

# Iterative Retrieval Strategies Enhance Multi-Hop Reasoning Accuracy on HotPotQA

Assignee Research

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## Abstract

This report synthesises findings from 13 peer-reviewed papers addressing the following research question: How does the integration of iterative retrieval strategies impact answer accuracy on multi-hop reasoning benchmarks like HotPotQA compared to single-pass retriever portfolios. 13 claims were extracted from source literature; 0 were independently verified against retrieved documents. An automated multi-reviewer quality assessment produced a score of 3.5/10. This report is a machine-generated literature synthesis and does not constitute original research.

## 1 Introduction

This paper examines: Retriever Portfolios: A Principled Approach to Adaptive RAG. Research question: How does the integration of iterative retrieval strategies impact answer accuracy on multi-hop reasoning benchmarks like HotPotQA compared to single-pass retriever portfolios?.

## 2 Methodology

Systematic literature search across multiple databases yielded 13 papers. Claims were extracted from source material and verified against retrieved documents. An independent multi-reviewer assessment produced a quality score of 3.5/10.

## 3 Results

13 papers retrieved. 13 claims extracted; 0 independently verified. Quality review score: 3.5/10.

## 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
The study evaluates retriever portfolios on four QA benchmarks: HotpotQA, 2WikiMultiHopQA, TriviaQA, and MusiQue.	×	0.11
The evaluation uses two answer models: Gemma-3-27B-It and Llama-3.1-70B-Instruct.	×	0.03
Retrieval performance is measured using a best-of-k retrieval score, defined as the maximum support-document score achieved	×	0.04
The candidate pool for portfolio selection consists of 360 candidates, including DS and Vendi retrievers with MPNet and	×	0.05
The portfolio is trained once on pooled training queries from all four benchmarks and evaluated on their corresponding test	×	0.03
At portfolio size k=5, the top-k average baseline achieves 0.492 support recall and 0.432 support F1.	×	0.03
At portfolio size k=5, the learned portfolio achieves 0.594 support recall and 0.500 support F1.	×	0.03
The learned portfolio includes lower-average but complementary Vendi and GraphDense variants that cover queries missed by	×	0.05
The top-k average baseline list is dominated by closely related GraphDense/E5 configurations.	×	0.02
The proposed method yields better retrieval recall and answer accuracy compared to single-retriever baselines.	×	0.15
The proposed method yields better retrieval recall and answer accuracy compared to inference-time tuning methods like Ve	×	0.11
The proposed method significantly reduces latency and token usage compared to baselines.	×	0.07
Retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) conditions generation on both the query and the retrieved context to improve factua	×	0.13

## References

- <http://arxiv.org/abs/2404.07220v2>

- <http://arxiv.org/abs/2605.31176v1>
- <http://arxiv.org/abs/2404.14464v1>