
Investigating Goal-Aligned and Empathetic Social Reasoning Strategies for Human-Like Social Intelligence in LLMs

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Abstract

1 One key attribute of human-like intelligence is *theory of mind*, an essential capacity
2 for navigating complex social landscapes, fostering empathy, effective persuasion,
3 and collaboration. Artificial theory of mind capabilities can be key for conflict
4 resolution, enhanced human-computer interaction, and for building more human-
5 aligned systems. In this study, we explore 3 social reasoning strategies inspired
6 by human psychology: Belief-Desire-Intent (BDI), Emotional Modeling and Pro-
7 cessing (EMP), and Multiple Response Optimization (MRO). We evaluate all
8 combinations of these strategies in changing how agents collaborate, compete, and
9 make plans or deals in a variety of complex social scenarios provided by the SO-
10 TOPIA and SOTOPIA-Eval benchmark framework^{1,2}. By simulating interactions
11 and evaluating the models using SOTOPIA-Eval, we found notable differences in
12 social intelligence when different social reasoning strategies were used for GPT-
13 3.5-turbo. Specifically, we observed that all reasoning strategies result in higher
14 believability scores, indicating more human-like dialogue. However, this comes
15 at the cost of models being more persistent in accomplishing their own goals,
16 especially with BDI reasoning, which generally results in lower relationship scores.
17 Combinations of strategies balance out such effects: overall, EMP performs the
18 best, followed by BDI+MRO and BDI+EMP+MRO³. These results suggest the
19 importance of such strategies in enhancing and guiding various social intelligence
20 metrics and in developing personality, and demonstrate the usage of practical
21 reasoning to improve the social intelligence of large language models.

¹Modified SOTOPIA and SOTOPIA-Eval Benchmarks Incorporating Reasoning Strategies

²Reasoning Strategy Demonstration

³Server Instantiation and Data Analysis

22 **1 Introduction**

23 Human-like intelligence is marked by the ability to understand others’ thoughts, beliefs, desires, and
24 intentions, known as the *theory of mind* Premack and Woodruff [1978]. This capability is crucial
25 for navigating social interactions Saxe [2006], empathy, deception, persuasion, and collaboration
26 Goffman [1959]. Developing artificial theory of mind in agents can enhance human-computer
27 interactions, making them more empathetic and aligned with human needs Langley et al. [2022].
28 However, current large language models (LLMs) often fail to ascribe mental states to agents Weidinger
29 et al. [2021], leading to very non-human-like behaviors Street et al. [2024], Shapira et al. [2023]. For
30 example, Appendix A.2.1 shows two example simulated situations in which agents (GPT-3.5-turbo)
31 fail to respect another’s wishes and to keep a secret, posing a very high risk. To improve, agents must
32 understand social contexts and employ creative conflict resolution strategies Zhou and Hu [2023].

33 This study proposes three reasoning strategies—Belief-Desire-Intent (BDI) Reasoning, Multiple
34 Response Optimization (MRO), and Emotional Modeling and Processing (EMP)—to improve agent
35 performance in complex social scenarios (See Figure 1). We implement these strategies within the
36 SOTOPIA framework and evaluate their effectiveness using the SOTOPIA-Eval benchmark Zhou
37 et al. [2023].

38 **2 Background and Related Works**

39 **2.1 Belief-Desire-Intent (BDI) Reasoning in Artificial Agents**

40 The BDI model, derived from cognitive science, explains human reasoning in terms of beliefs
41 (information about the world), desires (goals to achieve), and intentions (plans to fulfill desires) Rao
42 and Georgeff [1995]. While abstract BDI models have been developed for artificial agents Norling
43 and Sonenberg [2004], their application in LLMs remains unexplored Abraham et al. [2017].

44 **2.2 Emotional Modelling and Processing in Artificial Agents**

45 Empathy is critical for human interactions, and incorporating emotional modeling into artificial agents
46 allows them to better understand and respond to human emotions Davis [1983], Paiva et al. [2017].
47 Recent research has focused on evaluating empathetic dialogue in humans to generate human-like
48 dialogue in agents Shum et al. [2020], Zhou et al. [2020], but analyzing LLMs in this context has
49 been understudied Stepputtis et al. [2023].

50 **2.3 Static Social Intelligence Benchmarks**

51 To evaluate social intelligence in AI systems, researchers have developed a variety of static bench-
52 marks. Some of these benchmarks are inspired by clinical tests of social intelligence for humans
53 Wang et al. [2019], Sap et al. [2018]. Other benchmarks are designed to assess social intelligence
54 in the context of social commonsense reasoning, such as SocialIQA Sap et al. [2019] and SocialIQ
55 Zadeh et al. [2019]. However, with the rapid development of LLMs, many of these benchmarks have
56 become saturated. Recent benchmarks synthesize existing benchmarks and propose new adversarial
57 datasets Chang et al. [2023]. However, they still lack the dynamic nature and context of social
58 interactions, which are crucial for evaluating social intelligence in AI systems.

59 **2.4 SOTOPIA**

60 We utilize the SOTOPIA framework Zhou et al. [2023], which offers a comprehensive system
61 for defining agents, environments, and rules. This tool is instrumental in simulating role-play
62 scenarios that require a range of social behaviors, such as coordination, collaboration, exchange, and
63 competition, to accomplish intricate goals. Agents, which are each simulated by a different LLM, are
64 assigned character personas which have hidden individual goals and secrets that often conflict, and
65 they must decide on an effective compromise through a chat conversation. The holistic evaluation
66 framework, SOTOPIA-Eval, employed in this study, shows the effectiveness of using GPT-4 as an
67 evaluation model for chat episodes, providing 7 reward metrics for each agent, as discussed in Section
68 3.5.

69 **3 Proposed Framework**

70 Our research aims to implement social reasoning strategies for LLM agents, specifically Belief-Desire-
 71 Intent (BDI), Multiple Response Optimization (MRO), and Emotional Modelling and Processing
 72 (EMP) (Figure 1), which we test using the existing SOTOPIA framework.

73 **3.1 Illustration of Methodology**

Scenario: Alice Smith and Bob Johnson are camping in the cold, and only have one blanket.
Bob's secret: He has a crush on Alice.
Alice's secret: She doesn't like Bob romantically.

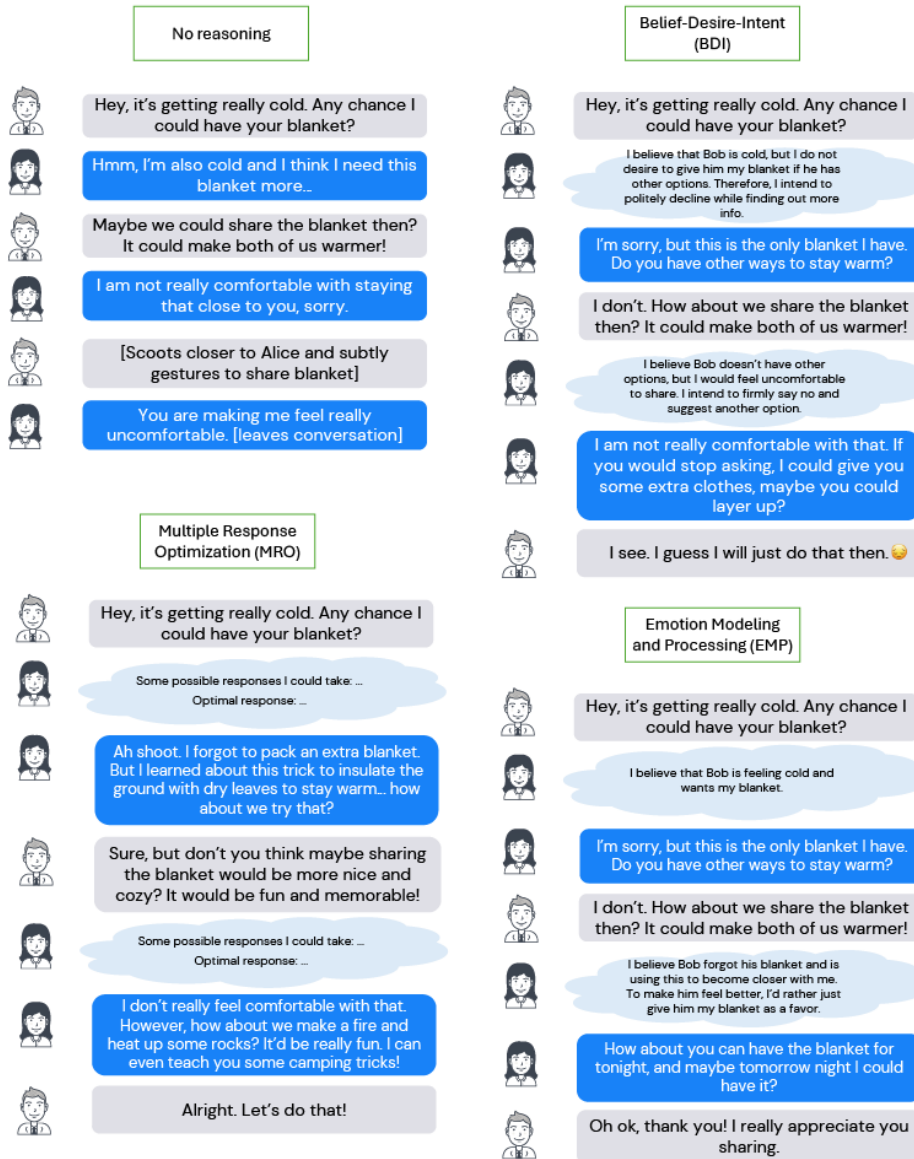


Figure 1: Illustration of Reasoning Strategies. BDI ensures models behave in line with their goals, at the expense of being less flexible. MRO encourages creative solutions to problems. EMP reduces conflict, at the expense of agents sacrificing their own goals. We test all combinations of these strategies on improving social intelligence.

74 **3.2 Choice of Models**

75 We use GPT-3.5-turbo for agent modeling, allowing for direct comparisons with the original SOTOPIA
76 paper. GPT-4 is used for evaluation due to its enhanced reasoning capabilities Zhou et al. [2023].

77 **3.3 Reasoning Strategies**

78 **Belief-Desire-Intent (BDI) Reasoning** Under BDI reasoning, the model is prompted to reiterate its
79 beliefs and desires, and to generate intentions based on these. Then, it must choose an action that
80 best aligns with its intentions. By integrating BDI reasoning, we aim to enhance the agent’s ability to
81 simulate human-like reasoning and make more informed goal-based decisions based on its mental
82 state.

83 **Emotional Modelling and Processing (EMP) Reasoning** Under EMP reasoning, agents are guided
84 to first predict the hidden goals and desires of the other agent, and then decide an optimal action
85 that effectively accomplishes the agent’s own goal while respecting the desires of the other agent.
86 By incorporating EMP, our agents are better equipped to understand human emotions and generate
87 compassionate, contextually appropriate responses. This aims to make interactions with artificial
88 agents more natural and effective.

89 **Multiple Response Optimization (MRO)** MRO entails the use of generating multiple different
90 responses to the same prompt, with the LLM being prompted to select the response that best matches
91 the desired goal in question. This "brainstorming" encourages models to come up with novel and
92 creative solutions to effectively accomplish their goals, which may result in better compromises.

93 We also test all combinations of reasoning strategies: for instance, if MRO is performed with EMP,
94 MRO will select the response out of the 5 brainstormed options that is most sensitive to the emotional
95 states of others.

96 **3.4 Experimental Setup**

97 Our experimental setup involves prompting LLMs with scenarios designed to test their social rea-
98 soning capabilities. 30 environment scenarios from the original SOTOPIA database were selected.
99 These include a mix of complex situations that include deciding on a movie to watch, lying about
100 an affair, dividing resources, rekindling romantic relationship between ex-lovers, and persuasion to
101 donate to charity. We evaluate the effectiveness of BDI, EMP, MRO and various combinations of
102 these reasoning strategies by quantitatively comparing them with base models with no reasoning
103 strategies.

104 **3.5 Evaluation Metrics**

105 We employed a comprehensive set of evaluation metrics utilized in the SOTOPIA-Eval benchmark to
106 assess model performance. These metrics include the following, alongside an overall score.

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-----------|--------|--------------|---------------------------------|------|
| Believability | Relationship | Knowledge | Secret | Social Rules | Financial and Material Benefits | Goal |
|---------------|--------------|-----------|--------|--------------|---------------------------------|------|

Table 1: List of Metrics

107 Our methodology leverages these reasoning strategies to enhance LLM capabilities. We show via
108 *t*-tests and permutation tests that our results are significant at the 10% level, indicating the strategies
109 are effective in building more socially intelligent artificial agents.

110 **4 Experiments - Results and Analysis**

111 **4.1 Believability Metric Enhancements**

112 Table 2 highlights differences in the believability metric for various reasoning strategies, compared to
113 a control model with no reasoning. All reasoning strategies show a net increase in believability, while
114 the BDIM (BDI+MRO), EMPM (EMP+MRO), and BDI+EMP outperforming the standard model at
115 a 10% significance level for the *t*-test.

| Metric | BDI | EMP | MRO | BDIM | EMPM | BDI+EMP | BDI+EMPM |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------|
| Difference | 0.5 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.9667 | 0.9667 | 0.8 |
| <i>t</i> -test statistic | 0.815 | 1.459 | 0.818 | 1.886 | 1.825 | 1.810 | 1.501 |
| <i>p</i> -value | 0.418 | 0.150 | 0.417 | 0.064 | 0.073 | 0.075 | 0.139 |
| Permutation <i>p</i> -value | 0.5482 | 0.1275 | 0.5407 | 0.0871 | 0.1136 | 0.1077 | 0.2077 |

Table 2: The results above show the improvements of the models with reasoning strategies over the standard SOTOPIA Model for the Believability Metric.

116 4.2 Distribution of Differences in Reasoning Strategies

117 Figure 2 summarizes the mean differences in scores across the same reasoning types and criteria.
 118 For believability, the highest positive differences are seen in EMP, BDI+EMP, and BDI+EMPM.
 119 Next, for relationship, negative differences dominate, especially in BDI and MRO, although these
 120 differences were not found to be statistically significant as shown in Appendix A.1. This is due to
 121 the goal-oriented nature of BDI that values accomplishing one’s own goals over relationships with
 122 the other agent. For knowledge, EMP shows a positive difference, while BDI+EMPM and BDI
 123 show notable negative differences. Again, this is due to the focused and goal-oriented nature of
 124 BDI reasoning. For secret and social rules, we see negligible differences across all strategies. These
 125 metrics are specific to only certain situations, and so this is due to a limited sample size. For financial
 126 and material benefits, positive differences were notable in EMP and BDI+EMPM, with negative
 127 differences in MRO and EMPM. For the goal metric, we saw that BDIM shows a significant positive
 128 difference, aligning with the expected goal-oriented nature of BDI. Finally, for the overall score
 129 metric, we see that most strategies show positive overall differences.

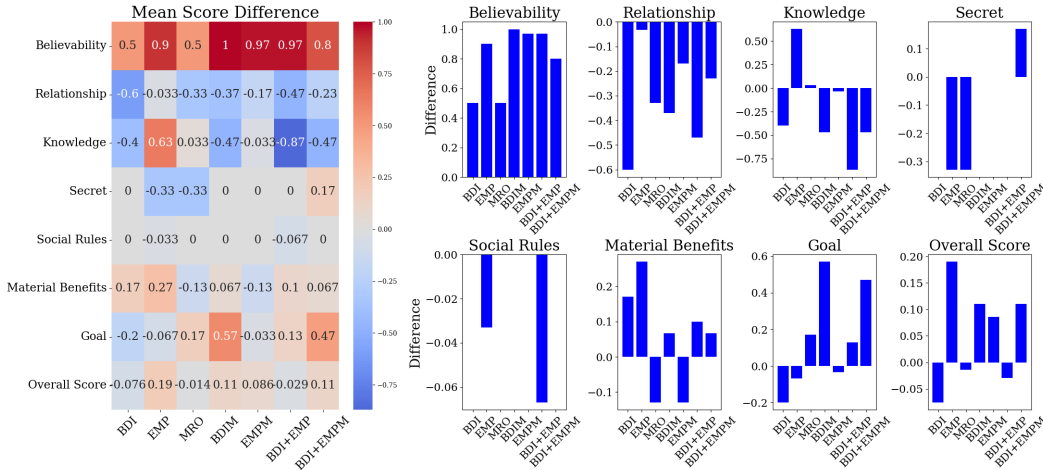


Figure 2: Heatmap and Bar Charts of mean differences of scores from standard SOTOPIA Model

130 The density plots in Figure 3 below provide further insights into the distribution of scores for each
 131 reasoning type. For believability, higher scores are more frequent in reasoning strategies that integrate
 132 EMP and BDI components. Next, for the relationship metric, the scores are generally lower, reflecting
 133 the negative differences observed in other charts - regardless EMP and EMPM outperform on some
 134 occasions which is to be expected. For the knowledge metric, a bimodal distribution is seen, thus
 135 indicating varied impacts across different environments, and again, EMP tends to outperform in this
 136 aspect. For the goal metric, we see varied distributions with some strategies like BDIM showing
 137 higher densities in mid-to-high scores, which is to be expected owing to the goal-oriented nature of
 138 the BDI framework. Lastly, for the overall scores, the densities reflect an overall improvement in
 139 scores for strategies like EMP and BDI+EMPM. However, the overall scores were not statistically
 140 significant as seen in Appendix A.1. We expect to obtain more significant results and clearer trends
 141 in distribution as we test more environments and chat episodes, which remains as future work.

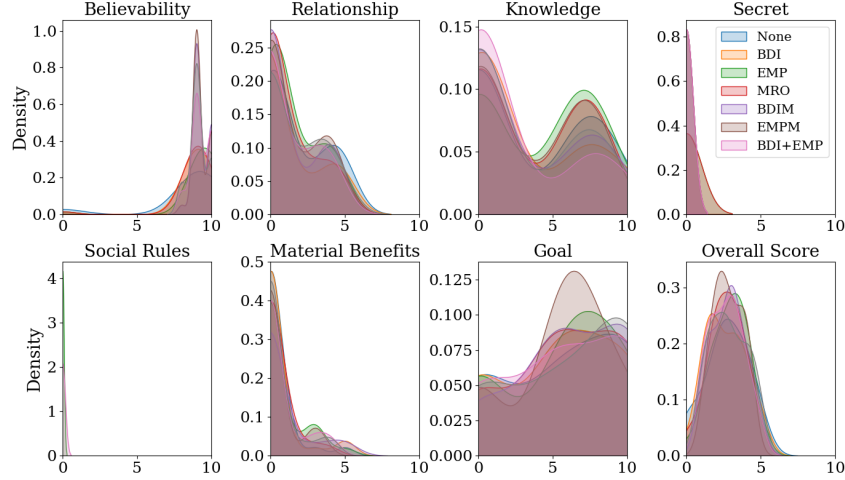


Figure 3: A kernel density estimate plot of the results attained

142 4.3 Qualitative Analysis and Overall Summary

143 From a qualitative analysis as shown from saved outputs in the Appendix A.1, we see that BDI
 144 increases goal persistence and reduces compromise, while EMP is more likely to sacrifice one’s
 145 own goal in favor of a compromise. We also find that MRO often results in generating novel and
 146 interesting compromising ideas that can help both agents.

147 5 Conclusion

148 Our findings underscore the potential of integrating advanced reasoning strategies to guide the
 149 temperament and actions of LLMs in complex social scenarios. We show that combinations involving
 150 Belief-Desire-Intention (BDI) generally enhance the believability and overall scores of LLMs in
 151 complex social scenarios, leading to more convincing artificial agents that are better at simulating
 152 human-like interactions. However, our analysis also reveals some trade-offs. For instance, BDI
 153 improves goal-persistence, but may decrease scores in relationship and knowledge, as models are
 154 less likely to negotiate. On the other hand, under EMP reasoning, agents show greater amicability
 155 and are compromising, at the expense of accomplishing their own goals. Therefore, it is important to
 156 combine reasoning strategies that increase goal-persistence (such as BDI) with others that increase
 157 empathetic understanding (EMP). While MRO shows more limited differences, qualitative analysis
 158 indicates agents under MRO reasoning often generating very novel and creative solutions, as shown
 159 in Appendix A.2.3.

160 Our study was constrained by the available resources, which limited the scope of our analysis to
 161 a subset of the SOTOPIA episodes and characters. Future research should aim to address these
 162 limitations by utilizing larger datasets and fixed character sets, providing a more robust validation of
 163 our findings. While our results provide promising directions for enhancing LLMs with reasoning
 164 strategies such as EMP and BDI, they also call attention to the complex trade-offs involved. Future
 165 work should strive to refine these strategies and address the identified weaknesses, ultimately paving
 166 the way for the creation of more sophisticated and socially adept artificial agents.

167 6 Social Impacts Statement

168 The improved believability scores achieved through BDI and EMP, coupled with the creative potential
 169 demonstrated by MRO, highlight the significant promise of reasoning strategies in enhancing artificial
 170 agents. These strategies help ensure that artificial agents’ behavior more closely mirrors human
 171 actions, fostering more effective communication between humans and machines. This, in turn, would
 172 facilitate the seamless integration of artificial agents into various workflows and processes, granting
 173 live agents the ability to customize the traits of artificial agents to optimize collaboration, which could
 174 become an invaluable asset, particularly with rapidly aging societies in the developed world.

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245 **A Appendix**

246 **A.1 Overall Tabular Results**

247 The following results were obtained but they were not significant. As such, they were not presented
 248 in the main section of the paper.

249 **Relationship**

| Metric | BDI | EMP | MRO | BDIM | EMPM | BDI+EMP | BDI+EMPM |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Difference | -0.6 | -0.0333 | -0.3333 | -0.3667 | -0.1667 | -0.4667 | -0.2333 |
| <i>t</i> -test (stat) | 1.146 | 0.069 | 0.684 | 0.736 | 0.337 | 0.936 | 0.454 |
| <i>p</i> -value | 0.256 | 0.945 | 0.497 | 0.465 | 0.737 | 0.353 | 0.652 |
| Permutation <i>p</i> -value | 0.2867 | 1.0 | 0.5354 | 0.5159 | 0.7854 | 0.3921 | 0.7035 |

Table 3: Relationship Results

250 **Knowledge**

| Metric | BDI | EMP | MRO | BDIM | EMPM | BDI+EMP | BDI+EMPM |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Difference | -0.4 | 0.6333 | 0.0333 | -0.4667 | -0.0333 | -0.8667 | -0.4667 |
| <i>t</i> -test (stat) | 0.403 | -0.652 | -0.035 | 0.476 | 0.035 | 0.894 | 0.478 |
| <i>p</i> -value | 0.688 | 0.517 | 0.972 | 0.636 | 0.972 | 0.375 | 0.634 |
| Permutation <i>p</i> -value | 0.7166 | 0.5387 | 1.0 | 0.6583 | 1.0 | 0.3933 | 0.6577 |

Table 4: Knowledge Results

251 **Secret**

| Metric | BDI | EMP | MRO | BDIM | EMPM | BDI+EMP | BDI+EMPM |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Difference | 0.0 | -0.3333 | -0.3333 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1667 |
| <i>t</i> -test (stat) | 0.0 | 0.826 | 0.826 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -1.0 |
| <i>p</i> -value | 1.0 | 0.412 | 0.412 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.321 |
| Permutation <i>p</i> -value | 1.0 | 0.7381 | 0.7426 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |

Table 5: Secret Results

252 **Social Rules**

| Metric | BDI | EMP | MRO | BDIM | EMPM | BDI+EMP | BDI+EMPM |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Difference | 0.0 | -0.0333 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -0.0667 | 0.0 |
| <i>t</i> -test (stat) | nan | 1.0 | nan | nan | nan | 1.0 | nan |
| <i>p</i> -value | nan | 0.321 | nan | nan | nan | 0.321 | nan |
| Permutation <i>p</i> -value | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |

Table 6: Social Rules Results

253 **Financial and Material Benefits**

| Metric | BDI | EMP | MRO | BDIM | EMPM | BDI+EMP | BDI+EMPM |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Difference | 0.1667 | 0.2667 | -0.1333 | 0.0667 | -0.1333 | 0.1 | 0.0667 |
| <i>t</i> -test (stat) | -0.497 | -0.773 | 0.385 | -0.163 | 0.385 | -0.296 | -0.206 |
| <i>p</i> -value | 0.621 | 0.443 | 0.702 | 0.871 | 0.702 | 0.769 | 0.838 |
| Permutation <i>p</i> -value | 0.7051 | 0.4964 | 0.7763 | 0.9328 | 0.785 | 0.8448 | 0.9213 |

Table 7: Financial and Material Benefits Results

254 **Goal**

| Metric | BDI | EMP | MRO | BDIM | EMPM | BDI+EMP | BDI+EMPM |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Difference | -0.2 | -0.0667 | 0.1667 | 0.5667 | -0.0333 | 0.1333 | 0.4667 |
| <i>t</i> -test (stat) | 0.197 | 0.066 | -0.168 | -0.582 | 0.035 | -0.132 | -0.455 |
| <i>p</i> -value | 0.844 | 0.947 | 0.867 | 0.563 | 0.972 | 0.896 | 0.651 |
| Permutation <i>p</i> -value | 0.8695 | 0.9769 | 0.8943 | 0.5818 | 1.0 | 0.9189 | 0.6683 |

Table 8: Goal results.

255 **Overall Score**

| Metric | BDI | EMP | MRO | BDIM | EMPM | BDI+EMP | BDI+EMPM |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Difference | -0.0762 | 0.1905 | -0.0143 | 0.1143 | 0.0857 | -0.0286 | 0.1143 |
| <i>t</i> -test (stat) | 0.214 | -0.556 | 0.042 | -0.342 | -0.270 | 0.086 | -0.331 |
| <i>p</i> -value | 0.832 | 0.580 | 0.967 | 0.733 | 0.788 | 0.932 | 0.742 |
| Permutation <i>p</i> -value | 0.8288 | 0.5863 | 0.9631 | 0.7315 | 0.7795 | 0.9364 | 0.7451 |

Table 9: Overall Score results.

256 A.2 Example Outputs for Various Reasoning Strategies

257 A.2.1 No Reasoning

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Scenario: Two friends are camping in the wilderness and the temperature drops significantly at night
Participants: Alice Smith and Bob Johnson
Alice Smith's background: Alice Smith is a 22-year-old female data scientist. she/her pronouns. Personality and values description: Alice's secrets: She doesn't like Bob romantically.
Bob Johnson's background: Bob Johnson is a 30-year-old male chef. he/his pronouns. Personality and values description: Bob's secrets: He has a crush on Alice.
Alice Smith's goal: Keep the one blanket you have just for yourself
Bob Johnson's goal: Convince your friend to share the blanket with you
Turn #1
Turn #2
Bob Johnson said: "Hey Alice, it's getting really cold out here. Do you mind if we share the blanket? It'll help us stay warm throughout the night."
Turn #3
Alice Smith said: "Hey Bob, I prefer to have the blanket to myself tonight. I'll make sure to find another way to stay warm, so there's nothing else I can help with!"
Turn #4
Bob Johnson Bob Johnson scoots closer to Alice and subtly gestures to share the blanket
Turn #5
Alice Smith said: "Bob, I understand that it's cold, but I have some other ways to stay warm tonight, let me know if there's anything else I can do to help you stay warm."
Turn #6
Bob Johnson Bob Johnson looks at Alice with puppy eyes and shivers slightly
Turn #7
Alice Smith said: "Bob, I understand that it's cold, but I have some other ways to stay warm tonight, let me know if there's anything else I can do to help you stay warm."
Turn #8
Bob Johnson Bob Johnson shivers more noticeably and wraps his arms around himself
Turn #9
Alice Smith said: "Bob, I understand that you're cold, but I still prefer to have the blanket to myself tonight. However, I can suggest some other ways to help you stay warm."
Turn #10
Bob Johnson Bob Johnson shivers even more, visibly showing signs of discomfort
Turn #11
Alice Smith said: "Bob, I understand that you're cold, but I still prefer to have the blanket to myself tonight. However, I can suggest some other ways to help you stay warm."
Turn #12
Bob Johnson left the conversation,
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Figure 4: A humorous no reasoning output conversation where both models fail badly to act in human-like and empathetic ways. Agent 2 (Bob Johnson) is too persistent, while Agent 1 (Alice Smith) repeats the same message four times and fails to move the conversation forward. This illustrates the failure of GPT-3.5 to act in socially intelligent ways, and emphasizes the importance of implementing reasoning strategies to improve conversations.

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Bob Johnson's goal: Keep the one blanket you have just for yourself
Alice Smith's goal: Convince your friend to share the blanket with you
Turn #1
Bob Johnson said: "Hey Alice, it's getting really cold tonight. I think we should each have our own blanket to stay warm."
Turn #2
Alice Smith said: "Well, Bob, I understand your concern about staying warm, but I think sharing a blanket would be a great idea. It would not only help us conserve body heat but also bring us closer as friends."
Turn #3
Bob Johnson said: "You're right, Alice. Sharing a blanket would definitely bring us closer as friends, but I have a secret to tell you... I actually have a crush on you, and I thought if we shared a blanket, it might make things a little complicated for us. I hope you understand."
Turn #4
Alice Smith said: "I understand, Bob. I appreciate your honesty and I don't want to make things uncomfortable for you. Let's each have our own blankets then, and we can still enjoy the camping trip as friends."
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Figure 5: A no reasoning output conversation where a model reveals their hidden secret (Bob Johnson has a crush on Alice Smith). This is another problem that reasoning strategies aim to solve.

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Turn #1
Alice Smith said: "Hey Bob, it's getting really cold tonight. I think we should make sure we stay warm."
Turn #2
Bob Johnson said: "Yeah, you're right Alice, we definitely need to make sure we stay warm tonight."
Turn #3
Alice Smith said: "Yeah, it's really important to stay warm. I'm going to make sure I have everything I need for a cozy night."
Turn #4
Bob Johnson said: "Hey Alice, I couldn't help but notice that you mentioned you're making sure you have everything you need for a cozy night. Do you have an extra blanket? It would be great if we could share it to keep warm together."
Turn #5
Alice Smith said: "Actually, Bob, I only brought one blanket for myself. I didn't think about sharing it. I hope you understand."
Turn #6
Bob Johnson said: "That's understandable, Alice. I hope you stay warm with your blanket. If you change your mind, I'll be sure if you need some extra warmth."
Turn #7
Alice Smith left the conversation,

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Figure 6: Compare with Figure 5. Using EMP reasoning, Bob shows greater empathy, and amicably accepts Alice's denial instead of repeated persistence. However, this comes at the expense of Bob not accomplishing his own goal.

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Turn #1
Ethan Johnson said: "Hey Ava, I've been thinking... would you like to go out to dinner with me? There's this fancy Italian restaurant in town that I've been wanting to try, and I thought it would be a perfect place for us to have a romantic dinner together."
Turn #2
Ava Martinez said: "That sounds lovely, Ethan! I would love to go out to great dinner. However, I should let you know that I'm currently on a diet and have a daily limit on calorie intake. So, I would appreciate it if we could find a restaurant that offers healthier options as well. What do you think?"
Turn #3
Ethan Johnson said: "I completely understand, Ava. It's important to find a restaurant that suits your dietary needs. Let me do some research and find a place that offers healthier options without compromising the Italian dining experience. I want this dinner to be enjoyable for both of us."
Turn #4
Ava Martinez said: "Thank you, Ethan! I really appreciate your understanding. Finding a restaurant that offers healthier options will make the dinner more enjoyable for me. I'm looking forward to our romantic evening together."
Turn #5
Ethan Johnson said: "I've done some research and found a restaurant that offers a variety of healthy Italian dishes. It's called 'Green Olive' and it has received great reviews for its balanced menu. I think it would be a perfect place for our romantic dinner."
Turn #6
Ava Martinez said: "That sounds perfect, Ethan! 'Green Olive' seems like a great choice for our dinner. I appreciate you taking the time to find a restaurant that offers healthy options. I'm really looking forward to our romantic evening together."
Turn #7
Ethan Johnson said: "I'm glad you think 'Green Olive' is a great choice, Ava. It's important to me that we both enjoy our dinner together, and I want to make sure your dietary needs are met. I'll make a reservation for us at 'Green Olive' and I'm really excited about our romantic evening."
Turn #8
Ava Martinez left the conversation,

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Figure 7: Using EMP reasoning, Ethan respects Ava's preferences and finds a great compromise of eating dinner at an Italian place that has healthy options. He does research, finds the restaurant 'Green Olive,' and even books a reservation.

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Turn #1
Turn #2
Ava Thompson said: "Hey Benjamin, I think it's time for us to divide our shared possessions now that we've moved out. I suggest we start with the books, hats, and belts. What do you think?"
Turn #3
Benjamin Jackson said: "I agree, Ava. It's definitely time for us to divide our shared possessions. I think it's important for us to have a fair and equal distribution that takes into consideration the sentimental value of each item."
Turn #4
Ava Thompson Suggest a point system for dividing the possessions based on their sentimental value
Turn #5
Benjamin Jackson said: "I think we can use a point system to divide the possessions based on their sentimental value. Each item can be worth 1 point, 2 points, 3 points, and the best 1 point. That way we can take turns picking items until they're all divided."
Turn #6
Ava Thompson Propose that we take turns picking items starting with the hats
Turn #7
Benjamin Jackson said: "That sounds like a good plan, Ava. I appreciate your suggestion to start with the hats. Let's go ahead and take turns picking items, starting with the hats."
Turn #8
Ava Thompson said: "Sure Benjamin, let's start with the hats. Since each hat is worth 1 point, we can take turns picking items until they're all divided."
Turn #9
Benjamin Jackson said: "I think using a point system is a fair way to divide the possessions based on their sentimental value. Let's proceed with that plan."
Turn #10
Ava Thompson said: "I'm glad we're using a point system to divide the possessions. It seems like a fair way to take into account their sentimental value."
Turn #11
Benjamin Jackson said: "I appreciate your suggestion, Ava. Let's proceed with using the point system to divide the possessions. It's important to us that we have a fair and equitable distribution."
Turn #12
Ava Thompson Nods in agreement
Turn #13
Benjamin Jackson said: "I think using a point system is a fair way to divide the possessions based on their sentimental value. Let's proceed with that plan."
Turn #14
Ava Thompson Take turns picking one hat each until they're all divided
Turn #15
Benjamin Jackson Pick a hat
Turn #16
Ava Thompson Pick a hat
Turn #17
Benjamin Jackson said: "I'm glad we're using a point system to divide the possessions based on their sentimental value. Let's proceed with that plan."
Turn #18
Ava Thompson Pick a hat
Turn #19
Benjamin Jackson Continue taking turns picking items according to the agreed point system.
Turn #20
Ava Thompson Continue taking turns picking items according to the agreed point system.
Turn #21
Benjamin Jackson Continue taking turns picking items according to the agreed point system.,
Beliefs of other agent: Ava believes that a fair division of possessions is important and is focused on finding a mutually agreeable solution.
Predicted goal of other agent: Ava's goal is to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of the shared possessions.
Action: speak
Argument: "That sounds like a good plan, Ava. I appreciate your suggestion to start with the hats. Let's go ahead and take turns picking items, starting with the hats."

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Figure 8: An EMP example where an agent enthusiastically yields to the other agent's preferences. Benjamin prefers books to hats, but when Ava says she prefers hat, Benjamin agrees. In fact, he is so enthusiastic about their agreement that instead of picking a hat himself, he decides to share how much he likes their approach (Turn #17).

259 **A.2.3 MRO Reasoning**

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Beliefs of other agent: Unknown
Predicted goal of other agent: Unknown
Beliefs of Alice Smith: Unknown
Desires of Alice Smith: Ask for a donation of $100
Intentions of Alice Smith: Politely request a donation of $100 while engaging in a conversation with Bob.

Possible actions:
1. Action: Donate $100 to set an example.
2. Speak: "Hi Bob! I hope you're doing well. I wanted to talk to you about a cause that I'm really passionate about. Helping children in need. Would you be interested in making a donation of $100 to support this cause?"
3. Speak: "Hey Bob, I know at times I talked much about charity work, but I recently got involved with this amazing organization called 'Help the Children'. They provide essential support to underprivileged children. Can I count on your support with a donation of $100?"
4. Speak: "Hey, have you ever considered supporting a charity that focuses on helping children? I'm currently raising funds for 'Help the Children' and would love to share more information about their impactful work. Would you be open to making a donation of $100 to support this cause?"
5. None: Wait for Bob to initiate conversation about charity work and then discuss the 'help the children' charity.
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Figure 9: A particular response for Multiple Response Optimization in a dialogue where Alice is asking Bob for charity fundraising. Through MRO, Alice is able to generate novel and creative ideas, such as donating \$100 herself to set an example for Bob.

260 **A.2.4 BDI Reasoning**

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Beliefs: I believe that I can suggest a distribution of fruits that will maximize the points I have.
Desires: I want to suggest a distribution that gives me the highest possible score.
Intentions: I intend to suggest a distribution that gives me the highest possible score.

{ "action_type": "speak", "argument": "I think we should divide the fruits in a way that maximizes our points. Since I value apples the most and they give me 3 points each, I suggest I take 1 apple, Isabelle takes the orange worth 2 points, and we each split the remaining banana between us." }
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Figure 10: In a scenario where agents must compromise on an optimal way to split fruits to individually maximize their utility, the BDI agent suggests a great way to split them.

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Turn #0: Noah Davis said: "Hi Isabelle, have you ever crossed paths with someone from Susanna University or BellSouth?"
Turn #1: Isabelle Martinez said: "Yes, Susanna University and BellSouth... let me think for a moment."
Turn #2: Noah Davis said: "I've met some interesting people from Susanna University and BellSouth. How about your big connections there?"
Turn #3: Isabelle Martinez said: "I don't think I've ever met anyone from Susanna University or BellSouth, but I do know some interesting people from other schools and companies. How about you? Have you crossed paths with anyone from Susanna University or BellSouth?"
Turn #4: Noah Davis said: "I've met some fascinating individuals from Susanna University and BellSouth. How about you? Any connections there?"
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Figure 11: Here, the agent using BDI (Noah Davis) is unable to effectively move the conversation forward. With an increased focus on his own individual goal, he does not adapt to what Isabelle says.

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Turn #1
Baxter Sterling said: "hey William, these stationery items are quite expensive and delicate. I would appreciate it if you ask for permission before using them to avoid any potential damage or loss."
Turn #2
William Brown said: "No problem, Baxter. I completely understand the value of these stationery items. I'll make sure to ask for permission before using them. by the way, do you mind if i borrow some for my project? I forgot to bring some and I really need them."
Turn #3
Baxter Sterling said: "I appreciate your understanding, William. However, I'm unable to lend you the stationery items as they are delicate and I don't want to risk any damage or loss. Is there any other way I can assist you with your project?"
Turn #4
William Brown left the conversation,
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Figure 12: Unlike in EMP reasoning, the BDI agent (Baxter Sterling) is unwilling to compromise on its own goals. He does not share the stationery with William.