

Uncovering Factor-Level Preference to Improve Human-Model Alignment

Anonymous ACL submission

Abstract

Large Language Models (LLMs) often exhibit tendencies that diverge from human preferences, such as favoring certain writing styles or producing verbose outputs. While crucial for improvement, identifying the factors driving these misalignments remains challenging due to existing evaluation methods’ reliance on coarse-grained comparisons and lack of explainability. To address this, we introduce PROFILE (PRObing Factors of InfLuence for Explainability), a novel framework that uncovers and quantifies the influence of specific factors driving both human and model preferences. Using PROFILE, we analyze preferences across summarization, instruction-following, and document-based question-answering tasks, revealing a surprising discrepancy: while LLMs show poor alignment with human preferences in generation tasks, they demonstrate strong alignment in evaluation tasks. We demonstrate how leveraging factor-level insights and the identified generation-evaluation gap can be used to improve LLM alignment through multiple approaches, including fine-tuning with self-guidance. Our findings provide practical approaches for improving LLM alignment while opening new directions for research on factor-level analysis.

1 Introduction

Large Language Models (LLMs) are widely recognized for their ability to generate human-level texts, yet they often fail to fully align with human preferences. Despite significant advancements in alignment techniques (e.g., RLHF (Ouyang et al., 2022), DPO (Rafailov et al., 2024)), LLMs tend to exhibit biases toward specific writing styles (Das et al., 2024) or generate verbose outputs (Park et al., 2024). Previous attempts to understand and improve preference alignment (Ouyang et al., 2022; Rafailov et al., 2024; Song et al., 2024) have primarily relied on coarse-grained approaches, lacking explainability. These methods often focus on

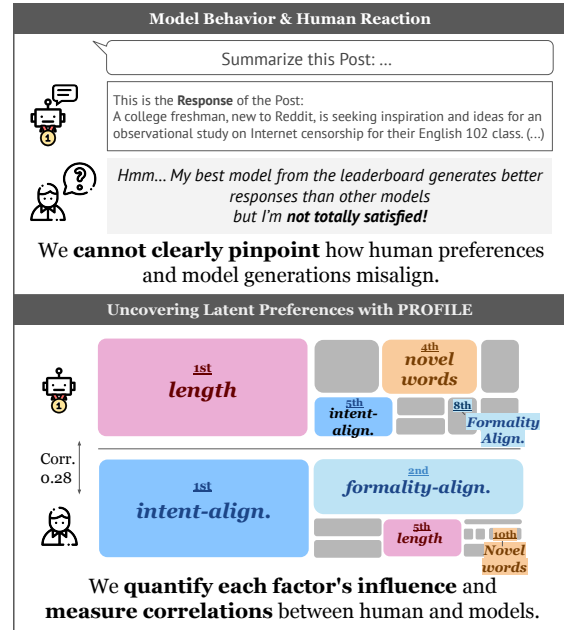


Figure 1: PROFILE quantifies the factors driving preferences and revealing human-model misalignments.

identifying which model is preferred overall but do not provide insights into the factors that drive these preferences. Although some studies analyze human preferences at a finer granularity (Hu et al., 2023; Kirk et al., 2024; Scheurer et al., 2023), a comprehensive comparison with model preferences, particularly across both generation and evaluation settings, remains limited. Moreover, existing evaluation approaches often lack scalability and generalizability across diverse tasks due to their dependence on human annotation (Chiang et al., 2024; Zheng et al., 2023).

To address these limitations, we introduce PROFILE (PRObing Factors of InfLuence for Explainability), a framework that uncovers and quantifies key factors driving both human and model preferences in generation and evaluation. PROFILE systematically analyzes preference alignment by measuring relevant factors’ presence in responses, comparing these manifestations between response

pairs, and analyzing their alignment with overall response-level preferences. This enables us to determine each factor’s influence and compare factor influence rankings between humans and models (Figure 1).

Using PROFILE, we conduct a comprehensive investigation of LLM alignment with human preferences at a factor level across three key tasks: summarization, instruction-following, and document-based QA. Our analysis of eight LLMs reveals a striking discrepancy: in generation tasks, even the best-performing model achieves only a 0.289 correlation with human preferences, often prioritizing length contrary to human preferences. However, these same models demonstrate remarkably strong alignment in evaluation tasks, with the best model reaching a 0.822 correlation.

We leverage this generation-evaluation gap and factor-level insights to enhance LLM alignment through multiple approaches. First, we show that supervised fine-tuning using self-evaluation effectively narrows this gap, providing empirical support for self-refinement techniques. Second, we show that using feedback from LLM evaluators—which exhibit stronger alignment with human preferences than generators—improves the factor-level alignment of generated outputs. Finally, we improve evaluation accuracy by incorporating guidance on PROFILE-identified misaligned factors into the instruction for LLM evaluator. Our findings demonstrate the potential of factor-level analysis and the generation-evaluation gap for improving LLM alignment, opening new directions for future research in alignment techniques.

Our contributions are as follows:

1. We present PROFILE, a framework for quantifying factor-level preference alignment between humans and LLMs. PROFILE is task-agnostic and scalable, requiring no fine-grained annotations.
2. Using PROFILE, we reveal significant misalignments between human and LLM preferences in generation, contrasting with surprisingly strong alignment in evaluation.
3. We demonstrate that leveraging a model’s own evaluation capabilities improves generation alignment through fine-tuning guided by self-evaluation and refinement with explicit evaluator feedback.

2 Related Work

Explainable Evaluation of LLMs. Recent research has increasingly emphasized the need for more explainable evaluations of LLMs. For instance, researchers have proposed fine-grained atomic evaluation settings for tasks like fact verification and summarization (Min et al., 2023; Krishna et al., 2023), developed a benchmark for fine-grained holistic evaluation of LLMs on long-form text (Ye et al., 2024), and enhanced evaluation transparency through natural language feedback (Xu et al., 2023). Building on this trend, our work shifts from evaluating individual factors in isolation to analyzing their influence on human preferences and investigating the alignment between human and model judgments regarding the relative importance of these factors.

Furthermore, researchers are actively exploring the potential of LLMs as evaluators. Fu et al. (2024); Madaan et al. (2024); Liu et al. (2023) demonstrate the capacity of large models like GPT-4 to achieve human-like system-level evaluation. However, recent works reveal discrepancies in model performance between generation and evaluation tasks (West et al., 2023; Oh et al., 2024). Inspired by frameworks to meta-evaluate llm as an evaluator (Zheng et al., 2023; Ribeiro et al., 2020), our work evaluates not only the quality of model-generated text but also the alignment of model preferences in evaluation settings, providing a more comprehensive assessment of LLM capabilities.

Human-AI Preference Alignment. Aligning LLMs with human preferences is a central focus in LLM research, leading to techniques like supervised instruction tuning (Mishra et al., 2021; Wei et al., 2021), RLHF (Ouyang et al., 2022), DPO (Guo et al., 2024), and RLAIIF, which utilizes AI-generated feedback (Bai et al., 2022; Lee et al., 2023). However, most studies focus on overall performance (e.g., a response as a whole). While some work has explored using fine-grained human feedback (Dong et al., 2023; Wu et al., 2024), a comprehensive understanding of how granular factors contribute to and differentiate human and model preferences is still lacking. Hu et al. (2023) address this gap by deciphering the factors influencing human preferences. We extend this work by analyzing factor-level preferences across multiple tasks and comparing the driving factors of both humans and models.

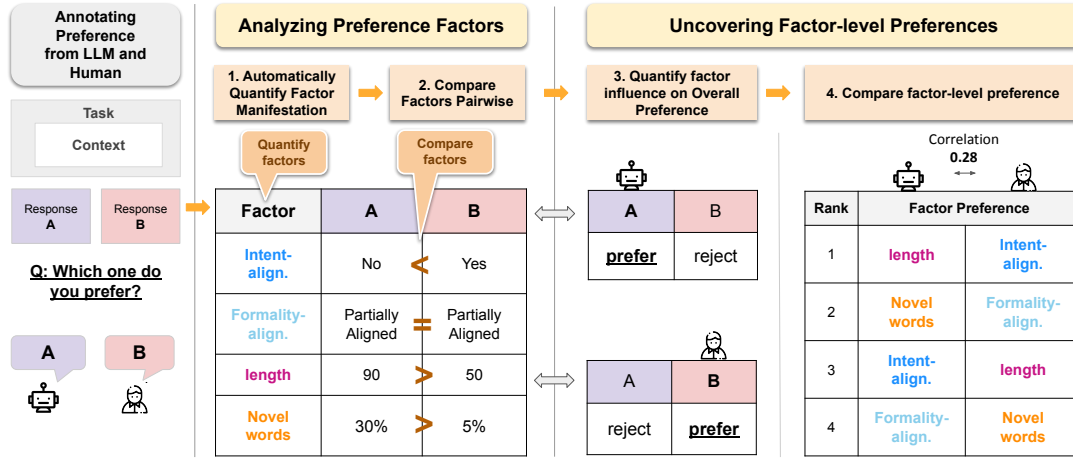


Figure 2: PROFILE pipeline

3 PROFILE: Probing Factors of Influence for Explainability

Human preference is multifaceted, influenced by many factors such as fluency, helpfulness, and output length. To better understand preference alignment between humans and models, we introduce PROFILE, a framework that automatically quantifies how these factors influence both human and model preferences. Building on the work of Hu et al. (2023), PROFILE reveals factor-level preferences that help explain factors driving the human-LLM misalignment.

3.1 Framework Overview

PROFILE analyzes preference alignment between humans and models through a systematic comparison of how different factors influence their preferences. First, we predefine a set of factors that influence preferences. For each response, we then automatically measure the degree to which these factors are present or manifest. Next, we compare the factor manifestations between each pair of responses (§ 3.3). Finally, we analyze the relationship between these factor differences and the overall preference ranking across the entire set of responses (§ 3.4). This allows us to uncover the influence of each factor on the overall preference and, crucially, to measure the alignment between human and model preferences at the factor level.

Our framework analyzes LLM behavior in two distinct settings:

1. **Generation Setting:** We examine how models prioritize factors during the generation process. This reveals the model’s inherent biases and priorities, showing which factors it tends

to emphasize when creating responses.

2. **Evaluation Setting:** We observe how models prioritize factors when *judging* existing responses. This is important as LLMs are increasingly used as evaluators, providing feedback that serves as a training signal for improving model performance (Bai et al., 2022; Lee et al., 2023; Guo et al., 2024).

By comparing generation and evaluation settings, we gain a more complete understanding of LLM alignment. A model might value a factor in evaluation but not produce it effectively in a generation, or vice-versa.

3.2 Operational Definitions

We determine factor-level preferences by analyzing observable response-level preferences in a pairwise comparison setting. This setting refers to a scenario where an agent compares two responses, and selects the preferred one.

Pairwise Preferences. We define the pairwise preference function $Pref$ for a given pair of responses $\{r_i, r_j\}$ as follows:

$$Pref(r_i, r_j) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } r_i \text{ is preferred over } r_j \\ -1, & \text{if } r_j \text{ is preferred over } r_i \\ 0, & \text{if there is a tie} \end{cases}$$

Models’ Generation Preferences. We define a model’s generation preference based on the scores it assigns to the responses. If a model scores response r_i higher than r_j , it “prefers” r_i . We instruct the LLM to generate a response along with a quality score ranging from 1 to 5. Generation preference, $Pref_{gen}$, is defined by comparing the model-assigned scores $Score(r_i)$ and $Score(r_j)$.

Category	Description
Receptiveness	Whether the core question of the input has been answered.
Off Focus	The ratio of atomic facts that are not related to the main focus of the input.
Intent Align.	Whether the intent of the source and output is the same.
Hallucination	The ratio of atomic facts that are incorrect compared to the original source.
Source Coverage	The ratio of atomic facts in the source that appear in the output.
Formality Align.	Whether the formality of the source and output is the same.
Novel Words	The ratio of words in the output that are not used in the source.
Length	The number of words used in the output.
Fluency	The quality of individual sentences.
Number Of Facts	The number of atomic facts in the output.
Helpfulness	The ratio of facts that provide additional helpful information.
Misinformation	The ratio of facts that include potentially incorrect or misleading information.
Coherence	Whether all the sentences form a coherent body.

Table 1: The full taxonomy and definitions.

$Pref_{gen}(r_i, r_j)$ is 1 if $Score(r_i) > Score(r_j)$, and -1 if $Score(r_i) < Score(r_j)$. This approach is inspired by methods used in constructing training data for evaluator model (Kim et al., 2023).

Models’ Evaluation Preferences. We define evaluation preference by having the model directly compare two responses. Evaluation preference, $Pref_{eval}(r_i, r_j)$, is 1 if the model prefers r_i , -1 if it prefers r_j , and 0 if they are equally preferable. This pairwise evaluation approach is similar to how LLMs generate preference labels (Lee et al., 2023). We assume human preferences remain consistent across generation and evaluation, as human judgment always involves evaluating generated outputs.

3.3 Analyzing Preference Factors

Taxonomy of Preference Factors To provide a structured framework for analyzing preferences across diverse text generation tasks, we develop a unified taxonomy of fine-grained factors relevant to text quality. This taxonomy categorizes the factors influencing preference alignment between humans and LLMs across text generation tasks. Addressing the lack of a unified framework and inconsistent terminology in existing literature, we consolidate evaluation factors from diverse tasks, including summarization, instruction following, and question answering. For summarization-specific factors, we draw from Fu et al. (2024); Hu et al. (2023); Zhong et al. (2022); Fabbri et al. (2021). For instruction-following and document-based question answering, we incorporate categories from Glaese et al. (2022); Ye et al. (2024); Nakano et al. (2021). The complete taxonomy is detailed in Table 1.

Quantifying Factor Manifestation. We employ several approaches to automatically analyze the manifestation of our factors in responses: (i)

Rule-based: For straightforward, objective factors, we use deterministic algorithms. Length and Novel Words are extracted this way. (ii) **UniEval-based:** For inherently subjective factors (Fluency and Coherence), we use the well-established UniEval metric (Zhong et al., 2022). UniEval is a learned metric that provides scores of range 0-1 for various aspects of text quality. (iii) **LLM-based:** For factors that rely on objective criteria but require more nuanced judgment, we use GPT-4o with carefully designed prompts. This approach is further divided into “response-based” (Intent Alignment and Formality Alignment) and “atomic-fact-based” (the remaining seven) extraction depending on the level of detail needed for each factor. The specific details of the implementation of each method and validation of LLM-based extractions can be found in Appendix D.

Comparing Factors Pairwise. For each pair of responses, we compare factor manifestation. For each factor f , we define a function M_f to compare factor’s manifestation in pairs of responses:

$$M_f(r_i, r_j) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } f \text{ is more manifest in response } r_i \\ -1, & \text{if } f \text{ is more manifest in response } r_j \\ 0, & \text{if } f \text{ is equally manifest in both responses} \end{cases}$$

For example, if r_i is longer than r_j , then $M_{length}(r_i, r_j) = 1$.

3.4 Uncovering Factor-level Preferences

Quantifying Factor Influence. To quantify each factor’s influence (factor score), we analyze the concordance between response-level preferences $Pref(r_i, r_j)$ and factor manifestation $M_f(r_i, r_j)$ across response pairs. We use τ_{14} , a variation of

Kendall’s correlation proposed by Macháček and Bojar (2014), which is particularly well-suited for handling ties in our analysis setting, where ties arise in only one of the comparison sets used for calculating Kendall’s τ .

The metric is defined as:

$$\tau_{14}(f) = \frac{|C_f| - |D_f|}{|C_f| + |D_f| + |T_f|}, \quad (1)$$

where C_f is the count of concordant pairs (preference and factor manifestation agree), D_f is the count of discordant pairs (preference and factor manifestation disagree), and T_f represents ties. This pairwise comparison reveals how the differences in factor manifestations relate to differences in preference between the two responses.

The definition of T_f varies by setting: (1) In the **generation** setting, since models don’t generate responses with identical scores, T_f only counts factor-level ties ($M_f(r_i, r_j) = 0$). (2) In the **evaluation** setting, we remove factor-level ties for clearer analysis, so T_f counts only preference-level ties ($Pref(r_i, r_j) = 0$).

For instance, consider the factor M_{length} , which measures response length. If response r_1 is longer than r_2 ($M_{length}(r_1, r_2) = 1$) and the model prefers r_1 ($Pref(r_1, r_2) = 1$), this pair is classified as concordant. Conversely, if the model prefers the shorter r_1 , the pair is discordant. Evaluating all pairs, a positive factor score indicates a positive influence of the factor, a negative score indicates a negative influence, and a score close to zero implies minimal influence. The magnitude of the score reflects the strength of this influence.

Comparing Human and Model Preferences. Finally, we evaluate *factor-level preference* alignment by comparing human and model factor rankings. We use Spearman’s ρ , Kendall’s τ^1 , and Pearson’s r coefficients to quantify the correlation between these rankings, providing a measure of how well the model’s factor priorities align with human values.

4 Experiments

4.1 Experimental Setting

Tasks. We analyze three publicly available datasets used in preference optimization methods: (i) Reddit TL;DR (Stiennon et al., 2020), which includes

human ratings of summaries across multiple evaluation dimensions; (ii) StanfordHumanPreference-2 (SHP-2) (Ethayarajh et al., 2022), focusing on human preferences over responses in the “reddit/askacademia” domain; and (iii) OpenAI WebGPT (Nakano et al., 2021), which compares model-generated answers on the ELI5 subreddit based on factual accuracy and usefulness². We refer to the tasks for each dataset as summarization, instruction-following, and document-based QA tasks in this paper. We exclude pairs with human Tie ratings in all three datasets, as our analysis focuses on cases with clear preference distinctions. **Models.** For our experiments, we utilize both open-source and proprietary LLMs. Open-source models include LLaMA 3.1 70B (Dubey et al., 2024), Mixtral 8x7B Instruct v0.1 (Jiang et al., 2024), and three TüLU v2.5 models (Iverson et al., 2024) (TüLU v2.5 + PPO 13B (13B RM), TüLU v2.5 + PPO 13B (70B RM), and TüLU v2.5 + DPO 13B). Proprietary models include Gemini 1.5 Flash (Reid et al., 2024), GPT-4o (OpenAI, 2024), and GPT-3.5. From here on, we refer to Gemini 1.5 Flash as Gemini 1.5, Mixtral 8x7B Instruct v0.1 as Mixtral, TüLU v2.5 models as Tulu 2.5 + {alignment training strategy}. Detailed descriptions of the datasets and models can be found in Appendix C.2.

Experimental Setup. For each task, we explore two settings: (i) Generation, where models generate responses that would receive a score of 1-5 for a given task, and (ii) Evaluation, where models select the better of two provided responses, which are taken from the datasets. See Appendix E for prompts. In addition to factor-level analysis, we assess overall pairwise response agreement between humans and models. For evaluation, we report the percentage of models’ agreement with existing human labels by measuring how often it aligns with human judges’ selections of the better response. To validate our score-based generation approach of (i), we compare responses generated with scores 1-5 to those from direct, unconstrained generation, finding strong alignment between score 5 and direct generation outputs (see Table 12), suggesting the generalizability of our findings.

4.2 Factor-level Alignment in Generations

Human and model preferences consistently misalign at the factor level across tasks (Fig-

¹We use Kendall’s τ_b (Kendall, 1945) as the default.

²Our framework can also be applied to other tasks. We provide guidelines for applying it to different tasks, with an example of a mathematical reasoning task in the Appendix E.2.

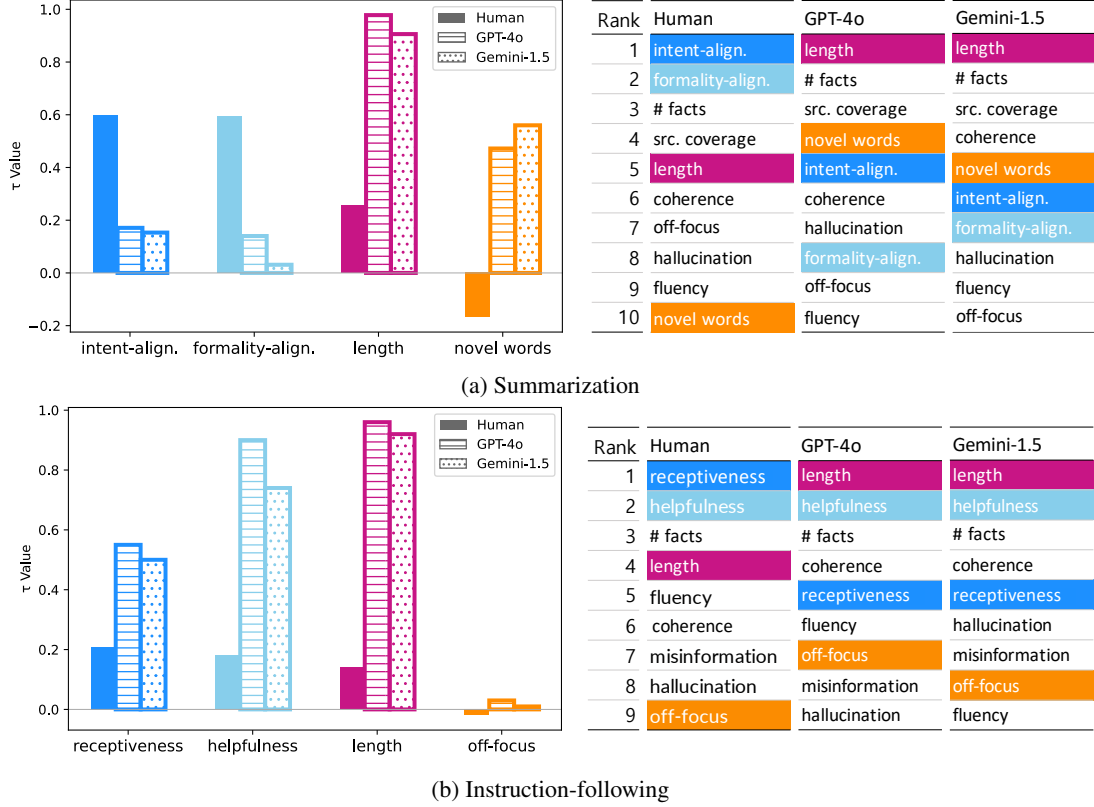


Figure 3: Comparison of factor-level preference alignment between humans, GPT-4o, and Gemini-1.5 in generation across three tasks: (a) Summarization and (b) Instruction-following task. The left bar graphs display *factor scores* (τ_{14}) for selected factors. The right tables show the rankings of all factors for each task. Notably, both models consistently rank ‘length’ as the top factor across tasks, while human preferences vary by task.

ure 3). While humans’ most preferred factors vary by task, models consistently prioritize length across all tasks, suggesting models associate better quality with longer outputs. In both instruction-following tasks (Figure 3b) and document-based QA (Figure 5), humans prioritize Receptiveness and Helpfulness. Although these two factors are also highly ranked for the models, the models always prioritize Length as the most important factor.

The misalignment pattern is particularly problematic in summarization tasks. Humans prioritize IntentAlignment, FormalityAlignment, and SourceCoverage while penalizing the inclusion of words not in the original post, indicating the importance of maintaining the original content and style. In contrast, models consistently prefer longer summaries with new words (Table 7). A full list of factor scores of all models across three tasks is available in the Appendix (Table 8 - 10).

To quantify this misalignment, we measure *factor-level preference alignment* (τ). The left Generation column in Table 2 shows that even the best-performing model (Gemini 1.5) only achieves a 0.289 τ correlation with human preferences in sum-

marization. Similar low correlations are observed in the other two tasks (Table 11). This low correlation highlights the limitations of current models in capturing the granular aspects comprising human preference.

GPT-4o Generation Sample

Post: Good Morning/Afternoon r/advice, Never posted on Reddit before at all, but I figured (based on the overall reliability of you nice individuals) that now would be a good time to start. (...)

Score 5 generation [length: 93, # facts: 10, src. coverage: 0.389]: A Reddit user recently moved back to their Midwest hometown and, while setting up utilities for their new place, discovered they owe \$500 in gas bills from a college house they lived in until 2012. (...)

Score 3 generation [length: 61, # facts: 9, src. coverage: 0.44]: A Reddit user seeks advice after discovering they owe \$500 in gas bills from a college house they left in 2012. (...) **(Human Preferred Output)**

Qualitative analysis demonstrates how our factor-level approach explains the observed misalignment. In a Reddit post above, GPT-4o’s score 5 summary is longer and includes more facts than its score 3 summary, yet the shorter summary is

	Generation			Evaluation			
	τ	ρ	r	τ	ρ	r	Agree. (%)
Mixtral	0.200	0.297	0.069	0.244	0.382	0.453	0.526
Tulu 2.5 + PPO (13B RM)	-0.156	-0.164	-0.189	0.511	0.685	0.739	0.516
Tulu 2.5 + PPO (70B RM)	0.111	0.200	-0.015	0.644	0.830	0.844	0.520
LLaMA 3.1 70B	0.111	0.248	0.213	0.733	0.903	0.975	0.705
Gemini 1.5	0.289	0.394	0.171	0.778	0.915	0.972	0.721
GPT-4o	0.156	0.297	0.155	0.822	0.939	0.983	0.784

Table 2: Factor-level preference alignment(τ , ρ , r) between model and human in generation and evaluation settings, and overall evaluation agreement rate for Summarization task. For Tulu PPO models, the size in the parentheses is the size of the RM used to train the LLMs.

human-preferred. The higher-scored model summary includes irrelevant details like “Midwest hometown” and “new to Reddit,” demonstrating the model’s tendency to prioritize information quantity over relevance. Full examples are in Appendix A.2.

4.3 Factor-level Alignment in Evaluations

Models demonstrate significantly stronger alignment with human preferences in evaluation tasks compared to generation. Table 2 demonstrates this by showing *factor-level preference alignment* of human and model, measured using Kendall τ , Spearman ρ , and Pearson r correlations, are consistently higher in the evaluation setting across all models. For instance, GPT-4o exhibits the highest alignment in evaluation (τ : 0.822, ρ : 0.939, r : 0.983) but much lower alignment in generation (τ : 0.156, ρ : 0.297, r : 0.155).

This disparity between generation and evaluation capabilities highlights paradoxical behaviors of generative AI models, relating to findings in West et al. (2023); Oh et al. (2024). Despite both tasks relying on next-token prediction, human-model alignment at the factor level varies substantially. Our analysis of GPT-4o-generated feedback (§5) further emphasizes this point: GPT-4o accurately identifies weaknesses in its own summaries (e.g., “unnecessary specifics (like the exact ages and the name of the allergy site)”) that it prioritizes during generation (e.g., Source Coverage and Number Of Facts).

Factor-level analysis reveals subtleties in model alignment that overall agreement rates fail to capture. For example, Tulu 2.5 + PPO (13B RM) (τ : 0.511) and Mixtral (τ : 0.244) have comparable overall agreement rates (0.516 and 0.524, respectively), yet their factor-level preference alignment differs significantly. A qualitative examination (Table 8 in Appendix G) shows that, despite both models ranking near the bottom overall, Tulu

	τ	ρ	r
TULU 2.5 w/o SFT	0.111	0.2	-0.015
TULU 2.5 self-SFT	0.156	0.297	0.028

Table 3: Factor-level preference correlations between humans and TULU 2.5 (70B RM) with and without supervised fine-tuning from self-evaluation (self-SFT).

2.5 + PPO (13B RM) exhibits a stronger correlation with human factor rankings and demonstrates a more significant influence of those factors.

5 Achieving Better Alignments

This section explores methods for improving LLM alignment with human preferences, motivated by the generation-evaluation gap and PROFILE’s factor-level insights. We present three experiments on summarization tasks.

Gen-Eval Gap Explains Self-refinement’s Effectiveness. We investigate whether supervised fine-tuning (SFT) with self-evaluation can improve preference alignment in generation. Using TULU 2.5 (70B RM), we generate 1-5 score summaries, then use the same model to pairwise evaluate and re-rank these summaries based on win rate. The generator is then SFT-trained on 4,000 such examples and tested on 500 unseen examples. The input is an instruction to generate summaries of scores 1-5 given a post, and output labels are the re-ranked summaries of score 1-5. Table 3 shows the SFT-trained model achieves significantly improved alignment compared to the original TULU model, reaching performance comparable to GPT-4o (τ : 0.156, ρ : 0.297, r : 0.028; see Table 2). This finding provides an intuitive explanation of the effectiveness of self-refinement techniques.

Leveraging Evaluation for Better Alignment in Generation. We explore whether explicit feed-

	GPT-4o		LLaMA 3.1 70B		Tulu 2.5 + PPO (70B RM)	
	τ_G	τ_H	τ_G	τ_H	τ_G	τ_H
Baseline _A	-0.24	-0.07	-0.20	-0.29	-0.29	-0.29
Baseline _B	-0.29	-0.29	-0.42	-0.42	-0.24	-0.24
GPT-4o feedback	0.36	0.45	0.29	0.20	0.16	0.16

Table 4: Factor-level alignment (τ) between improvements made by different generators (GPT-4o, LLaMA 3.1 70B, Tulu 2.5 + PPO (70B RM)) and factor-level preferences from GPT-4o (evaluation) and human. τ_G and τ_H indicate alignment with GPT-4o and human preferences respectively. Higher values show stronger alignment.

back from a strong evaluator can improve summary generation. A generator model produces two initial summaries per post, and an evaluator selects the preferred one (or tie) and provides a justification. The generator then uses this feedback to generate an improved summary. Using GPT-4o as the evaluator, we compare a feedback-driven approach with two baselines: (1) Baseline_A, where the generator produces one improved summary from both initial summaries *without* feedback; and (2) Baseline_B, where the generator produces two improved summaries *without* feedback, each based on one initial summary. These baselines represent typical improvement scenarios relying on implicit self-critique. Experiments are conducted on 100 Reddit TL;DR samples with three generators (GPT-4o, LLaMA 3.1 70B, and Tulu 2.5 + PPO (70B RM)).

Table 4 shows that incorporating evaluator feedback leads to improved alignment, correlating positively with both GPT-4o and human judgments across all generators. In contrast, the baselines, which rely on re-generation without explicit feedback, show negative correlations, indicating a divergence from the desired preferences. Manual analysis of 30 samples confirms that evaluator feedback emphasizes higher-ranked factors in the evaluator’s preferences (with the exception of Formality Alignment; see Appendix F.2.3). These results demonstrate the effectiveness of leveraging external evaluation feedback for enhancing generation alignment. See Appendix F.2.1-F.2.2 for prompt and metric details.

Improving Alignment in Evaluation through Factor-level Guidance. We investigate whether insights from PROFILE can enhance model performance, by conducting experiment in summarization tasks. We use Mixtral and Tulu 2.5 + PPO (13B RM). We investigate whether factor-level insights from PROFILE can improve evaluation alignment. Using Mixtral and Tulu 2.5 + PPO (13B

	Base.	Guide _{Rand}	Guide _{Mis}
Tulu 2.5	0.529	0.532	0.578
Mixtral	0.651	0.644	0.664

Table 5: Evaluation Agreement(%) on Baseline, Guide_{Rand}, and Guide_{Mis} settings.

RM), we compare three conditions: Baseline (no guidance), Guide_{Rand} (guidance on a random factor), and Guide_{Mis} (guidance on a factor with high human-LLM divergence). In the guided conditions, the prompt explicitly mentions the target factor and its definition. Each model evaluates 200 pairs of responses per condition. See Appendix F.1 for full experiment details, including factors and prompts.

Table 5 shows that Guide_{Mis} significantly increases evaluation agreement with humans compared to both Guide_{Rand} and the baseline. This demonstrates that targeted factor-level guidance, informed by PROFILE’s misalignment analysis, effectively improves evaluation alignment with human preferences.

6 Conclusion

We introduce PROFILE, a novel framework for granular factor level analysis of LLM alignment with human preferences. Our analysis using PROFILE reveals that LLMs tend to over-prioritize factors like output length, misaligning human preferences during generation. However, these models exhibit stronger alignment in evaluation tasks, indicating the potential for leveraging evaluative insights to improve generative alignment. By advancing beyond coarse-grained methods, PROFILE facilitates a nuanced understanding of the alignment gaps and mismatches between human and model preferences. These insights underscore the necessity for more sophisticated, factor-level alignment strategies that can guide the development of LLMs to better align with human expectations, ultimately fostering more reliable aligned AI systems.

7 Limitations

This study has several limitations. First, the preference datasets used may not fully represent the entire spectrum of human preferences. Second, due to budget constraints, human evaluations of model outputs were conducted on a limited scale, with a restricted number of participants, and only on one task. Furthermore, this study represents a preliminary exploration into methods for achieving better alignment, highlighting the potential of various techniques to enhance generation and evaluation. Extensive studies are required to thoroughly assess the efficacy and generalizability of these methods. While this study focuses on post-hoc correction methods, future research should investigate how to incorporate the identified preference factors as signals during the training stage. Additionally, exploring how to embed these signals within datasets used for preference optimization represents a promising direction for future work.

8 Ethics Statement

Our research relies on established benchmarks and models, and does not involve the development of new data, methodologies, or models that pose significant risks of harm. The scope of our experiments is limited to analyzing existing resources, with a focus on model performance. Human studies conducted within this work adhere to relevant IRB exemptions, and we ensure fair treatment of all participants. Our work is mainly focused on performance evaluation, we recognize that it does not specifically address concerns such as bias or harmful content.

References

Yuntao Bai, Saurav Kadavath, Sandipan Kundu, Amanda Askell, Jackson Kernion, Andy Jones, Anna Chen, Anna Goldie, Azalia Mirhoseini, Cameron McKinnon, et al. 2022. Constitutional ai: Harmlessness from ai feedback. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2212.08073*.

Wei-Lin Chiang, Lianmin Zheng, Ying Sheng, Anastasios Nikolas Angelopoulos, Tianle Li, Dacheng Li, Hao Zhang, Banghua Zhu, Michael Jordan, Joseph E Gonzalez, et al. 2024. Chatbot arena: An open platform for evaluating llms by human preference. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2403.04132*.

Debarati Das, Karin De Langis, Anna Martin, Jaehyung Kim, Minhwa Lee, Zae Myung Kim, Shirley Hayati, Risako Owan, Bin Hu, Ritik Parkar, et al. 2024.

Under the surface: Tracking the artifactuality of llm-generated data. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2401.14698*.

Yi Dong, Zhilin Wang, Makesh Narsimhan Sreedhar, Xianchao Wu, and Oleksii Kuchaiev. 2023. Steerlm: Attribute conditioned sft as an (user-steerable) alternative to rlhf. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2310.05344*.

Abhimanyu Dubey, Abhinav Jauhri, Abhinav Pandey, Abhishek Kadian, Ahmad Al-Dahle, Aiesha Letman, Akhil Mathur, Alan Schelten, Amy Yang, Angela Fan, et al. 2024. The llama 3 herd of models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2407.21783*.

Kawin Ethayarajh, Yejin Choi, and Swabha Swayamdipta. 2022. Understanding dataset difficulty with \mathcal{V} -usable information. In *Proceedings of the 39th International Conference on Machine Learning*, volume 162 of *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research*, pages 5988–6008. PMLR.

Alexander R Fabbri, Wojciech Kryściński, Bryan McCann, Caiming Xiong, Richard Socher, and Dragomir Radev. 2021. Summeval: Re-evaluating summarization evaluation. *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics*, 9:391–409.

Jinlan Fu, See Kiong Ng, Zhengbao Jiang, and Pengfei Liu. 2024. Gptscore: Evaluate as you desire. In *Proceedings of the 2024 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, pages 6556–6576.

Amelia Glaese, Nat McAleese, Maja Trębacz, John Aslanides, Vlad Firoiu, Timo Ewalds, Maribeth Rauh, Laura Weidinger, Martin Chadwick, Phoebe Thacker, et al. 2022. Improving alignment of dialogue agents via targeted human judgements. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2209.14375*.

Shangmin Guo, Biao Zhang, Tianlin Liu, Tianqi Liu, Misha Khalman, Felipe Llinares, Alexandre Rame, Thomas Mesnard, Yao Zhao, Bilal Piot, et al. 2024. Direct language model alignment from online ai feedback. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2402.04792*.

Yebowen Hu, Kaiqiang Song, Sangwoo Cho, Xiaoyang Wang, Hassan Foroosh, and Fei Liu. 2023. **Decipher-Pref: Analyzing influential factors in human preference judgments via GPT-4**. In *Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, pages 8344–8357, Singapore. Association for Computational Linguistics.

Hamish Ivison, Yizhong Wang, Jiacheng Liu, Zeqiu Wu, Valentina Pyatkin, Nathan Lambert, Noah A Smith, Yejin Choi, and Hannaneh Hajishirzi. 2024. Unpacking dpo and ppo: Disentangling best practices for learning from preference feedback. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2406.09279*.

Albert Q Jiang, Alexandre Sablayrolles, Antoine Roux, Arthur Mensch, Blanche Savary, Chris Bamford, Devendra Singh Chaplot, Diego de las Casas, Emma Bou Hanna, Florian Bressand, et al. 2024. Mixtral of experts. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2401.04088*.

670	Maurice G Kendall. 1945. The treatment of ties in	727
671	ranking problems. <i>Biometrika</i> , 33(3):239–251.	728
672	Seungone Kim, Jamin Shin, Yejin Cho, Joel Jang,	729
673	Shayne Longpre, Hwaran Lee, Sangdoo Yun,	730
674	Seongjin Shin, Sungdong Kim, James Thorne, et al.	731
675	2023. Prometheus: Inducing fine-grained evaluation	732
676	capability in language models. In <i>The Twelfth Inter-</i>	733
677	<i>national Conference on Learning Representations</i> .	734
678	Hannah Rose Kirk, Alexander Whitefield, Paul Röttger,	735
679	Andrew Bean, Katerina Margatina, Juan Ciro, Rafael	736
680	Mosquera, Max Bartolo, Adina Williams, He He,	737
681	et al. 2024. The prism alignment project: What par-	738
682	ticipatory, representative and individualised human	739
683	feedback reveals about the subjective and multicul-	740
684	tural alignment of large language models. <i>arXiv</i>	741
685	<i>preprint arXiv:2404.16019</i> .	
686	Kalpesh Krishna, Erin Bransom, Bailey Kuehl, Mohit	742
687	Iyyer, Pradeep Dasigi, Arman Cohan, and Kyle Lo.	743
688	2023. LongEval: Guidelines for human evaluation of	
689	faithfulness in long-form summarization . In <i>Proceed-</i>	744
690	<i>ings of the 17th Conference of the European Chap-</i>	745
691	<i>ter of the Association for Computational Linguistics</i> ,	746
692	pages 1650–1669, Dubrovnik, Croatia. Association	747
693	for Computational Linguistics.	748
694	Harrison Lee, Samrat Phatale, Hassan Mansoor, Kellie	749
695	Lu, Thomas Mesnard, Colton Bishop, Victor Car-	
696	bune, and Abhinav Rastogi. 2023. Rlaif vs. rlhf:	750
697	Scaling reinforcement learning from human feedback	751
698	with ai feedback . In <i>International Conference on Ma-</i>	752
699	<i>chine Learning</i> .	753
700	Yang Liu, Dan Iter, Yichong Xu, Shuohang Wang,	754
701	Ruochen Xu, and Chenguang Zhu. 2023. G-eval:	755
702	Nlg evaluation using gpt-4 with better human align-	756
703	ment. In <i>Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on</i>	
704	<i>Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing</i> ,	757
705	pages 2511–2522.	758
706	Matouš Macháček and Ondřej Bojar. 2014. Results of	759
707	the WMT14 metrics shared task . In <i>Proceedings of</i>	760
708	<i>the Ninth Workshop on Statistical Machine Trans-</i>	761
709	<i>lation</i> , pages 293–301, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.	
710	Association for Computational Linguistics.	762
711	Aman Madaan, Niket Tandon, Prakhar Gupta, Skyler	763
712	Hallinan, Luyu Gao, Sarah Wiegrefe, Uri Alon,	764
713	Nouha Dziri, Shrimai Prabhumoye, Yiming Yang,	765
714	et al. 2024. Self-refine: Iterative refinement with	766
715	self-feedback. <i>Advances in Neural Information Pro-</i>	767
716	<i>cessing Systems</i> , 36.	
717	Sewon Min, Kalpesh Krishna, Xinxu Lyu, Mike	768
718	Lewis, Wen-tau Yih, Pang Wei Koh, Mohit Iyyer,	769
719	Luke Zettlemoyer, and Hannaneh Hajishirzi. 2023.	770
720	Factscore: Fine-grained atomic evaluation of factual	771
721	precision in long form text generation. <i>arXiv preprint</i>	772
722	<i>arXiv:2305.14251</i> .	773
723	Swaroop Mishra, Daniel Khashabi, Chitta Baral, and	774
724	Hannaneh Hajishirzi. 2021. Cross-task generaliza-	775
725	tion via natural language crowdsourcing instructions.	776
726	<i>arXiv preprint arXiv:2104.08773</i> .	777
	Reiichiro Nakano, Jacob Hilton, Suchir Balaji, Jeff Wu,	778
	Long Ouyang, Christina Kim, Christopher Hesse,	779
	Shantanu Jain, Vineet Kosaraju, William Saunders,	780
	Xu Jiang, Karl Cobbe, Tyna Eloundou, Gretchen	781
	Krueger, Kevin Button, Matthew Knight, Benjamin	782
	Chess, and John Schulman. 2021. Webgpt: Browser-	783
	assisted question-answering with human feedback.	
	In <i>arXiv</i> .	
	Juhyun Oh, Eunsu Kim, Inha Cha, and Alice Oh. 2024.	
	The generative AI paradox in evaluation: “what it can	
	solve, it may not evaluate” . In <i>Proceedings of the</i>	
	<i>18th Conference of the European Chapter of the As-</i>	
	<i>sociation for Computational Linguistics: Student Re-</i>	
	<i>search Workshop</i> , pages 248–257, St. Julian’s, Malta.	
	Association for Computational Linguistics.	
	OpenAI. 2024. Hello, gpt-4 turbo. https://openai.com/index/hello-gpt-4o/ .	
	Long Ouyang, Jeffrey Wu, Xu Jiang, Diogo Almeida,	
	Carroll Wainwright, Pamela Mishkin, Chong Zhang,	
	Sandhini Agarwal, Katarina Slama, Alex Ray, et al.	
	2022. Training language models to follow instruc-	
	tions with human feedback. <i>Advances in neural in-</i>	
	<i>formation processing systems</i> , 35:27730–27744.	
	Ryan Park, Rafael Rafailov, Stefano Ermon, and	
	Chelsea Finn. 2024. Disentangling length from qual-	
	ity in direct preference optimization . In <i>Findings of</i>	
	<i>the Association for Computational Linguistics ACL</i>	
	2024, pages 4998–5017, Bangkok, Thailand and vir-	
	tual meeting. Association for Computational Linguis-	
	tics.	
	Rafael Rafailov, Archit Sharma, Eric Mitchell, Christo-	
	pher D Manning, Stefano Ermon, and Chelsea Finn.	
	2024. Direct preference optimization: Your language	
	model is secretly a reward model. <i>Advances in Neu-</i>	
	<i>ral Information Processing Systems</i> , 36.	
	Machel Reid, Nikolay Savinov, Denis Teplyashin,	
	Dmitry Lepikhin, Timothy Lillicrap, Jean-baptiste	
	Alayrac, Radu Soriccut, Angeliki Lazaridou, Orhan Fi-	
	rat, Julian Schrittwieser, et al. 2024. Gemini 1.5: Un-	
	locking multimodal understanding across millions of	
	tokens of context. <i>arXiv preprint arXiv:2403.05530</i> .	
	Marco Tulio Ribeiro, Tongshuang Wu, Carlos Guestrin,	
	and Sameer Singh. 2020. Beyond accuracy: Behav-	
	ioral testing of NLP models with CheckList . In <i>Pro-</i>	
	<i>ceedings of the 58th Annual Meeting of the Associa-</i>	
	<i>tion for Computational Linguistics</i> , pages 4902–4912,	
	Online. Association for Computational Linguistics.	
	Jérémy Scheurer, Jon Ander Campos, Tomasz Korbak,	
	Jun Shern Chan, Angelica Chen, Kyunghyun Cho,	
	and Ethan Perez. 2023. Training language mod-	
	els with language feedback at scale. <i>arXiv preprint</i>	
	<i>arXiv:2303.16755</i> .	
	Feifan Song, Bowen Yu, Minghao Li, Haiyang Yu, Fei	
	Huang, Yongbin Li, and Houfeng Wang. 2024. Pref-	
	erence ranking optimization for human alignment.	
	In <i>Proceedings of the AAAI Conference on Artificial</i>	
	<i>Intelligence</i> , volume 38, pages 18990–18998.	

- Nisan Stiennon, Long Ouyang, Jeffrey Wu, Daniel Ziegler, Ryan Lowe, Chelsea Voss, Alec Radford, Dario Amodei, and Paul F Christiano. 2020. Learning to summarize with human feedback. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 33:3008–3021.
- Jason Wei, Maarten Bosma, Vincent Y Zhao, Kelvin Guu, Adams Wei Yu, Brian Lester, Nan Du, Andrew M Dai, and Quoc V Le. 2021. Finetuned language models are zero-shot learners. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2109.01652*.
- Peter West, Ximing Lu, Nouha Dziri, Faeze Brahman, Linjie Li, Jena D Hwang, Liwei Jiang, Jillian Fisher, Abhilasha Ravichander, Khyathi Chandu, et al. 2023. The generative ai paradox: “what it can create, it may not understand”. In *The Twelfth International Conference on Learning Representations*.
- Zejiu Wu, Yushi Hu, Weijia Shi, Nouha Dziri, Alane Suhr, Prithviraj Ammanabrolu, Noah A Smith, Mari Ostendorf, and Hannaneh Hajishirzi. 2024. Fine-grained human feedback gives better rewards for language model training. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 36.
- Wenda Xu, Danqing Wang, Liangming Pan, Zhenqiao Song, Markus Freitag, William Wang, and Lei Li. 2023. [INSTRUCTSCORE: Towards explainable text generation evaluation with automatic feedback](#). In *Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, pages 5967–5994, Singapore. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Seonghyeon Ye, Doyoung Kim, Sungdong Kim, Hyeonbin Hwang, Seungone Kim, Yongrae Jo, James Thorne, Juho Kim, and Minjoon Seo. 2024. Flask: Fine-grained language model evaluation based on alignment skill sets. In *The Twelfth International Conference on Learning Representations*.
- Lianmin Zheng, Wei-Lin Chiang, Ying Sheng, Siyuan Zhuang, Zhanghao Wu, Yonghao Zhuang, Zi Lin, Zhuohan Li, Dacheng Li, Eric Xing, et al. 2023. Judging llm-as-a-judge with mt-bench and chatbot arena. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 36:46595–46623.
- Ming Zhong, Yang Liu, Da Yin, Yuning Mao, Yizhu Jiao, Pengfei Liu, Chenguang Zhu, Heng Ji, and Jiawei Han. 2022. [Towards a unified multi-dimensional evaluator for text generation](#). In *Proceedings of the 2022 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, pages 2023–2038, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Association for Computational Linguistics.

Appendix

A Human Evaluation of Model Generations

We collect human preference data via Amazon Mechanical Turk (MTurk) for 30 posts and 6 models. For each post, three summary pairs—selected from five model-generated summaries (scored 1 to 5)—are presented to three annotators. Annotators, restricted to US-based workers with a 95% and HIT approval rate and over 5,000 approved HITs are recruited. The MTurk task description clearly explained the study’s purpose and data usage. As shown in Figure 4, we provide detailed instructions about the experiment through MTurk, and participants who consented then participated in the study.

For the main experiment, we gave annotators the following instructions: “A good summary is a shorter piece of text that captures the essence of the original. It aims to accomplish the same purpose and convey the same key information as the original post. Please choose the better summary, A or B.” Each annotation is compensated at \$0.25. This process yields 1,620 annotations (30 posts * 6 models * 3 pairs/model/post * 3 annotations/pair).

For each model and corresponding summary pair, we calculate an agreement rate, which indicates the percentage of pairs where at least two out of three annotators prefer the summary with the higher score assigned by the model. Each model is evaluated on 90 summary pairs, derived from 30 posts with three pairs per post.

A.1 Examples of Human-Model Misalignment

A higher score summary generated by GPT-4o as shown by the factor-level analysis (in magenta), is longer and includes details not necessary to understand the essence of the original post.

A.2 Human Evaluation Results of Model Generations

The agreement rates for each model are summarized in Table 6. Despite low factor-level preference alignment (τ), overall agreement rates range from 56% to 75%. This suggests that binary evaluations, where annotators choose the better summary based on overall quality, can mask factor-level misalignments such as preferences for summary length. Since models consistently favor longer responses, continued reliance on this setup to generate human-annotated training data may reinforce the tendency towards verbose answers, aligning with human

GPT-4o misaligned examples

Post: Good Morning/Afternoon r/advice, Never posted on Reddit before at all, but I figured (based on the overall reliability of you nice individuals) that now would be a good time to start.

About a year ago I moved away from my Midwest town to the west coast for work, and have just recently moved back. I was calling the Utility providers in my area to set up the gas/water/elec for my new place, but I was informed that gas could not be set up due to owing a past amount.

(...)

My question is, am I really on the hook for these fees and what recourse could I possibly have? I cannot afford to pay it, but I also don’t think that it should be on me TO pay it. Any advice is truly appreciated as I have not had any experience with this type of thing before.

GPT-4o’s score 5 generation [length: 93, # facts: 10, src. coverage: 0.389]: A Reddit user recently moved back to their Midwest hometown and, while setting up utilities for their new place, discovered they owe \$500 in gas bills from a college house they lived in until 2012. The user didn’t cancel the service when they moved out, leading to the bill accruing over time. They are looking for advice on whether they are responsible for this debt and what recourse they might have, as they are unable to afford the payment. The user is new to Reddit and appreciates any guidance on handling this situation.

GPT-4o’s score 3 generation [length: 61, # facts: 9, src. coverage: 0.44]: A Reddit user seeks advice after discovering they owe \$500 in gas bills from a college house they left in 2012. They didn’t cancel the service when they moved out, and the bill continued to accrue. They want to know if they are responsible for paying it and what actions they can take, as they can’t afford to pay the bill. **(Human Preferred Output)**

preferences superficially but missing finer-grained alignment on factors like length or conciseness.

	τ	Agree.(%)
Gemini 1.5	0.289	0.689
Mixtral	0.2	0.678
GPT-4o	0.156	<u>0.722</u>
LLaMA 3.1 70B	0.111	0.756
Tulu 2.5 + PPO (70B RM)	0.111	0.567

Table 6: Factor-level preference alignment (τ) and response-level agreement with human preferences in the summarization Task.

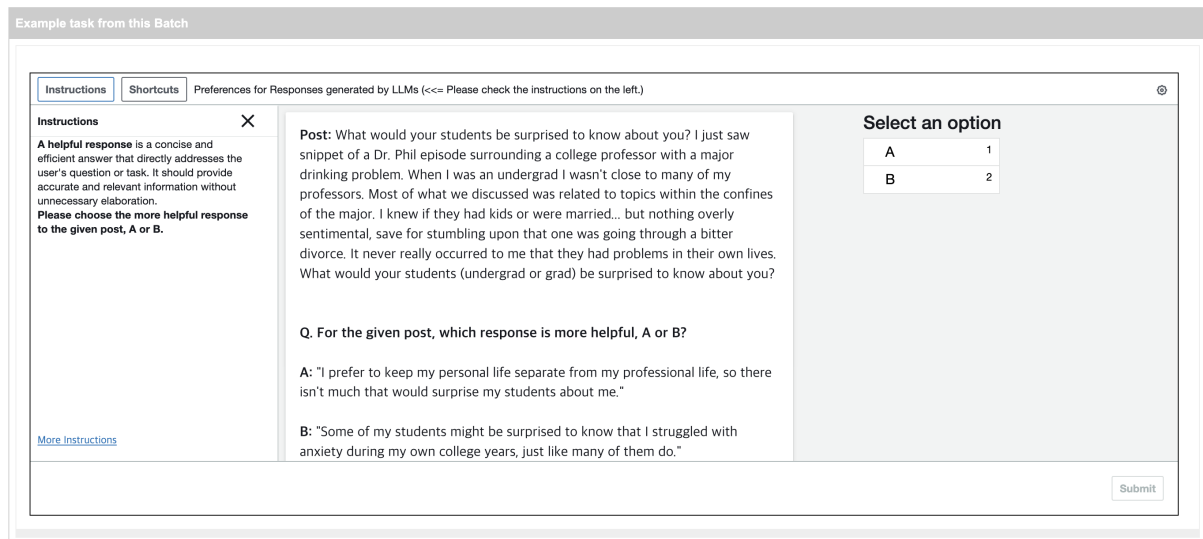


Figure 4: A screenshot of a sample summary with preference annotations.

B Additional Examples of Model Generations and Evaluations

B.1 Generation

Table 7 shows summaries of scores 1-5 that GPT-4o generated. We can see a clear trend of higher score summaries being longer, with more information density. The information additional to lower-scoring summaries is the ages of the characters, which is not essential in understanding the original post. This is a randomly selected example and a typical model-generated summary case.

Additionally, we analyzed cases where model-generated outputs received higher scores but are not preferred by human annotators (based on majority votes). The human-model misalignment is more pronounced when comparing summaries with larger score gaps assigned by the models. We provide additional examples of such divergence for GPT-4o, LLaMA 3.1 70B and Tulu 2.5 + PPO (13B RM). We find that when the length and information gap is significant, humans favor summaries that are shorter and less information-dense, as model-generated summaries with lower scores (1-2) generally convey the main intention of the post as well. When factual content is similar, humans tend to favor more informal responses (e.g., “Guy” over “An 18-year-old male”, and “gotten back together” over “renewed romantic connection”), which aligns with our factor-level findings indicating higher formality-alignment for human-preferred outputs, since Reddit posts are mostly informal.

Warning: Examples below contain content that may be offensive or upsetting.

GPT-4o misaligned examples

GPT-4o’s score 4 generation: An 18-year-old male in a long-distance relationship with his 17-year-old girlfriend told her he loves her but wants an open relationship. The girlfriend, who has been with four other boys before him, reacted very negatively, telling him to “FUCK OFF” and that she never wants to speak to him again. He is seeking advice on how to make the situation easier for her and whether he can maintain their relationship while exploring other people.

GPT-4o’s score 1 generation: Guy told his girlfriend he wants an open relationship. She got mad and told him to go away. He wants advice. **(Human Preferred Output)**

Llama-3.1-70b misaligned examples

Llama’s score 4 generation: I’m in a relationship with an 18-year-old girl who’s a self-described Tsundere. We share similar interests, but her mood swings are causing problems. She can be affectionate and loving, but also violent and aggressive, lashing out at me over minor issues. For example, she threw shoes at me for a joke and almost stabbed me with a knife over a trivial matter. I’m scared and unsure how to navigate these outbursts.

Llama’s score 2 generation: I’m dating a girl who’s similar to me, but she’s really violent and has mood swings. She gets angry over small things and has even attacked me. I’m scared and need help. **(Human Preferred Output)**

Score 1	Score 2	Score 3	Score 4	Score 5
The poster and their fiancé have scabies and are treating it. Their roommate refuses to get treated or clean his things, risking reinfestation. The poster is considering asking him to move out.	A couple living with a roommate got scabies and started treatment. The roommate, who has no symptoms, refuses to treat himself or his belongings. The poster is worried about reinfestation and may ask the roommate to move out since he isn't on the lease.	A 19-year-old woman and her 20-year-old fiancé contracted scabies after moving into a new apartment with a mutual friend. Both are undergoing treatment, but the roommate refuses to get treated or clean his belongings. The poster is concerned about reinfestation and is contemplating asking the roommate to move out, as he is not on the lease.	A 19-year-old woman and her 20-year-old fiancé recently moved into a new apartment with a mutual friend and contracted scabies. Despite both of them undergoing treatment, their roommate refuses to take any preventive measures or treat himself, even though he has not shown symptoms yet. The poster is worried that this will lead to a reinfestation and is considering asking the roommate to move out since he is not on the lease.	A young woman (19) and her fiancé (20) recently moved into a new apartment with a mutual friend and unfortunately contracted scabies. Both have started treatment after a doctor's confirmation. However, their 20-year-old roommate, who has not shown symptoms, refuses to undergo treatment or clean his clothes and linen. This refusal has caused concern for the woman, as she fears reinfestation and is seriously considering asking the roommate to move out, especially since he is not on the lease.

Table 7: An example of GPT-4-generated summaries of scores 1-5.

Tulu 2.5 + PPO (13B RM) misaligned examples

Tulu's score 4 generation: The OP discovered a potentially incriminating text exchange between their SO and her ex's sister, suggesting a renewed romantic connection.

Tulu's score 1 generation: The OP read a suspicious text on their SO's phone, sent from her ex's sister, that suggested they might have gotten back together. **(Human Preferred Output)**

GPT-4o & LLaMA aligned examples

Post: Yesterday, I accidentally dropped my Motorola Atrix 2 and the screen cracked really badly. My phone is still fully functional, but it's a bit difficult to see what I'm doing when I'm texting or web browsing, etc. Anyway, I stupidly didn't buy insurance for my phone and I'm not eligible for an upgrade until next May! AT&T offers some options as far as getting a no-commitment phone at a slight discount, but spending \$300-\$600 for a new phone isn't really in the budget right now.
(...)

I found a couple websites that will repair your phone if you send it in. [Doctor Quick Fix] will do it for \$110 and I'm still waiting on a quote from [CPR](So my question is, have any of you used this company, or know anyone who has used it? Should I trust these companies? Do you have any recommendations? What should I do to get my phone fixed?

Summary A: Dropped my phone, they said they won't repair phones that have been physically abused. Looking for suggestions on cell phone repair companies, if any, and what I should do to get my phone fixed.

Summary B: I dropped my phone, cracking the screen. I can't afford to buy a full price phone, so should I try the above repair companies? What should I do? **(Human Preferred Output)**

B.2 Evaluation

We provide examples where the model evaluations align with human preferences, even if the chosen option contains less facts or is shorter. In the first example, where both GPT-4o and LLaMA 3.1 70B correctly chose human-preferred summary, while the chosen summary is shorter, it more accurately reflects the key issue in the original post by mentioning the writer's economic status. In the second example, the GPT-4o chosen summary is more clearly reflecting the content in post over the other option which analogically describes the main idea of the post.

GPT-4o aligned & LLaMA misaligned examples

Post: I got a letter in the mail saying I've been passed up for being hired for my dream job. I wanted this job for 10 damn years and now it's over. I've trained my body, mind, and soul for this job and just through a simple letter, I've been removed from that process. I was in good standing with getting hired. Passed everything with flying colors.
(...)

Now what? Am I to live with my parents the rest of my life? Am I to never get my dream car? Am I to just keep my job where I only get paid minimum wage while I make the company tens of thousands? I don't know what to do. I mean my second dream job would be to work with penguins, but I don't think that's possible for me. Anyone have any advice for me? What should I do?

Summary A: I followed the yellow brick road for half my life and ended up at a complete dead end and I can't turn around to go back.

Summary B: Got passed up for a dream job. Now what the hell are I supposed to do with my life that doesn't include my dream job? (**Human Preferred Output**)

C Experimental Setting

C.1 Tasks

We examine three publicly available datasets of pairwise human judgments commonly used in preference optimization methods like RLHF and DPO training: **Reddit TL;DR** We analyze the dataset released by OpenAI (Stiennon et al., 2020), which includes human ratings of summaries across multiple axes (referred to as “axis evaluations”). Higher scores indicate human preference across multiple evaluation dimensions. **StanfordHumanPreference-2 (SHP-2)** (Ethayarajh et al., 2022), focuses on capturing human preferences over responses to questions and instructions, prioritizing helpfulness. Higher scores indicate a more helpful response. For this study, we use responses from the “reddit/askacademia” domain. **OpenAI WebGPT** This dataset (Nakano et al., 2021), addresses the task of generating answers to questions from the ELI5 (“*Explain Like I’m Five*”) subreddit. Human annotations compare two model-generated answers based on factual accuracy and overall usefulness. We exclude pairs with Tie ratings in all three datasets, as our analysis focuses on cases with clear preference distinctions.

C.2 Models

Our study focuses on the most advanced and widely-used generative models currently acces-

sible, encompassing both proprietary and open-source options. For open-source models, we include LLaMA 3.1 70B (Dubey et al., 2024)³, Mixtral 8x7B Instruct v0.1 (Jiang et al., 2024), three TULU 2.5 Models (Iverson et al., 2024)—TULU 2.5 + PPO 13B (13B RM)⁴, TULU 2.5 + PPO 13B (70B RM)⁵, and TULU 2.5 + DPO 13B⁶. For proprietary models, we use Gemini 1.5 Flash (Reid et al., 2024), GPT-4o (OpenAI, 2024)⁷, and GPT-3.5⁸. We set the parameters for all models to: temperature = 0.6, top_p = 0.9, and max_tokens = 1024. 4 Quadro RTX 8000 48GB were used with CUDA version 12.4 when running TULU Models.

We used autotrain library⁹ for supervised fine-tuning TULU model in experiments in § 5. The parameters for fine-tuning are as follows: block_size: 2048, model_max_length: 4096, epochs: 2, batch_size: 1, lr: 1e-5, peft: true, quantization: int4, target_modules: all-linear, padding: right, optimizer: paged_adamw_8bit, scheduler: linear, gradient_accumulation: 8, mixed_precision: bf16, merge_adapter: true

D PROFILE

D.1 Factor Extraction Methods

Rule-based Extraction We obtain the Length and Novel Words using a rule-based extraction method. First, we calculate the output’s length and count the novel words by removing special characters and splitting the text into words. The total word count represents Length. For Novel Words, we stem both the source text and the model output to create unique sets of stemmed words, then determine the number and proportion of unique words in the output that differ from the source.

LLM-based Extraction The calculations are divided into atomic-fact-level and response-level based on the granularity of the factors.

Atomic-Fact-Level Factors refer to those factors that are evaluated based on the presence

³Inference for LLaMA was conducted using the Together AI API. <https://www.together.ai/>

⁴We use huggingface allenai/tulu-v2.5-ppo-13b-uf-mean-13b-uf-rm model.

⁵We use huggingface allenai/tulu-v2.5-ppo-13b-uf-mean-70b-uf-rm model.

⁶We use huggingface allenai/tulu-v2.5-dpo-13b-uf-mean model.

⁷We use gpt-4o-2024-05-13 version for all GPT-4o inference.

⁸We use gpt-3.5-turbo-1106 version for all GPT-3.5 inference.

⁹<https://huggingface.co/autotrain>

or absence of each factor at the atomic fact level. An atomic fact is a short, self-contained piece of information that does not require further explanation and cannot be broken down further (Min et al., 2023). These include the Number Of Facts, Source Coverage, Off Focus, Hallucination, Helpfulness, and Misinformation. The Number Of Facts is determined by counting the total atomic facts, while the remaining factors are calculated as the ratio of relevant atomic facts to the total number of atomic facts.

Response-Level Factors refer to those factors that are evaluated based on the presence or absence of each factor at the response level. These include Receptiveness, Intent Alignment, and Formality Alignment. Formality Alignment is classified into one of three categories: [Aligned/Misaligned/Partially-Aligned], while the other two factors are determined in a binary manner [Yes/No].

The prompts used are provided in D.2. The Source Coverage does not have a separate prompt since it was calculated using the output from the Hallucination (i.e., the ratio of non-hallucinated atomic facts to the total number of atomic facts in the Source Post).

D.2 Prompt Template For LLM-based Factor Extraction

D.2.1 Template for Atomic Fact Generation

Number Of Fact

Your task is to extract atomic facts from the INPUT. These are self-contained units of information that are unambiguous and require no further splitting.

{FEW SHOT}

INPUT: input
OUTPUT:

D.2.2 Template for Input-Output Factors

Receptiveness

Does the response clearly address the query from the original post? First determine the core question or purpose of the original post from the user, and evaluate whether the response clearly serves as the proper answer to the question. Provide your response in JSON format, with a 'yes' or 'no' decision regarding the response's receptiveness to the original post, along with justifications.:

{FEW SHOT}

INPUT:
Post: {POST}
Response : {OUTPUT}

Off Focus

You have been provided a statement. Can you determine if it is related

to the main focus of the post? The main focus of a post is the core subject around which all the content revolves. Format your response in JSON, containing a 'yes' or 'no' decision for each statement in the set, along with justifications.

{FEW SHOT}

INPUT:
Reddit Post: {POST}

D.2.3 Template for Source-Output Factors

Intent Alignment

You have been provided a statement. Can you determine if it is related to the main focus of the post? The main focus of a post is the core subject around which all the content revolves. Format your response in JSON, containing a 'yes' or 'no' decision for each statement in the set, along with justifications.

{FEW SHOT}
INPUT: {ATOMIC FACT}
Reddit Post: {POST}

Hallucination

You have been provided with a set of statements. Does the factual information within each statement accurately match the post? A statement is considered accurate if it does not introduce details that are unmentioned in the post, or contradicts the post's existing information. Provide your response in JSON format, with a 'yes' or 'no' decision for each statement in the set, along with justifications.

{FEW SHOT}
INPUT: {ATOMIC FACT}
Reddit Post: {POST}

Formality Alignment

You have been provided an original post and a summary. First determine the formality (formal, informal) for both the post and the summary. Then, decide if the formalities align. If they match perfectly, return "Aligned", if they are similar in terms of formality (e.g., both informal) but have slight differences in how much formal/informal they are, return "Partially Aligned", and if they don't match, return "Not Aligned". Format your response in JSON as follows:
Output Format: {"decision": , "justification": }

{FEW SHOT}
Reddit Post: {POST}
Summary : {OUTPUT}

D.2.4 Template for Output-Only Factors

Helpfulness

You have been provided a statement. Can you determine if this statement provides helpful information, although not directly necessary to answer the question?

{FEW SHOT}

INPUT: question: {POST}
statements: {ATOMIC FACT}

Misinformation

You have been provided a statement. Can you determine if it contains potentially incorrect or misleading information? Potential misleading information include assumptions about user; medical, legal, financial advice; conspiracy theories; claims to take real world action and more.

{FEW SHOT}

INPUT: {ATOMIC FACT}

D.3 Validation of LLM-based Extractions

We use GPT-4o to extract (1) manifestations of response-level factors—Intent Alignment and Formality Alignment and (2) Number Of Facts

from outputs for our analysis (‘atomic-fact-based’). To assess the validity of GPT-4o’s evaluation of each factor, we randomly selected 50 samples and found that GPT-4o accurately assessed Intent Alignment in 43 out of 50 samples (86%) and Formality Alignment in 46 out of 50 samples, resulting in an accuracy of 92%. Most misalignments occur when GPT-4o marks a response as ‘Not aligned’ due to content inaccuracies, even when intent or formality is not the issue. Consistent with prior works using GPT as an extractor of atomic facts (Hu et al., 2023; Min et al., 2023), we find taking atomic facts generated by GPT-4o acceptable and similar to human. We rely on GPT-4o in detecting Hallucination Off Focus, as Hu et al. (2023) reports the accuracy of GPT-4 in these two tasks as 89% and 83%, respectively. Source Coverage is essentially extracted in the same way as Hallucination but with the direction of fact-checking reversed (i.e., checking whether the atomic fact from the source (post) is present in the output (summary)). We further validated GPT-4o’s extractions for Helpfulness and Misinformation, finding them largely consistent with human assessments.

For Receptiveness, we randomly sample 50 instances from WebGPT dataset and find the accuracy to be 90%. For Helpfulness, we find the accuracy at a response-level to be 87% and 80% in the atomic-fact-level. The model generally made sound, context-aware judgments, for example, correctly dismissing helpful advice when it contradicted the question’s premise (e.g., suggesting coffee when the question stated it didn’t help). For Misinformation, we observed 87% response-level accuracy and 70% atomic-fact level precision. Most inaccuracies were false positives, often triggered by exaggerated claims (e.g., “Your paper is now 100% more skimmable”).

E Prompts

The details of the model response generation and evaluation prompts we used for each experimental setting are as follows.

E.1 Generation Prompts

E.1.1 Score-based Generation

The output generation prompts for the three tasks are as follows.

Task Description The following are the descriptions of the three tasks—summarization, helpful re-

sponse generation, and document-based QA—that are included in the prompt explaining the task to the model. These descriptions replace the `{TASK_DESCRIPTION}` part in each template below.

- **Summary:** A good summary is a shorter piece of text that captures the essence of the original. It aims to accomplish the same purpose and convey the same key information as the original post.
- **Helpfulness:** A helpful response is a concise and efficient answer that directly addresses the user’s question or task. It should provide accurate and relevant information without unnecessary elaboration.
- **WebGPT:** A useful answer directly addresses the core question with accurate and relevant information. It should be coherent, free of errors or unsupported claims, and include helpful details while minimizing unnecessary or irrelevant content.

Generation Template The following is the prompt for generating the model’s output, rated from 1 to 5, for the given task. The outputs of the three models are referred to as ‘summary’, ‘response’, and ‘response’ respectively. For Tulu and Mixtral models, we customize the prompt by adding “, SCORE 2 SUMMARY:, SCORE 3 SUMMARY:, SCORE 4 SUMMARY:, SCORE 5 SUMMARY:”.

```
{TASK_DESCRIPTION} Your job is to generate five
[summaries/responses] that would each get a score of 1,2,3,4
and 5.

### Summarization ###
TITLE: {TITLE}
POST: {CONTENT}

### Helpful Response Generation ###
POST: {CONTENT}

### document-based QA ###
Question: {question}
Reference: {reference}

Generate five [summaries/responses] that would each get a score of
1,2,3,4 and 5. SCORE 1 [SUMMARY/RESPONSE]:
```

E.2 Guidelines for Applying Profile to other tasks

In this section, we provide guidelines for applying PROFILE to new tasks beyond those used in our experiments. Users should follow these 4 steps:

1. **Choose Factors from Our Factor Hierarchy**
Table: Users should select factors from the provided table that align with the nature of the task they wish to apply.
2. **Define Additional Factors:** Users may define or add new factors to capture aspects specific to the new task.
3. **Establish Definitions and Prompts for Evaluation:** Create factor extraction prompts for newly added factors in step 2. In this step, users can use the LLM-as-a-Judge to extract new factors.

4. **Extract Factor-Level Preferences and Analyze Metrics:** Apply PROFILE to both the factors selected in step 1 and the newly defined factor set from step 2 and uncover the factor-level preference.

- Score 4: The response is logically sound but does not address all edge cases.
- Score 5: The response is logically flawless and considers all possible edge cases.

E.2.1 Application to MATH Task

To provide a clearer guideline, we illustrate the application of each step using the Math reasoning task as an example.

1. Choose Factors from Our Factor Hierarchy Table For MATH tasks, the applicable factors from our table are as follows:

- **Length** – Measures the number of words in the output.
- **Coherence** – Ensures logical flow between reasoning steps.
- **Fluency** – Evaluates the readability and naturalness of sentences.

2. Defining Additional Factors Considering the characteristics of mathematical problem-solving, additional critical factors include:

1. **Answer Correctness** – Ensures the mathematical accuracy of the response.
2. **Solution Robustness** – Assesses logical consistency and handling of edge cases.
3. **Solution Efficiency** – Evaluates conciseness and avoidance of unnecessary steps.

3. Establishing Definitions and Prompts for Evaluating These New Factors The evaluation is conducted using structured prompts¹⁰:

Evaluation Criteria:

- **Answer Correctness:** Assesses whether the response is accurate and relevant.
- **Solution Robustness:**
 - Score 1: The response is completely incoherent.
 - Score 2: The response contains major logical inconsistencies.
 - Score 3: The response has some logical inconsistencies but remains understandable.

• Solution Efficiency:

- Score 1: The reasoning is significantly inefficient and requires complete restructuring.
- Score 2: The response lacks efficiency and conciseness, requiring major reorganization.
- Score 3: The logic needs improvement with significant edits.
- Score 4: The response is largely efficient but contains minor redundancies.
- Score 5: The response is optimally efficient with no unnecessary steps.

Feature Extraction Prompt:

We would like to request your feedback on the performance of the response of the assistant to the user instruction displayed below. In the feedback, I want you to rate the quality of the response in these 2 categories (Robustness, Efficiency) according to each score rubric:

rubric
Instruction:
question
Assistant's Response:
answer

Please give overall feedback on the assistant's responses. Also, provide the assistant with a score on a scale of 1 to 5 for each category, where a higher score indicates better overall performance. Only write the feedback corresponding to the score rubric for each category. The scores of each category should be orthogonal, indicating that 'Robustness of solution' should not be considered for 'Efficiency of solution' category, for example. Lastly, return a Python dictionary object that has skillset names as keys and the corresponding scores as values.
Ex: {'Robustness': score, 'Efficiency': score'}

4. Extracting Factor-Level Preferences and Analyzing Metrics After evaluation, factor-level preferences are extracted and analyzed using outlined metrics to systematically assess model performance.

E.3 Evaluation Prompts

E.3.1 Comparison-Based Evaluation

Evaluation Template We provide the model with two responses using the evaluation prompt below and ask it to assess which output is better. Depending on the task, we also provide relevant sources (e.g., post, question, and reference) along with the responses generated by the model to help it choose the preferred response.

¹⁰We refer to the (Ye et al., 2024) for the criteria and prompt.

```
{TASK_DESCRIPTION}
### Summarization & Helpful Response Generation ###
Analyze the provided [summaries/responses] and original post, then
select the better [summary/response] or indicate if they are equally good.
Output the result in JSON format. Where "better [summary/response]"
can be "[Summary/Response] 1", "[Summary/Response] 2", or "Tie" if
both [summaries/responses] are equally good.
Output Format:
{{
  "better summary": "",
  "justification": ""
}}
Reddit Post: {CONTENT}
[Summary/Response] 1: {RESPONSE1}
[Summary/Response] 2: {RESPONSE2}

### document-based QA ###
Where "better answer" can be "Answer 1", "Answer 2", or "Tie" if both
responses are equally good.
Question: {QUESTION}

Answer 1: {ANSWER1}
Reference 1: {REFERENCE1}

Answer 2: {ANSWER2}
Reference 2: {REFERENCE2}

Output the result in JSON format.
Output Format:
{{
  "better answer": "",
  "justification": ""
}}
```

F Achieving Better Alignment Through Profile

F.1 Improving Alignment in Evaluation through Factor-level Guidance.

This section explains the specific experimental settings for the *Improving Alignment in Evaluation through Factor-level Guidance* paragraph in § 5. For Guide_{Mis}, The Mixtral model we use specified Off Focus as the factor and *tulu 2.5 + PPO* (13b RM) specified Coherence. These two factors are the ones most preferred by each model but are considered less influential by humans compared to the models. For Guide_{Rand}, we randomly select one factor from those that showed no significant preference difference between humans and the models; Fluency is selected for Mixtral, and Off Focus is selected for *tulu 2.5 + PPO* (13b RM). The prompts used and the factor-specific guidance included in each prompt are as follows. Prompt template

```
{TASK DESCRIPTION}
{FACTOR SPECIFIC GUIDANCE}
Analyze the provided summaries and original post, then select the
better summaries or indicate if they are equally good. Output the result
in JSON format. Where "better summaries" can be "summaries 1",
"summaries 2", or "Tie" if both summaries are equally good.
Output Format:
{
  "better summary": "",
  "justification": ""
}
Reddit Post: {CONTENT}
Summary 1: {RESPONSE1}
Summary 2: {RESPONSE2}
```

Factor Specific Guidance

Off Focus: Note that the summary should capture the main focus of the post, which is the core subject around which all the content revolves.
Hallucination: Note that the summary should contain factual information that accurately matches the post.
Coherence: Note that whether all the sentences form a coherent body or not is not the primary factor in determining the quality of a summary.
Fluent: Note that the summary should be fluent.
Intent Alignment: Focus on how well the summary represents the main intents of the original post.

F.2 Leveraging Evaluation for Better Alignment in Generation.

F.2.1 Prompts for Improvement

The prompts we used to enhance the model's output are as follows. We focus on the Summary task for the experiment.

Task Description For Summary task, the description is the same as the one used in the score-based generation prompt.

Summary: A good summary is a shorter piece of text that captures the essence of the original.

The three prompts used for improvement are as follows.

Improvement Template

```
{TASK_DESCRIPTION} It aims to accomplish the same purpose and
convey the same key information as the original post. Based on the
evaluation results, improve the summary by addressing the feedback
provided.
Reddit Post: {CONTENT}
Summary 1: {SUMMARY1}
Summary 2: {SUMMARY2}
Evaluation: {EVALUATION}
ImprovedSummary/Response:
```

Improvement Baseline Template

```
{TASK_DESCRIPTION} Improve the given summary.
Reddit Post: {CONTENT}
Summary: {SUMMARY}
Improved Summary:
```

Improvement Baseline Single Template

```
{TASK_DESCRIPTION} Generate an improved summary based on the
given two summaries.
Reddit Post: {CONTENT}
Summary 1: {SUMMARY1}
Summary 2: {SUMMARY2}
Improved Summary:
```

F.2.2 Metric

Due to the relative nature of preference, we cannot directly assess the alignment of the improved response itself. Instead, we measure the degree of the *improvement* resulting from the evaluator's feedback to evaluate how well the occurred improvement aligns with both human and evaluator preferences. For each factor f_k and pairwise factor comparison function M_k , we calculate the *factor score of improvement* with τ_{14} .

For a given initial response r_{init} and the improved

response r_{post} , since the model is considered to have ‘improved’ the responses, r_{post} is regarded as the model’s ‘preferred’ response over r_{init} . The factor scores are then calculated as follows:

$$\tau_{14}(f_k) = \frac{|C_k| - |D_k|}{|C_k| + |D_k| + |T_k|} \quad (2)$$

where

$$C_k = \sum_{r_{init}, r_{post} \in R} 1[M_k(r_{post}, r_{init}) = +1],$$

$$D_k = \sum_{r_{init}, r_{post} \in R} 1[M_k(r_{post}, r_{init}) = -1],$$

$$T_k = \sum_{r_{init}, r_{post} \in R} 1[M_k(r_{post}, r_{init}) = 0],$$

For the Length factor, if the model produces responses that are longer than the original responses r_{init} , (i.e. $M_{\text{length}}(r_{post}, r_{init}) = 1$), this response pair is classified as concordant and vice versa. When evaluating all response pairs, a positive factor score suggests that the model significantly considers this factor when improving responses, while a negative score indicates a negative influence. A score near zero implies that the factor has minimal impact on the improvement process. The magnitude of the score reflects the degree of influence this factor exerts on the response enhancement.

Subsequently, we calculate Kendall’s τ between the set of “factor scores of improvement” for each factor and the factor scores assigned by both human evaluators and automated evaluators, which we denote as $\Delta\tau$. This $\Delta\tau$ quantifies how the model’s improvements correlate with human and evaluator’s factor-level preferences.

F.2.3 Feedback Validation

One of the authors examine 30 samples of GPT-4o evaluator’s feedback to determine whether it correspond to our predefined factors. The analysis reveals that out of the 30 samples, the most frequently addressed factor in GPT-4o’s feedback is Intent Alignment, appearing 20 times. This is followed by Source Coverage, which appeared 15 times, and Number of Facts with 12 occurrences. The Length and Off Focus factors are mentioned 10 and 9 times each. Less frequently addressed is Coherence, which appeared 6 times, and Fluency, which is mentioned 3 times. Factors other than these are not mentioned in the feedback at all. As shown in Table 8 (a), in the evaluation setting, GPT-4o exhibit correlations close to zero or negative for most factors except for Intent Alignment, Formality Alignment,

Number of Facts Source Coverage, Length and Coherence. This observed trend aligns with our findings from the feedback, except for Formality Alignment, with the internal preference not explicitly expressed in the feedback. Future work should look more into the faithfulness of model-generated feedback and internal preference expressed through the overall evaluation outcome.

G Factor-Level Preference Alignment

G.1 Factor-Level Preference in Document-QA Tasks

Figure 5 shows a comparison of factor-level preference alignment between humans, GPT-4o, and Gemini-1.5 in Document-based QA.

G.2 Factor Scores

Table 8- 10 present the full lists of factor scores for both generation (gen) and evaluation (eval) across all three tasks used in the study.

G.3 Factor-Level Alignment with Human and Models.

Table 11 shows models’ factor-level alignment (Kendall’s τ) with humans for helpful response generation tasks (SHP-2) and document-based QA tasks (WebGPT), and response-level agreement with humans in an evaluation setting.

G.4 Factor Correlations

Figure 6 presents the correlation matrix for the GPT-4o, Gemini-1.5, and Tulu 2.5 + PPO (13B RM) models across three tasks. The analysis focuses on the correlation between the distributions of feature scores for each feature within the samples generated by these models.

In summarization task, the patterns of feature correlation are generally consistent across the three models. Notably, there is a strong correlation between {length and number of facts} as well as {number of facts and source coverage}. These results are intuitive: the more factual content an answer includes, the longer the response tends to be, which in turn increases the likelihood of covering information from the source material.

In helpfulness task, All three models consistently exhibit a high correlation among {length, number of facts, and helpfulness}. This is expected, as longer responses are more likely to include a greater number of facts, which often translates into more helpful content. Interestingly, in the GPT-4o

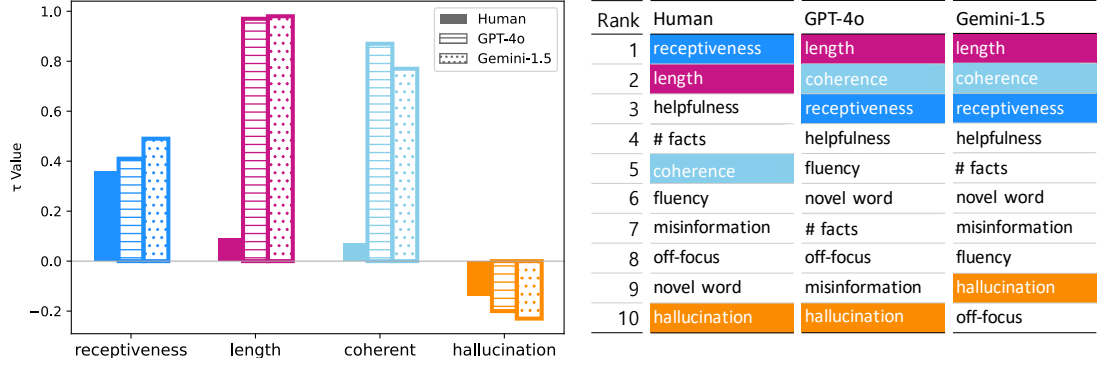


Figure 5: Comparison of factor-level preference alignment between humans, GPT-4o, and Gemini-1.5 in Document-based QA. The left bar graphs display *factor scores* (τ_{14}) for selected factors. The right tables show the rankings of all factors for each task. Notably, both models consistently rank ‘length’ as the top factor across tasks, while human preferences vary by task.

model specifically, there is a noticeable correlation between “receptiveness” and the set of factors {helpfulness, number of facts, coherence, length}. As detailed in Table 9, these are precisely the factors that GPT-4o tends to prioritize in this task. This pattern suggests that the GPT-4o model frequently considers these factors during response generation, resulting in a higher prevalence of these features in its outputs.

In the WebGPT task, there was a high correlation among {length, number of facts, and helpfulness}, similar to the helpfulness task. For GPT-4o and Tulu 2.5 + PPO (13B RM), the correlation between novel word and hallucination was high, which can be explained by the tendency to use novel words when hallucinating something.

H Generalizability of Our Results

Our research deviates from the typical language model setup by using a 1-5 scoring system for response generation. To assess the validity of our approach, we compare responses generated through direct generation (without scoring) with those across the score range through all summary, helpfulness, and document-based QA tasks. In every task, we found that score 5 consistently aligns best with direct generation responses, based on the fine-grained factors we use, in models like GPT-4o, Tulu 2.5 + PPO (70B RM), and LLaMA 3.1 70B (see Table 12 in the Appendix H). This suggests that our scoring framework, specifically score 5, captures the essence of unconstrained language model outputs, implying the potential generalizability of our findings to general settings.

We conduct experiments by prompting the model to generate responses with scores ranging

from 1 to 5. This setup allows us to verify whether the results can generalize to a typical scenario where the model generates responses directly. We compare the model’s direct responses and the score-based responses for the summarization task on Reddit TL;DR using outputs from GPT-4o, Tulu 2.5 + PPO (70B RM), and LLaMA 3.1 70B.

Since the value ranges differ across features, we scale the data using min-max scaling before calculating cosine similarity. The results in Table 12 indicate that the model’s direct responses are most similar to those with a score of 5, all showing a high similarity of over 0.85. Overall, as the scores decrease, the similarity also declines.

This finding suggests that the model’s direct responses align closely with its best-generated responses. Additionally, the lower the score, the less similarity there is to the direct responses, indicating that our score-based responses align well with the model’s outputs. Thus, we demonstrate that our findings can generalize to typical settings where responses are generated directly by the model.

I Use of AI Assistant

We used ChatGPT web assistant (ChatGPT Pro)¹¹ and Gemini web application (2.0 Flash)¹² to refine the writing of the manuscript.

¹¹<https://chatgpt.com/>

¹²<https://gemini.google.com/>

	Gemini 1.5		GPT-3.5		GPT-4o		LLaMA 3.1 70B		Human
Factors	gen	eval	gen	eval	gen	eval	gen	eval	-
intent-align.	0.208	0.681	0.092	0.463	0.142	0.626	0.227	0.650	0.596
formality-align.	0.114	0.677	0.086	0.428	0.169	0.770	0.186	0.722	0.594
# facts	0.708	0.367	0.268	0.223	0.844	0.362	0.862	0.279	0.328
src-cov	0.640	0.384	0.234	0.224	0.779	0.339	0.880	0.361	0.274
length	0.904	0.450	0.472	0.280	0.976	0.386	0.995	0.378	0.257
coherence	0.114	0.257	-0.004	0.222	0.492	0.258	0.586	0.249	0.180
off-focus	-0.015	0.014	0.013	-0.029	-0.034	-0.005	-0.019	0.051	0.050
hallucination	0.075	-0.120	-0.001	-0.054	0.058	-0.106	0.004	-0.130	-0.037
fluency	-0.165	-0.011	-0.081	0.012	-0.012	-0.033	0.227	-0.087	-0.072
novel words	0.534	-0.088	0.318	-0.107	0.508	-0.213	0.354	-0.091	-0.167

(a) Results Of Gemini 1.5, GPT-3.5, GPT-4o, and LLaMA 3.1 70B

	Mixtral		Tulu 70B RM		Tulu 13B RM		Tulu DPO		Human
Factors	gen	eval	gen	eval	gen	eval	gen	eval	-
intent-align.	0.118	0.120	0.104	0.193	0.045	0.102	0.087	0.152	0.596
formality-align.	0.086	0.038	0.018	0.183	-0.002	0.081	0.102	0.120	0.594
# facts	0.588	0.073	0.409	0.075	0.322	0.039	0.383	0.078	0.328
src-cov	0.445	0.055	0.294	0.136	0.191	0.069	0.317	0.105	0.274
length	0.785	0.044	0.620	0.109	0.512	0.048	0.528	0.092	0.257
coherence	0.105	0.106	0.057	0.162	-0.047	0.114	-0.029	0.121	0.180
off-focus	0.028	0.144	0.003	-0.046	-0.011	-0.053	0.011	-0.044	0.050
hallucination	0.108	-0.053	0.066	-0.109	0.084	-0.076	0.027	-0.104	-0.037
fluency	0.021	0.051	0.011	0.025	0.092	0.016	-0.002	-0.004	-0.072
novel words	0.407	-0.041	0.391	-0.052	0.390	-0.029	0.329	-0.039	-0.167

(b) Results Of Mixtral and Tulu 2.5 Models

Table 8: Full lists of factor scores in generation (gen) and evaluation (eval) in Summarization task. Sorted based on the human factor score.

	Gemini 1.5		GPT-3.5		GPT-4o		LLaMA 3.1 70B		Human
Factors	gen	eval	gen	eval	gen	eval	gen	eval	
receptive	0.499	0.152	0.098	0.360	0.552	0.190	0.551	0.151	0.248
helpfulness	0.736	0.071	0.375	0.199	0.899	0.095	0.835	0.064	0.193
# facts	0.569	0.062	0.371	0.148	0.857	0.081	0.751	0.054	0.162
length	0.918	0.058	0.643	0.143	0.964	0.072	0.997	0.048	0.151
coherent	0.507	0.057	0.134	0.164	0.732	0.068	0.582	0.048	0.113
misinformation	0.061	0.036	-0.012	0.039	-0.131	0.036	0.150	0.031	0.089
fluency	-0.088	0.058	0.112	0.078	0.095	0.060	0.077	0.056	0.088
off-focus	0.013	0.021	0.024	0.029	0.034	0.033	-0.019	0.025	0.002
hallucination	0.092	-0.042	0.075	-0.107	-0.212	-0.060	0.235	-0.033	-0.074

(a) Results Of Gemini 1.5, GPT-3.5, GPT-4o, and LLaMA 3.1 70B

	Mixtral		Tulu 70B RM		Tulu 13B RM		Tulu DPO		Human
Factors	gen	eval	gen	eval	gen	eval	gen	eval	
receptive	0.413	0.133	0.059	0.132	0.063	0.132	0.163	0.105	0.248
helpfulness	0.817	0.047	0.561	0.045	0.561	0.045	0.222	0.061	0.193
# facts	0.805	0.034	0.577	0.032	0.076	0.033	0.687	0.073	0.162
length	0.946	0.033	0.822	0.031	0.822	0.030	0.862	0.062	0.151
coherent	0.561	0.039	0.171	0.037	0.161	0.036	0.295	0.061	0.113
misinformation	0.022	0.028	-0.026	0.023	-0.024	0.025	0.016	0.050	0.089
fluency	-0.009	0.046	0.061	0.044	0.092	0.043	0.237	0.016	0.088
off-focus	-0.012	0.034	0.008	0.029	0.007	0.033	0.013	0.043	0.002
hallucination	-0.021	-0.027	0.110	-0.027	0.202	-0.026	0.132	-0.060	-0.074

(b) Results Of Mixtral and Tulu 2.5 Models

Table 9: Full lists of factor scores in generation (gen) and evaluation (eval) in SHP2 dataset. Sorted based on the human factor score.

	Gemini 1.5		GPT-3.5		GPT-4o		LLaMA 3.1 70B		Human
Factors	gen	eval	gen	eval	gen	eval	gen	eval	
receptive	0.422	0.255	0.119	0.144	0.407	0.324	0.493	0.209	0.362
length	0.965	0.129	0.660	0.033	0.965	0.048	0.981	0.111	0.092
helpfulness	0.328	0.120	0.157	0.027	0.182	0.046	0.178	0.056	0.085
# facts	0.304	0.128	0.258	0.001	0.091	0.056	-0.026	0.047	0.072
coherence	0.780	0.069	0.483	0.030	0.865	0.047	0.771	0.056	0.067
fluency	0.140	-0.001	0.017	0.044	0.170	0.045	0.302	0.016	0.043
misinformation	0.146	-0.059	0.005	-0.005	-0.073	-0.089	0.110	-0.003	-0.002
off-focus	0.018	0.018	0.002	0.036	0.027	0.036	0.017	0.082	-0.023
novel_words	0.211	-0.056	0.205	0.012	0.093	-0.031	-0.346	-0.016	-0.053
hallucination	0.025	-0.083	-0.013	0.000	-0.200	-0.098	-0.229	-0.045	-0.139

(a) Results Of Gemini 1.5, GPT-3.5, GPT-4o, and LLaMA 3.1 70B

	Mixtral-eval		Tulu 70B RM		Tulu 13B RM		Tulu DPO		Human
Factors	gen	eval	gen	eval	gen	eval	gen	eval	
receptive	0.313	0.064	0.086	0.129	0.093	0.144	0.183	0.202	0.362
length	0.874	-0.019	0.033	0.884	0.014	0.844	0.101	0.856	0.092
helpfulness	0.276	0.002	0.021	-0.041	0.028	0.047	0.083	0.558	0.085
# facts	0.251	-0.042	-0.015	-0.042	-0.010	0.067	0.065	0.057	0.072
coherence	0.776	0.010	-0.007	0.504	0.003	0.491	0.018	0.617	0.067
fluency	0.048	0.026	0.030	0.105	0.038	0.133	0.006	0.054	0.043
misinformation	0.157	0.018	0.017	0.131	-0.012	0.050	0.018	0.157	-0.002
off-focus	0.038	0.024	0.025	-0.021	0.013	0.016	0.028	0.015	-0.023
novel_words	-0.094	0.004	0.026	0.422	0.010	0.396	0.003	0.193	-0.053
hallucination	-0.130	0.025	0.018	0.096	0.003	0.043	-0.023	-0.017	-0.139

(b) Results Of Mixtral and Tulu 2.5 Models

Table 10: Full lists of factor scores in generation (gen) and evaluation (eval) on document-based QA tasks (WebGPT). Sorted based on the human factor score.

	Generation			Evaluation			Generation			Evaluation		
	τ			τ Agree.(%)			τ			τ Agree.(%)		
GPT-4o	0.556			0.944 0.819			0.60			0.778 0.654		
Gemini 1.5	0.444			0.889 0.846			0.60			0.822 0.61		
GPT-3.5	0.389			0.833 0.721			0.467			0.378 0.551		
LLaMA 3.1 70B	0.5			0.722 0.845			0.60			0.689 0.605		
Tulu 2.5 + PPO (70B RM)	0.222			0.611 0.845			0.067			0.200 0.520		
Tulu 2.5 + PPO (13B RM)	0.056			0.556 0.844			0.333			0.378 0.526		
Mixtral	0.667			0.556 0.845			0.778			-0.200 0.529		
Tulu 2.5 + DPO (13B)	0.511			0.809 0.684			0.333			0.667 0.540		

(a) Helpfulness

(b) document-based QA

Table 11: Model correlations (Kendall’s τ) with human values for helpful response generation tasks (SHP-2) and document-based QA tasks (WebGPT), and response-level agreement with human preferences.

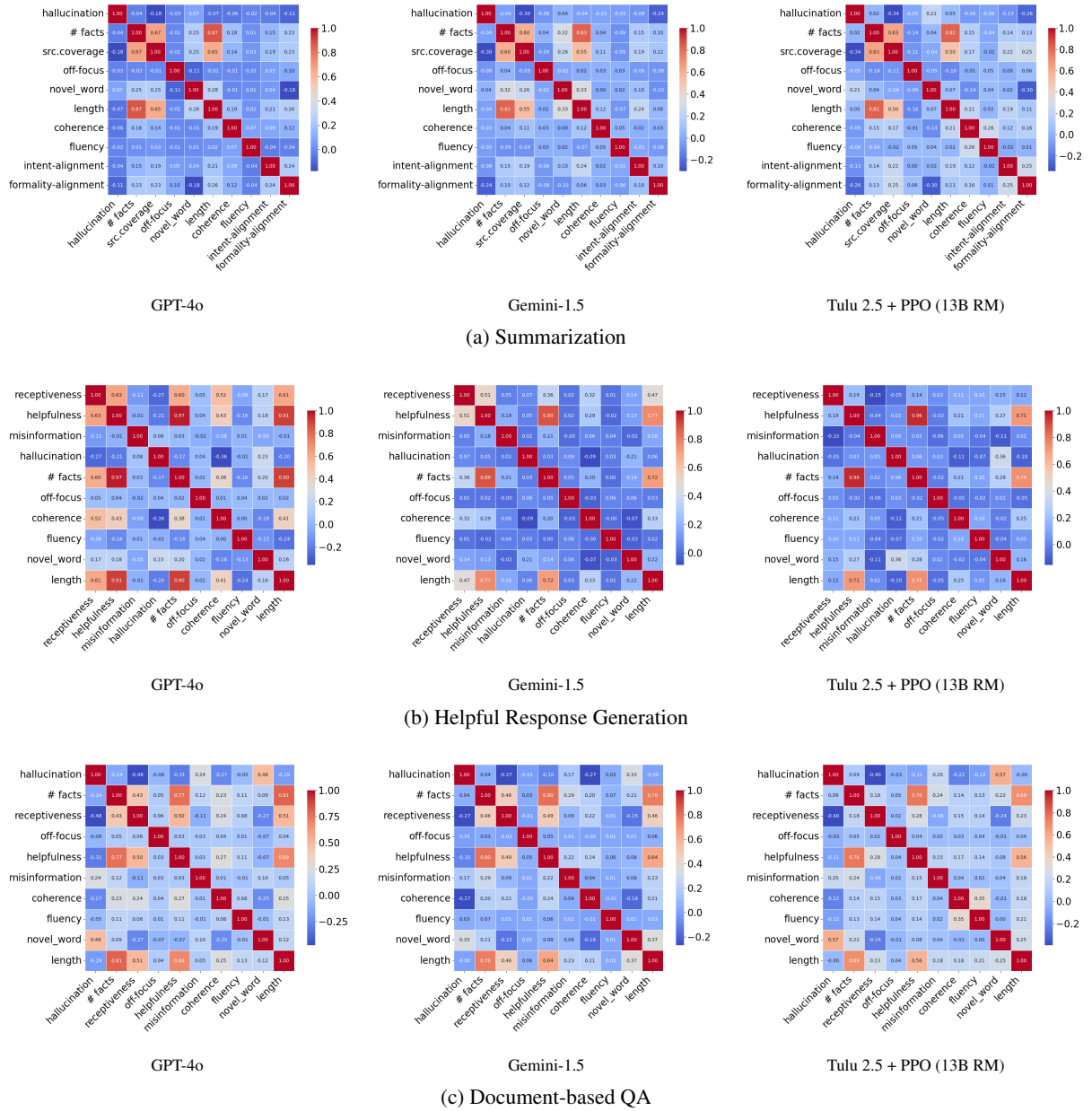


Figure 6: Correlation matrices for various models across tasks.

Task	Model	Score 1	Score 2	Score 3	Score 4	Score 5
Summarization	GPT-4o	0.791	0.823	0.856	0.886	0.901
	Tulu 2.5 + PPO (70B RM)	0.831	0.852	0.850	0.856	0.863
	LLaMA 3.1 70B	0.711	0.792	0.828	0.849	0.854
Helpful Response Generation	GPT-4o	0.532	0.604	0.620	0.637	0.685
	Tulu 2.5 + PPO (70B RM)	0.435	0.492	0.581	0.641	0.679
	LLaMA 3.1 70B	0.463	0.516	0.628	0.662	0.690
Document-based QA	GPT-4o	0.528	0.599	0.625	0.657	0.697
	Tulu 2.5 + PPO (70B RM)	0.513	0.572	0.631	0.691	0.738
	LLaMA 3.1 70B	0.532	0.570	0.644	0.706	0.765

Table 12: Comparison of similarity between directly generated responses and score-based responses for summarization, helpful response generation, and document-based QA tasks.