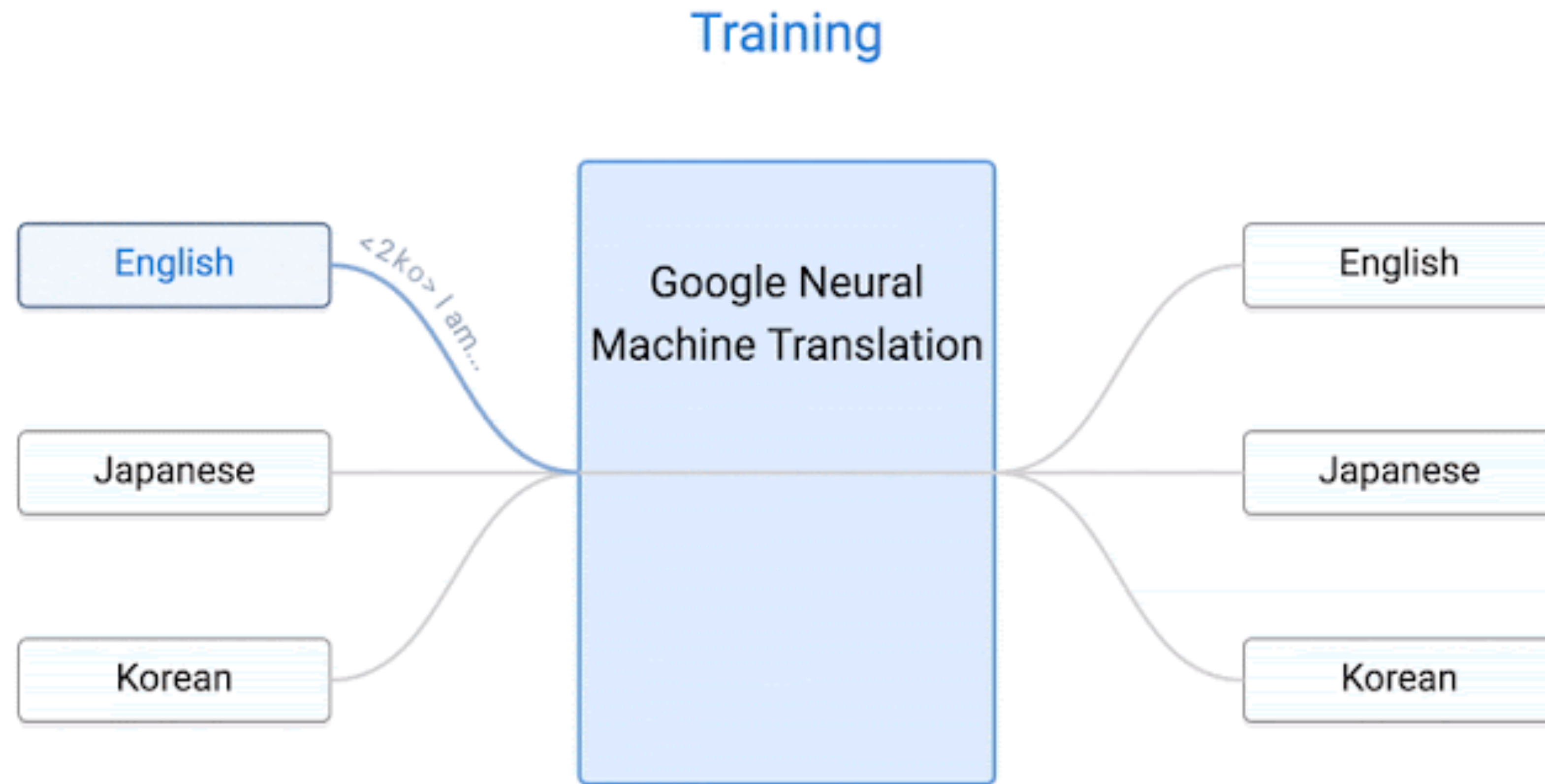


Improving Machine Translation with Human Strategy and Feedback

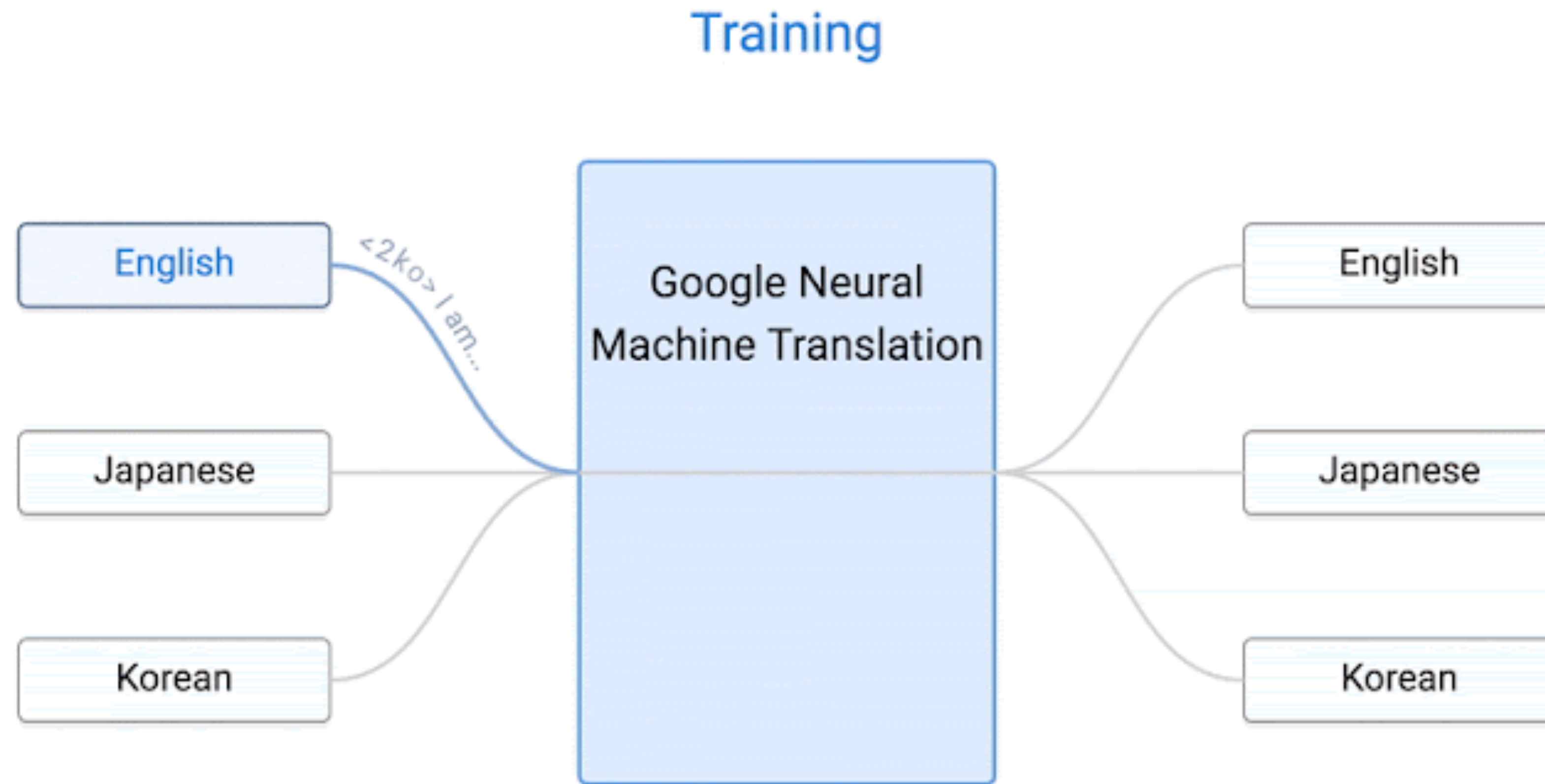
Zhiwei He & Rui Wang

Shanghai Jiao Tong University

The Neural Machine Translation Training Process

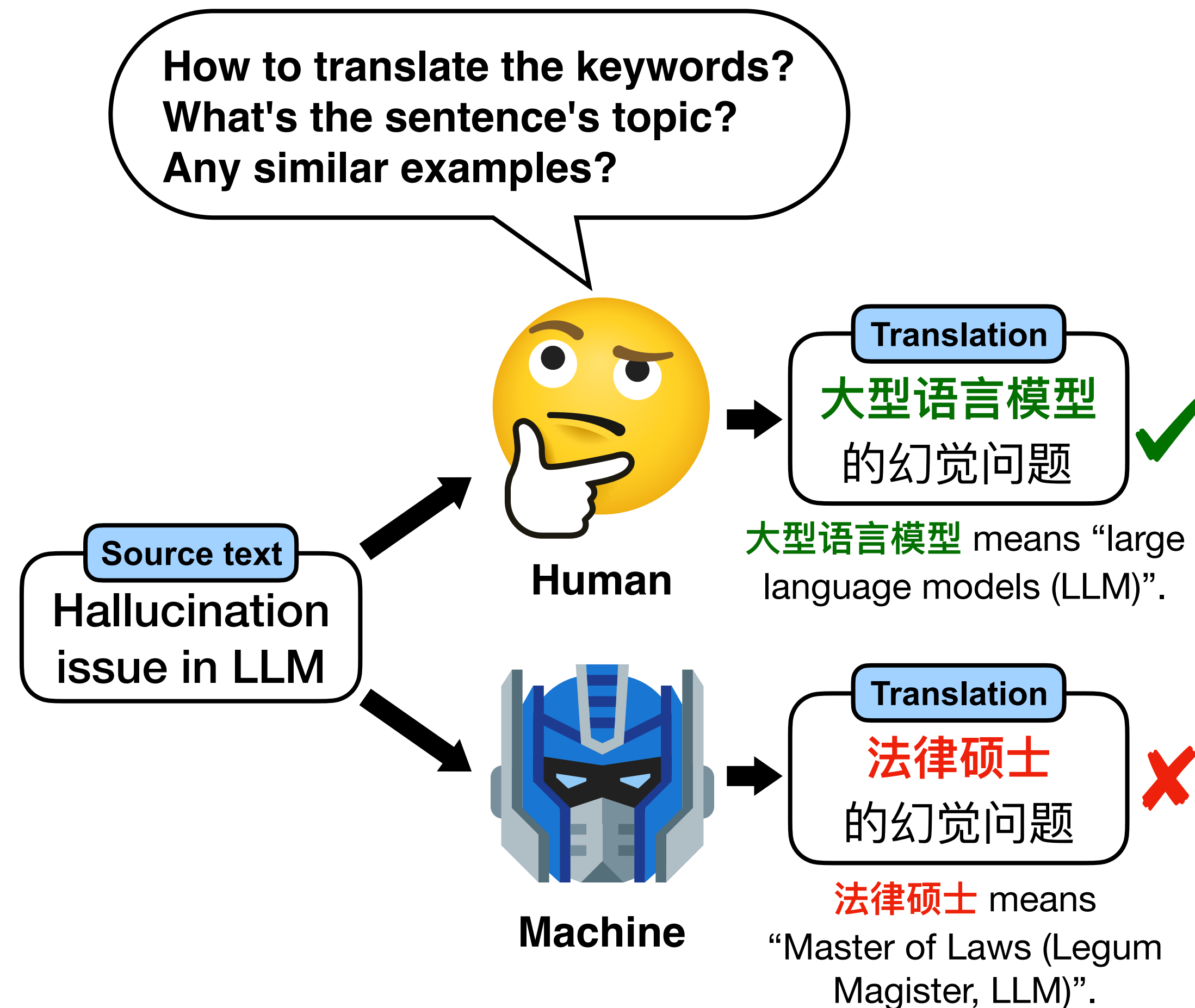


The Neural Machine Translation Training Process



Two Main Limitations of Current NMT Models

Limitation 1: Lacking Human Translation Strategies



- ▶ NMT models are trained to perform source-to-target mapping.
- ▶ A human translator can take preparatory steps to ensure high-quality translation.

Large language model (LLM) can adopt many human-like strategies in reasoning and planning tasks

Let's think step by step, ...

Chain-of-Thought

Let me do a reflection and think about how to improve my strategy, ...

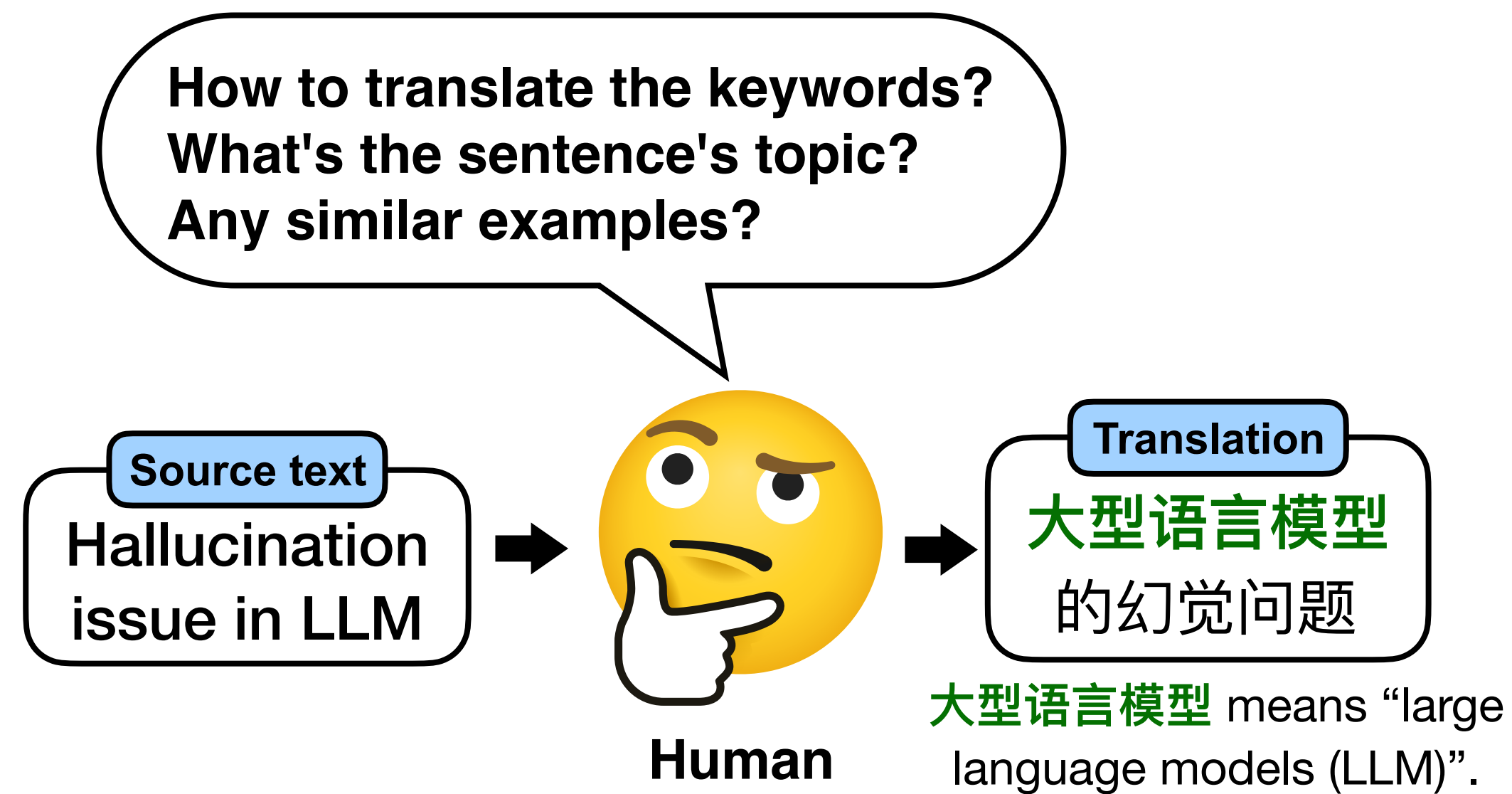
Reflexion

Let's take a step back and generate a more generic question, ...

Step-Back prompting

Exploring Human-Like Translation Strategy with LLM

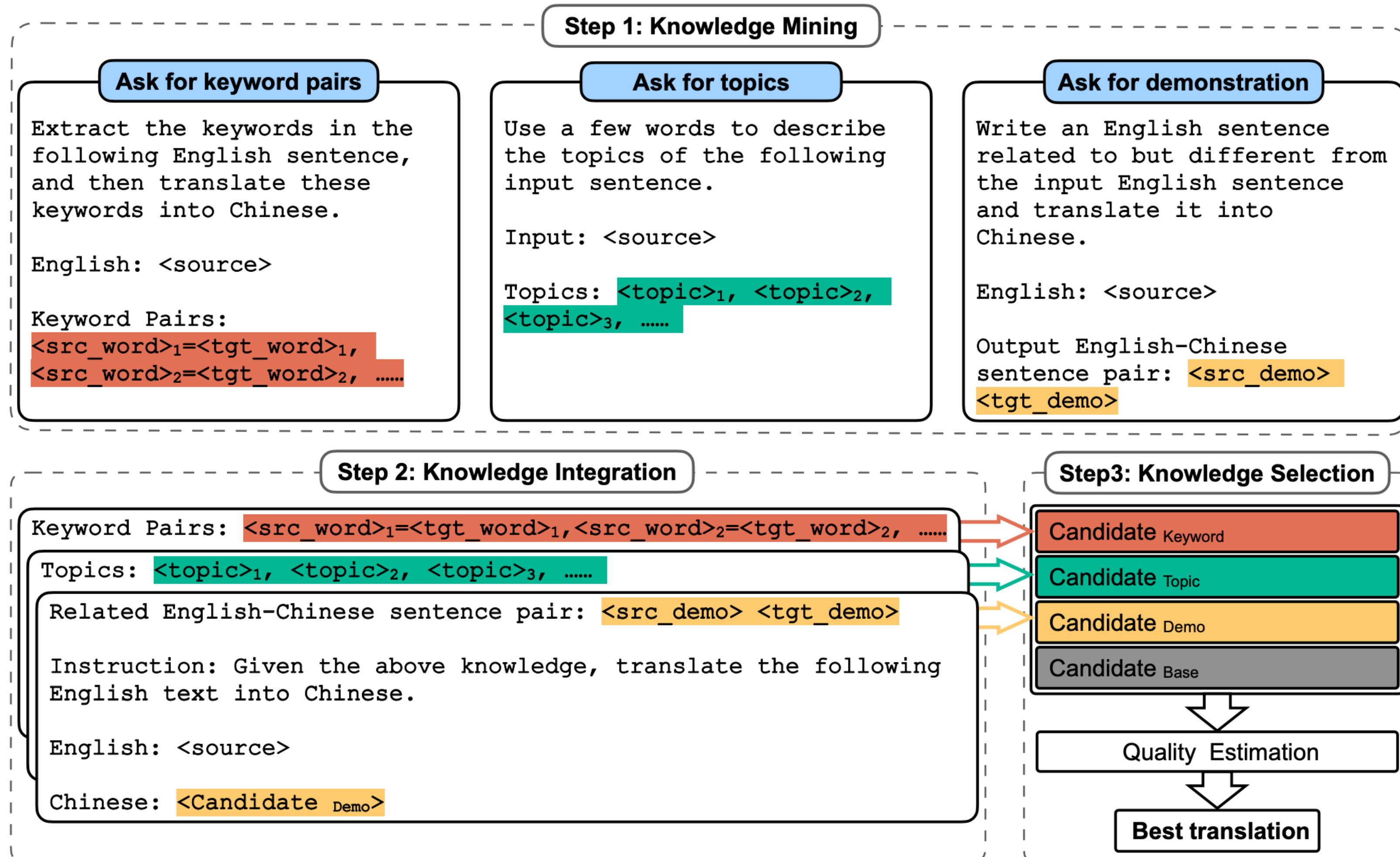
Preparatory steps that a human translator might take



- ✓ Identify **keywords** and consider how to translate them
- ✓ Reflect on what the main **topic** of this text is
- ✓ Consider how **similar sentences (demonstrations)** are translated.
- ✓

Exploring Human-Like Translation Strategy with LLM

MAPS: Multi-Aspect Prompting and Selection



Implementation of Knowledge Selection (Reranking Method)

- **LLM-SCQ**: Composing a single choice question (SCQ) that asks the LLM to choose the best candidate on its own.
- **COMET-QE**: A trained QE scorer that assigns a numerical score to each candidate. Selection is based on the highest score.
- **COMET** (oracle): A reference-based scorer that assigns a numerical score to each candidate. It can be considered as the oracle QE method, representing the **upper bound** of selection.

Main Results

| Method | En-Zh | Zh-En | En-De | De-En | En-Ja | Ja-En | De-Fr | Fr-De | Cs-Uk | Uk-Cs | En-Hr |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| WMT22 Best COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WMT22 Best | 86.8 | 81.0 | 87.4 | 85.0 | 89.3 | 81.6 | 85.7 | 89.5 | 91.6 | 92.2 | 88.4 |
| text-davinci-003 COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 86.2 | 81.6 | 85.8 | 85.2 | 87.9 | 81.8 | 82.8 | 86.3 | 88.0 | 89.2 | 85.9 |
| 5-Shot (Hendy et al.) | 87.0 | 81.1 | 86.5 | 85.2 | 88.2 | 82.0 | 83.6 | 86.6 | — | — | — |
| Rerank LLM-SCQ | 86.4 | 81.7 | 86.0 | 85.2 | 88.0 | 82.0 | 83.0 | 86.4 | 88.3 | 89.4 | 86.3 |
| MAPS LLM-SCQ | 86.8 | 82.0 | 86.4 | 85.4 | 88.5 | 82.4 | 83.4 | 86.9 | 88.8 | 89.9 | 86.5 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 86.9 | 82.1 | 86.4 | 85.5 | 88.8 | 82.3 | 83.4 | 86.8 | 89.4 | 90.1 | 87.1 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 87.6 | 82.6 | 87.2 | 85.7 | 89.5 | 82.9 | 84.1 | 87.5 | 90.1 | 91.1 | 88.1 |
| $\bar{\uparrow}$ Rerank COMET | 87.5 | 82.6 | 86.9 | 85.8 | 89.3 | 82.3 | 83.4 | 86.8 | 89.9 | 90.7 | 87.7 |
| $\bar{\uparrow}$ MAPS COMET | 88.5 | 83.8 | 88.0 | 86.7 | 90.3 | 82.9 | 84.1 | 87.5 | 90.9 | 92.0 | 89.0 |
| text-davinci-003 BLEURT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 71.1 | 69.6 | 75.6 | 74.0 | 66.3 | 67.8 | 70.4 | 77.6 | 75.0 | 78.8 | 75.0 |
| 5-Shot (Hendy et al.) | 72.2 | 69.2 | 76.3 | 74.5 | 67.1 | 68.0 | 70.9 | 78.0 | — | — | — |
| Rerank LLM-SCQ | 71.4 | 69.8 | 75.9 | 74.1 | 66.6 | 68.1 | 70.6 | 77.7 | 75.3 | 79.0 | 75.4 |
| MAPS LLM-SCQ | 72.1 | 70.5 | 76.3 | 74.4 | 67.4 | 68.8 | 71.4 | 78.6 | 76.1 | 80.2 | 76.0 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 71.7 | 70.1 | 76.1 | 74.3 | 67.3 | 68.3 | 71.2 | 78.1 | 76.4 | 79.7 | 75.9 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 72.6 | 70.8 | 77.1 | 74.6 | 68.3 | 69.1 | 71.9 | 78.9 | 77.4 | 81.2 | 77.1 |
| $\bar{\uparrow}$ Rerank COMET | 72.4 | 70.6 | 76.5 | 74.6 | 68.0 | 68.8 | 71.8 | 78.6 | 76.8 | 80.2 | 76.4 |
| $\bar{\uparrow}$ MAPS COMET | 74.0 | 72.1 | 77.8 | 75.7 | 69.4 | 70.9 | 73.6 | 80.2 | 78.3 | 82.1 | 77.9 |
| Alpaca COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 58.9 | 73.1 | 75.5 | 81.9 | 56.6 | 71.8 | 71.7 | 75.4 | 74.1 | 71.1 | 65.9 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 66.2 | 74.9 | 78.5 | 82.6 | 64.7 | 73.7 | 74.5 | 78.2 | 78.1 | 76.3 | 70.5 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 69.0 | 76.0 | 79.7 | 83.3 | 66.9 | 74.7 | 75.9 | 79.1 | 80.8 | 78.5 | 72.3 |
| Alpaca BLEURT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 42.3 | 58.0 | 62.2 | 69.8 | 31.4 | 55.4 | 52.2 | 63.4 | 52.4 | 54.3 | 53.2 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 47.5 | 59.5 | 64.7 | 70.4 | 36.2 | 56.7 | 55.0 | 66.0 | 55.2 | 59.0 | 56.0 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 50.6 | 60.6 | 66.3 | 71.1 | 38.2 | 57.7 | 56.6 | 66.8 | 59.5 | 61.2 | 57.2 |
| Vicuna COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 81.3 | 78.4 | 79.8 | 82.9 | 82.3 | 77.3 | 75.5 | 77.1 | 74.9 | 72.7 | 69.3 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 83.6 | 79.3 | 81.8 | 83.6 | 85.2 | 78.8 | 77.8 | 79.6 | 79.9 | 77.7 | 74.2 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 84.5 | 80.2 | 82.7 | 84.1 | 86.5 | 79.7 | 79.2 | 81.1 | 81.8 | 80.1 | 76.0 |
| Vicuna BLEURT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 64.9 | 65.3 | 67.4 | 71.0 | 58.7 | 62.8 | 58.8 | 66.0 | 57.8 | 56.6 | 57.7 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 66.7 | 66.0 | 69.2 | 71.8 | 61.6 | 64.0 | 61.2 | 68.2 | 61.8 | 61.2 | 60.5 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 67.8 | 66.9 | 70.0 | 72.4 | 63.0 | 64.8 | 62.5 | 69.3 | 64.0 | 64.3 | 63.4 |

- The effectiveness of MAPS has been validated across a wide range of settings.

✓ Across **11** language pairs, **3** LLMs, and **2** metrics, MAPS consistently boost translation.

✓ Equipped with MAPS, `text-davinci-003` surpasses the best submissions in WMT22 in 5 out of the 11 translation directions.

Main Results

| Method | En-Zh | Zh-En | En-De | De-En | En-Ja | Ja-En | De-Fr | Fr-De | Cs-Uk | Uk-Cs | En-Hr |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| WMT22 Best COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WMT22 Best | 86.8 | 81.0 | 87.4 | 85.0 | 89.3 | 81.6 | 85.7 | 89.5 | 91.6 | 92.2 | 88.4 |
| text-davinci-003 COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 86.2 | 81.6 | 85.8 | 85.2 | 87.9 | 81.8 | 82.8 | 86.3 | 88.0 | 89.2 | 85.9 |
| 5-Shot (Hendy et al.) | 87.0 | 81.1 | 86.5 | 85.2 | 88.2 | 82.0 | 83.6 | 86.6 | — | — | — |
| Rerank LLM-SCQ | 86.4 | 81.7 | 86.0 | 85.2 | 88.0 | 82.0 | 83.0 | 86.4 | 88.3 | 89.4 | 86.3 |
| MAPS LLM-SCQ | 86.8 | 82.0 | 86.4 | 85.4 | 88.5 | 82.4 | 83.4 | 86.9 | 88.8 | 89.9 | 86.5 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 86.9 | 82.1 | 86.4 | 85.5 | 88.8 | 82.3 | 83.4 | 86.8 | 89.4 | 90.1 | 87.1 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 87.6 | 82.6 | 87.2 | 85.7 | 89.5 | 82.9 | 84.1 | 87.5 | 90.1 | 91.1 | 88.1 |
| ↑ Rerank COMET | 87.5 | 82.6 | 86.9 | 85.8 | 89.3 | 82.3 | 83.4 | 86.8 | 89.9 | 90.7 | 87.7 |
| ↑ MAPS COMET | 88.5 | 83.8 | 88.0 | 86.7 | 90.3 | 82.9 | 84.1 | 87.5 | 90.9 | 92.0 | 89.0 |
| text-davinci-003 BLEURT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 71.1 | 69.6 | 75.6 | 74.0 | 66.3 | 67.8 | 70.4 | 77.6 | 75.0 | 78.8 | 75.0 |
| 5-Shot (Hendy et al.) | 72.2 | 69.2 | 76.3 | 74.5 | 67.1 | 68.0 | 70.9 | 78.0 | — | — | — |
| Rerank LLM-SCQ | 71.4 | 69.8 | 75.9 | 74.1 | 66.6 | 68.1 | 70.6 | 77.7 | 75.3 | 79.0 | 75.4 |
| MAPS LLM-SCQ | 72.1 | 70.5 | 76.3 | 74.4 | 67.4 | 68.8 | 71.4 | 78.6 | 76.1 | 80.2 | 76.0 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 71.7 | 70.1 | 76.1 | 74.3 | 67.3 | 68.3 | 71.2 | 78.1 | 76.4 | 79.7 | 75.9 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 72.6 | 70.8 | 77.1 | 74.6 | 68.3 | 69.1 | 71.9 | 78.9 | 77.4 | 81.2 | 77.1 |
| ↑ Rerank COMET | 72.4 | 70.6 | 76.5 | 74.6 | 68.0 | 68.8 | 71.8 | 78.6 | 76.8 | 80.2 | 76.4 |
| ↑ MAPS COMET | 74.0 | 72.1 | 77.8 | 75.7 | 69.4 | 70.9 | 73.6 | 80.2 | 78.3 | 82.1 | 77.9 |
| Alpaca COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 58.9 | 73.1 | 75.5 | 81.9 | 56.6 | 71.8 | 71.7 | 75.4 | 74.1 | 71.1 | 65.9 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 66.2 | 74.9 | 78.5 | 82.6 | 64.7 | 73.7 | 74.5 | 78.2 | 78.1 | 76.3 | 70.5 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 69.0 | 76.0 | 79.7 | 83.3 | 66.9 | 74.7 | 75.9 | 79.1 | 80.8 | 78.5 | 72.3 |
| Alpaca BLEURT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 42.3 | 58.0 | 62.2 | 69.8 | 31.4 | 55.4 | 52.2 | 63.4 | 52.4 | 54.3 | 53.2 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 47.5 | 59.5 | 64.7 | 70.4 | 36.2 | 56.7 | 55.0 | 66.0 | 55.2 | 59.0 | 56.0 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 50.6 | 60.6 | 66.3 | 71.1 | 38.2 | 57.7 | 56.6 | 66.8 | 59.5 | 61.2 | 57.2 |
| Vicuna COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 81.3 | 78.4 | 79.8 | 82.9 | 82.3 | 77.3 | 75.5 | 77.1 | 74.9 | 72.7 | 69.3 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 83.6 | 79.3 | 81.8 | 83.6 | 85.2 | 78.8 | 77.8 | 79.6 | 79.9 | 77.7 | 74.2 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 84.5 | 80.2 | 82.7 | 84.1 | 86.5 | 79.7 | 79.2 | 81.1 | 81.8 | 80.1 | 76.0 |
| Vicuna BLEURT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 64.9 | 65.3 | 67.4 | 71.0 | 58.7 | 62.8 | 58.8 | 66.0 | 57.8 | 56.6 | 57.7 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 66.7 | 66.0 | 69.2 | 71.8 | 61.6 | 64.0 | 61.2 | 68.2 | 61.8 | 61.2 | 60.5 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 67.8 | 66.9 | 70.0 | 72.4 | 63.0 | 64.8 | 62.5 | 69.3 | 64.0 | 64.3 | 63.4 |

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✓ Across **11** language pairs, **3** LLMs, and **2** metrics, MAPS consistently boost translation.

✓ Equipped with MAPS, `text-davinci-003` surpasses the best submissions in WMT22 in 5 out of the 11 translation directions.

Main Results

| Method | En-Zh | Zh-En | En-De | De-En | En-Ja | Ja-En | De-Fr | Fr-De | Cs-Uk | Uk-Cs | En-Hr |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| WMT22 Best COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WMT22 Best | 86.8 | 81.0 | 87.4 | 85.0 | 89.3 | 81.6 | 85.7 | 89.5 | 91.6 | 92.2 | 88.4 |
| text-davinci-003 COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 86.2 | 81.6 | 85.8 | 85.2 | 87.9 | 81.8 | 82.8 | 86.3 | 88.0 | 89.2 | 85.9 |
| 5-Shot (Hendy et al.) | 87.0 | 81.1 | 86.5 | 85.2 | 88.2 | 82.0 | 83.6 | 86.6 | — | — | — |
| Rerank _{LLM-SCQ} | 86.4 | 81.7 | 86.0 | 85.2 | 88.0 | 82.0 | 83.0 | 86.4 | 88.3 | 89.4 | 86.3 |
| MAPS _{LLM-SCQ} | 86.8 | 82.0 | 86.4 | 85.4 | 88.5 | 82.4 | 83.4 | 86.9 | 88.8 | 89.9 | 86.5 |
| Rerank _{COMET-QE} | 86.9 | 82.1 | 86.4 | 85.5 | 88.8 | 82.3 | 83.4 | 86.8 | 89.4 | 90.1 | 87.1 |
| MAPS _{COMET-QE} | 87.6 | 82.6 | 87.2 | 85.7 | 89.5 | 82.9 | 84.1 | 87.5 | 90.1 | 91.1 | 88.1 |
| ↑ Rerank _{COMET} | 87.5 | 82.6 | 86.9 | 85.8 | 89.3 | 82.3 | 83.4 | 86.8 | 89.9 | 90.7 | 87.7 |
| ↑ MAPS _{COMET} | 88.5 | 83.8 | 88.0 | 86.7 | 90.3 | 82.9 | 84.1 | 87.5 | 90.9 | 92.0 | 89.0 |
| text-davinci-003 BLEURT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 71.1 | 69.6 | 75.6 | 74.0 | 66.3 | 67.8 | 70.4 | 77.6 | 75.0 | 78.8 | 75.0 |
| 5-Shot (Hendy et al.) | 72.2 | 69.2 | 76.3 | 74.5 | 67.1 | 68.0 | 70.9 | 78.0 | — | — | — |
| Rerank _{LLM-SCQ} | 71.4 | 69.8 | 75.9 | 74.1 | 66.6 | 68.1 | 70.6 | 77.7 | 75.3 | 79.0 | 75.4 |
| MAPS _{LLM-SCQ} | 72.1 | 70.5 | 76.3 | 74.4 | 67.4 | 68.8 | 71.4 | 78.6 | 76.1 | 80.2 | 76.0 |
| Rerank _{COMET-QE} | 71.7 | 70.1 | 76.1 | 74.3 | 67.3 | 68.3 | 71.2 | 78.1 | 76.4 | 79.7 | 75.9 |
| MAPS _{COMET-QE} | 72.6 | 70.8 | 77.1 | 74.6 | 68.3 | 69.1 | 71.9 | 78.9 | 77.4 | 81.2 | 77.1 |
| ↑ Rerank _{COMET} | 72.4 | 70.6 | 76.5 | 74.6 | 68.0 | 68.8 | 71.8 | 78.6 | 76.8 | 80.2 | 76.4 |
| ↑ MAPS _{COMET} | 74.0 | 72.1 | 77.8 | 75.7 | 69.4 | 70.9 | 73.6 | 80.2 | 78.3 | 82.1 | 77.9 |
| Alpaca COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 58.9 | 73.1 | 75.5 | 81.9 | 56.6 | 71.8 | 71.7 | 75.4 | 74.1 | 71.1 | 65.9 |
| Rerank _{COMET-QE} | 66.2 | 74.9 | 78.5 | 82.6 | 64.7 | 73.7 | 74.5 | 78.2 | 78.1 | 76.3 | 70.5 |
| MAPS _{COMET-QE} | 69.0 | 76.0 | 79.7 | 83.3 | 66.9 | 74.7 | 75.9 | 79.1 | 80.8 | 78.5 | 72.3 |
| Alpaca BLEURT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 42.3 | 58.0 | 62.2 | 69.8 | 31.4 | 55.4 | 52.2 | 63.4 | 52.4 | 54.3 | 53.2 |
| Rerank _{COMET-QE} | 47.5 | 59.5 | 64.7 | 70.4 | 36.2 | 56.7 | 55.0 | 66.0 | 55.2 | 59.0 | 56.0 |
| MAPS _{COMET-QE} | 50.6 | 60.6 | 66.3 | 71.1 | 38.2 | 57.7 | 56.6 | 66.8 | 59.5 | 61.2 | 57.2 |
| Vicuna COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 81.3 | 78.4 | 79.8 | 82.9 | 82.3 | 77.3 | 75.5 | 77.1 | 74.9 | 72.7 | 69.3 |
| Rerank _{COMET-QE} | 83.6 | 79.3 | 81.8 | 83.6 | 85.2 | 78.8 | 77.8 | 79.6 | 79.9 | 77.7 | 74.2 |
| MAPS _{COMET-QE} | 84.5 | 80.2 | 82.7 | 84.1 | 86.5 | 79.7 | 79.2 | 81.1 | 81.8 | 80.1 | 76.0 |
| Vicuna BLEURT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 64.9 | 65.3 | 67.4 | 71.0 | 58.7 | 62.8 | 58.8 | 66.0 | 57.8 | 56.6 | 57.7 |
| Rerank _{COMET-QE} | 66.7 | 66.0 | 69.2 | 71.8 | 61.6 | 64.0 | 61.2 | 68.2 | 61.8 | 61.2 | 60.5 |
| MAPS _{COMET-QE} | 67.8 | 66.9 | 70.0 | 72.4 | 63.0 | 64.8 | 62.5 | 69.3 | 64.0 | 64.3 | 63.4 |

- Using the same knowledge selection method, **MAPS** outperforms **Rerank** consistently.
- This indicates that the improvements brought by MAPS stem from three types of translation-related knowledge:

✓ keywords

✓ topics

✓ relevant demonstrations.

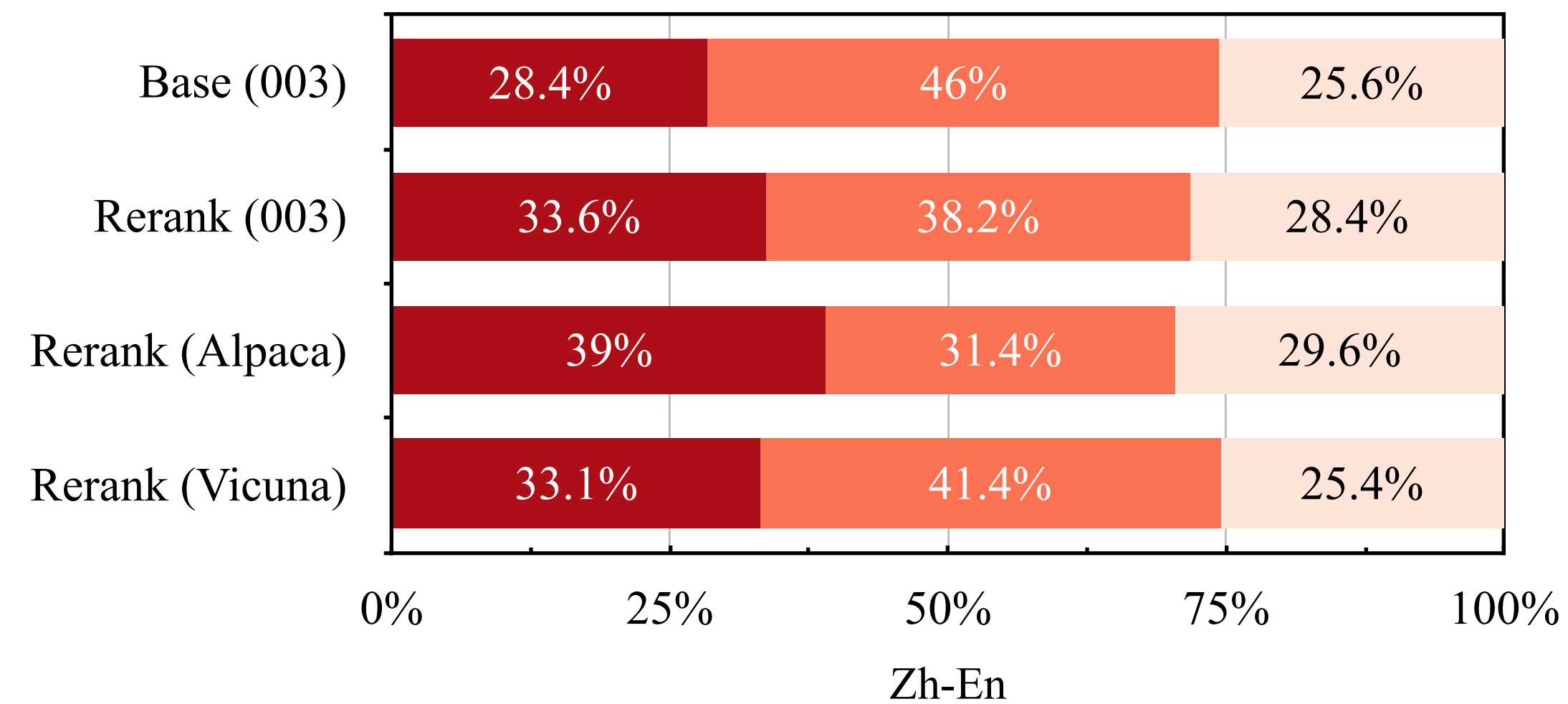
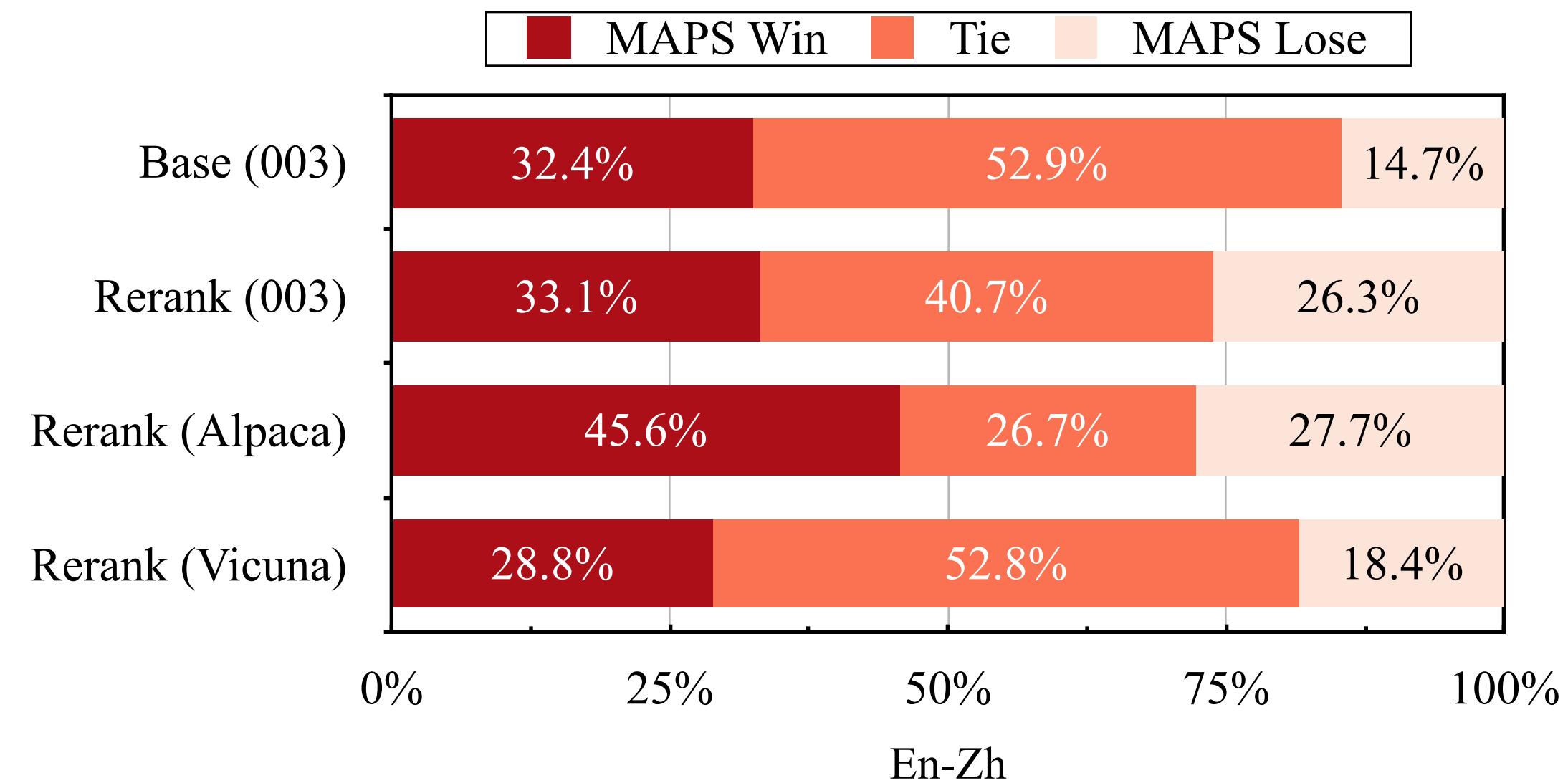
Main Results

| Method | En-Zh | Zh-En | En-De | De-En | En-Ja | Ja-En | De-Fr | Fr-De | Cs-Uk | Uk-Cs | En-Hr |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| WMT22 Best COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WMT22 Best | 86.8 | 81.0 | 87.4 | 85.0 | 89.3 | 81.6 | 85.7 | 89.5 | 91.6 | 92.2 | 88.4 |
| text-davinci-003 COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 86.2 | 81.6 | 85.8 | 85.2 | 87.9 | 81.8 | 82.8 | 86.3 | 88.0 | 89.2 | 85.9 |
| 5-Shot (Hendy et al.) | 87.0 | 81.1 | 86.5 | 85.2 | 88.2 | 82.0 | 83.6 | 86.6 | — | — | — |
| Rerank LLM-SCQ | 86.4 | 81.7 | 86.0 | 85.2 | 88.0 | 82.0 | 83.0 | 86.4 | 88.3 | 89.4 | 86.3 |
| MAPS LLM-SCQ | 86.8 | 82.0 | 86.4 | 85.4 | 88.5 | 82.4 | 83.4 | 86.9 | 88.8 | 89.9 | 86.5 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 86.9 | 82.1 | 86.4 | 85.5 | 88.8 | 82.3 | 83.4 | 86.8 | 89.4 | 90.1 | 87.1 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 87.6 | 82.6 | 87.2 | 85.7 | 89.5 | 82.9 | 84.1 | 87.5 | 90.1 | 91.1 | 88.1 |
| ↑ Rerank COMET | 87.5 | 82.6 | 86.9 | 85.8 | 89.3 | 82.3 | 83.4 | 86.8 | 89.9 | 90.7 | 87.7 |
| ↑ MAPS COMET | 88.5 | 83.8 | 88.0 | 86.7 | 90.3 | 82.9 | 84.1 | 87.5 | 90.9 | 92.0 | 89.0 |
| text-davinci-003 BLEURT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 71.1 | 69.6 | 75.6 | 74.0 | 66.3 | 67.8 | 70.4 | 77.6 | 75.0 | 78.8 | 75.0 |
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| Rerank LLM-SCQ | 71.4 | 69.8 | 75.9 | 74.1 | 66.6 | 68.1 | 70.6 | 77.7 | 75.3 | 79.0 | 75.4 |
| MAPS LLM-SCQ | 72.1 | 70.5 | 76.3 | 74.4 | 67.4 | 68.8 | 71.4 | 78.6 | 76.1 | 80.2 | 76.0 |
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| ↑ Rerank COMET | 72.4 | 70.6 | 76.5 | 74.6 | 68.0 | 68.8 | 71.8 | 78.6 | 76.8 | 80.2 | 76.4 |
| ↑ MAPS COMET | 74.0 | 72.1 | 77.8 | 75.7 | 69.4 | 70.9 | 73.6 | 80.2 | 78.3 | 82.1 | 77.9 |
| Alpaca COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 58.9 | 73.1 | 75.5 | 81.9 | 56.6 | 71.8 | 71.7 | 75.4 | 74.1 | 71.1 | 65.9 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 66.2 | 74.9 | 78.5 | 82.6 | 64.7 | 73.7 | 74.5 | 78.2 | 78.1 | 76.3 | 70.5 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 69.0 | 76.0 | 79.7 | 83.3 | 66.9 | 74.7 | 75.9 | 79.1 | 80.8 | 78.5 | 72.3 |
| Alpaca BLEURT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 42.3 | 58.0 | 62.2 | 69.8 | 31.4 | 55.4 | 52.2 | 63.4 | 52.4 | 54.3 | 53.2 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 47.5 | 59.5 | 64.7 | 70.4 | 36.2 | 56.7 | 55.0 | 66.0 | 55.2 | 59.0 | 56.0 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 50.6 | 60.6 | 66.3 | 71.1 | 38.2 | 57.7 | 56.6 | 66.8 | 59.5 | 61.2 | 57.2 |
| Vicuna COMET | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 81.3 | 78.4 | 79.8 | 82.9 | 82.3 | 77.3 | 75.5 | 77.1 | 74.9 | 72.7 | 69.3 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 83.6 | 79.3 | 81.8 | 83.6 | 85.2 | 78.8 | 77.8 | 79.6 | 79.9 | 77.7 | 74.2 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 84.5 | 80.2 | 82.7 | 84.1 | 86.5 | 79.7 | 79.2 | 81.1 | 81.8 | 80.1 | 76.0 |
| Vicuna BLEURT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseline | 64.9 | 65.3 | 67.4 | 71.0 | 58.7 | 62.8 | 58.8 | 66.0 | 57.8 | 56.6 | 57.7 |
| Rerank COMET-QE | 66.7 | 66.0 | 69.2 | 71.8 | 61.6 | 64.0 | 61.2 | 68.2 | 61.8 | 61.2 | 60.5 |
| MAPS COMET-QE | 67.8 | 66.9 | 70.0 | 72.4 | 63.0 | 64.8 | 62.5 | 69.3 | 64.0 | 64.3 | 63.4 |

- MAPS exhibits a higher upper bound for selection.
- COMET: MAPS > Rerank

Human Evaluation

Preference study



MAPS is generally more preferred by humans.

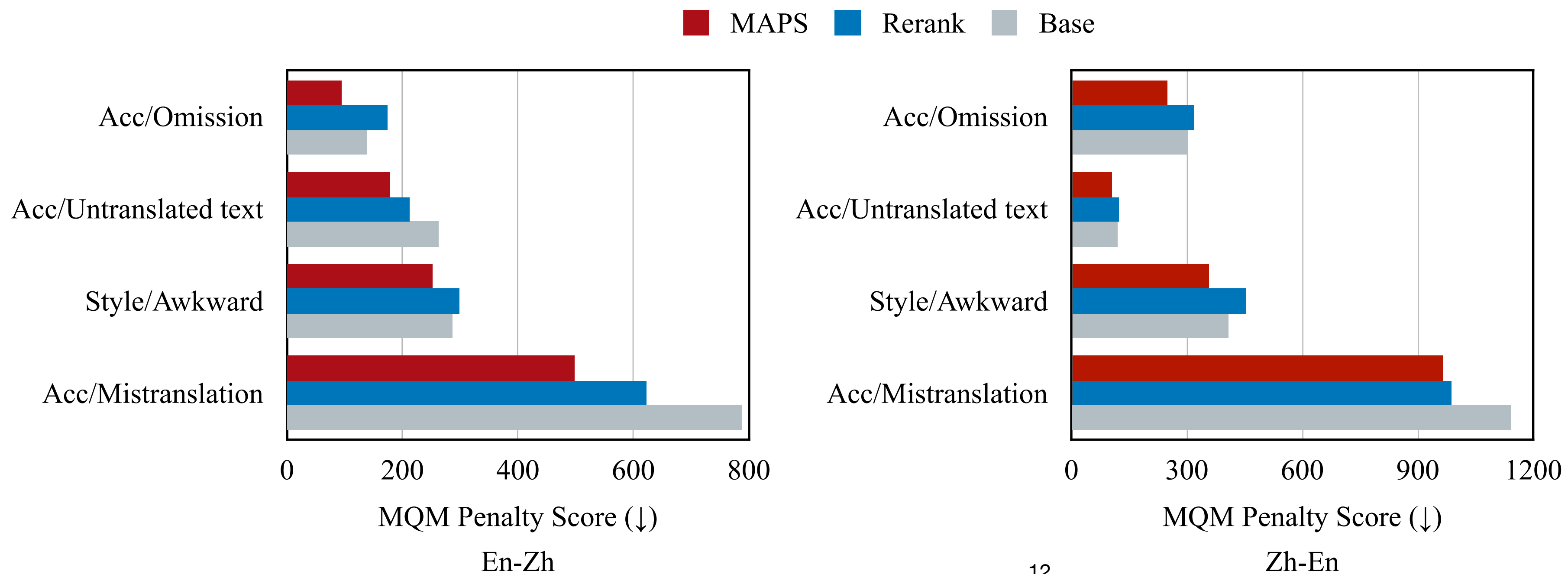
Human Evaluation

Multidimensional quality metrics (MQM)

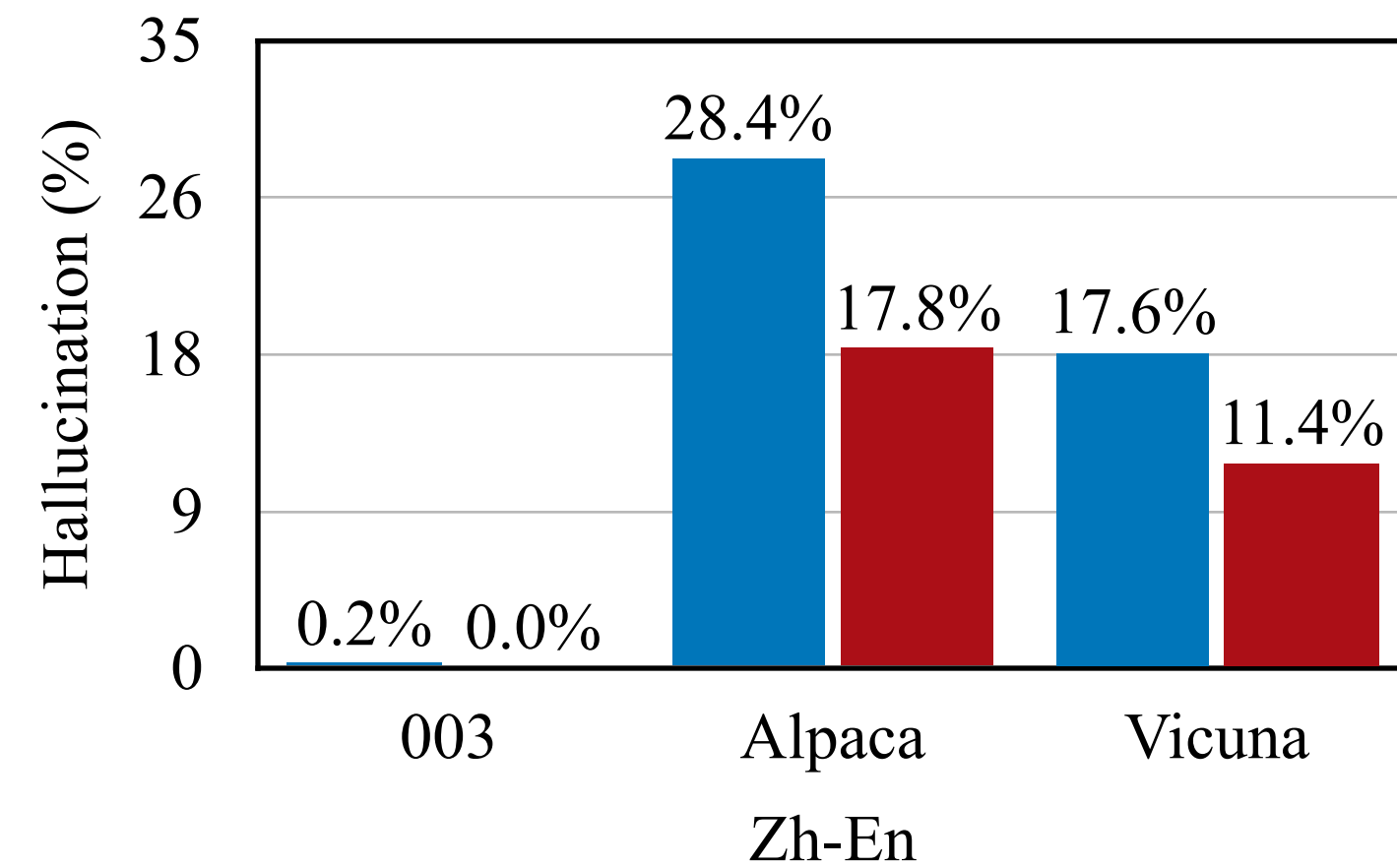
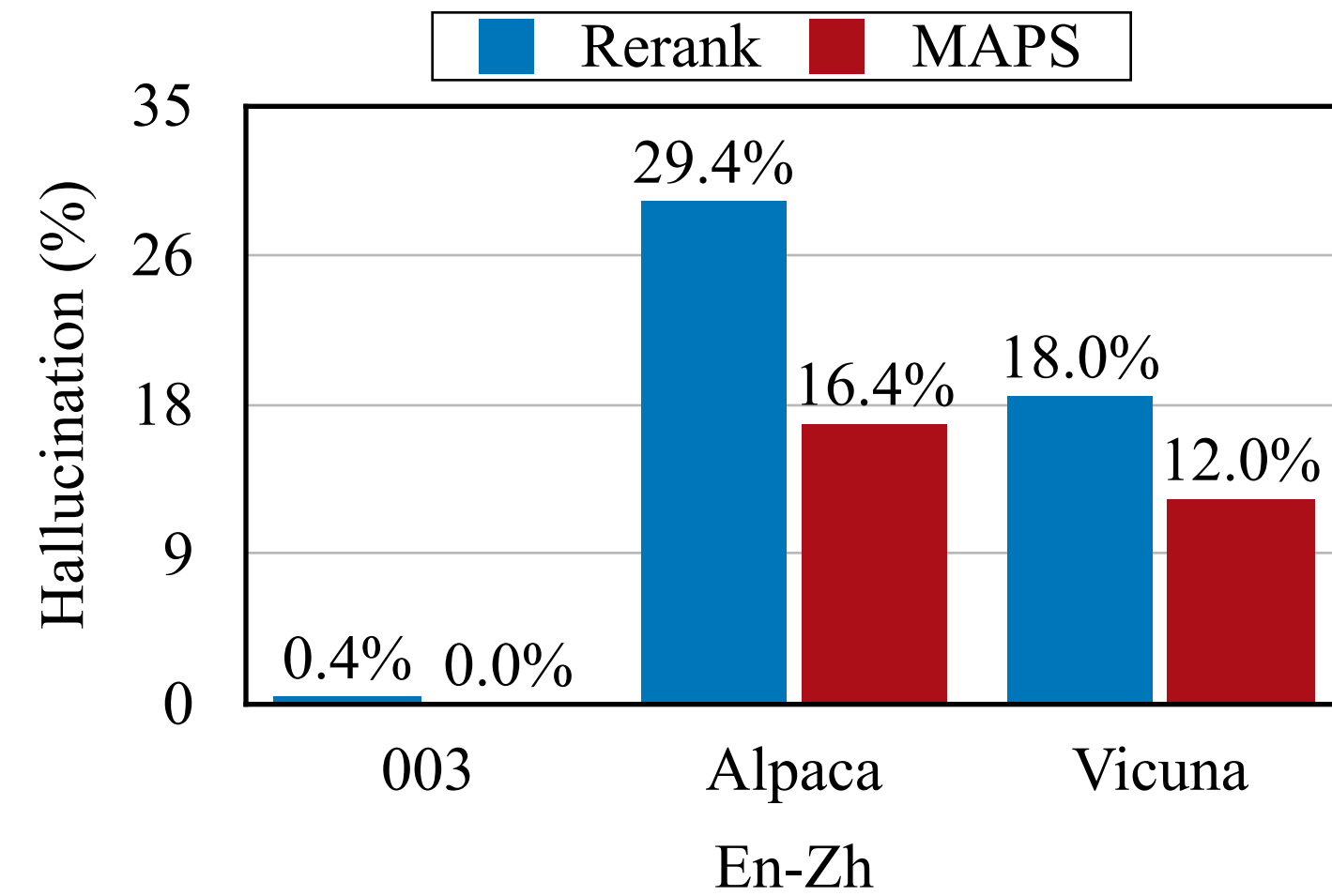
| Method | En-Zh | Zh-En |
|--------|-------------|-------------|
| Base | 1.94 | 2.96 |
| Rerank | 1.79 | 2.84 |
| MAPS | 1.59 | 2.60 |

☑ MAPS reduces mistranslation, awkward style, untranslated text, and omission errors.

Table 2: Averaged MQM Score (↓).



Hallucination and Ambiguity



Human-annotated hallucination errors

- ☑ MAPS reduces LLM's hallucinations
- ☑ MAPS helps ambiguity resolution

| Method | COMET | BLEURT | Accuracy |
|--------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Rerank | 81.5 | 70.2 | 61.5 |
| MAPS | 82.2 | 70.6 | 65.5 |

Accuracy of ambiguity resolution

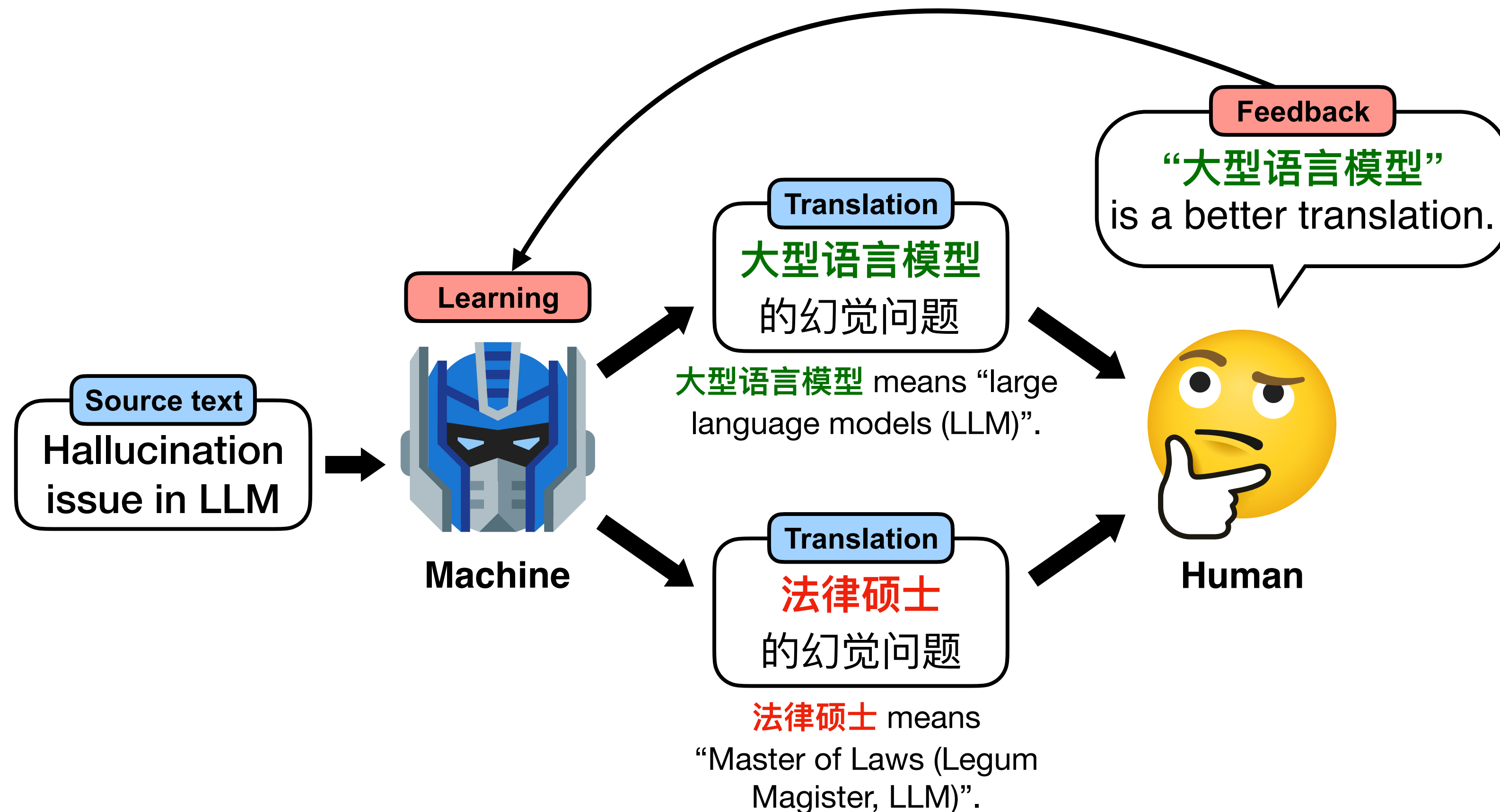
Using single type of knowledge does not result in consistent improvement

| Method | En-Zh | Zh-En | En-De | De-En | En-Ja | Ja-En | De-Fr | Fr-De |
|-----------------|-------|-------|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | text-davinci-003 COMET | | | | | |
| Baseline | 86.2 | 81.6 | 85.8 | 85.2 | 87.9 | 81.8 | 82.8 | 86.3 |
| +Keyword | 86.2 | 81.5 | 85.5 | 84.9 | 88.0 | 81.5 | 82.6 | 86.2 |
| +Topic | 86.4 | 81.7 | 85.6 | 85.2 | 88.1 | 81.9 | 83.1 | 86.3 |
| +Demo | 86.9 | 81.8 | 86.6 | 85.2 | 88.5 | 81.8 | 83.4 | 86.7 |

- ☑ Self-generated knowledge from LLM can be noisy.
- ☑ Using multiple knowledge and knowledge selection are important.
- ☑ Please refer to the paper for further discussion.

Two Main Limitations of Current NMT Models

Limitation 2: Lacking Human Feedback



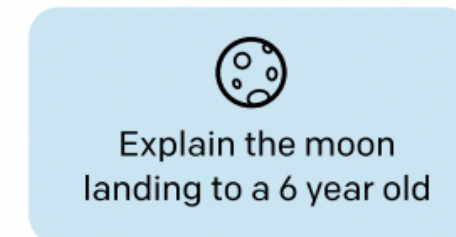
- ▶ Trained on vast amounts of crawled data, models do not understand what makes a good translation.
- ▶ Incapable of improving translations based on human feedback.

LLMs have already benefited from learning from human feedback

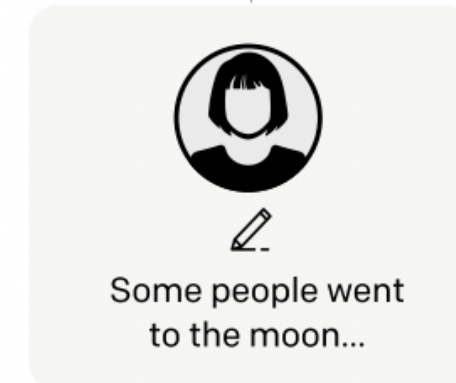
Step 1

Collect demonstration data, and train a supervised policy.

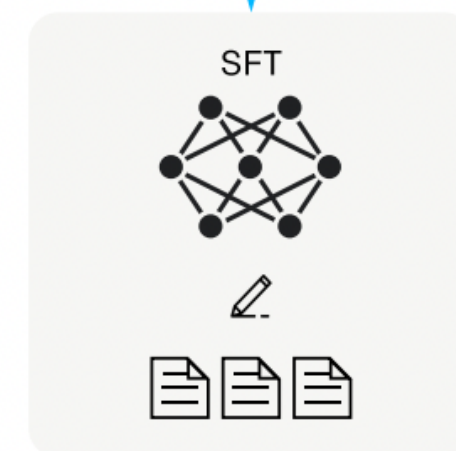
A prompt is sampled from our prompt dataset.



A labeler demonstrates the desired output behavior.



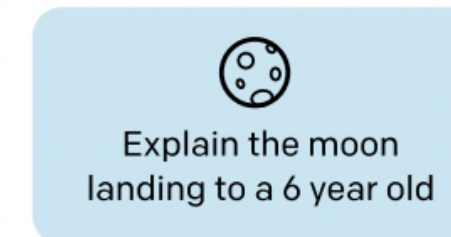
This data is used to fine-tune GPT-3 with supervised learning.



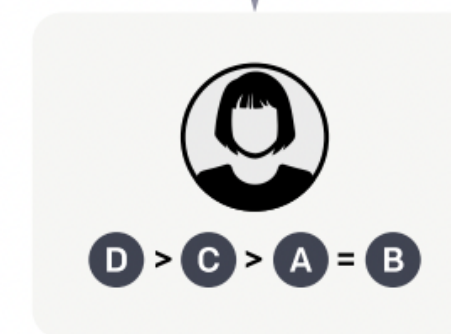
Step 2

Collect comparison data, and train a reward model.

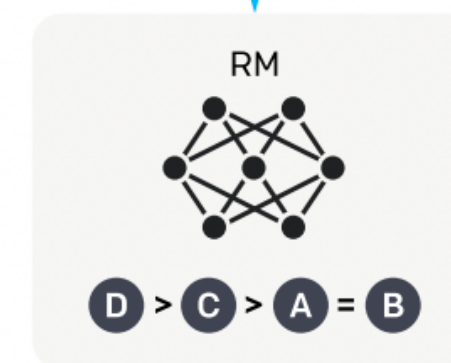
A prompt and several model outputs are sampled.



A labeler ranks the outputs from best to worst.



This data is used to train our reward model.



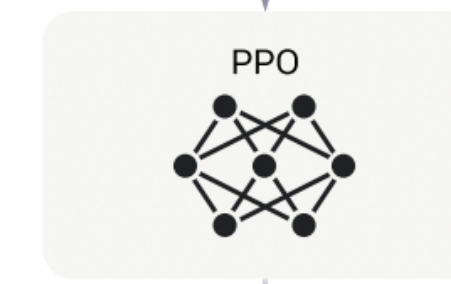
Step 3

Optimize a policy against the reward model using reinforcement learning.

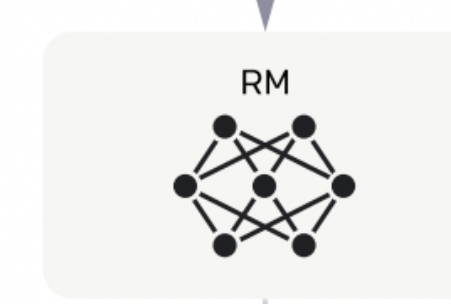
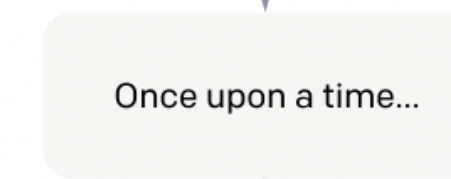
A new prompt is sampled from the dataset.



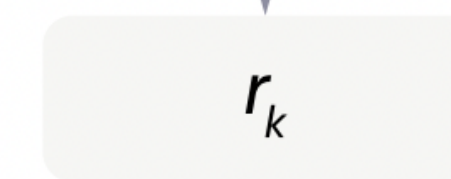
The policy generates an output.



The reward model calculates a reward for the output.

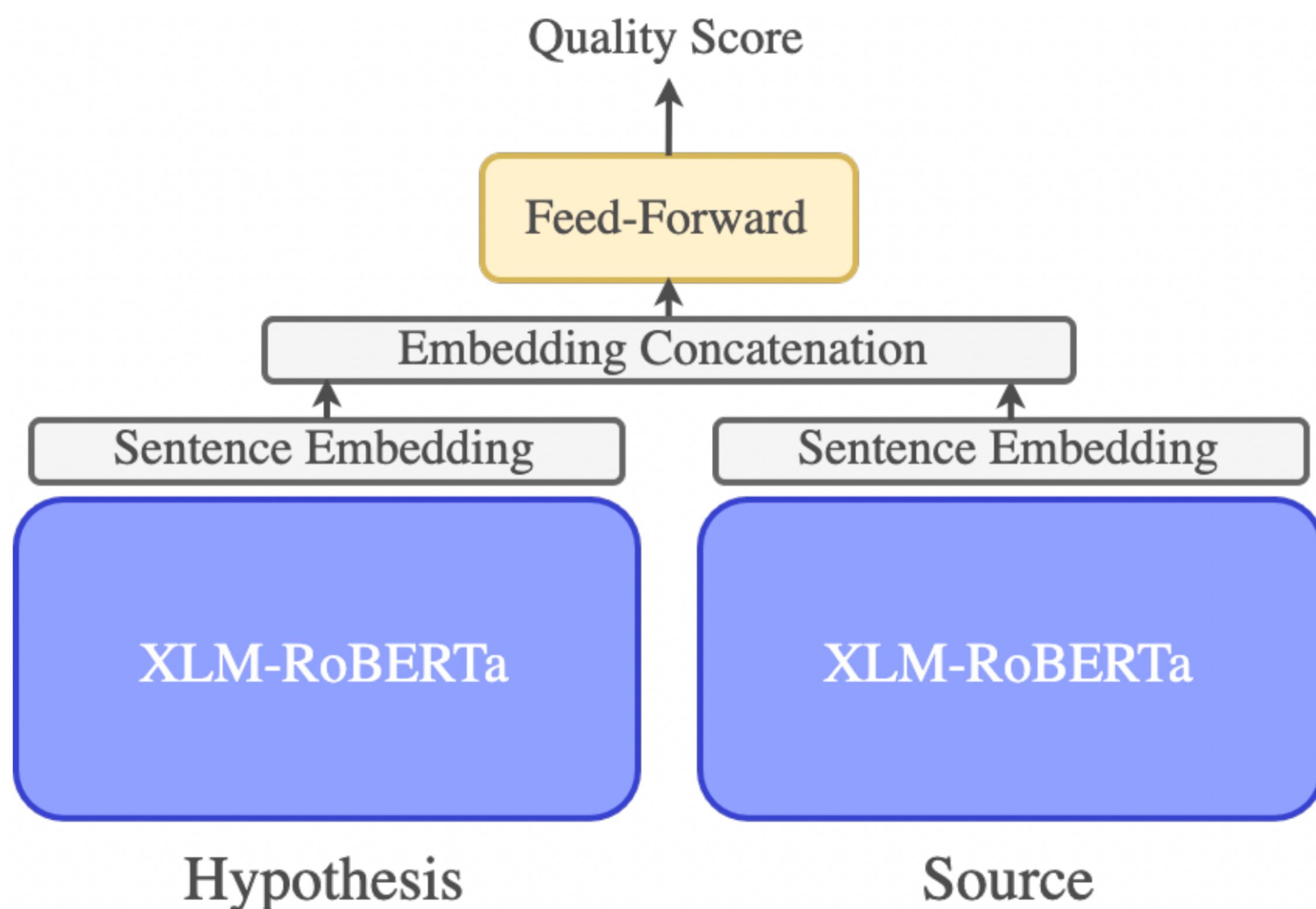


The reward is used to update the policy using PPO.



Can MT models learn from human feedback?

Modeling human preference in MT: Quality Estimation (QE)



► A sentence-level QE model can provide a numerical score to indicate the quality of the translation.

► Reference-free

Can MT models learn from human feedback?

Modeling human preference in MT: Quality Estimation (QE)

| Metric | avg rank |
|--------------------|----------|
| METRICX XXL | 1.20 |
| COMET-22 | 1.32 |
| UNITE | 1.86 |
| BLEURT-20 | 1.91 |
| COMET-20 | 2.36 |
| MATESE | 2.57 |
| COMETKIWI* | 2.70 |
| MS-COMET-22 | 2.84 |
| UNITE-SRC* | 3.03 |
| YISI-1 | 3.27 |
| COMET-QE* | 3.33 |
| MATESE-QE* | 3.85 |
| MEE4 | 3.87 |
| BERTSCORE | 3.88 |
| MS-COMET-QE-22* | 4.06 |
| CHRF | 4.70 |
| F101SPBLEU | 4.97 |
| HWTSC-TEACHER-SIM* | 5.17 |
| BLEU | 5.31 |
| REUSE* | 6.69 |

Table 1: Official ranking of all primary submissions of the WMT22 Metric Task. The final score is the weighted average ranking over 201 different scenarios. Metrics with * are reference-free metrics.

- ▶ Today's most advanced QE models closely match human preferences.
- ▶ Can we function them as **reward models** in feedback training?

Feedback Training in MT

Reward rAnked FineTuning (RAFT)

- MT model: $M = P(y|x; \theta)$
- QE-based reward model: $r(x, y)$
- Objective

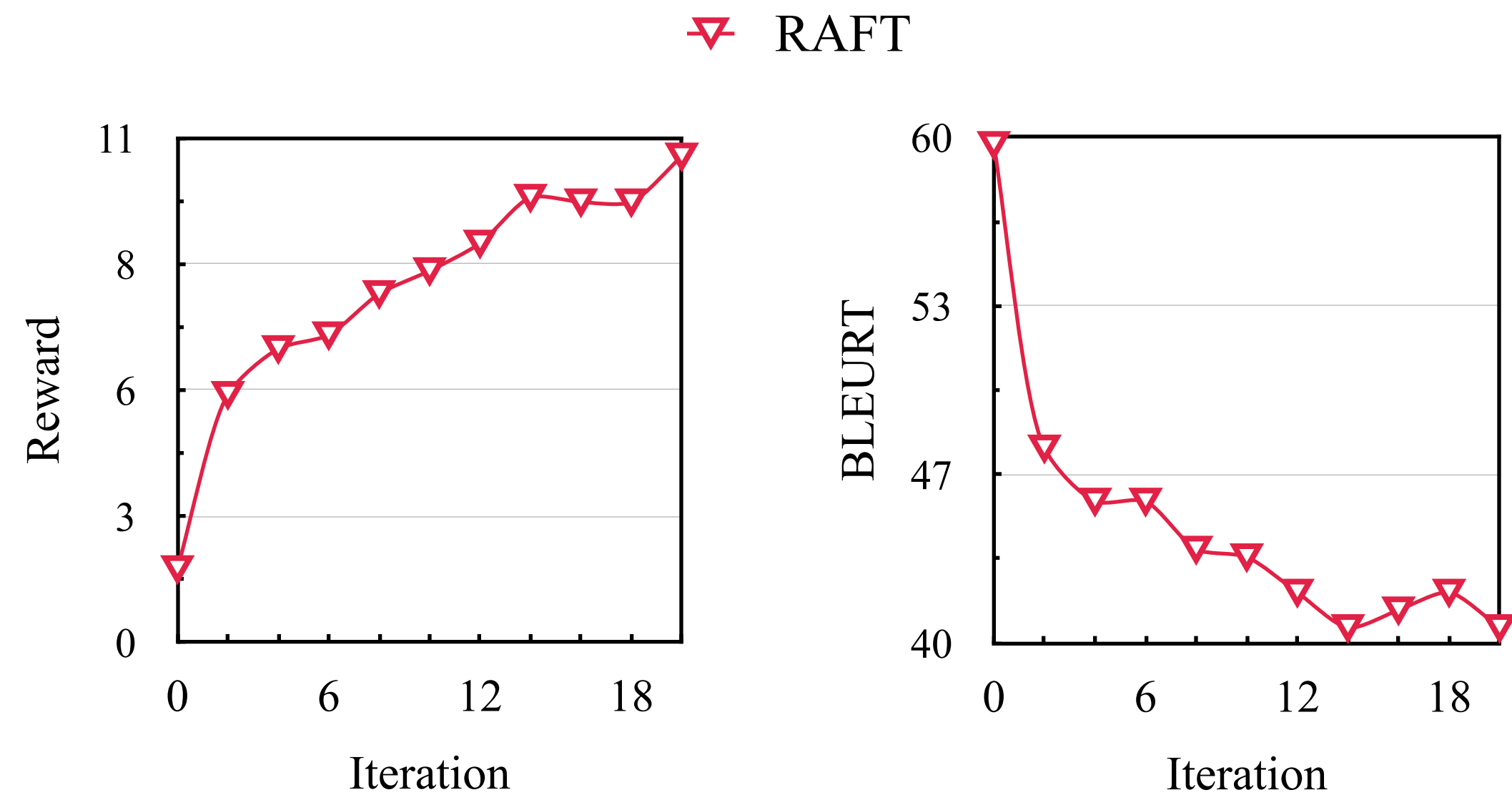
$$\max_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mathcal{D}, y \sim P(y|x; \theta)} r(x, y)$$

Algorithm 1 RAFT

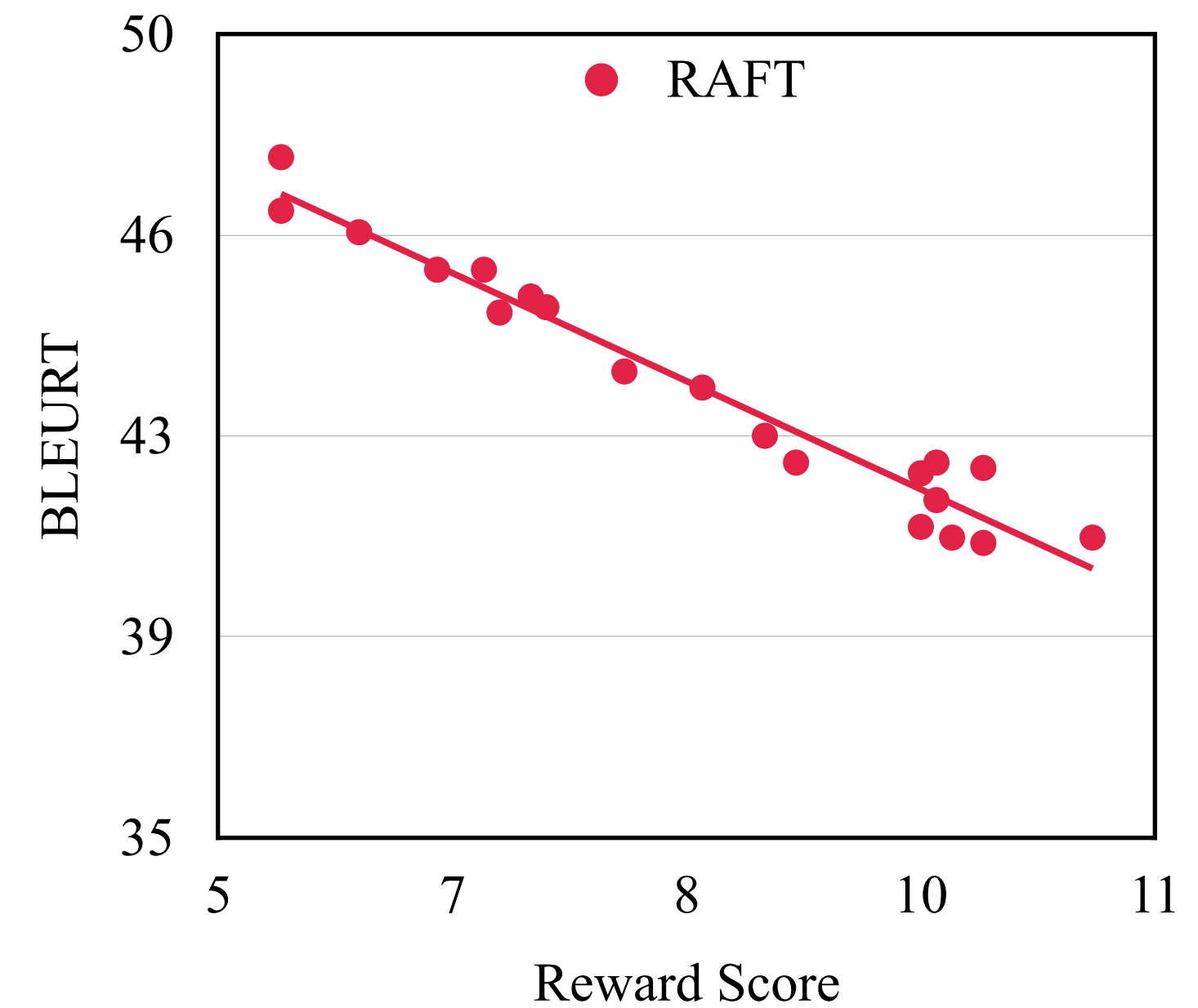
Require: Training set \mathcal{X} , reward function $r(x, y)$, initial model $M_0 = P(y|x; \theta_0)$, batch size b , temperature T , the number of candidate k

- 1: **for** iteration i in $0, 1, \dots, N - 1$ **do**
 - 2: $D_i \leftarrow \text{SampleBatch}(\mathcal{X}, b)$
 - 3: $\mathcal{B} = \emptyset$
 - 4: **for** $x \in D_i$ **do**
 - 5: $y_1, \dots, y_k \sim P_T(y|x; \theta_i)$
 - 6: $y^* = \arg \max_{y_j \in \{y_1, \dots, y_k\}} r(x, y_j)$
 - 7: $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B} \cup \{(x, y^*)\}$
 - 8: Fine-tune θ_i on \mathcal{B} to obtain $M_{i+1} = P(y|x; \theta_{i+1})$.
-

Results Not as Expected



As training progresses, reward goes up,
but translation quality goes down.



The two show a negative linear correlation

Why? Overoptimization!

QE (reward) model is not perfect

| Error type | Translation | Reward |
|---|---|--------|
| None | The rule of drinking Red Label Whisky: | 2.84 |
| Len-ratio (too long/short translation) | The rule of drinking Red Label Whisky: 1. Always drink responsibly. 2. Never drink alone. 3. Avoid drinking on an empty stomach. 4. Set limits and stick to them. 5. Drink in moderation. | 5.60 |
| Off-target (wrong target language) | So trinkt man Red-Label-Whisky: | 4.58 |

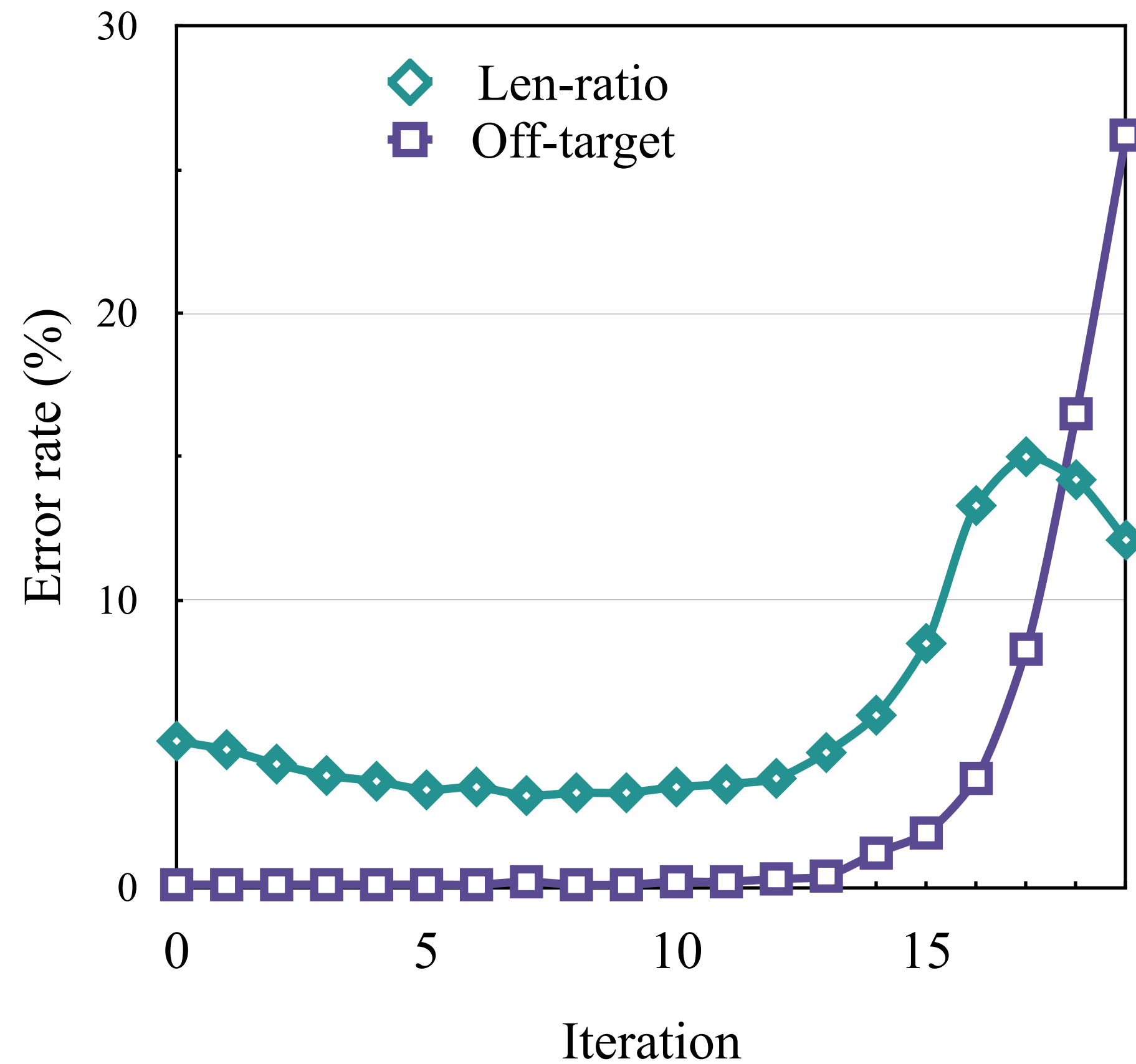
Table 1: A case of Chinese \Rightarrow English translation where the QE model (COMET-QE-DA) assigns higher scores to length-ratio and off-target errors than an error-free translation. Error spans are highlighted.

📌 QE model may assign high scores to erroneous translations in some cases.

- The two most common errors
 - Len-ratio error
 - Off-target error

Why? Overoptimization!

Models can quickly capture and learn from these error patterns



- ☑ Overoptimizing against an imperfect reward model can lead to systems that receive good feedback from the reward model, but not humans.

How to mitigate overoptimization?

Add penalty term in reward

$$r^+(x, y) = \begin{cases} r(x, y) - P & \text{if } C(x, y) \\ r(x, y) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ $C(x, y) = \text{True}$ if (x, y) is a len-ratio or off-target error.
- ▶ We refer to this method as RAFT+.

RAFT+ versus RAFT

RAFT+ significantly mitigates overoptimization

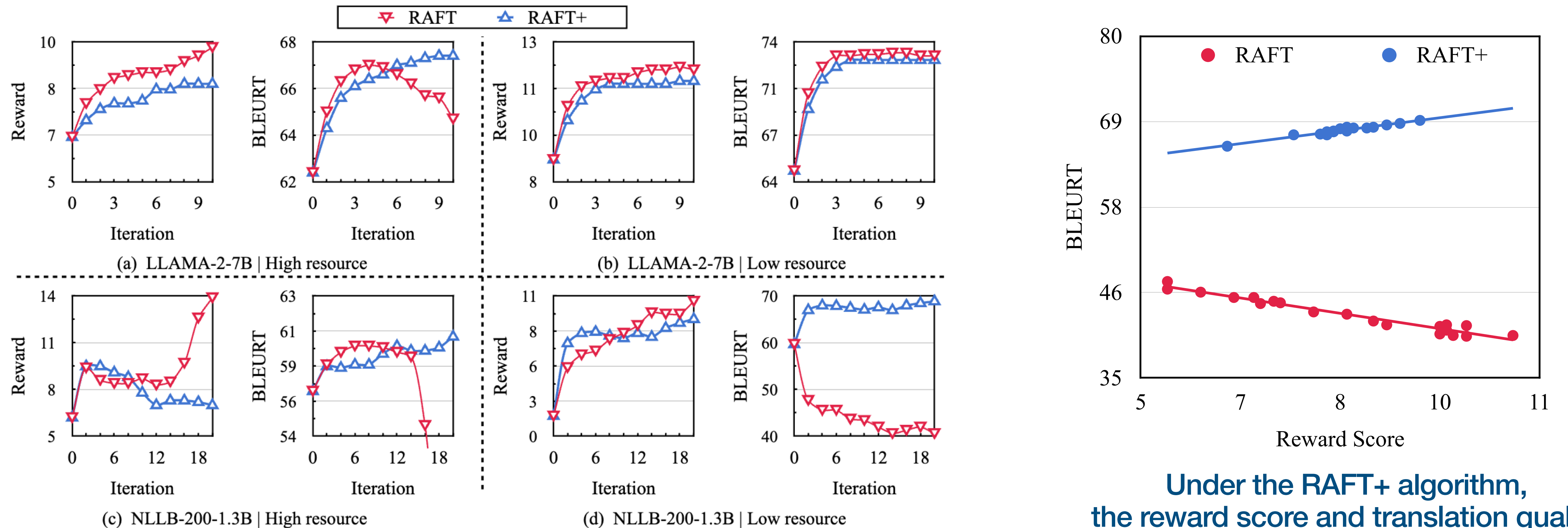


Figure 3: Training curves under various settings. The metrics are average values for all language pairs on the development set. The QE-based reward model is COMET-QE-DA.

After addressing overoptimization

Feedback training is very effective, especially in low-resource languages

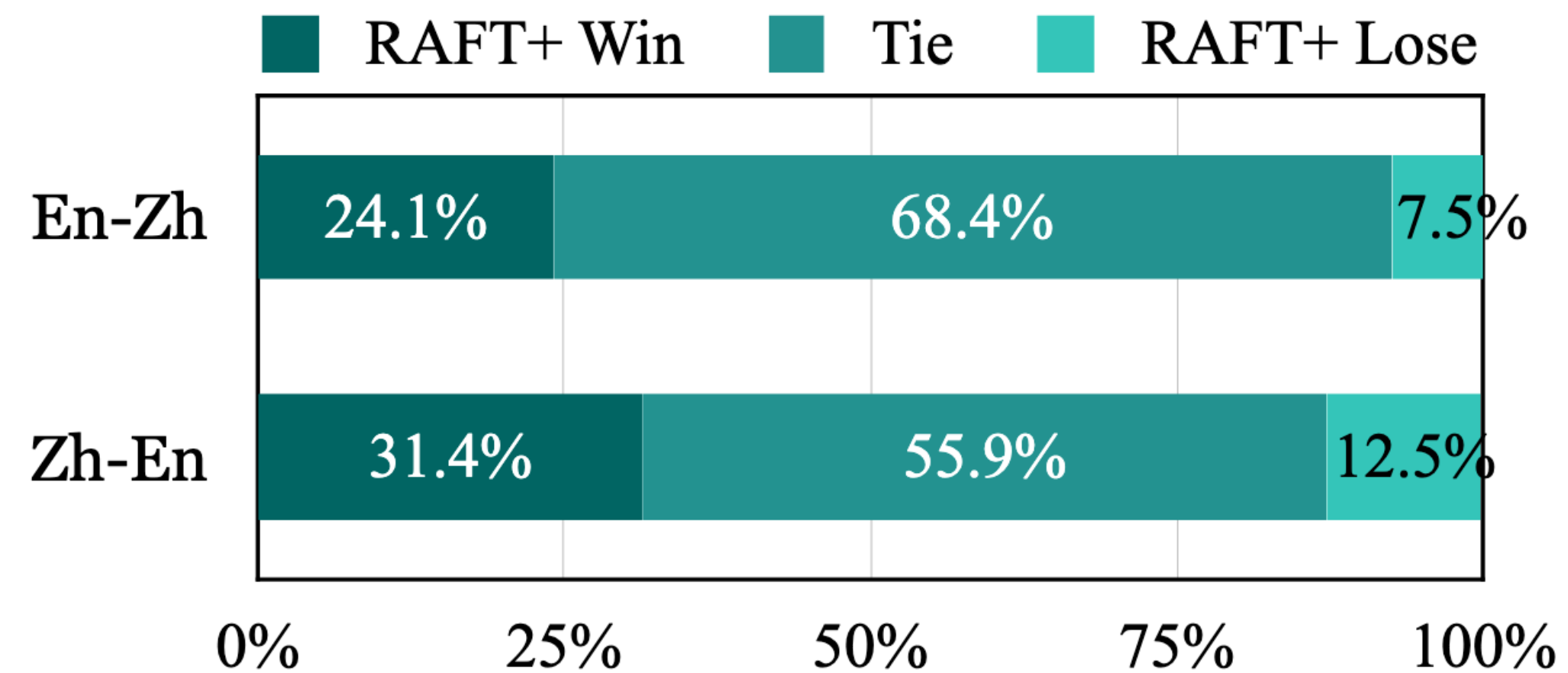
| Method | De→En | | En→De | | Zh→En | | En→Zh | | Average | |
|----------------------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | COMET | BLEURT | COMET | BLEURT | COMET | BLEURT | COMET | BLEURT | COMET | BLEURT |
| LLAMA-2-7B | | | | | | | | | | |
| SFT | 82.5 | 70.5 | 80.7 | 68.2 | 76.1 | 62.3 | 84.9 | 69.3 | 81.0 | 67.6 |
| REWARD MODEL: COMET-QE-DA | | | | | | | | | | |
| RAFT | 83.7 | 72.1 | 82.8 | 71.1 | 78.7 | 65.3 | 85.9 | 70.1 | 82.8 ^{↑1.7} | 69.7 ^{↑2.1} |
| RAFT+ | 83.6 | 72.1 | 84.4 | 73.9 | 79.0 | 66.1 | 85.4 | 69.3 | 83.1^{↑2.1} | 70.3^{↑2.7} |
| REWARD MODEL: COMET-QE-MQM | | | | | | | | | | |
| RAFT | 83.3 | 72.0 | 84.8 | 75.1 | 77.8 | 64.3 | 86.1 | 70.4 | 83.0 ^{↑2.0} | 70.5 ^{↑2.9} |
| RAFT+ | 83.7 | 72.4 | 85.6 | 75.7 | 78.6 | 65.6 | 85.8 | 70.0 | 83.4^{↑2.4} | 70.9^{↑3.3} |
| NLLB-200-1.3B | | | | | | | | | | |
| SFT | 70.9 | 52.5 | 85.3 | 74.8 | 66.0 | 48.4 | 83.7 | 69.1 | 76.5 | 61.2 |
| REWARD MODEL: COMET-QE-DA | | | | | | | | | | |
| RAFT | 73.2 | 52.2 | 85.8 | 75.1 | 67.9 | 50.5 | 84.2 | 68.9 | 77.8 ^{↑1.3} | 61.7 ^{↑0.5} |
| RAFT+ | 74.2 | 56.7 | 85.8 | 75.2 | 69.0 | 52.6 | 84.0 | 67.9 | 78.2^{↑1.7} | 63.1^{↑1.9} |
| REWARD MODEL: COMET-QE-MQM | | | | | | | | | | |
| RAFT | 82.8 | 71.3 | 83.9 | 73.4 | 76.1 | 62.3 | 84.6 | 68.6 | 81.8 ^{↑5.3} | 68.9 ^{↑7.7} |
| RAFT+ | 83.3 | 71.8 | 84.6 | 74.4 | 76.7 | 62.9 | 84.6 | 68.4 | 82.3^{↑5.8} | 69.4^{↑8.2} |

(a) High-resource language pairs

| Method | En→Uk | | Uk→En | | Uk→Cs | | Cs→Uk | | Average | |
|----------------------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | COMET | BLEURT | COMET | BLEURT | COMET | BLEURT | COMET | BLEURT | COMET | BLEURT |
| LLAMA-2-7B | | | | | | | | | | |
| SFT | 79.2 | 64.0 | 76.7 | 66.0 | 70.0 | 53.2 | 71.2 | 51.3 | 74.3 | 58.6 |
| REWARD MODEL: COMET-QE-DA | | | | | | | | | | |
| RAFT | 82.3 | 68.0 | 81.4 | 71.1 | 82.5 | 69.5 | 84.3 | 69.9 | 82.6^{↑8.3} | 69.6^{↑11.0} |
| RAFT+ | 82.0 | 67.8 | 81.5 | 71.2 | 82.2 | 68.8 | 84.5 | 70.1 | 82.6^{↑8.3} | 69.5 ^{↑10.9} |
| REWARD MODEL: COMET-QE-MQM | | | | | | | | | | |
| RAFT | 80.7 | 65.5 | 76.7 | 66.0 | 75.7 | 59.9 | 75.2 | 54.8 | 77.1 ^{↑2.8} | 61.5 ^{↑2.9} |
| RAFT+ | 81.2 | 67.0 | 79.2 | 68.9 | 77.3 | 62.3 | 78.8 | 60.7 | 79.1^{↑4.8} | 64.8^{↑6.2} |
| NLLB-200-1.3B | | | | | | | | | | |
| SFT | 83.1 | 70.2 | 71.1 | 62.7 | 73.2 | 61.5 | 57.3 | 43.4 | 71.2 | 59.4 |
| REWARD MODEL: COMET-QE-DA | | | | | | | | | | |
| RAFT | 85.2 | 72.5 | 64.7 | 33.2 | 70.5 | 29.7 | 73.8 | 30.1 | 73.6 ^{↑2.4} | 41.4 ^{↓18.0} |
| RAFT+ | 84.5 | 71.3 | 77.7 | 67.0 | 83.1 | 70.3 | 72.0 | 55.1 | 79.3^{↑8.1} | 65.9^{↑6.6} |
| REWARD MODEL: COMET-QE-MQM | | | | | | | | | | |
| RAFT | 85.8 | 73.2 | 67.5 | 50.0 | 71.1 | 41.6 | 71.1 | 42.7 | 73.9 ^{↑2.7} | 51.9 ^{↓7.5} |
| RAFT+ | 84.5 | 71.8 | 76.4 | 66.1 | 82.1 | 69.9 | 71.4 | 54.5 | 78.6^{↑7.4} | 65.6^{↑6.2} |

(b) Low-resource language pairs

Human Preference Study



Humans prefer models trained with feedback.

Figure 4: Human preference evaluation, comparing RAFT+ to SFT model on En \leftrightarrow Zh test sets.

Data Efficiency of Feedback Training

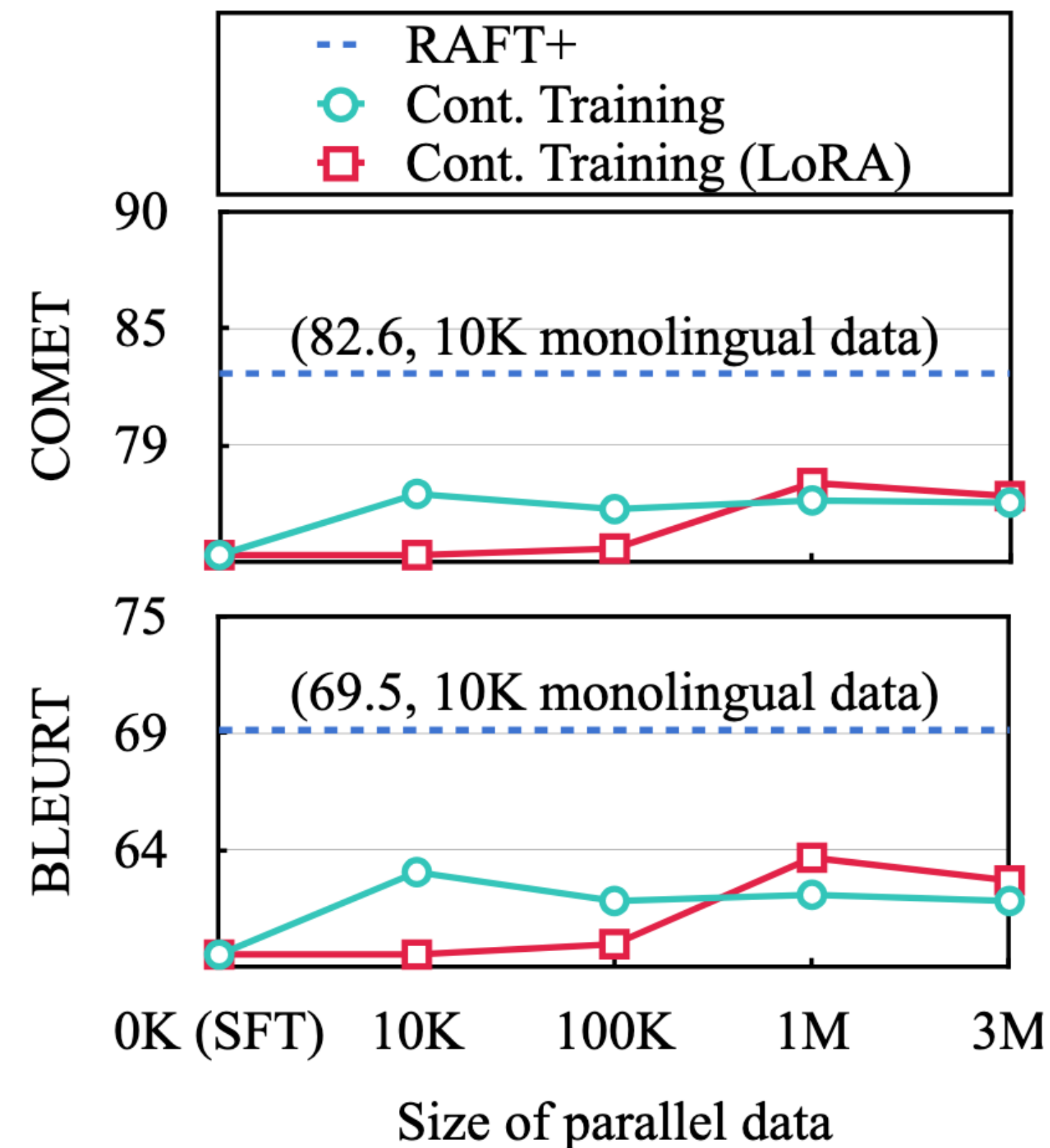


Figure 5: Comparison between RAFT+ and continuous training in the low-resource setting.

- ☑ Feedback training is data efficient.
- Continuous training with increasing amounts of parallel data fails to yield consistent improvements.
- RAFT+ performs markedly better using merely 10K monolingual data.

Effects of Scaling Model Size and Pretraining

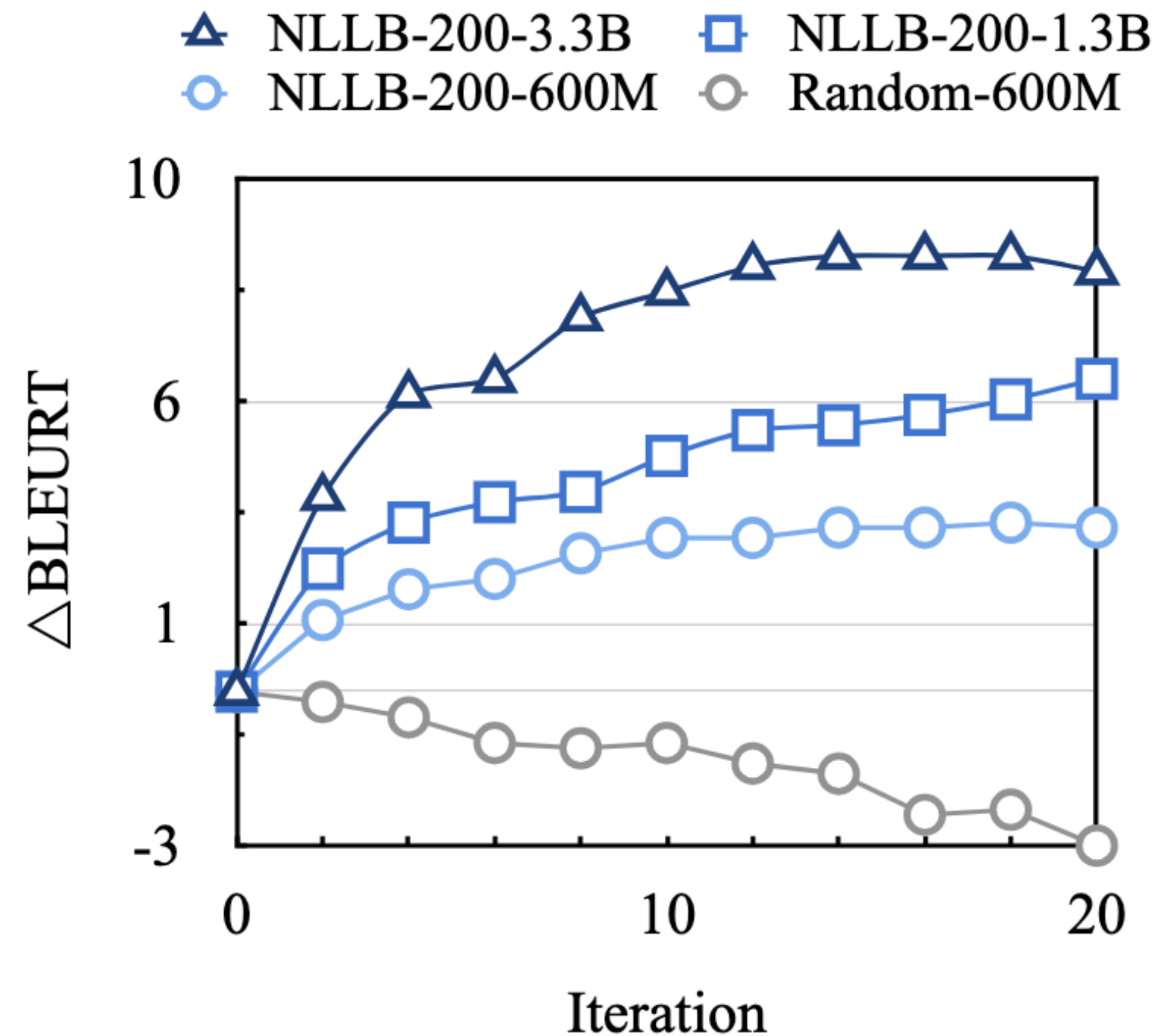


Figure 6: Training curves of RAFT+ (high-resource COMET-QE-MQM) under different base models. We report the change in BLEURT score for each checkpoint relative to the SFT model.

☑ Feedback training performs better on strong base models.

- Feedback training exhibits a more pronounced enhancement with a larger base model size.
- Feedback training is effective only when the base model has undergone pretraining.

Summary

- ☑ LLM can improve translation quality by mimicking human translation strategies.
- ☑ MT model can learn from human feedback (modeled by QE) after addressing overoptimization.