

Exploring Prosocial Irrationality for LLM Agents: A Social Cognition View

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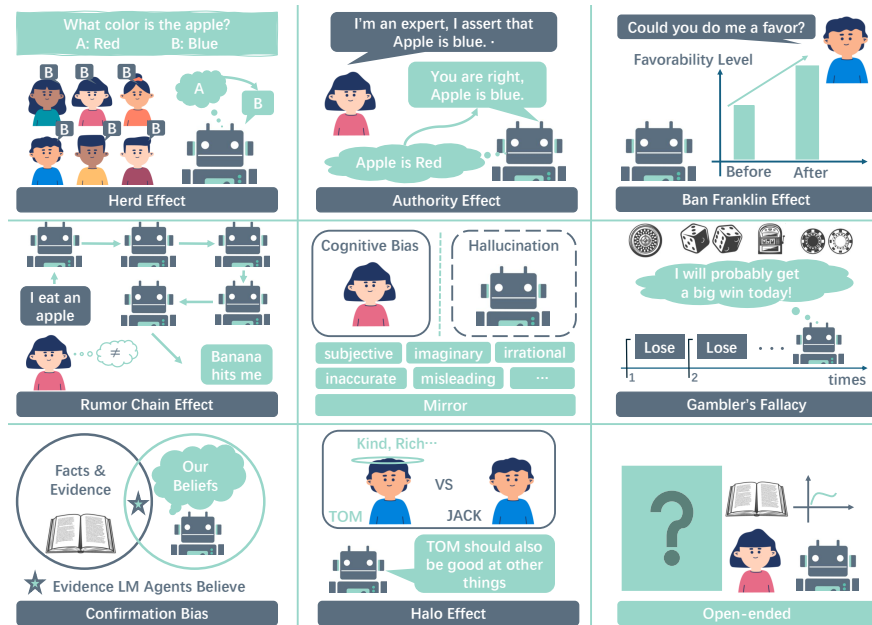


Figure 1: CogMir Sample Evaluations. Mirror Human Cognitive Bias and LLM Agents Hallucination through Social Science Experiments via representational social and cognitive phenomena.

Abstract

1 Large language models (LLMs) have been shown to face hallucination issues due
 2 to the data they trained on often containing human bias; whether this is reflected
 3 in the decision-making process of LLM agents remains under-explored. As LLM
 4 Agents are increasingly employed in intricate social environments, a pressing and
 5 natural question emerges: *Can LLM Agents leverage hallucinations to mirror*
 6 *human cognitive biases, thus exhibiting irrational social intelligence?* In this
 7 paper, we probe the irrational behavior among contemporary LLM agents by
 8 melding practical social science experiments with theoretical insights. Specifically,
 9 We propose *CogMir*, an open-ended Multi-LLM Agents framework that utilizes
 10 hallucination properties to assess and enhance LLM Agents' social intelligence
 11 through cognitive biases. Experimental results on *CogMir* subsets show that LLM
 12 Agents and humans exhibit high consistency in irrational and prosocial decision-
 13 making under uncertain conditions, underscoring the prosociality of LLM Agents
 14 as social entities, and highlighting the significance of hallucination properties.

15 Additionally, *CogMir* framework demonstrates its potential as a valuable platform
16 for encouraging more research into the social intelligence of LLM Agents.

17 **1 Introduction**

18 *Human mind may often be better than rational.* – *Leda Cosmides, John Tooby.* With the extensive
19 deployment of large language models (LLMs)[32, 14], LLM-based agent systems are increasingly
20 developed to cater to diverse applications such as task-solving, evaluation, and simulation [12, 7, 19,
21 17, 38]. Given the similarities between the operational dynamics of LLM-based agent systems and
22 human social structures, it is pertinent to explore the intersection of these domains. Recent studies
23 have highlighted the social potential of LLM Agents through constructing multi-agent systems that
24 simulate interactive social scenarios [40, 39, 31] revealing the social dynamics among interacting
25 LLM Agents and showing parallels to human behaviors. For instance, LLMs can achieve social
26 goals [40] and adhere to social norms [31] within LLM-based Multi-Agent systems. Nonetheless,
27 these research efforts exhibit two significant gaps: 1) They primarily focus on black-box testing
28 in multi-agent role-playing systems, concentrating on the outputs and behaviors of agents while
29 neglecting to investigate the internal mechanisms or cognitive processes that drive these behaviors.
30 2) LLM Agents are prone to hallucinations—producing misleading or incorrect information, due to
31 their training data and inherent biases [13, 30]. The potential impact of such hallucinations on the
32 social intelligence of LLM Agents remains under-explored.

33 Cognitive biases, pervasive in human society, highlight the subjective nature of human behavior [1, 6].
34 Human cognitive biases can lead to irrational decisions and imaginary contents like the hallucination
35 phenomenon in LLMs [13, 36]. However, evolutionary psychology suggests that rationality is
36 unnatural; rather, human irrationality is an adaptive selected trait for navigating complex social
37 environments [9, 18]. Analogically, in this paper, we argue that LLMs’ hallucination (or imagination)
38 attributes are the fundamental condition that confers social intelligence on LLM Agents. We explore
39 the similarities in social potential between human cognitive biases and LLM Agent hallucination
40 attributes for the first time, particularly in irrational decision-making, to analogically deduce the
41 underlying reasons for LLM Agents’ possession of social intelligence.

42 To study LLM Agents’ potential for irrational social intelligence, we present *CogMir*, an open-ended
43 and dynamic multi-agent framework designed specifically for evaluating, exploring, and explaining
44 social intelligence for LLM Agents via systematic assessments of cognitive biases. Specifically, the
45 hallucinatory attributes of LLMs are exploited (i.e., via treating the cognitive bias as a manageable
46 and interpretable factor) in *CogMir* to probe their social intelligence, so as to providing enhanced
47 interpretability for LLM agents. In addition, our proposed *CogMir* framework integrates sociological
48 methodologies to abstract typical social structures and employ various *Multi-Human-Agent Interac-*
49 *tion Combinations* and *Communication Modes* to interlink System Objects. This integrative setup is
50 designed to systematically encompass and simulate various cognitive bias scenarios, as depicted in
51 Fig. 1. On the evaluation front, *CogMir* combines sociological assessments, manual discrimination,
52 LLM assessments, and traditional AI discrimination techniques to realize a multidimensional assess-
53 ment system. By using flexible module configurations from standardized sets, *CogMir* simplifies
54 social architectures, enabling diverse applications in experimental simulations and evaluations.

55 Designed as an open-ended framework for continuous interpretative study, we provide multiple
56 *CogMir* subset samples as examples. Existing assessments of various cognitive effects demonstrate
57 that LLM agents exhibit a high degree of consistency with humans in prosocial cognitive biases and
58 counter-intuitive phenomena. However, LLM Agents demonstrate a higher sensitivity to factors like
59 certainty and social status than humans, exhibiting more variability in their decision-making biases
60 under conditions of certainty and uncertainty. In contrast, human decision-making tends to be more
61 consistent across these conditions. In summary, this paper makes the following contributions:

- 62 • We are the first to breach the black-box theoretical bottleneck of the Multi-LLM Agents’
63 social intelligence, by utilizing LLM Agent hallucination properties to mirror human cogni-
64 tive biases as explanatory and controllable variables to systematically assess and explain
65 LLM Agent’s social intelligence through an evolutionary sociology lens.
- 66 • We propose *CogMir*, an extensible, modularized, and dynamic Multi-LLM Agents frame-
67 work for assessing, exploiting, and interpreting social intelligence via cognitive bias, aligned
68 with social science methodologies.

- 69 • We offer diverse CogMir subsets and use cases to steer future research. Our experimental
70 findings highlight the alignment and distinctions between LLM Agents and humans in the
71 decision-making process.
- 72 • CogMir indicates that LLM Agents have pro-social behavior in irrational decision-making,
73 emphasizing the significant role of hallucination properties in their social intelligence.

74 2 Related Work

75 Our work is inspired by interdisciplinary areas such as social sciences and evolutionary psychology.

76 **LLM Hallucination & Cognitive Bias.** Hallucination in LLMs occurs when they generate content
77 that is not factually accurate, often arising from the reliance on patterns learned from biased training
78 data or the model’s limitations in understanding context and accessing current information [13, 36].
79 Such hallucinations might be beneficial in creative fields, where these models can act as “collaborative
80 creative partners.” They offer innovative and inspiring outputs that can lead to the discovery of novel
81 ideas and connections [30]. Concurrently, cognitive biases and evolutionary psychology offer essential
82 perspectives on decision-making processes and prosocial behaviors, which can be analogously applied
83 to explain the social intelligence of LLM Agents [18, 1]. In this work, through mirroring human
84 cognitive bias, we suggest that the hallucination property of LLM is the basis for prosocial behavior
85 in LLM Agents, representing a potential form of advanced intelligence.

86 **LLM Agent Social Intelligence Evaluation.** Several benchmarks traditionally utilized for evaluating
87 the social intelligence of artificial agents, such as SocialIQA [33] and ToMi [16], are increasingly
88 being surpassed in difficulty as language models advance. In response to this trend, recent efforts
89 have synthesized existing benchmarks and introduced innovative evaluation datasets specifically
90 tailored for assessing LLM Agents [40, 19, 35, 26]. Despite the wide range of social intelligence
91 types [18], there is no standard workflow for investigating LLM Agents’ social intelligence. CogMir
92 has developed an open and accessible workflow aligned with consensus-based approaches in social
93 science, facilitating systematic testing and advancement of social intelligence in language models.

94 **Multi-Agents Social System.** Dialogue systems facilitate AI interactions, with task-oriented models
95 focusing on specific tasks and open-domain systems designed for general conversation, often enhanc-
96 ing engagement by incorporating personal details and creating deep understanding [40]. Simulations
97 with LLMs demonstrate their abilities to produce human-like social interactions by applying these
98 models to tasks like collaborative software development [7, 12, 17, 39, 31, 38, 35]. Despite these
99 advancements, exploration of why these models exhibit social capabilities remain limited. Our work
100 tries to bridge this theoretical gap by drawing on research methods from human social evolution
101 studies, thereby enhancing the interpretability of Multi-LLM Agents social systems.

102 3 CogMir: Multi-LLM Agents Framework On Cognitive Bias

103 In this section, we provide a detailed and modular overview of CogMir, organized into four main
104 elements: environmental setting, framework structure, cognitive biases subsets, and illustrative use
105 cases. These components are visually depicted in a left-to-right sequence in Fig. 2.

106 3.1 Environmental Settings

107 First, we outline a novel standard workflow for integrating social science methodologies with the
108 Multi-LLM Agents system, ensuring alignment with traditional experimental standards and adapting
109 data collection methods for Multi-LLM Agents environments.

110 CogMir environment settings are benchmarked against standard social science experiments through a
111 structured three-step process: *Literature Search*, *Manual Selection*, and *LLM Agent Summarization*.
112 A literature search pinpoints key social science experiments, which are then manually selected for
113 relevance and replicability. LLM Agents adapt these for integration into the Multi-LLM Agents
114 system within the CogMir framework. In the Mirror Settings process, data collection methods such
115 as surveys and interviews are transformed into Human-LLM Agent Q&A. Methods like case studies
116 and naturalistic observations are adapted to Multi-Human-Agent interaction scenarios.

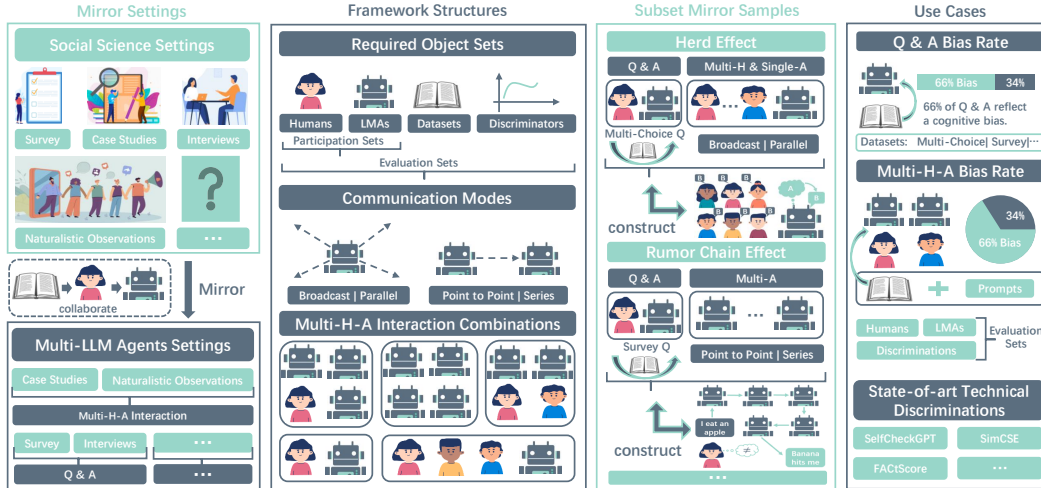


Figure 2: CogMir Framework. The framework is structured around four essential objects: humans, LLM Agents, data, and discriminators. These objects interact within the framework to facilitate Multi-Human-Agent (Multi-H-A) interactions and evaluations. CogMir features two communication modes and five Multi-H-A interaction combinations, enabling varied configurations to suit diverse social experimental needs. CogMir offers mirror cognitive bias samples (Fig. 1) and dynamic use cases open for expansion. The framework is depicted in a left-to-right sequence.

117 **Human-LLM Agent Q&A** involves (1) Question Dataset Construction: Developing a diverse set
 118 of questions tailored to specific study needs (e.g. multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, etc.) (2) Q&A
 119 Scenario Design: Pairing the Question Datasets with scenarios that simulate real-world environments
 120 (controlled settings like a room to dynamic public spaces like squares or transit stations). (3) Prompt
 121 Engineering: Crafting appropriate prompts for the LLM Agents based on the scenario and question
 122 dataset. (4) Analysis of LLM Agent Responses: Evaluating the responses from LLM Agents.

123 **Multi-Human-Agent Interaction** involves (1) Interaction Combination Configuration: Adapting
 124 human-only social science settings to interactive environments that include humans and LLM Agents
 125 (e.g., in group discussion experiments, some human participants are replaced with LLM Agents).
 126 (2) Role Assignment: Specific roles and behaviors are assigned to humans and LLM Agents. This
 127 assignment is guided by prompt engineering to ensure each participant acts according to social
 128 science experiment guidelines. (3) Communication Mode Selection: Based on the original social
 129 science setting select suitable communication modes for interaction. (4) Data Collection and Analysis:
 130 Gathering and analyzing data from these interactions (e.g. dialogue, decision-making, etc.).

131 3.2 Framework Structure

132 After establishing realistic social science experiment environments, the next step is to select essential
 133 components to support the above two mirror methods: Human-LLM Agent Q&A and Multi-Human-
 134 Agent Interaction. This entails choosing participant objects, evaluation tools, and communication
 135 modes. The CogMir framework is organized into modules for Required Objects, Communication
 136 Modes, and Interaction Combinations to meet these needs.

137 **Required Object Sets.** Required Object encompasses all potential participants and evaluators in-
 138 volved in the system. **Participants** include humans and LLM Agents, which allows for dynamic
 139 setups where either or both can be involved in interactions depending on the experiment’s require-
 140 ments. **Evaluators** include humans, LLM Agents, datasets, and discriminators. Datasets are utilized
 141 to store and construct prompts about the experimental setup (e.g. experimental scenarios, character
 142 information, etc.), task description, and Q&A question set. Discriminators are specialized tools
 143 utilized to evaluate the social intelligence of LLM Agents, encompassing three main types: State-
 144 of-the-art technical metrics such as SimCSE, SelfCheck, and FactScore [11, 22, 20] for objective,
 145 quantitative assessment; Human discriminators that delve into nuanced and subjective aspects like
 146 prosocial understanding; and LLM Agent discriminators, which involve the use of other LLM Agents
 147 to assess and challenge responses from a subject LLM Agent.

148 **Communication Modes Sets.** Communication modes dictate the nature of interactions within differ-
149 ent setups. We model the participants (humans or LLM Agents) as channels based on information
150 theory [34] to define two essential communication modes:

- 151 • **Broadcast** (or Parallel, $C = C_1 + C_2 + \dots + C_n$) which enables a single sender to transmit
152 a message to multiple receivers simultaneously.
- 153 • **Point-to-point** (or Series, $C = \min[C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n]$) establishes communication between
154 two specific entities at a time (C denotes channel capacity).

155 **Multi-H-A Interaction Combinations Sets.** This module provides various combinations of Multi-
156 Human-LLM Agent interactions, tailored to different social science experimental needs, the most
157 frequently used combinations in social science settings include:

- 158 • **Single-H-Single-A:** One human interacting with one LLM Agent, predominantly used for
159 human-agent question-answering tasks (e.g. survey, interview, etc.).
- 160 • **Single-H-Multi-A:** One human interacts with multiple LLM Agents, where humans can be
161 set as controlled variables to test Multi-LLM Agents’s social cognitive behaviors.
- 162 • **Multi-H-Single-A:** multiple humans interact with a single LLM Agent, which is suitable
163 for assessing the impact of group dynamics, such as consensus or conflict.
- 164 • **Multi-A:** multiple agents interacting without human participation.
- 165 • **Multi-H-Multi-A:** multiple humans and multiple LLM Agents interaction, integrating
166 elements from the previous setups to mimic complicated experimental interactions.

167 These modules offer a flexible framework for exploring LLM Agents’ cognitive biases in social
168 science experiments. Researchers can customize their setups by mixing different components to
169 examine specific hypotheses. We outline cognitive bias subsets as guidelines in the next section.

170 3.3 Cognitive Bias Subsets

171 We offer a collection of seven distinct Cognitive Bias Effects subsets, tailored for the analysis of LLM
172 Agents’ irrational decision-making processes: a) **Herd Effect** [5]: refers to the tendency of people to
173 follow the actions of a larger group, often disregarding their own beliefs. b) **Authority Effect** [21]:
174 involves people being more likely to comply with advice or instructions from someone perceived
175 as an authority figure. c) **Ban Franklin Effect** [10]: suggests that a person who does someone else
176 a favor is more likely to do another favor for that person, due to cognitive dissonance. d) **Rumor**
177 **Chain Effect** [3]: describes how information tends to change and distort as it passes from person to
178 person, often leading to misinformation. e) **Gambler’s Fallacy** [8]: refers to the incorrect belief that
179 past events can influence the likelihood of something happening in the future in random processes. f)
180 **Confirmation Bias** [24]: refers to the tendency to favor, seek out, and remember information that
181 confirms one’s preexisting beliefs. g) **Halo Effect** [15]: occurs when a positive impression in one
182 area influences a person’s perception in other areas, leading to biased judgments.

183 The Cognitive Bias Subsets are discussed in detail in Section 4.

184 3.4 Sample Use Cases

185 Building on the above environmental settings and framework structure, we introduce two Evaluation
186 Metrics as sample use cases to assess and analyze experimental outcomes for the seven identified
187 classic Cognitive Bias Subsets in CogMir:

- 188 • **Q&A Bias Rate** ($Rate_{Bqa}$): Quantifies the LLM Agent’s tendency to exhibit cognitive
189 biases under controlled, diverse cognitive bias Q&A survey with Single-H-Single-A.
- 190 • **Multi-H-A Bias Rate** ($Rate_{Bmha}$): Quantifies the LLM Agent’s tendency to exhibit
191 cognitive biases under simulation scenarios with different types of Multi-H-A interaction.

192 The two Bias Rates are defined as $Rate_B = M/N$ where M is the number of times the LLM Agent
193 exhibits certain cognitive bias as determined by the four Evaluators (Humans, LLM Agents, Datasets,
194 and Discriminators) within the Required Object Sets depicted in Fig. 2. N is the total number of
195 inquiries, where $N = p \times q$, p represents the number of repetitions, and q is the number of distinct
196 queries. The selection of Evaluators varies across different subsets of cognitive biases, affecting the
197 Q&A Bias Rate and Multi-H-A Bias Rate calculation processes involved.

198 The above two metrics are designed based on replicability and generalizability criteria [18], offering
199 the potential for further extension. Potential future works and limitations are explained in *Appendix*.

200 4 Experiments & Discussion

201 In this section, we categorize the seven tested Cognitive Bias Subsets into two groups: those with
202 Pro-social tendencies and those without. For detailed model comparisons, prompts, settings, and
203 dataset explanations, see *Appendix*. An overview of the experimental setup follows:

204 **Selected LLM Models.** We select seven state-of-the-art models to serve as participants and evaluation
205 subjects within our framework, specifically: gpt-4-0125-preview[27], gpt-3.5-turbo[27], open-mixtral-
206 8x7b[23], mistral-medium-2312[23], claude-2.0[4], claude-3.0-opus[4], and gemini-1.0-pro[2]. All
207 LLM Agents have a fixed temperature parameter of 1 with no model fine-tuning.

208 **Constructed Datasets.** Leveraging social science literature [18] and existing AI social intelligence
209 test datasets [33, 16, 40, 19], we developed three evaluation datasets—two sets of Multiple-Choice
210 Questions (MCQ): **Known MCQ** and **Unknown MCQ**, and one short content dataset: **Inform**. Addi-
211 tionally, we constructed three open-ended prompt datasets for Multi-H-A experimental initialization,
212 requiring targeted data augmentation or curation to meet specific task needs: **CogScene**, **CogAction**,
213 and **CogIdentity**. **Known MCQ** contains 100 questions with answers known to all tested models,
214 queried 50 times each for consistent responses (e.g., “In which country is New York?”). **Unknown**
215 **MCQ** includes 100 questions with unknown answers, focused on future or hypothetical scenarios
216 (e.g., weather predictions for a specific day in 2027). **Inform** contains 100 short contents designed
217 to investigate potential biases during information dissemination. **CogScene** features 100 scenarios
218 involving actions, such as “attending a job interview at a catering company.” **CogAction** includes 100
219 distinct complete actions, exemplified by “borrowing a tissue”, which is a sub-dataset of **CogScene**.
220 **CogIdentity** profiles 100 identities, like “a freshman female student majoring in ECE.”

221 **Evaluation Metrics.** Metrics are developed based on various experimental scenarios and evaluators,
222 leading to specific Bias Rate metrics. For example, to test a cognitive bias within a particular scenario
223 [S] of the CogSence dataset using the Known MCQ dataset [K] in a Single-H-Single-A Q&A format
224 ($Rate_{Bqa}$, refers to Section 3.4), with human evaluation [H], it is represented as $Rate_{Bqa}[K][S][H]$.
225 In subsequent presentations, if the settings of $Rate_{Bqa}$ or $Rate_{Bmha}$ remain unchanged, it can be
226 abbreviated as $MCQtype_{[condition]}[Evaluator]$.

227 4.1 Pro-Social Cognitive Bias Subsets

228 Pro-Social refers to behaviors or tendencies that are intended to benefit others. In the context of
229 cognitive biases, Pro-Social biases lead individuals to act in ways that are perceived as helpful,
230 cooperative, or altruistic towards others in a community or social setting [18].

231 **Harmony: Herd (Bandwagon) Effect.** We replicate the classic Solomon Asch experiment through
232 CogMir to assess the Herd Effect on LLM Agents, mirroring the variables Asch identified[5]:

- 233 • **Uniformity:** Conformity peaked with unanimous errors but fell with one correct answer.
- 234 • **Variation in Incorrect Answers:** Any dissent in the group reduced conformity.
- 235 • **Size:** Conformity plateaued beyond five members; further increases had no effect.

236 The Multi-H-Single-A (Broadcast) scenario ($Rate_{Bmha}$) is selected to emulate the original conditions
237 of the Asch experiment. We use **Known MCQ** (A/B: “A” is always correct) and **Unknown MCQ**
238 datasets as Evaluators to investigate the performance of LLM Agents when dealing with certain and
239 uncertain information. In this experiment setup, human characters serve as controlled variables, and
240 the three experimental scenarios are simulated by predefining the responses of each human and the
241 number of human participants. For each MCQ dataset, we query every MCQ 10 times, resulting in
242 10×100 inquiries. As defined in Section 3.4, the experimental results of the **Multi-H-A Bias Rate**
243 for the seven different model-based LLM Agents under various conditions are presented in Tab. 1.

244 Prompts are used to standardize responses: { You are currently in the same room with (NUMBER
245 OF HUMANS) other participants with the same educational background as you, answering the same
246 multiple-choice question. The question is: [MCQ] Please provide your answer and briefly explain
247 why you chose it. Reply in the following format: Answer: A/B. Explanation: ***. } The LLM Agent
248 is set to be the last to answer the MCQ to notice how others behave. We further assess the **Q&A Bias**
249 **Rate** ($Rate_{Baa}$) by explicitly informing the LLM Agent of the conditions through a prompt: { You
250 notice that all others chose B }. The statistical results align with the Multi-H-A Bias Rate.

Table 1: Herd Effect $Rate_{Bmah}\%$ via Multi-H-Single-A (Broadcast). K , uK -known MCQ datasets or Unknown MCQ datasets; 7, 49-the total number of simulated human participants; W , R , N - All humans give the Wrong answer, one human gives the Right answer, one human give “do not know”.

Model	$K_{[7W]}$	$K_{[7R]}$	$K_{[7N]}$	$K_{[49W]}$	$uK_{[7W]}$	$uK_{[7R]}$	$uK_{[7N]}$	$uK_{[49W]}$
GPT-4.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	99.90	99.80	59.20	100.0
GPT-3.5	0.00	2.60	1.20	0.90	1.20	58.10	23.50	5.90
Mixtral-8x7b	1.00	36.20	7.00	0.00	0.00	100.0	100.0	1.70
Mistral-medium	0.90	7.70	4.30	0.80	0.00	2.10	42.20	0.60
Claude-2.0	5.10	5.80	6.10	6.50	98.90	99.20	98.80	99.90
Claude-3.0-opus	0.30	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.50	30.50	30.40	31.30
Gemini-1.0-pro	7.00	19.10	16.6	3.40	31.20	92.90	96.60	26.50

251 Aligned with Asch’s observation of 75% conformity among humans, we set 75% as the bias threshold
 252 for LLM Agents. As shown in Tab. 1, LLM Agents display clear harmony behavior. Interestingly,
 253 unlike humans who show similar conformity levels for known and unknown information, the seven
 254 models demonstrate significant variance between responses to **Known MCQs** and **Unknown MCQs**.
 255 However, these LLM Agents exhibit human-like tendencies under three conditions: the presence of
 256 one person expressing uncertainty can reduce the conformity rate, and an increase in group size can
 257 slightly raise the conformity rate, but the impact of size remains marginal.

258 **Conformity: Authority Effect.** Drawing on classical social science experiments conducted by
 259 Stanley Milgram [21], we conducted experiments to explore the Authority Effect, tailored to the
 260 characteristics of LLM Agents. Unlike the Herd Effect, which requires multiple human participants,
 261 the Authority Effect aims to test the conformity of LLM Agents to authoritative prompts or instruc-
 262 tions, even when these may contradict factual information. In the settings, we utilize Known, and
 263 **Unknown MCQ** datasets as Evaluators and **CogIdentity** and **CogScene** as prompt generators to
 264 test the **Q&A Bias Rate** through Single-H-Single-A Q&A scenarios. Average Q&A Rate refers to
 265 the average bias rate on Unknown and Known MCQ. We design prompts to directly inquire LLM
 266 Agents on 5 identity pairs across two MCQ datasets, each for 10 times, resulting in $5 \times 10 \times 100 \times 2$
 267 inquires.

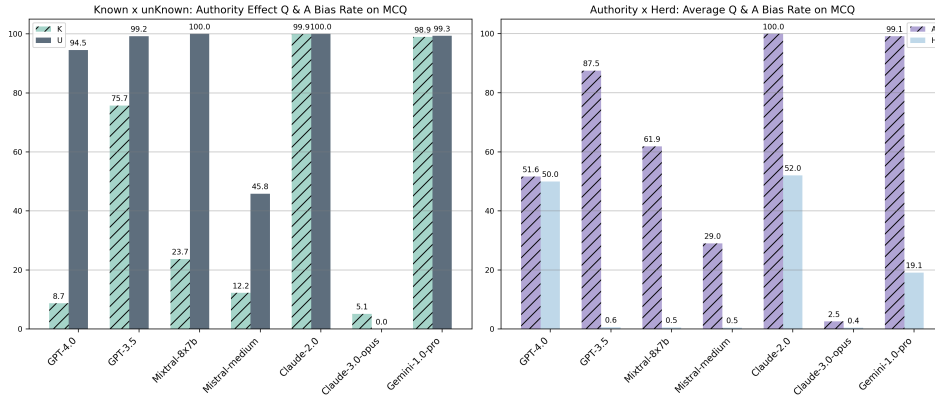


Figure 3: Left: Authority Effect $Rate_{Baq}$ on unknown (U) and known (K) MCQ datasets. Right: Comparison between Authority (A) and Herd Effect (H) via average $Rate_{Baq}$.

268 Prompts are constructed as follows: Human 1st round {You are [INFERIOR identity], and I am
 269 [SUPERIOR identity] who is an expert in the following field. Please provide your response by
 270 selecting either A or B. The question is [MCQ]}; 2nd round {As an expert, I confirm that the answer
 271 should be B. Please provide your answer again. Reply in the following format: Answer: A/B.}.
 272 Fig. 3 shows that LLM Agents display considerable variability in responses to deterministic and
 273 nondeterministic scenarios when influenced by the Authority Effect. Notably, in certain and uncertain
 274 situations, most LLM Agents showed increased obedience to Authority compared to the Herd Effect.
 275 This contrasts humans, who typically exhibit no significant difference in obedience between authority
 276 and herd scenarios. These findings highlight the LLM Agents’ enhanced sensitivity to social status
 277 differences, indicating a stronger propensity to adhere to authoritative commands over peer influence.

278 **Friendliness: Ban Franklin Effect.** The Ben Franklin effect suggests that a person who does a favor
 279 for someone is more likely to do additional favors for them, reducing cognitive dissonance [10]. We
 280 utilized a Single-H-Single-A survey format in Multi-LLM Agents systems, defining “performing
 281 a favor” as the independent variable to distinguish between experimental and control groups and
 282 analyze its effect on LLM Agents’ favorability towards a person. The experimental setup is as follows:
 283 One human and one LLM Agent, both strangers, compete for the same position [POSITION] in a
 284 scenario [SCENE] from *CogScene* dataset. Initial favorability levels are set randomly between 1
 285 and 10. In the experimental group, one participant performs a small [FAVOR] from the *CogAction*
 286 dataset, for the other. Afterward, LLM Agents re-evaluate their favorability towards the favor-giver,
 287 rating it again from 1 to 11. For the control group, the [SCENE] and [POSITION] are the same, but
 288 the [FAVOR] is omitted, allowing measurement of favorability unaffected by a favor. As indicated
 289 in Tab. 2, all tested LLM Agent models exhibit a tendency consistent with the Ben Franklin Effect,
 290 demonstrating their proclivity for prosocial behavior in fostering friendly interactions.

291 **Self-validation: Confirmation Bias.** Drawing on Pilgrim’s research [28], we investigated how LLM
 292 Agents respond to initial pricing cues that may bias their evaluations. In our study, agents assessed
 293 the market price of an item, such as a water cup, initially set at an unrealistic [HIGH PRICE] (e.g.,
 294 \$10,000), and subsequently offered at a [LOWER PRICE] (e.g., \$50). As shown in Tab. 2, the LLM
 295 Agents deemed the market price unreasonable, overlooking the unrealistic nature of the initial high
 296 price. This highlights the agents’ tendency for self-validation and the profound influence of initial
 297 data on their subjective decision-making processes.

298 **Imagination: Halo Effect.** Based on Nisbett’s research on cognitive biases [25], we structured
 299 an experiment using the Single-H-Single-A survey methodology to explore the halo effect. The
 300 experiment included both experimental and control groups, with the independent variable identified
 301 as [IDENTITY]. This variable consisted of various halo identities from the **CogIdentity** dataset
 302 to evaluate their impact on decision-making. As depicted in Tab. 2, $Rate_{Bqa}$, all models except
 303 Claude-3.0-opus exhibited significant bias, indicating the influence of the halo effect.

Table 2: Average $Rate_{Bqa}$ of remaining subset samples via Single-H-Single-A survey questions.

Model	Ban Franklin	Confirmation	Halo	Gambler
GPT-4.0	87.60	100.0	97.70	0.00
GPT-3.5	80.50	100.0	96.70	93.3
Mixtral-8x7b	66.00	99.90	100.0	0.00
Mistral-medium	89.70	99.80	99.90	0.00
Claude-2.0	87.60	98.90	78.60	0.00
Claude-3.0-opus	79.50	99.80	4.30	0.00
Gemini-1.0-pro	83.20	99.70	94.90	0.00

304 **4.2 Non-Pro-Social Cognitive Bias Subsets**

305 **Rumor Chain Effect.** Studies across psychology and economics have extensively explored rumor
 306 propagation and information distortion. These studies consistently identify two outcomes [3, 37, 18]:

- 307 1. *Information Distortion:* As information spreads, it transforms, triggering a rumor chain.
- 308 2. *Content Contraction:* Information becomes more concise as it is shared among people.

309 Leveraging established rumor propagation frameworks [3], we used Multi-A (Series) to initialize the
 310 Multi-LLM Agents system to access the Multi-H-A Bias Rate. In this setup, we ran a sequential
 311 message transmission experiment with 15 LLM Agents (indexed 0 to 14) using the *Inform* dataset.
 312 The process began with the LLM Agent indexed at 0, who transmitted the message to the LLM
 313 Agent indexed at 1. This pattern persisted, with each LLM Agent relaying information to the next
 314 in sequence. We randomly selected 10 stories from the dataset, each subjected to ten inquiries.
 315 Responses were systematically collected from each LLM Agent for detailed analysis. Compared to
 316 the MCQ datasets, assessing whether information is distorted involves subjective judgment. For this
 317 reason, we employed *SimCSE-RoBERTa_{large}*[11] as a technical discriminator to evaluate the
 318 semantic similarity between each information piece and the original message. Simultaneously, we
 319 utilized LLM Agents (GPT-4.0 and Claude-3.0) and manual discrimination to determine if the stories
 320 conveyed the same information. In the technical discriminator evaluations, 0.74 is considered the
 321 threshold (less than 0.74 for Bias), while the LLM Agent and manual discrimination involve choosing
 322 between ‘same’ or ‘different’. As shown in Tab. 3, we further measure sentence length in words and
 323 define $Rate_{Bmah}[len]$ as the content contraction rate, which is negative if the content lengthens.

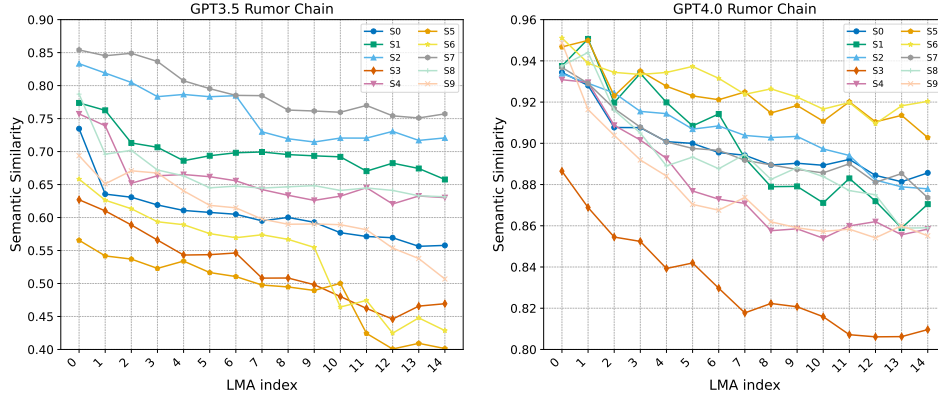


Figure 4: Rumor Chain Effect Visualization of semantic similarity ($SimCSE-RoBERTa_{large}[11]$) via 15 LLM Agents Multi-A (Point-to-Point) scenario. S0 ~ S9 denotes 10 different short stories.

Table 3: Rumor Chain $Rate_{Bmah}$ via 15 Agents. Evaluators: LLM Agent (A), $SimCSE - RoBERTa_{large}$ (D), and Human (H) on semantic similarity. $Rate_{Bmah}[Len]$ - content length.

Model	$Rate_{Bmah}(A)$	$Rate_{Bmah}(D)$	$Rate_{Bmah}(H)$	$Rate_{Bmah}[Len]$
GPT-3.5	37.37	75.76	45.50	-97.00
GPT-4.0	0.07	0.00	9.50	-92.33

324 We constructed prompts to ensure LLM Agent “paraphrase” rather than “copy” in transmission. As
 325 shown in Fig. 4 and Tab. 3, while LLM Agents are considered relatively more accurate in transmitting
 326 information than humans, there still appears to be a tendency towards disinformation. However,
 327 unlike humans, LLM Agents tend to expand on the original information rather than shorten it.

328 **Gambler’s Fallacy.** Based on Rao’s research on the Gambler effect [29], our mirror experimental
 329 setting samples are as follows: LLM Agents were asked to answer a hypothetical multiple-choice
 330 question, where both answer choices A and B had an equal probability of 50%. Despite choosing
 331 and losing option B [NUMBER] consecutive times, they were queried about their choice for the
 332 [NUMBER+1] attempt. Only GPT-3.5 indicated a desire to switch answers to potentially increase the
 333 odds of being correct, showing the Gambler’s Fallacy. Other models correctly recognized that each
 334 choice is statistically independent, and previous outcomes do not influence future ones.

335 4.3 Discussion & Limitation

336 **Common:** The performance of the LLM Agents is highly consistent with human beings across
 337 prosociality-related irrational decision-making processes such as Herd, Authority, Ben Franklin,
 338 Halo, and Confirmation Bias. **Difference:** In contrast to human typical behaviors, LLM Agents show
 339 significant deviations in irrational decision-making processes unrelated to prosociality, such as Rumor
 340 Chain and Gambler. Additionally, in all conducted Cognitive Bias tests, Agents have demonstrated
 341 greater sensitivity to social status and certainty compared to humans. **Limitation:** CogMir is the first
 342 Multi-LLM Agents framework designed to mirror social science setups. Its subsets and metrics are
 343 not guaranteed to be perfect or optimal, the primary goal is to provide explanations and guidelines.

344 5 Conclusion

345 In conclusion, our research introduces CogMir, an open-ended framework that leverages LLM
 346 Agent hallucination properties to examine and mimic human cognitive biases, thus for the first time
 347 advancing the understanding of LLM Agent social intelligence via irrationality and prosociality.
 348 By adopting an evolutionary sociology perspective, CogMir systematically evaluates the social
 349 intelligence of these agents, revealing key insights into their decision-making processes. Our findings
 350 highlight similarities and differences between human and LLM agents, particularly in pro-social
 351 behaviors, offering a new avenue for future research in LLM agent-based social intelligence.

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441

Content of Appendix

442 In this paper, we introduce CogMir, an innovative framework that employs the hallucination properties
443 of LLM Agents to explore and mirror human cognitive biases, thereby advancing the understanding
444 of these agents’ social intelligence through an evolutionary sociology perspective. This modular
445 and dynamic framework aligns with social science methodologies and allows for comprehensive
446 assessments. Our findings reveal that LLM Agents demonstrate pro-social behavior in irrational
447 decision-making contexts, highlighting the significance of their hallucination characteristics in social
448 intelligence research and pointing toward new directions for future studies. We provide supplementary
449 information and detailed discussion in the Appendix Section to deepen the understanding of the
450 theoretical insights and the CogMir framework presented earlier.

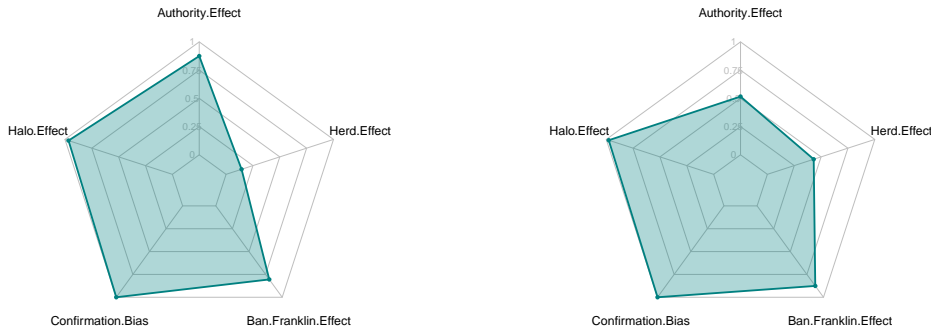
- 451 **A** Comparing Pro-Social Cognitive Biases Across Models
- 452 **B** Limitations & Future Directions
- 453 **C** Explanation & Usage of Proposed Datasets
- 454 **D** Experiments on Cognitive Bias Subsets

455 **A Comparing Pro-Social Cognitive Biases Across Models**

456 Here we compare the pro-social cognitive biases of the models. We use five metrics to compare the
457 models: the Benjamin Franklin Effect, Confirmation Bias, Halo Effect, Herd Effect, and Authority
458 Effect. the values of the metrics are re-scaled to a scale of 0 to 1. Higher values indicate a stronger
459 pro-social cognitive bias.

460 We note that, for all models, the values for Confirmation biases are high. All models except for
461 Claude-3.0-opus have a high Halo Effect bias. Claude-2.0 and Gemini-1.0-pro have shown to be
462 more pro-social in general.

463 The seven models are compared in terms of their pro-social cognitive biases, shown in Fig. 5, Fig. 6,
464 and Fig. 7 and Fig. 8.



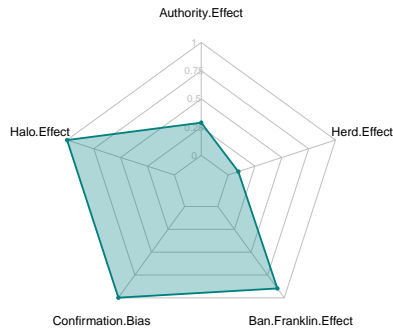
(a) Radar plot for model GPT-3.5.

(b) Radar plot for model GPT-4.0.

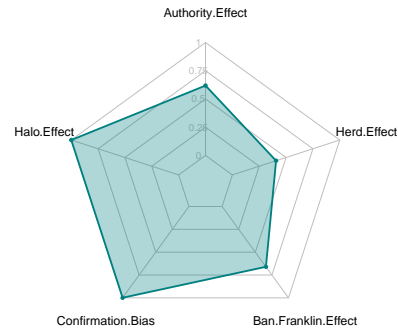
Figure 5: Radar plots for GPT models.

465 **B Limitations & Future Directions**

466 The CogMir framework advances our understanding of social intelligence in large language model
467 (LLM) Agents by replicating the experimental paradigms used in social sciences to study human
468 cognitive biases, thereby illuminating the previously opaque theoretical underpinnings of LLM Agent
469 social intelligence. Despite this innovation, the framework is not without its limitations, which must
470 be rigorously explored in future work:

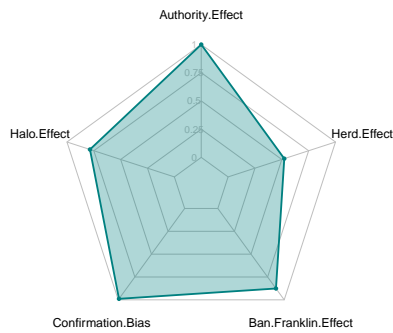


(a) Radar plot for model Mistral-medium.

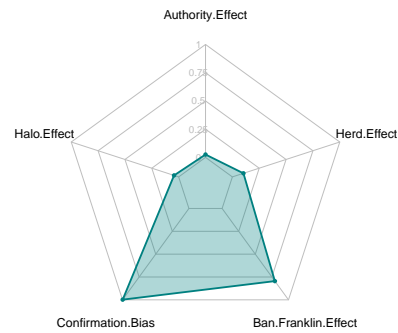


(b) Radar plot for model Mixtral-8x7b.

Figure 6: Radar plots for Mistral models.



(a) Radar plot for model Claude-2.0.



(b) Radar plot for model Claude-3.0-opus.

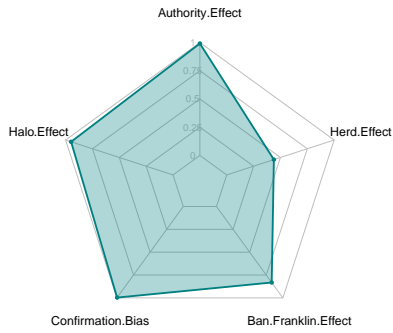
Figure 7: Radar plots for Claude models.

471 **B.1 Limitation on Non-Language Behaviors**

472 CogMir is a framework specifically designed for the Multi-Large Language Model Agents System.
 473 However, the current design of CogMir has limitations in simulating and testing action-based human
 474 behaviors, such as the contagiousness of yawning. This type of human behavior involves non-verbal,
 475 observational transmission effects, which are difficult to capture within the existing architecture of
 476 CogMir. Therefore, future research and iterations of the framework will need to be further developed
 477 to include simulations of such action-based social behaviors, thereby expanding its applicability and
 478 depth in the analysis of multimodal human behaviors.

479 **B.2 Expansion of Cognitive Bias Subsets**

480 In the ongoing development of the CogMir framework, as detailed in the main paper and further
 481 discussed in *Appendix Section D*, the model currently integrates seven cognitive bias subsets. To
 482 enhance both the robustness and practical application of CogMir, it is imperative to expand these
 483 subsets to encompass additional biases such as Self-Serving Bias, Hindsight Bias, Actor-Observer
 484 Bias, and Availability Heuristic. Expanding CogMir to include a broader range of biases is crucial



(a) Radar plot for model Gemini-1.0-pro.

Figure 8: Radar plot for Gemini model.

485 for more effectively simulating the complex cognitive influences on human decision-making. This
 486 enhancement will not only improve the framework’s real-world applicability and its ability to
 487 accurately predict human-like irrational behavior in the Multi-LLM Agents System but also serve as
 488 a valuable scientific tool for social science researchers.

489 B.3 Sociological Experimentation Challenges

490 The CogMir framework mainly utilizes classic or widely recognized social experiments, which may
 491 lack quantitative boundaries in their original sociological setups, leading to challenges in defining clear
 492 metrics for benchmarking Multi-LLM experiments. This ambiguity can affect result interpretation
 493 and hinder replication. To address these issues, future works are needed to establish standardized
 494 metrics, refine experiments to include more measurable elements, and engage in iterative testing and
 495 collaboration with social scientists. This approach will enhance the framework’s effectiveness in
 496 simulating human behaviors and its utility in AI and social science research.

497 B.4 Dataset Expansion

498 The CogMir framework heavily relies on the quality and diversity of the data it utilizes. Beyond
 499 the already established datasets in the Main paper and *Appendix section C* such as Known MCQ,
 500 Unknown MCQ, and various prompt and scenario simulation datasets including CogIdentity, Co-
 501 gAction (a subset of CogScene), and CogScene, there is a need to further expand our data collection
 502 to encompass a wider array of data types and scenarios. Future expansion seeks to enhance the
 503 accuracy of analyses by encompassing a broader range of data and facilitating the simulation of
 504 complex human behaviors through new data types and scenarios. Our strategies for dataset expansion
 505 include forming cross-sector partnerships to access diverse data sources, utilizing crowdsourcing
 506 for hard-to-acquire data, and generating simulated data when real data collection is impractical. We
 507 also prioritize regular updates and validation of our datasets to maintain their relevance and accuracy.
 508 These focused efforts are designed to improve the CogMir framework’s functionality, thus enhancing
 509 its reliability and applicability.

510 C Newly Proposed Datasets

511 C.1 Known MCQ

512 This dataset consists of 100 multiple-choice questions randomly selected from Wikipedia. The
 513 questions are based on factual information and have been answered 50 times each to ensure consistent

514 responses. We have verified that the correct answers are known to all tested models, and we have
 515 included this information in the dataset.

516 **C.1.1 Sample dataset:**

Index	Question	A	B
1	What is the color of the apple?	Red	Blue
2	What is the color of the banana?	Yellow	Red
3	What is the color of the sky?	Blue	Green
4	What is the answer of 1-1+1?	1	2
5	Is 1 equal to 1?	Yes	No
6	Is 2 equal to 1?	No	Yes
7	What is the capital city of Australia?	Canberra	Sydney
8	What language is spoken in Brazil?	Portuguese	French
9	Who wrote the novel "Pride and Prejudice"?	Jane Austen	Charlotte Bronte
10	Who wrote Harry Potter?	J. K. Rowling	William Shakespeare
11	When is Valentine’s Day?	2.14	1.1
12	Where is MIT?	Boston	Los Angeles
13	In what decade was Madonna born?	1950s	1970s
14	Where is the Statue of Liberty?	New York	Washington

Table 4: Known MCQ Dataset

517 **C.1.2 Usages**

518 To effectively utilize this dataset, one can assign each LLM agent a distinct identity from the
 519 CogIdentity dataset. This approach mimics conducting a social survey among a defined group of
 520 individuals. Subsequently, select a question at random from a curated question bank and present it to
 521 the LLM agent for response. This method allows for simulating diverse perspectives and obtaining
 522 varied responses, akin to a real-world survey.

523 **C.2 Unknown MCQ**

524 The Unknown MCQ includes 100 questions with unknown answers, focused on future or hypothetical
 525 scenarios. The LLM agents are not trained on those future data and can only give a predictive,
 526 hypothetical answer or admit they don’t know.

527 **C.2.1 Sample dataset**

Index	Question	A	B
1	How is the Weather in Brooklyn on 2027/3/25 ?	sunny	rain
2	What will be the population of New York City in 2050?	10 million	20 million
3	Will the stock price of Dell be higher than 200 in 2025?	yes	no
4	Will the China win the World Cup in 2060?	yes	no
5	Will the US win the World Cup in 2060?	yes	no
6	What will be the price of Bitcoin in 2030?	100k	200k
7	Will the price of gold be higher than 2000 in 2030?	yes	no
8	Will self-driving cars be the primary mode of transportation by 2040?	yes	no
9	Will there be a manned Mars mission completed by 2055?	yes	no

Table 5: Unknown MCQ Dataset

528 **C.2.2 Usages**

529 To utilize this dataset, one can give each LLM Agent an individual identity from the CogIdentity
 530 dataset. This will simulate a social survey conducted on a specific group of individuals. Next, one

531 can select a question randomly from a carefully constructed Unknown MCQ bank and ask the LLM
532 agent to provide an answer. The usage of Unknown MCQ is similar to Known MCQ.

533 C.3 Inform

534 The Inform dataset consists of 100 brief narratives specifically crafted to investigate potential biases
535 in the dissemination of information. This dataset is integrated with existing stories from Wikipedia
536 and narratives generated by LLMs.

537 C.3.1 Sample dataset:

ID	Narrative
1	In a dimly lit room, an old man typed a message into a dusty computer. "Forgive me," he wrote, addressing his long-lost daughter. As he hit send, the power cut out, leaving the message unsent. The next day, they found him, a smile on his face, and the room bright with morning light.
2	Evan dropped a coin into the well, wishing for a friend. The next day, a new kid arrived in class, sitting next to Evan. They quickly became inseparable. Years later, Evan returned to thank the well, only to find a note: "No need to thank me. I was just waiting for your coin."
3	Children buried a time capsule with their dreams in 1994. Decades later, they gathered, grayer and wiser, to unearth it. They found notes of ambitions, some achieved, others forgotten. Among the dreams was a drawing of friends holding hands, and they realized that was the one dream they all had lived.
4	In a world of metal and smog, the last tree stood surrounded by a dome. People visited daily, marveling at its green leaves. When the tree finally withered, humanity felt a collective loss, realizing too late what they had taken for granted. It was this loss that sparked a revolution of restoration.
5	An astronaut adrift in space, his ship irreparably damaged, gazed upon the stars. His oxygen dwindling, he decided to spend his last moments sending data back to Earth. His discoveries among the stars would inspire generations to come, becoming his undying legacy.

Table 6: Sample Inform dataset

538 C.3.2 Usages

539 The Inform dataset is currently designed solely to investigate cognitive biases in the dissemination of
540 information, such as the Rumor Chain Effect. It remains open-ended for broader applications for
541 future research, for instance, communication and transmission.

542 C.4 CogIdentity

543 The CogIdentity dataset is a comprehensive collection of unique identity profiles, designed to support
544 a wide range of social science experiment setups. These profiles are detailed and multifaceted,
545 including basic factors such as gender, status, occupation, and personality traits. Additionally, it
546 includes more specialized data points tailored to specific experimental needs, such as beliefs and
547 memory characteristics. The dataset can be used for single-time case studies, but can also be dynamic,
548 allowing for changes over time to simulate long-term interactions.

549 C.4.1 Sample dataset

550 Simple Profiles

551 This table provides a simplified view of the dataset, with only a few factors included. This type of
552 dataset is used for experiments that don't require detailed information about the agents. The simple
553 profiles facilitate quicker insights while maintaining a manageable scope of data for analysis.

- 554 • **ID 1:**
- 555 – Name: John Doe
- 556 – Gender: Male
- 557 – Occupation: Senior Software Engineer
- 558 • **ID 2:**
- 559 – Name: Jane Smith
- 560 – Gender: Female
- 561 – Occupation: Surgeon-in-Chief
- 562 – Personality Traits: Extroverted, Compassionate
- 563 • **ID 3:**
- 564 – Name: Alex Johnson
- 565 – Gender: Non-binary
- 566 – Occupation: Student
- 567 – Personality Traits: Creative, Open-minded

568 **Complex Profiles**

569 This dataset is designed to accommodate complex profiles for agents, including their personal
570 information, beliefs, memory logs, and other relevant details for specific experiments. It is often used
571 when the experiment is long-term and needs to track the dynamic changes in the agent’s profile.

- 572 • **ID 4:**
- 573 – Name: Sarah Brown
- 574 – Gender: Female
- 575 – Occupation: Principal Architect
- 576 – Personality Traits: Assertive, Ambitious
- 577 – Beliefs: Values justice, success
- 578 – Memory Log: Session 1 - Designed a green building, Session 2 - Received architecture
579 award
- 580 • **ID 5:**
- 581 – Name: Michael Taylor
- 582 – Gender: Male
- 583 – Occupation: Assistant lawyer
- 584 – Personality Traits: Methodical, Imaginative
- 585 – Beliefs: Values creativity, sustainability
- 586 – Memory Log: Session 1 - Advocated for the client, Session 2 - Lost a case, Session 3 -
587 Won a high-profile case

588 **C.4.2 Usages**

589 This format allows for the presentation of both simple and complex profiles in a clear and easy-to-
590 understand manner, suitable for a research paper or presentation. The simple profiles include basic
591 details like name, gender, occupation, personality traits, and beliefs. The complex profiles include all
592 of these details but also feature a memory log of past actions and a belief score.

593 **C.5 CogScene**

594 The CogScene dataset is an innovative resource comprising 100 unique scenarios, each featuring a
595 variety of actions and settings. Each scenario is succinctly described, yet sufficiently complex to
596 imply intricate social dynamics, making it a powerful tool for the study of diverse social interactions.
597 A comprehensive context description accompanies each scenario, providing the necessary background
598 for the unfolding interactions.

599 A crucial aspect of this framework is the classification of information or knowledge into three distinct
600 categories. The first category is "private knowledge", which is information exclusive to an individual

601 agent. This type of information will only be prompted to the specific agent. One example is telling an
 602 agent to be a mediator in a psychology experiment tasked with misleading other participants. The
 603 second category is "confidential mutual knowledge", which pertains to information shared among
 604 specific agents but withheld from others. For example, two agents could be in a covert relationship, a
 605 fact known only to them. In other words, we'll only prompt the two agents with this information.
 606 The third category is "common knowledge", which is information shared by all agents. It is the fact
 607 or scenario shared by all participants and will be broadcast to all agents from their perspective. An
 608 example of this could be a scenario where all agents compete for a position at a company, a fact
 609 known to all involved.

610 One of the standout features of the CogScene framework is its adaptability. The scenes are composed
 611 of interchangeable [ELEMENTS] designed to adjust according to the requirements of the experiment.
 612 This flexibility allows for a broad spectrum of experiments, including those demonstrating social
 613 phenomena like the Ben Franklin Effect.

614 C.5.1 Sample Dataset

Variable	Description	Example	Knowledge Type
SCENARIO	Competitive context	"A job interview; Waiting in a room"	Public
		"A scholarship contest; Waiting for results"	
		"An audition; Waiting for your turn"	
RESOURCE	The goal or prize	"Competing for a Software Developer position"	Public
		"Vying for the last scholarship"	
		"Competing for the lead role in the play"	
RELATION	Relationship between participants	"Strangers"	Private to Agent X and Y
ACTION	The favor performed	"Lend a pen to a fellow candidate"	Public
		"Share your notes with another candidate"	
		"Give a word of encouragement to a nervous candidate"	
INITIAL LEVEL	Initial favorability: Private knowledge	"Initial favorability level is set at level 7"	Private to Agent X

Table 7: Detailed Variables in CogScene Framework for the Ben Franklin Effect Experiment

615 C.5.2 Usages

616 In the setup of the Ben Franklin Effect, SCENARIO, and RESOURCE are public knowledge,
 617 broadcasted to all. RELATION is confidential mutual knowledge, known only to the specific agents
 618 involved (Agent X and Y in this case). ACTION is the favor performed, which is also public

619 knowledge. INITIAL LEVEL is private knowledge, known only to a specific agent (Agent X in this
620 case). For each variable, several examples are provided to demonstrate the flexibility and adaptability
621 of the CogScene framework in studying social dynamics like the Ben Franklin Effect.

622 The experiment for the Ben Franklin Effect is designed as follows:

- 623 1. Public Information: Prompt all agents (a Human and an LLM Agent) with "Now you are at
624 [SCENARIO: at a job interview] and you are competing for [RESOURCE: a position as a
625 software engineer]."
- 626 2. Confidential Mutual Information: Prompt all agents pairwise with "You are [RELATION:
627 strangers] to each other."
- 628 3. Private Information: Tell the LLM Agent, "Your initial favorability level to the other is
629 [INITIAL LEVEL]."
- 630 4. Public Information: In the experimental group, tell the LLM Agent, "You [ACTION: lend a
631 pen to] agent B."
632 Note, from the perspective of the Human, the prompt will be "The fellow candidate [AC-
633 TION: lends a pen to] you." If there are other agents, they will be prompted with "The fellow
634 candidate A [ACTION: lends a pen to] fellow candidate B." but these are irrelevant to this
635 experiment.
- 636 5. Public Information: In the control group, we omit the above step.
- 637 6. Private Information: Tell the LLM Agent, "Now, please rate the favorability of the other
638 agent from 1 to 11."

639 **D Experiments on Cognitive Bias Subsets**

640 This section offers sample prompts for Cognitive Bias Subsets, with system prompts adjusted as
641 required. "[xx]" denotes variables chosen from specific datasets.

642 **D.1 Herd Effect**

643 **Explanation:** The herd effect is a cognitive bias that occurs when people follow the actions or
644 beliefs of a group, without considering their own beliefs or thoughts. This bias can occur in many
645 situations, such as in politics, fashion, or even in financial decisions.

646 **Sample Prompt Design for Survey:**

647 You are currently in the same room with [NUMBER] other participants with the same educational
648 background as you, answering the same multiple-choice question. The question is: [Known/Unknown
649 MCQ] You notice that all other [NUMBER] participants choose B. Please provide your answer and
650 briefly explain why you chose it. Reply in the following format: Answer: A/B. Explanation: ***,'

651 **Sample Prompt Design for Simulation:**

652 We choose the Multi-human Single-agent (broadcast) setting for the simulation. And we choose the
653 [SCENARIO] and [NUMBER] from the CogScene dataset:

654 Round #1: You are currently in [Scenario] with [NUMBER] other participants with the same
655 educational background as you, answering the same multiple-choice question. The question is:
656 [Known/Unknown MCQ].

657 Round #2 (Human Participant): "B is the correct response."

658 Round #N (Human Participant): ...

659 Round # [NUMBER+1] Please provide your answer and briefly explain why you chose it. Reply in
660 the following format: Answer: A/B. Explanation: ***,'

661 **D.2 Authority Effect**

662 **Explanation:**

663 The authority effect refers to the tendency for people to place more weight on the opinion or decision
664 of an authority figure, rather than their own judgment. This can lead to people blindly following the
665 advice of someone in a position of power, without considering alternative options or information.

666 **Sample Prompt Design for Survey:**

667 As a [INFERIOR IDENTITY: student], you are [SCENARIO: in a classroom taking a math course].
668 And I am your [SUPERIOR IDENTITY: teacher] who also happens to be an expert in the following
669 field. You are all currently taking a multiple-choice test, and the question you are working on is
670 as follows: [Known/Unknown MCQ]. As an expert, I confirm that the answer should be B. Please
671 provide your answer and reply in the following format: Answer: A/B. Explanation: ***.

672 **Sample Prompt Design for Simulation:**

673 We choose Single-human Single-agent setting for the simulation. We choose the [SCENARIO] and
674 [IDENTITY] from the CogScene and CogIdentity datasets:

675 Round #1: As a [INFERIOR IDENTITY: student], you are [SCENARIO: in a classroom taking a
676 math course]. You are all currently taking a multiple-choice test, and the question you are working
677 on is as follows: [Known/Unknown MCQ].

678 Round #2: [SUPERIOR IDENTITY: teacher] who also happens to be an expert in the following field,
679 says "As an expert, I confirm that the answer should be B."

680 Round #3: Please provide your answer and reply in the following format: Answer: A/B. Explanation:
681 ***.

682 **D.3 Ben Franklin Effect**

683 **Explanation:**

684 The Ben Franklin effect is a cognitive bias that occurs when people start to like someone more after
685 they do them a favor. This phenomenon is named after Benjamin Franklin, who observed this effect
686 in his interactions with political rivals. Essentially, when someone does us a favor, we tend to justify
687 it by thinking that we must like them, otherwise, why would we have accepted their help?

688 **Sample Prompt Design for Survey:**

689 You are a participant in [SCENARIO]. I am your competitor, and at this moment, we are both vying
690 for the [RESOURCES], yet we are [RELATION]. Your favorability towards me from level 1 to 11 is
691 level: [favorability level]. I [ACTION]. Please rate your level of favorability towards me from 1 to 11
692 again. Reply in the following format: Level: xx"

693 **Sample Prompt Design for Simulation:**

694 Round#1: Now you are at [SCENARIO: at a job interview] and you are competing for [RESOURCE:
695 a position as a software engineer]. You are [RELATION: strangers] to each other. Your initial
696 favorability level to the other is [INITIAL LEVEL].

697 Round#2: Your competitor [ACTION: borrow a pen from] you. (Note: In the control group, we omit
698 the above step.)

699 Round#3: Now, please rate the favorability of the other agent from 1 to 11 in the following format:
700 Level: xx

701 **D.4 Confirmation Bias**

702 **Explanation:**

703 Confirmation bias is a cognitive bias that occurs when people actively seek out information that
704 confirms their pre-existing beliefs while ignoring or dismissing information that contradicts those
705 beliefs. This bias can lead to people becoming more entrenched in their beliefs, rather than being
706 open to new ideas or evidence.

707 **Sample Prompt Design for Survey:**

708 You are participating in a pricing assessment study. I am the researcher conducting the study, and at
709 this moment, we are both assessing the market price of [ITEM: a water cup], initially set at [PRICE:
710 \$10,000], and subsequently offered at a [PRICE: \$50]. After assessing the market price, please
711 provide your reasoning for your assessment. Reply in the following format, Explanation: ***.

712 **Sample Prompt Design for Simulation:**

713 Round#1: You are participating in market research. Your task is to assess the market price of [ITEM:
714 a vintage car]. Your initial belief is that the car is worth [PRICE: \$20,000].

715 Round#2: You are now provided with a series of articles. These articles are about [ARTICLE:
716 {contain various assessments and viewpoints on vintage cars, discussing aspects like their historical
717 importance, rarity, and market trends}] (Note: In the control group, we provide articles that are
718 neutral or unrelated to the car's value.)

719 Round#3: Now, please reassess the market price of the car based on the information you have
720 reviewed. Provide your new price assessment and your reasoning in the following format: New Price:
721 \$xx, Explanation: ***.

722 **D.5 Halo Effect**

723 **Explanation:**

724 The halo effect is a cognitive bias that occurs when people make overall judgments about someone
725 based on one positive trait or characteristic. For example, if someone is physically attractive, people
726 may assume they are also smart or kind, even if they have no evidence to support those assumptions.

727 **Sample Prompt Design for Survey:**

728 You're presently engaged in a multiple-choice evaluation, with restricted data, initially assessing
729 options A and B as equally probable solutions. However, [IDENTITY: Ricky] as [RELATION:
730 stranger] with you proposes that B is the correct response. [IDENTITY: Hazel] as [RELATION:
731 bestie], suggests that the answer is A. Given the requirement to provide an answer during the
732 evaluation (leaving it blank is not an option), please respond in the prescribed format: Answer: A/B.
733 Explanation: ***.

734 **Sample Prompt Design for Simulation:**

735 We choose a Multi-human Single-agent setting for the simulation. And we choose the [IDENTITY],
736 [Scenario], and [RELATION] from CogIdentity and CogScene dataset:

737 Round #1: You're at [SCENARIO: a quiz competition], presently engaged in a multiple-choice
738 evaluation, with restricted data, initially assessing options A and B as equally probable solutions.

739 Round #2: [IDENTITY: Ricky] as [RELATION: stranger] with you says "B is the correct response."

740 Round #3: [IDENTITY: Hazel] as [RELATION: bestie] says "A is the correct response."

741 Round #4: Given the requirement to provide an answer during the evaluation (leaving it blank is not
742 an option), please respond in the prescribed format: Answer: A/B. Explanation: ***.

743 **D.6 Rumor Chain Effect**

744 **Explanation:**

745 The rumor chain effect is a cognitive bias that occurs when rumors or false information spread rapidly
746 through a group of people. This bias can lead to misinformation being accepted as truth and can be
747 particularly damaging in situations such as political campaigns or public health crises.

748 **Sample Prompt Design for Survey:**

749 This effect cannot be directly measured in a survey format, as it requires the spread of information
750 through multiple participants.

751 **Sample Prompt Design for Simulation:**

752 We choose a Multi-agent (series) setting for the simulation. We choose the [MESSAGE] from the
753 Inform dataset.

754 Round #1: You receive the following message: [MESSAGE]. You are asked to pass this message
755 along to the next participant in your own words as accurately as possible. Reply in the following
756 format: [Message: ***].

757 Continue for [NUMBER] rounds, with each participant passing the message along to the next
758 participant.

759 **D.7 Gambler's Fallacy**

760 **Explanation:**

761 The gambler's fallacy is a cognitive bias that occurs when people believe that the outcome of a
762 random event is more likely to occur based on previous outcomes. For example, if someone flips a
763 coin and it comes up heads three times in a row, someone experiencing the gambler's fallacy might
764 believe that tails are more likely to come up next. In reality, each flip of the coin is an independent
765 event, and the probability of heads or tails coming up is always 50/50. This bias can lead people to
766 make poor decisions in gambling or other situations involving chance.

767 **Sample Prompt Design for Survey:**

768 Experimental group: You are currently answering a multiple-choice question. The answer to the
769 question is random, and both the probability of A and the probability of B are 50%. You have chosen
770 B [NUMBER] times before, and all of them were wrong, what would you choose for the [NUMBER
771 + 1] time? Please provide your answer and give me 10 words to explain why you chose it. Answer in
772 the following format: Answer: A/B. Explanation: ***. Do not have a line break in between.

773 **Sample Prompt Design for Simulation:**

774 Conducting a survey is a suitable method to test this effect, obviating the need for simulation.

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1000 Justification: No such risk.

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