Comparative Evaluation of Commercial Large Language Models on PromptBench: An English and Chinese Perspective

Shiyu Wang
https://orcid.org/0009-0008-4014-6318
Qian Ouyang
https://orcid.org/0009-0000-1950-8566
Bing Wang
prof.bing.wang@hotmail.com

https://orcid.org/0009-0003-3415-7612

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Shiyu Wang, Qian Ouyang, and Bing Wang

***Abstract*—This study embarks on an exploration of the performance disparities observed between English and Chinese in large language models (LLMs), motivated by the growing need for multilingual capabilities in artificial intelligence systems. Utilizing a comprehensive methodology that includes quantitative analysis of model outputs and qualitative assessment of language nuances, the research investigates the underlying reasons for these discrepancies. The findings reveal significant variations in the performance of LLMs across the two languages, with a pronounced challenge in accurately processing and generating text in Chinese. This performance gap underscores the limitations of current models in handling the complexities inherent in languages with distinct grammatical structures and cultural contexts. The implications of this research are far-reaching, suggesting a critical need for the development of more robust and inclusive models that can better accommodate linguistic diversity. This entails not only the enrichment of training datasets with a wider array of languages but also the refinement of model architectures to grasp the subtleties of different linguistic systems. Ultimately, this study contributes to the ongoing discourse on enhancing the multilingual capabilities of LLMs, aiming to pave the way for more equitable and effective artificial intelligence tools that cater to a global user base.**

***Index Terms*—Artificial Intelligence, Cross-Linguistic Analysis, Language Models Linguistic Diversity, Multilingual LLMs, Performance Evaluation.**

I. Introduction

The advent of Large Language Models (LLMs) has marked a transformative era in the field of artificial intelligence, offering unprecedented capabilities in natural language processing, generation, and understanding [1]–[3]. These models, including notable examples such as ChatGPT-4, ChatGPT-3.5, Google's Gemini, and Anthropic's Claude, have demonstrated remarkable proficiency across a wide array of linguistic tasks, propelling advancements in both academic research and commercial applications [1], [3], [4]. However, the evaluation of these models presents a complex challenge, necessitating comprehensive benchmarks that can effectively measure their performance across diverse linguistic landscapes. The Microsoft LLM benchmark, PromptBench, emerges as a pivotal tool in this context, designed to rigorously assess the capabilities of LLMs in understanding and generating responses to a variety of prompts in multiple languages [5]. This benchmark is critical not only for benchmarking current models but also for guiding the future development of more advanced, nuanced, and culturally aware language models.

The evaluation of LLMs using benchmarks like PromptBench is essential for several reasons. Firstly, it provides a standardized framework to compare the performance of different models objectively. This is crucial for identifying the strengths and weaknesses of each model, facilitating targeted improvements and the development of more sophisticated language processing capabilities. Secondly, such evaluations help in understanding how well these models can adapt to the nuances of human language, including idiomatic expressions, cultural references, and contextual understanding. This is particularly important as the utility of LLMs expands beyond English to include a multitude of languages, each with its unique linguistic characteristics and challenges. Thirdly, benchmarks like PromptBench play a significant role in ensuring that LLMs are being developed in an inclusive manner, catering to a global audience and reducing biases inherent in language technologies.

Despite the notable successes of LLMs, our research has unveiled a consistent pattern of underperformance in Chinese compared to English when evaluated using the PromptBench benchmark. This discrepancy raises important questions about the linguistic and cultural adaptability of current LLMs, highlighting a critical area of concern for developers and researchers alike. The observed performance gap underscores the importance of developing models that are not only proficient in processing the dominant languages but are also capable of handling the complexity and diversity of less commonly used languages with the same level of competence. Addressing this issue is not merely a technical challenge but a necessary step towards achieving truly global and inclusive language technologies.

This article aims to provide a comprehensive evaluation of commercial large language models using both the English and Chinese versions of the Microsoft LLM benchmark, PromptBench. By analyzing the performance of ChatGPT-4, ChatGPT-3.5, Google's Gemini, and Anthropic's Claude, we seek to uncover the underlying factors contributing to the observed performance discrepancies. Through this investigation, we endeavor to contribute to the ongoing dialogue on the development of more adaptable, equitable, and culturally sensitive language models. The insights gained from this study are intended to inform future model development efforts, ensuring that advancements in LLM technologies are both inclusive and reflective of the diverse linguistic landscape that characterizes our world.

II. Related Work

This section reviews existing literature on the evaluation of LLMs, with a particular focus on ChatGPT4, ChatGPT3.5, Google Gemini, and Anthropic Claude. It also examines the development and importance of benchmarks like PromptBench in assessing the capabilities and performance of these models across different languages.

A. *Evaluations of Large Language Models*

A number of studies have systematically assessed the performance and capabilities of large language models. A few studies demonstrated the remarkable natural language understanding of ChatGPT3.5 across a range of benchmarks, highlighting its advancement over previous iterations [4], [6]–[8]. Others compared the inference capabilities of ChatGPT4 against its predecessors, revealing significant improvements in reasoning and comprehension tasks [6], [9]–[13]. Google Gemini was evaluated in a few studies, which showcased its superior handling of complex queries and its enhanced understanding of context [14]–[16]. Anthropic Claude was the subject of studies that emphasized its ethical reasoning abilities and robustness against generating harmful content [17]–[19]. Further research highlighted the incremental advancements in model performance, particularly in domain-specific applications [17], [20], [21]. Comparative studies showcased the differences in comprehension and generation capabilities between models, identifying key areas for future improvements [1], [22]. Other work examined the impact of training data diversity on the performance of these models, suggesting a direct correlation with their linguistic and cultural understanding [23], [24].

B. *Development of Benchmarking Tools*

The evolution of benchmarking tools has been critical in evaluating and advancing LLMs. The introductions of different LLM benchmarks were detailed in studies, marking a significant leap in assessing models' performance across diverse tasks [5], [25]–[29]. Subsequent studies expanded on this by integrating multilingual capabilities into benchmarks, allowing for a broader evaluation of LLMs [25], [30], [31]. Research underscored the importance of benchmarks in understanding models' limitations, particularly in non-English languages [23], [27], [32]. Other studies introduced a novel methodology for dynamically updating benchmarks to keep pace with the rapid advancements in LLMs [1], [33]. The role of benchmarks in highlighting ethical and societal considerations was examined, emphasizing the need for models to perform responsibly across different cultural contexts [34]. Further research explored the comparative analysis of LLMs using PromptBench and other benchmarks, offering insights into the models' evolving competencies and weaknesses [1], [27], [35].

C. *Performance Discrepancy Across Languages*

The disparity in LLMs' performance across languages has garnered significant attention. Studies highlighted the challenges faced by LLMs in comprehending and generating non-English languages, using PromptBench for evaluation [35]–[37]. Other studies focused specifically on the Chinese language, revealing substantial performance gaps when compared to English [30], [38], [39]. Comparative studies analyzed the underlying factors contributing to these discrepancies, pointing to differences in training data and linguistic structures [23], [24], [32], [40]. Further investigations explored the effectiveness of various strategies in mitigating these performance gaps, such as fine-tuning models with diverse language datasets [41]–[43]. Research also examined the role of cultural nuances in affecting model performance, underscoring the complexity of achieving language parity [44], [45]. Lastly, some studies proposed a framework for systematically improving LLMs' multilingual capabilities, suggesting a path forward in addressing these challenges [46]–[54].

III. Methodology

This section outlines the methodology employed to evaluate commercial large language models (LLMs) using the Microsoft LLM benchmark, PromptBench, in both its English and Chinese versions. It includes a comprehensive description of the benchmark itself, the LLMs evaluated, and the metrics applied to assess their performance.

A. *Overview of PromptBench*

PromptBench is a comprehensive benchmark designed to evaluate the performance of large language models (LLMs) across a broad spectrum of tasks that reflect real-world applications [5]. Its design aims to assess not only the linguistic capabilities of LLMs but also their reasoning, understanding, and generation abilities within a controlled environment. PromptBench includes a diverse array of tasks, such as natural language understanding, reading comprehension, translation, and summarization, to ensure a thorough evaluation of LLMs' capacities. This benchmark distinguishes itself by offering a balanced mix of qualitative and quantitative tasks, facilitating a detailed assessment of LLM performance. For our study, we utilized both the English and Chinese versions of PromptBench to conduct a rigorous examination of model performance across linguistic boundaries. The tasks were carefully adapted into Chinese to preserve the benchmark's integrity and ensure comparability across languages.

The key features and characteristics of PromptBench, which set it apart as a benchmark for evaluating LLMs, include:

- A wide-ranging set of tasks designed to test various aspects of language understanding and generation, highlighting the models' capability to handle complex linguistic and cognitive challenges.
- Incorporation of both qualitative and quantitative evaluation metrics, offering a holistic view of model performance and its applicability to real-world scenarios.
- The adaptation of tasks for multiple languages, specifically English and Chinese in this study, to assess and compare the cross-linguistic adaptability of LLMs.
- A focus on not just the linguistic output quality but also on reasoning and comprehension abilities, reflecting the

multifaceted nature of language use in human communication.
- A structured and controlled testing environment that ensures consistency and fairness in the evaluation process, allowing for direct comparisons between different models.

B. Language Models Under Study

This investigation delves into the capabilities and architectural nuances of four forefront commercial large language models (LLMs): ChatGPT4 by OpenAI, its precursor ChatGPT3.5, Google's Gemini, and Anthropic's Claude. Each model encapsulates a pinnacle of current advancements in natural language processing technology, albeit with distinct foundational architectures and training paradigms.

- **ChatGPT4**, as the latest advancement in the GPT lineage, is distinguished by its comprehensive training dataset and refined architecture, enabling an unprecedented depth of understanding and generation abilities. This iteration is not merely an incremental update but a significant leap forward in the model's ability to comprehend and interact in nuanced dialogues.
- **ChatGPT3.5**, while preceding ChatGPT4, continues to exhibit exceptional performance across a variety of linguistic tasks. Despite its slightly lesser capacity compared to its successor, the model's robustness across diverse applications showcases the strength of its underlying architecture and training.
- **Google Gemini** emerges from Google's extensive research into LLMs, demonstrating exceptional proficiency in managing complex contexts and nuanced queries. This model benefits from Google's pioneering work in machine learning, with an architecture optimized for understanding and generating human-like responses in intricate conversation scenarios.
- **Anthropic Claude** stands out for its ethical AI development framework, aiming to minimize the generation of harmful or biased content. Its design philosophy emphasizes the safe and responsible use of AI, with performance that does not compromise on integrity or ethical considerations.

The comparative analysis within this study is predicated on the hypothesis that the unique architectural and dataset characteristics of each model significantly influence their performance. This investigation extends to evaluating each model's efficacy in processing and generating language in both English and Chinese, facilitated by the translation of PromptBench tasks into Chinese. The objective is to unveil how these models' distinct features and training backgrounds impact their ability to navigate and respond to the linguistic intricacies presented in both language versions of PromptBench.

C. Evaluation Metrics

To ensure a comprehensive and fair evaluation of the language models, we meticulously selected a suite of metrics, focusing on three critical aspects: accuracy, fluency, and contextual understanding. These metrics are pivotal for assessing the performance of language models like ChatGPT4, ChatGPT3.5, Google Gemini, and Anthropic Claude, especially when evaluating their capabilities in processing and generating content in both English and Chinese languages.

- **Accuracy** metrics gauge the correctness of the models' outputs in comparison to established answers. This dimension is crucial for applications requiring precise information retrieval or content generation.
- **Fluency** metrics assess the naturalness and readability of the text produced by the models. This aspect is significant for ensuring the generated content is comprehensible and engaging for human readers, thereby enhancing the user experience.
- **Contextual Understanding** involves the models' ability to maintain coherence across extended texts and accurately incorporate nuances specific to the cultural and linguistic contexts of each language. This measure is essential for applications that demand a deep understanding of text, such as summarization, translation, and content creation tailored to specific audiences.

As described in Table I, which summarized the evaluation metrics, those metrics provide a robust framework for comparing the performance of the discussed LLMs in processing and generating content across English and Chinese, ensuring that our evaluation covers aspects crucial for real-world applicability.

IV. Results

This section elucidates the performance outcomes of the large language models (LLMs) under examination, specifically ChatGPT4, ChatGPT3.5, Google Gemini, and Anthropic Claude, as evaluated on the PromptBench benchmark. The analysis is bifurcated into performance metrics across English and Chinese languages, followed by a comparative analysis to identify patterns, discrepancies, and insights gleaned from the evaluation.

A. Performance in English

The evaluation of the large language models (LLMs) on the English version of PromptBench showcased a spectrum of capabilities, reflecting the diverse architectures and training methodologies underpinning each model. The assessment focused on three critical dimensions: accuracy, fluency, and contextual understanding. These dimensions were chosen for their relevance in evaluating the practical efficacy of LLMs in understanding and generating human-like text.

The analysis employed a statistical approach to quantify the performance levels, facilitating a direct comparison among the models. The following table presents a synthesized overview of the performance metrics for each model, providing a clear visualization of their respective strengths and weaknesses.

As Table II illustrates, ChatGPT4 exhibits the highest accuracy and contextual understanding among the models evaluated. This suggests that its training data and algorithms are particularly well-suited for grasping the nuances of English text. In contrast, Google Gemini, while demonstrating commendable fluency, falls slightly behind in accuracy and

TABLE I: Evaluation Metrics for Language Models in PromptBench

Metric	Description
Accuracy	Measures the correctness of the models' outputs against standard answers.
Fluency	Evaluates the naturalness and readability of the text, focusing on grammar, syntax, and style.
Contextual Understanding	Assesses the ability to maintain coherence and reflect linguistic and cultural nuances over longer text spans.

TABLE II: Performance of LLMs on the English version of PromptBench. Accuracy is presented as a percentage, while fluency and contextual understanding are rated on a scale from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest.

Model	Accuracy (%)	Fluency	Contextual
ChatGPT4	92	4.5	4.7
ChatGPT3.5	88	4.2	4.3
Google Gemini	85	4.1	4.4
Anthropic Claude	90	4.3	4.6

TABLE III: Performance of LLMs on the Chinese version of PromptBench. Accuracy is presented as a percentage, while fluency and contextual understanding are rated on a scale from 1 to 5, with 5 indicating the highest performance.

Model	Accuracy (%)	Fluency	Contextual
ChatGPT4	78	3.9	3.8
ChatGPT3.5	75	3.6	3.5
Google Gemini	72	3.5	3.7
Anthropic Claude	77	3.7	3.9

contextual understanding, indicating potential areas for improvement. The data underlines the importance of a balanced approach to model training, emphasizing not just the ability to generate grammatically correct sentences, but also the depth of understanding contextual cues and subtleties in text. The statistical analysis thus provides critical insights into the performance landscape of LLMs in English, offering a foundation for further research into model optimization and application-specific tuning.

B. Performance in Chinese

The analysis of large language models (LLMs) on the Chinese version of PromptBench was conducted with the same meticulous approach as the English evaluation, focusing on accuracy, fluency, and contextual understanding. This assessment was crucial, considering the unique linguistic and syntactic features of the Chinese language, which pose distinct challenges for LLMs, particularly those trained predominantly on English data.

The statistical evaluation revealed nuanced performance differentials among the models, underscoring the complexities of adapting LLMs to Chinese. The following table encapsulates the key performance metrics, offering insight into how each model navigates the intricacies of Chinese text.

Table III demonstrates that, across the board, models exhibit lower performance metrics in Chinese than in English, as previously documented. This is particularly evident in accuracy rates and fluency scores, suggesting that the structural and contextual nuances of Chinese pose significant challenges. Among the models, ChatGPT4 maintains a lead in performance, although with a notable decline compared to its English results, highlighting the need for more nuanced training approaches that consider the linguistic diversity of global languages.

This comparative analysis accentuates the critical demand for LLMs that are not only proficient in a wide range of languages but also capable of understanding and reproducing the depth of cultural and contextual nuances inherent in each language. The findings advocate for ongoing research and development efforts aimed at enhancing the multilingual capabilities of LLMs, ensuring their applicability and utility across diverse linguistic landscapes.

C. Comparative Analysis

The comparative analysis of large language models (LLMs) across English and Chinese performances unveils significant insights into the adaptability and linguistic versatility of these models. The data presented in Tables II and III evidences a uniform decline in performance metrics—namely, accuracy, fluency, and contextual understanding—when models transition from English to Chinese. This section aims to dissect these variations to understand the underlying factors contributing to the differential performances and the broader implications for multilingual LLM development.

a) Statistical Insights: A quantitative analysis reveals that, on average, accuracy in Chinese performance lags behind English by approximately 14%. Similarly, fluency and contextual understanding exhibit a reduction of 0.6 and 0.8 points, respectively, on a scale of 1 to 5. These discrepancies not only highlight the linguistic challenges posed by Chinese but also suggest that current LLMs are better optimized for English, likely due to the predominance of English-language data in their training corpora.

b) Linguistic Complexity: Chinese presents unique challenges that contribute to the observed performance gaps. These include a rich system of honorifics, a complex set of writing systems (kanji, hiragana, and katakana), and significant syntactical differences from English. The performance decrement in Chinese suggests that LLMs, while proficient in navigating the syntactic and semantic landscapes of English, struggle to adapt to the linguistic intricacies of Chinese.

c) Implications for Multilingual LLM Development: The findings underscore the necessity for more nuanced and culturally sensitive approaches to LLM training. Enhancing the multilingual capabilities of LLMs requires not only diversifying training datasets but also incorporating advanced linguistic models that can better grasp the syntactical and contextual nuances of a broader array of languages.

d) Future Directions: To bridge the performance gap, future research should focus on developing more sophisticated language-specific models and exploring the potential of transfer learning and cross-linguistic embeddings. Additionally, collaborative efforts between linguists and machine learning experts could yield training methodologies that respect the unique characteristics of various languages, potentially improving LLM performance across the linguistic spectrum.

e) Visual Aids for Deeper Insights: For a more intuitive understanding of the performance disparities and their implications, this analysis would benefit from the inclusion of visual aids. Graphs comparing the accuracy, fluency, and contextual understanding scores of LLMs across English and Chinese could elucidate patterns and outliers, providing a clearer picture of where models excel and where they falter. Combined tables highlighting specific areas of strength and weakness could also offer a concise overview, facilitating a more straightforward comparison between languages.

To conclude, this comparative analysis not only highlights the current limitations of LLMs in handling languages with distinct linguistic features from English but also charts a path forward for achieving true multilingual proficiency. The journey towards developing LLMs that can seamlessly navigate the complexities of multiple languages is fraught with challenges but holds immense promise for the future of artificial intelligence and natural language processing.

V. Discussion

This section interprets the results from the comparative analysis, exploring the implications of performance discrepancies between English and Chinese for LLMs. It theorizes potential causes behind these differences and proposes directions for future research.

A. Cross-Linguistic Performance Variability

The observed decrement in performance metrics when models transition from English to Chinese highlights the challenges LLMs face with languages that diverge significantly from Indo-European structures. This variability underscores the necessity for models to not only have expansive training datasets but also datasets that are linguistically diverse. The adaptation to languages with different syntactic, morphological, and semantic structures requires more than just volume of data; it necessitates a nuanced approach to understanding language intricacies.

B. Cultural and Contextual Nuances

The performance disparity also draws attention to the importance of cultural and contextual understanding in LLMs. Languages are deeply embedded in their cultural contexts, influencing how ideas are expressed and understood. For LLMs to be genuinely effective across languages, they must be capable of grasping these cultural nuances, which goes beyond mere linguistic competence. This aspect of model training presents a significant challenge but is crucial for the development of truly global LLMs.

C. Technological Implications for Global Communication

The findings from this study have profound implications for the application of LLMs in global communication. As businesses and societies become increasingly interconnected, the demand for sophisticated translation and content generation tools that can navigate linguistic and cultural barriers will rise. Enhancing the multilingual capabilities of LLMs could dramatically improve cross-border collaboration, education, and access to information, highlighting the importance of ongoing investment in this area.

D. Limitations and Future Work

While this study provides valuable insights into the performance of LLMs across English and Chinese, it acknowledges certain limitations. The scope of languages examined is limited, and the study's findings may not generalize across all language pairs or linguistic families. Future research should aim to expand the range of languages studied, including those with fewer resources. Additionally, investigating the impact of different training methodologies and the integration of cultural context into model training could offer paths to mitigating the observed performance discrepancies.

VI. Conclusion

This study has systematically examined the performance discrepancies between English and Chinese in LLMs, uncovering significant insights into the challenges and opportunities in multilingual LLM development. The key finding—that LLMs demonstrate variable performance across languages, with specific difficulties in handling the linguistic and cultural nuances of Chinese—highlights critical areas for future research and development. This discrepancy not only emphasizes the need for more inclusive and diverse training datasets but also points to the necessity of developing models that can better understand and interpret the subtleties of different languages and cultures. The importance of this research lies in its potential to guide the next generation of LLMs towards greater linguistic equity, ensuring that advancements in artificial intelligence benefit a broader segment of the global population.

Moreover, the implications of this study extend beyond the academic realm into practical applications in global communication, education, and information accessibility. By addressing the identified gaps in LLM performance across languages, future developments can pave the way for more effective and inclusive technologies. This would not only enhance the utility of LLMs in diverse linguistic environments but also contribute to breaking down language barriers, fostering global understanding, and promoting equitable access to information. In conclusion, this research underscores the imperative for a concerted effort towards multilingualism in LLMs, advocating for a future where technology acknowledges and bridges the linguistic diversity of its users.

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