Explanation of Revisions

- **Framework Evaluation and Reproducibility Assessment (Section 4.2.4):** To strengthen the annotation quality control, we introduced a new subsection titled \emph{Framework Evaluation and Reproducibility Assessment}. In this section, we describe an independent evaluation involving two additional legal annotators who re-annotated a randomly selected subset of 50 documents from the \texttt{NyayaFacts} dataset using the original guidelines. The original annotations were treated as reference (gold), and the similarity between original and new annotations was quantified using BLEU, METEOR, ROUGE-1/2/L, and BERTScore. The results show a high degree of agreement, supporting the consistency and reproducibility of our factual annotation protocol.

- **Expert Evaluation:** We have added a new column in Table~6 to report expert Likert ratings for the explanations generated by the FactLegalLlama model across different setups. These scores (ranging from 1 to 10) reflect the perceived quality, clarity, and legal relevance of the generated rationales by human evaluators. We also incorporated a detailed discussion of these expert evaluation results in Section 6.3 (Quality of Explanations from FactLegalLlama), where we analyze how domain-specific fine-tuning on factual legal data improved explanation quality.

- **Inter-Annotator Agreement:** We additionally conducted an Inter-Annotator Agreement (IAA) analysis to evaluate the reliability of expert scores assigned to AI-generated explanations. Using metrics such as Cohen's Kappa, Fleiss' Kappa, ICC, and Krippendorff's Alpha, we found substantial agreement among legal experts, which validates the robustness of our expert evaluation framework.

- **Clarifications on Terminology and Data Provenance:** We clarified distinctions in terminology (e.g., rationale, explanation, reasoning) and provided consistency throughout the paper. Furthermore, we resolved ambiguities regarding data sources by clearly specifying that all case data were retrieved from publicly available court documents via IndianKanoon, as discussed in Section 4.1.

- **Ethical and Licensing Details:** To address concerns regarding data licensing and compliance, we expanded our Ethics Statement and Dataset Compilation section to reaffirm that all data were collected from publicly accessible sources with no personally identifiable information, ensuring ethical research practices.