



Hierarchical Ethical Assessment

Morality → Virtue → Ethics → Operational Excellence

THE INNOVATION

A four-level hierarchical framework that mirrors human moral reasoning: establishing what must NOT be done (morality), then what SHOULD be done (virtue), then how to act in society (ethics), and finally whether purpose is fulfilled (operational excellence).

WHAT IT DOES

- ✓ Level 1 (Morality): LCSH framework as foundational gate
- ✓ Level 2 (Virtue): Multi-framework positive character assessment
- ✓ Level 3 (Ethics): Culture Test + Politics Test
- ✓ Level 4 (Operational): Domain-specific purpose fulfillment
- ✓ Mandatory gating: lower levels must pass first

WHY IT MATTERS

Flat ethics models treat all ethical considerations as equivalent—losing critical hierarchical information.

This prevents the "Competent Psychopath" failure mode: AI that excels operationally while violating moral foundations.

No operational excellence certification without moral foundation.

KEY CLAIMS (9 total)

1. Four-level hierarchical assessment system with defined dependencies
2. Morality assessment using LCSH as foundational gating
3. Configurable virtue assessment supporting multiple philosophical frameworks
4. Dependency enforcement preventing higher-level assessment without lower-level passage
5. Cultural indicator derivation from aggregated individual virtue assessments
6. Ethics assessment comprising Culture Test and Politics Test modules

STATUS

- Draft: February 1, 2026
- Type: Related Application
- Foundation: Patent 1 morality layer

APPLICATIONS

- Comprehensive AI certification
- Cross-cultural AI deployment
- Failure mode diagnosis

See a live verification example:

aiassessmenttool.com

Scan to verify

