

Addressing Blind Guessing: Calibration of Selection Bias in Multiple-Choice Question Answering by Video Language Models

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Abstract

Evaluating Video Language Models (VLMs) is a challenging task. Due to its transparency, Multiple-Choice Question Answering (MCQA) is widely used to measure the performance of these models through accuracy. However, existing MCQA benchmarks fail to capture the full reasoning capabilities of VLMs due to *selection bias*, when models disproportionately favor certain answer options based on positional patterns observed during training. In this work, we conduct a comprehensive empirical analysis of several VLM architectures across major datasets designed to assess complex video-focused reasoning. We identify where the bias is most pronounced and demonstrate to what extent model responses reflect genuine understanding of video content and related questions, as opposed to reliance on arbitrary patterns or superficial cues, such as answer position. By decomposing the MCQA task and adapting fairness bias metrics to VLMs, we introduce a post-processing calibration technique **BOLD** to balance this bias. Our results show that reducing selection bias improves not only debiasing metrics but also overall model performance, including Accuracy and F1 Mean score. Our method, by suppressing "blind guessing", offers a more cost- and time-effective approach to mitigating selection bias compared to existing techniques. This study represents the first focused investigation of selection bias in video-to-text LLM-powered models.

1 Introduction

Multiple-choice question answering (MCQA) is a transparent and convenient method to assess language models' performance. Each MCQA instance presents a question and several answer options, requiring the selection of the correct one. However, large language models (LLMs) often exhibit *selection bias*, i.e., a tendency to favor certain answer positions irrespective of content (Zheng et al., 2024a;

Wang et al., 2024a). Such bias compromises fairness, reliability, and the true reasoning capabilities of these models. Although selection bias in LLMs has received increasing attention, it remains largely unexplored for video-language models (VLMs).

VLMs integrate textual and visual inputs by processing sequences of frames and capturing both spatial and temporal features. Recent advances align pre-trained LLMs with video encoders (Bordes et al., 2024). Although VLMs inherit many properties from LLMs, their reliance on complex visual inputs introduces unique challenges, such as higher computational overhead and the need for robust spatiotemporal reasoning. The growing role of VLM-based MCQA tasks thus calls for a tailored investigation of selection bias in VLMs.

We address this gap with the first study of video-MCQA selection bias, focusing on video-specific aspects such as dynamic unfolding of events, spatial object tracking, and camera behavior, rather than general plot understanding.

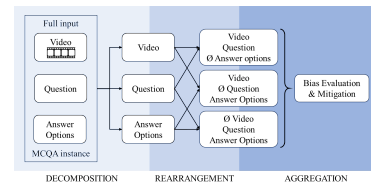


Figure 1: Decomposition approach in 3 steps: key-component decomposition, rearrangement into pairs, applying probability debiasing to the aggregated data.

Through the empirical analysis, we locate where the model's predictions are skewed by inherent option preferences. In parallel with fairness bias (e.g., regarding race or age), we adapt the metrics to video-MCQA and deliver a calibration technique.

Figure 1 illustrates our *decomposition* strategy. We find that depriving the MCQA task of its key constituent components (video, question, answer options) reveals latent bias factors. We systematically isolate the three components: we remove one

component at a time and rearrange the remaining pairs, obtaining three “ill-defined” variants of the original data. These decompositions allow us to identify the underlying bias patterns across different sub-spaces of the task. We then aggregate these insights and apply a probability-based debiasing procedure that adjusts the final predictions.

By experimenting with three VLM architectures and four video-specific MCQA datasets, we show that our post-training practical solution enhances interpretability, reduces computational complexity¹, and improves bias metrics. Intriguingly, while our method is designed to mitigate bias, it generally improves performance with better accuracy and F1 Mean scores.

In summary, our contributions are:

- A thorough investigation of selection bias in VLM-based MCQA with 11 dataset modifications to target video-specific reasoning challenges.
- Adaptation of fairness metrics to assess selection bias in VLMs on video MCQA benchmarks.
- A novel decomposition post-processing calibration technique that leverages the rearrangement of MCQA, mitigates selection bias and improves performance.

Through the refined MCQA benchmarks, we uncover deeper reasoning issues in contemporary VLMs. Our work helps move toward more robust, fair, reliable and interpretable VLMs by bridging a gap in the study of selection bias in video understanding models and offering a cost-effective solution.

2 Related Works

Selection bias in LLMs has been extensively studied (Pezeshkpour and Hruschka, 2023; Zheng et al., 2023; Wang et al., 2024a; Li et al., 2024; Liusie et al., 2024; Wang et al., 2024b). Fewer works are dedicated to image-to-text vision LLMs (Zong et al., 2024; Zhang et al., 2024; Xue et al., 2024).

Zheng et al. (2024a) conducted an empirical analysis of both position and token biases and proposed

¹Traditionally, selection bias is mitigated through shuffling (Zheng et al., 2024a; Liu et al., 2023), where answer options are permuted multiple times to yield more impartial results. Our method requires far fewer resources compared to all the exhaustive answer-option permutations.

PriDe, a debiasing method for LLMs that separates prior bias from unbiased results using shuffling.

We also treat the selection bias as subtraction from observed results in order to obtain the debiased outputs, but we move away from shuffling and regard bias as a vector projected onto three planes. Thus, our calibration method aligns more closely with Zhang et al. (2024), who cut off the visual input for the image-to-text MCQA. Differently, we operate on video-to-text, and, going further, decompose the bias vector into several projections rather than one. This way we eliminate the unimodal bias highlighted by Zhang et al. (2023b).

Wang et al. (2024a) and Liu et al. (2023) resolve the selection bias by augmenting datasets with re-ordered and additional options, increasing number of question-answer pairs in the dataset. We, in contrast, manipulate answer options, as well as videos and questions, not as a solution but as a means of analysis: we identify where the bias is most pronounced and use these modifications as a shortcut for debiasing.

Lastly, Pezeshkpour and Hruschka (2023) propose calibrating LLM predictions by redistributing probabilities to empirically determined options based on the model’s uncertainty. However, we find this approach insufficiently robust, as, according to our analysis, the bias depends on both the model and the dataset, and there is no consistent correlation between the model confidence and the presence of bias.

3 Empirical Analysis

3.1 Datasets

Table 1: Summary of Question-Answer (QA) pairs, Videos, and Number of Options for each dataset.

Dataset	QA pairs	Videos	Options
NExT-QA	8564	1000	5
NExT-GQA	4962	971	5
STAR	7098	914	4
Video-MME	2700	900	4
Perception Test	7656	3926	3

Our goal is to investigate VLMs’ bias under different conditions. To this end, we chose datasets specifically to cover a wide variety of question types, including *what*, *when*, *why*, *how*, and *yes/no* questions, that represent a broad spectrum of video-specific reasoning categories such as causal, temporal, descriptive, situational reasoning, as well as

memory, abstraction, physics, and semantics.

We selected the following four video MCQA datasets: **NExT-QA** (Xiao et al., 2021) (and its subset **NExT-GQA** (Xiao et al., 2023) with timestamp annotations to locate the answer moment), **STAR** (Wu and Yu, 2021), **Perception Test** (Pua-truacean et al., 2023), and **Video-MME** (Fu et al., 2024). These datasets consist of videos of varying lengths, from a few seconds to over an hour. The questions are either manually crafted or generated via functional programs, and the video content range from short everyday activities to animations.

The datasets also differ in the number of answer options per question. Table 1 gives the overview of the number of QA pairs, videos, and answer options for each dataset. Further details on each dataset, including QA examples, are provided in Appendix A.

For experimenting, we used the test splits of NExT-QA/NExT-GQA and Video-MME and the publicly available validation splits with correct answer annotations of STAR and Perception Test.

3.2 Models

To explore selection bias in a broader context, we chose to examine it with respect to diverse model architectures. Despite the differences, the selected models share key characteristics: they sample frames to extract visual features, either by keyframe selection or uniform sampling, and align visual features with textual representations using pre-trained LLMs. Each model leverages pre-trained visual encoders and fine-tunes pre-trained components with video-text datasets. The models differ substantially in methods of integrating video and language modalities (Bordes et al., 2024):

Video-LLaMA (Zhang et al., 2023a) has an additional audio channel and uses three query transformers (Q-formers) trained to align the video, audio, and language modalities.

Video-LLaVA (Lin et al., 2023a) aligns videos and LLMs within a shared representation space and has improved multimodal instruction-following capabilities.

SeViLA (Yu et al., 2023), specifically designed for question answering, implements a self-chaining approach with Localizer and Answerer: the first selects relevant frames, which the second uses to generate or choose answers.

Table 2 presents the zero-shot inference results of each model on the chosen datasets. Further details on the models, their settings, and prompts can

be found in Appendix B.

3.3 Experimental Settings

Eleven dataset modifications are used to examine the role of each component in MCQA benchmarks: video, question, and answer options. The outmost purpose of the modifications is to identify 1) if bias is universal across models and datasets, 2) in what option(s) bias is, 3) how much each component contribute to the bias, and 4) in what settings it is the strongest with respect to each video-MCQA component.

Video Modifications alter the video input:

1. **Correct Frames:** Only frames containing the answer are given as video input. This tests if reducing extraneous visual information improves performance. The modification applies only to NExT-QA (NExT-GQA) and STAR due to the availability of timestamp annotations.

2. **Empty Frames:** Black frames are passed instead of meaningful video input. This tests the model’s response to the absence of visual information within the multimodal setting.

Question Modifications adjust the questions in two ways:

3. **Rephrased Questions:** Llama3 (Dubey et al., 2024) rephrases the original questions five times, then one rephrasing is randomly selected.² By changing the wording, we check if the selection bias is linked to the token bias.

4. **Empty Questions:** Following (Balepur et al., 2024), we replace the question with an empty string to test if models can infer the question from answer choices and video.³

Answer Option Modifications examine the role of answer and its position in the emergence of bias:

5. **Answer Shuffling:** Options are randomly shuffled once. Previous experiments (Zheng et al., 2023; Zong et al., 2023) showed that the models are not robust against changing the option order. Regardless of accuracy, we check if the distribution of answers in each option is the same, which reveals the bias consistency.

²A manual check of 10% of each rephrased dataset confirmed that meaning was retained, with minimal impact on accuracy due to meaning loss. Notably, very few hallucinations were spotted in the NExT-QA rephrased copy.

³The previous research for LLMs has shown surprisingly high accuracy in this scenario. We investigate if the video modality contributes to even more meaningful predictions.

Table 2: Inference Accuracy (Acc) and F1 Mean Score by Models and Datasets.

Model	NExT-QA		STAR		Perception Test		Video-MME	
	Acc	F1 Mean	Acc	F1 Mean	Acc	F1 Mean	Acc	F1 Mean
Video-LLaMA	40.85	40.85	36.59	31.86	41.59	37.19	32.67	28.15
Video-LLaVA	49.96	49.81	34.71	31.83	40.73	35.69	34.22	30.99
SeViLA	63.78	63.88	46.28	46.14	45.30	45.11	39.85	39.82

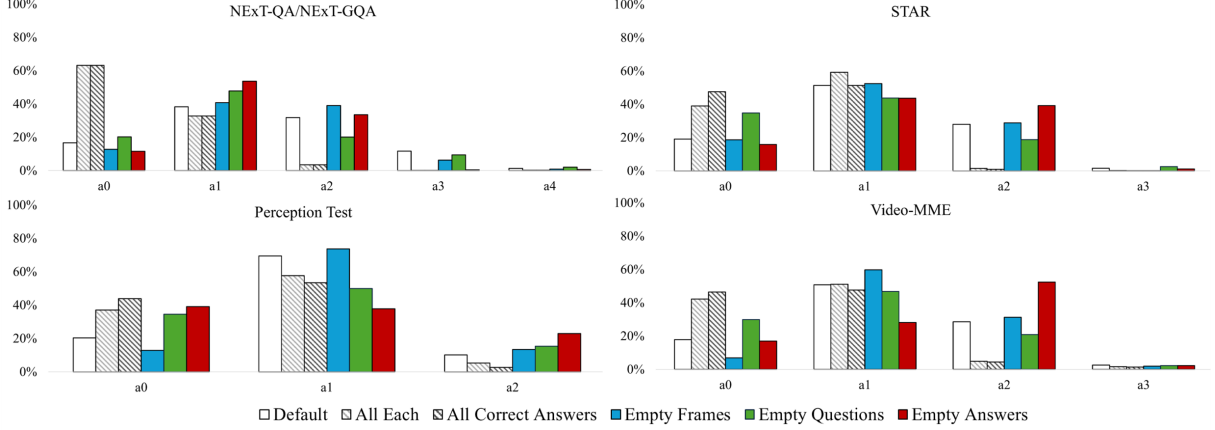


Figure 2: Video-LLaMA option distribution for accuracy-irrelevant settings across tested datasets. *All Each* represents the aggregated distribution under the *All Identical Answers* setting.

6. **Correct Answer in Each Option:** The correct answer is placed in a fixed position; its content is swapped with another option. By changing the position of correct answer we test to what extend each option contribute to the models' choice.

7. **Correct Answer with Shuffling:** The correct answer is fixed, and the remaining options are shuffled. This fusion of the previous two approaches tests how stable a particular option choice is given that it is correct.

8. **Additional Empty Option:** A new empty option is added in the end to check for overfitting to specific options. If the added blank line is predicted, this indicates a biased distribution of predictions among a certain number of options.

9. **All Identical Answers:** All options are identical testing for deviation from uniform distribution. When the answer from each option becomes the answer of all options, the answer bias with respect to tokens is eliminated. Moreover, since there is no correct answer in the case of distractors, we can check the answer choice that happens without meaningful reasoning.

10. **All Correct Answers:** Every option is correct. In addition to (9), where any answer is equal, in this setting any answer is valid. The expectation is to get the consistent uniform distribution.

11. **Empty Answers:** Each answer option is

an empty string. With a non-existent answer, the option name and its position in the question are the only sources for choosing an answer.

To reduce token bias, we use less common option names a0, a1, a2, etc. instead of the conventional A, B, C, etc.

Modifications can also be categorized as accuracy-relevant (e.g., correct frames, shuffling, or rephrased questions) and accuracy-irrelevant (e.g., identical answers or empty parts). Further details, including accuracy results, confusion matrices and examples for each modification are provided in the Appendix C.

3.4 Observations

Accuracy-relevant settings (Correct Frames, Rephrased Questions, and Answer Shuffling) vary in accuracy but yield almost the same option distributions as the default setting. This suggests that models rely more on answer position than on visual or textual content.

When the correct answer is placed in each option (Correct Answer in Each Option) or combined with shuffling (Correct Answer with Shuffling), the selection rate for that option increases, which indicates adequate reasoning. Moving the correct answer into less favored positions increases their selection proportion, and adding shuffling to it has

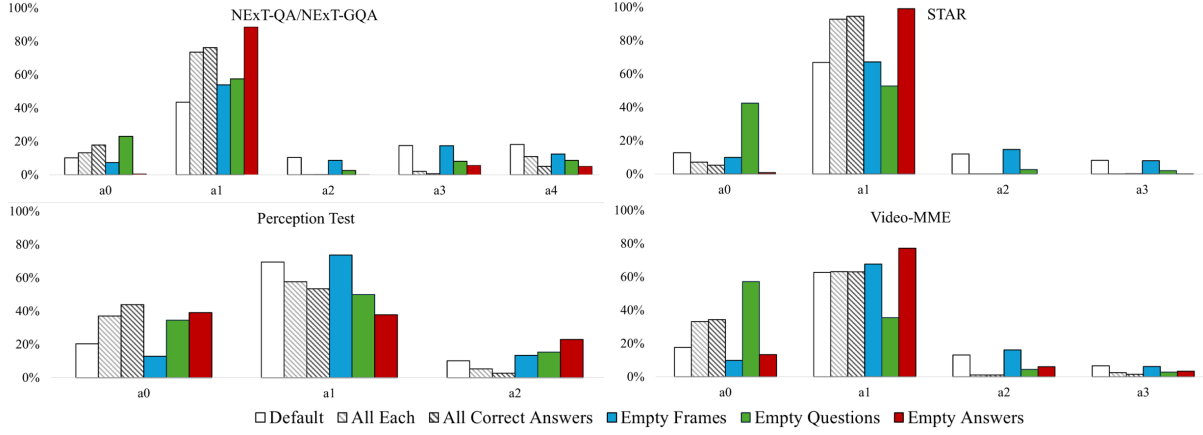


Figure 3: Video-LLaVA option distribution for accuracy-irrelevant settings across tested datasets. *All Each* represents the aggregated distribution under the *All Identical Answers* setting.

minimal additional effect.

In contrast, **accuracy-irrelevant** settings clearly expose bias. Under identical options (All Identical Answers and All Correct Answers) or incomplete conditions (Empty Frames, Empty Questions, Empty Answers), the predicted distributions deviate significantly from uniformity. Figures 2-4 highlight the patterns of the accuracy-agnostic settings as they are indicative for the study of bias, while full performance details are in Appendix C.

In case of All Identical Answers each-option answer showed consistently a very close distribution, so in the figures the result of All Each is obtained by averaging the outcomes across every option experiments within this setting. Tall bars concentrated in certain options indicate bias, while persistently low bars reveal neglected options. Each model exhibits pronounced biases toward specific options.

Video-LLaMA (Figure 2) strongly favors *a1* and tends to ignore options beyond the third one. In the Perception Test (three options), it already shows bias against the third option. With identical answers, *a0* sometimes competes with *a1*, and when answers are empty, *a2* surprisingly surpasses *a1* in Video-MME. Empty settings cover the behavior of the bias to the greatest extent.

Video-LLaVA (Figure 3) behaves similarly but exhibits even stronger bias toward *a1*, largely ignoring higher-numbered options. Unlike Video-LLaMA, it overwhelmingly favors *a1* when answers are empty. With empty questions, *a0* begins to compete with *a1*, especially in Video-MME.

SeViLA⁴ demonstrates greater robustness on

⁴SeViLA uniquely becomes distracted when an empty option is added, suggesting it may have been trained with fixed option counts. Notably, it shows reduced accuracy for all

NExT-QA, maintaining about uniform 20% distribution under harsh attacks. It only becomes unstable when all correct answers are identical (favoring *a0*) and with empty answers (favoring the last option). Figure 4 shows slightly higher saturation for these conditions. Unlike Video-LLaMA and Video-LLaVA, which rely on polynomial probabilities, SeViLA uses the *argmax* function, always selecting the first option if probabilities are equal. This explains why it often favors the first option, *a0*, in identical-answer scenarios.

4 Methodology

Our bias calibration approach is grounded in established guidelines for developing and validating multiple-choice test items (Haladyna, 2004), which emphasize balanced, independent, and logically plausible options. This way we ensure that the datasets isolate positional bias and allow our calibration method to be applied effectively. Specifically, we require the following conditions to hold in the MCQA benchmark:

1. **Balanced options:** All answer options are presented equally without any positional or presentation bias. This is crucial and straightforward to achieve via minimal preprocessing.
2. **Independent options:** Each option for a given question is independent of others. There should be no overlapping content or logical dependencies among options that influence selection.
3. **No logically better or worse options except the correct one:** All distractors should be plausible

correct frames in STAR, which aligns with prior findings (Goyal et al., 2016; Lin et al., 2023b), where "blind" language-only models were able to answer image-based questions.

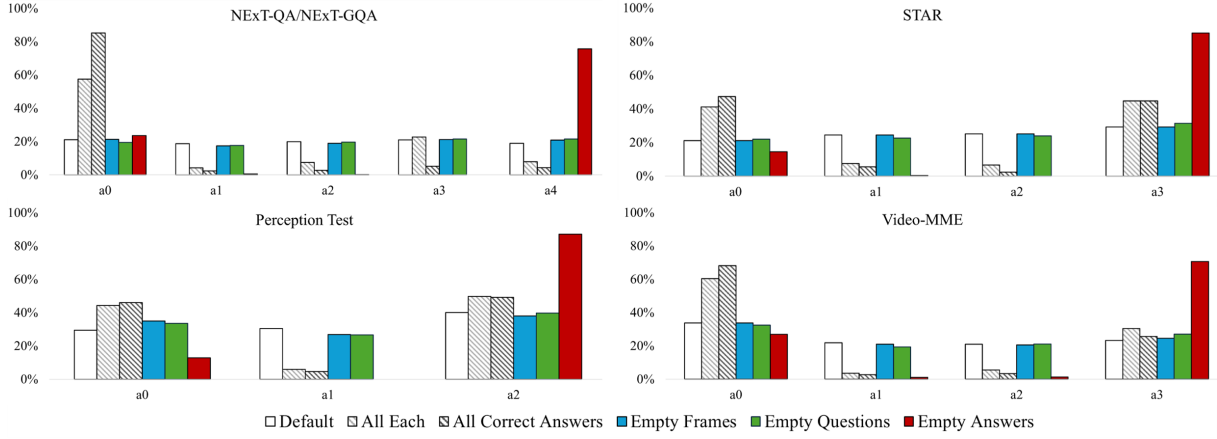


Figure 4: SeViLA option distribution for accuracy-irrelevant settings across tested datasets. *All Each* represents the aggregated distribution under the *All Identical Answers* setting.

and not trivially inferior or superior to the correct answer. This ensures that the model must rely on genuine reasoning.

4.1 Evaluation Criteria

Our framework both **detects bias** and **evaluates performance**. Bias metrics assess model’s consistency in treating all answer options fairly, while performance metrics evaluate accuracy and reliability.

We monitor the standard deviations of the F1 score (F1_std) and the recall (Recall_std). A high F1_std indicates inconsistent performance across options, signaling bias. A high Recall_std suggests the model is better at identifying correct answers for certain options over others.

For option probabilities, we use the standard deviation of the symmetric Jensen-Shannon distance (JS_std) to detect inconsistencies between the predicted and the true probability distributions. This metric, bounded between 0 and 1, is more interpretable than Kullback-Leibler (KL) divergence.

By tracking these metrics, we address group fairness, ensuring the model treats all options equitably. Large standard deviations in any metric suggest bias, which we aim to minimize.

4.2 Debiasing Approach

Every MCQA benchmark comprises essential components that make the answering task feasible. In the case of video-MCQA, these components include the video, the question, and the answer options. We construct decompositions where the task becomes impossible by design, as one of the key components is removed. This allows us to examine the projections of model’s behavioral bias on

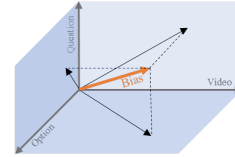


Figure 5: Bias vector and its projections on the decomposition planes.

each decomposition plane as intuitively shown in Figure 5. In a fair and unbiased model, projecting the dataset by omitting one of the key components would result in a uniform distribution. However, as shown in Section 3, this is far from the case. In the decomposition planes, the bias is more clearly manifested, and since we expect uniformity, the bias becomes easier to detect and mitigate.

4.2.1 Decomposition

Let a Multiple-Choice Question Answering task T be well-defined if there is one and only one correct option to answer the question based on the provided context. Otherwise, the T is ill-defined. We wish to decompose T into the following independent components: video context, question, answer options. Omitting any of these components makes T ill-defined. In general, there could be n independent components $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n$. Let $P(T)$ be a well-defining property (correctness) of T such that $P(T) = 1$ if T is well-defined, otherwise $P(T) = 0$. We assume that all tasks are initially well-defined.

A model M takes a task T as input and outputs an option ID corresponding to the correct answer for a video-based question: $M(T) = ID_{opt}$.

For an ill-defined task, a model that is both rea-

sonable and unbiased should uniformly select any option ID. Formally, if $P(T) = 0$: $M(T) = \text{RandomChoice}(\{ID_{opt}\})$.

The key insight from the analysis in Section 3 is if the model has bias on a given dataset, this bias is likely to be more ubiquitous, hence evident, in the ill-defined versions of the tasks.

Let A be an attack on the well-defined task that removes one of the task component C_i that makes this task defined insufficiently, i.e. $A(T) = \hat{T}$ and $P(\hat{T}) = 0$ while initially $P(T) = 1$. Let $A(D)$ be an attack on dataset D which means applying element-wise the same attack A to each T from D . Subsequently, we consider three types of attacks that make the task ill-defined: $A|_{v=0}$ for all zeroed frames in the video, $A|_{q=0}$ for all questions as an empty string, and $A|_{o=0}$ for all options as IDs only.

We investigate the importance of the following components of the bias $Bias_M$: $Bias_M|_{A|_{v=0}(D)}$, $Bias_M|_{A|_{q=0}(D)}$, $Bias_M|_{A|_{o=0}(D)}$, and how efficiently we can handle the general bias by balancing through these components.

4.2.2 Debiasing

The observed prediction distribution P_o over options $\{d_i\}_{i=1}^n$ and conditioned on task T where task $T = (\text{video}, \text{question}, \text{options})$ can be decomposed as the prior distribution P_p over d_i and the debiased distribution P_d :

$$P_o(d_i|T) = \frac{1}{Z_T} P_p(d_i|T) \times P_d(d_i|T) \quad (1)$$

where Z_T is a normalization factor.

The baseline method **BOLD** (Bias Optimisation Leveraging Decomposition) estimates the prior bias as following:

$$\tilde{P}_p(d_i|T) = \text{softmax} \left(\sum_j P_p(d_i|A_j(T)) \right) \quad (2)$$

First, we estimate the model bias on the dataset after attack A . We derive the P_p knowing that P_d is uniformly distributed from Equation 1:

$$P_p(d_i | A(T)) = P_o(d_i | A(T)) \quad (3)$$

To estimate the bias under $A|_{v=0}$, $A|_{q=0}$ and $A|_{o=0}$ attacks, we first compute $P_p(d_i|A|_{v=0}(T))$, $P_p(d_i|A|_{q=0}(T))$ and $P_p(d_i|A|_{o=0}(T))$, and then the prior estimation, respectively: $\tilde{P}_p(d_i|T) = \text{softmax}[P_p(d_i|A|_{v=0}(T)) + P_p(d_i|A|_{q=0}(T)) + P_p(d_i|A|_{o=0}(T))]$.

According to Zheng et al. (2024b), biases related to option IDs may transfer effectively across different samples and domains. Therefore, finding the

global prior with K samples, we can mitigate the bias for the entire dataset with minimal efforts.

From the dataset D , we take $K = k * ||D||$ samples, denoted as D_k , where k is adjusted coefficient based on estimation budget. Each sample in D_k is subjected to the set of attacks A . For each, we calculate the sample-specific prior $P_p(d_i|A(T))$ by Equation 3 and estimate the adjusted prior $\tilde{P}_p(d_i|T)$ by Equation 2. The global prior, $\tilde{P}_p(d_i)$, is then obtained by averaging the priors for each sample.

Ultimately, the posterior debiased through the global prior is calculated as follows:

$$P_d(d_i|T) = \text{softmax} \left(\log P_o(d_i|T) - \log \tilde{P}_p(d_i) \right) \quad (4)$$

In the extended version, **Weighted_BOLD**, we use weights for $P_p(d_i|A(T))$:

$$\tilde{P}_p(d_i|T) = \text{softmax} \left(\sum_j w_j P_p(d_i|A_j(T)) \right) \quad (5)$$

This allows for a more optimal direction in the latent space of the priors, as we can prioritize certain priors by significance and refine the prior estimation $\tilde{P}_p(d_i|T)$.

To gain the optimal weights, we use a 5-fold cross-validation procedure. In each fold, we optimize weights $\{w_i\}$ using the COBYLA algorithm (Powell, 1994), subject to the constraints $0 \leq w_i \leq 1$ or $|w_i| \leq 1$. While we minimize the standard deviation of Recall_std across the options on the test set, we monitor the same bias metrics on the validation set. After completing the cross-validation we average the estimated global priors across the folds and apply this averaged global prior. Both algorithms, BOLD and Weighted_BOLD, are outlined in Appendix D.

5 Results

We conducted tests with the k sample parameter set to 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, and 1 (the entire dataset) in combination with positive and negative weights. The configuration with $k=0.5$ and $w_i \geq 0$ provided the optimal balance between sample size and performance. As shown in Table 3 with results for positive weights and $k=0.5$,⁵ the overall significant improvement in bias metrics, including Recall_std, indicates that our method effectively reduces option disparity.

Weighted_BOLD generally outperforms BOLD because the weights capture critical priors in the

⁵Additional results for k values of 0.25, 0.75, and 1 combined with different weights are provided in Appendix D.

Table 3: Comparison of BOLD and Weighted_BOLD bias mitigation approaches across models and datasets for performance and bias monitoring metrics with $k = 0.5$. Green arrows indicate improvements: upward for Accuracy and F1_mean, and downward for standard deviation metrics. Red arrows represent deterioration, respectively.

Model	Dataset	Configuration	Performance Metrics		Bias Monitoring Metrics		
			Accuracy	F1_mean	Recall_std	F1_std	JS_std
Video-LLaMA	NExT-QA	BOLD	45.88 (↑2.43%)	42.15 (↑3.18%)	22.98 (↓3.53%)	15.53 (↓2.11%)	15.55 (↓3.31%)
		Weighted_BOLD	45.91 (↑2.51%)	42.2 (↑3.29%)	22.83 (↓4.19%)	15.51 (↓2.2%)	15.56 (↓3.27%)
	STAR	BOLD	37.19 (↑1.82%)	33.02 (↑3.65%)	22.29 (↓7.5%)	14.55 (↓5.75%)	14.58 (↓4.66%)
		Weighted_BOLD	37.34 (↑2.24%)	33.5 (↑5.16%)	21.13 (↓12.3%)	14.05 (↓8.98%)	14.14 (↓7.54%)
	Perception Test	BOLD	41.9 (↑1.24%)	38.68 (↑4.01%)	24.05 (↓11.11%)	9.87 (↓13.45%)	14.45 (↓10.01%)
		Weighted_BOLD	42.06 (↑1.62%)	39.36 (↑5.86%)	21.8 (↓19.45%)	9.11 (↓20.06%)	13.02 (↓18.94%)
	Video-MME	BOLD	32.73 (↑2.13%)	29.23 (↑3.85%)	19.29 (↓6.45%)	11.96 (↓4.46%)	13.1 (↓4.73%)
		Weighted_BOLD	32.2 (↑0.47%)	28.98 (↑2.94%)	17.65 (↓14.38%)	11.69 (↓6.56%)	12.64 (↓8.04%)
Video-LLaVA	NExT-QA	BOLD	51.81 (↑3.72%)	51.71 (↑3.82%)	13.27 (↓18.63%)	2.67 (↓18.42%)	4.58 (↓15.06%)
		Weighted_BOLD	52.15 (↑4.39%)	52.04 (↑4.49%)	12.72 (↓22.02%)	2.62 (↓19.83%)	4.49 (↓16.83%)
	STAR	BOLD	37.21 (↑7.01%)	35.76 (↑12.37%)	18.28 (↓26.85%)	4.97 (↓27.15%)	4.54 (↓21.39%)
		Weighted_BOLD	37.53 (↑7.94%)	36.18 (↑13.69%)	17.45 (↓30.15%)	4.91 (↓28.03%)	4.26 (↓26.24%)
	Perception Test	BOLD	41.62 (↑2.22%)	38.69 (↑8.4%)	21.75 (↓20.9%)	10.92 (↓25.97%)	3.78 (↓28.4%)
		Weighted_BOLD	41.95 (↑3.02%)	39.46 (↑10.58%)	19.73 (↓28.26%)	10.24 (↓30.53%)	3.4 (↓35.51%)
	Video-MME	BOLD	34.7 (↑1.19%)	32.79 (↑5.81%)	18.19 (↓24.51%)	6.16 (↓23.63%)	3.84 (↓19.93%)
		Weighted_BOLD	34.63 (↑0.97%)	32.97 (↑6.38%)	16.36 (↓32.07%)	6.01 (↓25.43%)	3.43 (↓28.5%)
SeViLA	NExT-QA	BOLD	63.92 (↑0.02%)	63.89 (↑0.02%)	2.03 (↓5.47%)	1.18 (↓10.4%)	1.99 (↓0.17%)
		Weighted_BOLD	63.93 (↑0.04%)	63.91 (↑0.04%)	1.99 (↓7.64%)	1.19 (↓9.83%)	1.99 (↓0.04%)
	STAR	BOLD	46.22 (↓0.12%)	46.1 (↓0.08%)	4.13 (↓7.46%)	2.26 (↓1.78%)	2.1 (↓6.64%)
		Weighted_BOLD	46.2 (↓0.18%)	46.08 (↓0.13%)	4.01 (↓10.17%)	2.2 (↓4.36%)	2.07 (↓8.2%)
	Perception Test	BOLD	45.32 (↑0.06%)	45.18 (↑0.16%)	5.18 (↓16.61%)	2.95 (↓2.43%)	1.3 (↓18.42%)
		Weighted_BOLD	45.31 (↑0.03%)	45.2 (↑0.21%)	4.56 (↓26.58%)	2.83 (↓6.43%)	1.08 (↓31.92%)
	Video-MME	BOLD	40.19 (↑0.84%)	40.17 (↑0.88%)	4.11 (↓12.03%)	1.41 (↓16.19%)	0.73 (↓12.52%)
		Weighted_BOLD	40.04 (↑0.46%)	40.03 (↑0.54%)	3.78 (↓19.14%)	1.44 (↓14.6%)	0.69 (↓17.22%)

latent space. Thus, they prove to be effective for fine-tuning bias correction within the decomposed priors.

Both BOLD and Weighted_BOLD consistently improve performance metrics for Video-LLaMA and Video-LLaVA. SeViLA generally shows more resilience to bias calibration, with minimal effect on performance on NExT-QA and marginal deterioration on STAR. This may be attributed to the model’s training for statistically close to uniform distribution of results over a fixed options number. Despite decreases in Accuracy and F1 Mean on STAR, the reduction in *Recall_std* across all datasets for this model suggests that its debiased responses are more truthful, reflecting a fairer distribution of correct answers across options.

Video-LLaVA, which exhibits the most pronounced selection bias, benefits the most from bias reduction via prior decomposition across all datasets, achieving a maximum accuracy gain of 7.94% on STAR with the weighted configuration.

6 Conclusion

We presented the first comprehensive analysis of selection bias in video-based MCQA tasks, using modified datasets to pinpoint how bias emerges within specific answer options and across different VLM architectures. Our findings reveal that while all models share common tendencies in answer distribution, they also possess distinct bias profiles both across and within datasets. Notably, the bias

vector is consistently more pronounced when projecting onto the decomposed planes where one key MCQA component (video, question, or answer options) is removed.

Building on these insights, we proposed the BOLD calibration method using a global prior bias vector, derived from the decomposed versions of the task, to mitigate selection bias. Our technique requires only three decompositions per question and is thus resource-efficient. Our BOLD bias removal not only enhances fairness and interpretability but also improves performance metrics. Extending the method to Weighted_BOLD refines the balance between debiasing and performance gains.

This easily scalable, post-processing, automatic, and unsupervised method is applicable to any existing VLM and allows for a sharper focus on its true reasoning capabilities. By making MCQA benchmarks more robust, transparent, and impartial, we enable a clearer assessment of true reasoning capabilities and pave the way for future improvements in model design and training strategies.

Furthermore, elevating bias suppression to an abstract level, where tasks are systematically decomposed and key components are removed to identify bias, we offer a framework beyond the current scope to address other bias-related challenges in machine learning models.

7 Limitations

Our approach rests on the assumption that when models lack sufficient direct information, they rely on indirect cues, manifesting as selection bias. While we have shown that bias can be decomposed by selectively removing the video, question, or answer component, this decomposition may not be exhaustive. There could be more optimal directions in the latent space of decomposed priors. Similarly, although our method identifies pronounced bias when all answers are correct, there remain scenarios where further supervised debiasing (e.g., applying COBYLA optimization with true labels) might yield more optimal results. We aimed for an easy-to-implement, unsupervised solution without relying on ground-truth answers.

We also assume the validity of uniform distribution as a baseline: Jensen-Shannon Divergence operates under the assumption that, in the absence of prior information, the distribution should be uniform. If the test MCQA data or task suggest an uneven distribution of answer options, this may lead to underestimating the significance of certain factors.

Another limitation is that we primarily assessed our post-processing calibration on the original datasets rather than systematically verifying performance improvements across all accuracy-relevant modifications. While our current evaluation covers four challenging video datasets and three model architectures, more granular, scenario-specific testing would provide stronger evidence of robustness. However, performing comprehensive evaluations on every modification poses practical challenges. These limitations point toward future work: exploring more nuanced testing scenarios, investigating methods that do not rely on uniform reference distributions, and potentially leveraging additional computational resources or innovative techniques for even more thorough bias and performance assessments.

8 Ethics Statement

We based our experiments on existing datasets, ensuring compliance with their respective copy-rights. Our research uses open-source VLMs, which, while offering accessibility and flexibility, also carry the inherent risks associated with open-ended text generation. Upon acceptance of the paper, we will release our code and dataset to the public for research and reproducibility.

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964	In <i>ICCV</i> .	Distractors are selected from 50 candidates based	1015
965	Hang Zhang, Xin Li, and Lidong Bing. 2023a. Video-	on a cosine similarity of less than 0.9 to the correct	1016
966	LLaMA: An instruction-tuned audio-visual language	answer, ensuring they are close but not identical.	1017
967	model for video understanding . In <i>Proceedings of</i>	This approach sometimes allows questions to be	1018
968	<i>the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Nat-</i>	meaningfully answered without viewing the video	1019
969	<i>ural Language Processing: System Demonstrations</i> ,	(see Figures 6- 8).	1020
970	pages 543–553, Singapore. Association for Compu-	Since our models were released after 2021, they	1021
971	tational Linguistics.	might have included NExT-QA in their training or	1022
972	Yedi Zhang, Peter E. Latham, and Andrew M. Saxe.	fine-tuning data.	1023
973	2023b. Understanding unimodal bias in multimodal	NExT-GQA, released in 2024 as an extension	1024
974	deep linear networks . In <i>International Conference</i>	of NExT-QA, focuses on evaluating the localiza-	1025
975	<i>on Machine Learning</i> .	tion abilities of VLMs. It includes manually an-	1026
976	Yi-Fan Zhang, Weichen Yu, Qingsong Wen, Xue Wang,	notated timestamp labels that are key for answer-	1027
977	Zhang Zhang, Liang Wang, Rong Jin, and Tien-Ping	ing the questions. Descriptive questions are ex-	1028
978	Tan. 2024. Debiasing multimodal large language	cluded because they pertain to global video content	1029
979	models . <i>ArXiv</i> , abs/2403.05262.	or have answers available throughout the video	1030
980	Chujie Zheng, Hao Zhou, Fandong Meng, Jie Zhou,	with no specific temporal grounding. We also ex-	1031
981	and Minlie Huang. 2023. Large language mod-	cluded QA pairs with multiple annotated time in-	1032
982	els are not robust multiple choice selectors . <i>ArXiv</i> ,	tervals. Consequently, the test set of NExT-GQA	1033
983	abs/2309.03882.		

comprises 56.69% causal questions and 43.31% temporal questions.

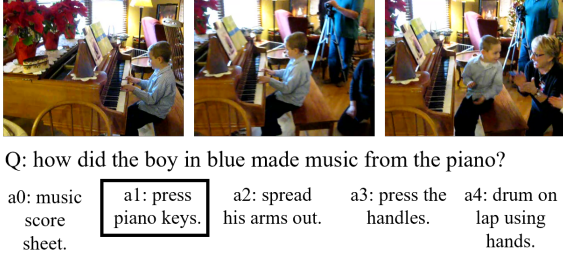


Figure 6: Example of a QA pair from NEXT-QA in the Causal category. The correct answer is in the box.



Figure 7: Example of a QA pair from NEXT-QA in the Temporal category. The correct answer is in the box.

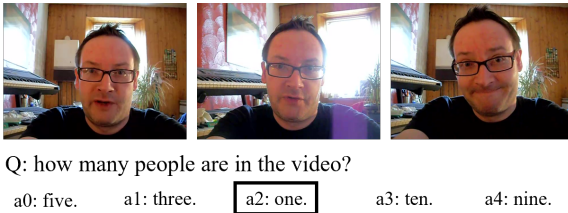


Figure 8: Example of a QA pair from NEXT-QA in the Descriptive category. The correct answer is in the box.

A.2 STAR

The STAR dataset is derived from the Action Genome dataset (Ji et al., 2019), which itself is based on Charades (Yuan et al., 2017). Charades comprises indoor activity videos with an average length of 30 seconds. Action Genome provides annotations of objects and their relationships within these videos.

The question-answer pairs are generated using functional programs based on situation hypergraphs: the graphs represent the extraction of abstract representations from the videos, while the functional programs provide multiple types of questions that cover different levels of difficulty in situated reasoning. There are four types of questions

focusing on occurred facts, temporal order, future probability, and feasibility in specific situations:

- **Sequence** (50.53%): “What did the person do before/after ...?”
- **Interaction** (33.78%): “What did a person do ...?”
- **Prediction** (8.79%): “What will the person do next with ...?”
- **Feasibility** (6.9%): “What is the person able to do?” or “Which object is possible to be ...?”

All QA pairs are annotated with a timestamp label. To avoid answer distribution bias, each question type is balanced through resampling. To prevent reasoning shortcuts due to frequent action or entity co-occurrences and to ensure models cannot easily answer without genuine understanding, the compositionality of verbs and nouns is controlled.

Examples are shown in Figures 9- 12.

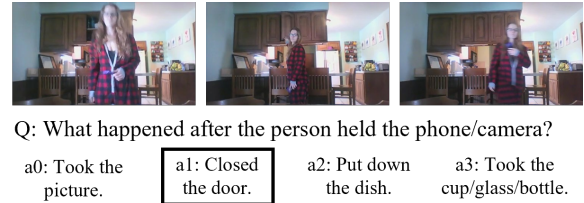


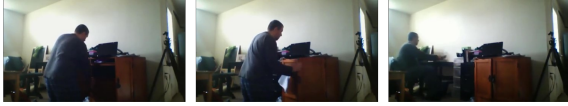
Figure 9: Example of a QA pair from STAR in the Sequence category. The correct answer is in the box.



Figure 10: Example of a QA pair from STAR in the Interaction category. The correct answer is in the box.



Figure 11: Example of a QA pair from STAR in the Prediction category. The correct answer is in the box.



Q: What is the person able to do after closing the door?

a0: Tidy up the closet/cabinet. a1: Hold the food. a2: Throw the bag. a3: Put down the paper/notebook.

Figure 12: Example of a QA pair from STAR in the Feasibility category. The correct answer is in the box.

A.3 Perception Test

The Perception Test dataset consists of four categories designed to evaluate VLMs on different types of reasoning:

- **Physics** (36.26%)
- **Semantics** (30.54%)
- **Abstraction** (29.28%)
- **Memory** (3.92%)

These categories test descriptive, explanatory, predictive, and counterfactual reasoning abilities. The video scripts are based on human perception screening tests, with an average length of 23 seconds. All answers are crowd-sourced. Distractors are both manually created and automatically generated, particularly for standard closed yes/no questions.

We use a 40% split of the correct-answer-annotated validation set to save the resources. Sampling is stratified to maintain the original balance of question types and the correct answer distribution. The split contains approximately 15% closed questions, which poses an additional challenge for models that tend to exhibit affirmation bias (Pezeshkpour and Hruschka, 2023). Notably, for closed questions in this dataset, Video-LLaMA and Video-LLaVA often respond with "yes" or "no" rather than selecting an answer option.

Examples of QA pairs from the Perception Test are shown in Figures 13- 16.



Q: Was the hidden object moved while being occluded?

a0: no a1: I don't know a2: yes

Figure 13: Example of a QA pair from Perception Test in the Descriptive Physics category. The correct answer is in the box.



Q: What is the person preparing?

a0: a sandwich a1: a salad a2: eggs

Figure 14: Example of a QA pair from Perception Test in the Descriptive Semantics category. The correct answer is in the box.



Q: If the person had taken out one more object from the bag, how many objects would the person have taken out in total?

a0: 5 a1: 2 a2: 3

Figure 15: Example of a QA pair from Perception Test in the Counterfactual Abstraction category. The correct answer is in the box.



Q: What changed on the table while the camera was looking away?

a0: The stapler was removed. a1: Nothing changed visibly on the table while the camera was looking away. a2: A paper was added.

Figure 16: Example of a QA pair from Perception Test in the Explanatory Memory category. The correct answer is in the box.

A.4 Video-MME

Video-MME was developed to address the lack of diversity in video MCQA benchmarks. It consists of 900 YouTube videos ranging from 11 seconds to 1 hour in length. The dataset covers 6 primary visual domains with 30 subfields and 12 task types including questions on temporal and spatial perception, object and action reasoning, OCR, and counting problems. All QA pairs and distractors are manually created with three questions per video. Additionally, the dataset features videos in languages other than English. The videos additionally are supplied with subtitles.

The released test split has an imbalanced option distribution, so we equalized it to properly assess option bias.

Examples are shown in Figures 17- 20.



Q: What's the correct order of the following events?
 1. Creating basic background. 2. Add a few flowers to the painting. 3. Building up the texture of the painting even more.
 4. Drawing the pads of the water lilies.

a0: 4, 1, 2, 3. a1: 2, 4, 1, 3. **a2: 1, 4, 2, 3.** a3: 1, 4, 3, 2.

Figure 17: Example of a QA pair from Video-MME in the Temporal Reasoning category. The correct answer is in the box.



Q: Which of the following is not a sponsor of the race?

a0: Lenovo. a1: BWT. a2: DEKRA. a3: IG.

Figure 18: Example of a QA pair from Video-MME in the OCR Problems category. The correct answer is in the box.



Q: How many national flags appear in the video?

a0: 3. a1: 5. a2: 2. **a3: 4.**

Figure 19: Example of a QA pair from Video-MME in the Counting Problem category. The correct answer is in the box.



Q: Where does the baby bird go at last?

a0: Flying away alone. a1: Staying with the fox. **a2: Flying with its mom to its herd.** a3: Going to find its nest.

Figure 20: Example of a QA pair from Video-MME in the Spatial Perception category. The correct answer is in the box.

B Models' Settings and Prompts

B.1 Video-LLaMA

Video-LLaMA aligns a BLIP-2-based visual encoder (Li et al., 2023) with LLaMA (Touvron et al., 2023). It incorporates audio signals using Imagebind (Girdhar et al., 2023). Both the video and audio Q-formers are trained on the Webvid-2M

dataset (Bain et al., 2021) to align the modalities. LLaMA is fine-tuned with visual instructional data.

Video-LLaMA is designed as a conversational model and was likely not specifically trained on MCQA, but rather on open-ended VQA datasets to generate captions, descriptions, and explanatory answers. Consequently, throughout our experiments with different prompt options, it tends to engage in dialogue: it repeats the question, responds with the general phrase "Hello, how can I help you today?", describes the video content, or even asks follow-up questions such as "What do you think about the video?" rather than providing a direct answer from a predefined list of options or option IDs.⁶ Making it elicit a clear and concise answer option is quite challenging.

To overcome this, we experimented with various prompts, temperature settings, and token limits, and developed the following strategy:

System prompt:

Analyse the video, choose the correct answer in multiple choice question answering. Give the ID of the correct answer option from the given list of options. Be concise.

User prompt:

<question> Options: <options>. The ID of the correct answer:

We set the *number of beams* to 2 and the *temperature* to 0.8. Additionally, we allowed the model up to 30 attempts to produce an answer that includes an answer ID. We used the 7B parameter model due to resource constraints. For answering, the model selects eight uniformly sampled frames.

B.2 Video-LLaVA

Video-LLaVA (Lin et al., 2023a) uses the pre-trained CLIP ViT-L/14 vision encoder (Radford et al., 2021) and the Vicuna language model (Chiang et al., 2023). Visual features from the encoder are projected into the same-dimensional space as the textual embeddings via a linear projector.

Video-LLaVA effectively delivers concise answers as just a single option based on a short, general prompt. However, in some cases, the model outputs as an answer option only "A" or responds with "yes" or "no" to a closed question.

For this model, we used the following prompt:

⁶It is noteworthy that the model often uses the following template to explain its answer choice: "The ID of the correct answer: a_i . Explanation: ..."


```

<video_tag> Question: <question>
Options: <options> The ID of the
correct answer is: Respond with only
the correct answer ID. ASSISTANT:

```

Notably, on the completely unfamiliar datasets Perception Test and Video-MME adding an empty option increases the number of responses that cannot be parsed as an answer ID (although this increase is statistically insignificant). Combined with the observation that the model tends to disregard options presented later in the prompt, this suggests that the length of the question affects the model’s performance, and tokens closer to the end of the prompt have a lower probability.

The model also selects eight frames from the video by uniform sampling. To conserve computational resources, we used Video-LLaVA-7B with half-precision set by Torch’s autocast. The temperature is equal to 1.

B.3 SeViLA

SeViLA adopts a selfchaining approach with BLIP-2 (Li et al., 2023) for keyframe localization and answering question. Its Localizer uniformly samples 32 frames and selects the 4 most relevant key ones, while the Answerer generates responses based on those frames. The Localizer and Answerer both have Flan-T5 (Chung et al., 2022) for LLM.

SeViLA does not have any unanswered or unparsable responses because it was specifically tailored for the multiple-choice VQA task: internally, it maps any answer option IDs to {A, B, C, D, E}. However, it is limited to observing at most six answer options. In a side experiment, we shifted all answers to options G, H, I, J, K leaving the first six options empty, and obtained identical results to our other experimental setting, *Empty Answers*. This indicates that the model is completely blind to options beyond F and is likely overfitted to the options {A, B, C, D, E}.

Furthermore, the shape of the confusion matrices for NExT-QA and STAR in Figures 21 and 22 shows an unusually accurate understanding of these datasets, unlike those for Perception Test and Video-MME. Since NExT-QA and STAR were released before SeViLA, the model might have been fine-tuned on them. On the other hand, this suggests that the positional bias in this model is much less pronounced.

Another vulnerability of SeViLA is that it uses *argmax* calculated on logit probabilities. However, logits without numerical stabilization can produce

NaN values when activated via softmax. In such cases, according to *argmax*, the model’s answer defaults to a_0 . Among the settings relevant for debiasing, such behavior was observed in 22 cases on NExT-QA.

For this model, we used the original prompts: **Localizer prompt (when the model selects 32 frames):**

```

Does the information within the frame
provide necessary details to accurately
answer the given question?

```

Answerer prompt (when the model selects the answer based on 4 key frames):

```

Considering information in frames,
select the correct answer from the
options.

```

The confusion matrices for all models in the default (unmodified) setting in Figures 21–23 provide a quick insight into positional bias: darker blue cells indicate a greater accumulation of answers.

C Models’ Performance on All Settings

C.1 Experimental Settings Examples

As the modifications to the video component do not affect the questions and answers, Table 4 presents examples of adjustments applied only to the question-answer pairs, along with their original versions. The example provided for the Video-MME dataset illustrates analogous changes implemented across all four datasets.

C.2 Models’ Performance on the Settings

Tables 5 through 16 present the distribution of selections across answer options and the accuracy (where applicable) for all settings, along with the target distributions. Notably, as soon as the correct answer aligns with the model’s biased option, the performance boosts.

The full data on distribution answers in each option is given in Figures 25 to 27.

D Debiasing Algorithms and Results

The BOLD algorithm 1 describes estimating and adjusting for prior probabilities derived from decomposed inputs of ill-defined tasks. The Weighted_BOLD algorithm 2 is an extension of Algorithm 1, this method introduces weighting to the prior estimation to enhance debiasing by better capturing critical priors.

Table 4: Questions and answers modifications example from MME dataset. Correct answer is highlighted in bold in the “Default” modification type.

Modification Type	Question	Answers
Default	How many national flags appear in the video?	(a0) 3. (a1) 5. (a2) 2. (a3) 4.
Empty answers	Default question	(a0) – (a1) – (a2) – (a3) –
Answer shuffling	Default question	(a0) 4. (a1) 5. (a2) 2. (a3) 3.
Additional empty option	Default question	(a0) 3. (a1) 5. (a2) 2. (a3) 4. (a4) –
Correct answer in each option	Default question	(a0) 4. (a1) 4. (a2) 4. (a3) 4.
All identical answers (a0)	Default question	(a0) 3. (a1) 3. (a2) 3. (a3) 3.
All identical answers (a1)	Default question	(a0) 5. (a1) 5. (a2) 5. (a3) 5.
All identical answers (a2)	Default question	(a0) 2. (a1) 2. (a2) 2. (a3) 2.
All identical answers (a3)	Default question	(a0) 4. (a1) 4. (a2) 4. (a3) 4.
Correct answer in (a0)	Default question	(a0) 4. (a1) 5. (a2) 2. (a3) 3.
Correct answer in (a1)	Default question	(a0) 3. (a1) 4. (a2) 2. (a3) 5.
Correct answer in (a2)	Default question	(a0) 3. (a1) 5. (a2) 4. (a3) 2.
Correct answer in (a3)	Default question	(a0) 3. (a1) 5. (a2) 2. (a3) 4.
Correct answer (a0) with shuffling	Default question	(a0) 4. (a1) 5. (a2) 3. (a3) 2.
Correct answer (a1) with shuffling	Default question	(a0) 5. (a1) 4. (a2) 2. (a3) 3.
Correct answer (a2) with shuffling	Default question	(a0) 3. (a1) 2. (a2) 4. (a3) 5.
Correct answer (a3) with shuffling	Default question	(a0) 5. (a1) 3. (a2) 2. (a3) 4.
Rephrased question	What is the total number of national flags that appear in the video?	(a0) 3. (a1) 5. (a2) 2. (a3) 4.
Empty questions	–	(a0) 3. (a1) 5. (a2) 2. (a3) 4.

We fixed the random seed to 1 and conducted a series of experiments varying the weights and the sampling parameter k . All results including the default values are presented in Tables 17–20.

When considering only positive weights ($w_i \geq 0$), we assume that the debiasing vector is oriented correctly and use the weights to fine-tune the magnitude of its decomposed constituents. Therefore, positive weights generally enhance improvements and aggravate deteriorations. Specifically, in this case, all the primary debiasing metrics improve along with *Recall_std*, albeit at different rates across models and datasets.

When we optimize a single bias metric, i. e. *Recall_std*, by allowing negative weights, we search the latent subspace for the most optimal vector to improve that specific metric. However, this optimization may not correlate with an improvement in the overall bias, as it focuses solely on that metric. Consequently, using negative weights can lead to

deterioration in other bias and performance metrics. This observation underscores the importance of evaluating bias using multiple metrics.

We provide the results for both cases, when weights are constrained to $0 \leq w_i \leq 1$ and when $|w_i| \leq 1$, as we believe that the observation of the direction of the bias vectors is crucial for understanding the overall debiasing effect.

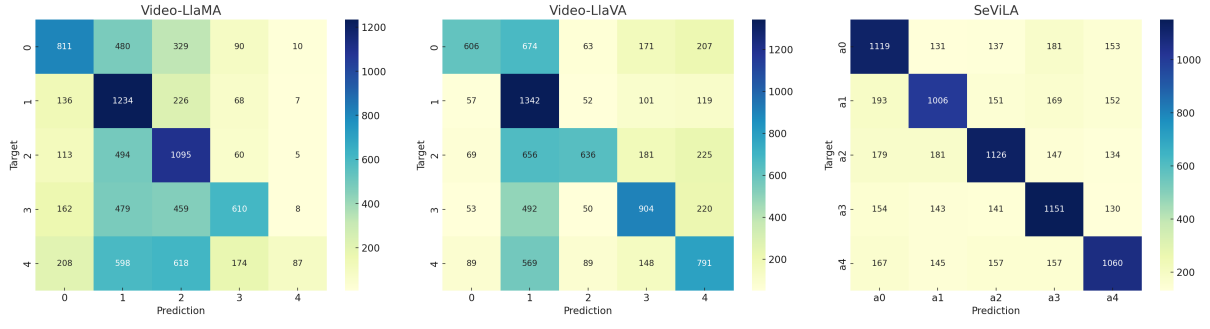


Figure 21: All Models' Confusion Matrices for NeXT-QA.

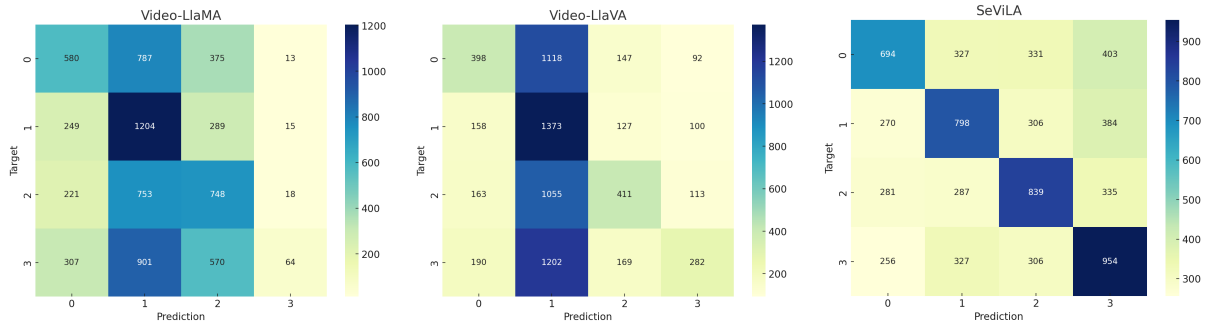


Figure 22: All Models' Confusion Matrices for STAR.

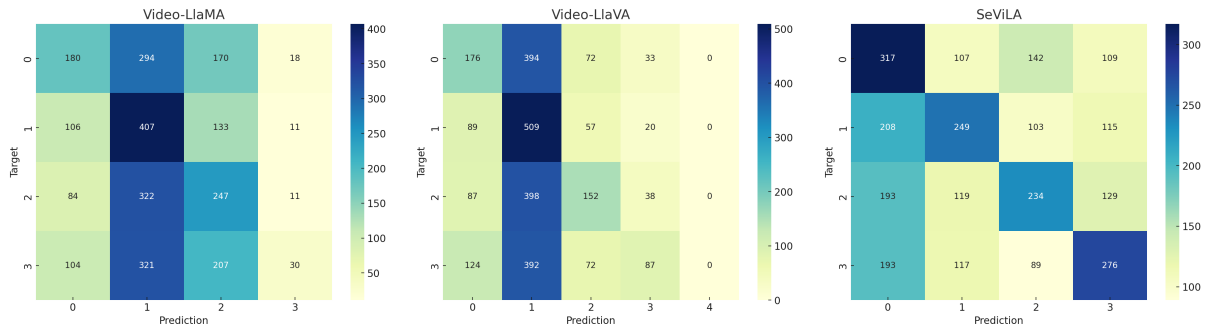


Figure 23: All Models' Confusion Matrices for Video-MME.

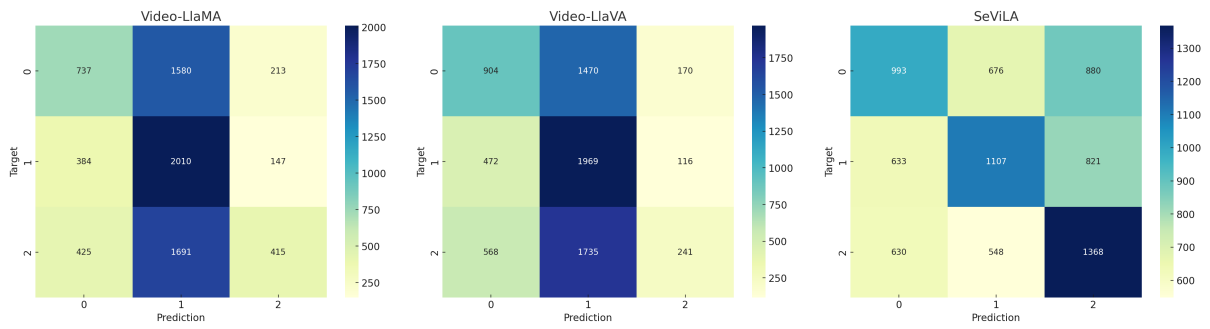


Figure 24: All Models' Confusion Matrices for Perception Test.

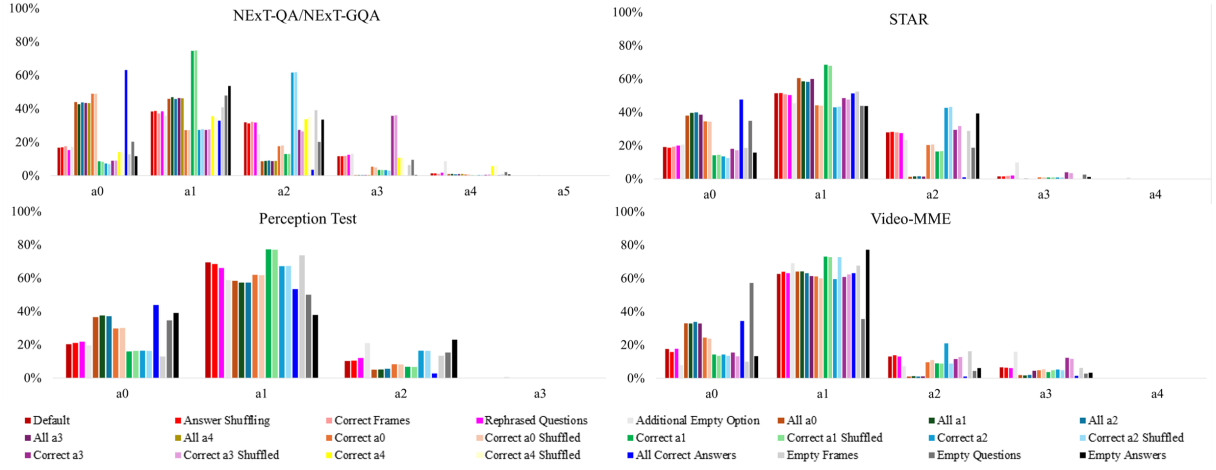


Figure 25: Video-Llama option distribution for all settings of NeXT-QA, NeXT-GQA, STAR, Perception Test and Video-MME. Correct a_i , Correct a_i Shuffled and All a_i represent Correct Answer, Correct Answer with Shuffling and All Correct Answers in each option, respectively.

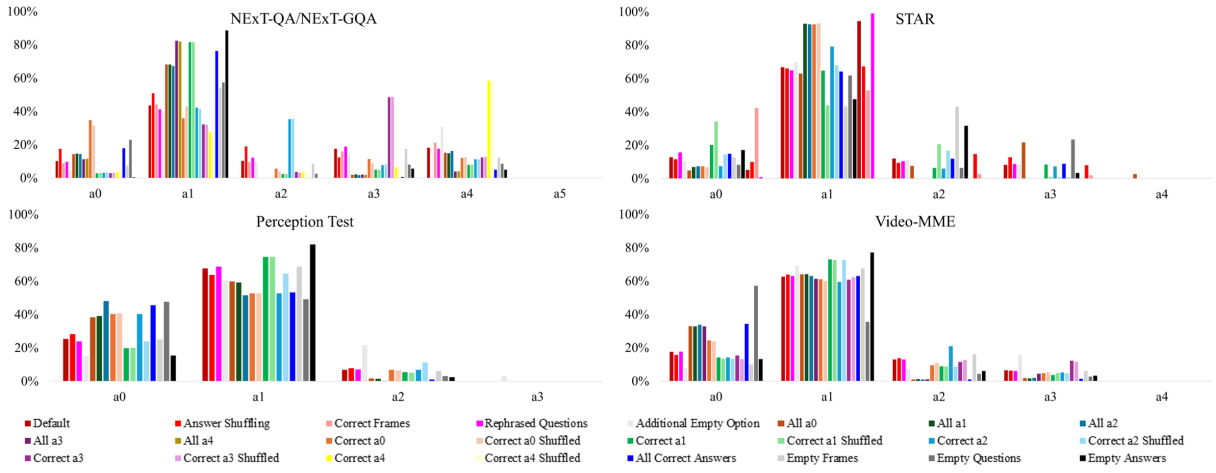


Figure 26: Video-Llava option distribution for all settings of NeXT-QA, NeXT-GQA, STAR, Perception Test and Video-MME. Correct a_i , Correct a_i Shuffled and All a_i represent Correct Answer, Correct Answer with Shuffling and All Correct Answers in each option, respectively.

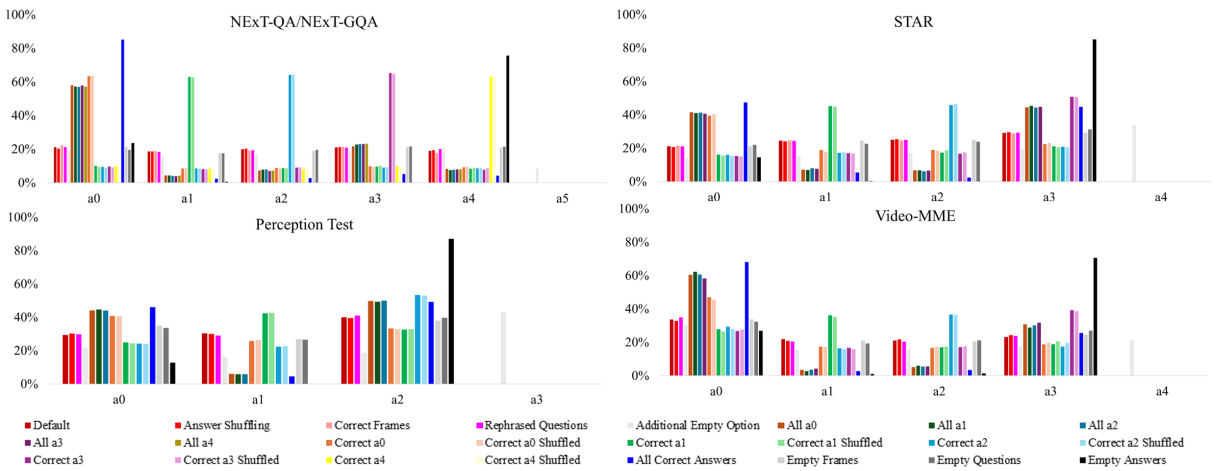


Figure 27: SeViLA option distribution for all settings of NeXT-QA, NeXT-GQA, STAR, Perception Test and Video-MME. Correct a_i , Correct a_i Shuffled and All a_i represent Correct Answer, Correct Answer with Shuffling and All Correct Answers in each option, respectively.

Table 5: Video-LLaMA Performance on All Settings of NExT-QA (including NExT-GQA). Each cell shows the count of selections for each option ($a0$ – $a5$), along with the percentage in parentheses. The Accuracy column represents the number of correct answers where applicable. The N/A column indicates the number of cases where the model did not output an answer option after 30 attempts.

Setting	a0	a1	a2	a3	a4	a5	N/A	Accuracy
Target	1,721 (20.10%)	1,671 (19.51%)	1,767 (20.63%)	1,719 (20.07%)	1,686 (19.69%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
Default	1,430 (16.70%)	3,285 (38.37%)	2,727 (31.85%)	1,002 (11.70%)	117 (1.37%)	–	3 (0.04%)	3,837 (44.82%)
Answer Shuffling	1,443 (16.97%)	3,295 (38.75%)	2,654 (31.21%)	993 (11.68%)	119 (1.40%)	–	60 (0.70%)	3,799 (44.67%)
Correct Frames	869 (17.61%)	1,836 (37.20%)	1,588 (32.18%)	587 (11.89%)	55 (1.11%)	–	27 (0.54%)	2,155 (43.67%)
Rephrased Questions	1,305 (15.36%)	3,270 (38.50%)	2,704 (31.83%)	1,062 (12.50%)	153 (1.80%)	–	70 (0.82%)	3,762 (44.29%)
Additional Empty Option	1,432 (17.17%)	2,987 (35.82%)	2,067 (24.78%)	1,090 (13.07%)	725 (8.69%)	39 (0.47%)	224 (2.62%)	4,086 (48.99%)
All a1	3,537 (42.71%)	3,891 (46.98%)	737 (8.90%)	32 (0.39%)	85 (1.03%)	–	282 (3.29%)	–
All a2	3,614 (43.82%)	3,780 (45.83%)	748 (9.07%)	32 (0.39%)	73 (0.89%)	–	317 (3.70%)	–
All a3	3,585 (43.43%)	3,831 (46.41%)	722 (8.75%)	33 (0.40%)	83 (1.01%)	–	310 (3.62%)	–
All a4	3,590 (43.35%)	3,837 (46.33%)	733 (8.85%)	34 (0.41%)	87 (1.05%)	–	283 (3.30%)	–
Correct a0	4,136 (48.98%)	2,303 (27.27%)	1,489 (17.63%)	453 (5.36%)	64 (0.76%)	–	119 (1.39%)	4,136 (48.98%)
Correct a0 Shuffled	4,136 (49.00%)	2,304 (27.30%)	1,525 (18.07%)	415 (4.92%)	61 (0.72%)	–	123 (1.44%)	4,136 (49.00%)
Correct a1	730 (8.61%)	6,323 (74.61%)	1,102 (13.00%)	292 (3.45%)	28 (0.33%)	–	89 (1.04%)	6,323 (74.61%)
Correct a1 Shuffled	704 (8.30%)	6,348 (74.88%)	1,098 (12.95%)	297 (3.50%)	31 (0.37%)	–	86 (1.00%)	6,348 (74.88%)
Correct a2	622 (7.32%)	2,325 (27.35%)	5,240 (61.64%)	280 (3.29%)	34 (0.40%)	–	63 (0.74%)	5,240 (61.64%)
Correct a2 Shuffled	583 (6.88%)	2,356 (27.81%)	5,240 (61.84%)	254 (3.00%)	40 (0.47%)	–	91 (1.06%)	5,240 (61.84%)
Correct a3	762 (8.99%)	2,315 (27.32%)	2,321 (27.39%)	3,029 (35.74%)	47 (0.55%)	–	90 (1.05%)	3,029 (35.74%)
Correct a3 Shuffled	766 (9.07%)	2,335 (27.65%)	2,235 (26.47%)	3,049 (36.11%)	59 (0.70%)	–	120 (1.40%)	3,049 (36.11%)
Correct a4	1,194 (14.11%)	3,014 (35.63%)	2,857 (33.77%)	909 (10.74%)	486 (5.74%)	–	104 (1.21%)	486 (5.74%)
Correct a4 Shuffled	1,164 (13.77%)	2,912 (34.45%)	2,949 (34.88%)	912 (10.79%)	517 (6.12%)	–	110 (1.28%)	517 (6.12%)
All Correct Answers	5,247 (63.17%)	2,730 (32.87%)	295 (3.55%)	9 (0.11%)	25 (0.30%)	–	258 (3.01%)	–
Empty Frames	1,092 (12.77%)	3,494 (40.87%)	3,344 (39.11%)	544 (6.36%)	76 (0.89%)	–	14 (0.16%)	2,620 (30.64%)
Empty Questions	1,686 (20.31%)	3,975 (47.89%)	1,676 (20.19%)	786 (9.47%)	178 (2.14%)	–	263 (3.07%)	3,082 (37.13%)
Empty Answers	987 (11.66%)	4,543 (53.68%)	2,837 (33.52%)	37 (0.44%)	59 (0.70%)	–	101 (1.18%)	–

Table 6: Video-LLaMA Performance on All Settings of STAR. Each cell shows the count of selections for each option ($a0$ – $a4$), along with the percentage in parentheses. The Accuracy column represents the number of correct answers where applicable. The N/A column indicates the number of cases where the model did not output an answer option after 30 attempts.

Setting	a0	a1	a2	a3	a4	N/A	Accuracy
Target	1,755 (24.73%)	1,758 (24.77%)	1,742 (24.54%)	1,843 (25.97%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
Default	1,357 (19.13%)	3,645 (51.38%)	1,982 (27.94%)	110 (1.55%)	–	4 (0.06%)	2,596 (36.59%)
Answer Shuffling	1,255 (18.72%)	3,458 (51.57%)	1,893 (28.23%)	99 (1.48%)	–	393 (5.54%)	2,467 (36.79%)
Correct Frames	1,322 (19.43%)	3,455 (50.79%)	1,899 (27.91%)	127 (1.87%)	–	295 (4.16%)	2,524 (37.10%)
Rephrased Questions	1,376 (20.03%)	3,462 (50.39%)	1,891 (27.53%)	141 (2.05%)	–	228 (3.21%)	2,520 (36.68%)
Additional Empty Option	1,314 (20.59%)	2,892 (45.31%)	1,494 (23.41%)	630 (9.87%)	52 (0.81%)	716 (10.09%)	2,528 (39.61%)
All a0	2,484 (38.04%)	3,949 (60.47%)	88 (1.35%)	9 (0.14%)	–	568 (8.00%)	–
All a1	2,695 (39.68%)	3,976 (58.54%)	104 (1.53%)	17 (0.25%)	–	306 (4.31%)	–
All a2	2,711 (39.93%)	3,957 (58.28%)	113 (1.66%)	9 (0.13%)	–	308 (4.34%)	–
All a3	2,512 (38.52%)	3,909 (59.94%)	94 (1.44%)	7 (0.11%)	–	576 (8.11%)	–
Correct a0	2,340 (34.53%)	2,996 (44.21%)	1,378 (20.33%)	63 (0.93%)	–	321 (4.52%)	2,340 (34.53%)
Correct a0 Shuffled	2,313 (34.36%)	2,960 (43.97%)	1,392 (20.68%)	67 (1.00%)	–	366 (5.16%)	2,313 (34.36%)
Correct a1	966 (14.16%)	4,677 (68.54%)	1,124 (16.47%)	57 (0.84%)	–	274 (3.86%)	4,677 (68.54%)
Correct a1 Shuffled	985 (14.48%)	4,622 (67.93%)	1,136 (16.70%)	61 (0.90%)	–	294 (4.14%)	4,622 (67.93%)
Correct a2	918 (13.53%)	2,913 (42.93%)	2,898 (42.71%)	56 (0.83%)	–	313 (4.41%)	2,898 (42.71%)
Correct a2 Shuffled	844 (12.57%)	2,908 (43.32%)	2,901 (43.21%)	60 (0.89%)	–	385 (5.42%)	2,901 (43.21%)
Correct a3	1,226 (18.03%)	3,298 (48.50%)	2,002 (29.44%)	274 (4.03%)	–	298 (4.20%)	274 (4.03%)
Correct a3 Shuffled	1,153 (17.21%)	3,190 (47.60%)	2,127 (31.74%)	231 (3.45%)	–	397 (5.59%)	231 (3.45%)
All Correct Answers	3,129 (47.60%)	3,376 (51.35%)	63 (0.96%)	6 (0.09%)	–	524 (7.38%)	–
Empty Frames	1,323 (18.64%)	3,721 (52.42%)	2,047 (28.84%)	7 (0.10%)	–	0 (0.00%)	1,854 (26.12%)
Empty Questions	2,365 (34.84%)	2,973 (43.80%)	1,275 (18.78%)	175 (2.58%)	–	310 (4.37%)	2,427 (35.75%)
Empty Answers	1,121 (15.84%)	3,093 (43.72%)	2,778 (39.27%)	83 (1.17%)	–	23 (0.32%)	–

Table 7: Video-LLaMA Performance on All Settings of Perception Test. Each cell shows the count of selections for each option ($a0$ – $a3$), along with the percentage in parentheses. The Accuracy column represents the number of correct answers where applicable. The N/A column indicates the number of cases where the model did not output an answer option after 30 attempts.

Setting	a0	a1	a2	a3	N/A	Accuracy
Target	2,549 (33.29%)	2,561 (33.45%)	2,546 (33.25%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
Default	1,546 (20.34%)	5,281 (69.47%)	775 (10.19%)	–	54 (0.71%)	3,162 (41.59%)
Answer Shuffling	1,593 (21.10%)	5,165 (68.42%)	791 (10.48%)	–	107 (1.40%)	3,146 (41.67%)
Rephrased Questions	1,652 (21.83%)	5,004 (66.13%)	911 (12.04%)	–	89 (1.16%)	3,161 (41.77%)
Additional Empty Option	1,448 (19.56%)	4,356 (58.86%)	1,549 (20.93%)	48 (0.65%)	255 (3.33%)	3,004 (40.59%)
All a0	2,768 (36.60%)	4,414 (58.36%)	381 (5.04%)	–	93 (1.21%)	–
All a1	2,842 (37.56%)	4,334 (57.28%)	390 (5.15%)	–	90 (1.18%)	–
All a2	2,806 (37.15%)	4,326 (57.28%)	421 (5.57%)	–	103 (1.35%)	–
Correct a0	2,245 (29.76%)	4,675 (61.98%)	623 (8.26%)	–	113 (1.48%)	2,245 (29.76%)
Correct a0 Shuffled	2,271 (30.12%)	4,654 (61.73%)	614 (8.14%)	–	117 (1.53%)	2,271 (30.12%)
Correct a1	1,204 (15.95%)	5,833 (77.29%)	510 (6.76%)	–	109 (1.42%)	5,833 (77.29%)
Correct a1 Shuffled	1,233 (16.32%)	5,820 (77.06%)	500 (6.62%)	–	103 (1.35%)	5,820 (77.06%)
Correct a2	1,239 (16.40%)	5,077 (67.18%)	1,241 (16.42%)	–	99 (1.29%)	1,241 (16.42%)
Correct a2 Shuffled	1,235 (16.36%)	5,082 (67.30%)	1,234 (16.34%)	–	105 (1.37%)	1,234 (16.34%)
All Correct Answers	3,330 (43.87%)	4,053 (53.40%)	207 (2.73%)	–	66 (0.86%)	–
Empty Frames	990 (12.93%)	5,641 (73.68%)	1,025 (13.39%)	–	0 (0.00%)	3,005 (39.25%)
Empty Questions	2,564 (34.61%)	3,707 (50.03%)	1,138 (15.36%)	–	247 (3.23%)	3,021 (40.77%)
Empty Answers	2,969 (39.11%)	2,876 (37.88%)	1,747 (23.01%)	–	64 (0.84%)	–

Table 8: Video-LLaMA Performance on All Settings of Video-MME. Each cell shows the count of selections for each option ($a0$ – $a4$), along with the percentage in parentheses. The Accuracy column represents the number of correct answers where applicable. The N/A column indicates the number of cases where the model did not output an answer option after 30 attempts.

Setting	a0	a1	a2	a3	a4	N/A	Accuracy
Target	675 (25.00%)	675 (25.00%)	675 (25.00%)	675 (25.00%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
Default	474 (17.92%)	1,344 (50.81%)	757 (28.62%)	70 (2.65%)	–	55 (2.04%)	864 (32.67%)
Answer Shuffling	451 (18.11%)	1,242 (49.86%)	733 (29.43%)	65 (2.61%)	–	209 (7.74%)	785 (31.51%)
Rephrased Questions	1,367 (50.65%)	979 (36.27%)	198 (7.34%)	155 (5.74%)	–	1 (0.04%)	873 (32.35%)
Additional Empty Option	391 (17.29%)	1,040 (45.98%)	624 (27.59%)	178 (7.87%)	29 (1.28%)	438 (16.22%)	746 (32.98%)
All a0	1,042 (42.81%)	1,244 (51.11%)	120 (4.93%)	28 (1.15%)	–	266 (9.85%)	–
All a1	1,027 (42.00%)	1,295 (52.97%)	91 (3.72%)	32 (1.31%)	–	255 (9.44%)	–
All a2	1,061 (43.36%)	1,232 (50.35%)	116 (4.74%)	38 (1.55%)	–	253 (9.37%)	–
All a3	1,001 (41.06%)	1,223 (50.16%)	149 (6.11%)	65 (2.67%)	–	262 (9.70%)	–
Correct a0	678 (27.19%)	1,141 (45.75%)	624 (25.02%)	51 (2.04%)	–	206 (7.63%)	678 (27.19%)
Correct a0 Shuffled	699 (27.90%)	1,085 (43.31%)	664 (26.51%)	57 (2.28%)	–	195 (7.22%)	699 (27.90%)
Correct a1	376 (14.98%)	1,532 (61.04%)	547 (21.79%)	55 (2.19%)	–	190 (7.04%)	1,532 (61.04%)
Correct a1 Shuffled	344 (13.78%)	1,519 (60.83%)	584 (23.39%)	50 (2.00%)	–	203 (7.52%)	1,519 (60.83%)
Correct a2	366 (14.63%)	1,147 (45.86%)	948 (37.90%)	40 (1.60%)	–	199 (7.37%)	948 (37.90%)
Correct a2 Shuffled	355 (14.27%)	1,144 (45.98%)	942 (37.86%)	47 (1.89%)	–	212 (7.85%)	942 (37.86%)
Correct a3	408 (16.47%)	1,178 (47.56%)	777 (31.37%)	114 (4.60%)	–	223 (8.26%)	114 (4.60%)
Correct a3 Shuffled	386 (15.55%)	1,199 (48.31%)	786 (31.67%)	111 (4.47%)	–	218 (8.07%)	111 (4.47%)
All Correct Answers	1,195 (46.46%)	1,226 (47.67%)	114 (4.43%)	37 (1.44%)	–	128 (4.74%)	–
Empty Frames	188 (6.98%)	1,612 (59.81%)	843 (31.28%)	52 (1.93%)	–	5 (0.19%)	776 (28.79%)
Empty Questions	753 (29.89%)	1,180 (46.84%)	527 (20.92%)	59 (2.34%)	–	181 (6.70%)	798 (31.68%)
Empty Answers	440 (17.07%)	725 (28.13%)	1,352 (52.46%)	60 (2.33%)	–	123 (4.56%)	–

Table 9: Video-LLaVA Performance on All the Settings of NExT-QA (including NExT-GQA). Each cell shows the count of selections for each option ($a0$ – $a5$) along with the percentage in parentheses. Accuracy represents the number of correct answers where applicable.

Setting	a0	a1	a2	a3	a4	a5	N/A	Accuracy
Target	1,721 (20.10%)	1,671 (19.51%)	1,767 (20.63%)	1,719 (20.07%)	1,686 (19.69%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
Default	874 (10.21%)	3,733 (43.59%)	890 (10.39%)	1,505 (17.57%)	1,562 (18.24%)	–	0 (0.00%)	4,279 (49.96%)
Answer Shuffling	1,507 (17.60%)	4,366 (50.98%)	1,630 (19.03%)	1,061 (12.39%)	0 (0.00%)	–	0 (0.00%)	3,653 (42.66%)
Correct Frames	440 (8.87%)	2,194 (44.22%)	482 (9.71%)	791 (15.94%)	1,055 (21.26%)	–	0 (0.00%)	2,407 (48.51%)
Rephrased Questions	836 (9.79%)	3,531 (41.36%)	1,054 (12.34%)	1,613 (18.89%)	1,504 (17.62%)	–	26 (0.30%)	4,287 (50.21%)
Additional Empty Option	418 (4.88%)	3,449 (40.27%)	847 (9.89%)	1,208 (14.11%)	2,641 (30.84%)	1 (0.01%)	0 (0.00%)	4,264 (49.79%)
All a0	1,232 (14.39%)	5,839 (68.18%)	9 (0.11%)	175 (2.04%)	1,309 (15.28%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
All a1	1,254 (14.64%)	5,839 (68.18%)	9 (0.11%)	187 (2.18%)	1,275 (14.89%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
All a2	1,238 (14.46%)	5,755 (67.21%)	12 (0.14%)	158 (1.85%)	1,400 (16.35%)	–	1 (0.01%)	–
All a3	966 (11.28%)	7,063 (82.47%)	14 (0.16%)	178 (2.08%)	343 (4.01%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
All a4	996 (11.63%)	7,021 (81.98%)	20 (0.23%)	176 (2.06%)	351 (4.10%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
Correct a0	2,966 (34.87%)	3,054 (35.91%)	484 (5.69%)	975 (11.46%)	1,026 (12.06%)	–	59 (0.69%)	2,966 (34.87%)
Correct a0 Shuffled	2,702 (31.55%)	3,680 (42.97%)	341 (3.98%)	759 (8.86%)	1,082 (12.63%)	–	0 (0.00%)	2,702 (31.55%)
Correct a1	251 (2.93%)	6,993 (81.66%)	209 (2.44%)	431 (5.03%)	680 (7.94%)	–	0 (0.00%)	6,993 (81.66%)
Correct a1 Shuffled	270 (3.15%)	6,981 (81.52%)	203 (2.37%)	424 (4.95%)	686 (8.01%)	–	0 (0.00%)	6,981 (81.52%)
Correct a2	274 (3.20%)	3,619 (42.26%)	3,032 (35.41%)	669 (7.81%)	969 (11.32%)	–	1 (0.01%)	3,032 (35.41%)
Correct a2 Shuffled	282 (3.29%)	3,561 (41.58%)	3,056 (35.68%)	707 (8.26%)	958 (11.19%)	–	0 (0.00%)	3,056 (35.68%)
Correct a3	258 (3.01%)	2,765 (32.29%)	319 (3.73%)	4,161 (48.59%)	1,060 (12.38%)	–	1 (0.01%)	4,161 (48.59%)
Correct a3 Shuffled	278 (3.25%)	2,746 (32.06%)	271 (3.16%)	4,182 (48.83%)	1,087 (12.69%)	–	0 (0.00%)	4,182 (48.83%)
Correct a4	324 (3.78%)	2,374 (27.72%)	300 (3.50%)	557 (6.50%)	5,009 (58.49%)	–	0 (0.00%)	5,009 (58.49%)
Correct a4 Shuffled	336 (3.92%)	2,305 (26.91%)	313 (3.65%)	579 (6.76%)	5,031 (58.75%)	–	0 (0.00%)	5,031 (58.75%)
All Correct Answers	1,536 (17.94%)	6,531 (76.27%)	4 (0.05%)	59 (0.69%)	433 (5.06%)	–	1 (0.01%)	–
Empty Frames	634 (7.40%)	4,625 (54.01%)	740 (8.64%)	1,499 (17.50%)	1,066 (12.45%)	–	0 (0.00%)	3,025 (35.32%)
Empty Questions	1,976 (23.07%)	4,925 (57.51%)	228 (2.66%)	696 (8.13%)	739 (8.63%)	–	0 (0.00%)	2,979 (34.79%)
Empty Answers	45 (0.53%)	7,590 (88.63%)	12 (0.14%)	484 (5.65%)	433 (5.06%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–

Table 10: Video-LLaVA Performance on All the Settings of STAR. Each cell shows the count of selections for each option ($a0$ – $a4$) along with the percentage in parentheses. Accuracy represents the number of correct answers where applicable.

Setting	a0	a1	a2	a3	a4	N/A	Accuracy
Target	1,755 (24.73%)	1,758 (24.77%)	1,742 (24.54%)	1,843 (25.97%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
Default	909 (12.81%)	4,748 (66.89%)	854 (12.03%)	587 (8.27%)	–	0 (0.00%)	2,464 (34.71%)
Answer Shuffling	825 (11.62%)	4,688 (66.05%)	675 (9.51%)	910 (12.82%)	–	0 (0.00%)	2,521 (35.52%)
Correct Frames	1,115 (15.71%)	4,611 (64.96%)	743 (10.47%)	629 (8.86%)	–	0 (0.00%)	1,881 (26.50%)
Rephrased Questions	759 (10.70%)	4,945 (69.70%)	799 (11.26%)	592 (8.34%)	–	3 (0.04%)	2,455 (34.60%)
Additional Empty Option	346 (4.87%)	4,472 (63.00%)	545 (7.68%)	1,541 (21.71%)	194 (2.73%)	0 (0.00%)	2,490 (35.08%)
All a0	499 (7.03%)	6,596 (92.93%)	1 (0.01%)	2 (0.03%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
All a1	525 (7.40%)	6,573 (92.60%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
All a2	523 (7.37%)	6,571 (92.58%)	1 (0.01%)	3 (0.04%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
All a3	485 (6.83%)	6,610 (93.12%)	2 (0.03%)	1 (0.01%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
Correct a0	1,438 (20.26%)	4,598 (64.78%)	459 (6.47%)	603 (8.50%)	–	0 (0.00%)	1,438 (20.26%)
Correct a0 Shuffled	1,424 (20.06%)	4,578 (64.51%)	453 (6.38%)	642 (9.05%)	–	1 (0.01%)	1,424 (20.06%)
Correct a1	533 (7.51%)	5,621 (79.19%)	426 (6.00%)	518 (7.30%)	–	0 (0.00%)	5,621 (79.19%)
Correct a1 Shuffled	566 (7.98%)	5,560 (78.34%)	449 (6.33%)	522 (7.36%)	–	1 (0.01%)	5,560 (78.34%)
Correct a2	1,055 (14.86%)	4,561 (64.26%)	849 (11.96%)	633 (8.92%)	–	0 (0.00%)	849 (11.96%)
Correct a2 Shuffled	586 (8.26%)	4,486 (63.20%)	1,381 (19.46%)	645 (9.09%)	–	0 (0.00%)	1,381 (19.46%)
Correct a3	588 (8.28%)	4,387 (61.81%)	458 (6.45%)	1,665 (23.46%)	–	0 (0.00%)	1,665 (23.46%)
Correct a3 Shuffled	1,061 (14.95%)	4,503 (63.44%)	741 (10.44%)	793 (11.17%)	–	0 (0.00%)	793 (11.17%)
All Correct Answers	374 (5.27%)	6,710 (94.53%)	1 (0.01%)	13 (0.18%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–
Empty Frames	709 (9.99%)	4,772 (67.23%)	1,048 (14.76%)	569 (8.02%)	–	0 (0.00%)	1,891 (26.64%)
Empty Questions	3,013 (42.45%)	3,748 (52.80%)	194 (2.73%)	143 (2.01%)	–	0 (0.00%)	2,119 (29.85%)
Empty Answers	63 (0.89%)	7,033 (99.08%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (0.03%)	–	0 (0.00%)	–

Table 11: Video-LLaVA Performance on All the Settings of Perception Test. Each cell shows the count of selections for each option ($a0$ – $a3$) along with the percentage in parentheses. Accuracy represents the number of correct answers where applicable.

Setting	a0		a1	a2	a3	N/A	Accuracy
Target	2,549 (33.29%)	2,561 (33.45%)	2,546 (33.25%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	–
Default	1,944 (25.43%)	5,174 (67.68%)	527 (6.89%)	–	–	11 (0.14%)	3,114 (40.73%)
Answer Shuffling	2,164 (28.28%)	4,887 (63.86%)	602 (7.87%)	–	–	3 (0.04%)	3,259 (42.58%)
Rephrased Questions	1,836 (24.04%)	5,253 (68.79%)	547 (7.16%)	–	–	20 (0.26%)	3,154 (41.30%)
Additional Empty Option	1,133 (15.01%)	4,548 (60.24%)	1,634 (21.64%)	235 (3.11%)	106 (1.38%)	–	3,233 (42.82%)
All a0	2,942 (38.43%)	4,586 (59.90%)	128 (1.67%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	–
All a1	3,001 (39.20%)	4,538 (59.27%)	117 (1.53%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	–
All a2	3,684 (48.13%)	3,951 (51.61%)	20 (0.26%)	–	–	1 (0.01%)	–
Correct a0	3,086 (40.32%)	4,040 (52.79%)	527 (6.89%)	–	–	3 (0.04%)	3,086 (40.32%)
Correct a0 Shuffled	3,121 (40.78%)	4,038 (52.76%)	494 (6.45%)	–	–	3 (0.04%)	3,121 (40.78%)
Correct a1	1,524 (19.91%)	5,712 (74.62%)	419 (5.47%)	–	–	1 (0.01%)	5,712 (74.62%)
Correct a1 Shuffled	1,542 (20.15%)	5,712 (74.63%)	400 (5.23%)	–	–	2 (0.03%)	5,712 (74.63%)
Correct a2	3,085 (40.32%)	4,040 (52.80%)	527 (6.89%)	–	–	4 (0.05%)	527 (6.89%)
Correct a2 Shuffled	1,839 (24.03%)	4,944 (64.60%)	870 (11.37%)	–	–	3 (0.04%)	870 (11.37%)
All Correct Answers	3,493 (45.64%)	4,078 (53.28%)	83 (1.08%)	–	–	2 (0.03%)	–
Empty Frames	1,920 (25.08%)	5,265 (68.77%)	471 (6.15%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	2,957 (38.62%)
Empty Questions	3,649 (47.66%)	3,767 (49.20%)	240 (3.13%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	3,007 (39.28%)
Empty Answers	1,183 (15.45%)	6,284 (82.09%)	188 (2.46%)	–	–	1 (0.01%)	–

Table 12: Video-LLaVA Performance on All the Settings of Video-MME. Each cell shows the count of selections for each option ($a0$ – $a4$) along with the percentage in parentheses. Accuracy represents the number of correct answers where applicable.

Setting	a0		a1	a2	a3	a4	N/A	Accuracy
Target	675 (25.00%)	675 (25.00%)	675 (25.00%)	675 (25.00%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	–
Default	476 (17.63%)	1,693 (62.70%)	353 (13.07%)	178 (6.59%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	924 (34.22%)
Answer Shuffling	427 (15.81%)	1,728 (64.00%)	373 (13.81%)	172 (6.37%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	841 (31.15%)
Rephrased Questions	478 (17.70%)	1,705 (63.15%)	352 (13.04%)	165 (6.11%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	911 (33.74%)
Additional Empty Option	208 (7.84%)	1,833 (69.12%)	191 (7.20%)	420 (15.84%)	0 (0.00%)	48 (1.78%)	909 (34.28%)	909 (34.28%)
All a0	891 (33.00%)	1,730 (64.07%)	27 (1.00%)	52 (1.93%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	–
All a1	888 (32.90%)	1,733 (64.21%)	33 (1.22%)	45 (1.67%)	–	–	1 (0.04%)	–
All a2	914 (33.86%)	1,703 (63.10%)	27 (1.00%)	55 (2.04%)	–	–	1 (0.04%)	–
All a3	888 (32.90%)	1,657 (61.39%)	32 (1.19%)	122 (4.52%)	–	–	1 (0.04%)	–
Correct a0	660 (24.44%)	1,651 (61.15%)	258 (9.56%)	131 (4.85%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	660 (24.44%)
Correct a0 Shuffled	642 (23.78%)	1,620 (60.00%)	293 (10.85%)	145 (5.37%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	642 (23.78%)
Correct a1	384 (14.22%)	1,974 (73.11%)	241 (8.93%)	101 (3.74%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	1,974 (73.11%)
Correct a1 Shuffled	364 (13.48%)	1,964 (72.74%)	240 (8.89%)	132 (4.89%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	1,964 (72.74%)
Correct a2	386 (14.30%)	1,606 (59.48%)	566 (20.96%)	142 (5.26%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	566 (20.96%)
Correct a2 Shuffled	352 (13.04%)	1,623 (60.11%)	589 (21.81%)	136 (5.04%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	589 (21.81%)
Correct a3	416 (15.41%)	1,642 (60.81%)	311 (11.52%)	331 (12.26%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	331 (12.26%)
Correct a3 Shuffled	357 (13.23%)	1,682 (62.32%)	345 (12.78%)	315 (11.67%)	–	–	1 (0.04%)	315 (11.67%)
All Correct Answers	928 (34.38%)	1,702 (63.06%)	29 (1.07%)	40 (1.48%)	–	–	1 (0.04%)	–
Empty Frames	267 (9.89%)	1,828 (67.70%)	437 (16.19%)	168 (6.22%)	–	–	0 (0.00%)	764 (28.30%)
Empty Questions	1,545 (57.24%)	960 (35.57%)	119 (4.41%)	75 (2.78%)	–	–	1 (0.04%)	790 (29.27%)
Empty Answers	359 (13.32%)	2,082 (77.23%)	165 (6.12%)	90 (3.34%)	–	–	4 (0.15%)	–

Table 13: SeViLA Performance on All the Settings of NExT-QA (including NExT-GQA). Each cell shows the count of selections for each option ($a0$ – $a5$) along with the percentage in parentheses. Accuracy represents the number of correct answers where applicable.

Setting	a0	a1	a2	a3	a4	a5	Accuracy
Target	1,721 (20.10%)	1,671 (19.51%)	1,767 (20.63%)	1,719 (20.07%)	1,686 (19.69%)	–	–
Default	1,812 (21.16%)	1,606 (18.75%)	1,712 (19.99%)	1,805 (21.08%)	1,629 (19.02%)	–	5,462 (63.78%)
Answer Shuffling	1,740 (20.32%)	1,598 (18.66%)	1,737 (20.28%)	1,824 (21.30%)	1,665 (19.44%)	–	5,481 (64.00%)
Correct Frames	1,108 (22.33%)	939 (18.92%)	961 (19.37%)	1,069 (21.54%)	885 (17.84%)	–	2,932 (59.09%)
Rephrased Questions	1,825 (21.31%)	1,571 (18.34%)	1,657 (19.35%)	1,793 (20.94%)	1,718 (20.06%)	–	5,160 (60.25%)
Additional Empty Option	1,669 (19.49%)	1,401 (16.36%)	1,457 (17.01%)	1,563 (18.25%)	1,758 (20.53%)	716 (8.36%)	5,054 (59.01%)
All a0	4,972 (58.06%)	381 (4.45%)	631 (7.37%)	1,865 (21.78%)	715 (8.35%)	–	–
All a1	4,906 (57.29%)	381 (4.45%)	675 (7.88%)	1,954 (22.82%)	648 (7.57%)	–	–
All a2	4,887 (57.06%)	359 (4.19%)	681 (7.95%)	1,968 (22.98%)	669 (7.81%)	–	–
All a3	4,961 (57.93%)	337 (3.94%)	601 (7.02%)	1,981 (23.13%)	684 (7.99%)	–	–
All a4	4,904 (57.26%)	370 (4.32%)	615 (7.18%)	1,987 (23.20%)	688 (8.03%)	–	–
Correct a0	5,434 (63.45%)	732 (8.55%)	761 (8.89%)	844 (9.86%)	793 (9.26%)	–	5,434 (63.45%)
Correct a0 Shuffled	5,443 (63.56%)	736 (8.59%)	745 (8.70%)	814 (9.50%)	826 (9.65%)	–	5,443 (63.56%)
Correct a1	870 (10.16%)	5,399 (63.04%)	752 (8.78%)	825 (9.63%)	718 (8.38%)	–	5,399 (63.04%)
Correct a1 Shuffled	809 (9.45%)	5,379 (62.81%)	740 (8.64%)	866 (10.11%)	770 (8.99%)	–	5,379 (62.81%)
Correct a2	813 (9.49%)	741 (8.65%)	5,495 (64.16%)	772 (9.01%)	743 (8.68%)	–	5,495 (64.16%)
Correct a2 Shuffled	777 (9.07%)	734 (8.57%)	5,504 (64.27%)	796 (9.29%)	753 (8.79%)	–	5,504 (64.27%)
Correct a3	827 (9.66%)	704 (8.22%)	778 (9.08%)	5,591 (65.28%)	664 (7.75%)	–	5,591 (65.28%)
Correct a3 Shuffled	782 (9.13%)	684 (7.99%)	783 (9.14%)	5,566 (64.99%)	749 (8.75%)	–	5,566 (64.99%)
Correct a4	860 (10.04%)	730 (8.52%)	708 (8.27%)	853 (9.96%)	5,413 (63.21%)	–	5,413 (63.21%)
Correct a4 Shuffled	810 (9.46%)	727 (8.49%)	760 (8.87%)	831 (9.70%)	5,436 (63.48%)	–	5,436 (63.48%)
All Correct Answers	7,300 (85.24%)	209 (2.44%)	237 (2.77%)	448 (5.23%)	370 (4.32%)	–	–
Empty Frames	1,833 (21.40%)	1,495 (17.46%)	1,626 (18.99%)	1,820 (21.25%)	1,790 (20.90%)	–	3,921 (45.78%)
Empty Questions	1,671 (19.51%)	1,513 (17.67%)	1,685 (19.68%)	1,851 (21.61%)	1,844 (21.53%)	–	4,485 (52.37%)
Empty Answers	2,026 (23.66%)	52 (0.61%)	5 (0.06%)	0 (0.00%)	6,481 (75.68%)	–	–

Table 14: SeViLA Performance on All the Settings of STAR. Each cell shows the count of selections for each option ($a0$ – $a4$) along with the percentage in parentheses. Accuracy represents the number of correct answers where applicable.

Setting	a0	a1	a2	a3	a4	Accuracy
Target	1,755 (24.73%)	1,758 (24.77%)	1,742 (24.54%)	1,843 (25.97%)	–	–
Default	1,501 (21.15%)	1,739 (24.50%)	1,782 (25.11%)	2,076 (29.25%)	–	3,285 (46.28%)
Answer Shuffling	1,473 (20.75%)	1,713 (24.13%)	1,807 (25.46%)	2,105 (29.66%)	–	3,260 (45.93%)
Correct Frames	1,526 (21.50%)	1,757 (24.75%)	1,759 (24.78%)	2,056 (28.97%)	–	3,248 (45.76%)
Rephrased Questions	1,507 (21.23%)	1,736 (24.46%)	1,771 (24.95%)	2,084 (29.36%)	–	3,153 (44.42%)
Additional Empty Option	1,003 (14.13%)	1,077 (15.17%)	1,214 (17.10%)	1,395 (19.65%)	2,409 (33.94%)	2,351 (33.12%)
All a0	2,951 (41.58%)	510 (7.19%)	480 (6.76%)	3,157 (44.48%)	–	–
All a1	2,909 (40.98%)	492 (6.93%)	480 (6.76%)	3,217 (45.32%)	–	–
All a2	2,935 (41.35%)	572 (8.06%)	442 (6.23%)	3,149 (44.36%)	–	–
All a3	2,892 (40.74%)	550 (7.75%)	472 (6.65%)	3,184 (44.86%)	–	–
Correct a0	2,806 (39.53%)	1,342 (18.91%)	1,351 (19.03%)	1,599 (22.53%)	–	2,806 (39.53%)
Correct a0 Shuffled	2,864 (40.35%)	1,274 (17.95%)	1,312 (18.48%)	1,648 (23.22%)	–	2,864 (40.35%)
Correct a1	1,149 (16.19%)	3,216 (45.31%)	1,231 (17.34%)	1,502 (21.16%)	–	3,216 (45.31%)
Correct a1 Shuffled	1,113 (15.68%)	3,181 (44.82%)	1,335 (18.81%)	1,469 (20.70%)	–	3,181 (44.82%)
Correct a2	1,141 (16.07%)	1,223 (17.23%)	3,253 (45.83%)	1,481 (20.87%)	–	3,253 (45.83%)
Correct a2 Shuffled	1,090 (15.36%)	1,252 (17.64%)	3,301 (46.51%)	1,455 (20.50%)	–	3,301 (46.51%)
Correct a3	1,088 (15.33%)	1,215 (17.12%)	1,189 (16.75%)	3,606 (50.80%)	–	3,606 (50.80%)
Correct a3 Shuffled	1,074 (15.13%)	1,194 (16.82%)	1,242 (17.50%)	3,588 (50.55%)	–	3,588 (50.55%)
All Correct Answers	3,363 (47.38%)	391 (5.51%)	171 (2.41%)	3,173 (44.70%)	–	–
Empty Frames	1,501 (21.15%)	1,739 (24.50%)	1,782 (25.11%)	2,076 (29.25%)	–	3,285 (46.28%)
Empty Questions	1,563 (22.02%)	1,608 (22.65%)	1,700 (23.95%)	2,227 (31.38%)	–	3,496 (49.25%)
Empty Answers	1,031 (14.53%)	25 (0.35%)	0 (0.00%)	6,042 (85.12%)	–	–

Table 15: SeViLA Performance on All the Settings of Perception Test. Each cell shows the count of selections for each option ($a0$ – $a3$) along with the percentage in parentheses. Accuracy represents the number of correct answers where applicable.

Setting	a0	a1	a2	a3	Accuracy
Target	2,549 (33.29%)	2,561 (33.45%)	2,546 (33.25%)	–	–
Default	2,256 (29.47%)	2,331 (30.45%)	3,069 (40.09%)	–	3,468 (45.30%)
Answer Shuffling	2,323 (30.34%)	2,300 (30.04%)	3,033 (39.62%)	–	3,519 (45.96%)
Rephrased Questions	2,286 (29.86%)	2,231 (29.14%)	3,139 (41.00%)	–	3,369 (44.00%)
Additional Empty Option	1,674 (21.87%)	1,246 (16.27%)	1,436 (18.76%)	3,300 (43.10%)	2,223 (29.04%)
All a0	3,380 (44.15%)	464 (6.06%)	3,812 (49.79%)	–	–
All a1	3,427 (44.76%)	449 (5.86%)	3,780 (49.37%)	–	–
All a2	3,377 (44.11%)	449 (5.86%)	3,830 (50.03%)	–	–
Correct a0	3,128 (40.86%)	1,978 (25.84%)	2,550 (33.31%)	–	3,128 (40.86%)
Correct a0 Shuffled	3,112 (40.65%)	2,022 (26.41%)	2,522 (32.94%)	–	3,112 (40.65%)
Correct a1	1,909 (24.93%)	3,249 (42.44%)	2,498 (32.63%)	–	3,249 (42.44%)
Correct a1 Shuffled	1,869 (24.41%)	3,268 (42.69%)	2,519 (32.90%)	–	3,268 (42.69%)
Correct a2	1,858 (24.27%)	1,714 (22.39%)	4,084 (53.34%)	–	4,084 (53.34%)
Correct a2 Shuffled	1,846 (24.11%)	1,750 (22.86%)	4,060 (53.03%)	–	4,060 (53.03%)
All Correct Answers	3,531 (46.12%)	353 (4.61%)	3,772 (49.27%)	–	–
Empty Frames	2,684 (35.06%)	2,058 (26.88%)	2,914 (38.06%)	–	2,766 (36.13%)
Empty Questions	2,574 (33.62%)	2,040 (26.65%)	3,042 (39.73%)	–	3,139 (41.00%)
Empty Answers	985 (12.87%)	0 (0.00%)	6,671 (87.13%)	–	–

Table 16: SeViLA Performance on All the Settings of Video-MME. Each cell shows the count of selections for each option ($a0$ – $a4$) along with the percentage in parentheses. Accuracy represents the number of correct answers where applicable.

Setting	a0	a1	a2	a3	a4	Accuracy
Target	675 (25.00%)	675 (25.00%)	675 (25.00%)	675 (25.00%)	–	–
Default	911 (33.74%)	592 (21.93%)	568 (21.04%)	629 (23.30%)	–	1,076 (39.85%)
Answer Shuffling	887 (32.85%)	566 (20.96%)	591 (21.89%)	656 (24.30%)	–	1,041 (38.56%)
Rephrased Questions	947 (35.07%)	556 (20.59%)	552 (20.44%)	645 (23.89%)	–	1,041 (38.56%)
Additional Empty Option	817 (30.26%)	413 (15.30%)	428 (15.85%)	472 (17.48%)	570 (21.11%)	875 (32.41%)
All a0	1,631 (60.41%)	97 (3.59%)	140 (5.19%)	832 (30.81%)	–	–
All a1	1,681 (62.26%)	76 (2.81%)	164 (6.07%)	779 (28.85%)	–	–
All a2	1,637 (60.63%)	100 (3.70%)	148 (5.48%)	815 (30.19%)	–	–
All a3	1,573 (58.26%)	117 (4.33%)	153 (5.67%)	857 (31.74%)	–	–
Correct a0	1,271 (47.07%)	469 (17.37%)	451 (16.70%)	509 (18.85%)	–	1,271 (47.07%)
Correct a0 Shuffled	1,229 (45.52%)	464 (17.19%)	469 (17.37%)	538 (19.93%)	–	1,229 (45.52%)
Correct a1	752 (27.85%)	977 (36.19%)	460 (17.04%)	511 (18.93%)	–	977 (36.19%)
Correct a1 Shuffled	714 (26.44%)	951 (35.22%)	474 (17.56%)	561 (20.78%)	–	951 (35.22%)
Correct a2	793 (29.37%)	443 (16.41%)	990 (36.67%)	474 (17.56%)	–	990 (36.67%)
Correct a2 Shuffled	755 (27.96%)	430 (15.93%)	984 (36.44%)	531 (19.67%)	–	984 (36.44%)
Correct a3	725 (26.85%)	451 (16.70%)	463 (17.15%)	1,061 (39.30%)	–	1,061 (39.30%)
Correct a3 Shuffled	746 (27.63%)	433 (16.04%)	475 (17.59%)	1,046 (38.74%)	–	1,046 (38.74%)
All Correct Answers	1,840 (68.15%)	75 (2.78%)	93 (3.44%)	692 (25.63%)	–	–
Empty Frames	912 (33.78%)	569 (21.07%)	555 (20.56%)	664 (24.59%)	–	773 (28.63%)
Empty Questions	876 (32.44%)	523 (19.37%)	571 (21.15%)	730 (27.04%)	–	1,020 (37.78%)
Empty Answers	727 (26.93%)	29 (1.07%)	37 (1.37%)	1,907 (70.63%)	–	–

Algorithm 1 BOLD: Debiasing with Prior Estimation by Decomposition

Require: Video-Language model M , dataset $\mathcal{D} = \{T_i\}$, number of options n , estimation budget K

Ensure: Model predictions $\mathcal{Y}$

- 1: Initialize prediction set $\mathcal{Y} \leftarrow \emptyset$ and prior set $\mathcal{P} \leftarrow \emptyset$ ▷ Initialization
 - 2: Sample estimation set $\mathcal{D}_k$ of size K from $\mathcal{D}$, set $\mathcal{D}_r \leftarrow \mathcal{D} \setminus \mathcal{D}_k$
 - 3: **for** $T \in \mathcal{D}_k$ **do**
 - 4: Apply attacks to get observed predictions:
 $P_o(d_i | A|_{v=0}(T)), P_o(d_i | A|_{q=0}(T)), P_o(d_i | A|_{\text{opts}=0}(T))$
 - 5: Compute decomposed priors using Equation 3:
 $P_{\text{pri}}(d_i | A|_{v=0}(T)), P_{\text{pri}}(d_i | A|_{q=0}(T)), P_{\text{pri}}(d_i | A|_{\text{opts}=0}(T))$
 - 6: Estimate sample-specific prior $\tilde{P}_{\text{prior}}(d_i | T)$ using Equation 2; add to $\mathcal{P}$
 - 7: **end for**
 - 8: Estimate global prior $\tilde{P}_{\text{prior}}(d_i)$ by averaging $\mathcal{P}$ ▷ Prior Estimation
 - 9: **for** $T \in \mathcal{D}$ **do**
 - 10: Debias model prediction using the global prior:
 $P_{\text{deb}}(d_i | T) = \text{softmax} \left(\log P_o(d_i | T) - \log \tilde{P}_{\text{prior}}(d_i) \right)$
 - 11: Add the predicted answer to $\mathcal{Y}$
 - 12: **end for**
 - 13: **return** $\mathcal{Y}$
-

Algorithm 2 Weighted_BOLD: Debiasing with Prior Estimation by Decomposition with Weights

Require: Model M , dataset $\mathcal{D} = \{T_i\}$, estimation budget K , number of folds $F = 5$

Ensure: Debaised model predictions $\mathcal{Y}$

- 1: Initialize prediction set $\mathcal{Y} \leftarrow \emptyset$ and prior set $\mathcal{P} \leftarrow \emptyset$ ▷ Initialization
- 2: Sample estimation set $\mathcal{D}_k$ of size K from $\mathcal{D}$; set remaining samples $\mathcal{D}_r \leftarrow \mathcal{D} \setminus \mathcal{D}_k$
- 3: **for each fold** $f = 1$ to F **do** ▷ Cross-validation
- 4: Split $\mathcal{D}_k$ into test set $\mathcal{D}_{\text{test}}^f$ and validation set $\mathcal{D}_{\text{val}}^f$
- 5: **for** $T \in \mathcal{D}_{\text{test}}^f$ **do**
- 6: Apply attacks to obtain observed predictions: $P_o(d_i | A(T))$
- 7: Compute decomposed priors for each attack using Equation 3: $P_{\text{pri}}(d_i | A(T))$
- 8: Estimate sample-specific prior $\tilde{P}_{\text{pri}}(d_i | T)$ using Equation 5; add to $\mathcal{P}^f$
- 9: **end for**
- 10: Optimize weights $\{w_i\}$ using COBYLA, subject to constraints $0 \leq w_i \leq 1$ or $|w_i| \leq 1$, to minimize *recall_std* bias on $\mathcal{D}_{\text{test}}^f$
- 11: **end for**
- 12: Compute global prior by averaging over folds:

$$\tilde{P}_{\text{prior}}(d_i) = \frac{1}{F} \sum_{f=1}^F \tilde{P}_{\text{pri}}^f(d_i)$$

▷ Global Prior Estimation

- 13: **for** $T \in \mathcal{D}$ **do** ▷ Debiasing
- 14: Debias the model prediction using the global prior:

$$P_{\text{deb}}(d_i | T) = \text{softmax} \left(\log P_o(d_i | T) - \log \tilde{P}_{\text{prior}}(d_i) \right)$$

- 15: Add the predicted answer to $\mathcal{Y}$
 - 16: **end for**
 - 17: **return** $\mathcal{Y}$
-

Table 17: Comparison of BOLD and Weighted_BOLD bias mitigation approaches across models and datasets for performance and bias monitoring metrics with $k = 0.25$. Green arrows indicate improvements: upward for Accuracy and F1_mean, and downward for standard deviation metrics. Red arrows represent deterioration, respectively.

Model	Dataset	Configuration	Performance Metrics		Bias Monitoring Metrics		
			Accuracy	F1_mean	Recall_std	F1_std	JS_std
Video-LLaVA	NExT-QA	Default	49.95	49.81	16.31	3.27	5.4
		BOLD	51.81 ($\uparrow 3.72\%$)	51.71 ($\uparrow 3.82\%$)	13.29 ($\downarrow 18.54\%$)	2.66 ($\downarrow 18.59\%$)	4.58 ($\downarrow 15.12\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	51.89 ($\uparrow 3.88\%$)	51.77 ($\uparrow 3.95\%$)	13.28 ($\downarrow 18.57\%$)	2.73 ($\downarrow 16.57\%$)	4.56 ($\downarrow 15.39\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	52.28 ($\uparrow 4.65\%$)	52.25 ($\uparrow 4.9\%$)	10.9 ($\downarrow 33.18\%$)	2.23 ($\downarrow 31.89\%$)	3.9 ($\downarrow 27.63\%$)
	STAR	Default	34.77	31.83	24.99	6.82	5.78
		BOLD	37.45 ($\uparrow 7.7\%$)	36.14 ($\uparrow 13.54\%$)	17.43 ($\downarrow 30.23\%$)	4.84 ($\downarrow 29.02\%$)	4.52 ($\downarrow 21.74\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	37.81 ($\uparrow 8.75\%$)	36.67 ($\uparrow 15.22\%$)	16.15 ($\downarrow 35.38\%$)	4.71 ($\downarrow 30.94\%$)	4.15 ($\downarrow 28.15\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	39.87 ($\uparrow 14.67\%$)	39.65 ($\uparrow 24.57\%$)	6.85 ($\downarrow 72.56\%$)	2.34 ($\downarrow 65.67\%$)	2.08 ($\downarrow 63.98\%$)
	Perception Test	Default	40.72	35.69	27.5	14.75	5.28
		BOLD	41.62 ($\uparrow 2.22\%$)	38.68 ($\uparrow 8.38\%$)	21.77 ($\downarrow 20.85\%$)	10.93 ($\downarrow 25.88\%$)	3.77 ($\downarrow 28.54\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	41.95 ($\uparrow 3.02\%$)	39.46 ($\uparrow 10.58\%$)	19.73 ($\downarrow 28.26\%$)	10.24 ($\downarrow 30.53\%$)	3.39 ($\downarrow 35.79\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	42.01 ($\uparrow 3.18\%$)	40.48 ($\uparrow 13.43\%$)	14.69 ($\downarrow 46.59\%$)	8.48 ($\downarrow 42.52\%$)	2.91 ($\downarrow 44.9\%$)
	Video-MME	Default	34.3	30.99	24.09	8.06	4.79
		BOLD	34.63 ($\uparrow 0.97\%$)	32.71 ($\uparrow 5.54\%$)	18.21 ($\downarrow 24.4\%$)	6.18 ($\downarrow 23.36\%$)	3.86 ($\downarrow 19.47\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	34.59 ($\uparrow 0.86\%$)	33.01 ($\uparrow 6.51\%$)	15.92 ($\downarrow 33.93\%$)	5.91 ($\downarrow 26.68\%$)	3.38 ($\downarrow 29.56\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	33.93 ($\downarrow 1.08\%$)	33.21 ($\uparrow 7.16\%$)	10.1 ($\downarrow 58.07\%$)	4.09 ($\downarrow 49.26\%$)	2.33 ($\downarrow 51.39\%$)
Video-LLaMA	NExT-QA	Default	44.79	40.85	23.83	15.86	16.09
		BOLD	45.88 ($\uparrow 2.43\%$)	42.15 ($\uparrow 3.18\%$)	22.98 ($\downarrow 3.53\%$)	15.53 ($\downarrow 2.11\%$)	15.56 ($\downarrow 3.3\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	45.96 ($\uparrow 2.61\%$)	42.27 ($\uparrow 3.46\%$)	22.78 ($\downarrow 4.4\%$)	15.46 ($\downarrow 2.55\%$)	15.52 ($\downarrow 3.55\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	47.56 ($\uparrow 6.19\%$)	46.63 ($\uparrow 14.14\%$)	13.79 ($\downarrow 42.11\%$)	8.47 ($\downarrow 46.62\%$)	12.14 ($\downarrow 24.53\%$)
	STAR	Default	36.52	31.86	24.1	15.44	15.29
		BOLD	37.19 ($\uparrow 1.82\%$)	33.02 ($\uparrow 3.65\%$)	22.29 ($\downarrow 7.5\%$)	14.55 ($\downarrow 5.75\%$)	14.58 ($\downarrow 4.6\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	37.21 ($\uparrow 1.89\%$)	33.32 ($\uparrow 4.59\%$)	21.45 ($\downarrow 10.97\%$)	14.03 ($\downarrow 9.1\%$)	14.22 ($\downarrow 7.0\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	38.63 ($\uparrow 5.76\%$)	38.07 ($\uparrow 19.52\%$)	10.16 ($\downarrow 57.84\%$)	4.78 ($\downarrow 69.05\%$)	8.93 ($\downarrow 41.61\%$)
	Perception Test	Default	41.39	37.19	27.06	11.4	16.06
		BOLD	41.92 ($\uparrow 1.27\%$)	38.7 ($\uparrow 4.06\%$)	24.04 ($\downarrow 11.16\%$)	9.85 ($\downarrow 13.61\%$)	14.44 ($\downarrow 10.12\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	42.06 ($\uparrow 1.62\%$)	39.36 ($\uparrow 5.86\%$)	21.8 ($\downarrow 19.45\%$)	9.11 ($\downarrow 20.06\%$)	13.05 ($\downarrow 18.75\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	42.05 ($\uparrow 1.59\%$)	41.35 ($\uparrow 11.2\%$)	11.13 ($\downarrow 58.86\%$)	4.71 ($\downarrow 58.65\%$)	8.43 ($\downarrow 47.51\%$)
	Video-MME	Default	32.05	28.15	20.62	12.52	13.75
		BOLD	32.69 ($\uparrow 2.01\%$)	29.2 ($\uparrow 3.73\%$)	19.28 ($\downarrow 6.5\%$)	11.95 ($\downarrow 4.54\%$)	13.13 ($\downarrow 4.53\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	32.2 ($\uparrow 0.47\%$)	28.98 ($\uparrow 2.94\%$)	17.65 ($\downarrow 14.38\%$)	11.69 ($\downarrow 6.56\%$)	12.6 ($\downarrow 8.39\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	32.92 ($\uparrow 2.72\%$)	30.39 ($\uparrow 7.97\%$)	15.65 ($\downarrow 24.08\%$)	10.21 ($\downarrow 18.39\%$)	11.68 ($\downarrow 15.04\%$)
SeViLA	NExT-QA	Default	63.91	63.88	2.15	1.32	1.99
		BOLD	63.92 ($\uparrow 0.02\%$)	63.89 ($\uparrow 0.03\%$)	2.0 ($\downarrow 6.81\%$)	1.18 ($\downarrow 10.43\%$)	1.97 ($\downarrow 0.91\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	63.88 ($\downarrow 0.04\%$)	63.86 ($\downarrow 0.03\%$)	2.08 ($\downarrow 3.47\%$)	1.28 ($\downarrow 2.87\%$)	1.9 ($\downarrow 4.64\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	63.95 ($\uparrow 0.07\%$)	63.95 ($\uparrow 0.11\%$)	1.44 ($\downarrow 32.8\%$)	1.16 ($\downarrow 12.17\%$)	1.63 ($\downarrow 18.3\%$)
	STAR	Default	46.28	46.14	4.47	2.3	2.25
		BOLD	46.17 ($\downarrow 0.24\%$)	46.05 ($\downarrow 0.2\%$)	4.09 ($\downarrow 8.42\%$)	2.24 ($\downarrow 2.93\%$)	2.11 ($\downarrow 6.25\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	46.07 ($\downarrow 0.46\%$)	45.95 ($\downarrow 0.42\%$)	4.12 ($\downarrow 7.63\%$)	2.28 ($\downarrow 1.24\%$)	2.13 ($\downarrow 5.17\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	46.2 ($\downarrow 0.18\%$)	46.08 ($\downarrow 0.13\%$)	4.04 ($\downarrow 9.49\%$)	2.23 ($\downarrow 3.15\%$)	2.16 ($\downarrow 3.9\%$)
	Perception Test	Default	45.3	45.11	6.21	3.02	1.59
		BOLD	45.28 ($\downarrow 0.03\%$)	45.15 ($\uparrow 0.09\%$)	5.1 ($\downarrow 17.85\%$)	2.93 ($\downarrow 3.09\%$)	1.26 ($\downarrow 21.04\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	45.34 ($\uparrow 0.09\%$)	45.24 ($\uparrow 0.29\%$)	4.26 ($\downarrow 31.39\%$)	2.65 ($\downarrow 12.43\%$)	1.03 ($\downarrow 35.41\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	45.22 ($\downarrow 0.17\%$)	45.15 ($\uparrow 0.09\%$)	3.69 ($\downarrow 40.51\%$)	2.38 ($\downarrow 21.06\%$)	0.85 ($\downarrow 46.67\%$)
	Video-MME	Default	39.85	39.82	4.67	1.68	0.84
		BOLD	40.04 ($\uparrow 0.46\%$)	40.04 ($\uparrow 0.56\%$)	3.79 ($\downarrow 18.89\%$)	1.48 ($\downarrow 12.03\%$)	0.74 ($\downarrow 11.46\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	40.07 ($\uparrow 0.56\%$)	40.08 ($\uparrow 0.66\%$)	3.64 ($\downarrow 22.05\%$)	1.48 ($\downarrow 11.82\%$)	0.67 ($\downarrow 20.11\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	40.04 ($\uparrow 0.46\%$)	40.06 ($\uparrow 0.63\%$)	2.31 ($\downarrow 50.5\%$)	1.36 ($\downarrow 18.83\%$)	0.3 ($\downarrow 63.83\%$)

Table 18: Comparison of BOLD and Weighted_BOLD bias mitigation approaches across models and datasets for performance and bias monitoring metrics with $k = 0.5$. Green arrows indicate improvements: upward for Accuracy and F1_mean, and downward for standard deviation metrics. Red arrows represent deterioration, respectively.

Model	Dataset	Configuration	Performance Metrics		Bias Monitoring Metrics		
			Accuracy	F1_mean	Recall_std	F1_std	JS_std
Video-LLaMA	NExT-QA	Default	44.79	40.85	23.83	15.86	16.09
		BOLD	45.88 (↑2.43%)	42.15 (↑3.18%)	22.98 (↓3.53%)	15.53 (↓2.11%)	15.55 (↓3.31%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	45.91 (↑2.51%)	42.2 (↑3.29%)	22.83 (↓4.19%)	15.51 (↓2.2%)	15.56 (↓3.27%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	48.25 (↑7.73%)	46.52 (↑13.86%)	16.6 (↓30.32%)	10.6 (↓33.17%)	13.27 (↓17.48%)
	STAR	Default	36.52	31.86	24.1	15.44	15.29
		BOLD	37.19 (↑1.82%)	33.02 (↑3.65%)	22.29 (↓7.5%)	14.55 (↓5.75%)	14.58 (↓4.66%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	37.34 (↑2.24%)	33.5 (↑5.16%)	21.13 (↓12.3%)	14.05 (↓8.98%)	14.14 (↓7.54%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	38.61 (↑5.72%)	38.06 (↑19.47%)	10.18 (↓57.75%)	4.79 (↓68.99%)	8.58 (↓43.89%)
	Perception Test	Default	41.39	37.19	27.06	11.4	16.06
		BOLD	41.9 (↑1.24%)	38.68 (↑4.01%)	24.05 (↓11.11%)	9.87 (↓13.45%)	14.45 (↓10.01%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	42.06 (↑1.62%)	39.36 (↑5.86%)	21.8 (↓19.45%)	9.11 (↓20.06%)	13.02 (↓18.94%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	42.27 (↑2.13%)	41.24 (↑10.9%)	13.55 (↓49.93%)	5.64 (↓50.54%)	9.73 (↓39.41%)
	Video-MME	Default	32.05	28.15	20.62	12.52	13.75
		BOLD	32.73 (↑2.13%)	29.23 (↑3.85%)	19.29 (↓6.45%)	11.96 (↓4.46%)	13.1 (↓4.73%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	32.2 (↑0.47%)	28.98 (↑2.94%)	17.65 (↓14.38%)	11.69 (↓6.56%)	12.64 (↓8.04%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	32.88 (↑2.6%)	31.21 (↑10.87%)	12.77 (↓38.06%)	8.02 (↓35.91%)	10.42 (↓24.25%)
Video-LLaVA	NExT-QA	Default	49.95	49.81	16.31	3.27	5.4
		BOLD	51.81 (↑3.72%)	51.71 (↑3.82%)	13.27 (↓18.63%)	2.67 (↓18.42%)	4.58 (↓15.06%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	52.15 (↑4.39%)	52.04 (↑4.49%)	12.72 (↓22.02%)	2.62 (↓19.83%)	4.49 (↓16.83%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	53.65 (↑7.41%)	53.53 (↑7.48%)	8.49 (↓47.97%)	3.15 (↓3.61%)	3.78 (↓29.87%)
	STAR	Default	34.77	31.83	24.99	6.82	5.78
		BOLD	37.21 (↑7.01%)	35.76 (↑12.37%)	18.28 (↓26.85%)	4.97 (↓27.15%)	4.54 (↓21.39%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	37.53 (↑7.94%)	36.18 (↑13.69%)	17.45 (↓30.15%)	4.91 (↓28.03%)	4.26 (↓26.24%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	38.31 (↑10.17%)	37.39 (↑17.47%)	13.26 (↓46.92%)	4.59 (↓32.59%)	3.25 (↓43.67%)
	Perception Test	Default	40.72	35.69	27.5	14.75	5.28
		BOLD	41.62 (↑2.22%)	38.69 (↑8.4%)	21.75 (↓20.9%)	10.92 (↓25.97%)	3.78 (↓28.4%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	41.95 (↑3.02%)	39.46 (↑10.58%)	19.73 (↓28.26%)	10.24 (↓30.53%)	3.4 (↓35.51%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	41.62 (↑2.22%)	40.88 (↑14.56%)	11.01 (↓59.96%)	5.44 (↓63.11%)	2.59 (↓50.97%)
	Video-MME	Default	34.3	30.99	24.09	8.06	4.79
		BOLD	34.7 (↑1.19%)	32.79 (↑5.81%)	18.19 (↓24.51%)	6.16 (↓23.63%)	3.84 (↓19.93%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	34.63 (↑0.97%)	32.97 (↑6.38%)	16.36 (↓32.07%)	6.01 (↓25.43%)	3.43 (↓28.5%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	34.0 (↓0.86%)	32.6 (↑5.21%)	14.11 (↓41.43%)	5.79 (↓28.18%)	2.92 (↓39.01%)
SeViLA	NExT-QA	Default	63.91	63.88	2.15	1.32	1.99
		BOLD	63.92 (↑0.02%)	63.89 (↑0.02%)	2.03 (↓5.47%)	1.18 (↓10.4%)	1.99 (↓0.17%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	63.93 (↑0.04%)	63.91 (↑0.04%)	1.99 (↓7.64%)	1.19 (↓9.83%)	1.99 (↓0.04%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	64.01 (↑0.16%)	64.0 (↑0.19%)	1.14 (↓47.18%)	1.17 (↓11.43%)	2.01 (↑1.1%)
	STAR	Default	46.28	46.14	4.47	2.3	2.25
		BOLD	46.22 (↓0.12%)	46.1 (↓0.08%)	4.13 (↓7.46%)	2.26 (↓1.78%)	2.1 (↓6.64%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	46.2 (↓0.18%)	46.08 (↓0.13%)	4.01 (↓10.17%)	2.2 (↓4.36%)	2.07 (↓8.2%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	46.38 (↑0.21%)	46.3 (↑0.34%)	3.41 (↓23.66%)	1.94 (↓15.89%)	1.93 (↓14.33%)
	Perception Test	Default	45.3	45.11	6.21	3.02	1.59
		BOLD	45.32 (↑0.06%)	45.18 (↑0.16%)	5.18 (↓16.61%)	2.95 (↓2.43%)	1.3 (↓18.42%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	45.31 (↑0.03%)	45.2 (↑0.21%)	4.56 (↓26.58%)	2.83 (↓6.43%)	1.08 (↓31.92%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	45.25 (↓0.12%)	45.2 (↑0.2%)	3.25 (↓47.69%)	2.28 (↓24.52%)	0.71 (↓55.13%)
	Video-MME	Default	39.85	39.82	4.67	1.68	0.84
		BOLD	40.19 (↑0.84%)	40.17 (↑0.88%)	4.11 (↓12.03%)	1.41 (↓16.19%)	0.73 (↓12.52%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	40.04 (↑0.46%)	40.03 (↑0.54%)	3.78 (↓19.14%)	1.44 (↓14.6%)	0.69 (↓17.22%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	39.81 (↓0.09%)	39.83 (↑0.04%)	2.99 (↓35.93%)	1.43 (↓14.97%)	0.45 (↓45.74%)

Table 19: Comparison of BOLD and Weighted_BOLD bias mitigation approaches across models and datasets for performance and bias monitoring metrics with $k = 0.75$. Green arrows indicate improvements: upward for Accuracy and F1_mean, and downward for standard deviation metrics. Red arrows represent deterioration for Accuracy and F1_mean.

Model	Dataset	Configuration	Performance Metrics		Bias Monitoring Metrics		
			Accuracy	F1_mean	Recall_std	F1_std	JS_std
Video-LLaMA	NExT-QA	Default	44.79	40.85	23.83	15.86	16.09
		BOLD	45.87 ($\uparrow 2.4\%$)	42.16 ($\uparrow 3.19\%$)	22.96 ($\downarrow 3.63\%$)	15.49 ($\downarrow 2.37\%$)	15.56 ($\downarrow 3.28\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	45.91 ($\uparrow 2.51\%$)	42.2 ($\uparrow 3.29\%$)	22.83 ($\downarrow 4.19\%$)	15.51 ($\downarrow 2.2\%$)	15.57 ($\downarrow 3.23\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	47.56 ($\uparrow 6.19\%$)	46.63 ($\uparrow 14.14\%$)	13.36 ($\downarrow 43.91\%$)	8.42 ($\downarrow 46.91\%$)	11.79 ($\downarrow 26.73\%$)
	STAR	Default	36.52	31.86	24.1	15.44	15.29
		BOLD	37.19 ($\uparrow 1.82\%$)	33.02 ($\uparrow 3.65\%$)	22.29 ($\downarrow 7.5\%$)	14.55 ($\downarrow 5.75\%$)	14.59 ($\downarrow 4.59\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	37.34 ($\uparrow 2.24\%$)	33.5 ($\uparrow 5.16\%$)	21.13 ($\downarrow 12.3\%$)	14.05 ($\downarrow 8.98\%$)	14.13 ($\downarrow 7.56\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	38.74 ($\uparrow 6.07\%$)	38.14 ($\uparrow 19.74\%$)	10.58 ($\downarrow 56.11\%$)	4.94 ($\downarrow 68.03\%$)	9.64 ($\downarrow 36.94\%$)
	Perception Test	Default	41.39	37.19	27.06	11.4	16.06
		BOLD	41.9 ($\uparrow 1.24\%$)	38.67 ($\uparrow 3.98\%$)	24.09 ($\downarrow 11.0\%$)	9.88 ($\downarrow 13.29\%$)	14.46 ($\downarrow 9.97\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	42.06 ($\uparrow 1.62\%$)	39.36 ($\uparrow 5.86\%$)	21.8 ($\downarrow 19.45\%$)	9.11 ($\downarrow 20.06\%$)	13.12 ($\downarrow 18.33\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	42.29 ($\uparrow 2.16\%$)	41.32 ($\uparrow 11.13\%$)	12.96 ($\downarrow 52.13\%$)	5.53 ($\downarrow 51.52\%$)	9.56 ($\downarrow 40.45\%$)
	Video-MME	Default	32.05	28.15	20.62	12.52	13.75
		BOLD	32.69 ($\uparrow 2.01\%$)	29.2 ($\uparrow 3.75\%$)	19.24 ($\downarrow 6.7\%$)	11.94 ($\downarrow 4.63\%$)	13.09 ($\downarrow 4.8\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	32.2 ($\uparrow 0.47\%$)	28.97 ($\uparrow 2.94\%$)	17.65 ($\downarrow 14.38\%$)	11.7 ($\downarrow 6.54\%$)	12.56 ($\downarrow 8.62\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	32.65 ($\uparrow 1.89\%$)	30.55 ($\uparrow 8.55\%$)	13.94 ($\downarrow 32.38\%$)	9.24 ($\downarrow 26.17\%$)	11.04 ($\downarrow 19.73\%$)
Video-LLaVA	NExT-QA	Default	49.95	49.81	16.31	3.27	5.4
		BOLD	51.81 ($\uparrow 3.72\%$)	51.71 ($\uparrow 3.82\%$)	13.27 ($\downarrow 18.63\%$)	2.67 ($\downarrow 18.42\%$)	4.58 ($\downarrow 15.14\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	51.96 ($\uparrow 4.02\%$)	51.86 ($\uparrow 4.12\%$)	12.92 ($\downarrow 20.76\%$)	2.64 ($\downarrow 19.44\%$)	4.48 ($\downarrow 17.02\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	53.75 ($\uparrow 7.6\%$)	53.66 ($\uparrow 7.73\%$)	8.51 ($\downarrow 47.82\%$)	2.58 ($\downarrow 21.07\%$)	3.6 ($\downarrow 33.28\%$)
	STAR	Default	34.77	31.83	24.99	6.82	5.78
		BOLD	37.21 ($\uparrow 7.01\%$)	35.76 ($\uparrow 12.37\%$)	18.28 ($\downarrow 26.85\%$)	4.97 ($\downarrow 27.15\%$)	4.62 ($\downarrow 20.03\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	37.52 ($\uparrow 7.9\%$)	36.17 ($\uparrow 13.64\%$)	17.45 ($\downarrow 30.14\%$)	4.91 ($\downarrow 28.02\%$)	4.27 ($\downarrow 26.1\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	37.86 ($\uparrow 8.87\%$)	36.87 ($\uparrow 15.85\%$)	13.12 ($\downarrow 47.51\%$)	4.68 ($\downarrow 31.37\%$)	3.09 ($\downarrow 46.45\%$)
	Perception Test	Default	40.72	35.69	27.5	14.75	5.28
		BOLD	41.62 ($\uparrow 2.22\%$)	38.68 ($\uparrow 8.38\%$)	21.77 ($\downarrow 20.85\%$)	10.93 ($\downarrow 25.88\%$)	3.79 ($\downarrow 28.21\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	41.95 ($\uparrow 3.02\%$)	39.46 ($\uparrow 10.58\%$)	19.73 ($\downarrow 28.26\%$)	10.24 ($\downarrow 30.53\%$)	3.41 ($\downarrow 35.4\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	42.21 ($\uparrow 3.66\%$)	41.64 ($\uparrow 16.67\%$)	9.47 ($\downarrow 65.56\%$)	5.14 ($\downarrow 65.14\%$)	1.8 ($\downarrow 65.84\%$)
	Video-MME	Default	34.3	30.99	24.09	8.06	4.79
		BOLD	34.63 ($\uparrow 0.97\%$)	32.64 ($\uparrow 5.33\%$)	18.59 ($\downarrow 22.84\%$)	6.19 ($\downarrow 23.2\%$)	3.85 ($\downarrow 19.65\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	34.48 ($\uparrow 0.54\%$)	32.89 ($\uparrow 6.13\%$)	15.94 ($\downarrow 33.83\%$)	5.86 ($\downarrow 27.32\%$)	3.37 ($\downarrow 29.66\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	33.78 ($\downarrow 1.51\%$)	33.2 ($\uparrow 7.12\%$)	9.23 ($\downarrow 61.7\%$)	3.35 ($\downarrow 58.46\%$)	1.42 ($\downarrow 70.35\%$)
SeViLA	NExT-QA	Default	63.91	63.88	2.15	1.32	1.99
		BOLD	63.91 ($\uparrow 0.0\%$)	63.88 ($\uparrow 0.01\%$)	2.03 ($\downarrow 5.45\%$)	1.18 ($\downarrow 10.77\%$)	1.98 ($\downarrow 0.34\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	63.93 ($\uparrow 0.04\%$)	63.91 ($\uparrow 0.04\%$)	2.0 ($\downarrow 6.83\%$)	1.2 ($\downarrow 8.97\%$)	1.98 ($\downarrow 0.23\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	64.11 ($\uparrow 0.31\%$)	64.09 ($\uparrow 0.34\%$)	1.2 ($\downarrow 44.36\%$)	1.09 ($\downarrow 17.41\%$)	2.15 ($\uparrow 8.2\%$)
	STAR	Default	46.28	46.14	4.47	2.3	2.25
		BOLD	46.27 ($\downarrow 0.03\%$)	46.15 ($\uparrow 0.02\%$)	4.07 ($\downarrow 8.91\%$)	2.22 ($\downarrow 3.53\%$)	2.08 ($\downarrow 7.72\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	46.17 ($\downarrow 0.24\%$)	46.05 ($\downarrow 0.19\%$)	4.01 ($\downarrow 10.17\%$)	2.2 ($\downarrow 4.43\%$)	2.04 ($\downarrow 9.14\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	46.17 ($\downarrow 0.24\%$)	46.1 ($\downarrow 0.09\%$)	2.96 ($\downarrow 33.63\%$)	1.78 ($\downarrow 22.67\%$)	1.64 ($\downarrow 27.25\%$)
	Perception Test	Default	45.3	45.11	6.21	3.02	1.59
		BOLD	45.31 ($\uparrow 0.03\%$)	45.16 ($\uparrow 0.12\%$)	5.25 ($\downarrow 15.42\%$)	2.98 ($\downarrow 1.26\%$)	1.3 ($\downarrow 18.44\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	45.35 ($\uparrow 0.12\%$)	45.25 ($\uparrow 0.32\%$)	4.27 ($\downarrow 31.19\%$)	2.65 ($\downarrow 12.18\%$)	1.03 ($\downarrow 34.92\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	45.15 ($\downarrow 0.32\%$)	45.09 ($\downarrow 0.03\%$)	3.48 ($\downarrow 43.88\%$)	2.3 ($\downarrow 24.02\%$)	0.78 ($\downarrow 51.02\%$)
	Video-MME	Default	39.85	39.82	4.67	1.68	0.84
		BOLD	40.04 ($\uparrow 0.46\%$)	40.03 ($\uparrow 0.53\%$)	3.84 ($\downarrow 17.85\%$)	1.46 ($\downarrow 13.42\%$)	0.69 ($\downarrow 18.0\%$)
		+Weighted_BOLD	39.89 ($\uparrow 0.09\%$)	39.87 ($\uparrow 0.15\%$)	3.7 ($\downarrow 20.9\%$)	1.43 ($\downarrow 14.96\%$)	0.58 ($\downarrow 31.13\%$)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	39.7 ($\downarrow 0.37\%$)	39.71 ($\downarrow 0.26\%$)	2.69 ($\downarrow 42.53\%$)	1.42 ($\downarrow 15.75\%$)	0.15 ($\downarrow 81.72\%$)

Table 20: Comparison of BOLD and Weighted_BOLD bias mitigation approaches across models and datasets for performance and bias monitoring metrics $k = 1$ (equal to the entire dataset). Green arrows indicate improvements: upward for Accuracy and F1_mean, and downward for standard deviation metrics. Red arrows represent deterioration for Accuracy and F1_mean.

Model	Dataset	Configuration	Performance Metrics		Bias Monitoring Metrics		
			Accuracy	F1_mean	Recall_std	F1_std	JS_std
Video-LLaMA	NExT-QA	Default	44.79	40.85	23.83	15.86	16.09
		BOLD	45.87 (↑2.4%)	42.16 (↑3.19%)	22.96 (↓3.63%)	15.49 (↓2.37%)	15.56 (↓3.29%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	45.91 (↑2.51%)	42.2 (↑3.29%)	22.83 (↓4.19%)	15.51 (↓2.2%)	15.57 (↓3.23%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	47.53 (↑6.11%)	46.62 (↑14.1%)	13.25 (↓44.39%)	8.46 (↓46.68%)	11.78 (↓26.76%)
	STAR	Default	36.52	31.86	24.1	15.44	15.29
		BOLD	37.19 (↑1.82%)	33.02 (↑3.65%)	22.29 (↓7.5%)	14.55 (↓5.75%)	14.59 (↓4.58%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	37.34 (↑2.24%)	33.5 (↑5.16%)	21.13 (↓12.3%)	14.05 (↓8.98%)	14.13 (↓7.55%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	38.72 (↑6.03%)	38.18 (↑19.85%)	10.0 (↓58.49%)	4.85 (↓68.6%)	8.53 (↓44.23%)
	Perception Test	Default	41.39	37.19	27.06	11.4	16.06
		BOLD	41.89 (↑1.21%)	38.67 (↑3.98%)	24.04 (↓11.18%)	9.86 (↓13.52%)	14.45 (↓10.04%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	42.08 (↑1.65%)	39.38 (↑5.89%)	21.8 (↓19.46%)	9.11 (↓20.03%)	12.93 (↓19.5%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	42.25 (↑2.07%)	41.53 (↑11.69%)	11.21 (↓58.59%)	4.76 (↓58.2%)	8.83 (↓45.01%)
	Video-MME	Default	32.05	28.15	20.62	12.52	13.75
		BOLD	32.65 (↑1.89%)	29.13 (↑3.49%)	19.29 (↓6.44%)	12.03 (↓3.86%)	13.09 (↓4.82%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	32.2 (↑0.47%)	28.97 (↑2.94%)	17.65 (↓14.38%)	11.7 (↓6.54%)	12.57 (↓8.56%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	32.92 (↑2.72%)	31.32 (↑11.27%)	12.6 (↓38.89%)	7.85 (↓37.25%)	10.36 (↓24.67%)
Video-LLaVA	NExT-QA	Default	49.95	49.81	16.31	3.27	5.4
		BOLD	51.81 (↑3.72%)	51.71 (↑3.82%)	13.27 (↓18.63%)	2.67 (↓18.42%)	4.58 (↓15.18%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	51.83 (↑3.76%)	51.77 (↑3.93%)	12.79 (↓21.58%)	2.5 (↓23.66%)	4.43 (↓17.81%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	52.94 (↑5.98%)	53.0 (↑6.41%)	8.49 (↓47.93%)	1.98 (↓39.48%)	3.02 (↓43.96%)
	STAR	Default	34.77	31.83	24.99	6.82	5.78
		BOLD	37.14 (↑6.81%)	35.65 (↑12.02%)	18.53 (↓25.84%)	5.01 (↓26.55%)	4.6 (↓20.38%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	37.33 (↑7.37%)	35.98 (↑13.04%)	17.62 (↓29.49%)	4.83 (↓29.09%)	4.35 (↓24.73%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	38.56 (↑10.9%)	37.86 (↑18.96%)	11.35 (↓54.56%)	3.69 (↓45.92%)	2.91 (↓49.67%)
	Perception Test	Default	40.72	35.69	27.5	14.75	5.28
		BOLD	41.62 (↑2.22%)	38.69 (↑8.4%)	21.75 (↓20.9%)	10.92 (↓25.97%)	3.79 (↓28.14%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	41.95 (↑3.02%)	39.46 (↑10.58%)	19.73 (↓28.26%)	10.24 (↓30.53%)	3.41 (↓35.37%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	41.57 (↑2.09%)	41.11 (↑15.2%)	8.95 (↓67.47%)	4.3 (↓70.81%)	2.11 (↓59.94%)
	Video-MME	Default	34.3	30.99	24.09	8.06	4.79
		BOLD	34.56 (↑0.76%)	32.63 (↑5.3%)	18.24 (↓24.28%)	6.08 (↓24.59%)	3.86 (↓19.41%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	34.41 (↑0.32%)	32.78 (↑5.77%)	16.1 (↓33.17%)	5.89 (↓26.93%)	3.37 (↓29.69%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	34.22 (↓0.22%)	33.56 (↑8.31%)	9.8 (↓59.31%)	3.71 (↓54.0%)	1.84 (↓61.61%)
SeViLA	NExT-QA	Default	63.91	63.88	2.15	1.32	1.99
		BOLD	63.91 (↑0.0%)	63.88 (↑0.01%)	2.03 (↓5.45%)	1.18 (↓10.77%)	1.98 (↓0.66%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	64.0 (↑0.15%)	63.98 (↑0.15%)	1.95 (↓9.2%)	1.24 (↓6.37%)	1.97 (↓0.96%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	64.07 (↑0.26%)	64.06 (↑0.29%)	0.84 (↓60.74%)	1.07 (↓18.78%)	2.08 (↑4.64%)
	STAR	Default	46.28	46.14	4.47	2.3	2.25
		BOLD	46.25 (↓0.06%)	46.14 (↓0.01%)	4.05 (↓9.25%)	2.22 (↓3.75%)	2.06 (↓8.29%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	46.15 (↓0.27%)	46.04 (↓0.22%)	4.01 (↓10.23%)	2.2 (↓4.52%)	2.05 (↓9.07%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	46.18 (↓0.21%)	46.1 (↓0.1%)	3.48 (↓22.16%)	2.04 (↓11.64%)	1.85 (↓17.64%)
	Perception Test	Default	45.3	45.11	6.21	3.02	1.59
		BOLD	45.4 (↑0.23%)	45.25 (↑0.33%)	5.24 (↓15.53%)	3.04 (↑0.72%)	1.3 (↓18.45%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	45.34 (↑0.09%)	45.24 (↑0.3%)	4.16 (↓33.06%)	2.62 (↓13.42%)	1.03 (↓34.99%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	45.22 (↓0.17%)	45.14 (↑0.08%)	3.85 (↓38.0%)	2.43 (↓19.68%)	0.9 (↓43.13%)
	Video-MME	Default	39.85	39.82	4.67	1.68	0.84
		BOLD	40.0 (↑0.37%)	39.99 (↑0.44%)	3.81 (↓18.5%)	1.48 (↓11.8%)	0.66 (↓21.49%)
		+Weighted_BOLD	39.81 (↓0.09%)	39.81 (↓0.02%)	3.57 (↓23.49%)	1.45 (↓13.53%)	0.53 (↓36.44%)
		-/+Weighted_BOLD	39.85 (↑0.0%)	39.85 (↑0.08%)	2.66 (↓43.14%)	1.47 (↓12.42%)	0.16 (↓80.65%)