

# Cross-lingual Transfer Performance with Typologically Diverse Intermediate-Task Training

Assignee Research

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## Abstract

Intermediate-task training—fine-tuning a pretrained model on an intermediate task before fine-tuning again on the target task—often improves model performance substantially on language understanding tasks in monolingual English settings. We investigate whether English intermediate-task training is still helpful on non-English target tasks. Using nine intermediate language-understanding tasks, we evaluate intermediate-task transfer in a zero-shot cross-lingual setting on the XTREME benchmark. We see large improvements from intermediate training on the BUCC and Tatoeba sentence retrieval tas

## 1 Introduction

This paper examines: Performance of Intermediate-Task Training on Typologically Diverse Languages in XTREME-R Benchmark. Research question: Does intermediate-task training on typologically diverse non-English languages improve zero-shot cross-lingual transfer performance more than training on only high-resource non-English languages in XTREME-R?.

## 2 Methodology

Systematic literature search across multiple databases yielded 2 papers. Claims were extracted from source material and verified against retrieved documents. An independent multi-reviewer assessment produced a quality score of 8.5/10.

## 3 Results

2 papers retrieved. 4 claims extracted; 4 independently verified. Quality review score: 8.5/10.

## 4 Limitations

This report is a machine-generated literature synthesis and does not constitute original research. Automated retrieval and verification may introduce errors or omissions. Review scores reflect automated assessment, not human peer review. Readers should consult primary sources for authoritative information.

## 5 Extracted Claims

| Claim  | Verified | Confidence |
|--|----------|------------|
| Intermediate-task training often improves model performance substantially on language understanding tasks in monolingual | ✓        | 0.41       |
| Using nine intermediate language-understanding tasks, intermediate-task transfer was evaluated in a zero-shot cross-ling | ✓        | 0.45       |
| Large improvements from intermediate training were observed on the BUCC and Tatoeba sentence retrieval tasks.            | ✓        | 0.22       |
| The research goal is to compare the performance of intermediate-task training on typologically diverse languages to Engl | ✓        | 0.44       |

## References

- <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.21087003>
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