

# Hallucination Detection in LLMs Using Spectral Features of Attention Maps

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## Abstract

Large Language Models (LLMs) have demonstrated remarkable performance across various tasks but remain prone to hallucinations. Detecting hallucinations is essential for safety-critical applications, and recent methods leverage attention map properties to this end, though their effectiveness remains limited. In this work, we investigate the spectral features of attention maps by interpreting them as adjacency matrices of graph structures. We propose the LapEigvals method, which utilizes the top- $k$  eigenvalues of the Laplacian matrix derived from the attention maps as an input to hallucination detection probes. Empirical evaluations demonstrate that our approach achieves state-of-the-art hallucination detection performance among attention-based methods. Extensive ablation studies further highlight the robustness and generalization of LapEigvals, paving the way for future advancements in the hallucination detection domain.

## 1 Introduction

The recent surge of interest in Large Language Models (LLMs), driven by their impressive performance across various tasks, has led to significant advancements in their training, fine-tuning, and application to real-world problems. Despite progress, many challenges remain unresolved, particularly in safety-critical applications with a high cost of errors. A significant issue is that LLMs are prone to hallucinations, i.e. generating "content that is nonsensical or unfaithful to the provided source content" (Farquhar et al., 2024; Huang et al., 2023). Since eliminating hallucinations is impossible (Lee, 2023; Xu et al., 2024), there is a pressing need for methods to detect when a model produces hallucinations. In addition, examining the internal behavior of LLMs in the context of hallucinations may yield important insights into their characteristics and support further advancements in the field.

Recent studies have shown that hallucinations can be detected using internal states of the model, e.g., hidden states (Chen et al., 2024) or attention maps (Chuang et al., 2024a), and that LLMs can internally "know when they do not know" (Azaria and Mitchell, 2023; Orgad et al., 2025). We show that spectral features of attention maps coincide with hallucinations and, building on this observation, propose a novel method for their detection.

As highlighted by (Barbero et al., 2024), attention maps can be viewed as weighted adjacency matrices of graphs. Building on this perspective, we performed statistical analysis and demonstrated that the eigenvalues of a Laplacian matrix derived from attention maps serve as good predictors of hallucinations. We propose the LapEigvals method, which utilizes the top- $k$  eigenvalues of the Laplacian as input features of a probing model to detect hallucinations. We share full implementation in a public repository: <https://github.com/graphml-lab-pwr/lapeigvals>.

We summarize our contributions as follows:

- (1) We perform statistical analysis of the Laplacian matrix derived from attention maps and show that it could serve as a better predictor of hallucinations compared to the previous method relying on the log-determinant of the maps.
- (2) Building on that analysis and advancements in the graph-processing domain, we propose leveraging the top- $k$  eigenvalues of the Laplacian matrix as features for hallucination detection probes and empirically show that it achieves state-of-the-art performance among attention-based approaches.
- (3) Through extensive ablation studies, we demonstrate properties, robustness and generalization of LapEigvals and suggest promising directions for further development.

## 2 Motivation

Considering the attention matrix as an adjacency matrix representing a set of Markov chains, each corresponding to one layer of an LLM (Wu et al., 2024) (see Figure 2), we can leverage its spectral properties, as was done in many successful graph-based methods (Mohar, 1997; von Luxburg, 2007; Bruna et al., 2013; Topping et al., 2022). In particular, it was shown that the graph Laplacian might help to describe several graph properties, like the presence of bottlenecks (Topping et al., 2022; Black et al., 2023). We hypothesize that hallucinations may arise from disruptions in information flow, such as bottlenecks, which could be detected through the graph Laplacian.

To assess whether our hypothesis holds, we computed graph spectral features and verified if they provide a stronger coincidence with hallucinations than the previous attention-based method - AttentionScore (Sriramanan et al., 2024). We prompted an LLM with questions from the TriviaQA dataset (Joshi et al., 2017) and extracted attention maps, differentiating by layers and heads. We then computed the spectral features, i.e., the 10 largest eigenvalues of the Laplacian matrix from each head and layer. Further, we conducted a two-sided Mann-Whitney U test (Mann and Whitney, 1947) to compare whether Laplacian eigenvalues and the values of AttentionScore are different between hallucinated and non-hallucinated examples. Figure 1 shows  $p$ -values for all layers and heads, indicating that AttentionScore often results in higher  $p$ -values compared to Laplacian eigenvalues. Overall, we studied 7 datasets and 5 LLMs and found similar results (see Appendix A). Based on these findings, we propose leveraging top- $k$  Laplacian eigenvalues as features for a hallucination probe.

## 3 Method

In our method, we train a hallucination probe using only attention maps, which we extracted during LLM inference, as illustrated in Figure 2. The attention map is a matrix containing attention scores for all tokens processed during inference, while the hallucination probe is a logistic regression model that uses features derived from attention maps as input. This work’s core contribution is using the top- $k$  eigenvalues of the Laplacian matrix as input features, which we detail below.

Denote  $\mathbf{A}^{(l,h)} \in \mathbb{R}^{T \times T}$  as the attention map

matrix for layer  $l \in \{1 \dots L\}$  and attention head  $h \in \{1 \dots H\}$ , where  $T$  is the total number of tokens generated by an LLM (including input tokens),  $L$  the number of layers (transformer blocks), and  $H$  the number of attention heads. The attention matrix is row-stochastic, meaning each row sums to 1 ( $\sum_{j=0}^T \mathbf{A}_{:,j}^{(l,h)} = \mathbf{1}$ ). It is also lower triangular ( $a_{ij}^{(l,h)} = 0$  for all  $j > i$ ) and non-negative ( $a_{ij}^{(l,h)} \geq 0$  for all  $i, j$ ). We can view  $\mathbf{A}^{(l,h)}$  as a weighted adjacency matrix of a directed graph, where each node represents processed token, and each directed edge from token  $i$  to token  $j$  is weighted by the attention score, as depicted in Figure 2.

Then, we define the Laplacian of a layer  $l$  and attention head  $h$  as:

$$\mathbf{L}^{(l,h)} = \mathbf{D}^{(l,h)} - \mathbf{A}^{(l,h)}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbf{D}^{(l,h)}$  is a diagonal degree matrix. Since the attention map defines a directed graph, we distinguish between the *in-degree* and *out-degree* matrices. The *in-degree* is computed as the sum of attention scores from preceding tokens, and due to the softmax normalization, it is uniformly 1. Therefore, we define  $\mathbf{D}^{(l,h)}$  as the *out-degree* matrix, which quantifies the total attention a token receives from tokens that follow it. To ensure these values remain independent of the sequence length, we normalize them by the number of subsequent tokens (i.e., the number of outgoing edges).

$$d_{ii}^{(l,h)} = \frac{\sum_u a_{ui}^{(l,h)}}{T - i}, \quad (2)$$

where  $i, u \in \{0, \dots, (T - 1)\}$  denote token indices. The Laplacian defined this way is bounded, i.e.,  $\mathbf{L}_{ij}^{(l,h)} \in [-1, 1]$  (see Appendix B for proofs). Intuitively, the resulting Laplacian for each processed token represents the average attention score to previous tokens reduced by the attention score to itself. As eigenvalues of the Laplacian can summarize information flow in a graph (von Luxburg, 2007; Topping et al., 2022), we take eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{L}^{(l,h)}$ , which are diagonal entries due to the lower triangularity of the Laplacian matrix, and sort them:

$$\tilde{z}^{(l,h)} = \text{sort} \left( \text{diag} \left( \mathbf{L}^{(l,h)} \right) \right) \quad (3)$$

Recently, (Zhu et al., 2024) found features from the entire token sequence, rather than a single token, improving hallucination detection. Similarly, (Kim

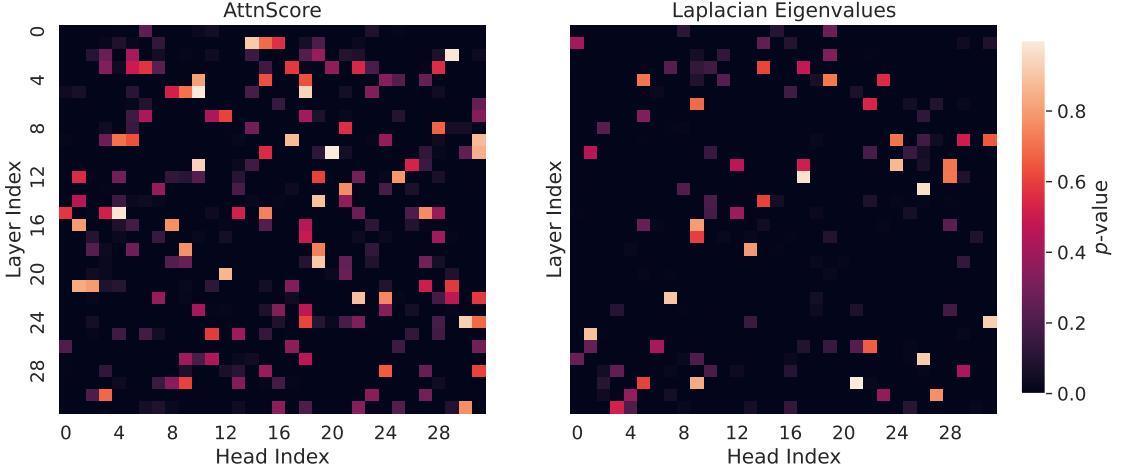


Figure 1: Visualization of  $p$ -values from the two-sided Mann-Whitney U test for all layers and heads of Llama-3.1-8B across two feature types: AttentionScore and the  $k=10$  Laplacian eigenvalues. These features were derived from attention maps collected when the LLM answered questions from the TriviaQA dataset. Higher  $p$ -values indicate no significant difference in feature values between hallucinated and non-hallucinated examples. For AttentionScore, 80% of heads have  $p < 0.05$ , while for Laplacian eigenvalues, this percentage is 91%. Therefore, Laplacian eigenvalues may be better predictors of hallucinations, as feature values across more heads exhibit statistically significant differences between hallucinated and non-hallucinated examples.

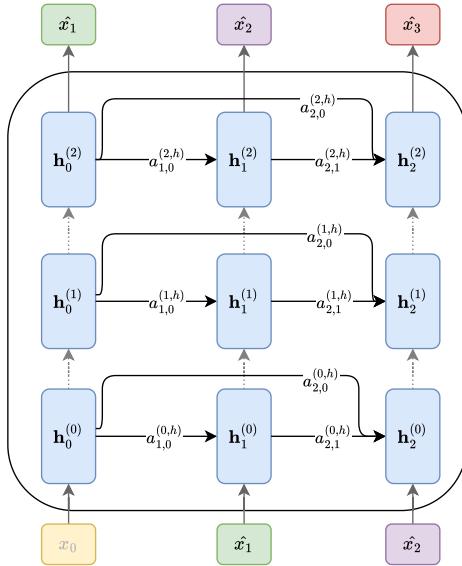


Figure 2: The autoregressive inference process in an LLM is depicted as a graph for a single attention head  $h$  (as introduced by (Vaswani, 2017)) and three generated tokens  $(\hat{x}_1, \hat{x}_2, \hat{x}_3)$ . Here,  $\mathbf{h}_i^{(l)}$  represents the hidden state at layer  $l$  for the input token  $i$ , while  $a_{i,j}^{(l,h)}$  denotes the scalar attention score between tokens  $i$  and  $j$  at layer  $l$  and attention head  $h$ . Arrows direction refers to information flow during inference.

et al., 2024) demonstrated that information from all layers, instead of a single one in isolation, yields better results on this task. Motivated by these findings, our method uses features from all tokens and

all layers as input to the probe. Therefore, we take the top- $k$  largest values from each head and layer and concatenate them into a single feature vector  $z$ , where  $k$  is a hyperparameter of our method:

$$z = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{z}_T^{(l,h)}, \tilde{z}_{T-1}^{(l,h)}, \dots, \tilde{z}_{T-k}^{(l,h)} \end{bmatrix} \right\|_{\forall l \in L, \forall h \in H} \quad (4)$$

Since LLMs contain dozens of layers and heads, the probe input vector  $z \in \mathbb{R}^{L \cdot H \cdot k}$  can still be high-dimensional. Thus, we project it to a lower dimensionality using PCA (Jolliffe and Cadima, 2016). We call our approach LapEigvals.

## 4 Experimental setup

The overview of the methodology used in this work is presented in Figure 3. Next, we describe each step of the pipeline in detail.

### 4.1 Dataset construction

We use annotated QA datasets to construct the hallucination detection datasets and label incorrect LLM answers as hallucinations. To assess the correctness of generated answers, we followed prior work (Orgad et al., 2025) and adopted the *llm-as-judge* approach (Zheng et al., 2023), with the exception of one dataset where exact match evaluation against ground-truth answers was possible. For *llm-as-judge*, we prompted a large LLM to

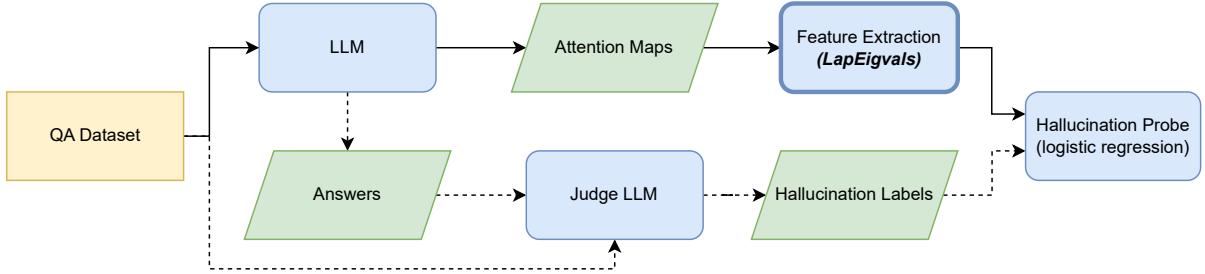


Figure 3: Overview of the methodology used in this work. Solid lines indicate the test-time pipeline, while dashed lines represent additional pipeline steps for generating labels for training the hallucination probe (logistic regression). The primary contribution of this work is leveraging the top- $k$  eigenvalues of the Laplacian as features for the hallucination probe, highlighted with a bold box on the diagram.

classify each response as either *hallucination*, *non-hallucination*, or *rejected*, where *rejected* indicates that it was unclear whether the answer was correct, e.g., the model refused to answer due to insufficient knowledge. Based on the manual qualitative inspection of several LLMs, we employed gpt-4o-mini (OpenAI et al., 2024) as the judge model since it provides the best trade-off between accuracy and cost. To confirm the reliability of the labels, we additionally verified agreement with the larger model, gpt-4.1, on Llama-3.1-8B and found that the agreement between models falls within the acceptable range widely adopted in the literature (see Appendix F).

For experiments, we selected 7 QA datasets previously utilized in the context of hallucination detection (Chen et al., 2024; Kossen et al., 2024; Chuang et al., 2024b; Mitra et al., 2024). Specifically, we used the validation set of NQ-Open (Kwiatkowski et al., 2019), comprising 3,610 question-answer pairs, and the validation set of TriviaQA (Joshi et al., 2017), containing 7,983 pairs. To evaluate our method on longer inputs, we employed the development set of CoQA (Reddy et al., 2019) and the *rc.nocontext* portion of the SQuADv2 (Rajpurkar et al., 2018) datasets, with 5,928 and 9,960 examples, respectively. Additionally, we incorporated the QA part of the HaluEvalQA (Li et al., 2023) dataset, containing 10,000 examples, and the generation part of the TruthfulQA (Lin et al., 2022) benchmark with 817 examples. Finally, we used test split of GSM8k dataset (Cobbe et al., 2021) with 1,319 grade school math problems, evaluated by exact match against labels. For TriviaQA, CoQA, and SQuADv2, we followed the same preprocessing procedure as (Chen et al., 2024).

We generate answers using 5 open-source LLMs:

Llama-3.1-8B<sup>1</sup> and Llama-3.2-3B<sup>2</sup> (Grattafiori et al., 2024), Phi-3.5<sup>3</sup> (Abdin et al., 2024), Mistral-Nemo<sup>4</sup> (Mistral AI Team and NVIDIA, 2024), Mistral-Small-24B<sup>5</sup> (Mistral AI Team, 2025). We use two softmax temperatures for each LLM when decoding ( $temp \in \{0.1, 1.0\}$ ) and one prompt (for all datasets we used a prompt in Listing 3, except for GSM8K in Listing 5). Overall, we evaluated hallucination detection probes on 10 LLM configurations and 7 QA datasets. We present the frequency of classes for answers from each configuration in Figure 9 (Appendix E).

## 4.2 Hallucination Probe

As a hallucination probe, we take a logistic regression model, using the implementation from scikit-learn (Pedregosa et al., 2011) with all parameters default, except for  $max\_iter=2000$  and  $class\_weight="balanced"$ . For top- $k$  eigenvalues, we tested 5 values of  $k \in \{5, 10, 20, 50, 100\}$ <sup>6</sup> and selected the result with the highest efficacy. All eigenvalues are projected with PCA onto 512 dimensions, except in *per-layer* experiments where there may be fewer than 512 features. In these cases, we apply PCA projection to match the input feature dimensionality, i.e., decorrelating them. As an evaluation metric, we use AUROC on the test split (additional results presenting Precision and Recall are reported in Appendix G.1).

<sup>1</sup>[hf.co/meta-llama/Llama-3.1-8B-Instruct](https://huggingface.co/meta-llama/Llama-3.1-8B-Instruct)

<sup>2</sup>[hf.co/meta-llama/Llama-3.2-3B-Instruct](https://huggingface.co/meta-llama/Llama-3.2-3B-Instruct)

<sup>3</sup>[hf.co/microsoft/Phi-3.5-mini-instruct](https://huggingface.co/microsoft/Phi-3.5-mini-instruct)

<sup>4</sup>[hf.co/mistralai/Mistral-Nemo-Instruct-2407](https://huggingface.co/mistralai/Mistral-Nemo-Instruct-2407)

<sup>5</sup>[hf.co/mistralai/Mistral-Small-24B-Instruct-2501](https://huggingface.co/mistralai/Mistral-Small-24B-Instruct-2501)

<sup>6</sup>For datasets with examples having less than 100 tokens, we stop at  $k=50$

### 4.3 Baselines

Our method is a supervised approach for detecting hallucinations using only attention maps. For a fair comparison, we adapt the unsupervised AttentionScore (Sriramanan et al., 2024) by using log-determinants of each head’s attention scores as features instead of summing them, and we also include the original AttentionScore, computed as the sum of log-determinants over heads, for reference. To evaluate the effectiveness of our proposed Laplacian eigenvalues, we compare them to the eigenvalues of raw attention maps, denoted as AttnEigvals. Extended results for each approach on a per-layer basis are provided in Appendix G.2, while Appendix G.4 presents a comparison with a method based on hidden states. Implementation and hardware details are provided in Appendix C.

## 5 Results

Table 1 presents the results of our method compared to the baselines. LapEigvals achieved the best performance among all tested methods on 6 out of 7 datasets. Moreover, our method consistently performs well across all 5 LLM architectures ranging from 3 up to 24 billion parameters. TruthfulQA was the only exception where LapEigvals was the second-best approach, yet it might stem from the small size of the dataset or severe class imbalance (depicted in Figure 9). In contrast, using eigenvalues of vanilla attention maps in AttnEigvals leads to worse performance, which suggests that transformation to Laplacian is the crucial step to uncover latent features of an LLM corresponding to hallucinations. In Appendix G, we show that LapEigvals consistently demonstrates a smaller generalization gap, i.e., the difference between training and test performance is smaller for our method. While the AttentionScore method performed poorly, it is fully unsupervised and should not be directly compared to other approaches. However, its supervised counterpart – AttnLogDet – remains inferior to methods based on spectral features, namely AttnEigvals and LapEigvals. In Table 6 in Appendix G.2, we present extended results, including *per-layer* and *all-layers* breakdowns, two temperatures used during answers generation, and a comparison between training and test AUROC. Moreover, compared to probes based on hidden states, our method performs best in most of the tested settings, as shown in Appendix G.4.

## 6 Ablation studies

To better understand the behavior of our method under different conditions, we conduct a comprehensive ablation study. This analysis provides valuable insights into the factors driving the LapEigvals performance and highlights the robustness of our approach across various scenarios. In order to ensure reliable results, we perform all studies on the TriviaQA dataset, which has a moderate input size and number of examples.

### 6.1 How does the number of eigenvalues influence performance?

First, we verify how the number of eigenvalues influences the performance of the hallucination probe and present results for Mistral-Small-24B in Figure 4 (results for all models are showcased in Figure 10 in Appendix H). Generally, using more eigenvalues improves performance, but there is less variation in performance among different values of  $k$  for LapEigvals compared to the baseline. Moreover, LapEigvals achieves significantly better performance with smaller input sizes, as AttnEigvals with the largest  $k=100$  fails to surpass LapEigvals’s performance at  $k=5$ . These results confirm that spectral features derived from the Laplacian carry a robust signal indicating the presence of hallucinations and highlight the strength of our method.

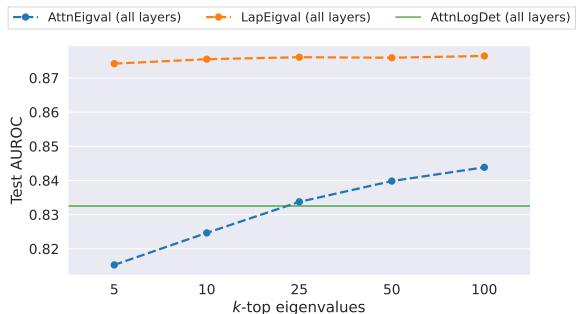


Figure 4: Probe performance across different top- $k$  eigenvalues:  $k \in \{5, 10, 25, 50, 100\}$  for TriviaQA dataset with  $temp=1.0$  and Mistral-Small-24B LLM.

### 6.2 Does using all layers at once improve performance?

Second, we demonstrate that using all layers of an LLM instead of a single one improves performance. In Figure 5, we compare *per-layer* to *all-layer* efficacy for Mistral-Small-24B (results for all models are showcased in Figure 11 in Appendix H). For

Table 1: Test AUROC for LapEigvals and several baseline methods. AUROC values were obtained in a single run of logistic regression training on features from a dataset generated with  $temp=1.0$ . We mark results for AttentionScore in gray as it is an unsupervised approach, not directly comparable to the others. In **bold**, we highlight the best performance individually for each dataset and LLM. See Appendix G for extended results.

LLM	Feature	Test AUROC ( $\uparrow$ )						
		CoQA	GSM8K	HaluevalQA	NQOpen	SQuADv2	TriviaQA	TruthfulQA
Llama3.1-8B	AttentionScore	0.493	0.720	0.589	0.556	0.538	0.532	0.541
Llama3.1-8B	AttnLogDet	0.769	0.826	0.827	0.793	0.748	0.842	0.814
Llama3.1-8B	AttnEigvals	0.782	0.838	0.819	0.790	0.768	0.843	<b>0.833</b>
Llama3.1-8B	LapEigvals	<b>0.830</b>	<b>0.872</b>	<b>0.874</b>	<b>0.827</b>	<b>0.791</b>	<b>0.889</b>	0.829
Llama3.2-3B	AttentionScore	0.509	0.717	0.588	0.546	0.530	0.515	0.581
Llama3.2-3B	AttnLogDet	0.700	0.851	0.801	0.690	0.734	0.789	<b>0.795</b>
Llama3.2-3B	AttnEigvals	0.724	0.768	0.819	<b>0.694</b>	0.749	0.804	0.723
Llama3.2-3B	LapEigvals	<b>0.812</b>	<b>0.870</b>	<b>0.828</b>	0.693	<b>0.757</b>	<b>0.832</b>	0.787
Phi3.5	AttentionScore	0.520	0.666	0.541	0.594	0.504	0.540	0.554
Phi3.5	AttnLogDet	0.745	0.842	0.818	0.815	0.769	0.848	0.755
Phi3.5	AttnEigvals	0.771	0.794	0.829	0.798	0.782	0.850	<b>0.802</b>
Phi3.5	LapEigvals	<b>0.821</b>	<b>0.885</b>	<b>0.836</b>	<b>0.826</b>	<b>0.795</b>	<b>0.872</b>	0.777
Mistral-Nemo	AttentionScore	0.493	0.630	0.531	0.529	0.510	0.532	0.494
Mistral-Nemo	AttnLogDet	0.728	0.856	0.798	0.769	0.772	0.812	<b>0.852</b>
Mistral-Nemo	AttnEigvals	0.778	0.842	0.781	0.761	0.758	0.821	0.802
Mistral-Nemo	LapEigvals	<b>0.835</b>	<b>0.890</b>	<b>0.833</b>	<b>0.795</b>	<b>0.812</b>	<b>0.865</b>	0.828
Mistral-Small-24B	AttentionScore	0.516	0.576	0.504	0.462	0.455	0.463	0.451
Mistral-Small-24B	AttnLogDet	0.766	0.853	0.842	0.747	0.753	0.833	0.735
Mistral-Small-24B	AttnEigvals	0.805	0.856	0.848	0.751	0.760	0.844	<b>0.765</b>
Mistral-Small-24B	LapEigvals	<b>0.861</b>	<b>0.925</b>	<b>0.882</b>	<b>0.791</b>	<b>0.820</b>	<b>0.876</b>	0.748

the *per-layer* approach, better performance is generally achieved with deeper LLM layers. Notably, peak performance varies across LLMs, requiring an additional search for each new LLM. In contrast, the *all-layer* probes consistently outperform the best *per-layer* probes across all LLMs. This finding suggests that information indicating hallucinations is spread across many layers of LLM, and considering them in isolation limits detection accuracy. Further, Table 6 in Appendix G summarises outcomes for the two variants on all datasets and LLM configurations examined in this work.

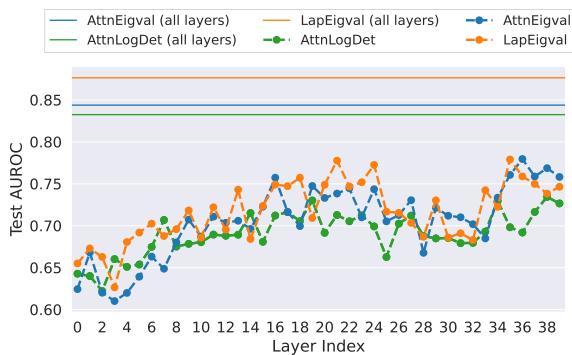


Figure 5: Analysis of model performance across different layers for Mistral-Small-24B and TriviaQA dataset with  $temp=1.0$  and  $k=100$  top eigenvalues (results for models operating on all layers provided for reference).

### 6.3 Does sampling temperature influence results?

Here, we compare LapEigvals to the baselines on hallucination datasets, where each dataset contains answers generated at a specific decoding temperature. Higher temperatures typically produce more hallucinated examples (Lee, 2023; Renze, 2024), leading to dataset imbalance. Thus, to mitigate the effect of data imbalance, we sample a subset of 1,000 hallucinated and 1,000 non-hallucinated examples 10 times for each temperature and train hallucination probes. Interestingly, in Figure 6, we observe that all models improve their performance at higher temperatures, but LapEigvals consistently achieves the best accuracy on all considered temperature values. The correlation of efficacy with temperature may be attributed to differences in the characteristics of hallucinations at higher temperatures compared to lower ones (Renze, 2024). Also, hallucination detection might be facilitated at higher temperatures due to underlying properties of softmax function (Veličković et al., 2024), and further exploration of this direction is left for future work.

### 6.4 How does LapEigvals generalizes?

To check whether our method generalizes across datasets, we trained the hallucination probe on fea-

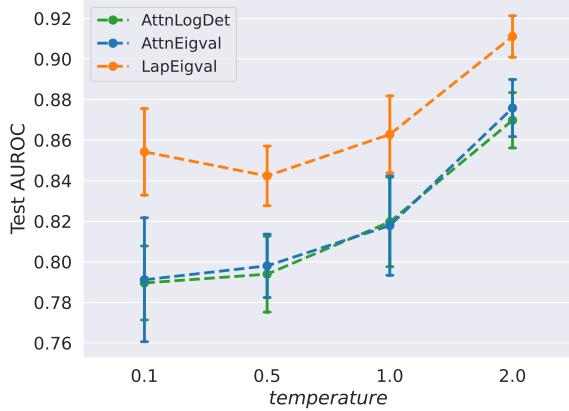


Figure 6: Test AUROC for different sampling  $temp$  values during answer decoding on the TriviaQA dataset, using  $k=100$  eigenvalues for LapEigvals and AttnEigvals with the Llama-3.1-8B LLM. Error bars indicate the standard deviation over 10 balanced samples containing  $N = 1000$  examples per class.

tures from the training split of one QA dataset and evaluated it on the features from the test split of a different QA dataset. Due to space limitations, we present results for selected datasets and provide extended results and absolute efficacy values in Appendix I. Figure 7 showcases the percent drop in Test AUROC when using a different training dataset compared to training and testing on the same QA dataset. We can observe that LapEigvals provides a performance drop comparable to other baselines, and in several cases, it generalizes best. Interestingly, all methods exhibit poor generalization on TruthfulQA and GSM8K. We hypothesize that the weak performance on TruthfulQA arises from its limited size and class imbalance, whereas the difficulty on GSM8K likely reflects its distinct domain, which has been shown to hinder hallucination detection (Orgad et al., 2025). Additionally, in Appendix I, we show that LapEigvals achieves the highest test performance in all scenarios (except for TruthfulQA).

## 6.5 How does performance vary across prompts?

Lastly, to assess the stability of our method across different prompts used for answer generation, we compared the results of the hallucination probes trained on features regarding four distinct prompts, the content of which is included in Appendix M. As shown in Table 2, LapEigvals consistently outperforms all baselines across all four prompts. While we can observe variations in performance across

prompts, LapEigvals demonstrates the lowest standard deviation (0.05) compared to AttnLogDet (0.016) and AttnEigvals (0.07), indicating its greater robustness.

Table 2: Test AUROC across four different prompts for answers on the TriviaQA dataset using Llama-3.1-8B with  $temp=1.0$  and  $k=50$  (some prompts have led to fewer than 100 tokens). Prompt  $p_3$  was the main one used to compare our method to baselines, as presented in Tables 1.

Feature	Test AUROC ( $\uparrow$ )			
	$p_1$	$p_2$	$p_3$	$p_4$
AttnLogDet	0.847	0.855	0.842	0.860
AttnEigvals	0.840	0.870	0.842	0.875
LapEigvals	<b>0.882</b>	<b>0.890</b>	<b>0.888</b>	<b>0.895</b>

## 7 Related Work

Hallucinations in LLMs were proved to be inevitable (Xu et al., 2024), and to detect them, one can leverage either *black-box* or *white-box* approaches. The former approach uses only the outputs from an LLM, while the latter uses hidden states, attention maps, or logits corresponding to generated tokens.

Black-box approaches focus on the text generated by LLMs. For instance, (Li et al., 2024) verified the truthfulness of factual statements using external knowledge sources, though this approach relies on the availability of additional resources. Alternatively, *SelfCheckGPT* (Manakul et al., 2023) generates multiple responses to the same prompt and evaluates their consistency, with low consistency indicating potential hallucination.

White-box methods have emerged as a promising approach for detecting hallucinations (Farquhar et al., 2024; Azaria and Mitchell, 2023; Arteaga et al., 2024; Orgad et al., 2025). These methods are universal across all LLMs and do not require additional domain adaptation compared to black-box ones (Farquhar et al., 2024). They draw inspiration from seminal works on analyzing the internal states of simple neural networks (Alain and Bengio, 2016), which introduced *linear classifier probes* – models operating on the internal states of neural networks. Linear probes have been widely applied to the internal states of LLMs, notably for detecting hallucinations.

One of the first such probes was SAPLMA (Azaria and Mitchell, 2023), which demonstrated

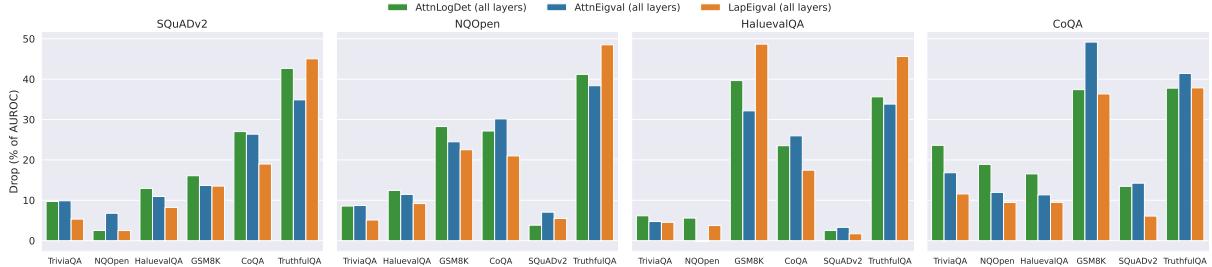


Figure 7: Generalization across datasets measured as a percent performance drop in Test AUROC (less is better) when trained on one dataset and tested on the other. Training datasets are indicated in the plot titles, while test datasets are shown on the  $x$ -axis. Results computed on Llama-3.1-8B with  $k=100$  top eigenvalues and  $temp=1.0$ . Results for all datasets are presented in Appendix I.

that one could predict the correctness of generated text straight from LLM’s hidden states. Further, the INSIDE method (Chen et al., 2024) tackled hallucination detection by sampling multiple responses from an LLM and evaluating consistency between their hidden states using a normalized sum of the eigenvalues from their covariance matrix. Also, (Farquhar et al., 2024) proposed a complementary probabilistic approach, employing entropy to quantify the model’s intrinsic uncertainty. Their method involves generating multiple responses, clustering them by semantic similarity, and calculating Semantic Entropy using an appropriate estimator. To address concerns regarding the validity of LLM probes, (Marks and Tegmark, 2024) introduced a high-quality QA dataset with simple *true/false* answers and causally demonstrated that the truthfulness of such statements is linearly represented in LLMs, which supports the use of probes for short texts.

Self-consistency methods (Liang et al., 2024), like INSIDE or Semantic Entropy, require multiple runs of an LLM for each input example, which substantially lowers their applicability. Motivated by this limitation, (Kossen et al., 2024) proposed to use *Semantic Entropy Probe*, which is a small model trained to predict expensive Semantic Entropy (Farquhar et al., 2024) from LLM’s hidden states. Notably, (Orgad et al., 2025) explored how LLMs encode information about truthfulness and hallucinations. First, they revealed that truthfulness is concentrated in specific tokens. Second, they found that probing classifiers on LLM representations do not generalize well across datasets, especially across datasets requiring different skills, which we confirmed in Section 6.4. Lastly, they showed that the probes could select the correct answer from multiple generated answers with rea-

sonable accuracy, meaning LLMs make mistakes at the decoding stage, besides knowing the correct answer.

Recent studies have started to explore hallucination detection exclusively from attention maps. (Chuang et al., 2024a) introduced the *lookback ratio*, which measures how much attention LLMs allocate to relevant input parts when answering questions based on the provided context. The work most closely related to ours is (Sriramanan et al., 2024), which introduces the AttentionScore method. Although the process is unsupervised and computationally efficient, the authors note that its performance can depend highly on the specific layer from which the score is extracted. Compared to AttentionScore, our method is fully supervised and grounded in graph theory, as we interpret inference in LLM as a graph. While AttentionScore aggregates only the attention diagonal to compute its log-determinant, we instead derive features from the graph Laplacian, which captures all attention scores (see Eq. (1) and (2)). Additionally, we utilize all layers for detecting hallucination rather than a single one, demonstrating effectiveness of this approach. We also demonstrate that it performs poorly on the datasets we evaluated. Nonetheless, we drew inspiration from their approach, particularly using the lower triangular structure of matrices when constructing features for the hallucination probe.

## 8 Conclusions

In this work, we demonstrated that the spectral features of LLMs’ attention maps, specifically the eigenvalues of the Laplacian matrix, carry a signal capable of detecting hallucinations. Specifically, we proposed the LapEigvals method, which employs the top- $k$  eigenvalues of the Laplacian as

input to the hallucination detection probe. Through extensive evaluations, we empirically showed that our method consistently achieves state-of-the-art performance among all tested approaches. Furthermore, multiple ablation studies demonstrated that our method remains stable across varying numbers of eigenvalues, diverse prompts, and generation temperatures while offering reasonable generalization.

In addition, we hypothesize that self-supervised learning (Balestrieri et al., 2023) could yield a more robust and generalizable approach while uncovering non-trivial intrinsic features of attention maps. Notably, results such as those in Section 6.3 suggest intriguing connections to recent advancements in LLM research (Veličković et al., 2024; Barbero et al., 2024), highlighting promising directions for future investigation.

## Limitations

**Supervised method** In our approach, one must provide labelled hallucinated and non-hallucinated examples to train the hallucination probe. While this can be handled by the *llm-as-judge*, it might introduce some noise or pose a risk of overfitting.

### Limited generalization across LLM architectures

The method is incompatible with LLMs having different head and layer configurations. Developing architecture-agnostic hallucination probes is left for future work. **Minimum length requirement** Computing top- $k$  Laplacian eigenvalues demands attention maps of at least  $k$  tokens (e.g.,  $k=100$  require 100 tokens). **Open LLMs** Our method requires access to the internal states of LLM thus it cannot be applied to closed LLMs. **Risks** Please note that the proposed method was tested on selected LLMs and English data, so applying it to untested domains and tasks carries a considerable risk without additional validation.

## Acknowledgements

We sincerely thank Piotr Bielak for his valuable review and insightful feedback, which helped improve this work. This work was funded by the European Union under the Horizon Europe grant OMINO – Overcoming Multilevel INformation Overload (grant number 101086321, <https://ominoproject.eu/>). Views and opinions expressed are those of the authors alone and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Executive Agency. Nei-

ther the European Union nor the European Research Executive Agency can be held responsible for them. It was also co-financed with funds from the Polish Ministry of Education and Science under the programme entitled International Co-Financed Projects, grant no. 573977. We gratefully acknowledge the Wroclaw Centre for Networking and Supercomputing for providing the computational resources used in this work. This work was co-funded by the National Science Centre, Poland under CHIST-ERA Open & Re-usable Research Data & Software (grant number 2022/04/Y/ST6/00183). The authors used ChatGPT to improve the clarity and readability of the manuscript.

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## A Details of motivational study

We present a detailed description of the procedure used to obtain the results presented in Section 2, along with additional results for other datasets and LLMs.

Our goal was to test whether AttentionScore and eigenvalues of Laplacian matrix (used by our LapEigvals) differ significantly when examples are split into hallucinated and non-hallucinated groups. To this end, we used 7 datasets (Section 4.1) and ran inference with 5 LLMs (Section 4.1) using  $temp=0.1$ . From the extracted attention maps, we computed AttentionScore (Sriramana et al., 2024), defined as the log-determinant of the attention matrices. Unlike the original work, we did not aggregate scores across heads, but instead analyzed them at the single-head level. For LapEigvals, we constructed the Laplacian as defined in Section 3, extracted the 10 largest eigenvalues per head, and applied the same single-head analysis as for AttnEigvals. Finally, we performed the Mann–Whitney U test (Mann and Whitney, 1947) using the SciPy implementation (Virtanen et al., 2020) and collected the resulting  $p$ -values

Table 3 presents the percentage of heads having a statistically significant difference in feature values between hallucinated and non-hallucinated examples, as indicated by  $p < 0.05$  from the Mann–Whitney U test. These results show that the Laplacian eigenvalues better distinguish between the two classes for almost all considered LLMs and datasets.

## B Bounds of the Laplacian

In the following section, we prove that the Laplacian defined in 3 is bounded and has at least one zero eigenvalue. We denote eigenvalues as  $\lambda_i$ , and provide derivation for a single layer and head, which holds also after stacking them together into a single graph (set of per-layer graphs). For clarity, we omit the superscript  $(l, h)$  indicating layer and head.

**Lemma 1.** *The Laplacian eigenvalues are bounded:  $-1 \leq \lambda_i \leq 1$ .*

*Proof.* Due to the lower-triangular structure of the Laplacian, its eigenvalues lie on the diagonal and are given by:

$$\lambda_i = \mathbf{L}_{ii} = d_{ii} - a_{ii}$$

Table 3: Percentage of heads having a statistically significant difference in feature values between hallucinated and non-hallucinated examples, as indicated by  $p < 0.05$  from the Mann–Whitney U test. Results were obtained for AttentionScore and the 10 largest Laplacian eigenvalues on 6 datasets and 5 LLMs.

LLM	Dataset	% of $p < 0.05$	
		AttnScore	Laplacian eigvals
Llama3.1-8B	CoQA	40	87
Llama3.1-8B	GSM8K	83	70
Llama3.1-8B	HaluevalQA	91	93
Llama3.1-8B	NQOpen	78	83
Llama3.1-8B	SQuADv2	70	81
Llama3.1-8B	TriviaQA	80	91
Llama3.1-8B	TruthfulQA	40	60
Llama3.2-3B	CoQA	50	79
Llama3.2-3B	GSM8K	74	67
Llama3.2-3B	HaluevalQA	91	93
Llama3.2-3B	NQOpen	81	84
Llama3.2-3B	SQuADv2	69	74
Llama3.2-3B	TriviaQA	81	87
Llama3.2-3B	TruthfulQA	40	62
Phi3.5	CoQA	45	81
Phi3.5	GSM8K	67	69
Phi3.5	HaluevalQA	80	86
Phi3.5	NQOpen	73	80
Phi3.5	SQuADv2	81	82
Phi3.5	TriviaQA	86	92
Phi3.5	TruthfulQA	41	53
Mistral-Nemo	CoQA	35	78
Mistral-Nemo	GSM8K	90	71
Mistral-Nemo	HaluevalQA	78	82
Mistral-Nemo	NQOpen	64	57
Mistral-Nemo	SQuADv2	54	56
Mistral-Nemo	TriviaQA	71	74
Mistral-Nemo	TruthfulQA	40	50
Mistral-Small-24B	CoQA	28	78
Mistral-Small-34B	GSM8K	75	72
Mistral-Small-24B	HaluevalQA	68	70
Mistral-Small-24B	NQOpen	45	51
Mistral-Small-24B	SQuADv2	75	82
Mistral-Small-24B	TriviaQA	65	70
Mistral-Small-24B	TruthfulQA	43	52

The out-degree is defined as:

$$d_{ii} = \frac{\sum_u a_{ui}}{T - i},$$

Since  $0 \leq a_{ui} \leq 1$ , the sum in the numerator is upper bounded by  $T - i$ , therefore  $d_{ii} \leq 1$ , and consequently  $\lambda_i = \mathbf{L}_{ii} \leq 1$ , which concludes upper-bound part of the proof.

Recall that eigenvalues lie on the main diagonal of the Laplacian, hence  $\lambda_i = \frac{\sum_u a_{uj}}{T - i} - a_{ii}$ . To find the lower bound of  $\lambda_i$ , we need to minimize  $X = \frac{\sum_u a_{uj}}{T - i}$  and maximize  $Y = a_{ii}$ . First, we note that  $X$ ’s denominator is always positive  $T - i > 0$ , since  $i \in \{0 \dots (T - 1)\}$  (as defined by Eq. (2)). For the numerator, we recall that  $0 \leq a_{ui} \leq 1$ ; therefore, the sum has its minimum at 0, hence

$X \geq 0$ . Second, to maximize  $Y = a_{ii}$ , we can take maximum of  $0 \leq a_{ii} \leq 1$  which is 1. Finally,  $X - Y = -1$ , consequently  $\mathbf{L}_{ii} \geq -1$ , which concludes the lower-bound part of the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.** *For every  $\mathbf{L}_{ii}$ , there exists at least one zero-eigenvalue, and it corresponds to the last token  $T$ , i.e.,  $\lambda_T = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Recall that eigenvalues lie on the main diagonal of the Laplacian, hence  $\lambda_i = \frac{\sum_u a_{uj}}{T-i} - a_{ii}$ . Consider last token, wherein the sum in the numerator reduces to  $\sum_u a_{uj} = a_{TT}$ , denominator becomes  $T - i = T - (T - 1) = 1$ , thus  $\lambda_T = \frac{a_{TT}}{1} - a_{TT} = 0$ .  $\square$

## C Implementation details

In our experiments, we used HuggingFace Transformers (Wolf et al., 2020), PyTorch (Ansel et al., 2024), and scikit-learn (Pedregosa et al., 2011). We utilized Pandas (team, 2020) and Seaborn (Waskom, 2021) for visualizations and analysis. To version data, we employed DVC (Kuprieiev et al., 2025). The Cursor IDE was employed to assist with code development. We performed LLM inference and acquired attention maps using a single Nvidia A40 with 40GB VRAM, except for Mistral-Small-24B for which we used Nvidia H100 with 96GB VRAM. Training the hallucination probe was done using the CPU only. To compute labels using the *llm-as-judge* approach, we leveraged gpt-4o-mini model available through OpenAI API. Detailed hyperparameter settings and code to reproduce the experiments are available in the public Github repository: <https://github.com/graphml-lab-pwr/lapeigvals>.

## D Details of QA datasets

We used 7 open and publicly available question answering datasets: NQ-Open (Kwiatkowski et al., 2019) (CC-BY-SA-3.0 license), SQuADv2 (Rajpurkar et al., 2018) (CC-BY-SA-4.0 license), TruthfulQA (Apache-2.0 license) (Lin et al., 2022), HaluEvalQA (MIT license) (Li et al., 2023), CoQA (Reddy et al., 2019) (domain-dependent licensing, detailed on <https://stanfordnlp.github.io/coqa/>), TriviaQA (Apache 2.0 license), GSM8K (Cobbe et al., 2021) (MIT license). Research purposes fall into the intended use of these datasets. To preprocess and filter TriviaQA, CoQA, and SQuADv2 we utilized open-source code of (Chen

et al., 2024)<sup>7</sup>, which also borrows from (Farquhar et al., 2024)<sup>8</sup>. In Figure 8, we provide histogram plots of the number of tokens for *question* and *answer* of each dataset computed with `meta-llama/Llama-3.1-8B-Instruct` tokenizer.

## E Hallucination dataset sizes

Figure 9 shows the number of examples per label, determined using exact match for GSM8K and the *llm-as-judge* heuristic for the other datasets. It is worth noting that different generation configurations result in different splits, as LLMs might produce different answers. All examples classified as *Rejected* were discarded from the hallucination probe training and evaluation. We observe that most datasets are imbalanced, typically underrepresenting non-hallucinated examples, with the exception of TriviaQA and GSM8K. We split each dataset into 80% training examples and 20% test examples. Splits were stratified according to hallucination labels.

## F LLM-as-Judge agreement

To ensure the high quality of labels generated using the *llm-as-judge* approach, we complemented manual evaluation of random examples with a second judge LLM and measured agreement between the models. We assume that higher agreement among LLMs indicates better label quality. The reduced performance of LapEigvals on TriviaQA may be attributed to the lower agreement, as well as the dataset’s size and class imbalance discussed earlier.

Table 4: Agreement between LLM judges labeling hallucinations (gpt-4o-mini, gpt-4.1), measured with Cohen’s Kappa.

Dataset	Cohen’s Kappa
CoQA	0.876
HaluevalQA	0.946
NQOpen	0.883
SquadV2	0.854
TriviaQA	0.939
TruthfulQA	0.714

<sup>7</sup><https://github.com/alibaba/eigenscore> (MIT license)

<sup>8</sup>[https://github.com/lorenzkuhn/semantic\\_uncertainty](https://github.com/lorenzkuhn/semantic_uncertainty) (MIT license)

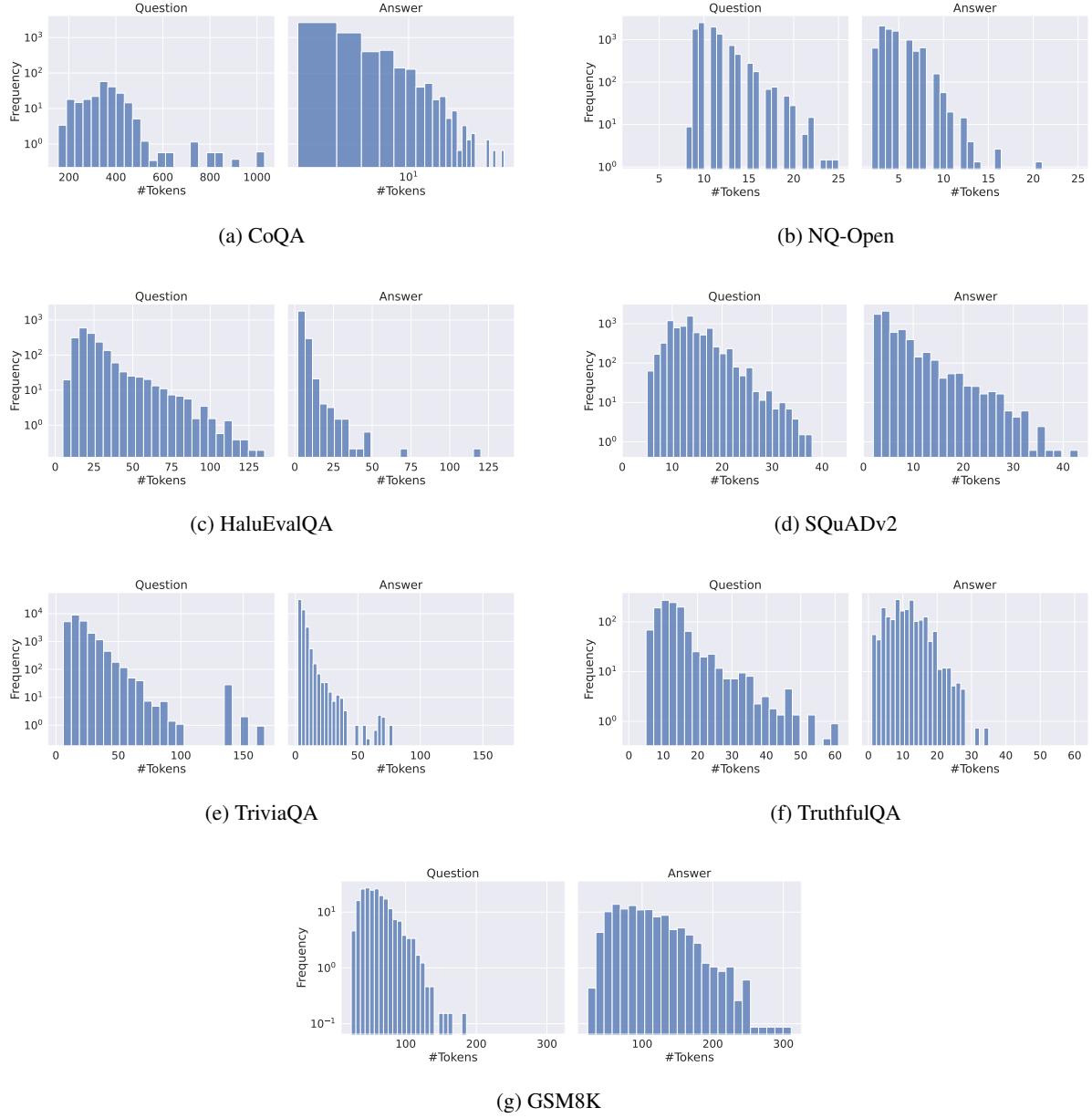


Figure 8: Token count histograms for the datasets used in our experiments. Token counts were computed separately for each example’s *question* (left) and gold *answer* (right) using the `meta-llama/Llama-3.1-8B-Instruct` tokenizer. In cases with multiple answers, they were flattened into one.

## G Extended results

### G.1 Precision and Recall analysis

To provide insights relevant for potential practical usage, we analyze the Precision and Recall of our method. While it has not yet been fully evaluated in production settings, this analysis illustrates the trade-offs between these metrics and informs how the method might behave in real-world applications. Metrics were computed using the default threshold of 0.5, as reported in Table 5. Although trade-off patterns vary across datasets, they are consistent across all evaluated LLMs. Specifically, we observe higher recall on CoQA, GSM8K, and TriviaQA, whereas HalluEvalQA, NQ-Open, SQuADv2, and TruthfulQA exhibit higher precision. These insights can guide threshold adjustments to balance precision and recall for different production scenarios.

### G.2 Extended method comparison

In Tables 6 and 7, we present the extended results corresponding to those summarized in Table 1 in the main part of this paper. The extended results cover probes trained with both *all-layers* and *per-layer* variants across all models, as well as lower temperature ( $temp \in \{0.1, 1.0\}$ ). In almost all cases, the *all-layers* variant outperforms the *per-layer* variant, suggesting that hallucination-related information is distributed across multiple layers. Additionally, we observe a smaller generalization gap (measured as the difference between test and training performance) for the LapEigvals method, indicating more robust features present in the Laplacian eigenvalues. Finally, as demonstrated in Section 6, increasing the temperature during answer generation improves probe performance, which is also evident in Table 6, where probes trained on answers generated with  $temp=1.0$  consistently outperform those trained on data generated with  $temp=0.1$ .

### G.3 Best found hyperparameters

We present the hyperparameter values corresponding to the results in Table 1 and Table 6. Table 8 shows the optimal hyperparameter  $k$  for selecting the top- $k$  eigenvalues from either the attention maps in AttnEigvals or the Laplacian matrix in LapEigvals. While fewer eigenvalues were sufficient for optimal performance in some cases, the best results were generally achieved with the highest tested value,  $k=100$ .

Table 9 reports the layer indices that yielded the highest performance for the *per-layer* models. Performance typically peaked in layers above the 10th, especially for Llama-3.1-8B, where attention maps from the final layers more often led to better hallucination detection. Interestingly, the first layer’s attention maps also produced strong performance in a few cases. Overall, no clear pattern emerges regarding the optimal layer, and as noted in prior work, selecting the best layer in the *per-layer* setup often requires a search.

### G.4 Comparison with hidden-states-based baselines

We take an approach considered in the previous works (Azaria and Mitchell, 2023; Orgad et al., 2025) and aligned to our evaluation protocol. Specifically, we trained a logistic regression classifier on PCA-projected hidden states to predict whether the model is hallucinating or not. To this end, we select the last token of the answer. While we also tested the last token of the prompt, we observed significantly lower performance, which aligns with results presented by (Orgad et al., 2025). We considered hidden states either from all layers or a single layer corresponding to the selected token. In the *all-layer* scenario, we use the concatenation of hidden states of all layers, and in the *per-layer* scenario, we use the hidden states of each layer separately and select the best-performing layer.

In Table 10, we show the obtained results. The *all-layer* version is consistently worse than our LapEigvals, which further confirms the strength of the proposed method. Our work is one of the first to detect hallucinations solely using attention maps, providing an important insight into the behavior of LLMs, and it motivates further theoretical research on information flow patterns inside these models.

## H Extended results of ablations

In the following section, we extend the ablation results presented in Section 6.1 and Section 6.2. Figure 10 compares the top  $k$  eigenvalues across all five LLMs. In Figure 11 we present a layer-wise performance comparison for each model.

## I Extended results of generalization study

We present the complete results of the generalization ablation discussed in Section 6.4 of the main paper. Table 11 reports the absolute Test AUROC

Table 5: Precision and Recall values for the LapEigvals method, complementary to AUROC presented in Table 1. Values are presented as Precision / Recall for each dataset and model combination.

LLM	CoQA	GSM8K	HaluEvalQA	NQOpen	SQuADv2	TriviaQA	TruthfulQA
Llama3.1-8B	0.583 / 0.710	0.644 / 0.729	0.895 / 0.785	0.859 / 0.740	0.896 / 0.720	0.719 / 0.812	0.872 / 0.781
Llama3.2-3B	0.679 / 0.728	0.718 / 0.699	0.912 / 0.788	0.894 / 0.662	0.924 / 0.720	0.787 / 0.729	0.910 / 0.746
Phi3.5	0.560 / 0.703	0.600 / 0.739	0.899 / 0.768	0.910 / 0.785	0.906 / 0.731	0.787 / 0.785	0.829 / 0.798
Mistral-Nemo	0.646 / 0.714	0.594 / 0.809	0.873 / 0.760	0.875 / 0.751	0.920 / 0.756	0.707 / 0.769	0.892 / 0.825
Mistral-Small-24B	0.610 / 0.779	0.561 / 0.852	0.811 / 0.801	0.700 / 0.750	0.784 / 0.789	0.575 / 0.787	0.679 / 0.655

values for each method and test dataset. Except for TruthfulQA, LapEigvals achieves the highest performance across all configurations. Notably, some methods perform close to random, whereas LapEigvals consistently outperforms this baseline. Regarding relative performance drop (Figure 12), LapEigvals remains competitive, exhibiting the lowest drop in nearly half of the scenarios. These results indicate that our method is robust but warrants further investigation across more datasets, particularly with a deeper analysis of TruthfulQA.

## J Influence of dataset size

One of the limitations of LapEigvals is that it is a supervised method and thus requires labelled hallucination data. To check whether it requires a large volume of data, we conducted an additional study in which we trained LapEigvals on only a stratified fraction of the available examples for each hallucination dataset (using a dataset created from Llama-3.1-8B outputs) and evaluated on the full test split. The AUROC scores are presented in Table 12. As shown, LapEigvals maintains reasonable performance even when trained on as few as a few hundred examples. Additionally, we emphasise that labelling can be efficiently automated and scaled using the *llm-as-judge* paradigm.

## K Reliability of spectral features

Our method relies on ordered spectral features, which may exhibit sensitivity to perturbations and limited robustness. In our setup, both attention weights and extracted features were stored as `bfloat16` type, which has lower precision than `float32`. The reduced precision acts as a form of regularization—minor fluctuations are often rounded off, making the method more robust to small perturbations that might otherwise affect the eigenvalue ordering.

To further investigate perturbation-sensitivity, we conducted a controlled analysis on one model by adding Gaussian noise to randomly selected in-

put feature dimensions before the eigenvalue sorting step. We varied both the noise standard deviation and the fraction of perturbed dimensions (ranging from 0.5 to 1.0). Perturbations were applied consistently to both the training and test sets. In Table 13 we report the mean and standard deviation of performance across 5 runs on hallucination data generated by Llama-3.1-8B on the TriviaQA dataset with  $temp=1.0$ , along with percentage change relative to the unperturbed baseline (0.0 indicates no perturbation applied). We observe that small perturbations have a negligible impact on performance and further confirm the robustness of our method.

## L Cost and time analysis

Providing precise cost and time measurements is nontrivial due to the multi-stage nature of our method, as it involves external services (e.g., OpenAI API for labelling), and the runtime and cost can vary depending on the hardware and platform used. Nonetheless, we present an overview of the costs and complexity as follows.

1. Inference with LLM (preparing hallucination dataset) - does not introduce additional cost beyond regular LLM inference; however, it may limit certain optimizations (e.g. FlashAttention (Dao et al., 2022)) since the full attention matrix needs to be materialized in memory.
2. Automated labeling with *llm-as-judge* using OpenAI API - we estimate labeling costs using the `tiktoken` library and OpenAI API pricing (\$0.60 per 1M output tokens). However, these estimates exclude caching effects and could be reduced using the Batch API; Table 14 reports total and per-item hallucination labelling costs across all datasets (including 5 LLMs and 2 temperature settings). Estimation for GSM8K dataset is not present as

the outputs for this dataset are evaluated by exact-match.

3. Computing spectral features - since we exploit the fact that eigenvalues of the Laplacian lie on the diagonal, the complexity is dominated by the computation of the out-degree matrix, which in turn is dominated by the computation of the mean over rows of the attention matrix. Thus, it is  $O(n^2)$  time, where  $n$  is the number of tokens. Then, we have to sort eigenvalues, which takes  $O(n \log n)$  time. The overall complexity multiplies by the number of layers and heads of a particular LLM. Practically, in our implementation, we fused feature computation with LLM inference, since we observed a memory bottleneck compared to using raw attention matrices stored on disk.

## M QA prompts

Following, we describe all prompts for QA used to obtain the results presented in this work:

- prompt  $p_1$  – medium-length one-shot prompt with single example of QA task (Listing 1),
- prompt  $p_2$  – medium-length zero-shot prompt without examples (Listing 2),
- prompt  $p_3$  – long few-shot prompt; the main prompt used in this work; modification of prompt used by (Kossen et al., 2024) (Listing 3),
- prompt  $p_4$  – short-length zero-shot prompt without examples (Listing 4),
- prompt  $gsm8k$  – short prompt used for GSM8K dataset with output-format instruction.

## N LLM-as-Judge prompt

During hallucinations dataset construction we leveraged *llm-as-judge* approach to label answers generated by the LLMs. To this end, we utilized gpt-4o-mini with prompt in Listing 6, which is an adapted version of the prompt used by (Orgad et al., 2025).



Figure 9: Number of examples per each label in generated datasets (*Hallucination* - number of hallucinated examples, *Non-Hallucination* - number of truthful examples, *Rejected* - number of examples unable to evaluate).

Table 6: (Part I) Performance comparison of methods on an extended set of configurations. We mark results for AttentionScore in gray as it is an unsupervised approach, not directly comparable to the others. In **bold**, we highlight the best performance on the test split of data, individually for each dataset, LLM, and temperature.

LLM	Temp	Feature	all-layers	per-layer	Train AUROC										Test AUROC																
					CoQA		GSM8K		HatefulQQA		QQOpen		SQuADv2		TriviaQA		TruthfulQA		CoQA		GSM8K		HatefulQQA		QQOpen		SQuADv2		TriviaQA		TruthfulQA
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.509	0.683	0.667	0.607	0.556	0.567	0.563	0.541	0.764	0.631	0.575	0.571	0.650	0.537	0.521	0.511	0.521	0.558	0.587	0.587	0.558	0.521	0.511	0.537			
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.494	0.677	0.614	0.568	0.522	0.522	0.489	0.504	0.708	0.587	0.558	0.558	0.558	0.558	0.521	0.511	0.521	0.521	0.558	0.587	0.587	0.558	0.521	0.511	0.537		
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.574	0.810	0.776	0.702	0.688	0.739	0.709	0.709	0.840	0.606	0.770	0.713	0.708	0.741	0.741	0.741	0.741	0.741	0.741	0.741	0.777	0.777	0.777	0.777	0.741	0.741	0.777
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.843	0.977	0.884	0.851	0.839	0.861	0.913	0.770	0.833	0.837	0.837	0.837	0.758	0.758	0.758	0.758	0.758	0.758	0.758	0.827	0.827	0.827	0.827	0.758	0.758	0.827	
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.764	0.879	0.828	0.713	0.742	0.793	0.680	0.729	0.798	0.799	0.728	0.749	0.749	0.749	0.773	0.773	0.773	0.773	0.773	0.773	0.773	0.773	0.773	0.773	0.773	0.773	0.790
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.861	0.992	0.895	0.878	0.858	0.867	0.979	0.776	0.841	0.838	0.838	0.838	0.781	0.781	0.781	0.781	0.822	0.822	0.822	0.822	0.822	0.822	0.822	0.822	0.822	0.822	0.822
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.869	0.978	0.777	0.817	0.698	0.781	0.708	0.757	0.844	0.793	0.733	0.733	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.514	0.705	0.640	0.607	0.558	0.578	0.533	0.525	0.731	0.642	0.607	0.642	0.642	0.629	0.629	0.629	0.629	0.629	0.629	0.629	0.629	0.629	0.629	0.629	0.629		
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.507	0.710	0.602	0.580	0.534	0.546	0.493	0.493	0.720	0.589	0.556	0.556	0.556	0.532	0.532	0.532	0.532	0.532	0.532	0.532	0.532	0.532	0.532	0.532	0.532		
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.596	0.791	0.755	0.704	0.697	0.750	0.750	0.597	0.597	0.828	0.763	0.757	0.757	0.757	0.754	0.754	0.754	0.754	0.754	0.754	0.754	0.754	0.754	0.754	0.754		
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.848	0.973	0.882	0.856	0.846	0.867	0.930	0.766	0.826	0.826	0.826	0.826	0.742	0.742	0.742	0.742	0.814	0.814	0.814	0.814	0.814	0.814	0.814	0.814	0.814	0.814	
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.762	0.864	0.820	0.758	0.754	0.800	0.936	0.723	0.812	0.812	0.812	0.812	0.728	0.728	0.728	0.728	0.770	0.770	0.770	0.770	0.770	0.770	0.770	0.770	0.770	0.770	
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.867	0.995	0.889	0.873	0.873	0.867	0.976	0.787	0.867	0.867	0.867	0.867	0.788	0.788	0.788	0.788	0.843	0.843	0.843	0.843	0.843	0.843	0.843	0.843	0.843	0.843	
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.760	0.873	0.803	0.732	0.722	0.795	0.751	0.743	0.833	0.789	0.725	0.725	0.725	0.724	0.724	0.724	0.724	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764	0.764
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.879	0.936	0.896	0.866	0.857	0.901	0.918	0.830	0.872	0.872	0.872	0.872	0.791	0.791	0.791	0.791	0.829	0.829	0.829	0.829	0.829	0.829	0.829	0.829	0.829	0.829	
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.526	0.662	0.697	0.592	0.570	0.570	0.569	0.547	0.569	0.569	0.569	0.640	0.640	0.640	0.640	0.564	0.564	0.564	0.564	0.564	0.564	0.564	0.564	0.564	0.564	0.564	
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.506	0.638	0.635	0.523	0.515	0.534	0.473	0.519	0.609	0.609	0.644	0.644	0.644	0.644	0.561	0.561	0.561	0.561	0.561	0.561	0.561	0.561	0.561	0.561	0.561		
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.573	0.774	0.762	0.692	0.682	0.719	0.725	0.579	0.794	0.774	0.774	0.774	0.774	0.698	0.698	0.698	0.698	0.711	0.711	0.711	0.711	0.711	0.711	0.711	0.711	0.711	0.711
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.782	0.946	0.868	0.845	0.827	0.824	0.918	0.695	0.841	0.841	0.841	0.841	0.763	0.763	0.763	0.763	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.697	0.784	0.782	0.750	0.725	0.755	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.814	0.977	0.873	0.872	0.872	0.872	0.942	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.842		
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.681	0.763	0.774	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	0.733	
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.831	0.889	0.875	0.837	0.832	0.832	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	0.895	
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.532	0.674	0.668	0.588	0.578	0.578	0.553	0.555	0.555	0.555	0.555	0.637	0.637	0.637	0.637	0.593	0.593	0.593	0.593	0.593	0.593	0.593	0.593	0.593	0.593	0.593	
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.512	0.648	0.606	0.554	0.529	0.529	0.517	0.517	0.517	0.517	0.517	0.588	0.588	0.588	0.588	0.531	0.531	0.531	0.531	0.531	0.531	0.531	0.531	0.531	0.531	0.531	
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.578	0.807	0.738	0.677	0.677	0.720	0.720	0.720	0.720	0.720	0.720	0.720	0.720	0.720	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722	0.722		
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.784	0.951	0.869	0.816	0.816	0.839	0.839	0.839	0.839	0.839	0.839	0.839	0.839	0.839	0.734	0.734	0.734	0.734	0.734	0.734	0.734	0.734	0.734	0.734	0.734		
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.642	0.807	0.763	0.777	0.777	0.716	0.716	0.747	0.747	0.747	0.747	0.747	0.735	0.735	0.735	0.735	0.746	0.746	0.746	0.746	0.746	0.746	0.746	0.746	0.746	0.746	
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.819	0.973	0.878	0.847	0.847	0.876	0.978	0.847	0.847	0.847	0.847	0.847	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744	0.744				
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.695	0.781	0.764	0.683	0.683	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727	0.727			
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.842	0.894	0.803	0.803	0.803	0.803	0.911	0.841	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884	0.884		
Phi3.5	0.1	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.499	0.699	0.567	0.615	0.626	0.637	0.618	0.637	0.637	0.637	0.637	0.533	0.533	0.533	0.533	0.554	0.554	0.554	0.554	0.554	0.554	0.554	0.554	0.554	0.554	0.554	
Phi3.5	0.1	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.489	0.640	0.540	0.566	0.566	0.469	0.469	0.553	0.553	0.553	0.553	0.553	0.521	0.521	0.521	0.521	0.541	0.541	0.541	0.541	0.541	0.541	0.541	0.541	0.541	0.541	
Phi3.5	0.1	AttnLogDet																													

Table 7: (Part II) Performance comparison of methods on an extended set of configurations. We mark results for AttentionScore in gray as it is an unsupervised approach, not directly comparable to the others. In **bold**, we highlight the best performance on the test split of data, individually for each dataset, LLM, and temperature.

LLM	Temp	Feature	all-layers	per-layer	Train AUROC										Test AUROC					
					CoQA	GSM8K	HatefulQA	NQOpen	SQuADv2	TriviaQA	TruthfulQA	CoQA	GSM8K	HatefulQA	NQOpen	SQuADv2	TriviaQA	TruthfulQA		
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.504	0.727	0.574	0.591	0.509	0.250	0.546	0.515	0.697	0.559	0.587	0.527	0.545	0.681		
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.508	0.707	0.536	0.537	0.507	0.520	0.535	0.484	0.667	0.523	0.533	0.495	0.505	0.631		
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.584	0.801	0.716	0.702	0.675	0.689	0.744	0.583	0.807	0.723	0.688	0.668	0.722	0.731		
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.828	0.993	0.842	0.861	0.858	0.854	0.963	0.734	0.820	0.786	0.752	0.709	0.822	<b>0.776</b>		
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.708	0.865	0.751	0.749	0.749	0.747	0.797	0.672	0.740	0.740	0.704	0.738	0.717	0.717		
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.845	1.000	0.842	0.878	0.864	0.859	0.996	0.768	0.771	0.789	0.743	0.716	0.809	0.752		
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.763	0.777	0.772	0.732	0.723	0.781	0.725	0.759	0.751	0.760	0.697	0.696	0.769	0.710		
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.868	0.969	0.862	0.875	0.869	0.886	0.977	0.823	0.805	<b>0.821</b>	<b>0.755</b>	<b>0.767</b>	<b>0.858</b>	0.737		
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.502	0.656	0.586	0.606	0.546	0.553	0.570	0.525	0.670	0.587	0.588	0.564	0.570	0.632		
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.493	0.675	0.541	0.552	0.503	0.521	0.531	0.493	0.630	0.531	0.529	0.510	0.532	0.494		
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.591	0.790	0.723	0.716	0.717	0.717	0.741	0.581	0.782	0.730	0.703	0.711	0.707	0.801		
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.829	0.994	0.851	0.870	0.860	0.857	0.963	0.728	0.856	0.798	0.769	0.772	0.812	<b>0.852</b>		
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.704	0.845	0.762	0.742	0.757	0.752	0.806	0.670	0.781	0.749	0.742	0.719	0.737	0.804		
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.844	1.000	0.851	0.893	0.864	0.862	0.996	0.778	0.842	0.781	0.761	0.758	0.821	0.802		
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.765	0.820	0.790	0.749	0.740	0.804	0.779	0.738	0.808	0.763	0.708	0.723	0.785	0.818		
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.876	0.965	0.877	0.884	0.881	0.901	0.978	<b>0.835</b>	<b>0.890</b>	<b>0.833</b>	<b>0.795</b>	<b>0.812</b>	<b>0.865</b>	0.828		
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.520	0.759	0.538	0.517	0.577	0.535	0.571	0.525	0.685	0.552	0.592	0.625	0.533	0.724		
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.520	0.668	0.472	0.449	0.510	0.449	0.491	0.449	0.578	0.493	0.493	0.467	0.556	0.645		
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.585	0.834	0.674	0.659	0.724	0.685	0.698	0.698	0.809	0.695	0.752	0.682	0.721			
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.851	0.990	0.817	0.799	0.820	0.861	0.898	0.762	0.896	0.760	0.763	0.725	0.778	0.767		
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.734	0.863	0.722	0.667	0.745	0.757	0.732	0.720	0.837	0.707	0.697	0.773	0.758	0.765		
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.872	0.999	0.873	0.923	0.903	0.899	0.993	0.793	0.896	0.771	0.803	0.809	0.803	0.796		
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.802	0.781	0.720	0.646	0.714	0.742	0.694	0.800	0.850	0.719	0.674	0.784	0.757	<b>0.827</b>		
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.887	0.985	0.870	0.901	0.887	0.905	0.979	<b>0.852</b>	0.881	0.808	0.722	<b>0.821</b>	<b>0.831</b>	0.757		
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.511	0.706	0.555	0.582	0.561	0.562	0.542	0.535	0.713	0.566	0.576	0.567	0.574	0.606		
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	AttentionScore	✓	✓	0.497	0.595	0.503	0.463	0.519	0.451	0.493	0.516	0.576	0.504	0.462	0.455	0.463	0.451		
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.591	0.824	0.727	0.710	0.732	0.720	0.677	0.600	0.869	0.771	0.714	0.726	0.734	0.687		
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	AttnLogDet	✓	✓	0.850	0.989	0.847	0.827	0.856	0.853	0.877	0.766	0.853	0.842	0.753	0.753	0.833	0.735		
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.757	0.920	0.743	0.728	0.764	0.779	0.741	0.723	0.868	0.780	0.733	0.734	0.780	0.718		
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓	✓	0.877	1.000	0.878	0.923	0.911	0.895	0.997	0.805	0.846	0.848	0.751	0.844	0.765	<b>0.765</b>		
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.814	0.860	0.762	0.733	0.790	0.766	0.703	0.805	0.897	0.790	0.712	0.781	0.779	0.725		
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	LapEigvals	✓	✓	0.895	0.980	0.890	0.898	0.910	0.907	0.965	<b>0.861</b>	<b>0.925</b>	<b>0.882</b>	<b>0.791</b>	<b>0.820</b>	<b>0.876</b>	0.748		

Table 8: Values of  $k$  hyperparameter, denoting how many highest eigenvalues are taken from the Laplacian matrix, corresponding to the best results in Table 1 and Table 6.

LLM	Temp	Feature	<i>all-layers</i>	<i>per-layer</i>	top- $k$ eigenvalues						
					CoQA	GSM8K	HalvevalQA	NQOpen	SQuADv2	TriviaQA	TruthfulQA
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	AttnEigvals		✓	50	100	100	25	100	100	10
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓		100	100	100	100	100	50	100
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	LapEigvals		✓	50	50	100	10	100	100	100
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	LapEigvals	✓		10	100	100	100	100	100	100
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	AttnEigvals		✓	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓		100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	LapEigvals		✓	100	50	100	100	100	100	100
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	LapEigvals	✓		100	100	25	100	100	100	100
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	AttnEigvals		✓	100	100	100	100	100	100	10
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓		100	100	25	100	100	100	100
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	LapEigvals		✓	100	25	100	100	100	50	5
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	LapEigvals	✓		25	100	100	100	100	100	100
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	AttnEigvals		✓	100	100	100	100	100	100	50
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓		100	50	100	100	100	100	100
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	LapEigvals		✓	100	50	100	10	100	100	25
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	LapEigvals	✓		25	100	100	100	100	100	100
Phi3.5	0.1	AttnEigvals		✓	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Phi3.5	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓		100	25	10	10	25	100	50
Phi3.5	0.1	LapEigvals		✓	100	10	100	100	100	100	100
Phi3.5	0.1	LapEigvals	✓		10	100	50	100	100	100	100
Phi3.5	1.0	AttnEigvals		✓	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Phi3.5	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓		100	100	100	10	100	100	50
Phi3.5	1.0	LapEigvals		✓	100	25	100	100	100	100	50
Phi3.5	1.0	LapEigvals	✓		10	25	100	100	100	100	100
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	AttnEigvals		✓	100	50	100	100	100	100	100
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓		100	50	100	100	100	100	100
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	LapEigvals		✓	100	25	100	100	100	100	10
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	LapEigvals	✓		10	100	25	100	50	100	100
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	AttnEigvals		✓	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓		100	100	100	100	100	100	50
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	LapEigvals		✓	100	100	100	50	100	100	100
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	LapEigvals	✓		10	100	50	100	100	100	100
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	AttnEigvals		✓	100	100	100	10	100	50	25
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	AttnEigvals	✓		100	100	100	100	100	100	25
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	LapEigvals		✓	100	50	100	50	100	100	10
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	LapEigvals	✓		25	100	100	100	100	100	100
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	AttnEigvals		✓	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	AttnEigvals	✓		100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	LapEigvals		✓	100	100	100	100	50	100	50
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	LapEigvals	✓		10	100	50	10	100	100	50

Table 9: Values of a layer index (numbered from 0) corresponding to the best results for *per-layer* models in Table 6.

LLM	<i>temp</i>	Feature	Layer index						
			CoQA	GSM8K	HaluevalQA	NQOpen	SQuADv2	TriviaQA	TruthfulQA
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	AttentionScore	13	28	10	0	0	0	28
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	AttnLogDet	7	31	13	16	11	29	21
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	AttnEigvals	22	31	31	26	31	31	7
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	LapEigvals	15	25	14	20	29	31	20
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	AttentionScore	29	3	10	0	0	0	23
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	AttnLogDet	17	16	11	13	29	29	30
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	AttnEigvals	22	28	31	31	31	31	31
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	LapEigvals	15	11	14	31	29	29	29
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	AttentionScore	15	17	12	12	12	21	14
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	AttnLogDet	12	18	13	24	10	25	14
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	AttnEigvals	27	14	14	14	25	27	17
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	LapEigvals	11	24	8	12	25	12	14
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	AttentionScore	24	25	12	0	24	21	14
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	AttnLogDet	12	18	26	23	25	25	12
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	AttnEigvals	11	14	27	25	25	27	10
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	LapEigvals	11	10	18	12	25	25	11
Phi3.5	0.1	AttentionScore	7	1	15	0	0	0	19
Phi3.5	0.1	AttnLogDet	20	19	18	16	17	13	23
Phi3.5	0.1	AttnEigvals	18	18	19	15	19	18	28
Phi3.5	0.1	LapEigvals	18	23	28	28	19	31	28
Phi3.5	1.0	AttentionScore	19	1	0	1	0	0	19
Phi3.5	1.0	AttnLogDet	12	19	29	14	19	13	14
Phi3.5	1.0	AttnEigvals	18	1	30	17	31	31	31
Phi3.5	1.0	LapEigvals	18	16	28	15	19	31	31
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	AttentionScore	2	27	18	35	0	30	35
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	AttnLogDet	37	20	17	15	38	38	33
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	AttnEigvals	38	37	38	18	18	15	31
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	LapEigvals	16	38	37	37	18	37	8
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	AttentionScore	10	2	16	28	14	30	21
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	AttnLogDet	18	17	20	18	18	15	18
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	AttnEigvals	38	30	39	39	18	15	18
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	LapEigvals	16	39	37	37	18	37	18
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	AttentionScore	14	1	39	33	35	0	30
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	AttnLogDet	16	29	38	18	16	38	11
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	AttnEigvals	36	27	36	19	16	38	20
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	LapEigvals	21	3	35	24	36	35	34
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	AttentionScore	15	1	1	0	1	0	30
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	AttnLogDet	14	24	27	17	24	38	34
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	AttnEigvals	36	39	27	21	24	36	23
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	LapEigvals	21	39	36	16	21	35	34

Table 10: Results of the probe trained on the hidden state features from the last generated token.

LLM	Temp	Features	<i>per-layer</i>	<i>all-layers</i>	Test AUROC (↑)						
					CoQA	GSM8K	HalvevalQA	NQOpen	SQuADv2	TriviaQA	TruthfulQA
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	HiddenStates	✓		0.835	0.799	0.840	0.766	0.736	0.820	<b>0.834</b>
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	HiddenStates		✓	0.821	0.765	0.825	0.728	0.723	0.791	0.785
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	LapEigvals	✓		0.757	0.844	0.793	0.711	0.733	0.780	0.764
Llama3.1-8B	0.1	LapEigvals		✓	<b>0.836</b>	<b>0.887</b>	<b>0.867</b>	<b>0.793</b>	<b>0.782</b>	<b>0.872</b>	0.822
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	HiddenStates	✓		<b>0.836</b>	0.816	0.850	0.786	0.754	0.850	0.823
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	HiddenStates		✓	0.835	0.759	0.847	0.757	0.749	0.838	0.808
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	LapEigvals	✓		0.743	0.833	0.789	0.725	0.724	0.794	0.764
Llama3.1-8B	1.0	LapEigvals		✓	0.830	<b>0.872</b>	<b>0.874</b>	<b>0.827</b>	<b>0.791</b>	<b>0.889</b>	<b>0.829</b>
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	HiddenStates	✓		0.800	0.826	0.808	0.732	0.750	0.782	0.760
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	HiddenStates		✓	0.790	0.802	0.784	0.709	0.721	0.760	<b>0.770</b>
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	LapEigvals	✓		0.676	0.835	0.774	0.730	0.727	0.712	0.690
Llama3.2-3B	0.1	LapEigvals		✓	<b>0.801</b>	<b>0.852</b>	<b>0.844</b>	<b>0.771</b>	<b>0.778</b>	<b>0.821</b>	0.743
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	HiddenStates	✓		0.778	0.727	0.758	0.679	0.719	0.773	0.716
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	HiddenStates		✓	0.773	0.652	0.753	0.657	0.681	0.761	0.618
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	LapEigvals	✓		0.715	0.815	0.765	0.696	0.696	0.738	0.767
Llama3.2-3B	1.0	LapEigvals		✓	<b>0.812</b>	<b>0.870</b>	<b>0.857</b>	<b>0.798</b>	<b>0.751</b>	<b>0.836</b>	<b>0.787</b>
Phi3.5	0.1	HiddenStates	✓		<b>0.841</b>	0.773	<b>0.845</b>	0.813	0.781	<b>0.886</b>	0.737
Phi3.5	0.1	HiddenStates		✓	0.833	0.696	0.840	0.806	0.774	0.878	0.689
Phi3.5	0.1	LapEigvals	✓		0.716	0.753	0.757	0.761	0.732	0.768	<b>0.741</b>
Phi3.5	0.1	LapEigvals		✓	0.810	<b>0.785</b>	0.819	<b>0.815</b>	<b>0.791</b>	0.858	0.717
Phi3.5	1.0	HiddenStates	✓		<b>0.872</b>	0.784	<b>0.850</b>	0.821	0.806	<b>0.891</b>	<b>0.822</b>
Phi3.5	1.0	HiddenStates		✓	0.853	0.686	0.844	0.804	0.790	0.887	0.752
Phi3.5	1.0	LapEigvals	✓		0.723	0.816	0.769	0.755	0.732	0.792	0.732
Phi3.5	1.0	LapEigvals		✓	0.821	<b>0.885</b>	0.836	<b>0.826</b>	0.795	0.872	0.777
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	HiddenStates	✓		0.818	0.757	0.814	0.734	0.731	0.821	<b>0.792</b>
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	HiddenStates		✓	0.805	0.741	0.784	0.722	0.730	0.793	0.699
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	LapEigvals	✓		0.759	0.751	0.760	0.697	0.696	0.769	0.710
Mistral-Nemo	0.1	LapEigvals		✓	<b>0.823</b>	<b>0.805</b>	<b>0.821</b>	<b>0.755</b>	<b>0.767</b>	<b>0.858</b>	0.737
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	HiddenStates	✓		0.793	0.832	0.777	0.738	0.719	0.783	0.722
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	HiddenStates		✓	0.771	0.834	0.771	0.706	0.685	0.779	0.644
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	LapEigvals	✓		0.738	0.808	0.763	0.708	0.723	0.785	0.818
Mistral-Nemo	1.0	LapEigvals		✓	<b>0.835</b>	<b>0.890</b>	<b>0.833</b>	<b>0.795</b>	<b>0.812</b>	<b>0.865</b>	<b>0.828</b>
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	HiddenStates	✓		0.838	0.872	0.744	0.680	0.700	0.749	0.735
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	HiddenStates		✓	0.815	0.812	0.703	0.632	0.629	0.726	0.589
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	LapEigvals	✓		0.800	0.850	0.719	0.674	0.784	0.757	<b>0.827</b>
Mistral-Small-24B	0.1	LapEigvals		✓	<b>0.852</b>	<b>0.881</b>	<b>0.808</b>	<b>0.722</b>	<b>0.821</b>	<b>0.831</b>	0.757
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	HiddenStates	✓		0.801	0.879	0.720	0.665	0.603	0.684	0.581
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	HiddenStates		✓	0.770	0.760	0.703	0.617	0.575	0.659	0.485
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	LapEigvals	✓		0.805	0.897	0.790	0.712	0.781	0.779	0.725
Mistral-Small-24B	1.0	LapEigvals		✓	<b>0.861</b>	<b>0.925</b>	<b>0.882</b>	<b>0.791</b>	<b>0.820</b>	<b>0.876</b>	<b>0.748</b>

Table 11: Full results of the generalization study. By gray color we denote results obtained on test split from the same QA dataset as training split, otherwise results are from test split of different QA dataset. We highlight the best performance in **bold**.

Feature	Train Dataset	Test AUROC ( $\uparrow$ )						
		CoQA	GSM8K	HaluevalQA	NQOpen	SQuADv2	TriviaQA	TruthfulQA
AttnLogDet	CoQA	0.758	0.518	0.687	0.644	0.646	0.640	0.587
AttnEigvals	CoQA	0.782	0.426	0.726	0.696	0.659	0.702	0.560
LapEigvals	CoQA	0.830	<b>0.555</b>	<b>0.790</b>	<b>0.748</b>	<b>0.743</b>	<b>0.786</b>	<b>0.629</b>
AttnLogDet	GSM8K	<b>0.515</b>	0.828	0.513	0.502	0.555	0.503	<b>0.586</b>
AttnEigvals	GSM8K	0.510	0.838	0.563	0.545	0.549	0.579	0.557
LapEigvals	GSM8K	<b>0.568</b>	0.872	<b>0.648</b>	<b>0.596</b>	<b>0.611</b>	<b>0.610</b>	0.538
AttnLogDet	HaluevalQA	0.580	0.500	0.823	0.750	0.727	0.787	0.668
AttnEigvals	HaluevalQA	0.579	<b>0.569</b>	0.819	0.792	0.743	0.803	<b>0.688</b>
LapEigvals	HaluevalQA	<b>0.685</b>	0.448	0.873	<b>0.796</b>	<b>0.778</b>	<b>0.848</b>	0.595
AttnLogDet	NQOpen	0.552	0.594	0.720	0.794	0.717	0.766	0.597
AttnEigvals	NQOpen	0.546	0.633	0.725	0.790	0.714	0.770	<b>0.618</b>
LapEigvals	NQOpen	<b>0.656</b>	<b>0.676</b>	<b>0.792</b>	0.827	<b>0.748</b>	<b>0.843</b>	0.564
AttnLogDet	SQuADv2	0.553	0.695	0.716	0.774	0.746	0.757	0.658
AttnEigvals	SQuADv2	0.576	0.723	0.730	0.737	0.768	0.760	<b>0.711</b>
LapEigvals	SQuADv2	<b>0.673</b>	<b>0.754</b>	<b>0.801</b>	<b>0.806</b>	0.791	<b>0.841</b>	0.625
AttnLogDet	TriviaQA	0.565	0.618	0.761	0.793	0.736	0.838	0.572
AttnEigvals	TriviaQA	0.577	<b>0.667</b>	0.770	0.786	0.742	0.843	<b>0.616</b>
LapEigvals	TriviaQA	<b>0.702</b>	0.612	<b>0.813</b>	<b>0.818</b>	<b>0.773</b>	0.889	0.522
AttnLogDet	TruthfulQA	0.550	0.706	0.597	<b>0.603</b>	0.604	0.662	0.811
AttnEigvals	TruthfulQA	0.538	0.579	<b>0.600</b>	0.595	<b>0.646</b>	<b>0.685</b>	0.833
LapEigvals	TruthfulQA	<b>0.590</b>	<b>0.722</b>	0.552	0.529	0.569	0.631	0.829

Table 12: Impact of training dataset size on performance. Test AUROC scores are reported for different fractions of the training data. The study uses a dataset derived from Llama-3.1-8B answers with  $temp=1.0$  and  $k=100$  top eigenvalues, with absolute dataset sizes shown in parentheses.

Fraction of data (%)	CoQA (6316)	GSM8K (1019)	HaluEvalQA (6118)	NQOpen (2360)	SQuADv2 (3818)	TriviaQA (7710)	TruthfulQA (596)
100	0.830	0.872	0.873	0.827	0.791	0.889	0.804
75	0.824	<b>0.867</b>	0.868	0.816	0.785	0.886	0.803
50	0.817	0.858	0.861	0.802	0.778	0.880	0.796
30	0.802	0.851	0.853	0.785	0.760	0.872	0.786
20	0.790	0.835	0.848	0.770	0.738	0.863	0.763
10	0.757	0.816	0.829	0.726	0.730	0.841	0.709
5	0.734	0.764	0.811	0.668	0.702	0.813	0.637
1	0.612	0.695	0.736	0.621	0.605	0.670	0.545

Table 13: Impact of Gaussian noise perturbations on input features for different top- $k$  eigenvalues and noise standard deviations  $\sigma$ . Results are averaged over five perturbations, with mean and standard deviation reported; relative percentage drops are shown in parentheses. Results were obtained for Llama-3.1-8B with  $temp=1.0$  on TriviaQA dataset.

k	Test AUROC ( $\uparrow$ )					
	$\sigma = 0.0$	$\sigma = 1e - 5$	$\sigma = 1e - 4$	$\sigma = 1e - 3$	$\sigma = 1e - 2$	$\sigma = 1e - 1$
5	$0.867 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.867 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.867 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.867 \pm 0.0$ (-0.01%)	$0.859 \pm 0.003$ (0.86%)	$0.573 \pm 0.017$ (33.84%)
10	$0.867 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.867 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.867 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.867 \pm 0.0$ (0.03%)	$0.861 \pm 0.002$ (0.78%)	$0.579 \pm 0.01$ (33.3%)
20	$0.869 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.869 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.869 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.869 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.862 \pm 0.002$ (0.84%)	$0.584 \pm 0.018$ (32.76%)
50	$0.870 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.870 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.870 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.869 \pm 0.0$ (0.02%)	$0.864 \pm 0.002$ (0.66%)	$0.606 \pm 0.014$ (30.31%)
100	$0.872 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.872 \pm 0.0$ (0.0%)	$0.872 \pm 0.0$ (0.01%)	$0.872 \pm 0.0$ (-0.0%)	$0.866 \pm 0.001$ (0.66%)	$0.640 \pm 0.007$ (26.64%)

Table 14: Estimation of costs regarding *llm-as-judge* labelling with OpenAI API.

Dataset	Total Input Tokens	Total Output Tokens	Mean Input Tokens	Mean Output Tokens	Total Input Cost [\$]	Total Output Cost [\$]	Total Cost [\$]
CoQA	52,194,357	320,613	653.82	4.02	7.83	0.19	8.02
NQOpen	11,853,621	150,782	328.36	4.18	1.78	0.09	1.87
HaluEvalQA	33,511,346	421,572	335.11	4.22	5.03	0.25	5.28
SQuADv2	19,601,322	251,264	330.66	4.24	2.94	0.15	3.09
TriviaQA	41,114,137	408,067	412.79	4.10	6.17	0.24	6.41
TruthfulQA	2,908,183	33,836	355.96	4.14	0.44	0.02	0.46
<b>Total</b>	<b>158,242,166</b>	<b>1,575,134</b>	<b>402.62</b>	<b>4.15</b>	<b>24.19</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>25.13</b>

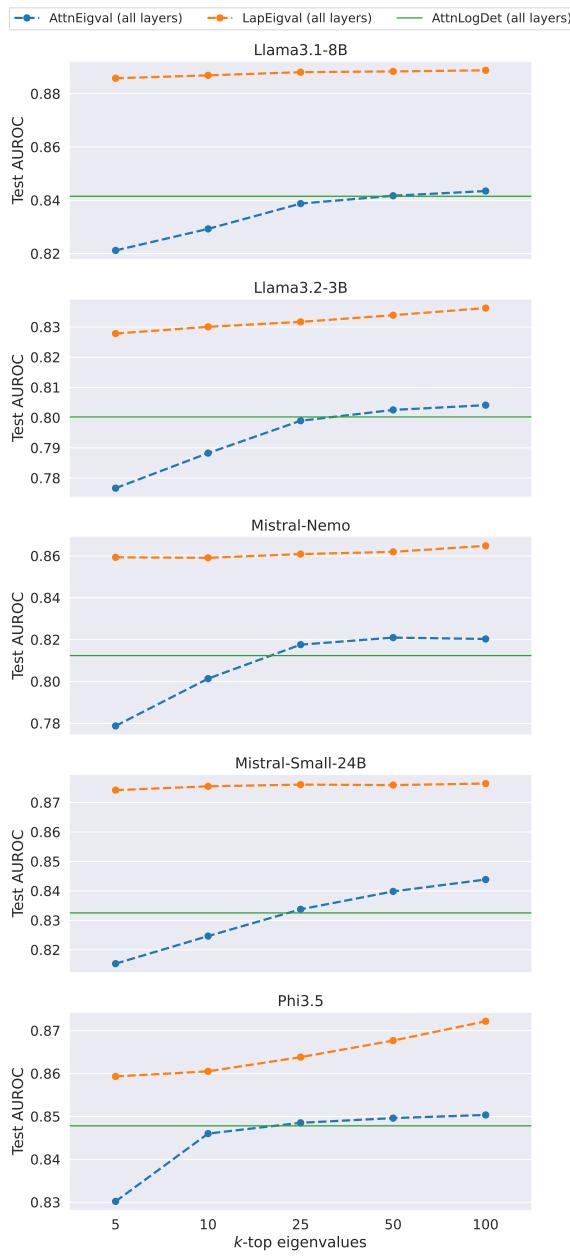


Figure 10: Probe performance across different top- $k$  eigenvalues:  $k \in \{5, 10, 25, 50, 100\}$  for TriviaQA dataset with  $temp=1.0$  and five considered LLMs.

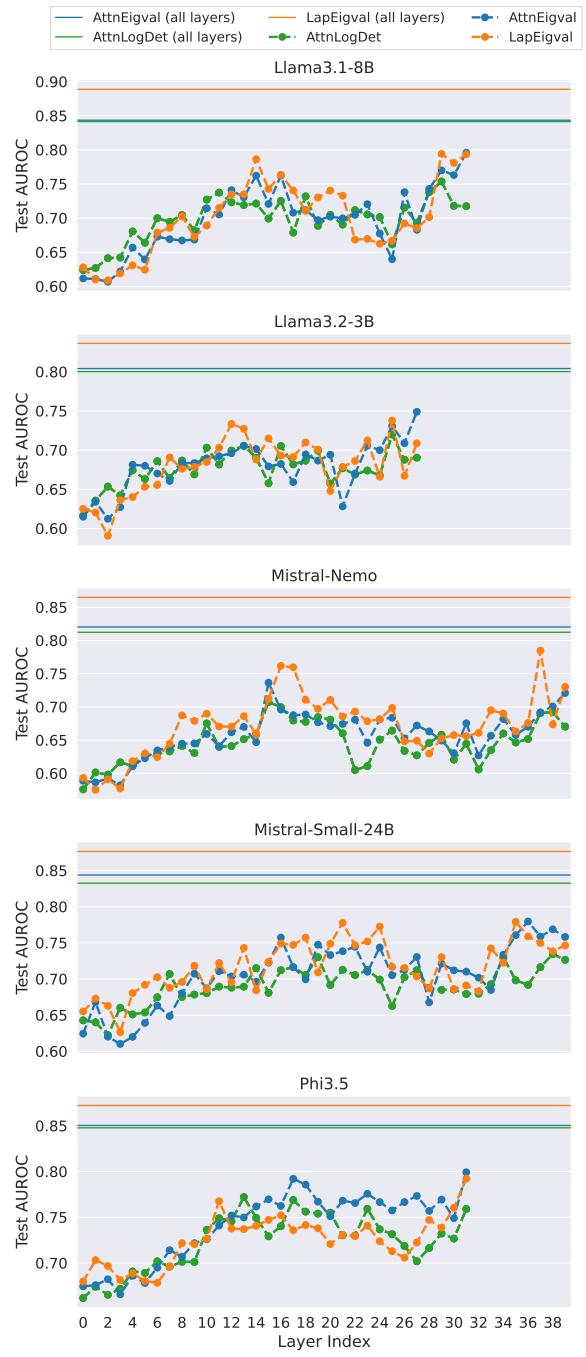


Figure 11: Analysis of model performance across different layers for 5 considered LLMs and TriviaQA dataset with  $temp=1.0$  and  $k=100$  top eigenvalues (results for models operating on all layers provided for reference).

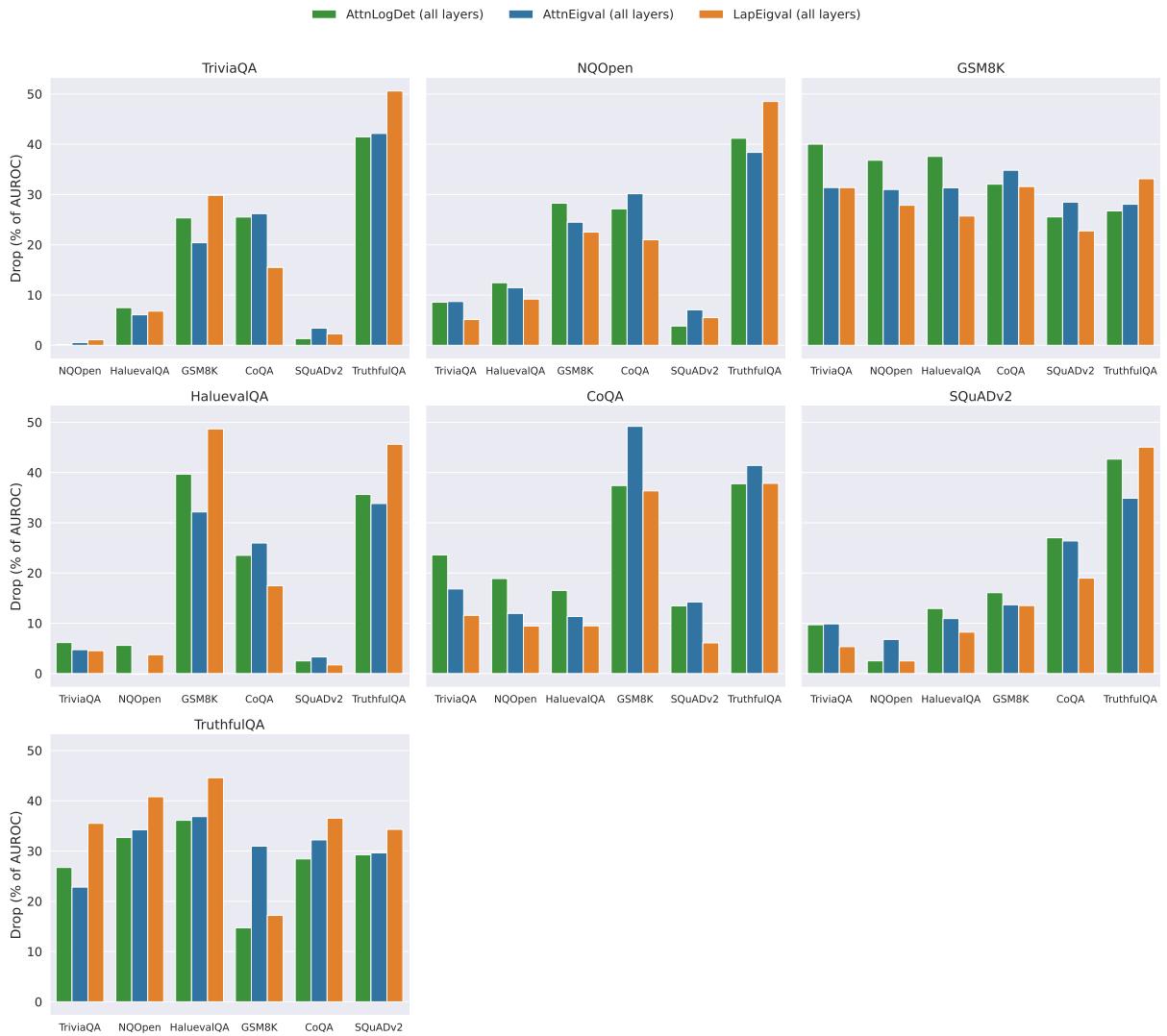


Figure 12: Generalization across datasets measured as a percent performance drop in Test AUROC (less is better) when trained on one dataset and tested on the other. Training datasets are indicated in the plot titles, while test datasets are shown on the  $x$ -axis. Results computed on Llama-3.1-8B with  $k=100$  top eigenvalues and  $temp=1.0$ .

Listing 1: One-shot QA (prompt  $p_1$ )

```
Deliver a succinct and straightforward answer to the question below. Focus on being
→ brief while maintaining essential information. Keep extra details to a
→ minimum.
```

Here is an example:

Question: What is the Riemann hypothesis?

Answer: All non-trivial zeros of the Riemann zeta function have real part 1/2

Question: {question}

Answer:

Listing 2: Zero-shot QA (prompt  $p_2$ ).

```
Please provide a concise and direct response to the following question, keeping your
→ answer as brief and to-the-point as possible while ensuring clarity. Avoid
→ any unnecessary elaboration or additional details.
```

Question: {question}

Answer:

Listing 3: Few-shot QA prompt (prompt  $p_3$ ), modified version of prompt used by (Kossen et al., 2024).

```
Answer the following question as briefly as possible.  
Here are several examples:  
Question: What is the capital of France?  
Answer: Paris  
  
Question: Who wrote *Romeo and Juliet*?  
Answer: William Shakespeare  
  
Question: What is the boiling point of water in Celsius?  
Answer: 100°C  
  
Question: How many continents are there on Earth?  
Answer: Seven  
  
Question: What is the fastest land animal?  
Answer: Cheetah  
  
Question: {question}  
Answer:
```

Listing 4: Zero-shot short QA prompt (prompt  $p_4$ ).

```
Answer the following question as briefly as possible.  
Question: {question}  
Answer:
```

Listing 5: Zero-shot QA prompt for GSM8K dataset.

```
Given the following problem, reason and give a final answer to the problem.  
  
Problem: {question}  
Your response should end with "The final answer is [answer]" where [answer] is the  
→ response to the problem.
```

Listing 6: Prompt used in *llm-as-judge* approach for determining hallucination labels. Prompt is a modified version of the one used by (Orgad et al., 2025).

```
You will evaluate answers to questions. For each question, I will provide a model's
→ answer and one or more correct reference answers.
You would have to determine if the model answer is correct, incorrect, or model
→ refused to answer. The model answer to be correct has to match from one to
→ all of the possible correct answers.
If the model answer is correct, write 'correct' and if it is not correct, write '
→ incorrect'. If the Model Answer is a refusal, stating that they don't have
→ enough information, write 'refuse'.
For example:
Question: who is the young guitarist who played with buddy guy?
Ground Truth: [Quinn Sullivan, Eric Gales]
Model Answer: Ronnie Earl
Correctness: incorrect

Question: What is the name of the actor who plays Iron Man in the Marvel movies?
Ground Truth: [Robert Downey Jr.]
Model Answer: Robert Downey Jr. played the role of Tony Stark/Iron Man in the Marvel
→ Cinematic Universe films.
Correctness: correct

Question: what is the capital of France?
Ground Truth: [Paris]
Model Answer: I don't have enough information to answer this question.
Correctness: refuse

Question: who was the first person to walk on the moon?
Ground Truth: [Neil Armstrong]
Model Answer: I apologize, but I cannot provide an answer without verifying the
→ historical facts.
Correctness: refuse

Question: {{question}}
Ground Truth: {{gold_answer}}
Model Answer: {{predicted_answer}}
Correctness:
```