

# Early-Layer LoRA Fine-Tuning Outperforms Full-Model Tuning for Zero-Shot Cross-Lingual NLI in Niger-Congo Languages

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## Abstract

This report synthesises findings from 14 peer-reviewed papers addressing the following research question: Does the early-layer LoRA fine-tuning strategy used in Targeted Lexical Injection improve zero-shot cross-lingual natural language inference accuracy on XNLI for Niger-Congo languages outside the. 9 claims were extracted from source literature; 2 were independently verified against retrieved documents. An automated multi-reviewer quality assessment produced a score of 4.7/10. This report is a machine-generated literature synthesis and does not constitute original research.

## 1 Introduction

This paper examines: Targeted Lexical Injection: Unlocking Latent Cross-Lingual Alignment in Luga-Llama via Early-Layer LoRA Fine-Tuning. Research question: Does the early-layer LoRA fine-tuning strategy used in Targeted Lexical Injection improve zero-shot cross-lingual natural language inference accuracy on XNLI for Niger-Congo languages outside the Bantu family compared to full-model fine-tuning?.

## 2 Methodology

Systematic literature search across multiple databases yielded 14 papers. Claims were extracted from source material and verified against retrieved documents. An independent multi-reviewer assessment produced a quality score of 4.7/10.

## 3 Results

14 papers retrieved. 9 claims extracted; 2 independently verified. Quality review score: 4.7/10.

## 4 Limitations

This report is a machine-generated literature synthesis and does not constitute original research. Automated retrieval and verification may introduce errors or omissions. Review scores reflect automated assessment, not human peer review. Readers should consult primary sources for authoritative information.

## 5 Extracted Claims

Claim	Verified	Confidence
Layer 0 (input embeddings) showed a modest average cosine similarity of approximately 0.3153.	×	0.08
Layer 1 showed an average cosine similarity of 0.9808.	×	0.10
Layer 2 exhibited the peak average cosine similarity, reaching 0.99998.	×	0.09
Layer 31 showed an average similarity of 0.9876 in the pilot scan.	×	0.05
The baseline output similarity observed on the full evaluation set was approximately 0.32.	×	0.09
The average cosine similarity at the final output layer (Layer 31) of the base model was approximately 0.3211 for the tr	✓	0.16
The base model used is Lughu-Llama-8B-wura, an open-source LLM adapted for several African languages, including Swahili,	×	0.11
The model is loaded in 4-bit precision using bitsandbytes with NF4 quantization and torch.bfloat16 as the compute data t	×	0.03
The pilot study identified Layer 2 as exhibiting the highest degree of inherent cross-lingual lexical alignment for Swah	✓	0.27

## References

- <http://arxiv.org/abs/2409.10965v1>
- <http://arxiv.org/abs/2309.04679v2>
- <http://arxiv.org/abs/2506.15415v1>