DocVQA: A Dataset for VQA on Document Images

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DocVQA: A Dataset for VQA on Document Images

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Abstract

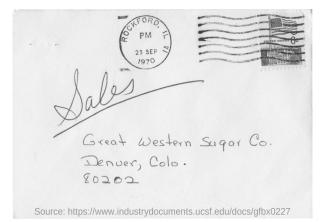
We present a new dataset for Visual Question Answering (VQA) on document images called DocVQA. The dataset consists of 50,000 questions defined on 12,000+ document images. Detailed analysis of the dataset in comparison with similar datasets for VQA and reading comprehension is presented. We report several baseline results by adopting existing VQA and reading comprehension models. Although the existing models perform reasonably well on certain types of questions, there is large performance gap compared to human performance (94.36% accuracy). The models need to improve specifically on questions where understanding structure of the document is crucial. The dataset, code and leaderboard are available at docvga.org

1. Introduction

Research in Document Analysis and Recognition (DAR) is generally focused on information extraction tasks that aim to convert information in document images into machine readable form, such as character recognition [10], table extraction [22] or key-value pair extraction [30]. Such algorithms tend to be designed as task specific blocks, blind to the end-purpose the extracted information will be used for.

Progressing independently in such information extraction processes has been quite successful, although it is not necessarily true that holistic document image understanding can be achieved through a simple constructionist approach, building upon such modules. The scale and complexity of the task introduce difficulties that require a different point of view.

In this article we introduce Document Visual Question Answering (DocVQA), as a high-level task dynamically driving DAR algorithms to conditionally interpret document images. By doing so, we seek to inspire a "purposedriven" point of view in DAR research. In case of Document VQA, as illustrated in Figure 1, an intelligent reading system is expected to respond to ad-hoc requests for information, expressed in natural language questions by human



Q: Mention the ZIP code written?
A: 80202
Q: What date is seen on the seal at the top of the letter?
A: 23 sep 1970

Q: Which company address is mentioned on the letter? **A:** Great western sugar Co.

Figure 1: Example question-answer pairs from DocVQA. Answering questions in the new dataset require models not just to read text but interpret it within the layout/structure of the document.

users. To do so, reading systems should not only extract and interpret the textual (handwritten, typewritten or printed) content of the document images, but exploit numerous other visual cues including layout (page structure, forms, tables), non-textual elements (marks, tick boxes, separators, diagrams) and style (font, colours, highlighting), to mention just a few.

Departing from generic VQA [13] and Scene Text VQA [35, 5] approaches, the document images warrants a different approach to exploit all the above visual cues, making use of prior knowledge of the implicit written communication conventions used, and dealing with the high-density semantic information conveyed in such images. Answers in case of document VQA cannot be sourced from a closed dictionary, but they are inherently open ended.

Previous approaches on bringing VQA to the documents

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domain have either focused on specific document elements such as data visualisations [19, 21] or on specific collections such as book covers [28]. In contrast to such approaches, we recast the problem to its generic form, and put forward a large scale, varied collection of real documents.

Main contributions of this work can be summarized as following:

- We introduce DocVQA, a large scale dataset of 12, 767 document images of varied types and content, over which we have defined 50,000 questions and answers. The questions defined are categorised based on their reasoning requirements, allowing us to analyze how DocVQA methods fare for different question types.
- We define and evaluate various baseline methods over the DocVQA dataset, ranging from simple heuristic methods and human performance analysis that allow us to define upper performance bounds given different assumptions, to state of the art Scene Text VQA models and NLP models.

2. Related Datasets and Tasks

Machine reading comprehension (MRC) and opendomain question answering (QA) are two problems which are being actively pursued by Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Information Retrieval (IR) communities. In MRC the task is to answer a natural language question given a question and a paragraph (or a single document) as the context. In case of open domain OA, no specific context is given and answer need to be found from a large collection (say Wikipedia) or from Web. MRC is often modelled as an extractive QA problem where answer is defined as a span of the context on which the question is defined. Examples of datsets for extractive QA include SQuAD 1.1 [32], NewsQA [37] and Natural Questions [27]. MS MARCO [29] is an example of a QA dataset for abstractive QA where answers need to be generated not extracted. Recently Transformer based pretraining methods like Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers (BERT) [9] and XLNet [41] have helped to build QA models outperforming Humans on reading comprehension on SQuAD [32]. In contrast to QA in NLP where context is given as computer readable strings, contexts in case of DocVQA are document images.

Visual Question Answering (VQA) aims to provide an accurate natural language answer given an image and a natural language question. VQA has attracted an intense research effort over the past few years [13, 1, 17]. Out of a large body of work on VQA, scene text VQA branch is the most related to our work. Scene text VQA refers to VQA systems aiming to deal with cases where understanding scene text instances is necessary to respond to the questions posed. The ST-VQA [5] and TextVQA [35] datasets were introduced in parallel in 2019 and were quickly followed by more research [36, 11, 39].

The ST-VQA dataset [5] has 31,000+ questions over 23,000+ images collected from different public data sets. The TextVQA dataset [35] has 45,000+ questions over 28,000+ images sampled from specific categories of the OpenImages dataset [25] that are expected to contain text. Another dataset named OCR-VQA [28] comprises more than 1 million question-answer pairs over 207K+ images of book covers. The questions in this dataset are domain specific, generated based on template questions and answers extracted from available metadata.

Scene text VQA methods [16, 11, 35, 12] typically make use of pointer mechanisms in order to deal with out-ofvocabulary (OOV) words appearing in the image and provide the open answer space required. This goes hand in hand with the use of word embeddings capable of encoding OOV words into a pre-defined semantic space, such as Fast-Text [6] or BERT [9]. More recent, top-performing methods in this space include M4C [16] and MM-GNN [11] models.

Parallelly there have been works on certain domain specific VQA tasks which require to read and understand text in the images. The DVQA dataset presented by Kafle *et al.* [20, 19] comprises synthetically generated images of bar charts and template questions defined automatically based on the bar chart metadata. The dataset contains more than three million question-answer pairs over 300,000 images.

FigureQA [21] comprises over one million yes or no questions, grounded on over 100,000 images. Three different types of charts are used: bar, pie and line charts. Similar to DVQA, images are synthetically generated and questions are generated from templates. Another related QA task is Textbook Question Answering (TQA) [23] where multiple choice questions are asked on multimodal context, including text, diagrams and images. Here textual information is provided in computer readable format.

Compared to these existing datasets either concerning VQA on real word images, or domain specific VQA for charts or book covers, the proposed DocVQA comprise document images. The dataset covers a multitude of different document types that include elements like tables, forms and figures, as well as a range of different textual, graphical and structural elements.

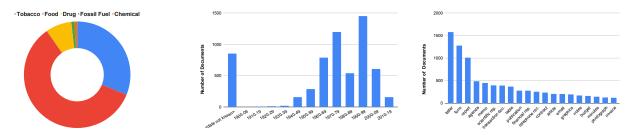
3. DocVQA

In this section we explain data collection and annotation process and present statistics and analysis of DocVQA.

3.1. Data Collection

Document Images: Images in the dataset are sourced from documents in UCSF Industry Documents Library¹. The documents are organized under different industries and

https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/



(a) Industry-wise distribution of the docu- (b) Year wise distribution of the documents. (c) Various types of documents used. ments.

Figure 2: Document images we use in the dataset come from 6071 documents spanning many decades, of a variety of types, originating from 5 different industries. We use documents from UCSF Industry Documents Library.

further under different collections. We downloaded documents from different collections and hand picked pages from these documents for use in the dataset. Majority of documents in the library are binarized and the binarization has taken on a toll on the image quality. We tried to minimize binarized images in DocVQA since we did not want poor image quality to be a bottleneck for VQA. We also prioritized pages with tables, forms, lists and figures over pages which only have running text.

The final set of images in the dataset are drawn from pages of 6, 071 industry documents. We made use of documents from as early as 1900 to as recent as 2018. (Figure 2b). Most of the documents are from the 1960-2000 period and they include typewritten, printed, handwritten and born-digital text. There are documents from all 5 major industries for which the library hosts documents — tobacco, food, drug, fossil fuel and chemical. We use many documents from food and nutrition related collections, as they have a good number of non-binarized images. See Figure 2a for industry wise distribution of the 6071 documents used. The documents comprise a wide variety of document types as shown in Figure 2c.

Questions and Answers: Questions and answers on the selected document images are collected with the help of remote workers, using a Web based annotation tool. The annotation process was organized in three stages. In stage 1, workers were shown a document image and asked to define at most 10 question-answer pairs on it. We encouraged the workers to add more than one ground truth answer per question in cases where it is warranted. Workers were instructed to ask questions which can be answered using text present in the image and to enter the answer verbatim from the document. This makes VQA on the DocVQA dataset an extractive QA problem similar to extractive QA tasks in NLP [32, 37] and VQA in case of ST-VQA [5].

The second annotation stage aims to verify the data collected in the first stage. Here a worker was shown an image and questions defined on it in the first stage (but not the answers from the first stage), and was required to enter answers for the questions. In this stage workers were also required to assign one or more question types to each question. The different question types in DocVQA are discussed in subsection 3.2. During the second stage, if the worker finds a question inapt owing to language issues or ambiguity, an option to flag the question was provided. Such questions are not included in the dataset.

If none of the answers entered in the first stage match exactly with any of the answers from the second stage, the particular question is sent for review in a third stage. Here questions and answers are editable and the reviewer either accepts the question-answer (after editing if necessary) or ignores it. The third stage review is done by the authors themselves.

3.2. Statistics and Analysis

The DocVQA comprises 50,000 questions framed on 12,767 images. The data is split randomly in an 80-10-10 ratio to train, validation and test splits. The train split has 39,463 questions and 10,194 images, the validation split has 5,349 questions and 1,286 images and the test split has 5,188 questions and 1,287 images.

As mentioned before, questions are tagged with question type(s) during the second stage of the annotation pro-

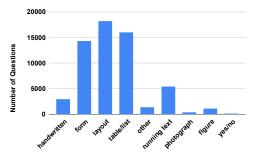


Figure 3: The 9 question types and share of questions in each type.

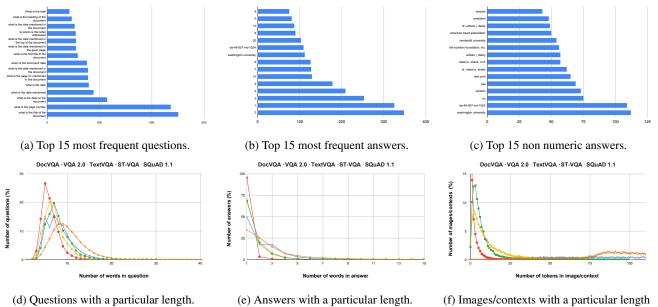


Figure 4: Question, answer and OCR tokens' statistics compared to similar datasets from VQA — VQA 2.0 [13], ST-VQA [5] and TextVQA [35] and SQuAD 1.1 [32] reading comprehension dataset.

cess. Figure 3 shows the 9 question types and percentage of questions under each type. A question type signifies the type of data where the question is grounded. For example, 'table/list' is assigned if answering the question requires understanding of a table or a list. If the information is in the form of a key:value, the 'form' type is assigned. 'Layout' is assigned for questions which require spatial/layout information to find the answer. For example, questions asking for a title or heading, require one to understand structure of the document. If answer for a question is based on information in the form of sentences/paragraphs type assigned is 'running text'. For all questions where answer is based on handwritten text, 'handwritten' type is assigned. Note that a question can have more than one type associated with it. (Examples from DocVQA for each question type are given in the supplementary.)

In the following analysis we compare statistics of questions, answers and OCR tokens with other similar datasets for VQA — VQA 2.0 [13], TextVQA [35] and ST-VQA [5] and SQuAD 1.1 [32] dataset for reading comprehension. Statistics for other datasets are computed based on their publicly available data splits. For statistics on OCR tokens, for DocVQA we use OCR tokens generated by a commercial OCR solution. For VQA 2.0, TextVQA and ST-VQA we use OCR tokens made available by authors of LoRRA [35] and M4C [16] as part of the MMF [34] framework.

Figure 4d shows distribution of question lengths for questions in DocVQA compared to other similar datasets. The average question length is is 8.12, which is second highest among the compared datasets. In DocVQA 35,362 (70.72%) questions are unique. Figure 4a shows the top 15 most frequent questions and their frequencies. There are questions repeatedly being asked about dates, titles and page numbers. A sunburst of first 4 words of the questions is shown in Figure 6.

It can be seen that a large majority of questions start with "what is the", asking for date, title, total, amount or name.

Distribution of answer lengths is shown in Figure 4e. We observe in the figure that both DocVQA and SQuAD 1.1 have a higher number of longer answers compared to the VQA datasets. The average answer length is 2.17.

63.2% of the answers are unique, which is second only to SQuAD 1.1 (72.5%). The top 15 answers in the dataset are shown in Figure 4b.

We observe that almost all of the top answers are numeric values, which is expected since there are a good number of document images of reports and invoices. In Fig-



Figure 5: Word clouds of words in answers (left) and words spotted on the document images in the dataset (right)

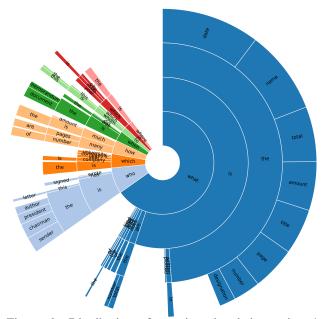


Figure 6: Distribution of questions by their starting 4grams. Most questions aim to retrieve common data points in documents such as date, title, total mount and page number.

ure 4c we show the top 15 non numeric answers. These include named entities such as names of people, institutions and places. The word cloud on the left in Figure 5 shows frequent words in answers. Most common words are names of people and names of calendar months.

In Figure 4f we show the number of images (or 'context's in case of SQuAD 1.1) containing a particular number of text tokens. Average number of text tokens in an image or context is the highest in the case of DocVQA (182.75). It is considerably higher compared to SQuAD 1.1 where contexts are usually small paragraphs whose average length is 117.23. In case of VQA datasets which comprise real world images average number of OCR tokens is not more than 13. Word cloud on the right in Figure 5 shows the most common words spotted by the OCR on the images in DocVQA. We observe that there is high overlap between common OCR tokens and words in answers.

4. Baselines

In this section we explain the baselines we use, including heuristics and trained models.

4.1. Heuristics and Upper Bounds

Heuristics we evaluate are: (i) **Random answer:** measures performance when we pick a random answer from the answers in the train split. (ii) **Random OCR token:** performance when a random OCR token from the given document image is picked as the answer. (iii) **Longest OCR token** is the case when the longest OCR token in the given document is selected as the answer. (iv) **Majority answer** measures the performance when the most frequent answer in the train split is considered as the answer.

We also compute following upper bounds: (i) Vocab UB: This upper bound measures performance upper bound one can get by predicting correct answers for the questions, provided the correct answer is present in a vocabulary of answers, comprising all answers which occur more than once in the train split. (ii) OCR substring UB: is the upper bound on predicting the correct answer provided the answer can be found as a substring in the sequence of OCR tokens. The sequence is made by serializing the OCR tokens recognized in the documents as a sequence separated by space, in top-left to bottom-right order. (iii) OCR subsequence UB: upper bound on predicting the correct answer, provided the answer is a subsequence of the OCR tokens' sequence.

4.2. VQA Models

For evaluating performance of existing VQA models on DocVQA we employ two models which take the text present in the images into consideration while answering questions – Look, Read, Reason & Answer (LoRRA) [35] and Multimodal Multi-Copy Mesh(M4C) [16].

LoRRA: follows a bottom-up and top-down attention [3] scheme with additional bottom-up attention over OCR tokens from the images. In LoRRA, tokens in a question are first embedded using a pre-trained embedding (GloVe [31]) and then these tokens are iteratively encoded using an LSTM [15] encoder. The model uses two types of spatial features to represent the visual information from the images - (i) grid convolutional features from a Resnet-152 [14] which is pre-trained on ImageNet [8] and (ii) features extracted from bounding box proposals from a Faster R-CNN [33] object detection model, pre-trained on Visual Genome [26]. OCR tokens from the image are embedded using a pre-trained word embedding (FastText [7]). An attention mechanism is used to compute an attention weighed average of the image features as well the OCR tokens' embeddings. These averaged features are combined and fed into an output module. The classification layer of the model, predicts an answer either from a fixed vocabulary (made from answers in train set) or copy an answer from a dynamic vocabulary which essentially is the list of OCR tokens in an image. Here the copy mechanism can copy only one of the OCR tokens from the image. Consequently it cannot output an answer which is a combination of two or more OCR tokens.

M4C: uses a multimodal transformer and an iterative answer prediction module. Here tokens in questions are embedded using a BERT model [9]. Images are represented using (i) appearance features of the objects detected using a Faster-RCNN pretrained on Visual Genome [26] and (ii)

location information - bounding box coordinates of the detected objects. Each OCR token recognized from the image is represented using (i) a pretrained word embedding (FastText), (ii) appearance feature of the token's bounding box from the same Faster R-CNN which is used for appearance features of objects (iii) PHOC [2] representation of the token and (iv) bounding box coordinates of the token. Then these feature representations of the three entities (question tokens, objects and OCR tokens) are projected to a common, learned embedding space. Then a stack of Transformer [38] layers are applied over these features in the common embedding space. The multi-head self attention in transformers enable both inter-entity and intra-entity attention. Finally, answers are predicted through iterative decoding in an auto-regressive manner. Here the fixed vocabulary used for the closed answer space is made up of the most common answer words in the train split. Note that in this case the fixed vocabulary comprises of answer words, not answers itself as in the case of LoRRA. At each step in the decoding, the decoded word is either an OCR token from the image or a word from the fixed vocabulary of common answer words.

In our experiments we use original LoRRA and M4C models and few variants of these models. Document images in DocVQA usually contain higher number of text tokens compared to images in scene text VQA datasets. Hence we try out larger dynamic vocabularies (i.e. more OCR tokens are considered from the images) for both LoRRA and M4C. For both the models we also evaluate performance when no fixed vocabulary is used.

Since the notion of visual objects in real word images is not directly applicable in case of document images, we also try out variants of LoRRA and M4C where features of objects are omitted.

4.3. Reading Comprehension Models

In addition to the VQA models which can read text, we try out extractive question answering / reading comprehension models from NLP. In particular, we use BERT [9] question answering models. BERT is a method of pre-training language representations from unlabelled text using transformers [38]. These pretrained models can then be used for downstream tasks with just an additional output layer. In the case of extractive Question Answering, this is an output layer to predict start and end indices of the answer span.

5. Experiments

In this section we explain evaluation metrics and our experimental settings and report results of experiments.

5.1. Evaluation Metrics

Two evaluation metrics we use are Average Normalized Levenshtein Similarity (ANLS) and Accuracy (Acc.).

	va	al	te	st
Baseline	ANLS	Acc.	ANLS	Acc.
Human	-	-	0.981	94.36
Random answer	0.003	0.00	0.003	0.00
Rnadom OCR token	0.013	0.52	0.014	0.58
Longest OCR token	0.002	0.05	0.003	0.07
Majority answer	0.017	0.90	0.017	0.89
Vocab UB	-	31.31	-	33.78
OCR substring UB	-	85.64	-	87.00
OCR subsequence UB	-	76.37	-	77.00

Table 1: Evaluation of different heuristics and upper bounds. Predicting random answers or majority answer do not even yield 1% accuracy. Answers are a substring of the serialized OCR output in more than 85% of the cases.

ANLS was originally proposed for evaluation of VQA on ST-VQA [4]. The Accuracy metric measures percentage of questions for which the predicted answer matches exactly with any of the target answers for the question. Accuracy metric awards a zero score even when the prediction is only a little different from the target answer. Since no OCR is perfect, we propose to use ANLS as our primary evaluation metric, so that minor answer mismatches stemming from OCR errors are not severely penalized.

5.2. Experimental setup

For measuring human performance, we collect answers for all questions in test split, with help a few volunteers from our institution.

In all our experiments including heuristics and trained baselines, OCR tokens we use are extracted using a commercial OCR application. For the heuristics and upper bounds we use a vocabulary 4,341 answers which occur more than once in the train split.

For LoRRA and M4C models we use official implementations available as part of the MMF framework [34]. The training settings and hyper parameters are same as the ones reported in the original works. The fixed vocabulary we use for LoRRA is same as the vocabulary we use for computing vocabulary based heuristics and upper bounds. For M4C the fixed vocabulary we use is a vocabulary of the 5,000 most frequent words from the answers in the train split.

For QA using BERT, three pre-trained BERT models² from the Transformers library [40] are used. The models we use are bert-base-uncased, bert-large-uncasedwhole-word-masking and bert-large-uncased-whole-wordmasking-finetuned-squad. We abbreviate the model names as bert-base, bert-large and bert-large-squad respectively. Among these, bert-large-squad is a pre-trained model which is also finetuned on SQuAD 1.1 for question answering. In

²https://huggingface.co/transformers/ pretrained_models.html

				va	al	te	st
Method	Objects' feature	Fixed vocab.	Dynamic vocab. size	ANLS	Acc.	ANLS	Acc.
	1	1	50	0.110	7.22	0.112	7.63
L oDD A [25]	1	×	50	0.041	2.64	0.037	2.58
LoRRA [35]	×	1	50	0.102	6.73	0.100	6.43
	1	1	150	0.101	7.09	0.102	7.22
	1	1	500	0.094	6.41	0.095	6.31
	1	1	50	0.292	18.34	0.306	18.75
M4C [16]	1	×	50	0.216	12.44	0.219	12.15
M4C [16]	×	1	50	0.294	18.75	0.310	18.92
	×	1	150	0.352	22.66	0.360	22.35
	×	1	300	0.367	23.99	0.375	23.90
	×	1	500	0.385	24.73	0.391	24.81

Table 2: Performance of the VQA models which are capable of reading text — LoRRA [35] and M4C [16]. Detection of visual objects and their features (bottom-up attention), which is a common practice in VQA is ineffective in case of DocVQA.

case of extractive question answering or reading comprehension datasets 'contexts' on which questions are asked are passages of electronic text. But in DocVQA 'contexts' are document images. Hence to finetune the BERT QA models on DocVQA we need to prepare the data in SQuAD style format where the answer to a question is a 'span' of the context, defined by start and end indices of the answer. To this end we first serialize the OCR tokens recognized on the document images to a single string, separated by space, in top-left to bottom-right order. To approximate the answer spans we follow an approach proposed in TriviaQA [18], which is to find the first match of the answer string in the serialized OCR string.

The bert-base model is finetuned on DocVQA on 2 Nvidia GeForce 1080 Ti GPUs, for 2 epochs, with a batch size of 32. We use Adam optimizer [24] with a learning rate of 5e - 05. The bert-large and bert-large-squad models are finetuned on 4 GPUs for 6 epochs with a batch size of 8, and a learning rate of 2e - 05.

		va va	al	te	st
Pretrained model	DocVQA finetune	ANLS	Acc.	ANLS	Acc.
bert-base	1	0.556	45.6	0.574	47.6
bert-large-	1	0.594	49.28	0.610	51.08
bert-large-	X	0.462	36.72	0.475	38.26
squad bert-large- squad	1	0.655	54.48	0.665	55.77

Table 3: Performance of BERT question answering models. A BERT_{LARGE} model which is fine tuned on both SQuAD 1.1 [32] and DocVQA performs the best.

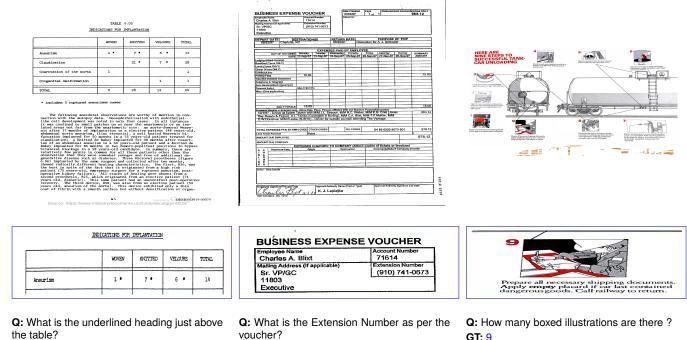
5.3. Results

Results of all heuristic approaches and upper bounds are reported in Table 1. We can see that none of the heuristics get even a 1% accuracy on the validation or test splits.

OCR substring UB yields more than 85% accuracy on both validation and test splits. It has a downside that the substring match in all cases need not be an actual answer match. For example if the answer is "2" which is the most common answer in the dataset, it will match with a "2" in "2020" or a "2" in "2pac". This is the reason why we evaluate the *OCR subsequence UB*. An answer is a sub sequence of the serialized OCR output for around 76% of the questions in both validation and test splits.

Results of our trained VQA baselines are shown in Table 2. First rows for both the methods report results of the original model proposed by the respective authors. In case of LoRRA the original setting proposed by the authors yields the best results compared to the variants we try out. With no fixed vocabulary, the performance of the model drops sharply suggesting that the model primarily relies on the fixed vocabulary to output answers. Larger dynamic vocabulary results in a slight performance drop suggesting that incorporating more OCR tokens from the document images does little help. Unlike LoRRA, M4C benefits from a larger dynamic vocabulary. Increasing the size of the dynamic vocabulary from 50 to 500 improves the ANLS by around 50%. And in case of M4C, the setting where features of objects are omitted, performs slightly better compared to the original setting.

Results of the BERT question answering models are reported in Table 3. We observe that all BERT models perform better than the best VQA baseline using M4C (last row in 2). The best performing model out of all the baselines analysed is the bert-large-squad model, finetuned on DocVQA. Answers predicted by this model match one of



GT: Indications for implantation M4C best: indications for implantation BERT best: total aneurism Human: indications for implantation Voucher? GT: (910) 741-0673 M4C best: 963.12 BERT best: (910) 741-0673 Human: (910) 741-0673 G: How many boxed illustrations are there GT: 9 M4C best: 4 BERT best: 4 Human: 9

Figure 7: Qualitative results from our experiments. The leftmost example is a 'layout' type question answered correctly by the M4C model but erred by the BERT model. In the second example the BERT model correctly answers a question on a form while the M4C model fails. In case of the rightmost example, both models fail to understand a step by step illustration.

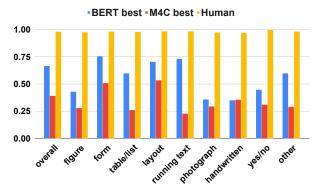


Figure 8: Best baselines from VQA space and reading comprehension space pitted against the human performance for different question types. We need models which can understand figures and text on photographs better. We need better handwriting recognizers too!

the target answers exactly for around 55% of the questions.

In Figure 8 we show performance by question type. We compare the best models among VQA models and BERT question answering models against the human performance

on the test split. We observe that the human performance is uniform while the models' performance vary for different question types. In Figure 7 we show a few qualitative results from our experiments.

6. Conclusion

We introduce a new data set and an associated VQA task with the aim to inspire a "purpose-driven" approach in document image analysis and recognition research. Our baselines and initial results motivate simultaneous use of visual and textual cues for answering questions asked on document images. This could drive methods that use the low-level cues (text, layout, arrangements) and high-level goals (purpose, relationship, domain knowledge) in solving problems of practical importance.

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A. Screen grabs of Annotation Tool

As mentioned in Section 3.1 in the main paper, annotation process involves three stages. In Figure A.1, Figure A.2 and Figure A.3 we show screen grabs from stage 1, stage 2 and stage 3 of the annotation process respectively.

B. Examples of Question Types

We define 9 question types, based on the kind of reasoning required to answer a question. Question types are assigned at the second stage of the annotation. We discuss the question types in Section 3.2. in the main paper.

Examples for types *form*, *yes/no* and *layout* are shown in Figure B.1. Examples for a question based on a handwritten date in a form (types *form* and *handwritten*) are shown in Figure B.2. An example for a question based on information in the form of sentences or paragraphs (type *running text*) is shown in Figure B.3. Examples for types *photograph* and *table* are shown in Figure B.4. An example for a question based on a plot (type *figure*) is shown in Figure B.5. In all examples a crop of the original image is shown below the original image, for better viewing of the image region where the question is based on.

C. Additional Qualitative Examples

Here we show more qualitative results from our baseline experiments. These results supplement the Results section (Section 5.3) in the main paper.

Remember that BERT [9] question answering model is designed to answer questions asked on sentences or paragraphs of text (reading comprehension). In Figure C.1 we show two examples where the model answers questions outside the ambit of reading comprehension style question answering. In Figure C.2 we show examples where the M4C [16] model outperforms the BERT model to answer questions based on text seen on pictures or photographs. Such questions are similar to questions in TextVQA [35] or ST-VQA [5] datasets where M4C model yield state-ofthe-art results. In Figure C.3 we show an example where both the models yield inconsistent results when posed with questions of similar nature, highlighting lack of reasoning behind answering. In Figure C.4 we show two examples where both the M4C and BERT model fail to answer questions which require understanding of a figure or a diagram. In Figure C.5 we show how OCR errors have resulted in wrong answers although the models manage to ground the questions correctly.

tation Tool	Home Upload Annotate Verify QC 2 View Completed 🛓
AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL TOY AND PCS TRAVEL	Questions
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REQUEST AND AUTHORIZATION FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL TDY TRAVEL AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL TDY AND PCS TRAVEL (RE1810 and (PER 74)	No answers yet.
TYPE OF TANKEL ORDERS TOY. UCMR PROPER STA PCS (Cisilian only) CONFIRMATORY ORDERS NAME OF REQUESTING OFFICE S. TELEPHONE EXT. 4. DATE	yes the form looks like an old form
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Figure A.1: Annotation stage 1 - Question Answer Collection: Questions and answers are collected for a given document image. Annotator can add upto 10 questions for a document. The document can be skipped if it is not possible to frame questions on it.

Tool		Home Annotate Verify View Completed
REQUEST AND AUTHORIZATION FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL TDY TRAV AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL TDY AND PCS TRAVEL (MR.10.F. MR.CORT.FJ)	VEL	What is the value entered in the field "arroximate number of daaaaays"
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Figure A.2: **Annotation stage 2 - Data Verification:** For each question shown annotators have to (i) enter answer(s) (answer(s) from first stage are not shown) and (ii) Tag the question with one or more question types from the 9 question types shown in a drop-down (question types assigned to a question are shown in green highlight color.) or (iii) flag/ignore the question by selecting the check-box corresponding to one of the reasons such as "invalid question", "Serious lang. issue" etc. (the reasons chosen for flagging a question are shown in red highlight color)

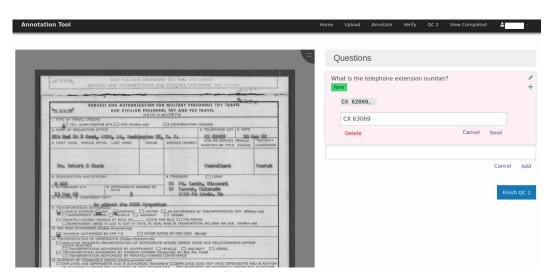
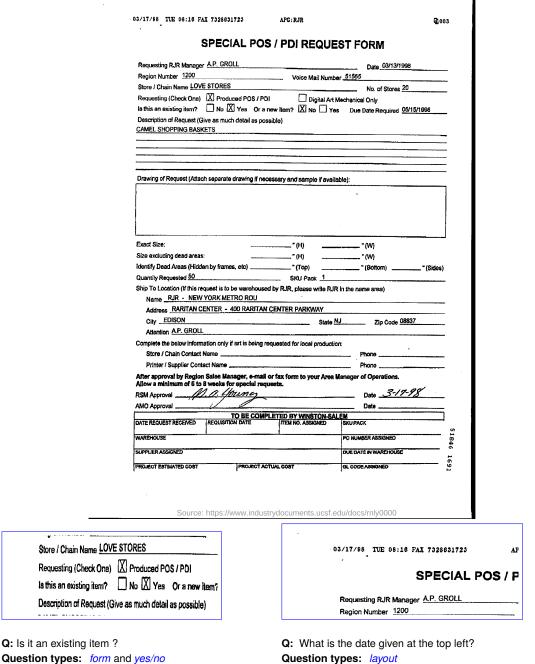


Figure A.3: **Annotation Stage 3 : Reviewing answer mismatch cases :** If none of the answers entered in the first stage for a question match with any of the answers entered in the second stage, the question is sent for review in a third stage. This review is handled by the authors and reviewer is allowed to edit question as well answers or add new answers before accepting the question.



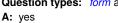




Figure B.1: On the left is a question based on an yes/no check box. On the right, the question seeks for a date given at a particular spatial location — top left of the page.

	17/98 TUE 08:16		APG:RJR		Ø1003
		SPECIAL PO	DS / PDI REQ	UEST FORM	
R	equesting RJR Manag	er A.P. GROLL		Date 03/13/1998	
	egion Number 1200		Voice Mail N	umber 51565	
St	tore / Chain Name <u>LO</u>	VE STORES		No. of Stores 20	
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	Name RJR - NEV	W YORK METRO ROU			
	Address RARITAN	CENTER - 400 RARIT	AN CENTER PARKWAY		
	City _EDISON		St	ate NJ Zip Code 08837	
	Attention A.P. GROL	u.			
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	Store / Chain Contac			Phone	
	Printer / Supplier Cor	ntact Name		Phone	
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All		to B weeks for special r	equests.		
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AN	IO Approval	-il		Date	
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Q: What is the date written next to RSM approval? **Question types:** *form* and *handwritten* **A:** 3-17-98

Figure B.2: Date is handwritten and it is shown in a key:value format.

3/17/98 TUE 08:18 FAX 7328631723	APG: RJR	@100:
SPECIAL POS	/ PDI REQUE	EST FORM
Requesting RJR Manager A.P. GROLL		Date 03/13/1998
		ber 51565
Store / Chain Name LOVE STORES		No. of Stores 20
Requesting (Check One) X Produced POS / PDI		Mechanical Only
la this an existing item? 🔲 No 🖾 Yes. Or a ne	ewitem? 🛛 No 🗌 Ye	as Due Date Required 05/15/1998
Description of Request (Give as much detail as poss	ible)	
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Drawing of Request (Attach separate drawing if nece	ssary and sample if avail	
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Exact Size:	" (H)	
Size excluding dead areas:	*(H)	
Identify Dead Areas (Hidden by frames, etc)		
Quantity Requested 50	SKU Pack _1	
Ship To Location (If this request is to be warehoused	by RJR, please write RJI	R in the name area)
Name RJR - NEW YORK METRO ROU		-
Address RARITAN CENTER - 400 RARITAN C	ENTER PARKWAY	
City EDISON	State	NJ Zip Code 08837
Attention A.P. GROLL		
Complete the below information only if art is being rec	quested for local producti	ion:
Store / Chain Contact Name		Phone
Printer / Supplier Contact Name		Phone
After approval by Region Sales Manager, e-mail o Allow a minimum of 6 to 8 weeks for special reque		• •
RSM Approval		Deto <u>3-17-98</u>
AMO Approval		Date
TO BE COMPL	ETED BY WINSTON-SA	LEW.
DATE REQUEST RECEIVED REQUISITION DATE	ITEM NO. ASSIGNED	SKUPACK
WAREHOUSE		PO NUMBER ASSIGNED
SUPPLIER ASSIGNED		PO NUMBER ASSIGNED DUE DATE IN WAREHOUSE GL CODE ASSIGNED
ROJECT ESTIMATED COST		GL CODE ASSIGNED

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/rnly0000

Quantity Requested 50	SKU Pack _1	
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Name _ RJR - NEW YORK METRO ROU		
Address RARITAN CENTER - 400 RARITAN C	ENTER PARKWAY	
City EDISON	State NJ	7in Code 08837

Q: If the request needs to be warehoused by RJR, what needs to be done ?Question types: running textA: write to RJR

Figure B.3: Question is grounded on a sentence.

nitrogen

by Dr. Dwayne G. Westfall



Dr. Dwayne G. Westfall Senior Plant Nutritionist

Senior Plant Nutritionist A native of Aberdeen, Idho, Dwayne received his Bachelor's Degree in Agennomy frei Du Sniversity of Idho in 1961. The Alexandrow of the Internet of Idho Washington State University in 1967. After graduating from the University of Idho, he served as fiscal University in 1967. Talk, Idhon. Yoo years of Army Service followed as plant pathologist at the US. Army Biological Laboratory. Dwayne joined Tevas A & M University as assistant professor in 1967. and was advanced to associate professor in 1972. In September of 1973 he joined Greet Western's agricultural research staff.

Recommendations

The top foot of soil should be analyzed for nitrate, phosphorus, potassium, organic matter and pH and the remain-ing soil down to the five foot level should be analyzed only for nitrate nitro-gen in one foot increments.

Nitrogen fertilizer recommendations should take into consideration, 1) amount of nitrate nitrogen in the entire soil profile, 2) organic matter content, 3) manure applied, 4) crop resi-due plowed under.

Colorado State University researchers have found that if the residual soil nitrate nitrogen level is over 100 pounds per acre, the probability of a significant yield response to additional nitrogen fertilizer is very small.

nitrogen fertilizer is very small. The following calculations show how to determine the amount of nitrogen fertilizer to apply: pm nitrate nitrogen is x 3.6 = pounds of nitrate-nitrogen in one foot of soil percent organic matter x 3.0 = lbs N/A available from organic matter tons manure applied per acre x 5 = lbs N/A available from manure alfalfa plowed under = 50 lbs N/A 10 lbs N are required for each ton of sugarbeets the grower estimates he will produce

nitrogen fertilizer recommendation = growers yield goal — (residual soil nitrate-nitrogen + N available from organic matter, manure, alfaffa and beans) "If soil results are received in ppm rather than lbs/A oil Nitescare

rather than lbs/A Soil Nitrogen In 1972, deep soil samples were taken on about 200 fields in the Nebraska, NCC and NEC&K Districts. The sucrose percentages, yields and soil nitrogen levels are shown in the table. These results show that for every 100 pounds increase in soil nitrogen level. there was a 0.18% decrease in sucrose content. Yields did not change dramatically as the soil nitrate-nitrogen level increased from 100 to 500 pounds. Nitrogen Rate X Variety Tests

Nitrogen Rate X Variety Tests Six tests were conducted in 1973 in which several varieties were grown at various nitrogen fertility levels to determine if all varieties responded the same to high soil nitrogen levels. The results are summarized in the fol-lowing table. The residual soil nitrate nitrogen levels in the six fields ranged from 30 to 70 pounds per acre. The results show that sugarbeet yields increased as the nitrogen rate increased and there was a significant decrease in sucrose percentage at decrease in sucrose percentage at

the high nitrogen rate as well as a decrease in purity. The pounds of ex-

Effect of Nitrogen Level on Sucrose Percentage and Yield

	Nebraska		District NCC		NEC&K		Average	
N Level* lb/A	Sucrose %	Yield T/A	Sucrose %	Yield T/A	Sucrose %	Yield T/A	Sucrose %	Yield T/A
101-200	16.4	22.7	17.4	20.4	16.0	20.8	16.6	21.3
201-300	16.4	22.8	17.1	21.9	16.4	20.6	16.6	21.8
301-400	16.2	22.5	16.5	22.0	15.8	19.7	16.2	21.4
401-500	15.9	22.5	15.9	22.8	15.3	22.4	15.7	22.6
501 +			16.3	21.8	15.5	18.7	15.9	20.2

2

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/khnk0226

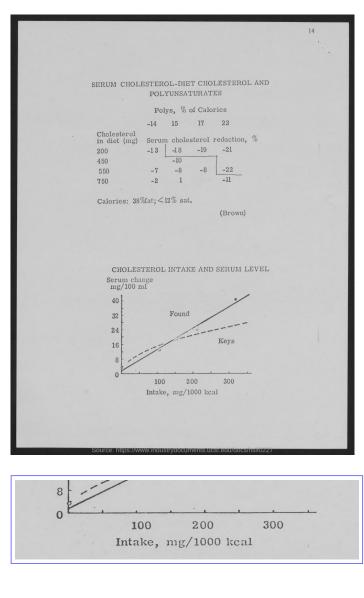


Q: Whose picture is given? Question types: photograph and layout A: Dr. Dwayne G. Westfall

	Nebra	iska	NC	С	NEC	&K	Aver	age
N Level* lb/A	Sucrose %	Yield T/A	Sucrose %	Yield T/A	Sucrose %	Yield T/A	Sucrose %	Yield T/A
101-200	16.4	22.7	17.4	20.4	16.0	20.8	16.6	21.3
201-300	16.4	22.8	17.1	21.9	16.4	20.6	16.6	21.8
301-400	16.2	22.5	16.5	22.0	15.8	19.7	16.2	21.4
401-500	15.9	22.5	15.9	22.8	15.3	22.4	15.7	22.6
501 +			16.3	21.8	15.5	18.7	15.9	20.2

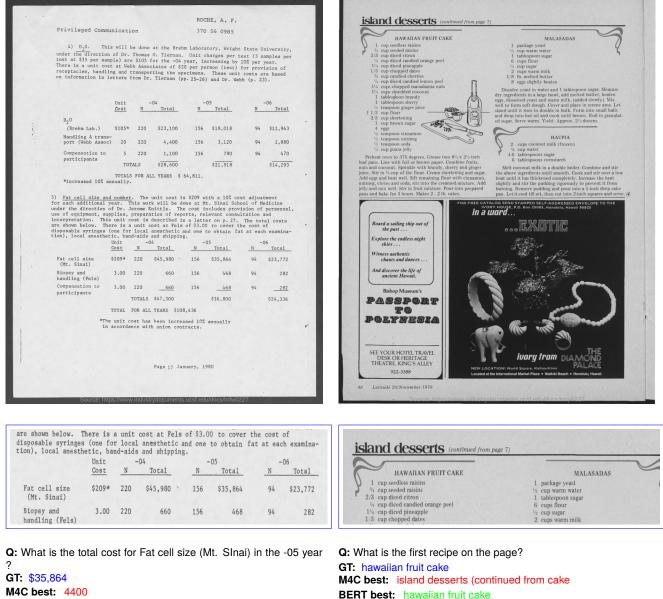
Q: What is the average sucrose % for N level 501+ ? Question types: table A: 15.9

Figure B.4: On the left is a question asking for name of the person in the photograph. To answer the question on the right, one needs to parse the table and pick the value in the appropriate cell



Q: What is the highest value for "Intake, mg/1000kcal" plotted on the 'X' axis of the graph?
Question types: *figure*A: 300

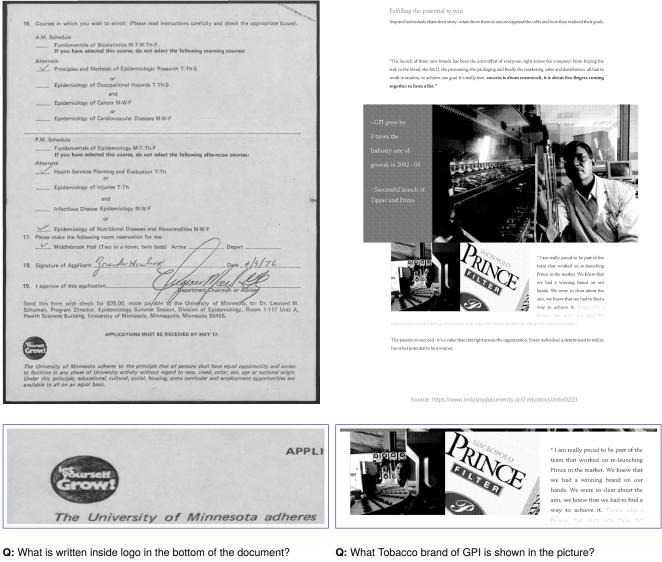
Figure B.5: Question is based on the plot shown at the bottom of the given image, asking for the highest value on the X axis



BERT best: \$35,864 Human: \$35,864

BERT best: hawaiian fruit cake Human: hawaiian fruit cake

Figure C.1: Examples where BERT QA model [9] answers questions other than 'running text' type. On the left is a question based on a table and for the other question one needs to know the 'first recipe' out of the two recipes shown. For the first question the model gets the answer correct except for an extra space, and in case of the second one the predicted answer matches exactly with the ground truth answer.



GT: let yourself grow! M4C best: yourself grow! BERT best: < no prediction > Human: let yourself grow! Q: What Tobacco brand of GPI is shown in the pictur GT: Prince M4C best: prince BERT best: < no prediction > Human: prince

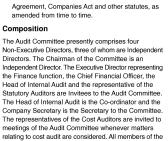
Figure C.2: How does the M4C [16] model perform on questions based on pictures or photographs. Here we show two examples where the best variant of the M4C model outperform the BERT best model in answering 'layout' type questions seeking to read what is written in a logo/pack. The BERT model doesnt make any predictions for the questions.



Report on Corporate Governance

Major accounting entries based on exercise of judgement by management armendee

- Significant adjustments, if any, arising out of audit
- Compliance with Accounting Standards
 Compliance with Stock Exchange and legal
- requirements concerning financial statements
- Related party transactions
- Qualifications, if any, in draft audit reportReport of the Directors & Management Discussion
- and Analysis; (d) Reviewing with the management, external and internal auditors, the adequacy of internal control systems and the Company's statement on the same prior to endorsement by the Board;
- (e) Reviewing the adequacy of the internal audit function, including the structure of the internal audit department, staffing and seniority of the official heading the department, reporting structure, coverage and frequency of internal audit;
- (f) Reviewing reports of internal audit, including that of wholly owned subsidiaries, and discussion with internal auditors on any significant findings and follow-up thereon;
- (g) Reviewing the findings of any internal investigations by the internal auditors and the executive management's response on matters where there is suspected fraud or irregularity or failure of internal control systems of a material nature and reporting the matter to the Board;
- (h) Discussion with the external auditors, before the audit commences, on nature and scope of audit, as well as after conclusion of the audit, to ascertain any areas of concern and review the comments contained in their management letter;
- Reviewing the Company's financial and risk management policies;
- (j) Looking into the reasons for substantial defaults, if any, in payment to shareholders (in case of non-payment of declared dividends) and creditors;
- (k) Considering such other matters as may be required by the Board;
- Reviewing any other areas which may be specified as role of the Audit Committee under the Listing



Committee are financially literate; three members, including the Chairman of the Committee, have accounting and financial management expertise. The names of the members of the Audit Committee, including its Chairman, are provided under the section

including its Chairman, are provided under the section 'Board of Directors and Committees' in the Report and Accounts.

Meetings and Attendance

Details of Audit Committee Meetings during the financial year

During the financial year ended 31st March, 2014, eight meetings of the Audit Committee were held, as follows:

SI. No.	Date	Committee Strength	No. of Members present
1	6th May, 2013	6	4
2	17th May, 2013	6	5
3	25th July, 2013	6	6
4	28th August, 2013	5	5
5	23rd September, 2013	5	5
6	25th October, 2013	5	5
7	17th January, 2014	5	5
8	31st March, 2014	5	3

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/npx0223

l. 0.	Date	Date Committee Strength	
	6th May, 2013	6	4
2	17th May, 2013	6	5
3	25th July, 2013	6	6
4	28th August, 2013	5	5
5	23rd September, 2013	5	5
6	25th October, 2013	5	5
7	17th January, 2014	5	5
3	31st March, 2014	5	3

Q: What was the committee strength for the first meeting?

GT: 6 M4C best: 6 BERT best: 6 Human: 6 Q: What was the committee strength for the last meet-

ing? GT: 5 M4C best: 6 BERT best: 6 Human: 5

Figure C.3: **Contrasting results for similar questions.** Here both the questions are based on the table at the bottom of the image. Both questions ask for 'committee strength' for a particular meeting (first or last). Both models get the answer right for the first one. But for the question on the right, the models predict same answer as the first one ("6") while the ground truth is "5". This suggests that the models' predictions are not backed by a proper reasoning/grounding in all cases.

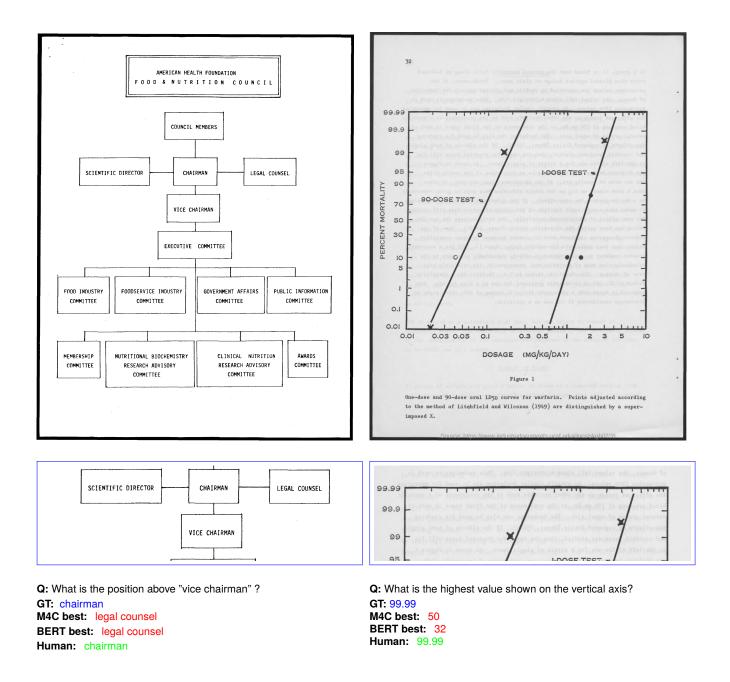


Figure C.4: **Understanding figures and diagrams**. In case of the question on the left, one needs to understand an organizational hierarchy diagram. For the second question, one needs to know what a 'vertical axis' is, and then find the largest value. Both the models fail to answer the questions.

Image Image	TRANSMITTAL MEMO ¹⁰ MICHELE 1,777 D File anto "Nutrition" FROM CDF I REVIEW AND FILE I REVIEW AND RETURN TO ME D I not prepare a folder
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	UVOUR COMMENTS, PLEASE
and the second	
Source: https://www.industpglog.impats.upst.edu/docs.lb/g0227	Source: https://www.industrydocuT#EAts.wesf.edu/decs/xyye/2228-mm
	TRANSMITTAL MEMO SPECIAL I
Manao 122 larry	MICHELE 1/770
TRANE OF PASSENCES	CDF This

Q: What is the name of the passenger? GT: dr. william j. darby M4C best: larry BERT best: larry Human: dr. william j. darry

Q: What is the date present in the memo ? GT: 1/7/77 M4C best: 1 7 77 BERT best: 1 / 7 Human: 1/7/77

C DF

Figure C.5: **Impact of OCR errors.** Here the models are able to ground the questions correctly on the relevant information in the image, but failed to get the answers correct owing to the OCR errors. In case of the question on the left, even the answer entered by the human volunteer is not exactly matching with the ground truth. In case of the second question, OCR has split the date into multiple tokens due to over segmentation, resulting in incorrect answers by both the models.