# DRAGIN: Dynamic Retrieval Augmented Generation based on the Information Needs of Large Language Models

Weihang Su<sup>\*1</sup>, Yichen Tang<sup>†1</sup>, Qingyao Ai<sup>‡1</sup>, Zhijing Wu<sup>2</sup>, Yiqun Liu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Computer Science and Technology, Tsinghua University <sup>2</sup>School of Computer Science and Technology, Beijing Institute of Technology

#### Abstract

Dynamic retrieval augmented generation (RAG) paradigm actively decides when and what to retrieve during the text generation process of Large Language Models (LLMs). There are two key elements of this paradigm: identifying the optimal moment to activate the retrieval module (deciding when to retrieve) and crafting the appropriate query once retrieval is triggered (determining what to retrieve). However, current dynamic RAG methods fall short in both aspects. Firstly, the strategies for deciding when to retrieve often rely on static rules. Moreover, the strategies for deciding what to retrieve typically limit themselves to the LLM's most recent sentence or the last few tokens, while the LLM's information needs may span across the entire context. To overcome these limitations, we introduce a new framework, DRAGIN, i.e., Dynamic Retrieval Augmented Generation based on the Information Needs of LLMs. Our framework is specifically designed to make decisions on when and what to retrieve based on the LLM's information needs during the text generation process. We evaluate DRAGIN along with existing methods comprehensively over 4 knowledge-intensive generation datasets. Experimental results show that DRAGIN achieves superior performance on all tasks, demonstrating the effectiveness of our method<sup>1</sup>.

## **1** Introduction

In recent years, large language models (LLMs) have made significant advancements across various natural language processing (NLP) tasks, quickly becoming a critical element in numerous AI applications (Brown et al., 2020; Chowdhery et al., 2022; Touvron et al., 2023a; Scao et al., 2022; Zhang

<sup>†</sup>contributed equally

<sup>1</sup>We have open-sourced all the code, data, and models in GitHub: https://github.com/oneal2000/DRAGIN/tree/main

et al., 2022). Despite their impressive capabilities, these models often produce text that seems coherent and plausible but factually incorrect, a problem commonly known as hallucination (Maynez et al., 2020; Zhou et al., 2020; Liu et al., 2021; Ji et al., 2023; Su et al., 2024).

To mitigate this issue, Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) has emerged as a prominent solution. RAG enhances LLMs by retrieving and incorporating relevant information from external databases into the LLMs' inputs. It has demonstrated superior effectiveness across numerous NLP challenges (Khandelwal et al., 2019; Borgeaud et al., 2022; Lewis et al., 2020; Guu et al., 2020; Izacard and Grave, 2020; Jiang et al., 2022; Shi et al., 2023). Traditional methods of RAG typically rely on single-round retrieval, using the LLM's initial input to retrieve relevant information from external corpora. While this method is effective for straightforward tasks, it tends to fall short for complex multi-step tasks and long-form generation tasks (Jiang et al., 2023). In contrast, dynamic RAG (Trivedi et al., 2022; Borgeaud et al., 2022; Ram et al., 2023; Jiang et al., 2023) performs multiple times of retrieval during the generation process of LLMs. It includes two steps: identifying the optimal moment to activate the retrieval module (deciding when to retrieve), and crafting the appropriate query once retrieval is triggered (determining what to retrieve). Depending on when and what to retrieve, a variety types of methods have been proposed in this direction. For example, IR-CoT (Trivedi et al., 2022) adopts a global augmentation method where retrieval is conducted for each generated sentence, with the latest generated sentence used as the query. RETRO (Borgeaud et al., 2022) and IC-RALM (Ram et al., 2023) define a sliding window and trigger the retrieval module based on a preset number of processed tokens, and the last n tokens are used as the query.

However, existing dynamic RAG methods face

<sup>\*</sup>swh22@mails.tsinghua.edu.cn

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>‡</sup>Corresponding Author: aiqy@tsinghua.edu.cn

several critical challenges, primarily in determining the optimal timing for retrieval and formulating effective queries when retrieval is triggered. First of all, existing approaches often rely on static rules to decide when to retrieve, neglecting the assessment of necessity and potential risks involved. On the one hand, depending on the quality of the input query and retrieval models, unnecessary retrieval augmentation may introduce irrelevant or noisy data to LLMs which could jeopardize the quality of the outputs. On the other hand, conducting retrieval augmentation will inevitably increase the time and computation cost of LLM inference, such cost is unworthy if LLMs can generate correct outputs by themselves. Additionally, the strategies of existing studies in determining what to retrieve often restrict themselves to the LLM's most recent sentence or the last few tokens. This approach may not capture the model's real-time information needs since the LLM's information needs may actually be related to terms that span the entire context. Retrieving documents in this manner is thus suboptimal in many cases.

To overcome these limitations, we introduce a new framework, DRAGIN, i.e., Dynamic Retrieval Augmented Generation based on the Information Needs of LLMs. Our framework is specifically designed to make decisions on when and what to retrieve, based on the LLM's information needs during the text generation process. For the timing of retrieval, we propose RIND: Real-time Information Needs Detection, which considers the LLM's uncertainty about its own generated content, the influence of each token on subsequent tokens, and the semantic significance of each token. For the formulation of retrieval queries, we propose QFS: Query Formulation based on Self-attention, which innovates query formulation by leveraging the LLM's self-attention across the entire context. DRAGIN is a lightweight RAG framework that can be incorporated into any Transformer-based LLMs without further training, fine-tuning, or prompt engineering.

We comprehensively evaluate DRAGIN along with existing dynamic RAG frameworks over four knowledge-intensive generation benchmarks. Experimental results show that DRAGIN achieves superior performance on all datasets, demonstrating the effectiveness of our method. Moreover, the results of the ablation study indicate that our proposed new strategies for "when to retrieval" (i.e., RIND) and "what to retrieval" (i.e., QFS) perform uniformly better than other strategies in existing RAG methods despite retrieval models and LLMs.

In summary, the contributions of our paper are as follows:

- We propose a novel dynamic RAG framework: DRAGIN. In contrast to previous works, our framework optimizes when and what to retrieve based on the real-time information needs of the LLM.
- We evaluate existing dynamic RAG methods and DRAGIN on four knowledge-intensive datasets using three different LLMs. Experimental results indicate that DRAGIN achieves state-of-the-art (SOTA) performance.

## 2 Related Work

#### 2.1 Single-round Retrieval-augmented LLM

LLMs have demonstrated significant effectiveness across a wide range of tasks. However, their builtin knowledge can sometimes fall short when dealing with knowledge-intensive tasks. To address this limitation, Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) strategies are widely employed to enhance the performance of LLMs. One of the most direct methods is single-round retrieval augmentation (Khandelwal et al., 2019; Borgeaud et al., 2022; Lewis et al., 2020; Guu et al., 2020; Izacard and Grave, 2020; Jiang et al., 2022; Shi et al., 2023), which involves using the initial input as a query to retrieve information from an external corpus. The retrieved external knowledge is then incorporated as part of the input for the model. Previous research has explored single-round retrieval augmentation extensively. For instance, RE-PLUG (Shi et al., 2023) treats LLMs as a black box and leverages them to generate training data for the retrieval model. From a different perspective, UniWeb (Li et al., 2023d) proposes an adaptive search engine-assisted learning method that can self-assess whether the LLM requires retrieval augmentation.

#### 2.2 Multi-round Retrieval-augmented LLM

Single-round retrieval can be relatively effective for simple tasks or cases where user information needs are clear-cut. However, for complex tasks or tasks involving the generation of lengthy text, such as long-form question answering, multi-hop reasoning, chain-of-thought reasoning, etc., relying solely on the user's initial input for retrieval



Figure 1: An illustration of our DRAGIN framework.

may not adequately cover all the external knowledge that the model requires (Jiang et al., 2023). Therefore, some researchers have begun to explore multi-round retrieval augmentation. For example, RETRO (Borgeaud et al., 2022) and IC-RALM (Ram et al., 2023) trigger retrieval every 4 to 32 tokens, and IRCot (Trivedi et al., 2022) triggers retrieval every sentence. However, solely relying on fixed interval-based retrieval without considering the information needs of the LLM itself could produce suboptimal results. Inspired by this, FLARE (Jiang et al., 2023) triggers retrieval when encountering an uncertain token. Specifically, if any token in the generated text has a probability lower than a certain threshold, the retrieval module is triggered.

#### 3 Methodology

In this section, we introduce the DRAGIN framework in detail. DRAGIN consists of two components: Real-time Information Needs Detection (RIND) and Query Formulation based on Selfattention (QFS), as illustrated in Figure 1. We introduce RIND in section 3.1, and QFS in section 3.2.

#### 3.1 Real-time Information Need Detection

As discussed above, most existing dynamic RAG frameworks trigger the retrieval module based on static, predefined rules. To the best of our knowledge, the only notable exception is FLARE (Jiang et al., 2023) which triggers retrieval dynamically when the LLM's confidence (i.e., the generation probability) on the next token is lower than certain thresholds.

However, the necessity of retrieval augmentation not only depends on the generation confidence, but also depends on the importance of the token, the semantic of the token, and the influence of each token on subsequent tokens. To address the limitations of the existing approaches, we propose an enhanced approach for triggering retrieval within dynamic RAG frameworks, named Real-time Information Needs Detection (RIND). This method refines the retrieval activation process by evaluating not only the uncertainty of each token, but also its semantic contribution and the impact on the following context.

RIND begins by quantifying the uncertainty of each token generated during the LLM's inference process. This is accomplished by recording the entropy of the token's probability distribution across the vocabulary. Consider an output sequence generated by an LLM, denoted as  $T = \{t_1, t_2, \ldots, t_n\}$ , with each  $t_i$  representing an individual token within the sequence at position *i*. For any token  $t_i$ , the entropy  $\mathcal{H}_i$  is computed as follows:

$$\mathcal{H}_i = -\sum_{v \in \mathcal{V}} p_i(v) \log p_i(v), \tag{1}$$

where  $p_i(v)$  denotes the probability of generating the token v over all tokens in the vocabulary  $\mathcal{V}$ at position *i*. This measurement of uncertainty serves as the first dimension in our multi-faceted evaluation of tokens.

In addition, RIND leverages the self-attention mechanism inherent in Transformer-based LLMs to allocate weights to tokens, which represent the tokens' impact on the subsequent context. Specifically, for any given token  $t_i$ , we quantify its influence by recording the maximum attention value  $a_{\max}(i)$ , which records the maximum attention from all following tokens<sup>2</sup>. The attention value

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>We choose the attention scores of the last Transformer layer of the LLM.

 $A_{i,j}$  between two tokens  $t_i \mbox{ and } t_j$  ( i < j ) is computed as follows:

$$A_{i,j} = \operatorname{softmax}\left(\frac{Q_i K_j^T}{\sqrt{d_k}}\right), \qquad (2)$$

where  $Q_i$  represents the query vector of token  $t_i$ ,  $K_j$  is the key vector of token  $t_j$ , and  $d_k$  denotes the dimensionality of the key vector. The softmax function is applied to the dot product of  $Q_i$  and  $K_j$ , normalized by the square root of  $d_k$ . Following this, the maximum attention value  $a_{\max}(i)$  for token  $t_i$  is identified by locating the highest  $A_{i,j}$  for all j > i:

$$a_{\max}(i) = \max_{i > i} A_{i,j} \tag{3}$$

Consider the semantic contribution of each token, RIND employs a binary semantic indicator to filter out stopwords, thus concentrating on tokens with significant semantic value:

$$s_i = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } t_i \in S \\ 1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \tag{4}$$

where S is the stopwords set,  $s_i$  is the semantic contribution score of the token  $t_i$ . This process ensures that only semantically potent tokens contribute to the retrieval decision-making process.

Combining uncertainty, significance, and semantics, RIND computes a comprehensive score for each token  $t_i$ :

$$S_{RIND}(t_i) = \mathcal{H}_i \cdot a_{\max}(i) \cdot s_i \tag{5}$$

Let  $T = \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n\}$  represent the set of tokens already generated by the LLM. The retrieval module activates when the score  $S_{RIND}(t_i)$  for any token exceeds a predefined threshold,  $\theta$ .

# 3.2 Query Formulation based on Self-attention

Once the position to conduct retrieval augmentation is determined, the next step in the RAG framework is to formulate a query to retrieve necessary information from external databases for the continued generation of LLMs. In the existing dynamic RAG frameworks, all the query formulation methods limit their focus to the LLM's most recent sentence or the last few tokens. This narrow scope fails to adequately cater to the model's real-time information needs, which may span across the entire context. To overcome the shortcomings of these approaches, we propose a novel strategy that utilizes the selfattention mechanisms inherent in Transformerbased LLMs. Our method, termed "Query Formulation based on Self-Attention" (QFS), seeks to ascertain the LLM's information needs more precisely by examining its understanding of the full context.

Consider an output sequence generated by an LLM, denoted as  $T = \{t_1, t_2, \ldots, t_n\}$ , with each  $t_i$  representing an individual token within the sequence. Suppose the RIND module identifies the token at position i, which requires external knowledge and triggers the retrieval module. The QFS approach then focuses on this specific position to formulate a query. For the token at position *i*, the QFS method evaluates the attention weights across the preceding token sequence  $\{t_{i-1}, t_{i-2}, ..., t_1\}$ . Since the generation of  $t_i$  by the LLM is based on its interpretation of the entire preceding context, the attention weights reflect the model's selfassessed importance of each token in generating  $t_i$ . The QFS method prioritizes these tokens based on their attention scores, selecting the top n tokens to construct the query. The query formulation process includes the following steps: (1) Extract the attention scores of the last Transformer layer  $A_i = \{a_{i,1}, a_{i,2}, ..., a_{i,i-1}\}$  for each token  $t_i$  in T, where  $a_{i,j}$  represents the attention score assigned by  $t_i$  to  $t_j$ ; (2) Sort  $A_i$  in descending order to identify the top n tokens with the highest attention scores; (3) Find the words corresponding to these tokens from the vocabulary and arrange them according to their original order in the text; (4) Construct the query  $Q_i$  using the words from these top n tokens, ensuring the query reflects the most relevant aspects of the context as determined by the LLM's self-attention mechanism.

## 3.3 Continue Generation after Retrieval

Once the RIND module detects the position i that needs external knowledge, the QFS module creates the query and utilizes an off-the-shelf retrieval model (e.g. BM25) to retrieve relevant information from external knowledge bases. Suppose the retrieved documents are denoted as  $Di_1$ ,  $Di_2$ , and  $Di_3$ . Upon successful retrieval, the next step of the dynamic RAG framework is to integrate this external knowledge into the LLM's generation process. This integration begins with truncating the LLM's output at the identified position i for retrieval augmentation:

$$T' = \operatorname{truncate}(T, t_i), \tag{6}$$

where T' represents the truncated output, T is the original sequence generated by the LLM, and  $t_i$  is the token at which the need for external knowledge was identified by RIND. To integrate the re-

trieved knowledge  $Di_1$ ,  $Di_2$ , and  $Di_3$ , we adopt a meticulously designed prompt template <sup>3</sup>, which is structured as follows:

## The entire input for LLM:

Below are the external knowledge refer-
ences:
$[1] Di_1$
$[2] Di_2$
$[3] Di_3$
Please answer the question based on the
external knowledge:
Question: xxx
Answer: T'

At this point, the LLM continues generating content based on the retrieved external knowledge and the truncated output T'. Following the integration of the retrieved knowledge, the LLM resumes generating content from the truncation point, enhanced with additional information. This procedure allows the LLM to bridge the previously identified knowledge gap, facilitating a more informed and precise continuation of its output.

Suppose at a subsequent position j where RIND detects again that the LLM requires external knowledge. In that case, the QFS module is triggered again at position j to generate a new query, retrieving a new set of documents  $Dj_1$ ,  $Dj_2$ , and  $Dj_3$  to replace  $Di_1$ ,  $Di_2$ , and  $Di_3$ . The LLM will then continue generating from position j based on the newly retrieved documents, following the same process.

#### 4 Experimental Setup

#### 4.1 Datasets

We choose two MultihopQA datasets **2WikiMultihopQA** (Ho et al., 2020) and **HotpotQA** (Yang et al., 2018) to evaluate the RAG framework's ability to answer complex questions that require multihop reasoning. We choose the **IIRC** (Ferguson et al., 2020) dataset to evaluate the RAG framework's ability in reading comprehension tasks. Furthermore, we utilize the **StrategyQA** (Geva et al., 2021) dataset to evaluate the commonsense reasoning capabilities of DRAGIN and other baselines.

#### 4.2 Settings for each Dataset

- 2WikiMultihopQA (Ho et al., 2020). We follow the setting of (Wang et al., 2022) to generate both chain-of-thought (CoT) reasoning process as well as the final answer. We follow the prompt template of (Trivedi et al., 2022) and (Jiang et al., 2023). For the evaluation metrics, we extract the final answer from the generated output using pattern matching techniques. The extracted answer is then compared with the reference answer, utilizing methods such as exact match at the answer level, along with token-level measurements of F1 score and precision.
- HotpotQA (Yang et al., 2018). We follow the setting and the prompt template of (Trivedi et al., 2022) to generate both chain-of-thought (CoT) reasoning process as well as the final answer. Our evaluation metric on this dataset is the same as 2WikiMultihopQA.
- StrategyQA (Geva et al., 2021). We follow the setting of (Wei et al., 2022) to generate both the CoT reasoning process as well as the final answer. We follow the prompt template of (Wei et al., 2022) and (Jiang et al., 2023). For the evaluation metrics, the obtained yes/no response is extracted and compared with the standard correct answer using an exact match approach.
- **IIRC** (Ferguson et al., 2020). We follow the setting and the prompt template of (Trivedi et al., 2022) to generate the final answer. Our evaluation metric on this dataset is the same as 2Wiki-MultihopQA.

Besides the settings introduced in this section, the specific prompt templates corresponding to each dataset are presented in Appendix F. Appendix A provides more detailed descriptions of each dataset's settings.

#### 4.3 Baselines

We choose the following Text Generation baselines for comparison. Following the setting of FLARE (Jiang et al., 2023), we implemented the existing multi-round RAG frameworks using the same settings, with the only variation being the timing of triggering retrieval (when to retrieve) and the query formulation method when the retrieval is triggered (what to retrieve).

• **wo-RAG**. LLM provides direct answers to questions without RAG.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>The specific content of the prompt template is presented in Appendix F.

	Timing for Retrieval	Query Formulation
SR-RAG	Before Generation	Initial Input
FL-RAG	Per $n$ Tokens	Last Generated Tokens
FS-RAG	Per Sentence	Last Generated Sentence
FLARE	Any token's probability below the threshold	Last generated Sentence exclude low-probability tokens
DRAGIN	Generated token's importance and uncertainty	LLM's attention over the entire context

Table 1: A comparative overview of our selectedRetrieval-Augmented Generation baselines.

- **SR-RAG** (Single-round RAG). Relevant passages are retrieved from an external corpus based on the initial question. The retrieved passages are then added into the LLM's input.
- **FL-RAG** (Fix Length RAG) (Khandelwal et al., 2019; Borgeaud et al., 2022; Ram et al., 2023). A multi-round retrieval augmentation method that triggers the retrieval module every *n* tokens. The tokens generated in the previous token window are utilized as the query.
- **FS-RAG** (Fix Sentence RAG) (Trivedi et al., 2022). A multi-round retrieval augmentation method that triggers the retrieval module every sentence. The last generated sentence are utilized as the query.
- FLARE (Jiang et al., 2023). A multi-round retrieval augmentation method that triggers retrieval each time it encounters an uncertain token. When the retrieval module is triggered, the last generated sentence without the uncertain tokens are defines as the query.

To illustrate the differences between DRAGIN and other dynamic RAG baselines directly, we present a comparison of retrieval timing and query formation methods for each dynamic RAG frameworks in Table 1.

## 4.4 Selected LLMs

To validate the effectiveness of DRAGIN and other RAG baselines, we conducted experiments with the following LLMs:

 LLaMA-2-Chat (Touvron et al., 2023b). LLaMA2 is a collection of pre-trained and finetuned LLMs. This series includes fine-tuned LLMs, known as Llama2-Chat, specifically designed for optimal performance in dialoguebased applications. We choose LLaMA-2-Chat-7B and LLaMA-2-Chat-13B.

• Vicuna-13B-v1.5 (Chiang et al., 2023) is a collection of open-source chatbots fine-tuned from LLaMA using user-shared conversations gathered from ShareGPT. We have selected the latest versions of Vicuna, namely Vicuna-13B-v1.5.

## 4.5 Implementation Details

**Hyperparameter:** The hyperparameters are all presented in Appendix E.

**Retriever:** We adopt BM25 as our retrieval model based on findings from (Ram et al., 2023), which demonstrated its superior performance in Retrieval-Augmented Generation, even outperforming some dense retrieval models. We also explored the impact of replacing BM25 with a SOTA dense retrieval method SGPT (Muennighoff, 2022), which is detailed in Section 5.5.

**Stopwords:** For the identification of stopwords within the RIND module, we utilized the en\_core\_web\_sm language model from the Spacy library, a tool recognized for its effectiveness and efficiency in Natural Language Processing tasks as evidenced by previous research (Shelar et al., 2020).

**External Knowledge Corpus:** We adopt Wikipedia as our external knowledge corpus. Each article are segmented into 100-token passages.

**LLM Configuration**: For the selected LLMs, we directly download model parameters from the official Hugging Face repositories for each model, and use the code provided by Hugging Face to conduct text generation. For the generation configuration, we have chosen greedy decoding as the decoding strategy for LLM inference to ensure the reproducibility of our experimental results. However, for practical applications, we recommend using the official default generation configuration provided by each model, as this will yield better performance.

## **5** Experimental Results

## 5.1 Overall Results of DRAGIN and Baselines

Our experiments comprehensively evaluate the performance of DRAGIN against various baselines across four benchmark datasets: 2WikiMultihopQA, HotpotQA, StrategyQA, and IIRC. The results, summarized in Table 2, underscore several critical insights: (1) The integration of single-round retrieval augmentation consistently boosts LLMs' performance across all datasets when compared

		2WikiN	IultihopQA	Hotp	ootQA	StrategyQA	Ш	RC
LLM	<b>RAG Method</b>	EM	F1	EM	F1	Accuracy	EM	F1
	wo-RAG	0.187	0.2721	0.223	0.3097	0.650	0.168	0.2039
	SR-RAG	0.245	0.3364	0.263	0.3706	0.654	0.196	0.2303
Lloma 112h abot	FL-RAG	0.217	0.3054	0.177	0.2682	0.648	0.155	0.1875
Liama2-150-chat	FS-RAG	0.270	0.3610	0.267	0.3715	0.655	0.171	0.2061
	FLARE	0.224	0.3076	0.180	0.2756	0.655	0.138	0.1667
	DRAGIN (Ours)	0.304	0.3931	0.314	0.4238	0.689	0.185	0.2221
	wo-RAG	0.146	0.2232	0.184	0.2745	0.659	0.139	0.1731
	SR-RAG	0.169	0.2549	0.164	0.2499	0.645	0.187	0.2258
Llowed 7h shot	FL-RAG	0.112	0.1922	0.146	0.2107	0.635	0.172	0.2023
Liama2-70-chat	FS-RAG	0.189	0.2652	0.214	0.3035	0.629	0.178	0.2157
	FLARE	0.143	0.2134	0.149	0.2208	0.627	0.136	0.1644
	DRAGIN (Ours)	0.220	0.2926	0.232	0.3344	0.641	0.192	0.2336
	wo-RAG	0.146	0.2232	0.228	0.3256	0.682	0.175	0.2149
	SR-RAG	0.170	0.2564	0.254	0.3531	0.686	0.217	0.2564
Vienno 12h v1 5	FL-RAG	0.135	0.2133	0.187	0.3039	0.645	0.0985	0.1285
viculia-150-v1.5	FS-RAG	0.188	0.2625	0.185	0.3216	0.622	0.1027	0.1344
	FLARE	0.157	0.2257	0.092	0.1808	0.599	0.1174	0.1469
	<b>DRAGIN</b> (Ours)	0.252	0.3516	0.288	0.4164	0.687	0.2233	0.2652

Table 2: The overall experimental results of DRAGIN and other baselines on four benchmarks. The best results are in bold.

to direct question answering, confirming the effectiveness of RAG. (2) Despite the overall positive impact of retrieval augmentation, we observe that fixed rules-based retrieval methods, e.g. FL-RAG and FS-RAG, do not always outperform singleround retrieval. This observation validates our hypothesis that retrieval augmentation, if conducted at a wrong position, may not be helpful in improving the quality of LLM's outputs. This underscores the significance of timing in the activation of retrieval processes, which should be tailored to the information needs of Large Language Models (LLMs), activating retrieval only when LLMs necessitate external knowledge. (3) The performance of FLARE varies significantly among different datasets. Interestingly, as shown in our ablation study ( $\S$  5.4), the query formulation strategies are significantly better than those used by other baselines, but its overall performance is not. This indicates that the timing of retrieval augmentation in FLARE is far from perfect. (4) Our proposed DRAGIN method demonstrates superior performance across most LLMs and datasets. This indicates the robustness and effectiveness of DRAGIN in enhancing LLMs' capabilities. (5) DRAGIN demonstrates more substantial performance improvements in MultihopQA tasks, such as 2WikiMultihopQA and HotpotQA, than in tasks requiring common sense reasoning, like those in the StrategyQA dataset. This difference highlights DRAGIN's specialized capability in managing complex, multi-step reasoning tasks.

Table 3: Comparison of the frequency of retrieval module activation in dynamic RAG frameworks across all datasets. 2WMQA, HQA, SQA indicates 2WikiMultihopQA, HotpotQA, StrategyQA respectively.

		2WMQA	HQA	SQA	IIRC
		#Num	#Num	#Num	#Num
	FL-RAG	3.770	3.194	3.626	3.426
T 12D	FS-RAG	3.131	4.583	4.885	4.305
LIJD	FLARE	1.592	3.378	0.625	5.521
	DRAGIN	2.631	3.505	4.786	2.829
	FL-RAG	3.342	3.809	3.757	2.839
I 7D	FS-RAG	3.833	4.152	4.546	4.210
L/D	FLARE	0.941	1.064	1.271	1.095
	DRAGIN	2.836	3.013	4.629	2.927
	FL-RAG	4.199	3.564	3.591	3.189
V12D	FS-RAG	3.720	5.701	6.820	6.032
v 15D	FLARE	1.093	1.078	1.118	0.335
	DRAGIN	2.542	3.184	3.744	3.120

## 5.2 Efficiency

In this section, we investigate the efficiency of various dynamic RAG frameworks across multiple datasets. We measure efficiency based on the number of retrieval calls made, as outlined in Table 3. Due to the special design of FS-RAG, the #NUM for FS-RAG also indicates the average number of sentences produced by the LLM in response to queries on this dataset. Among the evaluated frameworks, FLARE stood out for its efficiency, requiring the fewest retrieval calls across all datasets. DRAGIN followed closely, with fewer retrieval

Table 4: The influence of the 'When to Retrieve' decision on various dynamic RAG frameworks, with the IIRC dataset as the evaluation benchmark. The best results are in bold. L13B indicates LLaMA2-13B-Chat, V13B indicates Vicuna-13b-v1.5. We fix the query formulation method, the last complete sentence generated by the LLM is selected as the query for all the baselines.

		EM	F1	Prec.
	FLARE	0.128	0.1599	0.1677
L13B	FL-RAG	0.155	0.1875	0.1986
	FS-RAG	0.171	0.2061	0.2185
	DRAGIN	0.187	0.2242	0.2319
	FLARE	0.097	0.1277	0.1324
V12D	FL-RAG	0.099	0.1285	0.1324
V13B	FS-RAG	0.103	0.1344	0.1358
	DRAGIN	0.196	0.2367	0.2476

calls than FS-RAG and FL-RAG.

#### 5.3 Timing of Retrieval

In this subsection, we investigate the impact of the timing of retrieval on the performance of dynamic RAG frameworks. Specifically, we fixed the method of query formulation to use the last complete sentence generated by the LLM as the query, and varied the timing of retrieval as the only variable. We examined DRAGIN alongside three existing frameworks: FLARE, FL-RAG, and FS-RAG on the IIRC dataset. As shown in Table 4, DRA-GIN consistently outperforms all other dynamic RAG methods. This highlights the effectiveness of our novel approach to determining the optimal moment for retrieval. DRAGIN's superior performance suggests that its method for detecting the real-time information needs of LLMs and triggering retrieval accordingly is particularly adept at enhancing the quality of the generated text.

We also evaluate the impact of varying threshold values within the RIND module on the performance of the DRAGIN framework. We present the experimental results on the HotpotQA dataset in Table 5. Our experimental results show that DRA-GIN's performance remains stable across threshold settings, indicating a low sensitivity to changes in this hyperparameter. The threshold value is pivotal in determining the retrieval module's activation frequency. As the threshold increases, the frequency of the retrieval module's activation decreases, suggesting that adjusting the threshold can strike a balance between the system's efficiency and the accuracy of its outputs in practical applications.

Table 5: Comparasion between different threshold of RIND for LLaMA-13B-Chat model on the HotpotQA dataset. The best results are in bold.

threshold	EM	F1	Prec.
0.3	0.295	0.3856	0.3873
0.4	0.297	0.387	0.389
0.5	0.299	0.3897	0.3915
0.6	0.304	0.3931	0.3946
0.7	0.304	0.3927	0.3937
0.8	0.301	0.392	0.3927
0.9	0.301	0.3944	0.3947
1	0.293	0.3869	0.3875

Table 6: The influence of the query formulation methods on various dynamic RAG frameworks, with the HotpotQA dataset as the evaluation benchmark. The best results are in bold. L13B indicates LLaMA2-13B-Chat, V13B indicates Vicuna-13b-v1.5.

		EM	F1	Prec.
	FLARE	0.262	0.3674	0.3792
	Full Context	0.252	0.3584	0.3711
L13B	FS-RAG	0.255	0.3574	0.3685
	FL-RAG	0.241	0.3394	0.3495
	DRAGIN	0.314	0.4238	0.4401
	FLARE	0.225	0.3366	0.3420
	Full Context	0.221	0.3402	0.3457
V13B	FS-RAG	0.216	0.3432	0.3507
	FL-RAG	0.214	0.3268	0.3264
	DRAGIN	0.288	0.4164	0.4226

## 5.4 Query Formulation

This subsection delves into the impact of query formulation techniques on the performance of dynamic RAG frameworks. We standardize the timing of trigger retrieval to RIND, which is proven to be the most effective timing based on the experimental results detailed in section 5.3. We focus on the comparison between DRAGIN and three existing frameworks: FLARE, FL-RAG, and FS-RAG. The query formulation method of FLARE is the last generated sentence excludes low-probability tokens. FL-RAG selects the closest 25 tokens to this position as the query. FS-RAG selects the sentence before this position as the query. We also evaluate the effectiveness of using the full context as the query. As shown in Table 6, DRAGIN's query formulation method performs best among all the dynamic RAG frameworks. FLARE emerged as the second most effective query formulation method, outperforming the FS-RAG and FL-RAG methods. Moreover, leveraging the entire context as a query did not yield optimal results, indicating potential redundancy within the full context. This finding

Table 7: Comparison of performance between BM25 and SGPT using the LLaMA2-13B-Chat model. The method with better performance is highlighted.

	retriever	EM	F1	Prec.
2WMQA	BM25 SGPT	<b>0.304</b> 0.273	<b>0.393</b> 0.356	<b>0.395</b> 0.357
HQA	BM25 SGPT	<b>0.314</b> 0.264	<b>0.424</b> 0.371	<b>0.437</b> 0.388
IIRC	BM25 SGPT	<b>0.185</b> 0.169	<b>0.222</b> 0.201	<b>0.235</b> 0.207

validates the effectiveness of our proposed QFS method, which aims to select tokens from the context that can represent the real-time information needs of the LLM as the query.

## 5.5 Impact of Retriever

In the dynamic RAG paradigm, the choice of the retriever plays an important role in retrieving relevant passages from a corpus based on a given query. In the field of information retrieval, the two popular types of retrieval methods are lexical matching (Zhai, 2008; Robertson et al., 2009) and dense retrieval (Su et al., 2023b; Gao and Callan, 2021; Su et al., 2023a; Muennighoff, 2022; Li et al., 2023b; Ma et al., 2023; Ye et al., 2024; Su et al., 2023c; Li et al., 2023a; Chen et al., 2023, 2022; Li et al., 2023c; Fang et al., 2024). Among lexical matching techniques, BM25 stands out for its widespread adoption and effectiveness (Robertson et al., 2009). Conversely, among existing dense retrieval methods, none has achieved the widespread popularity of BM25. We have opted for SGPT, which has recently attained state-of-the-art performance across a variety of datasets. (Muennighoff, 2022).

In our experimental analysis presented in Table 7, we found that BM25 consistently surpasses SGPT in performance across various datasets within the dynamic RAG framework, despite SGPT's generally better performance in numerous information retrieval tasks. This outcome aligns with the findings of prior research, such as the study by (Ram et al., 2023), which underscored BM25's effectiveness in RAG tasks. These results indicate that despite progress in dense retrieval technologies like SGPT, the simpler, lexicon-based BM25 algorithm is still a strong baseline for enhancing the performance of LLM in RAG tasks.

#### 6 Conclusions and Future Works

In this work, we propose DRAGIN, a dynamic RAG framework tailored to address the real-time information needs of LLMs during text generation. By integrating RIND for timely retrieval activation and QFS for precise query formulation, DRAGIN significantly outperforms existing dynamic RAG methods across various knowledge-intensive benchmarks.

## 7 Limitations

We acknowledge the limitations of this paper. One of the primary limitations is the reliance on the selfattention mechanism of Transformer-based LLMs for both Real-time Information Needs Detection (RIND) and Query Formulation based on Selfattention (QFS). While self-attention scores are accessible for all open-source LLMs, it's important to note that our method is not applicable to certain APIs that do not provide access to the self-attention scores. Thus, our future work aims to develop more methods to overcome this constraint.

#### 8 Ethics Statement

In conducting this research, we have prioritized ethical considerations at every stage to ensure the responsible development and application of AI technologies. Our research does not rely on personally identifiable information or require manually annotated datasets. We firmly believe in the principles of open research and the scientific value of reproducibility. To this end, we have made all models, data, and code associated with our paper publicly available on GitHub. This transparency not only facilitates the verification of our findings by the community but also encourages the application of our methods in other contexts.

#### Acknowledgments

This work is supported by Quan Cheng Laboratory (Grant No. QCLZD202301).

## References

Sebastian Borgeaud, Arthur Mensch, Jordan Hoffmann, Trevor Cai, Eliza Rutherford, Katie Millican, George Bm Van Den Driessche, Jean-Baptiste Lespiau, Bogdan Damoc, Aidan Clark, et al. 2022. Improving language models by retrieving from trillions of tokens. In *International conference on machine learning*, pages 2206–2240. PMLR.

- Tom Brown, Benjamin Mann, Nick Ryder, Melanie Subbiah, Jared D Kaplan, Prafulla Dhariwal, Arvind Neelakantan, Pranav Shyam, Girish Sastry, Amanda Askell, et al. 2020. Language models are few-shot learners. *Advances in neural information processing systems*, 33:1877–1901.
- Jia Chen, Haitao Li, Weihang Su, Qingyao Ai, and Yiqun Liu. 2023. Thuir at wsdm cup 2023 task 1: Unbiased learning to rank. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2304.12650*.
- Xuesong Chen, Ziyi Ye, Xiaohui Xie, Yiqun Liu, Xiaorong Gao, Weihang Su, Shuqi Zhu, Yike Sun, Min Zhang, and Shaoping Ma. 2022. Web search via an efficient and effective brain-machine interface. In *Proceedings of the Fifteenth ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining*, pages 1569– 1572.
- Wei-Lin Chiang, Zhuohan Li, Zi Lin, Ying Sheng, Zhanghao Wu, Hao Zhang, Lianmin Zheng, Siyuan Zhuang, Yonghao Zhuang, Joseph E Gonzalez, et al. 2023. Vicuna: An open-source chatbot impressing gpt-4 with 90%\* chatgpt quality. See https://vicuna. lmsys. org (accessed 14 April 2023).
- Aakanksha Chowdhery, Sharan Narang, Jacob Devlin, Maarten Bosma, Gaurav Mishra, Adam Roberts, Paul Barham, Hyung Won Chung, Charles Sutton, Sebastian Gehrmann, et al. 2022. Palm: Scaling language modeling with pathways. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2204.02311*.
- Yan Fang, Jingtao Zhan, Qingyao Ai, Jiaxin Mao, Weihang Su, Jia Chen, and Yiqun Liu. 2024. Scaling laws for dense retrieval. arXiv preprint arXiv:2403.18684.
- James Ferguson, Matt Gardner, Hannaneh Hajishirzi, Tushar Khot, and Pradeep Dasigi. 2020. Iirc: A dataset of incomplete information reading comprehension questions. arXiv preprint arXiv:2011.07127.
- Luyu Gao and Jamie Callan. 2021. Condenser: a pre-training architecture for dense retrieval. *arXiv* preprint arXiv:2104.08253.
- Mor Geva, Daniel Khashabi, Elad Segal, Tushar Khot, Dan Roth, and Jonathan Berant. 2021. Did aristotle use a laptop? a question answering benchmark with implicit reasoning strategies. *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics*, 9:346– 361.
- Kelvin Guu, Kenton Lee, Zora Tung, Panupong Pasupat, and Mingwei Chang. 2020. Retrieval augmented language model pre-training. In *International conference on machine learning*, pages 3929–3938. PMLR.
- Xanh Ho, Anh-Khoa Duong Nguyen, Saku Sugawara, and Akiko Aizawa. 2020. Constructing a multi-hop qa dataset for comprehensive evaluation of reasoning steps. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2011.01060*.

- Gautier Izacard and Edouard Grave. 2020. Leveraging passage retrieval with generative models for open domain question answering. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2007.01282*.
- Ziwei Ji, Nayeon Lee, Rita Frieske, Tiezheng Yu, Dan Su, Yan Xu, Etsuko Ishii, Ye Jin Bang, Andrea Madotto, and Pascale Fung. 2023. Survey of hallucination in natural language generation. ACM Computing Surveys, 55(12):1–38.
- Zhengbao Jiang, Luyu Gao, Jun Araki, Haibo Ding, Zhiruo Wang, Jamie Callan, and Graham Neubig. 2022. Retrieval as attention: End-to-end learning of retrieval and reading within a single transformer. arXiv preprint arXiv:2212.02027.
- Zhengbao Jiang, Frank F Xu, Luyu Gao, Zhiqing Sun, Qian Liu, Jane Dwivedi-Yu, Yiming Yang, Jamie Callan, and Graham Neubig. 2023. Active retrieval augmented generation. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2305.06983*.
- Urvashi Khandelwal, Omer Levy, Dan Jurafsky, Luke Zettlemoyer, and Mike Lewis. 2019. Generalization through memorization: Nearest neighbor language models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1911.00172*.
- Patrick Lewis, Ethan Perez, Aleksandra Piktus, Fabio Petroni, Vladimir Karpukhin, Naman Goyal, Heinrich Küttler, Mike Lewis, Wen-tau Yih, Tim Rocktäschel, et al. 2020. Retrieval-augmented generation for knowledge-intensive nlp tasks. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 33:9459–9474.
- Haitao Li, Jia Chen, Weihang Su, Qingyao Ai, and Yiqun Liu. 2023a. Towards better web search performance: Pre-training, fine-tuning and learning to rank. arXiv preprint arXiv:2303.04710.
- Haitao Li, Weihang Su, Changyue Wang, Yueyue Wu, Qingyao Ai, and Yiqun Liu. 2023b. Thuir@ coliee 2023: Incorporating structural knowledge into pre-trained language models for legal case retrieval. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2305.06812.*
- Haitao Li, Changyue Wang, Weihang Su, Yueyue Wu, Qingyao Ai, and Yiqun Liu. 2023c. Thuir@ coliee 2023: More parameters and legal knowledge for legal case entailment. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2305.06817*.
- Junyi Li, Tianyi Tang, Wayne Xin Zhao, Jingyuan Wang, Jian-Yun Nie, and Ji-Rong Wen. 2023d. The web can be your oyster for improving large language models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2305.10998*.
- Tianyu Liu, Yizhe Zhang, Chris Brockett, Yi Mao, Zhifang Sui, Weizhu Chen, and Bill Dolan. 2021. A token-level reference-free hallucination detection benchmark for free-form text generation. arXiv preprint arXiv:2104.08704.
- Yixiao Ma, Yueyue Wu, Weihang Su, Qingyao Ai, and Yiqun Liu. 2023. Caseencoder: A knowledgeenhanced pre-trained model for legal case encoding. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2305.05393*.

- Joshua Maynez, Shashi Narayan, Bernd Bohnet, and Ryan McDonald. 2020. On faithfulness and factuality in abstractive summarization. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2005.00661*.
- Niklas Muennighoff. 2022. Sgpt: Gpt sentence embeddings for semantic search. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2202.08904*.
- Ori Ram, Yoav Levine, Itay Dalmedigos, Dor Muhlgay, Amnon Shashua, Kevin Leyton-Brown, and Yoav Shoham. 2023. In-context retrieval-augmented language models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2302.00083*.
- Stephen Robertson, Hugo Zaragoza, et al. 2009. The probabilistic relevance framework: Bm25 and beyond. *Foundations and Trends*® *in Information Retrieval*, 3(4):333–389.
- Teven Le Scao, Angela Fan, Christopher Akiki, Ellie Pavlick, Suzana Ilić, Daniel Hesslow, Roman Castagné, Alexandra Sasha Luccioni, François Yvon, Matthias Gallé, et al. 2022. Bloom: A 176bparameter open-access multilingual language model. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2211.05100.*
- Hemlata Shelar, Gagandeep Kaur, Neha Heda, and Poorva Agrawal. 2020. Named entity recognition approaches and their comparison for custom ner model. *Science & Technology Libraries*, 39(3):324–337.
- Weijia Shi, Sewon Min, Michihiro Yasunaga, Minjoon Seo, Rich James, Mike Lewis, Luke Zettlemoyer, and Wen-tau Yih. 2023. Replug: Retrievalaugmented black-box language models. arXiv preprint arXiv:2301.12652.
- Weihang Su, Qingyao Ai, Xiangsheng Li, Jia Chen, Yiqun Liu, Xiaolong Wu, and Shengluan Hou. 2023a. Wikiformer: Pre-training with structured information of wikipedia for ad-hoc retrieval. arXiv preprint arXiv:2312.10661.
- Weihang Su, Qingyao Ai, Yueyue Wu, Yixiao Ma, Haitao Li, and Yiqun Liu. 2023b. Caseformer: Pre-training for legal case retrieval. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2311.00333*.
- Weihang Su, Xiangsheng Li, Yiqun Liu, Min Zhang, and Shaoping Ma. 2023c. Thuir2 at ntcir-16 session search (ss) task. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2307.00250*.
- Weihang Su, Changyue Wang, Qingyao Ai, Yiran Hu, Zhijing Wu, Yujia Zhou, and Yiqun Liu. 2024. Unsupervised real-time hallucination detection based on the internal states of large language models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2403.06448*.
- Hugo Touvron, Thibaut Lavril, Gautier Izacard, Xavier Martinet, Marie-Anne Lachaux, Timothée Lacroix, Baptiste Rozière, Naman Goyal, Eric Hambro, Faisal Azhar, et al. 2023a. Llama: Open and efficient foundation language models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2302.13971*.

- Hugo Touvron, Louis Martin, Kevin Stone, Peter Albert, Amjad Almahairi, Yasmine Babaei, Nikolay Bashlykov, Soumya Batra, Prajjwal Bhargava, Shruti Bhosale, et al. 2023b. Llama 2: Open foundation and fine-tuned chat models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2307.09288*.
- Harsh Trivedi, Niranjan Balasubramanian, Tushar Khot, and Ashish Sabharwal. 2022. Interleaving retrieval with chain-of-thought reasoning for knowledge-intensive multi-step questions. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2212.10509*.
- Xuezhi Wang, Jason Wei, Dale Schuurmans, Quoc Le, Ed Chi, Sharan Narang, Aakanksha Chowdhery, and Denny Zhou. 2022. Self-consistency improves chain of thought reasoning in language models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2203.11171*.
- Jason Wei, Xuezhi Wang, Dale Schuurmans, Maarten Bosma, Brian Ichter, Fei Xia, Ed Chi, Quoc Le, and Denny Zhou. 2023. Chain-of-thought prompting elicits reasoning in large language models.
- Jason Wei, Xuezhi Wang, Dale Schuurmans, Maarten Bosma, Fei Xia, Ed Chi, Quoc V Le, Denny Zhou, et al. 2022. Chain-of-thought prompting elicits reasoning in large language models. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 35:24824–24837.
- Zhilin Yang, Peng Qi, Saizheng Zhang, Yoshua Bengio, William W Cohen, Ruslan Salakhutdinov, and Christopher D Manning. 2018. Hotpotqa: A dataset for diverse, explainable multi-hop question answering. arXiv preprint arXiv:1809.09600.
- Ziyi Ye, Xiaohui Xie, Qingyao Ai, Yiqun Liu, Zhihong Wang, Weihang Su, and Min Zhang. 2024. Relevance feedback with brain signals. *ACM Transactions on Information Systems*, 42(4):1–37.
- ChengXiang Zhai. 2008. Statistical language models for information retrieval. *Synthesis lectures on human language technologies*, 1(1):1–141.
- Susan Zhang, Stephen Roller, Naman Goyal, Mikel Artetxe, Moya Chen, Shuohui Chen, Christopher Dewan, Mona Diab, Xian Li, Xi Victoria Lin, et al. 2022. Opt: Open pre-trained transformer language models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2205.01068*.
- Chunting Zhou, Graham Neubig, Jiatao Gu, Mona Diab, Paco Guzman, Luke Zettlemoyer, and Marjan Ghazvininejad. 2020. Detecting hallucinated content in conditional neural sequence generation. *arXiv* preprint arXiv:2011.02593.

## A Datasets and Settings

Datasets, metrics, and experimental settings are summarized in Table 8.

• **2WikiMultihopQA.** For the question "When did the director of film Hypocrite (Film) die?", the

output we aim to generate is "The film Hypocrite was directed by Miguel Morayta. Miguel Morayta died on 19 June 2013. So the answer is 19 June 2013." For 2WikiMultihopQA, we employed 6 examples enclosed in (Trivedi et al., 2022) for context learning, using BM25 as the retriever and Wikipedia articles as the retrieval corpus. While increasing the number of documents can somewhat improve performance, excessive retrieval content may cause the model to overlook previous exemplars. Therefore, we utilized a maximum document count of 3.

- HotpotQA. For the question "What film directed by Brian Patrick Butler was inspired by a film directed by F.W. Murnau?", the output we aim to generate is "Brian Patrick Butler directed the film The Phantom Hour. The Phantom Hour was inspired by the films such as Nosferatu and The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari. Of these, Nosferatu was directed by F.W. Murnau. So the answer is The Phantom Hour." We utilized 8 examples enclosed in (Trivedi et al., 2022), conducted experiments with BM25 as the retriever on the Wikipedia corpus, and retrieved 3 documents for context learning.
- **IIRC.** For the question "What is the age difference between the kicker and the quarterback for the Chargers?", the output we aim to generate is "The kicker for the Chargers is Nate Kaeding. The quarterback (QB) for the Chargers is Philip Rivers. Nate Kaeding was born in the year 1982. Philip Rivers was born in the year 1981. So the answer is 1." We utilized 8 examples enclosed in (Trivedi et al., 2022), conducted experiments with BM25 as the retriever on the Wikipedia corpus, and retrieved 3 documents for context learning. In particular, we excluded questions without answers, so there are a total of 954 questions in IIRC.
- StrategyQA. For the question "Is it common to see frost during some college commencements?", the output we aim to generate is "College commencement ceremonies can happen in December, May, and June. December is in the winter, so there can be frost. Thus, there could be frost at some commencements. So the answer is yes." We utilized 8 examples enclosed in (Wei et al., 2023), conducted experiments with BM25 as the retriever on the Wikipedia corpus, and retrieved 3 documents for context learning.

## **B** Evaluation Details

In order to match the answers obtained by the model, we included the paradigm "So the answer is" in the exemplars to encourage the model to generate in this format. Specifically, if "So the answer is" is absent from all of the model's generations, during the evaluation phase, we append "So the answer is" to the end of the model's output, prompting the model to generate again. Subsequently, we select the words following "So the answer is" as the final answer.

## C Case Study

We select the following question for case study:

## Question

The arena where the Lewiston Maineiacs played their home games can seat how many people?

This is a complex question that requires identifying the Arena's name as well as finding the seating capacity of the arena.

#### Initial Output of the LLM

The arena where the Lewiston Maineiacs played their home games is the Androscoggin Bank Colisée. The Androscoggin Bank Colisée has a seating capacity of **4,250**. Therefore, the answer is 4,250.

During the generation process of LLM, the RIND module identified that the LLM needs external knowledge assistance when generating the first **4,250**, thus triggering the QFS module for query generation. At this moment, the information need of the LLM is to find the seating capacity of Androscoggin Bank Colisée. Our proposed QFS generates a query based on the self-attention distribution over the entire context, where the tokens selected by QFS are as follows in bold: The selected tokens for query formulation

Question: The arena where the Lewiston Maineiacs played their home games can **seat** how many people? </s> Answer: The arena where the Lewiston Maineiacs played their home games is the **Androscoggin Bank Colisée**. The Androscoggin Bank Colisée has a **seating capacity of** l

Thus, the QFS module generated the following query:

#### The query generated by the QFS module

seat Androscoggin Bank Colisée seating capacity

The generated query indeed reflects the real-time information needs of LLM. This query directly led to the retrieval of the relevant paragraph from Wikipedia:

## The top 1 retrieved document

Androscoggin Bank Colisée The Androscoggin Bank Colisée is a 4,000 capacity (3,677 seated) multi-purpose arena, in Lewiston, Maine, that opened in 1958. The Androscoggin Bank Colisée was built to .....

Thus, after including the retrieved passage to the LLM, it can then generate the correct answer: 3,677. The final revised output is as follows:

#### **Final Output**

The arena where the Lewiston Maineiacs played their home games is the Androscoggin Bank Colisée. The Androscoggin Bank Colisée has a seating capacity of 3,677. Therefore, the answer is 3,677.

In contrast, the FLARE framework decides to trigger retrieval for the first sentence because the probability of the tokens 'Lewiston', 'home', 'Androscoggin', and 'Bank' are all below the FLARE's threshold:

#### Initial output of the LLM

The arena where the Lewiston Maineiacs played their home games is the Androscoggin Bank Colisée.

After that, FLARE generates the following query that removes all the tokens below the threshold from the first sentence:

#### The generated query of FLARE

The arena where the Maineiacs played their games is the Colisée.

Unfortunately, the generated query omitted the correct information from the most recent sentence, leading to an irrelevant passage retrieval for the LLM's real-time information need. Thus, the LLM did not answer this question correctly.

## **D** Error Analysis

When the RIND module triggers retrieval, the DRAGIN framework adds multiple passages to the input of the LLM, thereby extending the context length. As a result, LLMs that typically perform poorly with long contexts may become confused during the generation process and mix up the information from these passages.

We select the following case:

## Question

What is the name of the fight song of the university whose main campus is in Lawrence, Kansas, and whose branch campuses are in the Kansas City metropolitan area?

Our framework first detects that the LLM needs to determine which university's main campus is located in Lawrence, Kansas, and thus retrieves three passages:

## **Retrieved Passages**

P1: The Kansas City metropolitan area's largest private employer is Cerner Corporation.....

P2: University of Kansas The University of Kansas, also referred to as KU, is a public research university in the U.S. state of Kansas .....

P3: The population of the Kansas City MSA grew from 1,842,965 to an estimated 2,037,357.....

The second of the three passages is relevant. However, the LLaMA-7B model, which performs poorly in long context scenarios, failed to generate the correct answer based on this retrieved external knowledge, despite the passage indeed addressing the LLM's real-time information needs. Therefore, future work should explore how to enable large models to effectively understand complex information in extended contexts.

## **E** Hyperparameters

The hyperparameters of DRAGIN on different datasets are listed in Table 9.

		Data	set statistics	
	2WikiMultihopQA	HotpotQA	IIRC	StrategyQA
Task #Examples	multi-hop QA 1000	multi-hop QA 1000	reading comprehension QA 954	commonsense QA 1000
		Evalua	ation settings	
	2WikiMultihopQA	HotpotQA	IIRC	StrategyQA
Metrics	EM, F1, Prec., Rec.	EM, F1, Prec., Rec.	EM, F1, Prec., Rec.	Accuracy
		Retri	eval settings	
	2WikiMultihopQA	Retri HotpotQA	eval settings IIRC	StrategyQA
Corpus Retriever Top-k	2WikiMultihopQA	Retri HotpotQA W	eval settings IIRC Vikipedia BM25 3	StrategyQA
Corpus Retriever Top-k	2WikiMultihopQA	Retri HotpotQA W	eval settings IIRC Vikipedia BM25 3 mpt format	StrategyQA
Corpus Retriever Top-k	2WikiMultihopQA 2WikiMultihopQA	Retri HotpotQA W Pron HotpotQA	eval settings IIRC Vikipedia BM25 3 mpt format IIRC	StrategyQA

## Table 8: Dataset statistics and experimental settings.

Table 9: Hyperparameters of DRAGIN on different datasets.

LLM	Hyperparameters	2WikiMultihopQA	HotpotQA	IIRC	StrategyQA
	generate length	64	100	128	100
Llama2-13b-chat	heta	0.6	1.2	1.25	1.0
	top $n$ tokens	25	35	25	25
	generate length	64	100	128	100
Llama2-7b-chat	heta	1.0	1.3	1.3	0.75
	top $n$ tokens	25	35	35	35
	generate length	64	100	128	100
Vicuna-13b-v1.5	heta	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.5
	top $n$ tokens	25	35	35	25

## F Prompt Template

Each dataset has a prompt for direct generation and a prompt for generation with relevant documents, as shown below.

#### Prompt 1: exemplars of 2WMQA Direct

Question: When did the director of film Hypocrite (Film) die?

Answer: The film Hypocrite was directed by Miguel Morayta. Miguel Morayta died on 19 June 2013. So the answer is 19 June 2013.

Question: Are both Kurram Garhi and Trojkrsti located in the same country?

Answer: Kurram Garhi is located in the country of Pakistan. Trojkrsti is located in the country of Republic of Macedonia. Thus, they are not in the same country. So the answer is no.

Question: Do director of film Coolie No. 1 (1995 Film) and director of film The Sensational Trial have the same nationality?

Answer: Coolie No. 1 (1995 film) was directed by David Dhawan. The Sensational Trial was directed by Karl Freund. David Dhawan's nationality is India. Karl Freund's nationality is Germany. Thus, they do not have the same nationality. So the answer is no. Question: Who is Boraqchin (Wife Of Ögedei)'s father-in-law?

Answer: Boraqchin is married to Ögedei Khan. Ögedei Khan's father is Genghis Khan. Thus, Boraqchin's father-in-law is Genghis Khan. So the answer is Genghis Khan.

Question: Who was born first out of Martin Hodge and Ivania Martinich?

Answer: Martin Hodge was born on 4 February 1959. Ivania Martinich was born on 25 July 1995. Thus, Martin Hodge was born first. So the answer is Martin Hodge.

Question: When did the director of film Laughter In Hell die?

Answer: The film Laughter In Hell was directed by Edward L. Cahn. Edward L. Cahn died on August 25, 1963. So the answer is August 25, 1963.

Question: Who is the mother of the director of film Polish-Russian War (Film)? Answer:

13006

#### Prompt 2: exemplars of 2WMQA RAG

Question: When did the director of film Hypocrite (Film) die?

Answer: The film Hypocrite was directed by Miguel Morayta. Miguel Morayta died on 19 June 2013. So the answer is 19 June 2013.

Question: Are both Kurram Garhi and Trojkrsti located in the same country?

Answer: Kurram Garhi is located in the country of Pakistan. Trojkrsti is located in the country of Republic of Macedonia. Thus, they are not in the same country. So the answer is no.

Question: Do director of film Coolie No. 1 (1995 Film) and director of film The Sensational Trial have the same nationality?

Answer: Coolie No. 1 (1995 film) was directed by David Dhawan. The Sensational Trial was directed by Karl Freund. David Dhawan's nationality is India. Karl Freund's nationality is Germany. Thus, they do not have the same nationality. So the answer is no.

Question: Who is Boraqchin (Wife Of Ögedei)'s father-in-law?

Answer: Boraqchin is married to Ögedei Khan. Ögedei Khan's father is Genghis Khan. Thus, Boraqchin's father-in-law is Genghis Khan. So the answer is Genghis Khan.

Question: Who was born first out of Martin Hodge and Ivania Martinich?

Answer: Martin Hodge was born on 4 February 1959. Ivania Martinich was born on 25 July 1995. Thus, Martin Hodge was born first. So the answer is Martin Hodge.

Question: When did the director of film Laughter In Hell die?

Answer: The film Laughter In Hell was directed by Edward L. Cahn. Edward L. Cahn died on August 25, 1963. So the answer is August 25, 1963.

Context:

[1] film was shot between May 6 and 18 June 2008 in locations of Warsaw, Wejherowo, Sopot and Gdynia outskirts. The film premiered on May 22, 2009. The budget of Polish-Russian War amounted to approx. 4 million zlotys. The creators of the music for the film are Jan Komar, Filip Kuncewicz, Liroy, Mateusz Łapot and Jarosław Karczmarczyk. The soundtrack also included the following songs: Polish-Russian War (film) Polish-Russian War (Wojna polsko-ruska) is a 2009 Polish film directed by Xawery Żuławski based on the novel Polish-Russian War under the white-red flag by Dorota Masłowska.

[2] Pharaoh (film) Pharaoh () is a 1966 Polish film directed by Jerzy Kawalerowicz and adapted from the eponymous novel by the Polish writer Bolesław Prus. In 1967 it was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. It was also entered into the 1966 Cannes Film Festival. Jerzy Kawalerowicz, who had previously directed such films as "Cellulose" (1953), "Under the Phrygian Star" (1954), "The Shade" (1956), "The Real End of the Great War" (1957), "Night Train" (1959) and "Mother Joan of the Angels" (1961)

[3] Polish-Russian War (film) Polish-Russian War (Wojna polsko-ruska) is a 2009 Polish film directed by Xawery Zuławski based on the novel Polish-Russian War under the white-red flag by Dorota Masłowska. The film's events take place over several days and they are set in the present time in a large Polish city. The main character is a bandit, a Polish dres (a Polish chav) called "Strong" (Borys Szyc), who does not work or study, and who frequently gets into conflict with the law and is in love with Magda (Roma Gąsiorowska). The relationship is not going well.

Answer in the same format as before. Question: Who is the mother of the director of film Polish-Russian War (Film)?

## Prompt 3: exemplars of HotpotQA Direct

Question: Jeremy Theobald and Christopher Nolan share what profession?

Answer: Jeremy Theobald is an actor and producer. Christopher Nolan is a director, producer, and screenwriter. Therefore, they both share the profession of being a producer. So the answer is producer.

Question: What film directed by Brian Patrick Butler was inspired by a film directed by F.W. Murnau?

Answer: Brian Patrick Butler directed the film The Phantom Hour. The Phantom Hour was inspired by the films such as Nosferatu and The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari. Of these Nosferatu was directed by F.W. Murnau. So the answer is The Phantom Hour.

Question: How many episodes were in the South Korean television series in which Ryu Hye-young played Bo-ra? Answer: The South Korean television series in which Ryu Hye-young played Bo-ra is Reply 1988. The number of episodes Reply 1988 has is 20. So the answer is 20.

Question: Were Lonny and Allure both founded in the 1990s?

Answer: Lonny (magazine) was founded in 2009. Allure (magazine) was founded in 1991. Thus, of the two, only Allure was founded in 1990s. So the answer is no.

Question: Vertical Limit stars which actor who also played astronaut Alan Shepard in "The Right Stuff"?

Answer: The actor who played astronaut Alan Shepard in "The Right Stuff" is Scott Glenn. The movie Vertical Limit also starred Scott Glenn. So the answer is Scott Glenn.

Question: What was the 2014 population of the city where Lake Wales Medical Center is located?

Answer: Lake Wales Medical Center is located in the city of Polk County, Florida. The population of Polk County in 2014 was 15,140. So the answer is 15,140.

Question: Who was born first? Jan de Bont or Raoul Walsh?

Answer: Jan de Bont was born on 22 October 1943. Raoul Walsh was born on March 11, 1887. Thus, Raoul Walsh was born the first. So the answer is Raoul Walsh.

Question: In what country was Lost Gravity manufactured?

Answer: The Lost Gravity (roller coaster) was manufactured by Mack Rides. Mack Rides is a German company. So the answer is Germany.

Answer the following question by reasoning step-by-step, following the example above. Question: Were Scott Derrickson and Ed Wood of the same nationality?

#### Prompt 4: exemplars of HotpotQA RAG

Question: Jeremy Theobald and Christopher Nolan share what profession?

Answer: Jeremy Theobald is an actor and producer. Christopher Nolan is a director, producer, and screenwriter. Therefore, they both share the profession of being a producer. So the answer is producer.

Question: What film directed by Brian Patrick Butler was inspired by a film directed by F.W. Murnau?

Answer: Brian Patrick Butler directed the film The Phantom Hour. The Phantom Hour was inspired by the films such as Nosferatu and The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari. Of these Nosferatu was directed by F.W. Murnau. So the answer is The Phantom Hour.

Question: How many episodes were in the South Korean television series in which Ryu Hye-young played Bo-ra? Answer: The South Korean television series in which Ryu Hye-young played Bo-ra is Reply 1988. The number of episodes Reply 1988 has is 20. So the answer is 20.

Question: Were Lonny and Allure both founded in the 1990s?

Answer: Lonny (magazine) was founded in 2009. Allure (magazine) was founded in 1991. Thus, of the two, only Allure was founded in 1990s. So the answer is no.

Question: Vertical Limit stars which actor who also played astronaut Alan Shepard in "The Right Stuff"?

Answer: The actor who played astronaut Alan Shepard in "The Right Stuff" is Scott Glenn. The movie Vertical Limit also starred Scott Glenn. So the answer is Scott Glenn.

Question: What was the 2014 population of the city where Lake Wales Medical Center is located?

Answer: Lake Wales Medical Center is located in the city of Polk County, Florida. The population of Polk County in 2014 was 15,140. So the answer is 15,140.

Question: Who was born first? Jan de Bont or Raoul Walsh?

Answer: Jan de Bont was born on 22 October 1943. Raoul Walsh was born on March 11, 1887. Thus, Raoul Walsh was born the first. So the answer is Raoul Walsh.

Question: In what country was Lost Gravity manufactured?

Answer: The Lost Gravity (roller coaster) was manufactured by Mack Rides. Mack Rides is a German company. So the answer is Germany.

Context:

[1] Scott Derrickson Scott Derrickson (born July 16, 1966) is an American director, screenwriter and producer. He lives in Los Angeles, California. Derrickson is best known for directing numerous horror films, such as "The Exorcism of Emily Rose" (2005), "Sinister" (2012), and "Deliver Us From Evil" (2014), as well as the Marvel Cinematic Universe superhero film "Doctor Strange" (2016). Derrickson grew up in Denver, Colorado.

[2] Scott Derrickson Scott Derrickson (born July 16, 1966) is an American director, screenwriter and producer. He lives in Los Angeles, California. Derrickson is best known for directing numerous horror films, such as "The Exorcism of Emily Rose" (2005), "Sinister" (2012), and "Deliver Us From Evil" (2014), as well as the Marvel Cinematic Universe superhero film "Doctor Strange" (2016). Derrickson grew up in Denver, Colorado. He graduated from Biola University with a B.A. in Humanities, with an emphasis on literature and philosophy, and a B.A. in communications, with an emphasis on film, and a minor in theological studies.

[3] The film had its world premiere at the 2013 Toronto International Film Festival. It was released in 2014. Derrickson directed his own script, "Deliver Us from Evil", for producer Jerry Bruckheimer and Sony Screen Gems. Eric Bana played the lead role, and the film was released wide in theaters on July 2, 2014. In 2014, Derrickson wrote a film version of "The Outer Limits" with Cargill. Other upcoming Derrickson projects include an adaptation of Stephen King's "The Breathing Method" with Jason Blum producing, and an adaptation of the popular video game "" for CBS Films.

Answer in the same format as before.

Answer the following question by reasoning step-by-step, following the example above. Question: Were Scott Derrickson and Ed Wood of the same nationality?

#### Prompt 5: exemplars of StrategyQA Direct

Question: Do hamsters provide food for any animals?

Answer: Hamsters are prey animals. Prey are food for predators. Thus, hamsters provide food for some animals. So the answer is yes.

Question: Could Brooke Shields succeed at University of Pennsylvania?

Answer: Brooke Shields went to Princeton University. Princeton University is about as academically rigorous as the University of Pennsylvania. Thus, Brooke Shields could also succeed at the University of Pennsylvania. So the answer is yes.

Question: Hydrogen's atomic number squared exceeds number of Spice Girls?

Answer: Hydrogen has an atomic number of 1. 1 squared is 1. There are 5 Spice Girls. Thus, Hydrogen's atomic number squared is less than 5. So the answer is no.

Question: Is it common to see frost during some college commencements?

Answer: College commencement ceremonies can happen in December, May, and June. December is in the winter, so there can be frost. Thus, there could be frost at some commencements. So the answer is yes.

Question: Could a llama birth twice during War in Vietnam (1945-46)?

Answer: The War in Vietnam was 6 months. The gestation period for a llama is 11 months, which is more than 6 months. Thus, a llama could not give birth twice during the War in Vietnam. So the answer is no. Question: Would a pear sink in water?

Answer: The density of a pear is about  $0.6g/cm^3$ , which is less than water. Objects less dense than water float. Thus, a pear would float. So the answer is no.

Following the examples above, answer the question by reasoning step-by-step. Question: Are more people today related to Genghis Khan than Julius Caesar?

#### Prompt 6: exemplars of StrageQA RAG

Question: Do hamsters provide food for any animals?

Answer: Hamsters are prey animals. Prey are food for predators. Thus, hamsters provide food for some animals. So the answer is yes.

Question: Could Brooke Shields succeed at University of Pennsylvania?

Answer: Brooke Shields went to Princeton University. Princeton University is about as academically rigorous as the University of Pennsylvania. Thus, Brooke Shields could also succeed at the University of Pennsylvania. So the answer is yes.

Question: Hydrogen's atomic number squared exceeds number of Spice Girls?

Answer: Hydrogen has an atomic number of 1. 1 squared is 1. There are 5 Spice Girls. Thus, Hydrogen's atomic number squared is less than 5. So the answer is no.

Question: Is it common to see frost during some college commencements?

Answer: College commencement ceremonies can happen in December, May, and June. December is in the winter, so there can be frost. Thus, there could be frost at some commencements. So the answer is yes.

Question: Could a llama birth twice during War in Vietnam (1945-46)?

Answer: The War in Vietnam was 6 months. The gestation period for a llama is 11 months, which is more than 6 months. Thus, a llama could not give birth twice during the War in Vietnam. So the answer is no.

Question: Would a pear sink in water?

Answer: The density of a pear is about  $0.6g/cm^3$ , which is less than water. Objects less dense than water float. Thus, a pear would float. So the answer is no.

Context:

[1] Borte Chino (Grey Wolf) and his wife was Gua Maral (White Doe) Temujin (Genghis Khan) - Founder and Khagan of the Mongol Empire (1206–1227) Family tree of Genghis Khan The family tree of Genghis Khan is listed below. This family tree only lists prominent members of the Borjigin family and does not reach the present. Genghis Khan appears in the middle of the tree, and Kublai Khan appears at the bottom of the tree. The Borjigin family was the royal family of the Mongol Empire, dating back to the 13th and 14th centuries.

[2] Genghis Khan (2004 TV series) Genghis Khan is a Chinese television series based on the life of Genghis Khan, the founder of the Mongol Empire in the 13th century. Ba Sen, who portrayed the eponymous character in the series, is a descendant of Genghis Khan's second son, Chagatai. The series was first broadcast on CCTV in China in 2004, on KBS in South Korea in 2005, and the Turkish state channel TRT 1. The 30 episodes long television series depicts the major events in the life of Temüjin, the founder of the Mongol Empire in the 13th century.

[3] He allegedly planned to assassinate Genghis Khan. Although Toghrul was allegedly saved on multiple occasions by Genghis Khan, he gave in to his son and became uncooperative with Genghis Khan. Genghis Khan learned of Senggum's intentions and eventually defeated him and his loyalists. One of the later ruptures between Genghis Khan and Toghrul was Toghrul's refusal to give his daughter in marriage to Jochi, Genghis Khan's first son. This was disrespectful in Mongolian culture and led to a war.

Answer in the same format as before.

Following the examples above, answer the question by reasoning step-by-step. Question: Are more people today related to Genghis Khan than Julius Caesar?

#### Prompt 7: exemplars of IIRC Direct

Question: What is the age difference between the kicker and the quarterback for the Chargers?

Answer: The kicker for the Chargers is Nate Kaeding. The quarterback (QB) for the Chargers is Philip Rivers. Nate Kaeding was born in the year 1982. Philip Rivers was born in the year 1981. Thus, the age difference between them is of 1 year. So the answer is 1.

Question: How many years was the ship that took the battalion from New South Wales to Ceylon in service?

Answer: The ship that took the battalion from New South Wales to Ceylon is General Hewitt. General Hewitt was launched in Calcutta in 1811. General Hewitt was sold for a hulk or to be broken up in 1864. So she served for a total of 1864 - 1811 = 53 years. So the answer is 53.

Question: What year was the theatre that held the 2016 NFL Draft built?

Answer: The theatre that held the 2016 NFL Draft is Auditorium Theatre. The Auditorium Theatre was built in 1889. So the answer is 1889.

Question: How long had Milan been established by the year that Nava returned there as a reserve in the first team's defense?

Answer: Nava returned to Milan as a reserve in the first team's defense in the year 1990. Milan had been established in the year 1899. Thus, Milan had been established for 1990 - 1899 = 91 years when Milan returned to Milan as a reserve in the first team's defense. So the answer is 91.

Question: When was the town Scott was born in founded?

Answer: Scott was born in the town of Cooksville, Illinois. Cooksville was founded in the year 1882. So the answer is 1882.

Question: In what country did Wright leave the French privateers?

Answer: Wright left the French privateers in Bluefield's river. Bluefields is the capital of the South Caribbean Autonomous Region (RAAS) in the country of Nicaragua. So the answer is Nicaragua.

Question: Who plays the A-Team character that Dr. Hibbert fashioned his hair after?

Answer: Dr. Hibbert fashioned his hair after Mr. T from The A-Team. Mr T.'s birthname is Lawrence Tureaud. So the answer is Lawrence Tureaud.

Question: How many people attended the conference held near Berlin in January 1942?

Answer: The conference held near Berlin in January 1942 is Wannsee Conference. Wannsee Conference was attended by 15 people. So the answer is 15.

Question: In what country did Bain attend doctoral seminars of Wlad Godzich?

Answer:

## Prompt 8: exemplars of IIRC RAG

Question: What is the age difference between the kicker and the quarterback for the Chargers?

Answer: The kicker for the Chargers is Nate Kaeding. The quarterback (QB) for the Chargers is Philip Rivers. Nate Kaeding was born in the year 1982. Philip Rivers was born in the year 1981. Thus, the age difference between them is of 1 year. So the answer is 1.

Question: How many years was the ship that took the battalion from New South Wales to Ceylon in service?

Answer: The ship that took the battalion from New South Wales to Ceylon is General Hewitt. General Hewitt was launched in Calcutta in 1811. General Hewitt was sold for a hulk or to be broken up in 1864. So she served for a total of 1864 - 1811 = 53 years. So the answer is 53.

Question: What year was the theatre that held the 2016 NFL Draft built?

Answer: The theatre that held the 2016 NFL Draft is Auditorium Theatre. The Auditorium Theatre was built in 1889. So the answer is 1889.

Question: How long had Milan been established by the year that Nava returned there as a reserve in the first team's defense?

Answer: Nava returned to Milan as a reserve in the first team's defense in the year 1990. Milan had been established in the year 1899. Thus, Milan had been established for 1990 - 1899 = 91 years when Milan returned to Milan as a reserve in the first team's defense. So the answer is 91.

Question: When was the town Scott was born in founded?

Answer: Scott was born in the town of Cooksville, Illinois. Cooksville was founded in the year 1882. So the answer is 1882.

Question: In what country did Wright leave the French privateers?

Answer: Wright left the French privateers in Bluefield's river. Bluefields is the capital of the South Caribbean Autonomous Region (RAAS) in the country of Nicaragua. So the answer is Nicaragua.

Question: Who plays the A-Team character that Dr. Hibbert fashioned his hair after?

Answer: Dr. Hibbert fashioned his hair after Mr. T from The A-Team. Mr T.'s birthname is Lawrence Tureaud. So the answer is Lawrence Tureaud.

Question: How many people attended the conference held near Berlin in January 1942?

Answer: The conference held near Berlin in January 1942 is Wannsee Conference. Wannsee Conference was attended by 15 people. So the answer is 15.

Context:

[1] Wlad Godzich Wlad Godzich (born May 13, 1945 in Germany, raised in France) is a literary critic, literary theorist, translator, and scholar. He is attributed with influencing the conceptualization of modern literary critical theory. He currently serves as Professor of general and comparative literature, and critical studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Godzich has published and translated several books, edited eight collections of essays, and authored over a hundred scholarly articles, lectures, and papers. In 2000, Godzich joined the University of California, Santa Cruz as dean of Humanities.

[2] The patterns of his thought emerge from his interest in the relationship between language and literacy-the latter conceived as "a determinate set of relations that we have to language." Godzich reinvigorates the semiological project proposed by Saussure but forsaken by his heirs: that of exploring the social functioning of language in its historical and rhetorical actualizations. Wlad Godzich Wlad Godzich (born May 13, 1945 in Germany, raised in France) is a literary critic, literary theorist, translator, and scholar. He is attributed with influencing the conceptualization of modern literary critical theory.

[3] He sits on the editorial board of multiple American, European and Asian journals, both print and electronic. His research grants have been primarily from US, Canadian, Swedish, Swiss and private agencies. Through his work at the University of Minnesota Press, Godzich brought important works of critical theory into English translation. His essays during this period were well received by critics as they were among the first to link deconstruction, cultural criticism, and third-world literatures through linguistics: they can now be seen as tesserae composing a theoretical mosaic of remarkable scope.

Answer in the same format as before. Question: In what country did Bain attend doctoral seminars of Wlad Godzich? Answer: