- The authors sincerely thank the reviewers for their time and effort; your remarks will help us improve the quality of our paper, and we respond to each reviewer's queries individually below.
- **Reviewer 1:** Thank you for the detailed thought-provoking comments which will help us improve the final work.
- 4 Overlap. Some tests reveal bias only when c-word encoding is used, and other tests reveal bias only when sent encoding
- 5 is used; this suggests that a single metric does not suffice and that our method exposes biases which may otherwise be
- 6 missed. We will include a detailed illustration of the overlaps (showing which tests exhibit bias in which models) in the
- final version.
- 8 Larger models exhibit less bias? We report two BERT model sizes (bbc\_110M vs blc\_370M) and the GPT model
- 9 family (GPT, GPT-2\_117M and GPT-2\_345M). This hypothesis is supported by the number of significant positive
- 10 effect sizes (Table 2), however we note that the effect sizes and significance vary in both directions across specific tests
- 11 (Tables 3, 4, 5), so we do not believe we can conclude that bias "reduces" as it appears to change in nature. Because of
- 12 how expensive (and inaccessible) it is to pre-train these models, we are unable to conduct a more robust study on model
- size and bias effect size for context dependent models. Evaluating GloVe (50d, 100d, 200d and 300d under the CBoW
- setup in our paper), we found no consistent trend across embedding size on effect size for either word or sent encodings.
- 15 **Corpora statistics and results.** We will include a test for associating M/F names and occ words in the final version.
- Section 4.2: line 153. Indeed the method uses the contextual representation, so there is no pooling involved.
- 17 **Reviewer 2:** Thank you for the incisive comments which help us improve our discussion and interpretation of results.
- 18 **Tests.** We define concepts to be notions of classes like M/F and EA/AA, and define attributes to be characteristics that
- can be assigned to these classes, such as P/U and Career/Family. Each concept and attribute is defined with a word list
- 20 (or sentence list), and thus we do not use any corpus or averaging. Regarding token-to-token similarities, specifically
- we calculate cosine similarities between word/sentence/contextual word encodings.
- 22 New word lists. Indeed, our word lists were constructed in prior work (Caliskan et al. [6] and May et al. [23]), which
- 23 grounded the lists in the social science literature. Our contribution is in exploring them more fully across different
- 24 permutations and with contextual models. E.g., for the extension of the Heilman double bind tests to race, we kept the
- same attribute word lists as the original tests, but replaced M/F names with EA/AA names (see also Appendix B.1-B.3).
- 26 Counting significant effects. We include Table 2 for ease of interpretation, however our main analysis is in the form
- of effect sizes (Tables 3-8).
- 28 Negative effect sizes. Some prior work [23] also found negative effect sizes for BERT and GPT (for sent encodings).
- 29 While surprising, note that none of the instances of negative effect sizes we observed were found to be significant given
- 30 the permutation test.
- 31 **Intersectional results.** We find that a similar proportion of our intersectional tests exhibit significant positive effects as
- our tests on race (25%); gender tests have a smaller proportion (12%). The experience of multiple minorities is at least
- as worse as their constituent minorities, but based on [12] we expected larger effect sizes in our intersectional tests. For
- this response, we further compared a test on M EA/F AA names with M EA/M AA and M EA/F EA names, finding that
- 35 BERT exhibits larger significant effect sizes on the multiple minority case (1.57) than the others (0.68, 1.21).
- 36 Reviewer 3: Thank you for your helpful comments which will help us improving the exposition of our results.
- 1. In Tables 2 and 3, we do find that the c-word encoding on the non-double bind tests in general have higher effect
- 38 sizes than with the sent encoding. We believe this is due to the modulating effect of pooling operations (ELMo) or the
- use of first (BERT) / last (GPT) word representations to obtain sent encodings.
- 40 **2.** Indeed, "they" is primarily used as the collective pronoun in these corpora; the takeaway observation from Table 1 is
- that it has more M-biased occurrences than F-biased occurrences despite being theoretically neutral.
- 42 3. We agree that terms relating to assistive devices would make sense to include. However, we determined that
- developing new lists was outside the scope of our expertise as it should be carefully grounded in the social science
- 44 literature, and hence we only used lists developed and vetted by other scholars (e.g., [6] for ableism and age).
- 45 4. This is an interesting suggestion which we have not seen in the existing literature. It could be attained by considering
- 46 negative examples (sentences which "should" be bias neutral given our understanding from the social sciences) to see if
- 47 correlations are still observed. Developing such lists would be an interesting cross-disciplinary challenge.
- 48 5. There is no clear "best" method for measuring bias in any domain; indeed, it is unlikely that any single test will
- suffice. Rather, this work suggests that our method captures aspects of bias that other tests fail to discern.