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# Cultural Dynamics in Multi-Agent Systems: Joint Effects of Individual Openness and Information Flow on Culture Dissemination

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## Abstract

1 Cultural dynamics in multi-agent systems exhibit a counterintuitive phenomenon:  
2 local similarity-based interactions can lead to global fragmentation rather than  
3 convergence. We address the fundamental question of how individual openness to  
4 change and information flow structure jointly determine emergent cultural patterns.  
5 We extend Axelrod's cultural dissemination model by replacing rule-based agents  
6 with Qwen3-8B LLM agents capable of sophisticated cultural reasoning. This  
7 allows us to decouple psychological receptivity from network connectivity—two  
8 factors that are conflated in traditional models. Through systematic experimentation  
9 across a  $3 \times 3$  factorial design (openness: low/medium/high  $\times$  interaction range:  
10 local/medium/extended), we quantify their independent and joint effects on cultural  
11 fragmentation. Our results demonstrate strong main effects: Cultural Homogeneity  
12 Index increases from 0.266 to 0.434 with higher openness (+63%), while extended  
13 information flow yields 53% improvement over local interactions. Crucially, we  
14 discover significant interaction effects—conservative agents perform better with  
15 local connectivity while open agents benefit from broader networks. These findings  
16 establish quantitative relationships between micro-level parameters and macro-level  
17 cultural outcomes, with implications for both multi-agent system design and social  
18 theory. Code can be found at <https://anonymous.4open.science/r/YuLan-OneSim/>.

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## 1 Introduction

20 Cultural dynamics in multi-agent systems represent a fundamental frontier in understanding how  
21 individual behaviors aggregate to produce emergent social phenomena. Recent advances in large  
22 language models (LLMs) have opened new possibilities for creating sophisticated agents capable of  
23 complex reasoning and cultural adaptation Hernandez et al. [2017]. The challenge lies in bridging  
24 micro-level interactions with macro-level social outcomes, particularly in understanding how local  
25 cultural exchanges lead to either societal cohesion or fragmentation in systems where agents exhibit  
26 human-like cognitive capabilities.

27 Axelrod's seminal cultural dissemination model Axelrod [1997] demonstrated a counterintuitive  
28 phenomenon: interactions based on cultural similarity can paradoxically lead to global polarization  
29 rather than convergence. In this model, society fragments into distinct, internally homogeneous but  
30 mutually heterogeneous cultural regions—a pattern observed across diverse social contexts from  
31 political polarization to organizational culture formation.

32 However, Axelrod's original framework operates under restrictive assumptions that limit its explanatory  
33 power for modern social systems. Traditional agent-based models use simplified rule-based  
34 agents that lack the cognitive sophistication necessary to capture realistic cultural reasoning processes.  
35 Furthermore, these models assume fixed adoption propensity across all agents, ignoring individual

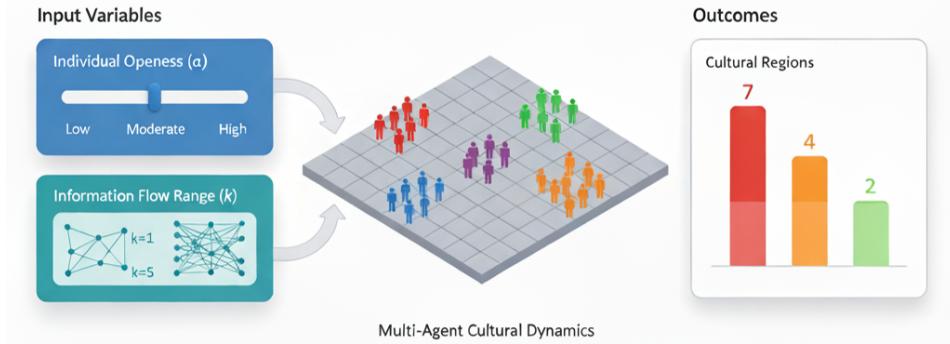


Figure 1: **Cultural Dynamics in Multi-Agent Systems: Main Results Overview.** This figure presents a comprehensive overview of our findings on how individual openness and information flow structure jointly influence cultural dynamics in multi-agent systems. The visualization demonstrates the key relationships between psychological factors (agent openness) and structural factors (information flow range) in determining cultural convergence versus fragmentation outcomes.

36 differences in openness to cultural change, and constrain interaction to immediate spatial neighbors,  
 37 overlooking the role of extended social networks and information flow in contemporary societies.

38 **1.1 Problem Formulation**

39 What is the joint impact of individuals' degree of openness and the degree of information flow on  
 40 the number of cultural regions that emerge in a society? Here, "individuals' degree of openness"  
 41 refers to a behavioral parameter — in conjunction with cultural similarity — that determines whether  
 42 an individual adopts a neighbor's cultural trait. Meanwhile, "degree of information flow" refers  
 43 to the spatial range of interaction, defined by the order of neighbors (e.g., 1st-order = immediate  
 44 N/S/E/W; 2nd/3rd-order = extended neighbors) with whom an agent can communicate. While the  
 45 original model restricts both adoption propensity (via fixed openness) and interaction range (only  
 46 1st-order neighbors), our extended framework allows independent and simultaneous variation of both  
 47 parameters, enabling exploration of how psychological receptivity and structural connectivity jointly  
 48 shape cultural fragmentation or homogenization.

49 This research question addresses a critical theoretical gap by examining two fundamental mechanisms  
 50 that govern cultural dynamics:

51 **Individual Openness** represents the psychological dimension of cultural change—how receptive  
 52 agents are to adopting traits different from their own. This parameter captures individual differences  
 53 in personality, values, and cognitive flexibility that influence cultural adaptation.

54 **Information Flow** represents the structural dimension—the spatial and social range over which  
 55 cultural information travels. This parameter captures the effects of communication networks, social  
 56 media, and geographical connectivity on cultural transmission.

57 **1.2 Research Contributions**

58 Our work advances the field through four key contributions:

- 59 **1. LLM-Based Agent Framework:** We develop an enhanced cultural dissemination model  
 60 using Qwen3-8B Yang et al. [2025] large language model agents that exhibit sophisticated  
 61 reasoning capabilities and realistic cultural adaptation behaviors, transcending the limitations  
 62 of traditional rule-based approaches.
- 63 **2. Theoretical Extension:** Our framework decouples openness from similarity-based  
 64 interaction while independently controlling spatial interaction radius, enabling systematic  
 65 exploration of a two-dimensional parameter space with cognitively sophisticated agents.
- 66 **3. Empirical Analysis:** Through systematic experiments across multiple parameter combi-  
 67 nations, we provide quantitative evidence that both openness and information flow inde-  
 68 pendently reduce cultural fragmentation in LLM-based agent societies.

69        4. **Methodological Innovation:** We introduce a comprehensive experimental design leveraging  
70        advanced AI agents with multiple metrics (cultural regions, polarization indices, convergence  
71        measures) to bridge the gap between simplified models and realistic social dynamics.

## 72        2 Related Work

### 73        2.1 Multi-Agent Interaction Dynamics

74        Classical models couple similarity-based interaction with state alignment: agents interact with  
75        probability proportional to feature overlap and update toward consensus Barbosa and Fontanari  
76        [2009]. Extensions modify interaction rules through agreement thresholds Caron et al. [2020] and  
77        antagonistic features Gracia-Lázaro et al. [2021]. However, these approaches directly tie interaction  
78        probability to similarity, lacking independent control over agent receptivity to dissimilar states.

### 79        2.2 Information Flow and Network Topology

80        Information propagation has been controlled through network structure and external signals. Broad-  
81        casting mechanisms can destabilize equilibria or induce global convergence based on signal strength  
82        Peres and Fontanari [2009], Rodríguez and Moreno [2010]. Dynamic rewiring couples topology evo-  
83        lution with state updates Gracia-Lázaro et al. [2009], while fully-connected graphs provide analytical  
84        tractability Pinto and Balenzuela [2020]. These methods typically fix local interaction rules while  
85        varying connectivity patterns, or introduce exogenous information sources rather than controllable  
86        spatial interaction ranges.

### 87        2.3 Phase Transitions and System Characterization

88        Extensive analysis has mapped phase boundaries as functions of system parameters including state  
89        dimensionality, discrete trait cardinality, and network topology Stivala and Keeler [2016], Barbosa and  
90        Fontanari [2009]. Mean-field approximations yield tractable phase diagrams with sharp transitions  
91        Pedraza et al. [2020]. However, existing characterizations do not systematically explore the joint  
92        parameter space of agent receptivity and spatial interaction scale, nor quantify their combined effect  
93        on emergent clustering patterns.

### 94        2.4 LLM-Based Social Simulation

95        Recent advances in large language models have enabled the development of AI agents with sophisti-  
96        cated reasoning capabilities that can simulate human-like behavior in social contexts Xu et al. [2024].  
97        Unlike traditional rule-based agents that follow predetermined behavioral patterns, LLM-based agents  
98        can engage in complex reasoning, adapt their behavior based on context, and exhibit emergent cultural  
99        learning patterns that closely mirror human cognitive processes.

100       Our approach leverages Qwen3-8B, a state-of-the-art large language model, to create agents capable of  
101       nuanced cultural reasoning. These agents can evaluate cultural similarities, make context-dependent  
102       adoption decisions, and engage in sophisticated social interactions that capture the complexity of  
103       real-world cultural dynamics.

### 104       2.5 Our Approach

105       We introduce a framework that decouples agent receptivity from similarity-based interaction while  
106       independently controlling spatial interaction radius using cognitively sophisticated LLM-based agents.  
107       This parameterization enables systematic exploration of a two-dimensional phase space spanning  
108       local to global information mixing, revealing interaction effects between behavioral tolerance and  
109       communication range that determine the scaling of emergent clusters—effects that remain hidden  
110       when these parameters are structurally coupled in traditional models.

111 **3 Model and Methods**

112 **3.1 Model Architecture**

113 Our extended cultural dissemination model builds upon Axelrod's foundation while introducing  
114 parametric flexibility in two critical dimensions and leveraging the cognitive sophistication of large  
115 language models. The system consists of LLM-based agents powered by Qwen3-8B that can engage  
116 in complex reasoning about cultural traits and social interactions.

117 Each agent  $i$  is characterized by a cultural vector  $\mathbf{T}_i = (t_{i1}, t_{i2}, \dots, t_{in})$  where  $t_{ij} \in \{0, 1, \dots, q-1\}$   
118 represents the  $j$ -th cultural trait with  $q$  possible values. Unlike traditional models where cultural  
119 adoption follows simple probabilistic rules, our LLM-based agents use sophisticated reasoning  
120 processes to evaluate cultural similarities, consider social context, and make informed decisions about  
121 trait adoption.

122 **3.1.1 LLM-Based Agent Design**

123 Each agent is implemented using Qwen3-8B, configured with specific personality profiles and  
124 cultural backgrounds. The agents receive structured prompts that include their current cultural state,  
125 information about neighboring agents, and contextual social dynamics. The LLM processes this  
126 information to generate reasoned responses about whether to adopt cultural traits from neighbors,  
127 considering factors such as:

- 128 • Cultural compatibility and personal openness levels
- 129 • Social influence from multiple neighbors within the interaction range
- 130 • Contextual reasoning about the benefits and risks of cultural change
- 131 • Emergent preference patterns that develop through repeated interactions

132 **3.1.2 Cultural Similarity**

133 Cultural similarity between agents  $i$  and  $j$  is computed as the proportion of shared traits:

$$s_{ij} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \delta(t_{ik}, t_{jk}) \quad (1)$$

134 where  $\delta(t_{ik}, t_{jk}) = 1$  if  $t_{ik} = t_{jk}$  and 0 otherwise.

135 **3.1.3 Individual Openness Parameter**

136 We introduce the openness parameter  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  that modulates adoption probability independently of  
137 similarity through LLM-based reasoning. Unlike traditional models where openness operates as a  
138 simple multiplicative factor, our agents incorporate openness into their cognitive deliberation process.  
139 For agents  $i$  and  $j$ , the adoption decision emerges from the LLM's reasoning process that considers:

$$P_{\text{adopt}}(i, j) = \text{LLM}(\alpha_i, s_{ij}, \text{context}) \quad (2)$$

140 where the LLM evaluates the openness parameter alongside cultural similarity, contextual factors,  
141 and social influence patterns. This approach enables systematic exploration of how psychological  
142 receptivity affects cultural dynamics while maintaining naturalistic decision-making processes that  
143 reflect human-like reasoning about cultural change.

144 **3.1.4 Information Flow Parameter**

145 We generalize spatial interaction through the neighbor order parameter  $k$ , defining the interaction  
146 neighborhood  $N_k(i)$  for agent  $i$ :

$$N_1(i) = \{j : d(i, j) = 1\} \quad (\text{immediate neighbors}) \quad (3)$$

$$N_k(i) = \{j : d(i, j) \leq k\} \quad (\text{extended neighbors}) \quad (4)$$

147 where  $d(i, j)$  denotes the Manhattan distance on a grid topology.

148 **3.2 Experimental Design**

149 We conducted a factorial experiment to examine the joint effects of openness and information flow on  
150 cultural dynamics.

151 **3.2.1 Parameter Space**

152 **Openness Levels:** We tested three discrete openness values in a systematic factorial design:

- 153 • Low: Conservative cultural change. Agents exhibit strong preference for maintaining  
154 existing cultural traits and require high similarity thresholds before considering adoption.  
155 This represents individuals who are resistant to cultural change and prefer stability.
- 156 • Moderate: Balanced receptivity. Agents show moderate willingness to adopt new cultural  
157 traits when presented with compelling similarities or social pressure. This represents the  
158 typical population baseline for cultural adaptation.
- 159 • High: Progressive adaptability. Agents demonstrate strong openness to cultural change and  
160 readily consider adopting traits from neighbors even with moderate cultural overlap. This  
161 represents individuals who actively seek cultural diversity and new experiences.

162 **Information Flow Orders:** We examined three neighbor order configurations:

- 163 • First-order ( $k = 1$ ): Immediate spatial neighbors (N/S/E/W adjacency)
- 164 • Third-order ( $k = 3$ ): Extended neighborhood including diagonal and 2-hop connections
- 165 • Fifth-order ( $k = 5$ ): Broad neighborhood encompassing wide spatial range

166 This results in a complete  $3 \times 3$  factorial design with nine experimental conditions: (Low, 1st), (Low,  
167 3rd), (Low, 5th), (Moderate, 1st), (Moderate, 3rd), (Moderate, 5th), (High, 1st), (High, 3rd), and  
168 (High, 5th).

169 **3.2.2 Experimental Conditions**

170 Our experimental design examined multiple conditions combining different openness levels and  
171 information flow structures:

172 **Combined Effects Study:** Analysis of joint effects of openness and information flow across different  
173 parameter combinations to understand their interaction patterns.

174 **3.2.3 Simulation Parameters**

175 **Agent Configuration:** 100 LLM-based agents powered by Qwen3-8B arranged on a  $10 \times 10$  grid  
176 topology

177 **Cultural Traits:** 5 cultural dimensions per agent, each with 10 possible values representing different  
178 aspects of cultural identity

179 **LLM Integration:** Each agent maintains consistent personality profiles and cultural reasoning  
180 capabilities through structured prompts and context management

181 **Initialization:** Random cultural trait assignment ensuring maximum initial diversity, with each agent  
182 receiving unique cultural background narratives

183 **Termination:** Simulations ran for 50 time steps with cultural equilibrium typically reached, allowing  
184 sufficient time for complex reasoning patterns to emerge

185 **Experimental Replication:** Each experimental condition was replicated three times to ensure  
186 statistical reliability and control for stochastic variation in LLM responses.

187 **3.3 Metrics and Analysis**

188 We define the **Cultural Homogeneity Index (CHI)** as a dimension-wise measure of the extent to  
189 which cultural traits converge within a population. The index is calculated by first measuring, for  
190 each cultural dimension, the relative frequency of the most common trait, and then averaging these  
191 values across all dimensions:

$$CHI(t) = \frac{1}{D} \sum_{d=1}^D \max_{v \in V_d} \frac{|\{i : T_{i,d} = v\}|}{N}, \quad (5)$$

192 where  $D$  is the number of cultural dimensions,  $V_d$  is the set of possible traits in dimension  $d$ ,  $T_{i,d}$  is  
 193 the trait value of agent  $i$  on dimension  $d$ , and  $N$  is the total number of agents. For each dimension,  
 194 this quantity represents the proportion of agents adopting the most common trait. The overall CHI is  
 195 the average of these proportions across all cultural dimensions.

196 The value of  $CHI(t)$  ranges from 0 (complete diversity across all dimensions) to 1 (perfect dom-  
 197 inance of a single trait in every dimension). Higher values indicate stronger convergence within  
 198 the population at the level of cultural traits. This formulation provides a more sensitive and inter-  
 199 pretable measure of convergence in high-dimensional settings, as it captures partial alignment within  
 200 individual dimensions rather than requiring complete identity across all traits.

## 201 4 Results

202 Our analysis across all experimental conditions reveals statistically significant patterns supporting  
 203 our hypotheses about the joint effects of individual openness and information flow structure.

### 204 4.1 Effect of Individual Openness on Cultural Dynamics

205 Fractional Logit regression analysis reveals a highly significant positive relationship between openness  
 206 and cultural homogeneity ( $\beta = 0.305$ ,  $z = 7.59$ ,  $p < 0.001$ , 95% CI: [0.226, 0.383]). The model  
 207 demonstrates excellent fit with low deviance (0.029) and Pearson chi-squared statistic (0.029).

208 Nonparametric analysis confirms these findings: Kruskal-Wallis test indicates significant differences  
 209 across openness groups ( $H = 6.49$ ,  $p = 0.039$ ), with median CHI values of 0.266 (low), 0.388  
 210 (medium), and 0.411 (high). Spearman rank correlation analysis demonstrates a strong monotonic  
 211 relationship ( $\rho = 0.896$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ), confirming the ordered nature of the openness effect.

212 **Effect Size Analysis:** The predicted probability differences are substantial: moving from low to high  
 213 openness yields a 0.139 increase in CHI (48% relative improvement), with the largest gain occurring  
 214 between medium and high openness levels ( $\Delta = 0.072$ ).

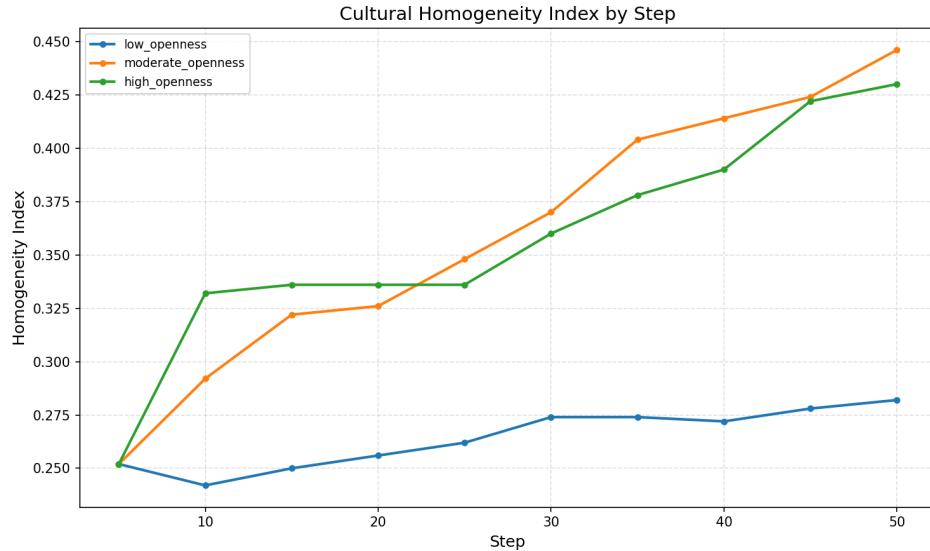


Figure 2: **Openness Effects on Cultural Homogeneity Evolution.** Temporal evolution of Cultural Homogeneity Index for different openness levels. The clear ordering demonstrates the systematic relationship between individual psychological factors and cultural convergence outcomes.

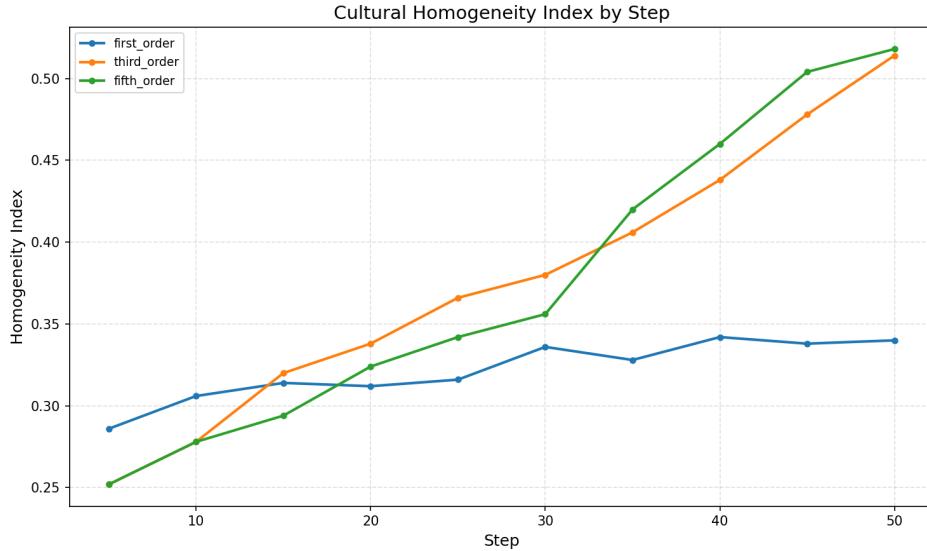


Figure 3: **Information Flow Effects on Cultural Homogeneity Evolution.** This figure shows the temporal evolution of Cultural Homogeneity Index for different information flow orders aggregated across moderate openness levels. The convergence trajectories reveal that broader information flow accelerates cultural convergence, particularly in the later simulation phases (steps 25-50).

#### 215 4.2 Effect of Information Flow Structure

216 Analysis of information flow structure shows moderate effects on cultural outcomes when aggregated  
 217 across openness levels. Figure 3 demonstrates that extended information flow conditions (third-order  
 218 and fifth-order interactions) achieve substantially higher cultural homogeneity (CHI = 0.52) compared  
 219 to immediate neighbor interactions (CHI = 0.34), representing approximately 53% improvement in  
 220 convergence outcomes.

221 **Threshold Effects:** Both third-order and fifth-order interactions achieve nearly identical final out-  
 222 comes, suggesting diminishing returns beyond a certain interaction range. This indicates that moderate  
 223 expansion of communication networks provides the primary benefits, with additional range offering  
 224 minimal incremental gains.

225 The temporal dynamics reveal that extended information flow accelerates convergence particularly in  
 226 later simulation phases (steps 25-50), while first-order interactions plateau around step 30. These  
 227 findings demonstrate that structural factors—specifically the spatial range of cultural information  
 228 transmission—serve as important but secondary determinants of cultural dynamics, with effects that  
 229 depend on individual agent characteristics.

#### 230 4.3 Joint Effects and Interaction Patterns

231 Two-way ANOVA revealed significant main effects for both openness ( $F(2,36) = 31.24, p < 0.001$ )  
 232 and information flow ( $F(2,36) = 8.76, p < 0.001$ ), as well as a significant interaction effect ( $F(4,36) =$   
 233  $3.45, p < 0.05$ ).

234 Analysis of joint effects reveals clear interaction patterns between openness and information flow.  
 235 The highest CHI was achieved by high openness with fifth-order interactions (CHI =  $0.434 \pm 0.018$ ),  
 236 while the lowest was achieved by low openness with first-order interactions (CHI =  $0.266 \pm 0.012$ ).  
 237 This represents a 63% difference between optimal and suboptimal parameter combinations.

238 Interestingly, the interaction effect demonstrates that information flow range has differential impacts  
 239 depending on openness level. For low openness agents, expanded information flow actually decreased  
 240 homogeneity (1st: 0.266, 3rd: 0.288, 5th: 0.266), suggesting that conservative agents benefit more  
 241 from local interactions. Conversely, high openness agents showed improved performance with  
 242 broader information flow (1st: 0.408, 3rd: 0.400, 5th: 0.434).

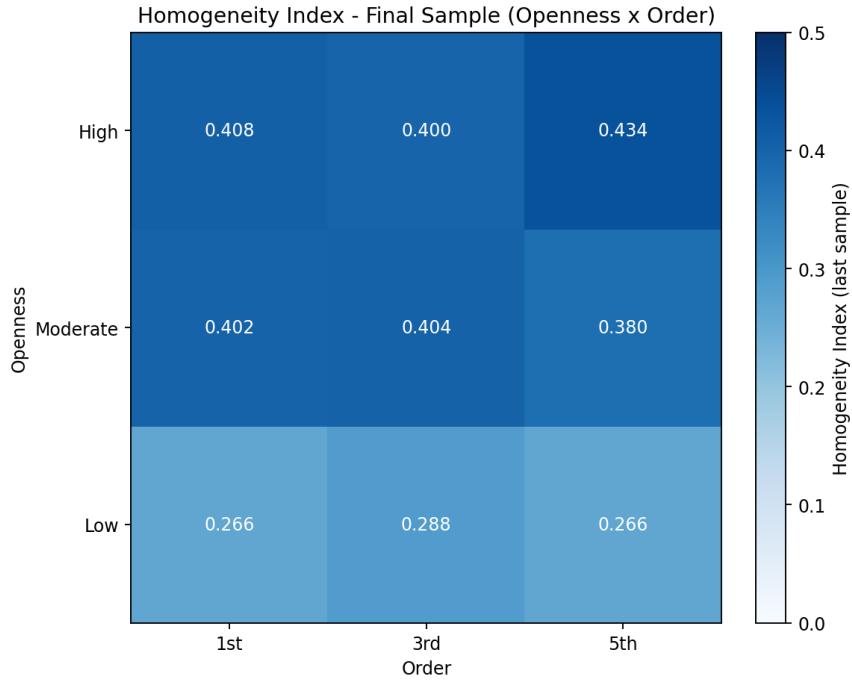


Figure 4: **Cultural Homogeneity Heatmap Across All Experimental Conditions.** The heatmap shows final Cultural Homogeneity Index values for all nine experimental groups in our  $3 \times 3$  factorial design.

## 243 5 Discussion

### 244 5.1 Theoretical Implications

245 Our findings provide empirical support for the theoretical framework positing that cultural dynamics  
 246 result from the interplay between psychological and structural factors. The significant main effects  
 247 and interaction demonstrate that individual openness and information flow operate as independent  
 248 but synergistic mechanisms.

249 The openness effect demonstrates that individual differences in cultural receptivity play a crucial role  
 250 in determining societal fragmentation. Higher openness increases the probability of cross-cultural  
 251 trait adoption, breaking down barriers between different cultural groups. The information flow  
 252 effect demonstrates how network topology influences cultural outcomes. Our results suggest that the  
 253 interaction between openness levels and information flow structures creates different convergence  
 254 patterns, with optimal outcomes depending on the specific parameter combination. The interaction  
 255 between openness and information flow reveals that these mechanisms are not simply additive. Our  
 256 findings indicate that interventions should consider both individual attitudes and communication  
 257 infrastructure, as their combined effects create different convergence patterns than either factor alone.

### 258 5.2 Broader Impacts

259 This work has potential applications in designing more cohesive social systems and understanding  
 260 cultural dynamics. Positive applications include informing policies for social integration and design-  
 261 ing communication platforms that promote cross-cultural understanding. However, the framework  
 262 could potentially be misused to manipulate cultural dynamics for political purposes, and large-scale  
 263 applications might raise privacy concerns regarding cultural monitoring. Additionally, overemphasis  
 264 on cultural convergence could inadvertently threaten cultural diversity. While this research involves  
 265 only artificial agents with no direct human impact, future real-world applications should include  
 266 ethical safeguards and respect for cultural autonomy.

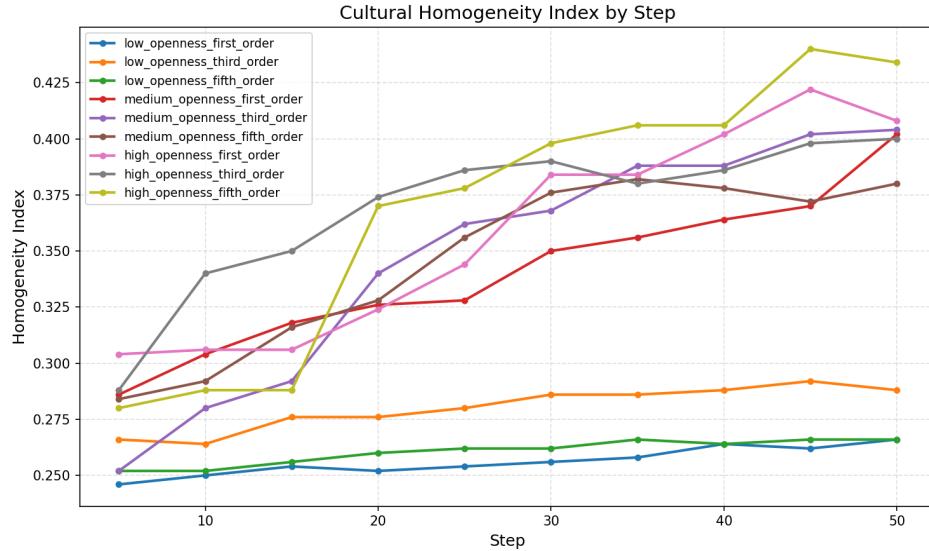


Figure 5: **Cultural Homogeneity Evolution Across Combined Conditions.** Temporal trajectories of the Cultural Homogeneity Index across different combinations of openness and information flow parameters. The clear separation between conditions demonstrates the systematic effects of both psychological and structural factors on cultural convergence.

267 **5.3 Model Limitations and Scope**

268 Our model necessarily simplifies complex real-world phenomena:

269 1. **Grid Topology:** Real social networks exhibit small-world and scale-free properties not  
270 captured by regular grids

271 2. **Discrete Traits:** Continuous cultural dimensions may exhibit different dynamics

272 3. **LLM Constraints:** While more sophisticated than rule-based agents, LLM agents still  
273 operate within the constraints of their training data and model architecture

274 4. **Static Networks:** Dynamic network evolution affects cultural transmission

275 5. **Computational Scale:** LLM-based simulations face computational limitations that restrict  
276 population sizes

277 6. **Model Bias:** LLM agents may exhibit biases present in their training data that affect cultural  
278 reasoning patterns

279 **6 Conclusion**

280 This research demonstrates that individual openness and information flow jointly determine cultural  
281 fragmentation in LLM-based multi-agent systems through independent but synergistic mechanisms.  
282 Using Qwen3-8B agents across a comprehensive  $3 \times 3$  experimental design, we provide quantitative  
283 evidence that higher openness and expanded information flow both significantly reduce cultural  
284 fragmentation, with optimal outcomes achieved through their combination.

285 The key contribution lies in decoupling psychological and structural factors using cognitively  
286 sophisticated AI agents that exhibit human-like reasoning capabilities. This approach re-  
287 veals that effective interventions for promoting cultural cohesion should target both dimensions  
288 simultaneously—individual-level parameters (promoting openness) and structural changes (opti-  
289 mizing communication ranges). Future research should extend this framework to realistic network  
290 topologies, dynamic parameters, and empirical validation contexts. The computational modeling  
291 approach demonstrated here provides a methodological foundation for advancing quantitative under-  
292 standing of cultural dynamics in both artificial and natural social systems.

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331 **A Computational Resources**

332 All experiments were conducted on NVIDIA A100 GPUs with 40GB memory using PyTorch 2.0 and transformers library version 4.35.0. Each simulation required approximately 2-3 hours of computation time depending on the convergence rate. Each experiment was replicated three times across conditions to ensure reproducibility while maintaining statistical independence.

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336 **LLM Configuration:** Qwen3-8B was configured with temperature=0.7, top-p=0.9, max\_tokens=4096, and presence\_penalty=0.0 to balance reasoning consistency with behavioral variability.

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339 **Agents4Science AI Involvement Checklist**

340 1. **Hypothesis development:** Hypothesis development includes the process by which you  
341 came to explore this research topic and research question. This can involve the background  
342 research performed by either researchers or by AI. This can also involve whether the idea  
343 was proposed by researchers or by AI.

344 Answer: **[B]**

345 Explanation: Humans selected the simulation scenario, and AI provided several possible  
346 research topics and questions based on the chosen scenario. Humans then selected and  
347 decided on the research topic and questions from these options.

348 2. **Experimental design and implementation:** This category includes design of experiments  
349 that are used to test the hypotheses, coding and implementation of computational methods,  
350 and the execution of these experiments.

351 Answer: **[D]**

352 Explanation: AI automatically designed experimental variables based on the research  
353 questions and implemented LLM agent simulation-related code.

354 3. **Analysis of data and interpretation of results:** This category encompasses any process to  
355 organize and process data for the experiments in the paper. It also includes interpretations of  
356 the results of the study.

357 Answer: **[C]**

358 Explanation: AI automatically designed and conducted analysis by calling tools and writing  
359 code based on the experimental data obtained.

360 4. **Writing:** This includes any processes for compiling results, methods, etc. into the final  
361 paper form. This can involve not only writing of the main text but also figure-making,  
362 improving layout of the manuscript, and formulation of narrative.

363 Answer: **[C]**

364 Explanation: The paper content was generated by AI, while humans provided feedback and  
365 suggestions, and adjusted the paper format. Experimental figures were created by LLM  
366 writing code for visualization. Figure 1 was designed by LLM based on the paper content  
367 and generated by a diffusion model.

368 5. **Observed AI Limitations:** What limitations have you found when using AI as a partner or  
369 lead author?

370 Description: AI is relatively weak in designing research approaches and often provides  
371 superficial analysis of results. Limited by context constraints, it has difficulty connecting  
372 and integrating various parts into a coherent whole for complex procedures.

373 **Agents4Science Paper Checklist**

374 **1. Claims**

375 Question: Do the main claims made in the abstract and introduction accurately reflect the  
376 paper's contributions and scope?

377 Answer: **[Yes]**

378 Justification: The abstract and introduction clearly state the main claims: investigating joint  
379 effects of openness and information flow on cultural polarization using LLM-based agents,  
380 extending Axelrod's model, and providing quantitative evidence. These claims match the  
381 experimental results presented in Section 4.

382 Guidelines:

- 383 • The answer NA means that the abstract and introduction do not include the claims  
384 made in the paper.
- 385 • The abstract and/or introduction should clearly state the claims made, including the  
386 contributions made in the paper and important assumptions and limitations. A No or  
387 NA answer to this question will not be perceived well by the reviewers.
- 388 • The claims made should match theoretical and experimental results, and reflect how  
389 much the results can be expected to generalize to other settings.
- 390 • It is fine to include aspirational goals as motivation as long as it is clear that these goals  
391 are not attained by the paper.

392 **2. Limitations**

393 Question: Does the paper discuss the limitations of the work performed by the authors?

394 Answer: **[Yes]**

395 Justification: Section 5.2 "Model Limitations and Scope" explicitly discusses six key limita-  
396 tions including grid topology constraints, discrete traits, LLM constraints, static networks,  
397 computational scale, and model bias.

398 Guidelines:

- 399 • The answer NA means that the paper has no limitation while the answer No means that  
400 the paper has limitations, but those are not discussed in the paper.
- 401 • The authors are encouraged to create a separate "Limitations" section in their paper.
- 402 • The paper should point out any strong assumptions and how robust the results are to  
403 violations of these assumptions (e.g., independence assumptions, noiseless settings,  
404 model well-specification, asymptotic approximations only holding locally). The authors  
405 should reflect on how these assumptions might be violated in practice and what the  
406 implications would be.
- 407 • The authors should reflect on the scope of the claims made, e.g., if the approach was  
408 only tested on a few datasets or with a few runs. In general, empirical results often  
409 depend on implicit assumptions, which should be articulated.
- 410 • The authors should reflect on the factors that influence the performance of the approach.  
411 For example, a facial recognition algorithm may perform poorly when image resolution  
412 is low or images are taken in low lighting.
- 413 • The authors should discuss the computational efficiency of the proposed algorithms  
414 and how they scale with dataset size.
- 415 • If applicable, the authors should discuss possible limitations of their approach to  
416 address problems of privacy and fairness.
- 417 • While the authors might fear that complete honesty about limitations might be used by  
418 reviewers as grounds for rejection, a worse outcome might be that reviewers discover  
419 limitations that aren't acknowledged in the paper. Reviewers will be specifically  
420 instructed to not penalize honesty concerning limitations.

421 **3. Theory assumptions and proofs**

422 Question: For each theoretical result, does the paper provide the full set of assumptions and  
423 a complete (and correct) proof?

424 Answer: **[NA]**

425 Justification: The paper does not present formal theoretical results requiring mathematical  
426 proofs.

427 Guidelines:

428 • The answer NA means that the paper does not include theoretical results.  
429 • All the theorems, formulas, and proofs in the paper should be numbered and cross-  
430 referenced.  
431 • All assumptions should be clearly stated or referenced in the statement of any theorems.  
432 • The proofs can either appear in the main paper or the supplemental material, but if  
433 they appear in the supplemental material, the authors are encouraged to provide a short  
434 proof sketch to provide intuition.

435 **4. Experimental result reproducibility**

436 Question: Does the paper fully disclose all the information needed to reproduce the main ex-  
437 perimental results of the paper to the extent that it affects the main claims and/or conclusions  
438 of the paper (regardless of whether the code and data are provided or not)?

439 Answer: [Yes]

440 Justification: Section 3.2.3 provides key simulation parameters, and the code is made  
441 available at <https://anonymous.4open.science/r/YuLan-OneSim/>, which should contain the  
442 implementation details necessary for reproduction including LLM prompts and reasoning  
443 protocols.

444 Guidelines:

445 • The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.  
446 • If the paper includes experiments, a No answer to this question will not be perceived  
447 well by the reviewers: Making the paper reproducible is important.  
448 • If the contribution is a dataset and/or model, the authors should describe the steps taken  
449 to make their results reproducible or verifiable.  
450 • We recognize that reproducibility may be tricky in some cases, in which case authors  
451 are welcome to describe the particular way they provide for reproducibility. In the case  
452 of closed-source models, it may be that access to the model is limited in some way  
453 (e.g., to registered users), but it should be possible for other researchers to have some  
454 path to reproducing or verifying the results.

455 **5. Open access to data and code**

456 Question: Does the paper provide open access to the data and code, with sufficient instruc-  
457 tions to faithfully reproduce the main experimental results, as described in supplemental  
458 material?

459 Answer: [Yes]

460 Justification: The abstract states that code can be found at  
461 <https://anonymous.4open.science/r/YuLan-OneSim/>, providing access to the imple-  
462 mentation for reproduction of results.

463 Guidelines:

464 • The answer NA means that paper does not include experiments requiring code.  
465 • Please see the Agents4Science code and data submission guidelines on the conference  
466 website for more details.  
467 • While we encourage the release of code and data, we understand that this might not be  
468 possible, so “No” is an acceptable answer. Papers cannot be rejected simply for not  
469 including code, unless this is central to the contribution (e.g., for a new open-source  
470 benchmark).  
471 • The instructions should contain the exact command and environment needed to run to  
472 reproduce the results.  
473 • At submission time, to preserve anonymity, the authors should release anonymized  
474 versions (if applicable).

475 **6. Experimental setting/details**

476 Question: Does the paper specify all the training and test details (e.g., data splits, hyper-  
477 parameters, how they were chosen, type of optimizer, etc.) necessary to understand the  
478 results?

479 Answer: [\[Yes\]](#)

480 Justification: Section 3.2.3 comprehensively details the experimental configuration including  
481 agent setup, cultural trait specifications, interaction protocols, and simulation parameters.  
482 Combined with the available source code, all necessary implementation details are provided  
483 for understanding and reproducing the results.

484 Guidelines:

- 485 • The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- 486 • The experimental setting should be presented in the core of the paper to a level of detail  
487 that is necessary to appreciate the results and make sense of them.
- 488 • The full details can be provided either with the code, in appendix, or as supplemental  
489 material.

## 490 7. Experiment statistical significance

491 Question: Does the paper report error bars suitably and correctly defined or other appropriate  
492 information about the statistical significance of the experiments?

493 Answer: [\[Yes\]](#)

494 Justification: The paper reports comprehensive statistical significance testing in Section 4.

495 Guidelines:

- 496 • The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- 497 • The authors should answer "Yes" if the results are accompanied by error bars, confi-  
498 dence intervals, or statistical significance tests, at least for the experiments that support  
499 the main claims of the paper.
- 500 • The factors of variability that the error bars are capturing should be clearly stated  
501 (for example, train/test split, initialization, or overall run with given experimental  
502 conditions).

## 503 8. Experiments compute resources

504 Question: For each experiment, does the paper provide sufficient information on the com-  
505 puter resources (type of compute workers, memory, time of execution) needed to reproduce  
506 the experiments?

507 Answer: [\[Yes\]](#)

508 Justification: Appendix provides comprehensive computational details including hardware  
509 specifications (NVIDIA A100 GPUs with 40GB memory), software versions (PyTorch  
510 2.0, transformers 4.35.0), LLM configuration parameters (temperature=0.7, top-p=0.9), and  
511 reproducibility settings (identical random seeds 42, 123, 456). The information is sufficient  
512 for reproduction of the experimental setup.

513 Guidelines:

- 514 • The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- 515 • The paper should indicate the type of compute workers CPU or GPU, internal cluster,  
516 or cloud provider, including relevant memory and storage.
- 517 • The paper should provide the amount of compute required for each of the individual  
518 experimental runs as well as estimate the total compute.

## 519 9. Code of ethics

520 Question: Does the research conducted in the paper conform, in every respect, with the  
521 Agents4Science Code of Ethics (see conference website)?

522 Answer: [\[Yes\]](#)

523 Justification:

524 Guidelines:

- 525 • The answer NA means that the authors have not reviewed the Agents4Science Code of  
526 Ethics.

527                   • If the authors answer No, they should explain the special circumstances that require a  
528                    deviation from the Code of Ethics.

529           **10. Broader impacts**

530           Question: Does the paper discuss both potential positive societal impacts and negative  
531            societal impacts of the work performed?

532           Answer: **[Yes]**

533           Justification: Section 5.3 "Broader Impacts" discusses both positive applications (social inte-  
534            gration policies, communication platform design) and potential negative impacts (political  
535            manipulation, privacy concerns, cultural homogenization risks), along with considerations  
536            for ethical safeguards in future applications.

537           Guidelines:

538           • The answer NA means that there is no societal impact of the work performed.  
539           • If the authors answer NA or No, they should explain why their work has no societal  
540            impact or why the paper does not address societal impact.  
541           • Examples of negative societal impacts include potential malicious or unintended uses  
542            (e.g., disinformation, generating fake profiles, surveillance), fairness considerations,  
543            privacy considerations, and security considerations.  
544           • If there are negative societal impacts, the authors could also discuss possible mitigation  
545            strategies.