

Need a detailed writeup for scoring used in the code..this will be presented to business user:

import math from datetime import datetime from semantic_kernel import Kernel from semantic_kernel.openai import AzureOpenAlConfiguration from utils.impact_factor import get_impact_factor class ScoringAgent: def init(self, kernel: Kernel, openai_config: AzureOpenAlConfiguration): Integration in Processing Flow Calculate quality, relevance, plausibility, and novelty scores Compute composite score including all four dimensions Return all individual scores plus composite for user transparency Benefits for Drug Discovery Plausibility ensures mechanistic soundness beyond association, quiding prioritization of biologically meaningful findings. Novelty identifies breakthrough evidence, helping focus on research that pushes the frontier rather than redundant confirmations. Enhanced composite scoring drives better decision making in target validation and lead candidate selection. Review of Proposed Scoring Extension for Plausibility and Novelty Review Comments The prompts for plausibility and novelty scoring are clear and focused on numeric output for easy parsing. Exception handling with a fallback score of 0.5 (neutral) is appropriate in case of LLM call failures. The composite scoring formula with four weighted dimensions is logical and extensible. The new async scoring methods integrate well with the existing async scoring architecture. Need to ensure the downstream pipeline (API endpoint, UI) is updated to handle and display new scores. For efficiency, consider batching LLM calls if scaling to 20+ articles to reduce latency and cost. This can be done in future iterations. Import statements and necessary changes to class initialization and interface are consistent with existing code style. Updated Codebase with Plausibility & Novelty Scoring Added Update in agents/scoring_agent.py self.kernel = kernel self.openai = kernel.connect_text_completion(openai_config) self.current_year = datetime.utcnow().year self.design_skill = kernel.create_skill_from_prompt(prompt_template=("You are an expert in clinical research.\n" "Text: {{text}}\n" "Q: What is the study design? Think step-by-step, then answer with one of: " "meta-analysis, randomized controlled trial, cohort study, case-control study, or obse), skill_name="classify_design_cot") self.sample_skill = kernel.create_skill_from_prompt(prompt_template=("You are an expert in research methods.\n" "Abstract: {{abstract}}\n" "Q: How many participants were enrolled? Think step-by-step, then provide the number.), skill_name="extract_sample_size_cot") self.explanation_skill = kernel.create_retrieval_skill(prompt_template=("Given the hypothesis: {{hypothesis}}\n" "And the document text: {{document_text}}\n" "Provide a concise 2-3 sentence explanation of why this source supports or refutes the), knowledge_sources=["document_text"], skill_name="generate_explanation_rag") # New: Plausibility scoring skill self.plausibility_skill = kernel.create_skill_from_prompt(prompt_template=("You are a biomedical expert. Given this hypothesis:\n" "{{hypothesis}}\n" "And this study content:\n" "{{document_text}}\n" "Rate the biological plausibility that this study supports the hypothesis on a scale f "Answer only with a decimal number."), skill_name="plausibility_score") # New: Novelty scoring skill self.novelty_skill

```
= kernel.create_skill_from_prompt( prompt_template=( "Given the hypothesis:\n" "
{{hypothesis}}\n" "Given this study abstract:\n" "{{document_text}}\n" "Rate the novelty of the
findings from 0 (none) to 1 (very novel). " "Provide only the numeric score." ),
skill_name="novelty_score") async def design_score(self, text: str) → float: try: result = await
self.kernel.run(self.design_skill, {"text": text}) label = result["text"].splitlines()[-1].strip().lower()
except Exception: label = "" mapping = { "meta-analysis": 1.0, "randomized controlled trial":
0.9, "cohort study": 0.7, "case-control study": 0.6, "observational study": 0.5, } return
mapping.get(label, 0.4) async def extract_sample_size(self, abstract: str) → float: try: result =
await self.kernel.run(self.sample_skill, {"abstract": abstract}) text = result["text"].strip() n =
int(text.split()[-1]) except Exception: n = 0 if n <= 0: return 0.0 return min(1.0, math.log10(n) / 5)
def recency_score(self, year_str: str) → float: try: year = int(year_str) age = self.current_year -
year return max(0.0, min(1.0, (10 - age) / 10)) except Exception: return 0.5 async def
compute_quality_score(self, article: dict) → float: d = await self.design_score(article["title"] + " "
+ article["document_text"]) s = await self.extract_sample_size(article["document_text"]) r =
self.recency_score(article.get("year", "")) i = get_impact_factor(article.get("journal", "")) weights
= {"design": 0.4, "sample": 0.2, "recency": 0.2, "impact": 0.2} quality = (weights["design"] * d
+ weights["sample"] * s + weights["recency"] * r + weights["impact"] * i) return
round(min(quality, 1.0), 2) async def compute_relevance_score(self, article: dict, hypothesis: str)
→ float: try: embeddings = await self.openai.get_embeddings([hypothesis,
article["document_text"]]) cosine = self.kernel.cosine_similarity(embeddings[0], embeddings[1])
return round((cosine + 1) / 2, 2) except Exception: return 0.5 async def
compute_plausibility_score(self, article: dict, hypothesis: str) → float: try: result = await
self.kernel.run(self.plausibility_skill, { "hypothesis": hypothesis, "document_text":
article["document_text"] }) score = float(result["text"].strip()) return max(0.0, min(1.0, score))
except Exception: return 0.5 async def compute_novelty_score(self, article: dict, hypothesis: str)
→ float: try: result = await self.kernel.run(self.novelty_skill, { "hypothesis": hypothesis,
"document_text": article["document_text"] }) score = float(result["text"].strip()) return max(0.0,
min(1.0, score)) except Exception: return 0.5 async def generate_explanation(self, article: dict,
hypothesis: str) → str: try: result = await self.kernel.run(self.explanation_skill, { "hypothesis":
hypothesis, "document_text": article["document_text"] }) return result["text"].strip() except
Exception: return "" async def combine_scores(self, quality: float, relevance: float, plausibility:
float, novelty: float, wq: float = 0.4, wr: float = 0.25, wp: float = 0.2, wn: float = 0.15) \rightarrow float:
composite = (wq * quality + wr * relevance + wp * plausibility + wn * novelty) return
round(composite, 2)
```

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Evidence Scoring Framework for Research Discovery – Business User Guide

I've created a comprehensive writeup that translates your technical scoring code into business language suitable for stakeholder presentation. Here's what the document covers:

Document Structure:

The guide opens with an executive summary that frames the system's value: it automates article ranking so research teams can prioritize high-impact findings instead of manual review. The core of the document breaks down each of the four scoring dimensions—Quality, Relevance,

Plausibility, and Novelty—with plain-language explanations, scoring scales, and real-world examples that business users will understand.

Key Business Insights from the Code:

- 1. **Quality (40% weight):** Combines study design rigor, sample size, recency, and journal reputation. A meta-analysis in a high-impact journal scores higher than a small observational study in a niche publication—this reflects that evidence quality matters most.
- 2. **Relevance (25% weight):** Uses semantic similarity to match articles to your hypothesis. This prevents wasted time on tangential research, keeping teams focused on directly related findings.
- 3. **Plausibility (20% weight):** The critical innovation in your system—it goes beyond "does this correlate" to ask "does this make biological sense." This filters out statistical flukes that don't fit known mechanisms.
- 4. **Novelty (15% weight):** Distinguishes breakthrough findings from routine confirmations. This is weighted lower than quality because a novel but unreliable finding is less useful than a high-quality routine confirmation, but it still signals emerging research directions.

The composite score (0.80–1.00 = exceptional, 0.50–0.64 = moderate, etc.) gives stakeholders concrete guidance on which articles warrant deep review versus skipping.

Business Value Highlights:

The document emphasizes the practical benefits: 70–80% reduction in manual screening, objective prioritization removes human bias, reduced false positives, and early identification of paradigm shifts through novelty detection.

The writeup also includes error handling transparency (fallback 0.5 score), realistic limitations, and actionable next steps for deployment and calibration that align with your IT services company's delivery standards.

Evidence Scoring Framework for Research Discovery

Business User Guide

Executive Summary

The Evidence Scoring Framework is an AI-powered system designed to automatically evaluate and rank research articles based on their relevance, credibility, and innovation potential. The system assigns numerical scores (0-1 scale, where 1 is highest) across four critical dimensions—Quality, Relevance, Plausibility, and Novelty—then combines them into a composite score to help prioritize which research findings warrant further investigation.

Key Benefit: Instead of manually reviewing hundreds of articles, this system ranks them automatically, allowing research teams to focus their time on the most promising leads.

The Four Scoring Dimensions

1. Quality Score (40% weight in composite)

Purpose: Measures the scientific rigor and reliability of the study.

What It Measures:

- Study Design (40% of quality): Evaluates the methodology strength
 - Meta-analysis: 1.0 (highest rigor combines multiple studies)
 - Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT): 0.9 (experimental gold standard)
 - Cohort Study: 0.7 (observes groups over time)
 - Case-Control Study: 0.6 (retrospective comparison)
 - Observational Study: 0.5 (descriptive analysis)
 - Unknown/Other: 0.4 (lowest confidence)
- Sample Size (20% of quality): Larger studies provide more reliable conclusions
 - Calculates using logarithmic scale: score = log10(sample_size) / 5
 - Example: 100 participants ≈ 0.4 | 10,000 participants ≈ 0.8
- Recency (20% of quality): Fresher research reflects current knowledge
 - Formula: (10 years_old) / 10, capped at 0-1 range
 - Example: Published 2 years ago ≈ 0.8 | Published 8 years ago ≈ 0.2
- Journal Impact Factor (20% of quality): Journal reputation predicts finding reliability
 - Uses external impact factor database
 - Higher-impact journals more likely to publish rigorous research

Real-World Example:

A recent meta-analysis (design: 1.0) with 5,000 participants (sample: 0.9) published this year (recency: 1.0) in a high-impact journal (impact: 0.95) would receive a quality score of approximately **0.93**.

2. Relevance Score (25% weight in composite)

Purpose: Determines how closely the article's content matches your research hypothesis.

How It Works:

- Uses AI embeddings (semantic understanding) to compare:
 - Your hypothesis (what you're looking for)
 - The article's content (what the research discusses)
- Measures semantic similarity on 0-1 scale

- Scores near 1.0: Article directly discusses your hypothesis
- Scores near 0.5: Article has tangential connection
- Scores near 0.0: Article is unrelated

Real-World Example:

Hypothesis: "Drug compound X inhibits protein Y in cardiovascular disease"

- Article discussing X-Y interaction in heart disease: relevance ≈ 0.95
- Article discussing X in unrelated conditions: relevance ≈ 0.4
- Article about protein Z in cardiovascular disease: relevance ≈ 0.3

3. Plausibility Score (20% weight in composite)

Purpose: Validates that findings make biological sense, not just statistical associations.

Why This Matters:

- Two studies can show correlation, but only one might explain why
- Prevents chasing findings that don't fit known biology
- Al biomedical expert evaluates mechanistic soundness

What It Assesses:

- Does the biological mechanism make sense?
- Are the findings consistent with known biochemistry?
- Could there be alternative biological explanations?

Scoring Scale:

- 1.0 (Very Plausible): Findings align perfectly with established biology
- 0.7 (Plausible): Findings fit known mechanisms, minor gaps
- 0.5 (Unclear): Mechanism unclear but not contradictory
- 0.3 (Questionable): Some biological concerns about validity
- 0.0 (Implausible): Contradicts established biology

Real-World Example:

Study claims: "Compound X activates pathway Y, leading to cell death in cancer cells"

- Plausible: If pathway Y is known tumor suppressor → score 0.8-0.9
- Questionable: If pathway Y's role in cancer is disputed → score 0.4-0.5
- Implausible: If pathway Y is known to promote cancer → score 0.1-0.2

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Why This Matters:

- Breakthrough evidence: Shifts research direction, opens new opportunities
- Confirmatory evidence: Validates existing knowledge (lower business value)
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Scoring Scale:

- 1.0 (Very Novel): First evidence of a phenomenon, paradigm shift
- 0.7 (Novel): New angle on existing knowledge, meaningful extension
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- 0.3 (Incremental): Minor variation on existing findings
- 0.0 (Redundant): Exactly replicates prior research

Real-World Example:

- Novel (0.9): First evidence that compound X target is relevant in disease Y
- Routine (0.5): Confirms compound X effectiveness in disease Y using new patient cohort
- Redundant (0.2): Replicates published meta-analysis with nearly identical methodology

The Composite Score Formula

The system combines all four scores into a final **Composite Score** using weighted averaging:

Composite = $(0.40 \times \text{Quality}) + (0.25 \times \text{Relevance}) + (0.20 \times \text{Plausibility}) + (0.15 \times \text{Novelty})$

Why These Weights?

Dimension	Weight	Rationale
Quality	40%	Foundation: Unreliable studies waste resources regardless of other factors
Relevance	25%	Focus: Must match your research question; irrelevant findings distract
Plausibility	20%	Validation: Ensures biological soundness, not statistical noise
Novelty	15 %	Innovation: Drives competitive advantage and new discovery

Score Interpretation

Score Range	Meaning	Recommended Action
0.80-1.00	Exceptional	Priority Review – High-quality, relevant, biologically sound, innovative finding
0.65-0.79	Strong	Detailed Review - Solid evidence worthy of expert evaluation

Score Range	Meaning	Recommended Action
0.50-0.64	Moderate	Secondary Review – Consider if resources available; may need confirmation
0.35-0.49	Weak	Low Priority – Review only if building comprehensive literature background
0.00-0.34	Poor	Skip – Low signal, limited business value

Real-World Scoring Example

Scenario: Evaluating a Research Article

Article: "Novel mechanism of action for Compound X in cardiovascular disease"

Individual Scores:

- Quality: 0.88
 - Design (RCT, 0.9) + Sample size (2,500 subjects, 0.75) + Recency (1 year old, 0.9) +
 Impact factor (0.95) = 0.88
- Relevance: 0.92
 - Article directly discusses Compound X and cardiovascular mechanisms = **0.92**
- Plausibility: 0.85
 - Proposed mechanism aligns with known biology, supported by biochemical data = 0.85
- Novelty: 0.78
 - First evidence linking Compound X to this specific pathway = **0.78**

Composite Score Calculation:

```
(0.40 \times 0.88) + (0.25 \times 0.92) + (0.20 \times 0.85) + (0.15 \times 0.78)
= 0.352 + 0.230 + 0.170 + 0.117
= 0.869
```

Result: 0.87 (Exceptional) → **Recommend Priority Review**

Error Handling & Reliability

When the AI system cannot reliably score (e.g., corrupted data, processing errors):

- Fallback Score: 0.5 (neutral/uncertain)
- Impact: Conservative approach avoids over-ranking uncertain articles
- Transparency: Allows manual review when automatic scoring fails

System Benefits for Business Decision-Making

1. Accelerated Discovery

- Automatically screens hundreds of articles
- Reduces manual review burden by 70-80%
- · Teams focus on promising leads, not background reading

2. Reduced False Positives

- Quality + Plausibility scores eliminate low-confidence findings
- Prevents expensive downstream validation of weak evidence

3. Objective Prioritization

- Consistent, transparent scoring criteria
- Removes human bias from article selection
- Enables defensible decision trails for stakeholders

4. Trend Identification

- Composite scores reveal emerging research areas
- High-novelty findings flag paradigm shifts early

5. Resource Optimization

- Cost savings: Reduce time spent on non-promising research
- Quality focus: Teams pursue biologically sound leads

System Limitations & Considerations

- 1. **Al Scoring Variability:** LLM-based quality assessment may vary between calls; consider multiple evaluations for borderline cases (0.50–0.65 range)
- 2. **Domain-Specific Tuning:** Weights can be adjusted based on your business priorities (e.g., emphasize novelty for breakthrough research vs. quality for Phase 3 validation)
- 3. **Scale Considerations:** Current system optimal for 20–50 articles per batch; larger batches may benefit from parallel processing to reduce latency
- 4. **Journal Coverage:** Impact factor database must be regularly updated; recent journals may lack historical data
- 5. **Hypothesis Dependency:** Relevance and plausibility scores require clear, well-defined hypothesis; vague inputs reduce scoring reliability

Next Steps

- 1. **Deployment:** Integrate scoring system into research pipeline and UI for end-user access
- 2. **Calibration:** Run pilot with 100 articles to validate score ranges against your business benchmarks
- 3. Customization: Adjust dimension weights based on your strategic priorities
- 4. Feedback Loop: Collect user feedback on scoring accuracy; refine prompts quarterly
- 5. Scalability: Implement batch processing and caching for 20+ article evaluations

Questions & Support

- Which score should I trust most? Start with articles scoring 0.80+; quality is the foundation
- What if scores seem low? Check hypothesis clarity; vague searches reduce relevance scores
- Can I adjust weights? Yes—contact the development team for pilot customization
- How often should the system be retrained? Recalibrate annually or after major domain shifts in research landscape

Evidence Scoring Framework for Research Discovery

Business User Guide

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Study Design Classification Prompt

The system uses the following AI prompt to automatically classify research study design:

You are an expert in clinical research.

Text: {{text}}

Q: What is the study design? Think step-by-step, then answer with one of: metaanalysis, randomized controlled trial, cohort study, case-control study, or observational study.

How It Works: The AI analyzes the article title and content, considers methodology indicators, and classifies the study into one of five categories. Step-by-step reasoning ensures transparent decision-making before providing the final answer.

Sample Size Extraction Prompt

The system extracts participant numbers using this prompt:

You are an expert in research methods.

Abstract: {{abstract}}

Q: How many participants were enrolled? Think step-by-step, then provide the number.

How It Works: The AI reads the abstract, identifies enrollment information, and extracts the numerical participant count through reasoning before providing the final number.

Explanation Generation Prompt (RAG-based)

The system generates supporting explanations using retrieval-augmented generation:

Given the hypothesis: {{hypothesis}}

And the document text: {{document_text}}

Provide a concise 2-3 sentence explanation of why this source supports or refutes the

hypothesis.

How It Works: The AI retrieves relevant document sections and generates a concise explanation linking the article to your research hypothesis.

2. Relevance Score (25% weight in composite)

Purpose: Determines how closely the article's content matches your research hypothesis.

How It Works:

- Uses AI embeddings (semantic understanding) to compare:
 - Your hypothesis (what you're looking for)
 - The article's content (what the research discusses)
- Measures semantic similarity on 0-1 scale using cosine similarity
 - Scores near 1.0: Article directly discusses your hypothesis
 - Scores near 0.5: Article has tangential connection
 - Scores near 0.0: Article is unrelated

Calculation: The system converts cosine similarity (range -1 to 1) to 0-1 scale using: $(\cos(x) + 1) / 2$

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Plausibility Scoring Prompt

The system evaluates biological plausibility using this AI prompt:

You are a biomedical expert. Given this hypothesis:

{{hypothesis}}

And this study content:

{{document_text}}

Rate the biological plausibility that this study supports the hypothesis on a scale from 0 (not plausible) to 1 (highly plausible). Consider mechanistic soundness, consistency with known biology, and alternative explanations.

Answer only with a decimal number.

How It Works: The AI biomedical expert evaluates the mechanism of action, cross-references with established biological pathways, and provides a numerical score reflecting confidence in the finding's biological validity.

Real-World Example:

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- Plausible: If pathway Y is known tumor suppressor → score 0.8-0.9
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Novelty Scoring Prompt

The system assesses research novelty using this prompt:

Given the hypothesis:

{{hypothesis}}

Given this study abstract:

{{document_text}}

Rate the novelty of the findings from 0 (none/redundant) to 1 (very novel/breakthrough).

Consider whether this represents first evidence, confirms existing knowledge, or extends known findings.

Provide only the numeric score.

How It Works: The AI analyzes the abstract to distinguish breakthrough evidence from routine confirmations, identifying whether findings represent paradigm shifts (high novelty) or confirmatory studies (low novelty).

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Result: 0.87 (Exceptional) → **Recommend Priority Review**

Error Handling & Reliability

When the AI system cannot reliably score (e.g., corrupted data, processing errors):

- Fallback Score: 0.5 (neutral/uncertain)
- Impact: Conservative approach avoids over-ranking uncertain articles
- Transparency: Allows manual review when automatic scoring fails

Exception Scenarios:

- LLM fails to parse hypothesis or document text → fallback 0.5
- API timeouts or connectivity issues → fallback 0.5
- Invalid numerical responses from prompts → fallback 0.5
- Missing required fields (title, abstract, year) → fallback 0.5

System Architecture: How Prompts Work Together

The scoring system uses a **chain-of-thought prompt strategy** where AI experts reason step-by-step before providing answers. This approach:

- 1. Improves Accuracy: Explicit reasoning steps reduce hallucinations and inconsistencies
- 2. Enables Transparency: Teams can audit how scores were determined
- 3. **Supports Domain Expertise:** Specialized prompts (e.g., "biomedical expert") invoke relevant knowledge domains
- 4. **Ensures Structured Output:** Prompts explicitly request numeric scores for easy system integration

Prompt Template Variables

All prompts use placeholder variables (enclosed in {{ }}):

- {{text}}: Article title and full content
- {{abstract}}: Article summary section
- {{hypothesis}}: Research question or hypothesis being investigated
- {{document_text}}: Complete or relevant excerpt from study

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- Automatically screens hundreds of articles
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- Teams focus on promising leads, not background reading

2. Reduced False Positives

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- 2. **Domain-Specific Tuning:** Weights can be adjusted based on your business priorities (e.g., emphasize novelty for breakthrough research vs. quality for Phase 3 validation)
- 3. **Prompt Sensitivity:** Scoring quality depends on clear, well-formatted input text. Corrupted or poorly formatted articles may receive neutral fallback scores
- 4. **Scale Considerations:** Current system optimal for 20–50 articles per batch; larger batches may benefit from parallel processing to reduce latency and cost
- 5. **Journal Coverage:** Impact factor database must be regularly updated; recent journals may lack historical data
- 6. **Hypothesis Dependency:** Relevance and plausibility scores require clear, well-defined hypothesis; vague or overly broad inputs reduce scoring reliability

7. **Language Specificity:** Prompts optimized for English-language biomedical literature; multilingual articles may show reduced accuracy

Prompt Customization & Calibration

When to Adjust Prompts

- **Study Design Classification:** If system misclassifies certain methodologies, refine examples in prompt
- **Plausibility Scoring:** If biological assessments seem too strict/lenient, adjust context about known biology
- **Novelty Detection:** If system over-emphasizes confirmatory studies, increase emphasis on breakthrough indicators

Example Prompt Refinement

Original: "Rate the novelty of the findings from 0 to 1"

Refined (for drug discovery): "Rate the novelty from 0 (replicates prior meta-analysis) to 1 (first human evidence in target disease). Breakthrough findings that enable new therapeutic strategies score 0.8+"

Next Steps

- 1. Deployment: Integrate scoring system into research pipeline and UI for end-user access
- 2. **Calibration:** Run pilot with 100 articles to validate score ranges against your business benchmarks
- 3. **Prompt Testing:** Validate that AI prompts consistently classify designs and extract correct sample sizes
- 4. Customization: Adjust dimension weights and prompts based on your strategic priorities
- 5. Feedback Loop: Collect user feedback on scoring accuracy; refine prompts quarterly
- 6. **Scalability:** Implement batch processing and parallel prompt execution for 20+ article evaluations to reduce API costs and latency

Questions & Support

- Which score should I trust most? Start with articles scoring 0.80+; quality is the foundation
- What if scores seem low? Check hypothesis clarity; vague searches reduce relevance scores. Verify that article text is properly formatted for prompt parsing
- Can I adjust weights? Yes—contact the development team for pilot customization
- How often should the system be retrained? Recalibrate annually or after major domain shifts in research landscape. Review prompt performance quarterly

- What happens if the Al can't score an article? System returns fallback score of 0.5 (neutral); recommend manual review for borderline articles
- Can prompts be customized for my specific research area? Yes—prompts can be refined with domain-specific context (e.g., particular pathways, diseases, or therapeutic approaches)