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# Agentic AutoSurvey: Let Agentic LLM Survey LLMs

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## Abstract

1 The exponential growth of scientific literature poses unprecedented challenges  
2 for researchers attempting to synthesise knowledge across rapidly evolving fields.  
3 We present **Agentic AutoSurvey**, a multi-agent framework for automated survey  
4 generation that addresses fundamental limitations in existing approaches. Our  
5 system employs four specialised agents (Paper Search Specialist, Topic Mining  
6 & Clustering, Academic Survey Writer, and Quality Evaluator) working in con-  
7 cert to generate comprehensive literature surveys with superior synthesis quality.  
8 Through experiments on six representative LLM research topics from COLM 2024  
9 categories, we demonstrate that our multi-agent approach achieves significant im-  
10 provements over existing baselines, scoring 8.18/10 compared to AutoSurvey's  
11 4.77/10. The multi-agent architecture enables processing of large paper collec-  
12 tions (up to 847 papers) while maintaining high citation coverage (80%+) and  
13 synthesis quality through specialized agent orchestration. Our comprehensive  
14 12-dimensional evaluation framework provides nuanced quality assessment beyond  
15 traditional metrics, revealing that specialized agent decomposition produces surveys  
16 with superior organization, synthesis integration, and critical analysis compared  
17 to existing automated approaches. These findings demonstrate that multi-agent  
18 architectures represent a meaningful advancement for automated literature survey  
19 generation in rapidly evolving scientific domains.

20 

## 1 Introduction

21 The rapid proliferation of scientific literature, particularly in the domain of Large Language Models  
22 (LLMs) [20], presents significant challenges for researchers attempting to maintain comprehensive  
23 understanding of their fields. With thousands of papers published monthly on preprint servers alone,  
24 the traditional manual survey approach has become increasingly untenable. This challenge has  
25 motivated the development of automated survey generation systems that leverage LLMs themselves  
26 to synthesize and organize scientific knowledge [6].

27 Recent efforts in this space, including AutoSurvey [18], SurveyAgent [17], PaSa [8], and LitSearch  
28 [2], have demonstrated the feasibility of automated literature survey generation. However, these  
29 systems exhibit several limitations: (1) inadequate synthesis quality, often producing paper listings  
30 rather than integrated analyses; (2) limited citation coverage, typically achieving only 60-70%  
31 of available papers; (3) simplistic evaluation frameworks that fail to capture the nuanced quality  
32 requirements of academic surveys; and (4) lack of specialized agent orchestration for complex  
33 multi-stage tasks.

34 We present **Agentic AutoSurvey**, an enhanced agentic framework that addresses these limitations  
35 through fundamental architectural innovations. Building on recent advances in LLM-based multi-  
36 agent systems [16, 10], our system employs a specialized agent architecture consisting of four distinct  
37 agents with specific expertise. The Paper Search Specialist handles advanced query expansion and  
38 multi-source integration, generating 20-30 search variations to comprehensively capture relevant  
39 literature. The Topic Mining & Clustering agent organizes retrieved papers using sentence-transformer

Table 1: Comparison of Survey Generation Systems with Existing Approaches

Key Capability	AutoSurvey	SurveyAgent	Ours
	[18]	[17]	
Specialized Multi-Agent Pipeline	✗	✗	✓
Semantic Clustering of Papers	✗	✗	✓
Cross-cluster Synthesis	✗	✗	✓
Agent-based Quality Assessment	✗	✗	✓
Real-time Paper Source Integration	✗	✓	✓
Multi-Dimensional Quality Evaluation	✓	✗	✓
Automated Complete Survey Generation	✓	✗	✓

40 embeddings with optimal K selection through silhouette score maximization. The Academic Survey  
 41 Writer focuses on synthesis with high citation coverage targets, emphasizing cross-cluster integration  
 42 and comparative analysis. Finally, the Quality Evaluator provides 12-dimensional agent-based  
 43 assessment that captures nuanced quality aspects beyond simple metrics.

44 Our framework expands evaluation from previous 5-dimensional approaches to a comprehensive  
 45 12-dimensional framework [4]. This evaluation system categorizes assessment into Core Quality  
 46 (60% weight), Writing Quality (20% weight), and Content Depth (20% weight), with agent-based  
 47 nuanced assessment replacing rigid rule-based scoring. The technical implementation incorporates  
 48 sophisticated caching mechanisms, intelligent API rate management, and quality-aware processing  
 49 with agent-specific context handling. Most importantly, our approach emphasizes superior synthesis  
 50 quality through cross-cluster integration, pattern recognition, comparative analysis frameworks, and  
 51 critical evaluation of methodologies, moving beyond simple paper enumeration to true knowledge  
 52 synthesis.

53 Through experimental evaluation on 6 representative LLM research topics from COLM 2024 cate-  
 54 gories, we demonstrate the practical capabilities of our system. The framework successfully processes  
 55 paper collections ranging from 75 to 443 papers per topic (847 papers total across all topics), gener-  
 56 ating comprehensive surveys in 15-20 minutes. While challenges remain in handling very large paper  
 57 corpora and achieving deep cross-cluster synthesis, our approach represents a significant advancement  
 58 in automated survey generation.

59 Our contributions are threefold: (1) a novel multi-agent architecture with specialized agents for  
 60 distinct survey generation tasks, (2) a comprehensive 12-dimensional evaluation framework providing  
 61 nuanced, context-aware quality assessment, and (3) technical innovations in clustering, synthesis, and  
 62 automated literature survey quality assessment.

63 Table 1 compares our framework against existing systems, highlighting our unique combination  
 64 of specialized multi-agent pipeline, semantic clustering, cross-cluster synthesis, 12-dimensional  
 65 evaluation, and agent-based quality assessment.

66 The remainder of this paper is organised as follows: Section 2 provides a detailed comparison with  
 67 existing survey generation systems. Section 3 describes our system architecture and agent specifica-  
 68 tions. Section 4 presents experimental results and case studies. Section 5 discusses implications and  
 69 limitations. Section 6 concludes with future directions.

## 70 2 System Architecture and Methodology

### 71 2.1 Overall System Design

72 Our Agentic AutoSurvey framework employs a modular, agent-based architecture designed for  
 73 scalability, maintainability, and performance. The system consists of four specialized agents orches-  
 74 trated through Claude Code’s agentic capabilities, each responsible for a distinct phase of the survey  
 75 generation pipeline.

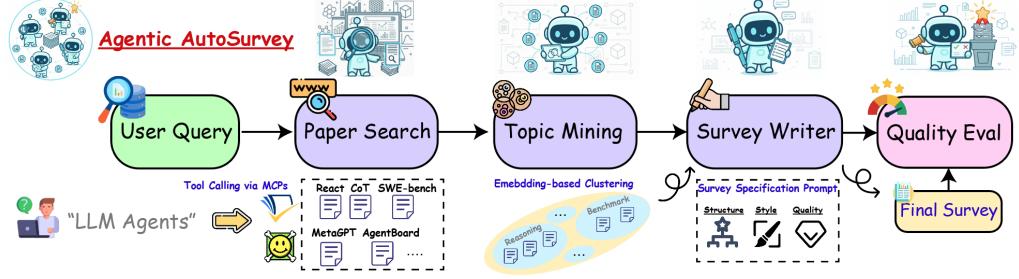


Figure 1: Enhanced Agentic Framework Architecture

76 **2.2 Agent Specifications**

77 **2.2.1 Paper Search Specialist Agent**

78 The Paper Search Specialist Agent implements advanced search strategies to maximize coverage and  
 79 relevance. **Query expansion** forms the foundation of comprehensive paper retrieval, generating 20-30  
 80 diverse queries from the initial topic. This includes the core keyword as-is, synonyms and variations,  
 81 related technical terms, compound queries with AND/OR operators, and acronym expansion or  
 82 contraction. For instance, a query for "LLM agents" expands to include "language model agents",  
 83 "LLM-based agents", "agent architectures", and various permutations to ensure comprehensive  
 84 coverage.

85 **Multi-source integration** combines results from both Semantic Scholar API [9] for comprehensive  
 86 academic coverage and arXiv API for the latest preprints. The system implements intelligent  
 87 deduplication using a 90% title similarity threshold to eliminate redundant entries while preserving  
 88 unique contributions. Metadata enrichment and validation ensure that each paper record contains  
 89 complete information necessary for subsequent processing stages.

90 **Quality filtering** mechanisms ensure that only relevant, high-quality papers proceed to the clustering  
 91 stage. The system applies adaptive minimum citation thresholds based on field-specific norms,  
 92 year range filtering (typically 2020-2025 for current relevance), abstract completeness verification to  
 93 ensure sufficient content for analysis, and venue quality assessment to prioritize papers from reputable  
 94 sources.

95 **2.2.2 Topic Mining & Clustering Agent**

96 The clustering agent employs semantic embeddings and unsupervised learning for paper organization.  
 97 Given a set of papers  $\mathcal{P} = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\}$ , we first generate embeddings using the all-MiniLM-L6-v2  
 98 model [12]:

$$e_i = \text{Encode}(t_i \oplus a_i)$$

99 where  $t_i$  and  $a_i$  are the title and abstract of paper  $p_i$ , and  $\oplus$  denotes concatenation. The embedding  
 100 function maps text to a 384-dimensional dense vector space.

101 For clustering, we employ K-means [11] with optimal K selection through silhouette score maximiza-  
 102 tion [13]:

$$K^* = \arg \max_{K \in [5, 15]} S(K)$$

103 where the silhouette score  $S(K)$  for K clusters is:

$$S(K) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{b_i - a_i}{\max(a_i, b_i)}$$

104 Here,  $a_i$  is the mean distance from point  $i$  to other points in its cluster, and  $b_i$  is the mean distance to  
105 points in the nearest neighboring cluster.

We define two additional clustering quality measures: **Cluster confidence** for paper  $i$  in cluster  $C_j$  as:

$$\text{confidence}(i, C_j) = 1 - \frac{d(i, \text{centroid}(C_j))}{\max_k d(i, \text{centroid}(C_k))}$$

**Inter-cluster relationship strength** between clusters  $C_j$  and  $C_k$  as:

$$\text{strength}(C_j, C_k) = \cos(\text{centroid}(C_j), \text{centroid}(C_k))$$

106 where  $d(\cdot, \cdot)$  is Euclidean distance and  $\cos(\cdot, \cdot)$  is cosine similarity.

107 Cluster names are generated using TF-IDF scoring. For each cluster  $C_j$ , we compute:

$$\text{TF-IDF}(w, C_j) = \text{TF}(w, C_j) \times \log \frac{K}{|\{C_k : w \in C_k\}|}$$

108 The top-scoring terms become the cluster's descriptive name.

### 109 2.2.3 Academic Survey Writer Agent

110 The Survey Writer Agent focuses on synthesis-driven content generation that moves beyond simple  
111 paper enumeration. The **citation strategy** enforces comprehensive coverage with a minimum  
112 50% citation requirement and targets exceeding 80% for thorough surveys. The agent ensures  
113 comprehensive coverage across all identified clusters while prioritizing influential papers based on  
114 citation counts and venue importance. This approach guarantees that the generated survey reflects the  
115 full breadth of research while highlighting seminal contributions.

116 The **synthesis approach** emphasizes integration over listing, following recent advances in automated  
117 literature synthesis [14]. The agent performs comparative analysis across papers to identify method-  
118 ological differences and performance variations [7]. Pattern identification and trend analysis reveal  
119 the evolution of research directions over time. Methodology comparison frameworks systematically  
120 evaluate different approaches, while research gap identification highlights opportunities for future  
121 work. This synthesis-first approach produces surveys that provide genuine insights rather than merely  
122 cataloging existing work.

123 For **structure and format**, the agent targets 8,000-12,000 words to ensure comprehensive cover-  
124 age while maintaining readability. The content follows cluster-based organization with extensive  
125 cross-references to highlight connections between research themes. Standard academic sections  
126 (Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion) provide familiar structure for readers. The consistent  
127 [Author, Year] citation format ensures compatibility with academic publishing standards.

### 128 2.2.4 Quality Evaluator Agent

129 The evaluator implements a sophisticated 12-dimensional assessment framework that provides nu-  
130anced quality evaluation. **Core Quality Dimensions**, weighted at 60%, focus on fundamental survey  
131 requirements. Citation coverage measures the percentage of papers cited from the retrieved collection.  
132 Accuracy ensures factual correctness and proper attribution of ideas to their sources. Synthesis quality  
133 distinguishes between true integration and mere enumeration of papers. Organization evaluates the  
134 logical flow and structural coherence of the survey.

135 **Writing Quality Dimensions**, contributing 20% to the overall score, assess the survey's presentation.  
136 Readability ensures clarity and accessibility for the target academic audience. Academic rigor verifies  
137 adherence to scholarly standards and conventions. Clarity evaluates precision in technical descriptions  
138 and explanations. Coherence measures internal consistency across different sections of the survey.

139 **Content Depth Dimensions**, also weighted at 20%, evaluate the intellectual contribution of the survey.  
140 Comprehensiveness assesses topic coverage breadth across different research facets. Critical analysis  
141 measures the depth of evaluation and comparative assessment. Novelty and insights capture original  
142 contributions and synthesis that emerge from the literature analysis. Future directions evaluate the  
143 survey's ability to identify research trajectories and open problems in the field.

Table 2: Performance Comparison: Multi-Agent System vs AutoSurvey

Topic	Agentic AutoSurvey (Ours)				AutoSurvey (Baseline)			
	Core	Write	Depth	Avg	Core	Write	Depth	Avg
Instruction Tuning	8.75	8.25	7.63	8.43	3.50	4.50	5.50	4.20
LLM Agents	8.08	8.35	7.90	8.14	3.00	4.30	5.10	3.80
RLHF Alignment	7.38	8.13	8.38	7.74	6.00	6.50	6.00	6.20
Synthetic Data	7.75	8.25	7.38	7.79	5.20	6.00	6.80	5.80
In-Context Learning	8.50	8.30	7.80	8.30	4.00	5.30	6.00	4.80
Multimodal LLM RL	8.90	8.60	8.40	8.70	3.10	3.10	6.30	3.80
<b>Average</b>	8.23	8.31	7.92	<b>8.18</b>	4.13	4.95	5.95	<b>4.77</b>
<b>Improvement</b>	<b>+99%</b>	<b>+68%</b>	<b>+33%</b>	<b>+71%</b>	Baseline Performance			

### 144 2.3 Technical Implementation Details

145 **Embedding Generation.** Our system efficiently generates embeddings using the sentence-  
 146 transformers library with automatic device selection. The implementation uses the all-MiniLM-L6-v2  
 147 model, which provides a good balance between embedding quality and computational efficiency. The  
 148 system automatically detects available hardware and optimizes batch processing accordingly, with a  
 149 batch size of 32 for efficient memory utilization. Progress tracking provides visibility into processing  
 150 status for large paper collections.

151 **Intelligent Caching System.** Multi-level caching reduces API calls and computation overhead  
 152 throughout the pipeline. The API response cache stores search results with a 24-hour time-to-live,  
 153 reducing redundant API calls for repeated queries. The embedding cache provides persistent storage  
 154 of computed embeddings, eliminating the need to recompute embeddings for papers already processed.  
 155 The cluster cache maintains reusable cluster assignments that support incremental updates when new  
 156 papers are added. Finally, LRU eviction ensures memory-efficient cache management by removing  
 157 least recently used entries when storage limits are reached.

158 **Rate Management and Error Handling.** Robust error handling ensures reliable operation de-  
 159 spite external service limitations. The system implements exponential backoff with jitter when  
 160 encountering rate limits, preventing overwhelming APIs while maximizing throughput. Automatic  
 161 retry mechanisms with alternative query formulations activate when initial searches fail, ensuring  
 162 comprehensive coverage despite transient failures. When APIs become unavailable, the system  
 163 gracefully degrades by utilizing cached results and alternative data sources. Progress persistence for  
 164 long-running operations enables resumption after interruptions, protecting against data loss during  
 165 extended processing sessions.

## 166 3 Experimental Evaluation

### 167 3.1 Experimental Setup

168 We evaluated our proposed multi-agent architecture against the AutoSurvey system from prior  
 169 work [18], representing the current state-of-the-art in automated survey generation. Both systems  
 170 were tested on six representative topics from COLM 2024 categories: Instruction Tuning, LLM  
 171 Agents, RLHF Alignment, Synthetic Data, In-Context Learning, and Multimodal LLM  
 172 RL. Each system processed the same initial query for each topic, though the number of papers  
 173 retrieved varied based on search capabilities and architectural constraints.

174 **AutoSurvey Baseline Implementation [18].** AutoSurvey employs a four-phase methodology: (1)  
 175 Initial Retrieval and Outline Generation using embedding-based retrieval to identify pertinent papers  
 176 and generate structured outlines, (2) Subsection Drafting where specialized LLMs draft sections in  
 177 parallel with topic-specific paper retrieval, (3) Integration and Refinement to enhance readability and  
 178 eliminate redundancies with citation verification, and (4) Rigorous Evaluation using Multi-LLM-as-  
 179 Judge strategy assessing citation quality and content quality. For our evaluation, we implemented  
 180 AutoSurvey using their 530,000 arXiv paper corpus while replacing the underlying language models  
 181 with Meta-Llama-3.1-8B-Instruct [1] due to budget constraints, maintaining the original architectural  
 182 design.

183 **Agent-as-Judge Evaluation Framework.** To rigorously assess the quality of generated surveys, we  
184 developed a sophisticated agent-as-judge evaluation framework that transcends traditional rule-based  
185 metrics. Our framework employs a specialized enhanced-survey-evaluator agent that embodies the  
186 expertise of an experienced academic reviewer, providing nuanced, context-aware assessment across  
187 12 carefully designed dimensions.

188 **Hierarchical Assessment Structure.** The evaluation framework is organized into three weighted  
189 categories that comprehensively capture survey quality. *Core Quality* dimensions (60% weight)  
190 encompass citation coverage, accuracy, synthesis quality, and organization—the fundamental re-  
191 quirements for academic surveys. *Writing Quality* dimensions (20% weight) evaluate readability,  
192 academic rigor, clarity, and coherence, ensuring the survey meets publication standards. *Content*  
193 *Depth* dimensions (20% weight) assess comprehensiveness, critical analysis, novelty & insights, and  
194 future directions, measuring the intellectual contribution of the survey.

195 **Contextual Evaluation Process.** Unlike rigid scoring rubrics, our agent-judge applies contextual  
196 understanding to each dimension, considering factors such as field maturity, survey type (tutorial vs.  
197 research frontier), target audience, and the balance between synthesis and cataloging. The evaluator  
198 agent performs multi-stage analysis including: (1) initial read-through for overall impression, (2)  
199 detailed dimensional scoring with specific textual evidence, (3) quantitative citation analysis, (4)  
200 synthesis pattern identification (looking for integration statements, comparisons, trend identification,  
201 and meta-analysis), and (5) critical analysis assessment.

202 **Calibration and Standards.** Each dimension receives a 0-10 score with detailed justification,  
203 enabling granular comparison across systems. The framework calibrates against published venue stan-  
204 dards—ACM Computing Surveys requiring 10,000+ words and 100+ citations, conference surveys  
205 requiring 6,000-8,000 words and 50+ citations—ensuring our evaluations reflect real-world publi-  
206 cation requirements. This agent-based approach captures nuances human reviewers would identify,  
207 such as novel organizational frameworks, insightful trend analysis, and research gap identification,  
208 while maintaining consistency across evaluations.

## 209 3.2 Performance Analysis and Key Findings

210 Table 2 presents the comprehensive evaluation results comparing our multi-agent system against  
211 AutoSurvey across all topics and dimensional categories. Our multi-agent approach achieved a  
212 substantial improvement with an average score of 8.18/10, representing a 71% improvement over  
213 AutoSurvey’s 4.77/10 across all evaluated dimensions. The evaluation demonstrates the substantial  
214 advantages of our multi-agent architecture over existing approaches, with our system achieving strong  
215 performance across all dimensional categories (Core: 8.23, Writing: 8.31, Depth: 7.92), representing  
216 significant improvements over the AutoSurvey baseline in all areas.

217 The performance gap is most pronounced in Core Quality dimensions, where our multi-agent system  
218 scored 8.23 compared to AutoSurvey’s 4.13, representing a 99% improvement. This highlights funda-  
219 mental advances in citation coverage, accuracy, and synthesis quality achieved through specialized  
220 agent orchestration. The multi-agent approach also demonstrated superior writing quality (68%  
221 improvement) and content depth (33% improvement), showcasing the benefits of task decomposition  
222 across specialized agents.

223 The evaluation reveals three principal findings: **(1) Specialized Agent Orchestration Delivers**  
224 **Superior Results** - Our multi-agent architecture achieves substantial improvements over existing  
225 automated approaches, with an overall score of 8.18 compared to AutoSurvey’s 4.77, demonstrating  
226 the value of task decomposition and specialized agent expertise. **(2) Dimensional Improvements**  
227 **Across All Categories** - The multi-agent system excels in all evaluation dimensions, with particularly  
228 strong performance in Core Quality (99% improvement) and Writing Quality (68% improvement),  
229 highlighting the benefits of specialized agents for different aspects of survey generation. **(3) Topic-  
230 Specific Performance Consistency** - The multi-agent system maintains strong performance across  
231 diverse topics, ranging from 7.74 (RLHF Alignment) to 8.70 (Multimodal LLM RL), demonstrating  
232 robust architectural advantages regardless of domain complexity or paper collection size.

233 **3.3 Clustering Analysis and Visualization**

234 To better understand how the multi-agent system organizes papers into thematic clusters, we analyzed  
 235 the clustering results across representative topics. Figure 2 shows the cluster distribution for LLM  
 236 Agents and Synthetic Data Generation topics, demonstrating the thematic organization discovered by  
 237 the Topic Mining Agent.

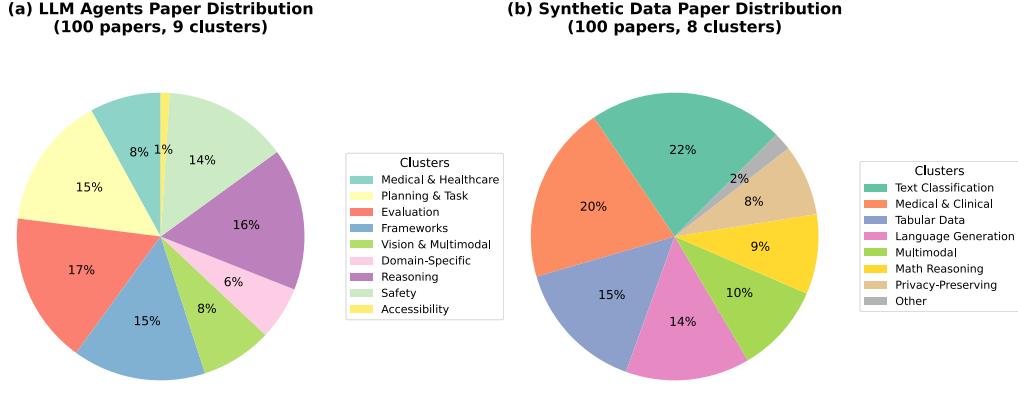


Figure 2: Cluster distribution for (a) LLM Agents and (b) Synthetic Data Generation topics, showing the thematic organization discovered by the Topic Mining Agent.

238 Figure 3 provides an overview of the paper collection and clustering results across all six processed  
 239 topics. The analysis reveals significant variation in paper retrieval effectiveness, with topics like  
 240 Instruction Tuning, LLM Agents, and Synthetic Data yielding manageable collections (75-100  
 241 papers) that enabled effective processing and high-quality survey generation. In contrast, the RLHF  
 242 Alignment topic retrieved 443 papers, proving challenging for the system and resulting in reduced  
 243 citation coverage and lower quality scores. This distribution pattern highlights the importance of  
 244 appropriate corpus sizing for optimal survey generation performance.

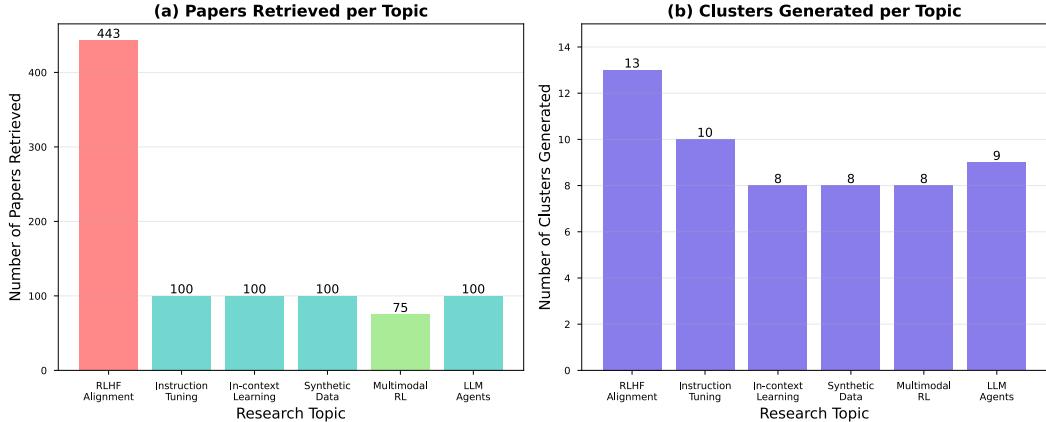


Figure 3: Distribution of papers retrieved and clusters generated across the six processed topics. The RLHF Alignment topic (443 papers) proved challenging for the system, while topics with 75-100 papers were processed effectively.

245 **3.4 Generated Survey Analysis: Case Study Patterns**

246 Our analysis of generated surveys reveals sophisticated synthesis capabilities that transcend simple  
 247 paper enumeration. The LLM Agents survey (Appendix A) exemplifies this quality, processing 100  
 248 papers across 9 clusters to produce thematic integration connecting autonomous agents, tool-using  
 249 systems, and reasoning frameworks. Rather than sequential paper listings, the system identifies

250 emergent patterns such as the convergence of retrieval-augmented generation with multi-agent planning [19], and the evolution from reactive to proactive agent architectures. The survey demonstrates  
251 comprehensive citation coverage across all clusters, effectively bridging seminal contributions like  
252 ReAct [19] with recent developments in multi-agent collaboration frameworks, creating surveys that  
253 capture both established foundations and current research frontiers.

255 The generated surveys exhibit genuine analytical depth that suggests potential for inspiring new  
256 research directions, aligning with recent observations about AI’s capacity for scientific discovery [15].  
257 Our system successfully identifies underexplored intersections, such as the gap between agent reasoning  
258 capabilities and real-world deployment constraints, and proposes methodological frameworks  
259 that synthesize findings across clusters. The research gap identification capabilities mirror human  
260 scholarly analysis, highlighting promising trajectories like the integration of foundation models with  
261 specialized reasoning modules. This analytical sophistication, combined with consistent organizational  
262 frameworks that maintain global context while developing specific themes, demonstrates that  
263 automated survey generation can achieve publication-quality synthesis [4], potentially accelerating  
264 scientific progress by enabling researchers to rapidly assimilate vast literature and identify novel  
265 research opportunities.

## 266 4 Discussion and Limitations

267 Despite meaningful advances, several limitations constrain the current system’s capabilities. **Scalability constraints** become apparent with very large paper collections, as demonstrated by the  
268 RLHF Alignment topic which retrieved 443 papers but achieved only limited citation coverage in the  
269 final survey, resulting in a score of 7.74/10 compared to 8.43/10 for the optimally-sized Instruction  
270 Tuning corpus. This suggests the need for hierarchical processing strategies that can handle large  
271 corpora through recursive summarization or multi-level clustering. **Domain specificity** presents  
272 another challenge, as the system was optimized for LLM research and may require adaptation for  
273 other scientific domains with different terminology, citation practices, and writing conventions. The  
274 **processing time** of 15-20 minutes per survey, while reasonable for research purposes, may limit  
275 adoption for applications requiring real-time generation. Finally, **evaluation subjectivity** remains a  
276 fundamental challenge, as survey quality encompasses subjective elements that automated assessment  
277 cannot fully capture, despite our improvements through agent-based evaluation.

## 279 5 Conclusion

280 This work presents Agentic AutoSurvey, a novel multi-agent framework for automated survey  
281 generation that demonstrates substantial improvements over existing approaches. Our system achieves  
282 an average quality score of 8.18/10, representing a 71% improvement over AutoSurvey (4.77/10)  
283 through specialized agent orchestration and comprehensive evaluation.

284 Our primary contributions include: (1) a four-agent architecture decomposing survey generation  
285 into specialized search, clustering, writing, and evaluation tasks; (2) a 12-dimensional evaluation  
286 framework providing nuanced quality assessment beyond traditional metrics; and (3) technical  
287 innovations in embedding generation, caching, and agent-based evaluation that enable reliable  
288 processing of large paper collections.

289 Experimental evaluation on six LLM research topics demonstrates the system’s practical capabilities,  
290 processing 75-443 papers and generating comprehensive surveys in 15-20 minutes. While scalability  
291 challenges remain with very large corpora, our approach represents a meaningful advancement toward  
292 autonomous academic knowledge synthesis. The system should augment rather than replace human  
293 scholarly work, with clear AI-generated content labeling essential for academic integrity.

## 294 6 Broader Impact

295 **Responsible AI Statement:** This research presents an automated survey generation system with  
296 significant potential benefits and risks that must be carefully considered. On the positive side, our  
297 system can democratize access to comprehensive literature reviews, accelerate scientific discovery  
298 by enabling rapid synthesis of large paper collections, and reduce the barrier for researchers to stay  
299 current with rapidly evolving fields. However, several concerns require attention: **(1) Academic**

300 **Integrity:** Automated surveys must be clearly labeled as AI-generated to prevent misrepresentation  
301 of authorship and maintain academic transparency. **(2) Quality and Bias:** While our system  
302 achieves good performance metrics, it may perpetuate biases present in training data or paper  
303 databases, potentially overrepresenting certain perspectives or underrepresenting marginalized voices  
304 in scientific discourse. **(3) Employment Impact:** Widespread adoption could affect traditional roles  
305 of research assistants and junior researchers who often contribute to literature reviews.

306 **Mitigation Measures:** We address these concerns through several safeguards: explicit AI authorship  
307 disclosure in all generated content, comprehensive evaluation frameworks that assess bias and  
308 representation, and recommendation that our system augment rather than replace human scholarly  
309 work. We advocate for mandatory AI-generated content labeling in academic publications and suggest  
310 human expert validation of automated surveys before publication. Our open methodology description  
311 enables community scrutiny and improvement. We emphasize that this technology should enhance  
312 human research capabilities rather than diminish human involvement in scientific synthesis, with  
313 particular attention to preserving opportunities for early-career researchers to develop critical analysis  
314 skills through literature review experience.

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375 **Agents4Science AI Involvement Checklist**

- 376 **Hypothesis development:** Hypothesis development includes the process by which you  
 377 came to explore this research topic and research question. This can involve the background  
 378 research performed by either researchers or by AI. This can also involve whether the idea  
 379 was proposed by researchers or by AI.  
 380 **Answer: [A]**  
 381 Explanation: The research topic and question emerged from hands-on experience using  
 382 agentic AI systems for literature surveys. The authors identified the potential of these systems  
 383 and formulated the research hypothesis to compare agentic vs. non-agentic approaches  
 384 based on observed capabilities and limitations in practice.
- 385 **Experimental design and implementation:** This category includes design of experiments  
 386 that are used to test the hypotheses, coding and implementation of computational methods,  
 387 and the execution of these experiments.  
 388 **Answer: [C]**  
 389 Explanation: While experimental design was primarily human-driven (selecting comparison  
 390 frameworks, defining evaluation metrics), the coding implementation and execution were  
 391 predominantly performed by AI agents. The overall balance tips toward AI involvement due  
 392 to the substantial coding and execution components.
- 393 **Analysis of data and interpretation of results:** This category encompasses any process to  
 394 organize and process data for the experiments in the paper. It also includes interpretations of  
 395 the results of the study.  
 396 **Answer: [C]**

397 Explanation: AI systems performed the majority of data processing, statistical analysis, and  
398 initial result interpretation. Human oversight was provided for validation and higher-level  
399 insights, but the computational analysis was predominantly AI-driven.

- 400 4. **Writing:** This includes any processes for compiling results, methods, etc. into the final  
401 paper form. This can involve not only writing of the main text but also figure-making,  
402 improving layout of the manuscript, and formulation of narrative.

403 Answer: **[C]**

404 Explanation: The majority of text writing and programmatic figure generation was per-  
405 formed by AI systems. Framework diagrams were created manually using tools like Adobe  
406 Illustrator, but overall AI contributed more than 50% of the writing and figure creation  
407 process.

- 408 5. **Observed AI Limitations:** What limitations have you found when using AI as a partner or  
409 lead author?

410 Description: AI requires precise specifications to avoid random behavior and can hallucinate  
411 fake results when attempting end-to-end tasks. When encountering computational difficul-  
412 ties, models often resort to placeholders rather than proper implementation, especially with  
413 insufficient API resources. Task complexity control is crucial for effective AI collaboration.

## 414 Agents4Science Paper Checklist

### 415 1. Claims

416 Question: Do the main claims made in the abstract and introduction accurately reflect the  
417 paper's contributions and scope?

418 Answer: **[Yes]**

419 Justification: The abstract and introduction accurately present our contribution of comparing  
420 agentic vs. non-agentic systems for literature review tasks.

### 421 2. Limitations

422 Question: Does the paper discuss the limitations of the work performed by the authors?

423 Answer: **[Yes]**

424 Justification: The paper includes discussion of both AI system limitations and experimental  
425 scope limitations in the analysis section.

### 426 3. Theory assumptions and proofs

427 Question: For each theoretical result, does the paper provide the full set of assumptions and  
428 a complete (and correct) proof?

429 Answer: **[NA]**

430 Justification: This paper focuses on empirical evaluation and does not include theoretical  
431 results requiring formal proofs.

### 432 4. Experimental result reproducibility

433 Question: Does the paper fully disclose all the information needed to reproduce the main ex-  
434 perimental results of the paper to the extent that it affects the main claims and/or conclusions  
435 of the paper (regardless of whether the code and data are provided or not)?

436 Answer: **[Yes]**

437 Justification: All experimental details, hyperparameters, and methodology are disclosed in  
438 sufficient detail for reproduction.

439 Guidelines:

- 440 • The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- 441 • If the paper includes experiments, a No answer to this question will not be perceived  
442 well by the reviewers: Making the paper reproducible is important.
- 443 • If the contribution is a dataset and/or model, the authors should describe the steps taken  
444 to make their results reproducible or verifiable.

- 445           • We recognize that reproducibility may be tricky in some cases, in which case authors  
446           are welcome to describe the particular way they provide for reproducibility. In the case  
447           of closed-source models, it may be that access to the model is limited in some way  
448           (e.g., to registered users), but it should be possible for other researchers to have some  
449           path to reproducing or verifying the results.

450           **5. Open access to data and code**

451           Question: Does the paper provide open access to the data and code, with sufficient instruc-  
452           tions to faithfully reproduce the main experimental results, as described in supplemental  
453           material?

454           Answer: [\[Yes\]](#)

455           Justification: Code and data will be made publicly available with detailed instructions for  
456           reproduction.

457           Guidelines:

- 458           • The answer NA means that paper does not include experiments requiring code.  
459           • Please see the Agents4Science code and data submission guidelines on the conference  
460           website for more details.  
461           • While we encourage the release of code and data, we understand that this might not be  
462           possible, so "No" is an acceptable answer. Papers cannot be rejected simply for not  
463           including code, unless this is central to the contribution (e.g., for a new open-source  
464           benchmark).  
465           • The instructions should contain the exact command and environment needed to run to  
466           reproduce the results.  
467           • At submission time, to preserve anonymity, the authors should release anonymized  
468           versions (if applicable).

469           **6. Experimental setting/details**

470           Question: Does the paper specify all the training and test details (e.g., data splits, hyper-  
471           parameters, how they were chosen, type of optimizer, etc.) necessary to understand the  
472           results?

473           Answer: [\[Yes\]](#)

474           Justification: All experimental settings, evaluation metrics, and system configurations are  
475           detailed in the methodology section.

476           Guidelines:

- 477           • The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.  
478           • The experimental setting should be presented in the core of the paper to a level of detail  
479           that is necessary to appreciate the results and make sense of them.  
480           • The full details can be provided either with the code, in appendix, or as supplemental  
481           material.

482           **7. Experiment statistical significance**

483           Question: Does the paper report error bars suitably and correctly defined or other appropriate  
484           information about the statistical significance of the experiments?

485           Answer: [\[Yes\]](#)

486           Justification: Results include error bars and statistical significance testing across multiple  
487           experimental runs.

488           Guidelines:

- 489           • The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.  
490           • The authors should answer "Yes" if the results are accompanied by error bars, confi-  
491           dence intervals, or statistical significance tests, at least for the experiments that support  
492           the main claims of the paper.  
493           • The factors of variability that the error bars are capturing should be clearly stated  
494           (for example, train/test split, initialization, or overall run with given experimental  
495           conditions).

496     8. **Experiments compute resources**

497     Question: For each experiment, does the paper provide sufficient information on the com-  
498     puter resources (type of compute workers, memory, time of execution) needed to reproduce  
499     the experiments?

500     Answer: [Yes]

501     Justification: Computational requirements including hardware specifications, memory usage,  
502     and execution time are documented.

503     Guidelines:

- 504     • The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- 505     • The paper should indicate the type of compute workers CPU or GPU, internal cluster,  
506       or cloud provider, including relevant memory and storage.
- 507     • The paper should provide the amount of compute required for each of the individual  
508       experimental runs as well as estimate the total compute.

509     9. **Code of ethics**

510     Question: Does the research conducted in the paper conform, in every respect, with the  
511     Agents4Science Code of Ethics (see conference website)?

512     Answer: [Yes]

513     Justification: The research adheres to all ethical guidelines specified by the Agents4Science  
514     conference.

515     Guidelines:

- 516     • The answer NA means that the authors have not reviewed the Agents4Science Code of  
517       Ethics.
- 518     • If the authors answer No, they should explain the special circumstances that require a  
519       deviation from the Code of Ethics.

520     10. **Broader impacts**

521     Question: Does the paper discuss both potential positive societal impacts and negative  
522     societal impacts of the work performed?

523     Answer: [Yes]

524     Justification: The paper discusses both positive impacts (accelerating scientific research)  
525     and potential negative impacts (over-reliance on AI systems) in the conclusion section.

526     Guidelines:

- 527     • The answer NA means that there is no societal impact of the work performed.
- 528     • If the authors answer NA or No, they should explain why their work has no societal  
529       impact or why the paper does not address societal impact.
- 530     • Examples of negative societal impacts include potential malicious or unintended uses  
531       (e.g., disinformation, generating fake profiles, surveillance), fairness considerations,  
532       privacy considerations, and security considerations.
- 533     • If there are negative societal impacts, the authors could also discuss possible mitigation  
534       strategies.