

=== CONTENT TYPE COMPARISON (FIXED CHUNKING) ===

===== pdf\_500\_0 =====

num\_chunks: 391  
avg\_length: 497  
min\_length: 183  
max\_length: 500  
sentence\_break\_ratio: 0.98  
paragraph\_break\_ratio: 1.0

===== podcast\_500\_0 =====

num\_chunks: 20  
avg\_length: 496  
min\_length: 431  
max\_length: 500  
sentence\_break\_ratio: 0.95  
paragraph\_break\_ratio: 0.95

===== pdf\_1000\_50 =====

num\_chunks: 206  
avg\_length: 996  
min\_length: 434  
max\_length: 1000  
sentence\_break\_ratio: 0.99  
paragraph\_break\_ratio: 1.0

===== podcast\_1000\_50 =====

num\_chunks: 11  
avg\_length: 948

min\_length: 431  
max\_length: 1000  
sentence\_break\_ratio: 0.91  
paragraph\_break\_ratio: 0.91

===== pdf\_2000\_100 =====

num\_chunks: 103  
avg\_length: 1992  
min\_length: 1383  
max\_length: 2000  
sentence\_break\_ratio: 0.96  
paragraph\_break\_ratio: 0.99

===== podcast\_2000\_100 =====

num\_chunks: 6  
avg\_length: 1738  
min\_length: 431  
max\_length: 2000  
sentence\_break\_ratio: 0.83  
paragraph\_break\_ratio: 0.83  
Chunk size 500, overlap 0:  
PDF sentence break ratio: 0.98  
Podcast sentence break ratio: 0.95  
Better handled content: Podcast

Chunk size 1000, overlap 50:  
PDF sentence break ratio: 0.99  
Podcast sentence break ratio: 0.91  
Better handled content: Podcast

Chunk size 2000, overlap 100:

PDF sentence break ratio: 0.96

Podcast sentence break ratio: 0.83

Better handled content: Podcast

#### ◆ What the numbers show

- **Sentence break ratio** — proportion of chunks that **break a sentence**:
    - 0 → perfect (no breaks)
    - 1 → almost every chunk breaks a sentence
  - For **PDF**: ratio around 0.96–0.99
    - Almost all chunks break sentences
    - Fixed-size chunking does **not preserve PDF context** well
  - For **Podcast**: ratio around 0.83–0.95
    - Many breaks, but slightly better than PDF for larger chunk sizes (2000)
  - **Comparison takeaway**:  
Fixed-size chunking **breaks sentences and paragraphs** for both content types, but for the podcast, larger chunk sizes preserve the text flow slightly better.
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#### ◆ Reporting for STEP 2

##### Fixed-size chunking summary

Content Type	Avg Chunk Size	Sentence Break Ratio	Paragraph Break Ratio	Notes
PDF	500–2000	0.96–0.99	1.0	Almost all chunks break sentences and paragraphs
Podcast	500–2000	0.83–0.95	1.0	Long text; larger chunks preserve flow slightly better

##### Key takeaway:

- Fixed-size chunking **does not preserve semantic boundaries** for either PDFs or podcasts
- Podcast performs slightly better with larger chunks
- For a RAG system, fixed-size chunking can **only serve as a basic strategy** if the goal is just to split text into manageable pieces

=== CONTENT TYPE COMPARISON (RECURSIVE CHUNKING) ===

===== pdf\_500\_50 =====

num\_chunks: 445

avg\_length: 438

min\_length: 89

max\_length: 498

sentence\_break\_ratio: 0.78

paragraph\_break\_ratio: 1.0

===== podcast\_500\_50 =====

num\_chunks: 23

avg\_length: 450

min\_length: 100

max\_length: 499

sentence\_break\_ratio: 0.96

paragraph\_break\_ratio: 0.96

===== pdf\_1000\_200 =====

num\_chunks: 240

avg\_length: 934

min\_length: 89

max\_length: 998

sentence\_break\_ratio: 0.83

paragraph\_break\_ratio: 1.0

===== podcast\_1000\_200 =====

num\_chunks: 13

avg\_length: 916  
min\_length: 416  
max\_length: 999  
sentence\_break\_ratio: 0.92  
paragraph\_break\_ratio: 0.92

===== pdf\_2000\_200 =====

num\_chunks: 110  
avg\_length: 1897  
min\_length: 89  
max\_length: 1998  
sentence\_break\_ratio: 0.77  
paragraph\_break\_ratio: 0.99

===== podcast\_2000\_200 =====

num\_chunks: 6  
avg\_length: 1800  
min\_length: 982  
max\_length: 1997  
sentence\_break\_ratio: 0.83  
paragraph\_break\_ratio: 0.83  
Chunk size 500, overlap 50:  
PDF sentence break ratio: 0.78  
Podcast sentence break ratio: 0.96  
Better handled content: PDF

Chunk size 1000, overlap 200:  
PDF sentence break ratio: 0.83  
Podcast sentence break ratio: 0.92

Better handled content: PDF

Chunk size 2000, overlap 200:

PDF sentence break ratio: 0.77

Podcast sentence break ratio: 0.83

Better handled content: PDF

**Sentence break ratio** (lower is better — fewer chunks break sentences):

**Chunk Size PDF Podcast Better handled content**

500	0.78	0.96	PDF
1000	0.83	0.92	PDF
2000	0.77	0.83	PDF

**Observations:**

- **PDF:** Recursive chunking significantly improves sentence preservation compared to fixed-size:
  - Fixed-size PDF ratios: 0.96–0.99
  - Recursive PDF ratios: 0.77–0.83 → fewer sentence breaks, better semantic preservation
- **Podcast:** Recursive chunking is **slightly worse for small chunks** (500–1000) than fixed-size:
  - Fixed-size Podcast ratios: 0.83–0.95
  - Recursive Podcast ratios: 0.83–0.96
- For **both content types**, recursive chunking maintains paragraph and sentence boundaries better in **structured text** (PDF), while the podcast transcript — being long single-block text — sees mixed results.

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◆ **Comparison: Fixed-size vs Recursive**

Strategy	PDF Sentence Break	Podcast Sentence Break	Notes
Fixed-size	0.96–0.99	0.83–0.95	Simple, predictable, but breaks context almost always
Recursive	0.77–0.83	0.83–0.96	Preserves PDF structure, better semantic boundaries; podcast benefits less

### Key takeaways:

1. **Recursive chunking is clearly superior for PDF documents**, preserving sentence and paragraph boundaries and respecting structure (headings, paragraphs).
2. **For podcasts**, fixed-size works reasonably well due to long continuous text; recursive chunking helps a bit for large chunks but may slightly increase sentence breaks for small chunks.
3. **RAG recommendation:**
  - Use **RecursiveCharacterTextSplitter** for structured content like PDFs or articles
  - Use **Fixed-size chunking** for long, free-flowing transcripts like podcasts if chunk size is chosen carefully

### Token-Based Chunking

===== pdf\_tokens\_500\_50 =====

num\_chunks: 119

avg\_tokens: 495

min\_tokens: 27

max\_tokens: 500

avg\_chars: 1823

min\_chars: 89

max\_chars: 1976

===== podcast\_tokens\_500\_50 =====

num\_chunks: 5

avg\_tokens: 464

min\_tokens: 323

max\_tokens: 500

avg\_chars: 2176

min\_chars: 1534

max\_chars: 2443

===== pdf\_tokens\_1000\_100 =====

num\_chunks: 60

avg\_tokens: 982

min\_tokens: 27

max\_tokens: 1000

avg\_chars: 3609

min\_chars: 89

max\_chars: 3909

===== podcast\_tokens\_1000\_100 =====

num\_chunks: 3

avg\_tokens: 774

min\_tokens: 323

max\_tokens: 1000

avg\_chars: 3627

min\_chars: 1534

max\_chars: 4761

#### ◆ Comparison Summary

PDF



Strategy	Avg Chunk Size	Sentence Break Ratio	Notes
Fixed-size	500–2000 chars	0.96–0.99	Almost all chunks break sentences; context not preserved
Recursive	500–2000 chars	0.77–0.83	Better semantic preservation; respects paragraphs and headings
Token-based	500–1000 tokens (~400–800 chars)	N/A	Precise for LLM context windows; chunk boundaries respect token limits rather than characters

#### Observations for PDF:

- **Recursive character chunking** preserves sentence and paragraph boundaries better than fixed-size
- **Token-based chunking** ensures chunks fit exactly into LLM context limits — critical for RAG systems
- PDF benefits from recursive chunking for semantic integrity and from token-based chunking for **model efficiency**

## 2 Podcast

Strategy	Avg Chunk Size	Sentence Break Ratio	Notes
Fixed-size	500–2000 chars	0.83–0.95	Continuous transcript; flow slightly preserved in larger chunks
Recursive	500–2000 chars	0.83–0.96	Slightly worse than fixed-size for small chunks; better for preserving natural paragraph/sentence splits if present
Token-based	500–1000 tokens (~400–800 chars)	N/A	Ensures chunks fit LLM context; good for RAG, but semantic boundaries may be less relevant in long continuous transcript

#### Observations for Podcast:

- Continuous transcript makes **sentence-preserving less critical** than structured PDF
- **Token-based chunking** is most important for **model integration**

- Recursive chunking doesn't improve much for transcripts unless there are clear paragraph breaks

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◆ **Key Takeaways**

- For PDFs (structured content):**
  - Recursive + token-based** is ideal: preserves semantic boundaries and ensures token counts fit LLMs
  - Fixed-size chunks break sentences and paragraphs frequently
- For Podcasts (continuous transcripts):**
  - Token-based** is critical for RAG and LLMs
  - Recursive chunking helps only if there are natural paragraph breaks
  - Fixed-size chunks work reasonably well for larger sizes
- Token-based chunking** is always preferred **when integrating with LLMs** because it respects context window limits

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✅ **Conclusion:**

- PDF:** Recursive → better semantic preservation; Token-based → better LLM compatibility
- Podcast:** Token-based → best for LLM; Recursive optional
- Fixed-size (character-based)** → simple, fast, but often breaks context

# Chunking Analysis Report

## Comparison Table of All Strategies

Strategy	Content	Chunk Size	Overlap	Num Chunks	Sentence Break Ratio	Paragraph Break Ratio
Fixed-Size	PDF	500	0	391	0.98	1
Fixed-Size	Podcast	500	0	20	1	1
Fixed-Size	PDF	1000	50	206	0.99	1

Fixed-Size   Podcast	1000	50	11	1	1
Fixed-Size   PDF	2000	100	103	0.96	1
Fixed-Size   Podcast	2000	100	6	1	1
Recursive   PDF	500	50	445	0.78	1
Recursive   Podcast	500	50	23	1	1
Recursive   PDF	1000	200	240	0.83	1
Recursive   Podcast	1000	200	13	1	1
Recursive   PDF	2000	200	110	0.77	1
Recursive   Podcast	2000	200	6	1	1
Token-Based   PDF	500	50	119	0.95	0
Token-Based   Podcast	500	50	5	0.8	1
Token-Based   PDF	1000	100	60	0.95	0
Token-Based   Podcast	1000	100	3	0.67	1

## ## Recommendations

### ### For PDF Documents:

**\*\*Recommended Strategy:\*\*** Recursive + Token-based

**\*\*Reasoning:\*\***

- Preserves structured content (headings, sections, paragraphs)
- Token-based ensures LLM context window compliance

**\*\*Optimal chunk size & overlap:\*\*** Recursive 1000–2000 chars, overlap 100–200; Token 500–1000 tokens, overlap 50–100

### ### For Podcast Transcripts:

**\*\*Recommended Strategy:\*\*** Token-based (optionally with small recursive chunks)

**\*\*Reasoning:\*\***

- Podcasts are continuous conversation transcripts

- Token-based ensures all chunks fit LLM context windows
- \*\*Optimal chunk size & overlap:\*\* 500–1000 tokens, overlap 50–100**

### Trade-offs Summary:

Strategy	Pros	Cons	Best For
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Fixed-Size	Simple, predictable	Breaks context and sentences	Quick prototyping, uniform content
Recursive	Preserves structure & semantics	Slightly slower, more complex	Structured documents (PDFs, articles)
Token-Based	Accurate for LLMs; ensures context window compliance	Boundaries may not match sentences	Any content for LLM integration
Semantic	Meaning-based chunking	Computationally expensive, slow	Complex content where semantic coherence is critical

## All Chunking Visualizations (6th Stage)

### Character-based Chunk Size Distribution

![Character-based Chunk Size Distribution](chunk\_images\char\_chunk\_distribution.png)

### Token-based Chunk Size Distribution

![Token-based Chunk Size Distribution](chunk\_images\token\_chunk\_distribution.png)

### Sentence Break Ratio by Chunking Strategy

![Sentence Break Ratio by Chunking Strategy](chunk\_images\sentence\_break\_ratio.png)