and accessibility of ML).

### 11. Safeguards

Question: Does the paper describe safeguards that have been put in place for responsible release of data or models that have a high risk for misuse (e.g., pretrained language models, image generators, or scraped datasets)?

Answer: [NA]

Justification: The paper does not involve the release of data or models that have a high risk for misuse.

### Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper poses no such risks.
- Released models that have a high risk for misuse or dual-use should be released with
  necessary safeguards to allow for controlled use of the model, for example by requiring
  that users adhere to usage guidelines or restrictions to access the model or implementing
  safety filters.
- Datasets that have been scraped from the Internet could pose safety risks. The authors should describe how they avoided releasing unsafe images.
- We recognize that providing effective safeguards is challenging, and many papers do not require this, but we encourage authors to take this into account and make a best faith effort.

### 12. Licenses for existing assets

Question: Are the creators or original owners of assets (e.g., code, data, models), used in the paper, properly credited and are the license and terms of use explicitly mentioned and properly respected?

Answer: [Yes]

Justification: In Appendix A.3, we include the licenses of the existing assets used in the paper.

- The answer NA means that the paper does not use existing assets.
- The authors should cite the original paper that produced the code package or dataset.
- The authors should state which version of the asset is used and, if possible, include a URL.
- The name of the license (e.g., CC-BY 4.0) should be included for each asset.

- For scraped data from a particular source (e.g., website), the copyright and terms of service of that source should be provided.
- If assets are released, the license, copyright information, and terms of use in the package should be provided. For popular datasets, paperswithcode.com/datasets has curated licenses for some datasets. Their licensing guide can help determine the license of a dataset.
- For existing datasets that are re-packaged, both the original license and the license of the derived asset (if it has changed) should be provided.
- If this information is not available online, the authors are encouraged to reach out to the asset's creators.

### 13. New assets

Question: Are new assets introduced in the paper well documented and is the documentation provided alongside the assets?

Answer: [Yes]

Justification: We provide detailed documentation for our new assets.

#### Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper does not release new assets.
- Researchers should communicate the details of the dataset/code/model as part of their submissions via structured templates. This includes details about training, license, limitations, etc.
- The paper should discuss whether and how consent was obtained from people whose asset is used.
- At submission time, remember to anonymize your assets (if applicable). You can either create an anonymized URL or include an anonymized zip file.

# 14. Crowdsourcing and research with human subjects

Question: For crowdsourcing experiments and research with human subjects, does the paper include the full text of instructions given to participants and screenshots, if applicable, as well as details about compensation (if any)?

Answer: [NA]

Justification: The paper does not involve crowdsourcing or research with human subjects. All annotators involved in data collection and task creation are authors of the work.

### Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper does not involve crowdsourcing nor research with human subjects.
- Including this information in the supplemental material is fine, but if the main contribution of the paper involves human subjects, then as much detail as possible should be included in the main paper.
- According to the NeurIPS Code of Ethics, workers involved in data collection, curation, or other labor should be paid at least the minimum wage in the country of the data collector.

# 15. Institutional review board (IRB) approvals or equivalent for research with human subjects

Question: Does the paper describe potential risks incurred by study participants, whether such risks were disclosed to the subjects, and whether Institutional Review Board (IRB) approvals (or an equivalent approval/review based on the requirements of your country or institution) were obtained?

Answer: [NA]

Justification: The paper does not involve research with human subjects, so IRB approval is not required.

### Guidelines:

• The answer NA means that the paper does not involve crowdsourcing nor research with human subjects.

- Depending on the country in which research is conducted, IRB approval (or equivalent)
  may be required for any human subjects research. If you obtained IRB approval, you
  should clearly state this in the paper.
- We recognize that the procedures for this may vary significantly between institutions and locations, and we expect authors to adhere to the NeurIPS Code of Ethics and the guidelines for their institution.
- For initial submissions, do not include any information that would break anonymity (if applicable), such as the institution conducting the review.

### 16. Declaration of LLM usage

Question: Does the paper describe the usage of LLMs if it is an important, original, or non-standard component of the core methods in this research? Note that if the LLM is used only for writing, editing, or formatting purposes and does not impact the core methodology, scientific rigorousness, or originality of the research, declaration is not required.

Answer: [NA]

Justification: The core methodology of the research does not involve LLMs as an important, original or non-standard component, so no declaration is required.

- The answer NA means that the core method development in this research does not involve LLMs as any important, original, or non-standard components.
- Please refer to our LLM policy (https://neurips.cc/Conferences/2025/LLM) for what should or should not be described.

# **Appendix Contents**

A	Environment Setup Details	24
	A.1 SQL Dialects Implementation	24
	A.2 Databases Migration & Modifications	24
	A.3 Issue Collection Protocol	24
В	Annotator Qualification	25
	B.1 Annotator Entrance Test	25
	B.2 Training Tutorial	25
	B.3 Qualification Test	25
C	<b>Evaluation Script Details</b>	26
D	<b>Evaluation Metrics</b>	26
E	More Statistics	27
	E.1 Comparison of BIRD-CRITIC with other conversational Text-to-SQL benchmarks	27
	E.2 Detailed Statistics of BIRD-CRITIC-MULTI	27
	E.3 Quality Validation of SIX-GYM	27
F	Error Analysis Details	28
G	<b>Experiment Details</b>	29
	G.1 Alias of LLMs	29
	G.2 Model Implementation Details	29
	G.3 Agent Implementation Details	29
Н	Algorithm	30
	H.1 SQL Rewind Algorithm	30
	H.2 BIRD-FIXER Algorithm	30
Ι	Limitation And Future Work	31
J	Broader Impact	31
K	Prompt	32
L	BIRD-Fixer Example	36
M	f-Plan Example	37

# **A** Environment Setup Details

### A.1 SQL Dialects Implementation

For the implementation of SQL dialects, we set up a sandbox environment using Docker<sup>2</sup> containers. This environment consists of four database containers and one evaluation container, all managed via a 'docker-compose.yml' configuration. The databases used in this setup include:

Table 5: SQL Dialects used in BIRD-CRITIC.

Dialect	Version	URL
PostgreSQL	14.12	https://www.postgresql.org/
MySQL	8.4 Community Edition	https://www.mysql.com/
Microsoft SQL Server	2022	https://www.microsoft.com/sql-server
Oracle	19.3.0 Developer Edition	https://www.oracle.com/database/

Each of these databases is deployed in its own container, ensuring isolation and compatibility with the respective SQL dialects. The containers are connected through Docker Compose, allowing seamless interaction between the databases and the evaluation environment.

### A.2 Databases Migration & Modifications

Our initial setup begins with the BIRD-SQL development database, which is based on SQLite. The migration process is carried out using Navicat<sup>3</sup>, a powerful database management tool. This tool is used to migrate the original SQLite databases to the four SQL dialects mentioned above.

After the migration, the schema structures of the databases are manually verified to ensure that they reflect the correct translations between different dialects. SQL queries, such as 'SELECT \* FROM ', are executed to check data consistency and ensure that the migration retains the integrity of the original data. This step ensures that the translated databases can be used reliably for testing and evaluating SQL queries in the BIRD-CRITIC framework.

### A.3 Issue Collection Protocol

**User Issue Query Collection.** StackOverflow, a prominent online Q&A platform for software development under a research-friendly license (CC BY-SA 4.0), is frequently utilized as a primary data source for code-related evaluation research, [22, 47, 12]. To ensure the issue quality, we pre-define a rigorous protocol based on 4 criteria: 1) presence of executable SQL code with identifiable errors or inefficiencies, 2) representation of significant database concepts from academic literature or real-world debugging practice, 3) appropriate complexity (queries exceeding 100 tokens or incorporating nontrivial function usage) and 4) sufficient contextual information to prevent ambiguity. We incorporate candidate issues that fulfilled at least 3 criteria, thereby assembling a representative collection of SQL challenges that authentically reflect the obstacles encountered in professional database application environments.

Annotators meticulously review the reproduced issue  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{\text{issue}})$  and craft a new  $\sigma^*$ . This annotation requires ensuring that  $\sigma^*$ : (1) *Correctly Implements Intent:* Accurately fulfills the user's objective as inferred from  $\mathcal{P}$  and the context of  $\sigma_{\text{issue}}$ . (2) *Resolves the Error:* Explicitly fixes the identified flaw(s) in  $\sigma_{\text{issue}}$ . (3) *Is Functionally Correct:* Executes successfully on the target database instance D (conforming to  $\mathcal{S}$ ) within the specified dialect and produces the expected, correct results. (4) *Adheres to Best Practices:* Solution SQLs should present a reasonably efficient and well-formed query. As shown in Figure 1, this results in a curated "Solution Query" ( $\sigma^*$ ) paired with the user query and issue SQLs. Finally, to ensure robust evaluation, we annotate each task with evaluation scripts consisting of specific test cases written by Python and SQLs. Details can be found in Appendix C.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>https://www.docker.com

<sup>3</sup>https://www.navicat.com

#### Data Annotation Instruction SQL Debugging Entry Exam for BIRD-CRITIC **Docker Setup** 1. This tutorial guides you through setting up Docker on ti 2. Note: if you are a Mac user, you can skip section 1 & 2 2. This tutorial is divided into 8 sections: Exam Purpose and Structure This entry exam evaluates your proficiency in SQL issue identification, debugging techniques 3. This tutorial is divided into 9 sections: a. Python Utils and solution implementation. You must successfully complete all 10 challe BIRD-CRITIC annotator. You have one week to complete this exam. a. WSL2 b. CREATE Case h Git Bash c. SELECT Case **Environment Setup Requirements** YOU MUST SETUP THE Docker ENV BEFORE WORKING ON THIS EXAM c. Docker d. UPDATE Case Use the provided Docker environment for consistent evaluation d. Download from Google drive e. DROP Case f. INSERT Case Use VSCode for Python code, IDE/Python for SQL queries g. ALTER Case f. Stack Overflow Group Exam Structure h. Recursive function usage, JSON, optimization g. GitHub Issue Group n. Necursive function usage, JSDN, optimization This exam consists of 10 SQL debugging challenges across different categories: 3. YOU MUST SETUP THE Docker ENV BEFORE WORKING ON T 1. Basic SELECT Query Debugging (PostgreSQL) h. Git Bash in VScode a. Check this slide to get an overall idea about this project an a Task: [Task description will be provided] 4. Use VSCode for python code 4. Use VSCode for python code, IDE/Python for SQL query • Schema: [Schema information will be provided] 5. Last modified date: 2024-12-06 Issue SQL: [Problem SQL will be provided] 5. Last modified date: 2025-01-21

Figure 7: Examples of training materials by screenshots for BIRD-CRITIC annotators. Left: Docker setup instructions for creating the standardized annotation environment. Middle: Data annotation tutorials with detailed procedures for reproducing SQL issues. Right: Entry examination outline used to evaluate annotator proficiency across various SQL debugging challenges.

Your task: Identify issues, fix the guery, and explain your solution

# **B** Annotator Qualification

### **B.1** Annotator Entrance Test

To ensure high-quality annotations for the BIRD-CRITIC benchmark, we implemented a rigorous training process for all annotators. Each potential annotator underwent a comprehensive training program before contributing to the benchmark creation.

### **B.2** Training Tutorial

Annotators participated in an intensive tutorial program covering essential aspects of SQL issue debugging, including:

- Database environment setup
- Database schema analysis and comprehension
- SQL error identification patterns and common debugging approaches
- Systematic issue reproduction techniques
- · Solution validation and evaluation script development
- Best practices for creating test cases across different SQL dialects (PostgreSQL, MySQL, Oracle, and SQL Server)

The training materials included detailed documentation, practical examples, and hands-on exercises that mirrored the complexity and diversity of real-world SQL issues. Annotators were introduced to the specific annotation workflow required for BIRD-CRITIC benchmark creation.

# **B.3** Qualification Test

Following the week-long training phase, each candidate annotator was required to complete a qualification test consisting of ten representative SQL issue debugging tasks.

For each task, candidates had to:

- 1. Correctly identify the underlying issue in the problematic SQL
- 2. Reproduce the issue in the controlled environment
- 3. Develop a solution SQL that resolved the identified problems
- 4. Create comprehensive test cases to validate solution correctness
- 5. Document their reasoning and approach

Only candidates who successfully completed all ten tasks with satisfactory quality were approved as annotators for the BIRD-CRITIC benchmark. This stringent qualification process ensured that all annotators met the high standards required for creating a robust and trustworthy benchmark.

The qualification test success rate was approximately 90%, indicating the effectiveness of our tutorial materials and instruction program in preparing candidates for SQL issue debugging tasks. All annotators who contributed to the final BIRD-CRITIC benchmark successfully passed this qualification process.

# C Evaluation Script Details

To rigorously evaluate the correctness and suitability of generated SQL solutions ( $\sigma_{pred}$ ), particularly in the context of issue resolution, evaluation methodologies must extend beyond superficial syntactic checks or simple result set comparisons. We annotate each task with specific test case functions, which encompass four categories of SQL issue types in BIRD-CRITIC:

- Query-like Issues: Predominantly for conventional SELECT queries. Given that BIRD-CRITIC already provides issue SQLs that deliver original user intents, the solution SQLs must preserve these intentions while addressing identified problems. This protocol assesses correctness by executing  $\sigma_{\text{pred}}$  and the ground-truth  $\sigma^*$  on the database instance D and verifying the semantic equivalence of their result sets, typically accommodating variations in tuple ordering unless explicitly constrained by the task specifications.
- Management Issues: Essential for tasks involving Data Manipulation Language (DML: UPDATE, INSERT, DELETE), Data Definition Language (DDL: CREATE, ALTER), Data Control Language (DCL: GRANT, REVOKE), or complex multi-step procedures. For these cases, domain experts manually design test cases to ensure that the results executed by  $\sigma_{\text{pred}}$  fulfill the specified user requirements.
- **Personalization Issues:** For tasks imposing specific syntactic or semantic constraints on the solution (e.g., mandatory use of certain SQL features, avoidance of others, derived from the problem description  $\mathcal{P}$ ), this category extends the test case functions of the previous two categories while enforcing additional compliance criteria.

### D Evaluation Metrics

In BIRD-CRITIC, we adopt the **Task Resolution Success Rate** (SR %) as metric. This metric measures the percentage of tasks for which a model generates a SQL solution  $\sigma_{\text{pred}}$  that successfully passes the **all** curated test cases in the evaluation script. Formally, let N be the total number of tasks in the evaluation set, and let  $T_i$  represent the dedicated evaluation script designed for task i. A generated solution  $\sigma_{\text{pred},i}$  for task i is considered successful if and only if  $T_i(\sigma_{\text{pred},i})$  returns a passing outcome (returns True). The overall Success Rate is then calculated as:

$$\mathrm{SR} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbb{I}(T_i(\sigma_{\mathrm{pred},i}) = \mathtt{True})$$

where  $\mathbb{I}(\cdot)$  denotes the indicator function, evaluating to 1 if the condition is true and 0 otherwise. This metric directly leverages the outcomes of our comprehensive, category-aware test case framework. Since each test function  $T_i$  is tailored to the specific nature of the user's issue, evaluating semantic equivalence of results (Soft EX), correctness of database state transitions, adherence to explicit constraints via parsing as appropriate, the SR provides a holistic measure of a model's capability. It assesses the model's ability to generate solutions that are not merely executable, but are functionally correct and contextually appropriate for resolving the specific problem presented in the task instance  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{\text{issue}})$ . We argue that this success rate provides a more rigorous and practically relevant assessment of SQL issue resolution capabilities compared to metrics focused solely on execution or partial component matching.

Table 6: Data statistics of features in BIRD-CRITIC compared to related benchmarks. [†]: Results taken from public available Spider 2.0 Lite Gold SQL. EM refers to the Exact Match, EX refers to Execution Accuracy, and PCM-F1 refers Partial Component Match F1.

Dataset	# Eval	# Toks. / Q	# Toks. / SQL	<b>Evaluation Metric</b>	Non Query-like	Multi-Dialect
Spider 1.0	1,034	14.28	30.18	EM/EX	×	×
SEDE	857	14.34	101.3	PCM-F1	×	×
BIRD-SQL	1,543	18.36	50.01	EX	×	<b>✓</b>
Spider 2.0†	547	61.93	412.37	EX	×	<b>✓</b>
BEAVER	203	59.27	538.13	EX	×	×
BIRD-CRITIC PG	530	307.35	111.47	Test Cases	<b>✓</b>	X
BIRD-CRITIC MULTI	570	296.27	112.64	Test Cases	✓	<b>✓</b>

### **E** More Statistics

# E.1 Comparison of BIRD-CRITIC with other conversational Text-to-SQL benchmarks

This section compares BIRD-CRITIC with other benchmarks, highlighting its advantages in handling significantly longer user queries and supporting non-query-like SQL statements (e.g., DML, DDL), which present additional challenges. Additionally, the custom-designed test cases ensure a faithful evaluation of SQL solutions, while the multi-dialect support enables more comprehensive evaluation across diverse environments

### E.2 Detailed Statistics of BIRD-CRITIC-MULTI

This section focuses on the detailed statistics of the BIRD-CRITIC-MULTI dataset, emphasizing its support for multiple SQL dialects and showcasing the distribution of query types, SQL issues, and test cases across diverse dialects.

Table 7: Statistics grouped by Category and Dialect

	Count	Que	ery	Issue	SQL	Solution	ı SQL	Test C	ases
Category		Mean	Max	Mean	Max	Mean	Max	Mean	Max
Query	304	179.12	1058	168.20	1262	126.72	853	80.29	134
Management	104	141.44	519	68.80	267	102.76	578	189.53	733
Personalization	162	146.43	528	100.21	1073	113.01	778	160.50	517
Dialect									
PostgreSQL	276	152.61	1058	78.17	1073	103.45	578	151.30	733
MySQL	98	152.86	435	65.12	230	93.40	778	93.34	281
Oracle	98	171.52	421	265.36	1262	155.92	853	93.95	342
SQLServer	98	192.17	403	214.31	798	145.89	542	95.57	459

## E.3 Quality Validation of SIX-GYM

This section validates the quality of synthetic data generated by **SQL-Rewind** by comparing **SIX-GYM** with the manually curated BIRD-CRITIC-PG benchmark. Table 8 demonstrates that our synthetic dataset exhibits comparable complexity and diversity across multiple dimensions, including similar distribution of complex operations, higher SQL diversity ratio, and comparable query lengths.

Table 9 further breaks down performance by SQL complexity. The benefits of f-Plan scale with difficulty: while gains over rejection sampling are modest on simple queries (+7.5 points), they grow dramatically on complex queries with 5+ clauses (+29.2 points). f-Plan also resolves instances unsolved by either baseline or rejection sampling, particularly those with high keyword diversity and nested operations. These results highlight that f-Plan narrows the search space through structured

Table 8: Data Statistics Comparison between **SIX-GYM** and BIRD-CRITIC-PG [†]: Diversity Ratio = Unique 3-grams / Total 3-grams.

Dimension	BIRD-CRITIC-PG	SIX-GYM
User Query Length (mean/max)	162.98/1046	171.1/882
Issue SQL Length (mean/max)	133.29/1262	110.2/1089
Solution SQL Length (mean/max)	112.64/853	94.8/772
SQL Keywords Coverage	165	157
Complex Operations (%)	54.5	54.3
Multi-clause Queries (%)	59.4	61.2
SQL Diversity Ratio†	0.728	0.750

debugging plans, providing explicit guidance that is especially valuable when random exploration becomes ineffective.

Table 9: Success Rate by SQL Complexity

Issue SQL Complexity	Baseline	Reject	f-Plan
Simple (1-2 clauses)	52.3%	62.8%	70.3%
Medium (3-4 clauses)	38.7%	58.8%	69.4%
Complex (5+ clauses)	19.4%	37.1%	66.3%
High Keyword Diversity (10+)	24.1%	35.6%	54.3%
Nested Operations (2+ levels)	21.8%	36.8%	49.2%

# F Error Analysis Details

Figure 8 shows examples for each error type, along with an analysis of why the LLM-generated SQL failed the issue SQL query resolution.

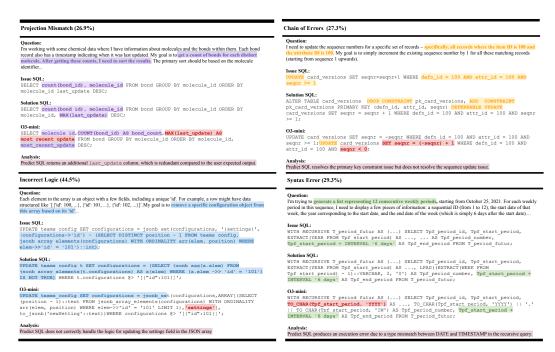


Figure 8: Detailed Error Analysis

# **G** Experiment Details

### G.1 Alias of LLMs

The following aliases are used for the models in this work:

- Claude-3.7-Sonnet: claude-3-7-sonnet-20250219
- Claude-3.7-Sonnet-Thinking: refers to claude-3-7-sonnet-20250219 with extended thinking
- O3-Mini: 03-Mini-2025-01-31
- O1-Preview: 01-Preview-2024-09-12
- GPT-4.1: gpt-4.1-2025-04-14
- Gemini-2.0-Flash: gemini-2.0-flash
- Gemini-2.0-Flash-Thinking: gemini-2.0-flash-thinking-exp-01-21
- deepseek-v3: deepseek-chat
- deepseek-r1: deepseek-reasoner

All open-source models are downloaded from Hugging Face<sup>4</sup>:

- Llama: Meta-Llama-3.1-8B-Instruct, Meta-Llama-3.3-70B-Instruct
- Qwen-Coder: Qwen2.5-Coder-7B-Instruct, Qwen2.5-Coder-14B-Instruct, Qwen2.5-Coder-32B-Instruct
- Phi: Phi-4

# **G.2** Model Implementation Details

For inference with proprietary models, we use official API providers, including OpenAI (https://openai.com/), Anthropic (https://www.anthropic.com/), Google (https://gemini.google.com/), and Deepseek (https://www.deepseek.com/). The total API cost for proprietary models is around \$200 USD.

For open-source models, we fine-tune all our models using the LlaMa-Factory library [55] (version 0.9.2) https://github.com/hiyouga/LLaMA-Factory with LoRA [15]. All our experiments are conducted on  $8 \times H100$  GPU with 80GB memory. We set the low-rank dimensions as 8, the learning rate as  $5e^{-5}$ , and the batch size as 4. The specific training hours for each backbone model are shown in Table 10. We use VLLM<sup>5</sup> (version 0.6.4.post1) to perform inference. We set the temperature as 0.1, the top p as 0.95, and the maximum input token length as 8000. We report the experimental results as the average of five repeated trials. The total GPU hours spent on inference are approximately 20 hours.

Table 10: GPU hours spent to train each backbone model.

Model	<b>GPU Hours</b>
Meta-Llama-3.1-8B	24.88
Qwen2.5-Coder-7B	22.00
Qwen2.5-Coder-14B	35.93
Phi-4	31.42

### **G.3** Agent Implementation Details

All agent designs follow the ReAct framework [46], which uses interleaving Thought, Action, Observation steps. Specifically:

<sup>4</sup>https://huggingface.co/

<sup>5</sup>https://docs.vllm.ai/en/latest

- **SQL-ACT**: The action is the freedom to execute any executable SQL query.
- Tool-ACT: Actions are predefined and include:
  - Schema Inspection: Reveals table/column information.
  - Sample Data: Previews example rows from a table.
  - Solution Query: The final, correct SQL query that resolves the user's issue.

# **H** Algorithm

# H.1 SQL Rewind Algorithm

We formalize the end-to-end SQL-Rewind pipeline in Algorithm 1, outlining each stage from raw post extraction to the construction of high-quality training tuples.

```
Algorithm 1 Automatic construction of SIX-GYM training instances with SQL-Rewind.
Require: \mathcal{D}_{raw} (Stack Overflow posts), \mathcal{W} (training databases); target\_size; max\_iter
Ensure: |\mathcal{G}| \geq target\_size
   procedure SQL REWIND
       \mathcal{G} \leftarrow \emptyset
                                                                                           for each post in \mathcal{D}_{raw} do
            if OVERLAP_WITH_BIRD_CRITIC(post) then
                 continue
            end if
            C \leftarrow \texttt{EXTRACT\_SQL}(post)
                                                                                                     for each sql in C do
                for each db in W do
                     sol \ sql \leftarrow ADAPT \ SCHEMA(sql, db)
                     if EXEC\_OK(sol\_sql, db) then
                                                                                  ⊳ issue synthesis and verification
                          for i \leftarrow 1 to max\_iter do
                               (\sigma_{\text{issue}}, r_{\text{issue}}, T) \leftarrow \text{GEN\_ISSUE}(sol\_sql, db)
                               if VALIDATE(\sigma_{\text{issue}}, r_{\text{issue}}, T, sol\_sql, db) then
                                   break
                               end if
                          end for
                          if validation failed then continue
                          end if
                                                                                              for j \leftarrow 1 to max\_iter do
                               \mathcal{P} \leftarrow \text{GEN\_USER\_QUERY}(\sigma_{\text{issue}}, r_{\text{issue}}, T, db)
                               if \text{CONSISTENT}(\mathcal{P}, \sigma_{\text{issue}}, T, sol\_sql) then
                                   break
                               end if
                          end for
                          if consistency failed then continue
                          end if
                          \mathcal{G} \leftarrow \mathcal{G} \cup \{\langle db.\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{P}, \sigma_{\text{issue}}, T, sol\_sql \rangle\}
                          if |\mathcal{G}| \ge target\_size then
                              break all loops
                          end if
                     end if
                end for
            end for
       end for
       return \mathcal{G}
   end procedure
```

# H.2 BIRD-FIXER Algorithm

Algorithm 2 BIRD-FIXER: Functional planning, backward inference, and forward validation for SQL issue fixing.

```
Require: \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{\text{issue}}; \sigma^*, T; F = (f_1, \dots, f_k)
Ensure: Trajectory \tau' = ((t_1, \sigma_1, o_1), \dots, (t_n, \sigma_n, o_n))
  Function: BIRD-FIXER
  procedure FunctionalPlan
       Annotate symbolic functional plan F = (f_1, \dots, f_k) from teacher LLM
       for each f_i in F do
           f_i represents an abstract debugging operation mapping \sigma_{\text{issue}} to \sigma^*
       end for
  end procedure
  procedure BACKWARDINFERENCE
       Given the problem (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{\text{issue}}) and the corrected query \sigma^*
       Generate a step-by-step functional plan F = (f_1, \dots, f_k)
       F is annotated by the teacher LLM to map \sigma_{\text{issue}} to \sigma^*
  end procedure
   procedure FORWARDVALIDATION
       Using (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S}, \sigma_{\text{issue}}) and candidate plan F
       Regenerate solution using SQL-ACT with teacher LLM
       if Regenerated SQL passes all test cases in T then
           Accept F
           Retain executable trace \tau' = ((t_1, \sigma_1, o_1), \dots, (t_n, \sigma_n, o_n))
       else
           Discard plan F
       end if
  end procedure
```

### I Limitation And Future Work

Our work primarily focuses on SQL content and knowledge by simplifying the impact of external workflows through containerized Docker environments. Workflow operations such as file reading and editing represent important considerations for future development in BIRD-CRITIC 1.5. Actually, We conducted preliminary experiments on models performing workflow-integrated content-based tasks, where LLMs not only check and revise SQL issues but also save results to files. This integration resulted in substantial performance drop, with success rates dropping from approximately 30% to 10%. However, we prioritize SQL knowledge improvement in this work since significant opportunities for advancement remain in this domain.

Similar to most complex task evaluations [57], BIRD-CRITIC employs single-turn evaluation while striving to make task descriptions as clear as possible. However, real-world applications typically require crucial interaction between users and agents since most users cannot articulate their intents or queries with complete clarity and may need multi-turn interactions for clarification or additional information processing. Our recent work, BIRD-Interact<sup>6</sup>, evaluates text-to-SQL performance of LLM agents through dynamic interaction by multi-turn conversational and agentic interactions. Future work will extend BIRD-CRITIC to incorporate dynamic user-SQL debugging processes, better simulating the complexity of real-world agent-human interactions.

# J Broader Impact

Our work presents an approach to training open-source models specifically designed for debugging SQL issues. Additionally, we introduce a workflow for constructing robust benchmarks from diverse open platforms, such as StackOverflow, through a reproducible loop to mitigate potential data leakage. Furthermore, our research primarily targets technical SQL knowledge within the programming domain. Thus, it does not directly engage with or pose risks concerning broader societal issues.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>https://bird-interact.github.io/

# K Prompt

# Baseline Prompt for resolving SQL issues with an LLM

You are a SQL assistant. Your task is to understand user issue and correct their problematic SQL given the database schema. Please wrap your corrected SQL with ```sql\n[Your Fixed SQL]\n``` tags in your response.

Database Schema:

{SCHEMA}

User issue:

{USER\_ISSUE}

**Problematic SQL**: {ISSUE\_SQL}

Corrected SQL:

### Prompt used to generate Thought

Interact with the " $\{db\_id\}$ " database using PostgreSQL to solve the user issue. You will be given the following information:

- 1. Database schema: complete CREATE TABLE ... DDL.
- 2. User Issue: a natural language description of the desired outcome or the current bug.
- 3. **Problematic SQL**: the query (or queries) that presently fail to meet the requirement.

Use interleaving Thought, Action, Observation steps.

**Thought** can reason about the possible errors or other information you think you need for debugging about the current situation. For instance, it could be:

- Diagnosis of the bug you see in the current query.
- Hypotheses you want to confirm (e.g., Maybe the join is missing a date filter).
- Reasoning that led you to the next SQL step (checking row counts, inspecting NULLs, etc.).
- A brief plan for what you will try next.

**Action** can only be the executable PostgreSQL SQL. The **Observation** would be the execution results feedback from the environment.

Wrap your thought in the <thought>[Your Thought]</thought> tag and your action in <action>[Executable SQL]</action>.

The input for you is as follows:

### **Database Schema**

{SCHEMA}

### **User Issue**

{USER\_ISSUE}

### **Problematic SQL**

{ISSUE\_SQL}

### **Important Rules:**

- MOST IMPORTANT: Wrap your thought in the <thought>[Your Thought] 
   tag and your action in the <action>[Executable SQL] </action> tag.
- The action inside the <action></action> tags must be pure PostgreSQL statements that can be executed directly, without any comments or needs for additional post-processing.

Now generate the thought and action of the next round given the trajectory history and the input. You still have {turn} turns left.

### React

{history}

<thought>

### Prompt used to generate Action

Interact with the " $\{db\_id\}$ " database using PostgreSQL to solve the user issue. You will be given the following information:

- 1. Database schema: complete CREATE TABLE ... DDL.
- 2. User Issue: a natural language description of the desired outcome or the current bug.
- 3. **Problematic SQL**: the query (or queries) that presently fails to meet the requirement.

Use interleaving Thought, Action, Observation steps.

**Thought** can reason about the possible errors or other information you need for debugging about the current situation. For instance, it could be:

- Diagnosis of the bug you see in the current query.
- Hypotheses you want to confirm (e.g., Maybe the join is missing a date filter).
- Reasoning that led you to the next SQL step (checking row counts, inspecting NULLs, etc.).
- A brief plan for what you will try next.

**Action** can only be the executable PostgreSQL SQL according to the corresponding thought. The **Observation** would be the execution results feedback from the environment.

Your task is to generate the action for the current round thought given the react history. Wrap your action in <action>[Executable SQL]</action>. If you think the debugging process is done, just output <action>[DONE]</action> as the action.

The input for you is as follows:

**Database Schema** 

{SCHEMA}

**User Issue** 

{USER\_ISSUE}

Problematic SQL

{ISSUE\_SQL}

### **Important Rules:**

- MOST IMPORTANT: Wrap your action in <action>[Executable SQL]</action>.
- The action inside the <action></action> tags must be pure PostgreSQL statements that can be executed directly, without any comments or needs for additional post-processing.
- If you believe the debugging process is finished, output <action>[DONE]</action> as the action for this turn.

Now generate the action of this round given the trajectory history and current thought. Generating multiple rounds at once is NOT ALLOWED! You still have {turn} turns left.

### React

{history}

<action>

### Prompt used to generate Corrected SQL

You are a text-to-SQL expert. You will be given the following information:

- 1. Database schema: complete CREATE TABLE ... DDL.
- 2. **User Issue**: a natural language description of the desired outcome or the current bug.
- 3. Problematic SQL: the query (or queries) that presently fails to meet the requirement.
- 4. **React Thought Chain**: A history of your prior debugging iterations, formatted as a sequence of thought → action → observation tuples. Each tuple is separated from the next by a blank line ( n n).
  - Thought Your reasoning: hypotheses about errors, assumptions, or additional data requirements.
  - Action A pure PostgreSQL statement executed to test or correct the issue.
  - **Observation** The execution result returned by the database engine.

Your task is to understand all these contents and generate the final PostgreSQL that could accurately solve the user issue.

The input is as follows:

### **Database Schema**

{SCHEMA}

### **User Issue**

{USER\_ISSUE}

### **Problematic SQL**

sql\_list = {ISSUE\_SQL}

# **React Thought Chain**

{HISTORY}

Now generate the final PostgreSQL that could accurately solve the user issue and could be directly executed. Wrap your answer in the " $\sq1$ 

n [Your Answer] " ' tag. Do not give me extra explanations or comments.

# L BIRD-Fixer Example

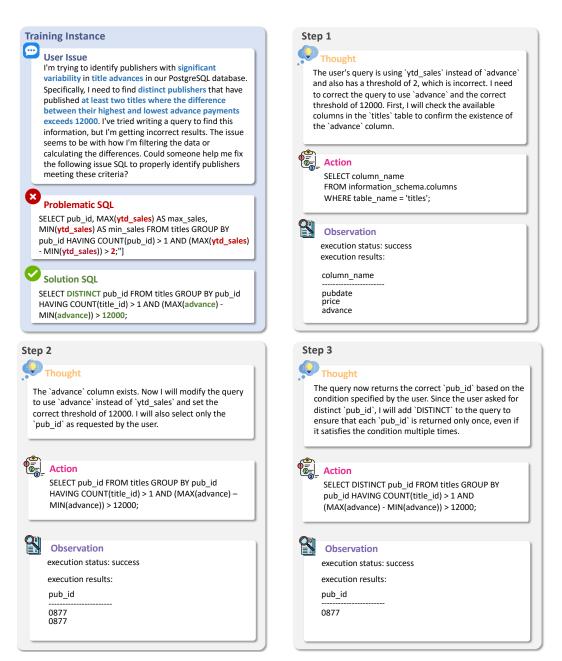


Figure 9: BIRD-Fixer Example.

# M f-Plan Example

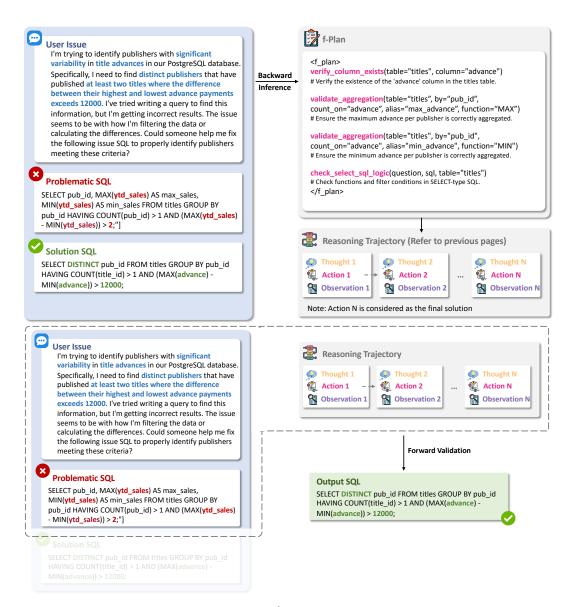


Figure 10: f-Plan Example.