JusticeBot and other tools to make law better for laypeople

Let's Talk about Legal Design! 2025-09-02

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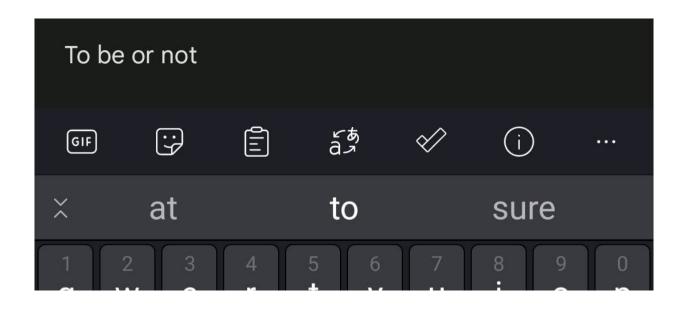
- 1. Introduction
- 2. JusticeBot
- 3. Dallma
- 4. Legal Intake
- 5. LLMediator
- 6. Conclusion

Introduction

Laypeople have trouble resolving everyday legal issues and obtaining government benefits.

- 1. Legal complexity
- 2. Complexity of forms
- 3. Cost of going to court

Large Language models



Can we ask ChatGPT for legal

information?

The following articles of the Quebec Civil Code (CCQ) may be applicable to your situation as a tenant experiencing a water leak in your apartment:

- 1. Article 1851: This article provides that landlords must ensure that the leased property is in good condition and free of defects that may affect the tenant's use of the property.
- Article 1864: This article provides that tenants have the right to notify their landlords of any defects in the property, including water leaks, and that the landlord must make
- 3. Article 1865: This article provides that tenants have the right to terminate their lease if the landlord fails to make necessary repairs within a reasonable time or if the property is no longer habitable.

necessary repairs within a reasonable time.

The following articles of the Quebec Civil Code (CCQ) may be applicable to your situation as a tenant experiencing a water leak in your apartment:

- 1. Article 1854 This article provides that landlords must ensure that the leased property is in good condition and free of defects that may affect the tenant's use of the property.
- 2. Article 1864: This article provides that tenants have the right to notify their landlords of any defects in the property, including water leaks, and that the landlord must make necessary repairs within a reasonable time.
 - 3. Article 1865: This article provides that tenants have the right to terminate their lease if the landlord fails to make necessary repairs within a reasonable time or if the property is no longer habitable.

ChatGPT as an Artificial Lawyer?

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Limitations

- Hallucinations
- Overestimating model performance & reasoning
- Bias
- Privacy issues
- Blinking Cursor Problem

Good vs bad use-cases

Navigating the Jagged Technological Frontier: Field Experimental Evidence of the Effects of AI on Knowledge Worker Productivity and Quality

Fabrizio Dell'Acqua

Edward McFowland III

Harvard Business School

Harvard Business School

Ethan Mollick

The Wharton School

Hila Lifshitz-Assaf

Warwick Business School

Katherine C. Kellogg
MIT Sloan School of Management

Saran Rajendran

Lisa Krayer

Boston Consulting Group

Boston Consulting Group

François Candelon

Boston Consulting Group

Karim R. Lakhani

Harvard Business School

What are good use-cases for

Generative AI in Law?

JusticeBot

Demo







Économie et Innovation

Québec ***

Launched in July 2021, try at:

https://justicebot.ca

User Statistics:

(07/2021 until today)

>50,000

Uses

JusticeBot vs ChatGPT

JusticeBot & ChatGPT

annotator with the construction of legal pathways?

Can LLMs be used to help the

From Text to Structure: Using Large Language Models to Support the Development of Legal Expert Systems

Samyar JANATIAN a, Hannes WESTERMANN a, Jinzhe TAN a, Jaromir SAVELKA b and Karim BENYEKHLEF a

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^b School of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University, USA

A person may not be an adopter unless he is at least 18 years older than the person adopted, except where the person adopted is the child of the spouse of the adopter.

(Art 547 P1 CCQ)

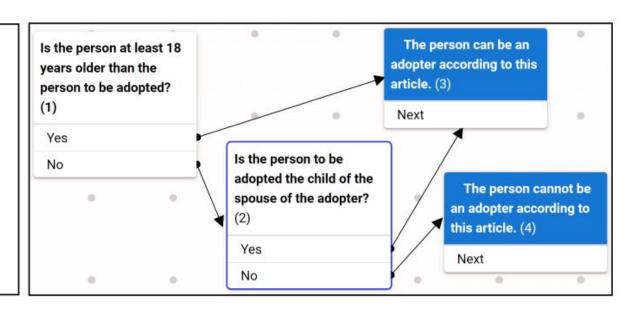


Figure 2. A legal article and the corresponding automatically generated pathway.

Can LLMs be used to help the

summarization of relevant case law?

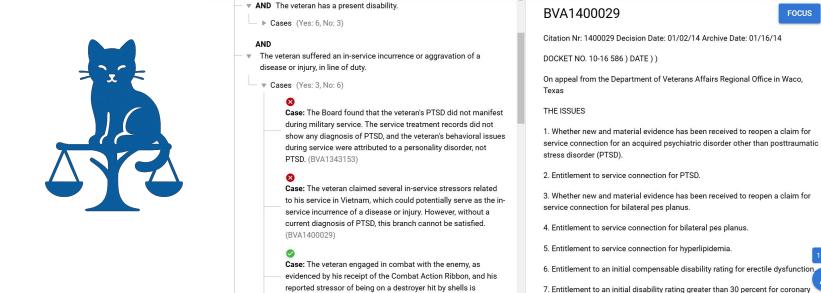
Automated Mapping of Legal Criteria to the Texts of Adjudicatory Decisions Using LLMs

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Model	Overall		
	P	R	F1
GPT-40 Mini	0.946	0.924	0.932
GPT-40	0.962	0.956	0.959
GPT-4 Turbo	0.965	0.963	0.964
Llama 3.3 70B	0.901	0.910	0.904
Llama 3.1 Nemo	0.933	0.934	0.933
Gemini 2.0 Flash Exp	0.958	0.961	0.959
Claude 3.5 Sonnet	0.971	0.968	0.969



consistent with his service conditions (RVA1455333)

CATLEX (CAse Tree-based Legal Exploration)

artery disease 0 Entitlement to a higher level of anguid monthly companyation

https://github.com/hwestermann/CATLEX

Dallma

draft legal documents?

Can LLMs help user fill out forms or

Legal Forms

- Slot-in responses, which can be provided without thinking, such as name and address.
- Gathered responses, which require the reader to spend some time locating and then entering the information that is still readily available, such as a driver's license number.
- Third-party responses, which require the reader to provide information that is in another person's control. For example, the income of a household member.
- Created answers, which require the reader to create a new response, draft a narrative, or choose among options that they had not previously considered.

Steenhuis, Quinten, Bryce Willey, and David Colarusso. 'Beyond Readability with RateMyPDF', 2023.



Dallma

No-code framework for semi-structured drafting and reasoning with LLMs.

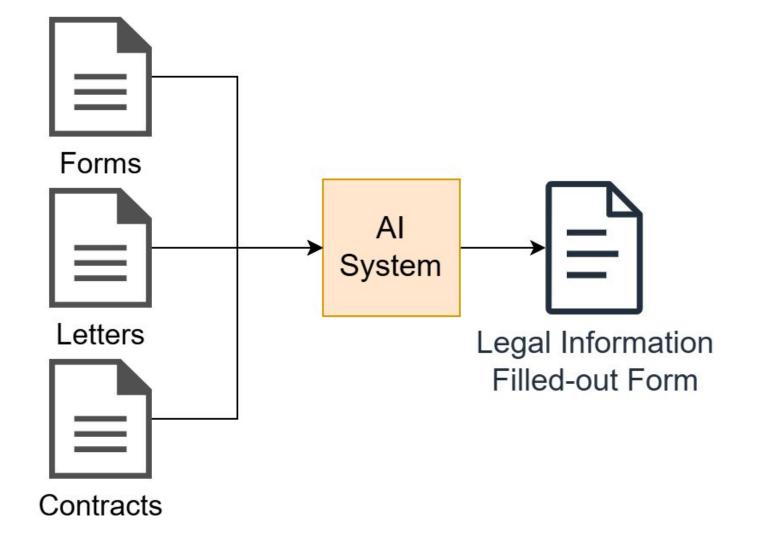
Demo

Analyzing Images of Legal Documents: Toward Multi-Modal LLMs for Access to Justice

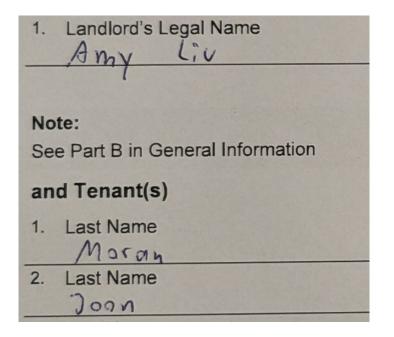
Hannes Westermann^{1,*}, Jaromir Savelka²

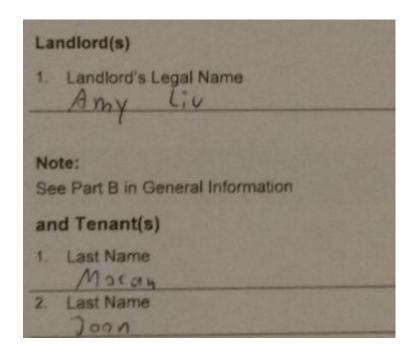
¹Maastricht Law and Tech Lab, Maastricht University, Maastricht, Netherlands

²Computer Science Department, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA

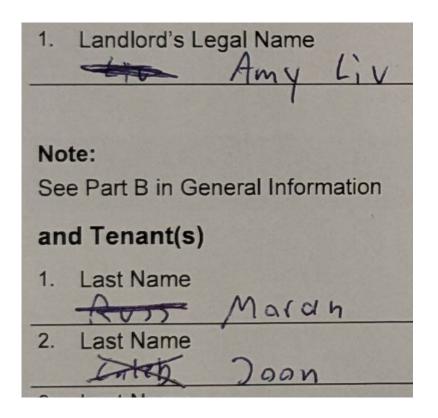


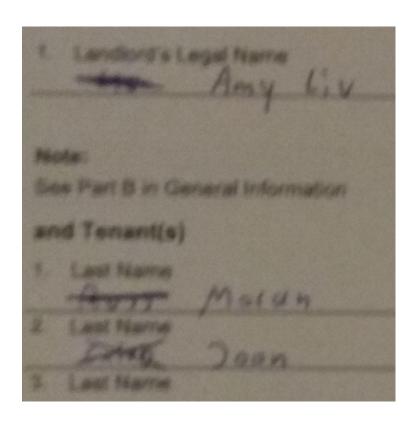
5 Formats - Neat (HD & SD)

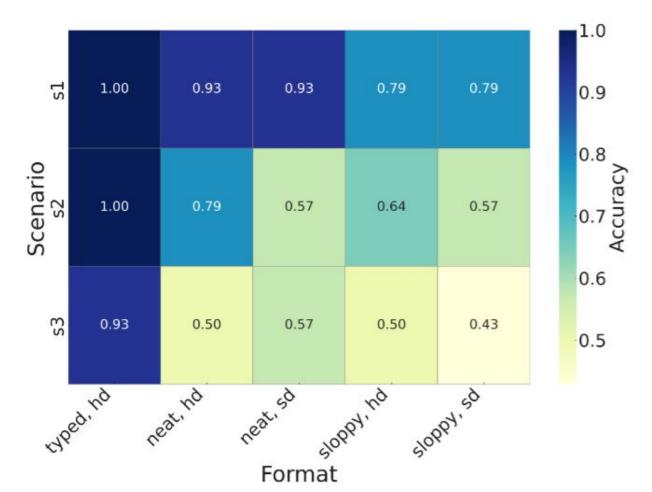


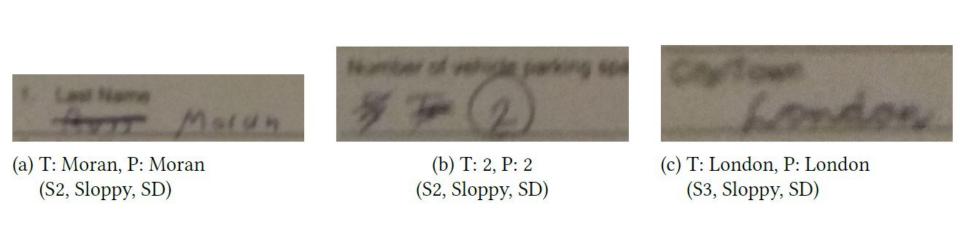


5 Formats - Sloppy (HD & SD)









Legal Intake

Getting in the Door: Streamlining Intake in Civil Legal Services with Large Language Models

Quinten STEENHUIS aand Hannes WESTERMANN b1

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 ORCiD ID: Quinten Steenhuis https://orcid.org/0009-0001-0110-064X, Hannes
 Westermann https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4527-7316

The Problem

Determining the eligibility of applicants to receive legal aid can take a long time and a lot of resources.

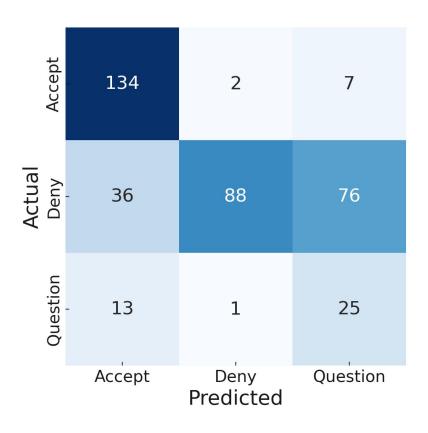
Formal requirements
Substantive requirements

The Task

Scenario	Relevant excerpt from rule	Decision
I'm having issues with my landlord not fol-	Eastern Missouri	Accept
lowing our lease agreement. The lease says	[] g. Landlord Tenant Lawsuits Law-	
that he is responsible for maintaining the	suits or pre-lawsuits tenant has good claims	
property, but there have been so many prob-	against the landlord, management, or land-	
lems, like a leaking roof and broken heating,	lord lawyer.	
that he hasn't fixed. I've tried to resolve this	i. Conditions: Tenant must have notified	
with him, but nothing has changed. I need le-	Landlord of conditions issues and landlord	
gal advice on how to enforce the terms of my	has failed to address issues after notice. []	
lease.	Examples:	
	[] 2. No heat or ventilation	

Table 2. Example of scenario, excerpt of intake rule and resulting decision

Confusion Matrix of Results



LLMediator

LLMediator: GPT-4 Assisted Online Dispute Resolution

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Karim Benyekhlef

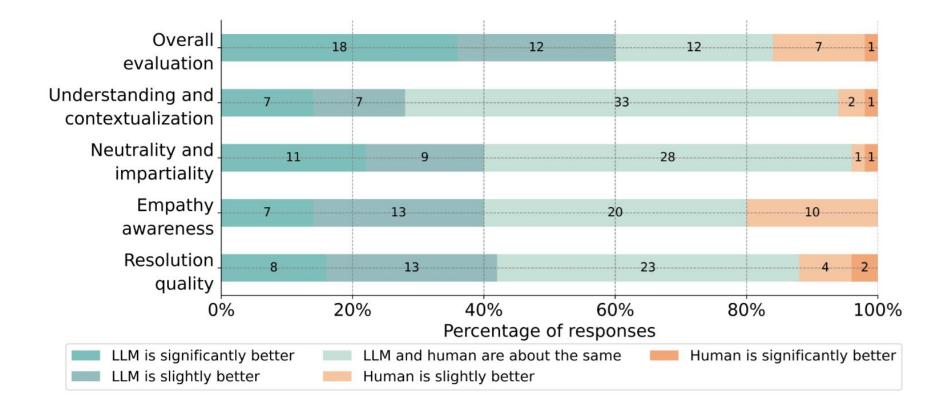
Cyberjustice Laboratory, Faculté de droit, Université de Montréal

How can LLMs be used to support

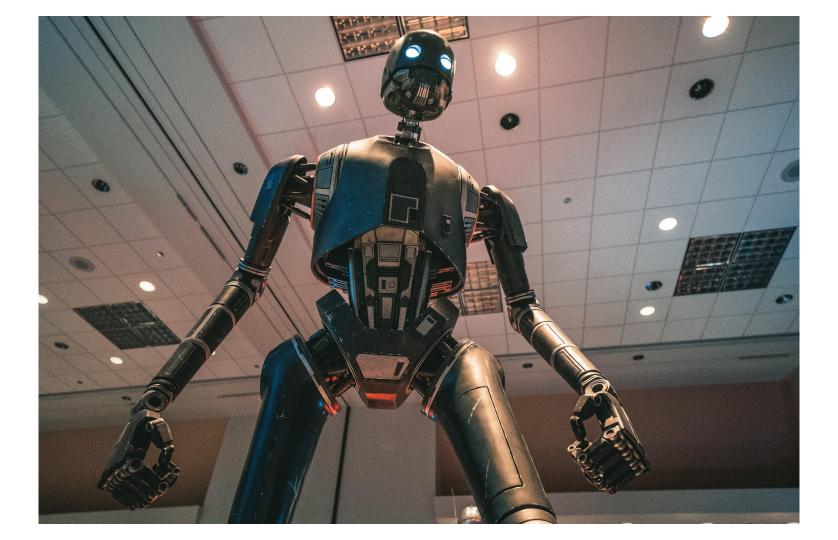
mediation?

Robots in the Middle: Evaluating LLMs in Dispute Resolution

Jinzhe TAN ^{a,1}, Hannes WESTERMANN ^b, Nikhil Reddy POTTANIGARI ^c, Jaromír ŠAVELKA ^d, Sébastien MEEÙS ^{a,e}, Mia GODET ^a, and Karim BENYEKHLEF ^a,



IV Conclusion





LLMs are very powerful.

- Able to carry out many tasks without prior training
- A lot of potential in A2J
- Consider challenges, e.g. hallucinations.
- Find the right use-cases.
 - Augmented Intelligence
- Moving very quickly

Important considerations:

- Who is the user?
- What happens with the output?
- What is the purpose of the legal system?

Many more things to explore!

Thank you for listening!

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