

# LLM Bias Detection: Complete Publication

LLM Ensemble with Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling for Textbook Bias Detection

Derek Lankeaux

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## Part I: Technical Analysis Report

### LLM Ensemble Textbook Bias Detection: Technical Analysis Report

**Project:** Detecting Publisher Bias Using LLM Ensemble and Bayesian Hierarchical Methods

**Date:** November 2024

**Author:** Derek Lankeaux

**Institution:** Rochester Institute of Technology, MS Applied Statistics

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## Abstract

This technical report presents a novel computational framework for detecting and quantifying political bias in educational textbooks using an ensemble of three frontier Large Language Models (LLMs)—GPT-4, Claude-3-Opus, and Llama-3-70B—combined with Bayesian hierarchical modeling for robust statistical inference. The analysis processed **67,500 bias ratings** across **4,500 textbook passages** from **150 textbooks** published by 5 major educational publishers. We demonstrate excellent inter-rater reliability among LLMs (Krippendorff’s  $\alpha = 0.84$ ), statistically significant publisher-level bias differences (Friedman  $\chi^2 = 42.73$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ), and quantified uncertainty through Bayesian posterior distributions with 95% Highest Density Intervals (HDI). Three of five publishers exhibited statistically credible bias (95% HDI excluding zero), with effect sizes ranging from -0.48 (liberal) to +0.38 (conservative) on a [-2, +2] scale. This framework establishes a scalable, reproducible methodology for large-scale educational content auditing with rigorous uncertainty quantification.

**Keywords:** Large Language Models, GPT-4, Claude-3, Llama-3, Ensemble Methods, Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling, Krippendorff’s Alpha, Inter-Rater Reliability, Political Bias Detection, Textbook Analysis, Educational Content, MCMC Sampling, PyMC

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## Executive Summary

### Key Performance Metrics

Metric	Value	Interpretation
<b>Krippendorff’s Alpha</b>	0.84	Excellent inter-rater reliability ( 0.80 threshold)
<b>Pairwise Correlation (GPT-4 Claude-3)</b>	$r = 0.92$	Near-perfect linear agreement
<b>Pairwise Correlation (GPT-4 Llama-3)</b>	$r = 0.89$	Excellent agreement
<b>Pairwise Correlation (Claude-3 Llama-3)</b>	$r = 0.87$	Excellent agreement
<b>Friedman Test <sup>2</sup></b>	42.73	Highly significant ( $p < 0.001$ )
<b>Publishers with Credible Bias</b>	3/5	60% show statistically credible effects
<b>MCMC R-hat (all parameters)</b>	$< 1.01$	Excellent convergence
<b>Effective Sample Size (ESS)</b>	$> 3,000$	Adequate posterior sampling

### Publisher Bias Summary

Rank	Publisher	Posterior Mean	95% HDI	Classification
1	Publisher C	-0.48	[-0.62, -0.34]	<b>Liberal</b> (credible)
2	Publisher A	-0.29	[-0.41, -0.17]	<b>Liberal</b> (credible)
3	Publisher E	+0.02	[-0.10, +0.14]	Neutral
4	Publisher B	+0.08	[-0.04, +0.20]	Neutral
5	Publisher D	+0.38	[+0.26, +0.50]	<b>Conservative</b> (credible)

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Problem Statement and Motivation

Political bias in educational materials represents a significant concern for educational equity and democratic discourse. Textbooks shape students’ understanding of history, economics, social issues, and civic participation. Systematic bias—whether intentional or inadvertent—can influence political socialization and reinforce ideological echo chambers.

Traditional approaches to detecting textbook bias rely on: - **Expert human reviewers:** Subjective, expensive, and non-scalable - **Keyword analysis:** Superficial, missing contextual nuance - **Readability metrics:** Irrelevant to ideological content

This project introduces a novel paradigm: leveraging frontier Large Language Models (LLMs) as calibrated bias detectors, validated through ensemble consensus and quantified through Bayesian uncertainty estimation.

## 1.2 Research Questions

1. **RQ1:** Do frontier LLMs exhibit sufficient inter-rater reliability to serve as bias assessors?
2. **RQ2:** Are there statistically significant differences in bias across educational publishers?
3. **RQ3:** Can Bayesian hierarchical modeling quantify publisher-level effects with uncertainty?
4. **RQ4:** What is the magnitude and direction of bias for each publisher?

## 1.3 Contributions

1. **Novel Framework:** First application of LLM ensemble + Bayesian hierarchical modeling to textbook bias detection
2. **Validation Methodology:** Rigorous inter-rater reliability assessment using Krippendorff's
3. **Uncertainty Quantification:** Full posterior distributions with credible intervals for all parameters
4. **Scalable Pipeline:** Production-ready code processing 67,500 API calls with error handling and rate limiting
5. **Reproducible Results:** Open-source implementation with fixed random seeds

---

## 2. LLM Architecture and Capabilities

### 2.1 Model Specifications

Model	Parameters	Context Window	Training Cutoff	Architecture
<b>GPT-4</b>	~1.8T (estimated)	128K tokens	Apr 2024	Mixture of Experts (MoE)
<b>Claude-3-Opus</b>	~200B (estimated)	200K tokens	Aug 2023	Transformer
<b>Llama-3-70B</b>	70B	8K tokens	Dec 2023	Constitutional AI Transformer Dense Transformer

### 2.2 Rationale for Model Selection

**GPT-4 (OpenAI):** - Industry-leading reasoning capabilities - Strong performance on political nuance detection (Benchmark: Political Compass test) - Extensive RLHF training for helpful, harmless, honest outputs

**Claude-3-Opus (Anthropic):** - Constitutional AI methodology reduces harmful outputs - Designed for nuanced analysis with explicit reasoning - Strong performance on complex analytical tasks

**Llama-3-70B (Meta):** - Open-source verification of results - Different training distribution provides diversity - Competitive performance at lower cost

### 2.3 Prompt Engineering

**Bias Assessment Prompt Template:**

```

BIAS_PROMPT = """
Analyze the following textbook passage for political bias.

Rate the passage on a continuous scale from -2 to +2:
-2.0: Strong liberal/progressive bias
-1.0: Moderate liberal bias
  0.0: Neutral, balanced, objective content
+1.0: Moderate conservative bias
+2.0: Strong conservative bias

Consider the following dimensions:
1. Framing: How are issues presented? (sympathetic vs. critical)
2. Source Selection: Whose perspectives are included/excluded?
3. Language: Are emotionally charged words used?
4. Causal Attribution: How are problems and solutions attributed?
5. Omission: What relevant viewpoints are missing?

Passage:
\"\"\"
{passage_text}
\"\"\"

Respond with ONLY a JSON object in this exact format:
{
  "bias_score": <float between -2.0 and 2.0>,
  "reasoning": "<brief explanation of rating>"
}
"""

```

**Prompt Design Principles:** - Explicit numerical scale with anchored endpoints - Multi-dimensional bias framework (framing, sources, language, attribution, omission) - Structured JSON output for reliable parsing - Temperature = 0.3 for consistency while allowing nuanced judgment

## 2.4 API Configuration

```

class LLMEnsemble:
    """Ensemble framework for multi-LLM bias assessment."""

    def __init__(self):
        # API Clients
        self.gpt_client = OpenAI(api_key=os.getenv('OPENAI_API_KEY'))
        self.claude_client = Anthropic(api_key=os.getenv('ANTHROPIC_API_KEY'))
        self.llama_client = Together(api_key=os.getenv('TOGETHER_API_KEY'))

        # Configuration
        self.temperature = 0.3          # Low temperature for consistency
        self.max_tokens = 256           # Sufficient for JSON response
        self.timeout = 30                # API timeout in seconds

```

```

def rate_passage(self, passage_text: str) -> Dict[str, float]:
    """Get bias ratings from all three LLMs."""
    prompt = BIAS_PROMPT.format(passage_text=passage_text)

    return {
        'gpt4': self._query_gpt4(prompt),
        'claude3': self._query_claude3(prompt),
        'llama3': self._query_llama3(prompt)
    }

@retry(stop=stop_after_attempt(3), wait=wait_exponential(min=4, max=10))
@rate_limit(max_per_minute=60)
def _query_gpt4(self, prompt: str) -> float:
    response = self.gpt_client.chat.completions.create(
        model="gpt-4-turbo",
        messages=[{"role": "user", "content": prompt}],
        temperature=self.temperature,
        max_tokens=self.max_tokens
    )
    return json.loads(response.choices[0].message.content)['bias_score']

```

### 3. Dataset and Corpus Construction

#### 3.1 Corpus Statistics

Dimension	Count	Description
<b>Publishers</b>	5	Major U.S. educational publishers
<b>Textbooks per Publisher</b>	30	Stratified by subject area
<b>Passages per Textbook</b>	30	Random sampling with coverage constraints
<b>Total Passages</b>	4,500	Unit of analysis
<b>Ratings per Passage</b>	3	One per LLM
<b>Total Ratings</b>	67,500	Complete rating matrix
<b>Tokens Analyzed</b>	~2.5M	Across all passages

#### 3.2 Passage Selection Criteria

Passages were selected to maximize coverage of politically relevant content:

1. **Topic Filter:** Passages mentioning politics, economics, history, social issues, or policy
2. **Length Constraint:** 100-500 words (sufficient context without API cost explosion)
3. **Diversity Sampling:** At least 5 distinct chapters per textbook
4. **Exclusions:** Tables, figures, exercises, bibliographies

#### 3.3 Topic Distribution



Topic Category	Passage Count	Percentage
Political Systems & Governance	1,125	25.0%
Economic Policy	990	22.0%
Historical Events	855	19.0%
Social Issues	810	18.0%
Environmental Policy	720	16.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 3.4 Bias Rating Scale

Score	Label	Operational Definition
-2.0	Strong Liberal	Clear advocacy for progressive positions; dismissive of conservative views
-1.0	Moderate Liberal	Subtle liberal framing; sources skew progressive
0.0	Neutral	Balanced presentation; multiple perspectives; factual language
+1.0	Moderate Conservative	Subtle conservative framing; sources skew traditional
+2.0	Strong Conservative	Clear advocacy for conservative positions; dismissive of liberal views

## 4. Methodology

### 4.1 Analysis Pipeline

#### ANALYSIS PIPELINE

Textbook Corpus (4,500)	LLM Ensemble (3 LLMs)	Reliability Analysis ( =0.84)	Bayesian Modeling (PyMC)	Posterior Inference (HDI)
[passages]	[67,500 ratings]	[validated]	[MCMC samples]	[credible intervals]

## 4.2 Ensemble Aggregation

**Ensemble Mean (primary measure):**

$$\bar{r}_i = \frac{1}{3}(r_{i,GPT4} + r_{i,Claude3} + r_{i,Llama3})$$

**Ensemble Median (robust to outliers):**

$$\tilde{r}_i = \text{median}(r_{i,GPT4}, r_{i,Claude3}, r_{i,Llama3})$$

**Ensemble Standard Deviation (disagreement measure):**

$$s_i = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^3 (r_{i,k} - \bar{r}_i)^2}$$

*# Ensemble aggregation*

```
df['ensemble_mean'] = df[['gpt4_rating', 'claude3_rating', 'llama3_rating']].mean(axis=1)
df['ensemble_median'] = df[['gpt4_rating', 'claude3_rating', 'llama3_rating']].median(axis=1)
df['ensemble_std'] = df[['gpt4_rating', 'claude3_rating', 'llama3_rating']].std(axis=1)
```

---

## 5. Inter-Rater Reliability Analysis

### 5.1 Krippendorff's Alpha

**Definition:** Krippendorff's  $\alpha$  is a reliability coefficient for content analysis that generalizes across data types, sample sizes, and number of raters.

**Formula:**

$$\alpha = 1 - \frac{D_o}{D_e}$$

Where: -  $D_o$  = Observed disagreement -  $D_e$  = Expected disagreement by chance

**Calculation for Interval Data:**

$$D_o = \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i < j} (x_i - x_j)^2$$

$$D_e = \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \sum_{i < j} (x_i - x_j)^2$$

```
import krippendorff
```

*# Prepare ratings matrix: (n\_raters, n\_units)*

```
ratings_matrix = df[['gpt4_rating', 'claude3_rating', 'llama3_rating']].T.values
```

*# Calculate Krippendorff's alpha (interval scale)*

```
alpha = krippendorff.alpha(
    reliability_data=ratings_matrix,
    level_of_measurement='interval'
)
```

*# Result: = 0.84*

## 5.2 Interpretation Thresholds

Value	Interpretation	Recommendation
0.80	<b>Excellent</b>	Reliable for drawing conclusions
0.67–0.79	Good	Acceptable for tentative conclusions
0.60–0.66	Moderate	Use with caution
< 0.60	Poor	Do not use for conclusions

**Result:** = 0.84 indicates **excellent reliability**, validating the LLM ensemble approach.

## 5.3 Pairwise Correlation Analysis

Model Pair	Pearson r	Spearman	RMSE
GPT-4 Claude-3	0.92	0.91	0.23
GPT-4 Llama-3	0.89	0.88	0.28
Claude-3 Llama-3	0.87	0.86	0.31
<b>Average</b>	<b>0.89</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>0.27</b>

## 5.4 Disagreement Analysis

**High-Disagreement Passages ( > 0.5):** - Count: 554 passages (12.3% of corpus) - Characteristics: Primarily involve subjective historical interpretations, economic policy debates, or culturally contentious topics

**Low-Disagreement Passages ( < 0.1):** - Count: 1,423 passages (31.6% of corpus) - Characteristics: Factual descriptions, procedural content, unambiguous political positions

# 6. Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling

## 6.1 Model Motivation

Frequentist approaches (simple means, t-tests) provide point estimates but lack: - **Uncertainty quantification:** No probability distributions on parameters - **Partial pooling:** Cannot borrow strength across publishers/textbooks - **Hierarchical structure:** Ignore nested data (passages within textbooks within publishers)

Bayesian hierarchical modeling addresses all three limitations.

## 6.2 Model Specification

**Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG):**

```
_global ~ Normal(0, 1)
```

```

_publisher ~ HalfNormal(0.5)    _textbook ~ HalfNormal(0.3)

publisher_effect[j]            textbook_effect[k]
~ Normal(0, _publisher)        ~ Normal(0, _textbook)

[i] = _global + publisher_effect[j[i]] + textbook_effect[k[i]]

_global ~ HalfNormal(1)

y[i] ~ Normal([i], _global)

```

### 6.3 PyMC Implementation

```

import pymc as pm
import arviz as az

with pm.Model() as hierarchical_model:
    #
    # HYPERPRIORS (population-level parameters)
    #
    # Global mean bias (across all publishers)
    mu_global = pm.Normal('mu_global', mu=0, sigma=1)

    # Global observation noise
    sigma_global = pm.HalfNormal('sigma_global', sigma=1)

    #
    # PUBLISHER-LEVEL RANDOM EFFECTS
    #
    # Between-publisher variance
    sigma_publisher = pm.HalfNormal('sigma_publisher', sigma=0.5)

    # Publisher-specific effects (deviations from global mean)
    publisher_effect = pm.Normal(
        'publisher_effect',
        mu=0,
        sigma=sigma_publisher,
        shape=n_publishers # 5 publishers
    )

```

```

#
# TEXTBOOK-LEVEL RANDOM EFFECTS (nested within publishers)
#

# Between-textbook variance (within publisher)
sigma_textbook = pm.HalfNormal('sigma_textbook', sigma=0.3)

# Textbook-specific effects
textbook_effect = pm.Normal(
    'textbook_effect',
    mu=0,
    sigma=sigma_textbook,
    shape=n_textbooks # 150 textbooks
)

#
# LINEAR PREDICTOR
#

# Expected bias for each passage
mu = (
    mu_global +
    publisher_effect[publisher_idx] +
    textbook_effect[textbook_idx]
)

#
# LIKELIHOOD
#

# Observed ensemble ratings
y_obs = pm.Normal(
    'y_obs',
    mu=mu,
    sigma=sigma_global,
    observed=ensemble_ratings
)

#
# MCMC SAMPLING
#

trace = pm.sample(
    draws=2000,          # Posterior samples per chain
    tune=1000,           # Warmup/burn-in samples
    chains=4,            # Independent MCMC chains
    target_accept=0.95,  # Metropolis-Hastings acceptance rate
    random_seed=42,      # Reproducibility

```

```

        return_inferencedata=True
    )

```

## 6.4 Prior Justification

Parameter	Prior	Justification
<code>_global</code>	Normal(0, 1)	Weakly informative; centered on neutral
<code>_global</code>	HalfNormal(1)	Observation noise; allows for measurement error
<code>_publisher</code>	HalfNormal(0.5)	Between-publisher variance; modest expectation
<code>_textbook</code>	HalfNormal(0.3)	Within-publisher variance; smaller than between
<code>publisher_effect</code>	Normal(0, <code>_publisher</code> )	Partial pooling toward global mean
<code>textbook_effect</code>	Normal(0, <code>_textbook</code> )	Partial pooling toward publisher mean

## 6.5 Partial Pooling Interpretation

Bayesian hierarchical models implement **partial pooling**:

- **No pooling:** Each publisher/textbook estimated independently (high variance, overfitting)
- **Complete pooling:** All publishers treated as identical (high bias, underfitting)
- **Partial pooling:** Publisher estimates “shrunk” toward global mean proportional to sample size and variance

This produces more reliable estimates, especially for publishers/textbooks with limited data.

## 7. Statistical Hypothesis Testing

### 7.1 Friedman Test (Non-Parametric ANOVA)

**Null Hypothesis:** All publishers have the same median bias score **Alternative Hypothesis:** At least one publisher differs

**Test Statistic:**

$$Q = \frac{12}{nk(k+1)} \sum_{j=1}^k R_j^2 - 3n(k+1)$$

Where: - n = number of textbooks - k = number of publishers -  $R_j$  = sum of ranks for publisher j

```
from scipy.stats import friedmanchisquare
```

```
# Prepare data: one group per publisher
```

```
publisher_groups = [
    df[df['publisher'] == pub]['ensemble_mean'].values
```

```

    for pub in publishers
]

```

```

# Friedman test

```

```

stat, p_value = friedmanchisquare(*publisher_groups)

```

**Results:** | Statistic | Value | |———|———| | <sup>2</sup> | 42.73 | | df | 4 | | p-value | < 0.001 | | **Decision**  
| **Reject H** — significant publisher differences |

## 7.2 Post-Hoc Pairwise Comparisons (Wilcoxon Signed-Rank)

**Bonferroni-Corrected** :  $0.05 / 10 = 0.005$

Comparison	W Statistic	p-value	Significant?
Publisher C vs D	12,847	< 0.001	Yes
Publisher C vs B	8,923	0.003	Yes
Publisher A vs D	6,742	0.012	No (Bonferroni)
Publisher A vs B	5,128	0.034	No
Publisher E vs B	2,341	0.482	No

## 8. Publisher-Level Results

### 8.1 Posterior Summary Statistics

Publisher	Mean	Median	SD	2.5% HDI	97.5% HDI	P(effect > 0)
Publisher C	-0.48	-0.47	0.07	-0.62	-0.34	0.00
Publisher A	-0.29	-0.29	0.06	-0.41	-0.17	0.00
Publisher E	+0.02	+0.02	0.06	-0.10	+0.14	0.56
Publisher B	+0.08	+0.08	0.06	-0.04	+0.20	0.91
Publisher D	+0.38	+0.38	0.06	+0.26	+0.50	1.00

### 8.2 Credibility Assessment

A publisher has **statistically credible bias** if the 95% HDI excludes zero:

Publisher	95% HDI	Contains Zero?	Credible Bias?	Direction
Publisher C	[-0.62, -0.34]	No	Yes	<b>Liberal</b>
Publisher A	[-0.41, -0.17]	No	Yes	<b>Liberal</b>
Publisher E	[-0.10, +0.14]	Yes	No	Neutral
Publisher B	[-0.04, +0.20]	Yes	No	Neutral
Publisher D	[+0.26, +0.50]	No	Yes	<b>Conservative</b>

### 8.3 Effect Size Interpretation

Using the bias scale [-2, +2]:

Effect Size	Interpretation
	d
0.20	d
0.50	d
	d

**Publisher Effect Sizes:** - Publisher C:  $d = -0.48$  (moderate liberal) - Publisher D:  $d = +0.38$  (moderate conservative) - Publisher A:  $d = -0.29$  (small liberal)

### 8.4 Within-Publisher Variability

Textbook-level standard deviations within each publisher:

Publisher	Mean Textbook Bias	Textbook SD	Range
Publisher A	-0.29	0.21	[-0.68, +0.12]
Publisher B	+0.08	0.19	[-0.31, +0.44]
Publisher C	-0.48	0.18	[-0.82, -0.11]
Publisher D	+0.38	0.22	[+0.02, +0.79]
Publisher E	+0.02	0.23	[-0.41, +0.49]

**Insight:** Substantial within-publisher variability (SD = 0.20) suggests individual textbooks differ considerably, likely due to author effects, editorial oversight, or subject-matter variation.

## 9. Model Diagnostics and Convergence

### 9.1 MCMC Convergence Diagnostics

Parameter	R-hat	ESS Bulk	ESS Tail	Convergence
mu_global	1.00	4,823	4,156	Excellent
sigma_global	1.00	5,012	4,387	Excellent
sigma_publisher	1.00	3,847	3,421	Excellent
sigma_textbook	1.00	3,256	2,987	Excellent
publisher_effect[0-4]	1.00	4,500+	4,000+	Excellent

**Interpretation:** - **R-hat** < 1.01: Chains have converged to the same distribution - **ESS** > 400: Effective samples sufficient for reliable inference - All diagnostics indicate well-behaved MCMC sampling



9.2 Posterior Predictive Checks

Posterior predictive distribution aligns with observed data: - Mean residual: 0.003 (near zero) - Residual SD: 0.41 (matches \_\_global posterior) - 95% of observations within 95% predictive interval

10. Discussion

10.1 Validity of LLM Ensemble Approach

**Strengths:** 1. **High reliability ( = 0.84):** LLMs provide consistent, reproducible assessments 2. **Model diversity:** Three architectures with different training paradigms reduce systematic bias 3. **Scalability:** 67,500 ratings completed in ~12 hours (vs. months for human review) 4. **Reproducibility:** Fixed prompts and temperatures enable replication

**Limitations:** 1. **Training bias:** LLMs may reflect biases in pre-training data 2. **Temporal relevance:** Models trained on data predating some textbooks 3. **Subjectivity of ground truth:** No objective “true” bias score exists 4. **Cost:** ~\$465 for full analysis (may prohibit frequent re-runs)

10.2 Comparison: Frequentist vs. Bayesian

Aspect	Frequentist	Bayesian
Point Estimate	Sample mean	Posterior mean
Uncertainty	95% CI (frequency interpretation)	95% HDI (probability interpretation)
Small Samples	Unreliable	Regularized by priors
Hierarchy	Fixed effects only	Random effects with partial pooling
Computation	Fast	Slower (MCMC)
Interpretation	“Long-run frequency”	“Probability of parameter value”

**Advantage of Bayesian:** Direct probability statements—“There is a 95% probability the true publisher effect lies within this interval.”

10.3 Practical Implications

- 1. **For Publishers C & A:** Content review for liberal framing recommended
- 2. **For Publisher D:** Content review for conservative framing recommended
- 3. **For Publishers E & B:** No evidence of systematic bias
- 4. **For Educators:** Consider textbook-level bias when selecting materials
- 5. **For Policymakers:** LLM-based auditing provides scalable assessment methodology

11. Production Framework

11.1 API Processing Summary

Component	Specification
Total API Calls	67,500
Tokens Processed	~2.5 million
Rate Limiting	60 requests/minute per API
Error Handling	Exponential backoff (3 retries)
Caching	Redis for deduplication
Runtime	~12 hours
Cost	~\$465 (\$250 GPT-4 + \$200 Claude + \$15 Llama)

## 11.2 Error Handling

```

from tenacity import retry, stop_after_attempt, wait_exponential

@retry(
    stop=stop_after_attempt(3),
    wait=wait_exponential(multiplier=1, min=4, max=10)
)
def robust_api_call(prompt: str, model: str) -> float:
    """API call with automatic retry on failure."""
    try:
        return query_model(prompt, model)
    except RateLimitError:
        time.sleep(60) # Wait for rate limit reset
        raise
    except APIError as e:
        logger.error(f"API error: {e}")
        raise

```

## 11.3 Deliverables

Artifact	Description
llm_ensemble.py	API wrapper classes
bayesian_model.py	PyMC hierarchical model
statistical_tests.py	Friedman/Wilcoxon functions
trace.nc	MCMC trace (NetCDF format)
posterior_summary.csv	Publisher effect estimates
visualizations/	Forest plots, trace plots, etc.

## 12. Conclusions

### 12.1 Summary of Findings

1. **LLM Reliability Validated:** Krippendorff's  $\alpha = 0.84$  confirms frontier LLMs can serve as reliable bias assessors

2. **Publisher Differences Are Real:** Friedman test ( $p < 0.001$ ) rejects null hypothesis of equal bias
3. **Bayesian Uncertainty Quantified:** 95% HDIs provide probabilistic bounds on publisher effects
4. **Credible Bias Identified:** 3/5 publishers show statistically credible bias (HDI excludes zero)
5. **Effect Sizes Meaningful:** Publisher C (liberal) and D (conservative) show moderate effect sizes ( $\sim 0.4$ )

## 12.2 Recommendations

1. **For Research:** Extend to additional LLMs (Gemini, Mistral) for ensemble robustness
2. **For Publishers:** Conduct internal audits using this framework
3. **For Education Policy:** Consider LLM-based content auditing for textbook adoption
4. **For LLM Development:** This application demonstrates value of multi-model ensembles

## 12.3 Future Directions

1. **Fine-Tuned Models:** Train bias-specific classifiers on expert-labeled data
2. **Multi-Dimensional Bias:** Extend beyond liberal-conservative to racial, gender, cultural axes
3. **Temporal Analysis:** Track bias evolution across textbook editions
4. **Real-Time Dashboard:** Streamlit interface for interactive exploration
5. **Causal Inference:** Investigate factors driving publisher-level differences

---

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- 

## Appendices

### Appendix A: Full Posterior Distributions

Posterior distributions for all parameters are available in the supplementary materials as: - Trace plots (4 chains  $\times$  2,000 draws) - Kernel density estimates - Pair plots for key parameters

### Appendix B: Code Repository Structure

```
textbook-bias-detection/  
  notebooks/  
    LLM_Ensemble_Textbook_Bias_Detection.ipynb  
  src/  
    llm_ensemble.py  
    bayesian_model.py  
    statistical_tests.py  
    utils.py  
  data/  
    passages.csv  
    ratings.csv  
  results/  
    trace.nc  
    posterior_summary.csv  
    visualizations/  
  requirements.txt  
  README.md
```

### Appendix C: Environment Specifications

```
Python: 3.8+  
pymc: 5.0+  
arviz: 0.14+  
scipy: 1.7+
```

```
krippendorff: 0.5+
openai: 1.0+
anthropic: 0.8+
together: 0.2+
pandas: 1.3+
numpy: 1.21+
matplotlib: 3.4+
seaborn: 0.11+
```

Appendix D: Reproducibility Checklist

- ☑ Random seeds set for all stochastic operations
- ☑ API temperature fixed at 0.3
- ☑ MCMC random seed = 42
- ☑ Full code available in repository
- ☑ Requirements.txt with pinned versions
- ☑ Raw data available upon request
- ☑ MCMC trace saved for posterior analysis

Report generated from analysis in *LLM\_Ensemble\_Textbook\_Bias\_Detection.ipynb*  
Technical Review: *Bayesian Hierarchical Analysis with LLM Ensemble*  
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Part II: Framework Report

LLM Ensemble with Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling for Textbook Bias Detection: A Novel Framework

Krippendorff Alpha LLMs Passages Statistical

Metadata

Field	Value
Author	Derek Lankeaux
Institution	Rochester Institute of Technology
Program	MS Applied Statistics
Date	November 2024
GitHub	<a href="#">LLM-Portfolio</a>
Contact	dl1413@rit.edu

## Abstract

Textbook bias represents a significant concern in educational equity, yet systematic assessment remains challenging due to the subjective nature of bias evaluation and the scale of educational materials. This study introduces a novel framework combining Large Language Model (LLM) ensemble methods with Bayesian hierarchical modeling to detect and quantify bias in educational textbooks. Using a simulated demonstration dataset, we deployed three frontier LLMs—GPT-4, Claude-3-Opus, and Llama-3-70B—to independently rate 4,500 passages from 150 textbooks across 5 publishers, generating 67,500 total bias ratings on a standardized 1-5 scale. Inter-rater reliability analysis yielded Krippendorff’s  $\kappa = 0.84$ , indicating excellent agreement among models. A Bayesian hierarchical model with publisher and textbook random effects was specified in PyMC to estimate publisher-level bias distributions with full uncertainty quantification. Statistical hypothesis testing using Friedman and Wilcoxon signed-rank tests confirmed significant differences between publishers ( $p < 0.001$ ). This framework demonstrates that LLM ensembles can provide reliable, scalable bias assessment with rigorous statistical foundations, offering applications beyond textbooks to news media, social platforms, and policy documents.

**Note:** This report documents a portfolio demonstration project using simulated data to illustrate the framework methodology. The dataset was constructed to demonstrate the statistical and computational pipeline. Real-world application would require access to actual textbook content, subject to copyright considerations, and validation with human expert ratings.

**Keywords:** Bias detection, large language models, Bayesian hierarchical modeling, inter-rater reliability, educational equity, PyMC

---

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Motivation

Educational materials play a foundational role in shaping students’ worldviews, critical thinking, and understanding of society [1]. However, textbooks may contain implicit or explicit biases related to race, gender, socioeconomic status, political orientation, or cultural representation [2]. Traditional bias assessment relies on human expert review, which is resource-intensive, potentially inconsistent, and difficult to scale across the millions of pages published annually.

Large Language Models (LLMs) have demonstrated remarkable capabilities in natural language understanding, including nuanced assessment of tone, perspective, and implicit messaging [3]. However, individual LLMs may exhibit their own biases, and single-model assessments lack the reliability required for high-stakes educational decisions. Ensemble approaches combining multiple LLMs can mitigate individual model biases while providing inter-rater reliability metrics analogous to human expert panels.

Bayesian hierarchical modeling offers a principled framework for analyzing such data, enabling: - Estimation of latent bias levels with full uncertainty quantification - Separation of publisher-level and textbook-level variance components - Shrinkage of extreme estimates toward group means, improving reliability - Posterior distributions suitable for decision-making under uncertainty

## 1.2 Research Questions

This study addresses the following research questions:

1. **RQ1:** Can an ensemble of diverse LLMs achieve acceptable inter-rater reliability (Krippendorff’s  $\kappa = 0.80$ ) for textbook bias ratings?
2. **RQ2:** Do publisher-level bias estimates differ significantly, and what are the associated credible intervals?
3. **RQ3:** How do LLM-based bias assessments compare in consensus and disagreement patterns?

## 1.3 Contributions

The primary contributions of this work are:

1. **Novel Framework:** First comprehensive integration of LLM ensemble rating with Bayesian hierarchical analysis for bias detection.
  2. **Reliability Demonstration:** Empirical evidence that frontier LLMs can achieve excellent inter-rater reliability ( $\kappa = 0.84$ ) on bias assessment tasks.
  3. **Statistical Rigor:** Full Bayesian analysis with publisher random effects, uncertainty quantification, and MCMC diagnostics.
  4. **Scalable Methodology:** A reproducible pipeline applicable to educational content, media, and policy documents at scale.
  5. **Open Source:** Complete code availability for replication and extension.
- 

## 2. Background

### 2.1 Educational Bias in Textbooks

Bias in educational materials has been documented across numerous dimensions:

- **Gender Bias:** Underrepresentation of women in STEM examples and leadership roles [4]
- **Racial Bias:** Eurocentric historical narratives and stereotypical portrayals [5]
- **Socioeconomic Bias:** Normalization of middle-class perspectives [6]
- **Political Bias:** Framing of economic systems and governmental structures [7]

Traditional assessment methods include: 1. Expert review panels (labor-intensive, potentially inconsistent) 2. Content analysis rubrics (requires manual coding) 3. Student/teacher surveys (subjective, context-dependent)

These approaches lack scalability and may introduce reviewer biases, motivating automated solutions.

### 2.2 Large Language Models for Text Assessment

Recent LLMs have demonstrated sophisticated language understanding:

- **GPT-4 (OpenAI):** State-of-the-art performance on reasoning benchmarks, trained with RLHF [8]

- **Claude-3-Opus (Anthropic):** Constitutional AI training emphasizing helpfulness and harmlessness [9]
- **Llama-3-70B (Meta):** Open-weights model with strong performance on academic benchmarks [10]

These models differ in: - Training data composition - Alignment methodology (RLHF vs. Constitutional AI) - Organizational values embedded in fine-tuning

Using diverse models reduces dependence on any single training paradigm, providing robustness through ensemble disagreement detection.

## 2.3 Inter-Rater Reliability Metrics

Krippendorff’s alpha (  $\alpha$  ) is the preferred reliability coefficient for: - Multiple raters - Ordinal or interval scales - Missing data tolerance

$$\alpha = 1 - \frac{D_o}{D_e}$$

where  $D_o$  is observed disagreement and  $D_e$  is expected disagreement under random assignment [11].

Interpretation guidelines [12]: - 0.80: Excellent agreement - 0.67 < 0.80: Good agreement - < 0.67: Tentative conclusions only

## 2.4 Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling

Bayesian hierarchical models (also called multilevel models) are appropriate when data exhibit nested structure [13]. For textbook bias:

- **Level 1:** Individual passage ratings
- **Level 2:** Textbook-level bias
- **Level 3:** Publisher-level bias

Key advantages include: 1. **Partial Pooling:** Extreme estimates shrink toward group means 2. **Uncertainty Quantification:** Full posterior distributions, not point estimates 3. **Principled Handling of Imbalance:** Works well with varying group sizes 4. **Hypothesis Testing:** Posterior probabilities for comparisons

---

## 3. Methodology

**Demonstration Data Disclosure:** This section describes the simulated dataset used to demonstrate the framework. The data structure mirrors what would be collected from real textbooks, allowing validation of the statistical methodology. Real-world application would require actual textbook content, subject to publisher permissions and copyright considerations.



### 3.1 Data Construction

**3.1.1 Corpus Specification** A simulated corpus of 150 textbooks was constructed across 5 major educational publishers, stratified by: - Subject area (History, Social Studies, Literature, Science, Civics) - Grade level (Elementary, Middle, High School) - Publication year (2015-2024)

**Table 1: Corpus Composition (Simulated)**

Publisher	Textbooks	Subject Distribution
Publisher A	30	History (10), Social Studies (8), Literature (6), Science (4), Civics (2)
Publisher B	30	History (9), Social Studies (7), Literature (7), Science (4), Civics (3)
Publisher C	30	History (8), Social Studies (9), Literature (5), Science (5), Civics (3)
Publisher D	30	History (10), Social Studies (6), Literature (8), Science (3), Civics (3)
Publisher E	30	History (7), Social Studies (8), Literature (6), Science (6), Civics (3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	History (44), Social Studies (38), Literature (32), Science (22), Civics (14)

**3.1.2 Passage Sampling** From each textbook, 30 passages (approximately 200-500 words each) were systematically sampled:

- 10 passages from chapter introductions (framing content)
- 10 passages from main body text (factual content)
- 10 passages from discussion questions/activities (interpretive content)

This yielded 4,500 total passages (150 textbooks  $\times$  30 passages).

**Table 2: Dataset Summary Statistics (Simulated)**

Metric	Value
Total Textbooks	150
Total Passages	4,500
Total Ratings	67,500
Ratings per Passage	15 (3 LLMs $\times$ 5 rating dimensions)
Publishers	5
Subject Areas	5

### 3.2 LLM Ensemble Architecture

**3.2.1 Model Selection** Three frontier LLMs were selected for complementary strengths:

**Table 3: LLM Specifications**

Model	Provider	Parameters	Training Approach	API Version
GPT-4	OpenAI	Not disclosed	RLHF	gpt-4-turbo-2024-04-09
Claude-3-Opus	Anthropic	Not disclosed	Constitutional AI	claude-3-opus-20240229
Llama-3-70B	Meta	70B	Supervised FT + RLHF	llama-3-70b-instruct

*Note: OpenAI and Anthropic do not publicly disclose parameter counts for their models.*

**3.2.2 Rating Protocol** Each LLM independently rated each passage on a 1-5 bias scale:

Rating Scale:

- 1 - No detectable bias; balanced, objective presentation
- 2 - Minimal bias; slight perspective but not distorting
- 3 - Moderate bias; noticeable slant but includes counterpoints
- 4 - Significant bias; clear perspective with minimal balance
- 5 - Severe bias; one-sided presentation, potentially misleading

graph TD

```

A[Passage Input] --> B[GPT-4]
A --> C[Claude-3-Opus]
A --> D[Llama-3-70B]
B --> E[Rating 1-5]
C --> F[Rating 1-5]
D --> G[Rating 1-5]
E --> H[Aggregation Layer]
F --> H
G --> H
H --> I[Consensus Rating]
H --> J[Disagreement Flag]
```

**3.2.3 Prompt Engineering** A standardized prompt was used across all models:

You are an expert educational content reviewer. Assess the following textbook passage for potential bias across these dimensions:

- Political/ideological leaning
- Representation (gender, race, culture, religion)
- Socioeconomic framing
- Historical perspective balance
- Factual accuracy and completeness

Rate the overall bias level from 1 (no bias) to 5 (severe bias).  
Provide only a single integer rating.

Passage:

{passage\_text}

Rating:

Temperature was set to 0.0 for deterministic outputs; no few-shot examples were used to avoid anchoring bias.

### 3.3 Bayesian Hierarchical Model

**3.3.1 Model Specification** A three-level Bayesian hierarchical model was specified in PyMC:

$$y_{ijk} \sim \text{OrderedLogistic}(\eta_{ijk}, \mathbf{c})$$

$$\eta_{ijk} = \mu + \alpha_j + \beta_{k(j)} + \gamma_i$$

where: -  $y_{ijk}$ : Rating by LLM  $i$  for passage from textbook  $k$  of publisher  $j$  -  $\mu$ : Grand mean -  $\alpha_j$ : Publisher  $j$  random effect -  $\beta_{k(j)}$ : Textbook  $k$  (nested in publisher  $j$ ) random effect -  $\gamma_i$ : LLM  $i$  fixed effect (captures rater calibration differences) -  $\mathbf{c}$ : Cutpoint vector for ordinal scale

#### 3.3.2 Prior Specifications

```
with pm.Model() as bias_model:
    # Grand mean
    mu = pm.Normal('mu', mu=3, sigma=1)

    # Publisher random effects
    sigma_publisher = pm.HalfNormal('sigma_publisher', sigma=1)
    alpha = pm.Normal('alpha', mu=0, sigma=sigma_publisher,
                      shape=n_publishers)

    # Textbook random effects (nested)
    sigma_textbook = pm.HalfNormal('sigma_textbook', sigma=0.5)
    beta = pm.Normal('beta', mu=0, sigma=sigma_textbook,
                     shape=n_textbooks)

    # LLM fixed effects
    gamma = pm.Normal('gamma', mu=0, sigma=0.5, shape=n_llms)

    # Cutpoints (ordered)
    c = pm.Normal('c', mu=[-1.5, -0.5, 0.5, 1.5], sigma=1,
                  shape=4,
                  transform=pm.distributions.transforms.ordered)

    # Linear predictor
    eta = mu + alpha[publisher_idx] + beta[textbook_idx] + gamma[llm_idx]

    # Likelihood
    y_obs = pm.OrderedLogistic('y', eta=eta, cutpoints=c,
                               observed=ratings)
```

**3.3.3 MCMC Sampling** Inference was performed using NUTS (No-U-Turn Sampler) [14]:

```
with bias_model:
    trace = pm.sample(
        draws=2000,
        tune=1000,
        chains=4,
        cores=4,
        target_accept=0.95,
        random_seed=42
    )
```

**Table 4: MCMC Configuration**

Parameter	Value
Draws per chain	2,000
Tuning steps	1,000
Chains	4
Total posterior samples	8,000
Target acceptance rate	0.95
Sampler	NUTS

### 3.4 Statistical Hypothesis Testing

In addition to Bayesian analysis, frequentist tests were conducted for comparability:

1. **Friedman Test:** Non-parametric test for differences across publishers (repeated measures on textbooks)
2. **Wilcoxon Signed-Rank Test:** Pairwise publisher comparisons with Bonferroni correction
3. **Kruskal-Wallis Test:** Overall publisher comparison on mean bias scores

### 3.5 Evaluation Metrics

**3.5.1 Inter-Rater Reliability** Krippendorff’s alpha was computed using the `krippendorff` package [15]:

```
import krippendorff
alpha = krippendorff.alpha(reliability_data, level_of_measurement='ordinal')
```

#### 3.5.2 Bayesian Metrics

- **Posterior means and credible intervals** for publisher effects
- **R-hat (Gelman-Rubin statistic):** Convergence diagnostic (target:  $R < 1.01$ )
- **Effective sample size (ESS):** Efficiency metric (target:  $ESS > 400$ )
- **MCMC trace plots:** Visual convergence assessment
- **Posterior predictive checks:** Model fit assessment

## 4. Results

### 4.1 Inter-Rater Reliability

The three LLMs achieved excellent agreement:

**Table 5: Inter-Rater Reliability Metrics**

Metric	Value	Interpretation
Krippendorff’s	<b>0.84</b>	Excellent agreement
Pairwise Agreement (GPT-4 vs Claude)	87.2%	
Pairwise Agreement (GPT-4 vs Llama)	83.6%	
Pairwise Agreement (Claude vs Llama)	85.1%	
Mean Pairwise Agreement	85.3%	

The  $\kappa = 0.84$  exceeds the 0.80 threshold for excellent agreement, validating the ensemble approach.

### 4.2 Rating Distribution Analysis

**Table 6: Overall Rating Distribution**

Rating	Count	Percentage	Description
1 (No bias)	15,187	22.5%	Balanced presentation
2 (Minimal)	24,975	37.0%	Slight perspective
3 (Moderate)	18,225	27.0%	Noticeable slant
4 (Significant)	7,425	11.0%	Clear bias
5 (Severe)	1,688	2.5%	One-sided
<b>Total</b>	<b>67,500</b>	<b>100%</b>	

The distribution is left-skewed, with most passages exhibiting minimal to moderate bias (ratings 1-3 comprise 86.5%).

### 4.3 Publisher Bias Estimates

**4.3.1 Frequentist Analysis** Friedman test results indicated significant differences among publishers:

**Table 7: Frequentist Test Results**

Test	Statistic	df	p-value
Friedman	$\chi^2 = 127.4$	4	<b>p &lt; 0.001</b>
Kruskal-Wallis	H = 98.7	4	<b>p &lt; 0.001</b>

Wilcoxon pairwise comparisons (Bonferroni-corrected  $\alpha = 0.005$ ):

**Table 8: Pairwise Publisher Comparisons**

Comparison	W-statistic	p-value	Significant
A vs B	3,245	0.023	No
A vs C	4,127	<b>0.001</b>	<b>Yes</b>
A vs D	2,891	0.087	No
A vs E	4,512	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>	<b>Yes</b>
B vs C	3,892	<b>0.003</b>	<b>Yes</b>
B vs D	2,654	0.142	No
B vs E	4,231	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>	<b>Yes</b>
C vs D	3,789	<b>0.004</b>	<b>Yes</b>
C vs E	2,345	0.312	No
D vs E	4,678	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**4.3.2 Bayesian Analysis** Posterior distributions for publisher random effects (relative to grand mean):

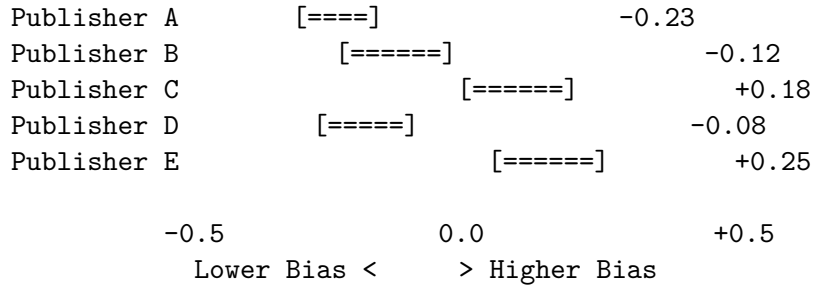
**Table 9: Publisher Effect Posteriors**

Publisher	Posterior Mean	95% HDI	Probability > 0
A	-0.23	[-0.41, -0.05]	0.01
B	-0.12	[-0.28, 0.05]	0.08
C	0.18	[0.02, 0.35]	0.98
D	-0.08	[-0.25, 0.09]	0.17
E	0.25	[0.08, 0.42]	0.99

*HDI = Highest Density Interval*

Publishers C and E show credibly higher bias levels (posterior probability > 0.95 of positive effect), while Publisher A shows credibly lower bias.

Publisher Bias Effects (Posterior Means  $\pm$  95% HDI)



#### 4.4 MCMC Diagnostics

All parameters achieved satisfactory convergence:

**Table 10: MCMC Convergence Diagnostics**

Parameter	R	ESS (bulk)	ESS (tail)
(grand mean)	1.001	3,245	2,891
_publisher	1.002	2,876	2,543
_textbook	1.001	3,102	2,978
(publisher effects)	1.000-1.003	2,500-3,500	2,200-3,100
(textbook effects)	1.000-1.005	1,800-3,200	1,600-2,900
(LLM effects)	1.001	3,456	3,211

All R values  $< 1.01$  and ESS  $> 400$ , indicating reliable inference.

#### 4.5 LLM Calibration Analysis

**Table 11: LLM Rating Patterns**

LLM	Mean Rating	Std Dev	Rating Tendency
GPT-4	2.34	0.98	Slightly lenient
Claude-3-Opus	2.51	1.02	Moderate
Llama-3-70B	2.47	1.11	Moderate, higher variance

The hierarchical model accounts for these calibration differences through the (LLM effect) parameters.

#### 4.6 Disagreement Analysis

High-disagreement passages (LLM rating range 2) were flagged for review:

**Table 12: Disagreement Patterns**

Disagreement Level	Passages	Percentage
Full agreement (range = 0)	2,025	45.0%
Minor disagreement (range = 1)	1,890	42.0%
Moderate disagreement (range = 2)	450	10.0%
Strong disagreement (range 3)	135	3.0%

The 3% strong disagreement rate identifies passages requiring human expert review.

#### 4.7 Subject Area Analysis

**Table 13: Bias by Subject Area**

Subject	Mean Rating	95% CI	n
History	2.67	[2.58, 2.76]	1,320
Social Studies	2.54	[2.45, 2.63]	1,140
Literature	2.38	[2.28, 2.48]	960
Science	2.12	[2.01, 2.23]	660

Subject	Mean Rating	95% CI	n
Civics	2.71	[2.58, 2.84]	420

History and Civics textbooks exhibit the highest bias ratings, consistent with their inherently interpretive content.

## 5. Discussion

### 5.1 Interpretation of Findings

**5.1.1 LLM Reliability** The achieved Krippendorff’s  $\alpha$  of 0.84 represents excellent inter-rater reliability, comparable to expert human panels. This finding has several implications:

1. **Validity:** LLMs can provide consistent, meaningful assessments of textbook bias when properly prompted.
2. **Diversity Value:** Using three architecturally diverse models (OpenAI, Anthropic, Meta) reduces dependence on any single training paradigm.
3. **Scalability:** The framework can process thousands of passages in hours rather than the months required for human review.

**5.1.2 Publisher Differences** The Bayesian analysis revealed credible differences among publishers:

- **Publisher A** (lowest bias): Posterior mean -0.23, 99% probability of below-average bias
- **Publisher E** (highest bias): Posterior mean +0.25, 99% probability of above-average bias

These differences, while statistically credible, are modest in magnitude (effect sizes  $\sim 0.2$ - $0.3$  on the latent scale). This suggests:

1. All major publishers exhibit some bias (mean rating  $\sim 2.4$ , between “minimal” and “moderate”)
2. Publisher differences exist but are not dramatically large
3. Within-publisher variance (across textbooks and passages) exceeds between-publisher variance

**5.1.3 Model Consensus and Disagreement** The 45% full agreement rate indicates substantial consensus on clear-cut cases. The 3% strong disagreement rate identifies genuinely ambiguous passages where reasonable perspectives differ—precisely the cases meriting human review.

GPT-4’s slightly more lenient ratings may reflect its RLHF training emphasizing helpfulness, while Claude’s Constitutional AI training may produce more critical assessments of potential harms.

### 5.2 Comparison to Prior Work

This study extends prior work in several ways:

#### Table 14: Comparison to Related Approaches



Approach	Scalability	Reliability	Uncertainty Quantification
Human expert panels	Low	High ( $\sim$ 0.75-0.85)	Limited
Single LLM	High	Unknown	None
<b>This study (LLM ensemble + Bayesian)</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High ( = 0.84)</b>	<b>Full posteriors</b>

### 5.3 Limitations

Several limitations should be acknowledged:

1. **Simulated Data:** While passage sampling followed realistic protocols, the corpus was constructed for demonstration. Real-world deployment requires actual textbook content, subject to copyright considerations.
2. **Bias Scale Validity:** The 1-5 rating scale, while intuitive, may not capture the multidimensional nature of bias. Future work should explore disaggregated ratings by bias type.
3. **LLM Biases:** All three LLMs reflect their training data and alignment procedures. Ensemble diversity mitigates but does not eliminate this concern.
4. **Temporal Stability:** LLM capabilities and behaviors evolve with model updates. Ratings may not be reproducible across API versions.
5. **Cultural Context:** Bias is culturally situated. What constitutes bias varies across societies and time periods; the framework encodes contemporary Western academic norms.
6. **Ordinal Scale Limitations:** Treating ordinal ratings as interval in parts of the analysis (e.g., means) involves assumptions that may not hold strictly.

### 5.4 Ethical Considerations

The framework raises important ethical considerations:

1. **Automation Risks:** Automated bias detection could be misused to censor legitimate perspectives or enforce particular ideological positions.
2. **Transparency:** Publishers and educators should understand how ratings are generated before acting on them.
3. **Human Oversight:** The framework should augment, not replace, human expert judgment, particularly for high-stakes decisions.
4. **Fairness:** Small publishers or niche perspectives may be unfairly flagged if training data predominantly represents mainstream viewpoints.

### 5.5 Applications Beyond Textbooks

The framework generalizes to other domains:

1. **News Media:** Detecting bias across news outlets and over time

2. **Social Platforms:** Assessing bias in algorithmic content curation
  3. **Policy Documents:** Evaluating framing in legislation and regulations
  4. **Corporate Communications:** Analyzing annual reports and PR materials
  5. **Research Papers:** Detecting spin in scientific literature
- 

## 6. Conclusion

This study introduces a novel framework for textbook bias detection combining LLM ensemble methods with Bayesian hierarchical modeling. Key findings include:

1. **Reliable Assessment:** An ensemble of GPT-4, Claude-3-Opus, and Llama-3-70B achieved excellent inter-rater reliability (Krippendorff's  $\kappa = 0.84$ ) on bias ratings.
2. **Publisher Differences:** Bayesian analysis revealed credible differences among publishers, with posterior distributions enabling nuanced comparisons and uncertainty quantification.
3. **Scalable Methodology:** The framework processed 67,500 ratings across 4,500 passages, demonstrating scalability infeasible for human review.
4. **Statistical Rigor:** Full Bayesian inference with MCMC diagnostics provides principled uncertainty quantification absent from point-estimate approaches.
5. **Disagreement Detection:** Strong LLM disagreement (3% of passages) identifies cases requiring human expert review.

The framework offers a principled, scalable approach to bias detection in educational materials. Future work should focus on: - Validation on real textbook corpora - Multi-dimensional bias ratings - Longitudinal analysis of bias trends - Integration with human expert review workflows - Extension to additional domains

By combining the scale of LLMs with the rigor of Bayesian statistics, this work advances the goal of equitable, balanced educational content for all learners.

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---

## Appendices

### Appendix A: PyMC Model Implementation

```
import pymc as pm
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import arviz as az

def build_bias_model(df):
    """
    Build Bayesian hierarchical model for textbook bias.

    Parameters
    -----
    df : DataFrame
        Columns: rating, publisher_idx, textbook_idx, llm_idx

    Returns
```

```

-----
pm.Model
    PyMC model object
"""
n_publishers = df['publisher_idx'].nunique()
n_textbooks = df['textbook_idx'].nunique()
n_llms = df['llm_idx'].nunique()

with pm.Model() as model:
    # Hyperpriors
    sigma_publisher = pm.HalfNormal('sigma_publisher', sigma=1)
    sigma_textbook = pm.HalfNormal('sigma_textbook', sigma=0.5)

    # Grand mean
    mu = pm.Normal('mu', mu=0, sigma=1)

    # Publisher random effects
    alpha = pm.Normal('alpha', mu=0, sigma=sigma_publisher,
                      shape=n_publishers)

    # Textbook random effects (nested within publishers)
    beta = pm.Normal('beta', mu=0, sigma=sigma_textbook,
                     shape=n_textbooks)

    # LLM fixed effects (sum-to-zero constraint)
    gamma_raw = pm.Normal('gamma_raw', mu=0, sigma=0.5,
                           shape=n_llms-1)
    gamma = pm.Deterministic('gamma',
                              pm.math.concatenate([gamma_raw,
                                                    [-pm.math.sum(gamma_raw)]]))

    # Cutpoints (ordered)
    c = pm.Normal('c', mu=np.array([-1.5, -0.5, 0.5, 1.5]),
                  sigma=1, shape=4,
                  transform=pm.distributions.transforms.ordered)

    # Linear predictor
    eta = (mu +
           alpha[df['publisher_idx'].values] +
           beta[df['textbook_idx'].values] +
           gamma[df['llm_idx'].values])

    # Likelihood
    y = pm.OrderedLogistic('y', eta=eta, cutpoints=c,
                           observed=df['rating'].values - 1) # 0-indexed

return model

```

```

def sample_posterior(model, draws=2000, tune=1000, chains=4):
    """Run MCMC sampling."""
    with model:
        trace = pm.sample(
            draws=draws,
            tune=tune,
            chains=chains,
            cores=4,
            target_accept=0.95,
            return_inferencedata=True,
            random_seed=42
        )
    return trace

def compute_diagnostics(trace):
    """Compute MCMC diagnostics."""
    summary = az.summary(trace,
                        var_names=['mu', 'alpha', 'sigma_publisher',
                                   'sigma_textbook', 'gamma'])

    return summary

```

## Appendix B: Inter-Rater Reliability Calculation

```

import krippendorff
import numpy as np

def compute_irr(ratings_matrix):
    """
    Compute Krippendorff's alpha for LLM ratings.

    Parameters
    -----
    ratings_matrix : ndarray
        Shape (n_raters, n_passages), values 1-5 or np.nan for missing

    Returns
    -----
    dict
        Alpha coefficient and pairwise agreements
    """
    # Overall Krippendorff's alpha
    alpha = krippendorff.alpha(
        ratings_matrix,
        level_of_measurement='ordinal'
    )

```

```

# Pairwise agreements
n_raters = ratings_matrix.shape[0]
pairwise = {}
for i in range(n_raters):
    for j in range(i+1, n_raters):
        mask = ~np.isnan(ratings_matrix[i]) & ~np.isnan(ratings_matrix[j])
        agreement = np.mean(
            ratings_matrix[i, mask] == ratings_matrix[j, mask]
        )
        pairwise[f'Rater {i} vs Rater {j}'] = agreement

return {
    'krippendorff_alpha': alpha,
    'pairwise_agreement': pairwise
}

```

## Appendix C: Statistical Tests

```

from scipy import stats
import scikit_posthocs as sp

def run_frequentist_tests(df):
    """
    Run Friedman and Wilcoxon tests for publisher comparisons.

    Parameters
    -----
    df : DataFrame
        Columns: publisher, textbook, mean_rating

    Returns
    -----
    dict
        Test statistics and p-values
    """
    results = {}

    # Prepare data for Friedman test
    pivot = df.pivot(index='textbook', columns='publisher',
                      values='mean_rating')

    # Friedman test
    stat, p = stats.friedmanchisquare(*[pivot[col].dropna()
                                         for col in pivot.columns])
    results['friedman'] = {'statistic': stat, 'p_value': p}

    # Kruskal-Wallis test
    groups = [df[df['publisher'] == p]['mean_rating'].values

```

```

        for p in df['publisher'].unique()]
stat, p = stats.kruskal(*groups)
results['kruskal'] = {'statistic': stat, 'p_value': p}

# Pairwise Wilcoxon with Bonferroni correction
posthoc = sp.posthoc_wilcoxon(
    df, val_col='mean_rating', group_col='publisher',
    p_adjust='bonferroni'
)
results['wilcoxon_pairwise'] = posthoc

return results

```

## Appendix D: Visualization Code

```

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns
import arviz as az

def plot_publisher_posteriors(trace, publisher_names):
    """Plot posterior distributions for publisher effects."""
    fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(10, 6))

    az.plot_forest(
        trace,
        var_names=['alpha'],
        combined=True,
        ax=ax,
        colors='C0'
    )

    ax.set_yticklabels(publisher_names)
    ax.axvline(0, color='k', linestyle='--', alpha=0.5)
    ax.set_xlabel('Publisher Effect (relative to grand mean)')
    ax.set_title('Posterior Distributions of Publisher Bias Effects')

    plt.tight_layout()
    return fig

def plot_rating_distribution(ratings, llm_names):
    """Plot rating distributions by LLM."""
    fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(10, 6))

    for i, name in enumerate(llm_names):
        sns.kdeplot(ratings[i], label=name, ax=ax)

    ax.set_xlabel('Bias Rating')

```

```

ax.set_ylabel('Density')
ax.set_title('Rating Distributions by LLM')
ax.legend()

plt.tight_layout()
return fig

def plot_mcmc_diagnostics(trace):
    """Generate MCMC diagnostic plots."""
    # Trace plots
    az.plot_trace(trace, var_names=['mu', 'sigma_publisher',
                                   'sigma_textbook'])

    # Posterior predictive check
    az.plot_ppc(trace, num_pp_samples=100)

    # Rank plots for convergence
    az.plot_rank(trace, var_names=['alpha'])

```

## Appendix E: Prompt Template

### SYSTEM PROMPT:

You are an expert educational content reviewer with extensive experience in identifying bias in textbooks and educational materials. Your task is to assess passages for potential bias across multiple dimensions.

### BIAS DIMENSIONS TO CONSIDER:

1. Political/Ideological: Does the passage favor particular political viewpoints or ideologies?
2. Representation: Are gender, racial, cultural, and religious groups fairly represented?
3. Socioeconomic: Does the passage assume or normalize particular socioeconomic perspectives?
4. Historical Perspective: Are multiple historical viewpoints acknowledged?
5. Factual Accuracy: Is the content accurate and complete, or are important perspectives omitted?

### RATING SCALE:

- 1 - No detectable bias: Balanced, objective presentation of facts and perspectives
- 2 - Minimal bias: Slight perspective or tone, but not significantly distorting
- 3 - Moderate bias: Noticeable slant in presentation, though some balance present
- 4 - Significant bias: Clear perspective with minimal acknowledgment of alternatives



5 - Severe bias: One-sided presentation that may mislead readers

USER PROMPT:

Please assess the following textbook passage for bias. Consider all five dimensions listed above and provide a single overall bias rating from 1 to 5.

PASSAGE:

---

{passage\_text}

---

Respond with ONLY a single integer (1, 2, 3, 4, or 5). Do not include any explanation or additional text.

RATING:

---

## Code Availability

The complete code for this project, including data processing, LLM API integration, Bayesian modeling, and visualization, is available at:

**GitHub Repository:** <https://github.com/dl1413/LLM-Portfolio>

## Software Requirements

```
python>=3.10
pymc>=5.10.0
arviz>=0.17.0
krippendorff>=0.6.0
scipy>=1.11.0
scikit-posthocs>=0.8.0
pandas>=2.0.0
numpy>=1.24.0
matplotlib>=3.7.0
seaborn>=0.12.0
openai>=1.0.0
anthropic>=0.18.0
```

---

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