Aggregate While Searching: Online Partial-Trajectory Aggregation for Long-Horizon LLM Search Agents

Abstract

Parallel test-time scaling treats each rollout as an independent candidate answer. For long-horizon search agents, however, these rollouts also produce rich traces of tool calls, retrieved evidence, and partial reasoning states. Intermediate failures such as reasoning drift are difficult to self-correct within a single rollout, yet useful corrective signals often already exist in other live rollouts before termination. This creates an opportunity to turn cross-trajectory information into online correction during execution, rather than harvesting it only after rollouts terminate. However, simple broadcast is unsafe because partial states can be redundant, irrelevant, or risky for the receiving trajectory. We propose OPTA, a live aggregation framework based on checkpoint-level synchronization: each rollout maintains a private report, while a controller distills a typed global shared state, and injects only relevant and useful feedback into each trajectory, preserving its exploration identity. On BrowseComp-Plus and DeepSearchQA across four LLM backbones, OPTA is consistently the strongest test-time scaling method, lifting Qwen3-30B on BrowseComp-Plus from 37.9% to 59.6%. Our results show that OPTA is a practical route toward timely and selective test-time scaling for long-horizon LLM search agents.[1]

1 Introduction

Parallel test-time scaling is typically framed as generating multiple independent candidate answers through parallel rollouts. For long-horizon agents, this view is incomplete. A rollout is also a long trace of tool calls, evidence, and discarded hypotheses. Most of it never appears in the final answer. N parallel rollouts therefore produce not just N answers, but distributed experience across trajectories. However, raw trajectories are not directly consumable. Concatenated, they exceed the context

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[1] Our implementation is open-sourced at https://anonymous.4open.science/r/OPTA.

Actionability gap on BrowseComp-Plus

Figure 1: Actionability gap on BrowseComp-Plus: report-level terminal aggregation versus oracle Pass@n across n.

window. Read individually, they mix verified facts with dead ends, stale assumptions, unresolved conflicts, and observations irrelevant to the trajectory at hand. Any cross-trajectory comparison, reuse, or feedback needs a representation that separates and exposes these signals. Therefore, test-time scaling for long-horizon agents is first a representation problem.

Existing multi-trajectory methods use such representations in two ways, both acting only after a trajectory has terminated. Selection scores or summarizes completed trajectories and picks or synthesizes a final answer; majority voting, self-consistency, best-of-n, judge-based selection, and report-level aggregation all fall into this regime (Wang et al., 2022; Chung et al., 2025; Qiao et al., 2025). Reuse goes further, distilling completed rollouts into experience banks or structured memories that condition later attempts (Wang et al., 2026; Zhu et al., 2026). Neither acts in time: selection cannot reshape the reasoning behind its candidates, and reuse can spare future rollouts repeated work but cannot rescue an actively drifting trajectory. Moving feedback inside an active trajectory has

Figure 2: Intermediate failure events bucketed by trajectory stage. Each bar is split into self-recovered events and unrecovered events further decomposed by the strongest peer signal available at that stage (clean-peer support, peer-search hit, or none).

Figure 3: Receiver-specific usefulness of shared-state fragments. For each fragment we plot the fraction of active trajectories that find it useful, grouped by content category.

been seen as risky, since mid-trajectory states are unreliable to evaluate and global updates can perturb ongoing reasoning and inflate variance.

These observations leave open a more precise form of online feedback. The question is not whether active trajectories should share everything with each other, but whether cross-trajectory information can be made available early enough to affect ongoing reasoning, and selective enough to avoid perturbing trajectories that do not need it. We therefore separate the motivation into three empirical claims: terminal aggregation leaves actionable information unused; relevant peer information often exists before trajectories terminate; and naive broadcast is too noisy to serve as the mechanism.

Figure 1 exposes the first claim. Oracle Pass@n substantially exceeds report-level terminal aggregation, indicating that useful information, and sometimes even correct solutions, already exists in the sampled trajectories but is not recovered by final-stage synthesis. This is an actionability gap: the parallel computation holds it, but terminal aggregation fails to make it actionable.

Figure 2 asks whether this actionability gap can be localized before trajectories terminate. To answer this, we analyze 300 trajectories and identify 292 intermediate failure events, including reasoning drifts and retrieval misses, of which only 7.2% self-recover.Among the remaining unrecovered events, 97.8% already have some peer signal: another active trajectory either holds a clean evidence-supported state on the same semantic target (clean-peer), or has reached a relevant search result(peer-search hit). Thus, useful cross-trajectory informa-

tion often exists while the failing trajectory is still active, but terminal aggregation and completed-rollout reuse expose it only after the opportunity to intervene has passed.

This does not imply that all intermediate states should be shared globally. Figure 3 reports such a simulation: only a subset of broadcast items are useful for the receiver. Many are redundant or irrelevant, and some are risky, introducing unsupported assumptions, irrelevant conflicts, or premature consensus. Checkpoint-level feedback must therefore be both timely and selective: cross-trajectory information should become actionable before trajectories terminate, but filtered against each trajectory's private accumulated state.

These observations motivate a third operation enabled by trajectory representation: live synchronization. We present Online Partial-Trajectory Aggregation (OPTA), a test-time scaling framework that instantiates live synchronization for long-horizon LLM search agents. OPTA runs n search trajectories in parallel and, at fixed checkpoints, performs two-stage cross-trajectory aggregation: each trajectory maintains a private accumulated report of its progress; a controller then builds a typed shared state that separates verified facts, dead ends, unresolved conflicts, and progress; and it injects into each trajectory only fragments relevant to its state. Cross-trajectory information thus becomes an online correction signal during execution, rather than terminal evidence for final selection or offline experience for later attempts, with each trajectory's exploration identity preserved.

Our contributions are threefold:

- We frame online partial-trajectory aggregation as a missing operation in test-time scaling for long-horizon agents: existing methods either select among completed trajectories or recycle finished rollouts as offline experience, leaving the active rollout window unaddressed.

- We propose OPTA, which realizes this operation through a typed shared state and trajectory-specific selective injection, so that cross-trajectory feedback is both timely and matched to each trajectory's private state rather than broadcast or pruned.

- On BrowseComp-Plus and DeepSearchQA across four LLM backbones, OPTA achieves the strongest result among test-time scaling methods and substantially reduces harmful information exposure compared to global broadcast, LeaP-routed reports, and RSE-style experience reuse.

2 Methodology

We propose OPTA (Online Partial-Trajectory Aggregation), a test-time scaling framework for long-horizon LLM search agents. OPTA runs multiple search trajectories in parallel and aggregates them at fixed checkpoints during search. At each checkpoint, every trajectory summarizes its recent progress into a compact report; an aggregation controller merges these reports into a shared state and selectively injects fragments into each trajectory. Trajectories thus benefit from each other's discoveries while preserving independent exploration.

2.1 Problem Setup

Given an input problem x, a search agent generates a trajectory through a sequence of actions and observations:

$$\tau_i = (a_{i,1}, o_{i,1}, \ldots, a_{i,L_i}, o_{i,L_i}, y_i), \qquad (1)$$

where $a_{i,t}$ denotes the t-th reasoning step or tool action, $o_{i,t}$ denotes the corresponding observation or intermediate result, and y_i is the candidate answer produced by trajectory i.

A standard parallel test-time scaling approach samples n independent trajectories,

$$\tau_i \sim \pi_\theta(\cdot \mid x), \quad i = 1, \ldots, n, \qquad (2)$$

and performs aggregation only at the end:

$$y^\star = \mathcal{A}_{\text{final}}(x, y_1, \ldots, y_n). \qquad (3)$$

This search-then-aggregate paradigm allows no cross-trajectory information flow during search. OPTA replaces $\mathcal{A}_{\text{final}}$ with periodic online aggregation, defined below.

2.2 Online Partial-Trajectory Aggregation

OPTA divides each trajectory into multiple search chunks. Let $\Delta\tau_i^k$ denote the k-th chunk of trajectory i. At checkpoint k, trajectory i updates its accumulated report by summarizing the new chunk and merging it with the previous enriched report:

$$r_i^k = f_{\text{update}}\left(x, \tilde{r}_i^{k-1}, \Delta\tau_i^k\right), \qquad (4)$$

where $\tilde{r}_i^{k-1}$ is the enriched accumulated report from the previous checkpoint, and r_i^k is the updated local report before cross-trajectory injection. The report is a compact summary of the trajectory's partial progress; its schema follows the four-category format introduced in Stage 1 below.

At each checkpoint, the controller collects the reports from all active trajectories:

$$\mathcal{R}^k = \left\{ r_i^k \mid i \in \mathcal{I}^k \right\}, \qquad (5)$$

where $\mathcal{I}^k$ denotes the set of active trajectories. OPTA then performs two-stage cross-trajectory aggregation.

Stage 1: Atomic Shared-State Construction. The controller first aggregates all accumulated reports into a global shared state:

$$g^k = f_{\text{global}}\left(x, \mathcal{R}^k\right). \qquad (6)$$

The shared state is organized into four types of information:

$$g^k = \left(\mathcal{F}^k, \mathcal{D}^k, \mathcal{C}^k, \mathcal{P}^k\right), \qquad (7)$$

where $\mathcal{F}^k$ contains supported findings, $\mathcal{D}^k$ contains confirmed dead ends or unproductive directions, $\mathcal{C}^k$ contains unresolved conflicts across trajectories, and $\mathcal{P}^k$ summarizes overall progress.

Each component is written as a numbered list of atomic bullet points. We denote the union of all shared items as

$$\mathcal{B}^k = \{b_1^k, \ldots, b_{M_k}^k\}. \qquad (8)$$

Each item b_j^k is self-contained and traceable, with a specific type and supporting trajectory evidence. This atomic format makes the following selective injection step explicit and controllable.

Figure 4: Overview of the long-horizon solving workflow with periodic synchronization.

Stage 2: Trajectory-Specific Selective Injection. For each trajectory i, the controller reads its accumulated report r_i^k together with the atomic shared items $\mathcal{B}^k$, and selects only the items useful for that trajectory's future search:

$$z_i^k = f_{\text{select}}\left(x, r_i^k, \mathcal{B}^k\right), \quad z_i^k \subseteq \mathcal{B}^k. \quad (9)$$

The selected items are then appended to the trajectory's own accumulated report:

$$\tilde{r}_i^k = f_{\text{inject}}\left(x, r_i^k, z_i^k\right). \quad (10)$$

Equivalently, this can be written as

$$\tilde{r}_i^k = r_i^k \oplus z_i^k, \quad (11)$$

where $\oplus$ denotes report-preserving injection. The original report is preserved, and the selected cross-trajectory information is added as an auxiliary section. Each trajectory therefore receives shared information specific to its current progress.

After selective injection, OPTA resets the raw model context and starts the next search chunk from $\tilde{r}_i^k$, bounding context length while preserving each trajectory's accumulated progress and the injected cross-trajectory information:

$$\Delta\tau_i^{k+1} \sim \pi_\theta\left(\cdot \mid x, \tilde{r}_i^k\right). \quad (12)$$

This context reset and re-injection mechanism prevents the raw context from growing indefinitely, while allowing each trajectory to continue from a concise summary of its own progress plus selected cross-trajectory information.

2.3 Final Answer Aggregation

OPTA does not prune trajectories during search. All trajectories run until completion and produce candidate answers. Let $\tilde{r}_i^{K_i}$ denote the final enriched accumulated report of trajectory i, and let y_i denote its final answer. The final aggregation stage receives

$$\mathcal{Y} = \left\{\left(\tilde{r}_i^{K_i}, y_i\right) \mid i = 1, \ldots, n\right\}. \quad (13)$$

The final answer is selected by an LLM-based aggregator:

$$i^\star = \arg\max_{i \in \{1, \ldots, n\}} s_\theta\left(x, \tilde{r}_i^{K_i}, y_i, \mathcal{Y}\right), \quad y^\star = y_{i^\star}. \quad (14)$$

The scoring function s_θ compares candidate answers according to evidence sufficiency, reasoning consistency, and unresolved conflicts. Therefore, OPTA uses online partial-trajectory aggregation to improve the search process itself, while the final aggregation stage selects the most strongly supported completed trajectory.

3 Experiment

3.1 Experiment Setup

We evaluate our method on two long-horizon search benchmarks: BrowseComp-Plus (BC+) and DeepSearchQA (DSQA). For BC+, we sample 20% of the benchmark, yielding 166 questions. For DSQA, we use 50 multi-select questions and 50 single-choice questions. Experiments are conducted on four model backbones: Qwen3-30B-

Model	Data	*No scaling*	*Oracle*	*Terminal aggregation*				*Closed-loop aggregation*				
		P@1	P@n	MV	WMV	BoN	SA	RSE	PP	OP	LeaP	OPTA
Qwen3-30B	BC+	37.9%	66.8%	47.5%	48.3%	41.6%	48.8%	51.2%	48.2%	48.8%	40.3%	**59.6%**
	DSQA	18.0%	49.0%	26.0%	42.0%	38.0%	30.0%	43.0%	28.0%	24.0%	36.0%	**44.0%**
OSS-20B	BC+	39.1%	68.1%	46.3%	64.1%	59.5%	48.2%	45.1%	46.9%	46.9%	39.7%	**66.3%**
	DSQA	23.0%	66.0%	37.0%	37.0%	39.0%	**40.0%**	39.0%	39.0%	29.0%	31.0%	**40.0%**
GLM4.7	BC+	34.9%	61.4%	50.6%	46.3%	42.7%	37.3%	49.3%	46.9%	36.7%	41.5%	**57.2%**
	DSQA	29.0%	67.0%	43.0%	43.0%	42.0%	31.0%	**46.0%**	41.0%	32.0%	41.0%	**46.0%**
Qwen3-235B	BC+	46.3%	77.1%	48.8%	66.3%	72.1%	66.8%	69.8%	50.0%	63.8%	65.6%	**74.7%**
	DSQA	43.0%	73.0%	48.0%	51.0%	48.0%	51.0%	54.0%	47.0%	52.0%	46.0%	**55.0%**

Table 1: Main results across two benchmarks and four model families. BC+ denotes BrowseComp-Plus; DSQA denotes DeepSearchQA. P@n denotes oracle Pass@n. MV denotes Majority Vote; WMV denotes Weighted Majority Vote; BoN denotes Best-of-n; SA denotes aggregation with summary; PP denotes Parallel-Probe; OP denotes Online Prune. Qwen3-30B denotes Qwen3-30B-A3B-Instruct-2507; OSS-20B denotes gpt-oss-20B; Qwen3-235B denotes Qwen3-235B-A22B-Instruct-2507. The highest results are highlighted with **bold**, while the second-best results are marked with underline.

A3B-Instruct-2507, gpt-oss-20B, GLM4.7, and Qwen3-235B-A22B-Instruct-2507.

All methods use a ReAct-style long-horizon agent with up to 300 turns. The agent history is compressed every 64K tokens. For each query, we use a rollout budget of $n = 10$ with temperature 0.2. All baselines share this rollout budget. We count every rollout from both parallel sampling and sequential expansion. We use a low temperature. Online search already adds stochasticity beyond model sampling. Answer correctness is evaluated by a GPT-4o-based critic.

We report P@1 for single-trajectory performance and Pass@n for oracle performance, with $n = 10$ throughout.

3.2 Main Results

We organize baselines by how the aggregate is used during test-time inference. In *terminal aggregation*, completed trajectories are aggregated only to produce a final decision; the aggregate does not influence any subsequent reasoning. In *closed-loop aggregation*, the aggregate is reused before the final answer is emitted, serving as a control or context signal for later inference. We further divide closed-loop methods into two regimes. *Round/rollout-level feedback* aggregates completed reasoning units and uses the resulting experience to condition later units. In contrast, *checkpoint-level feedback* aggregates partial states from active trajectories and feeds the result back before those trajectories terminate. This distinction is important for long-horizon agents: feedback over completed units can help future attempts avoid repeated work, but only checkpoint-level feedback can intervene while a trajectory is still drifting.

Table 1 compares methods across two benchmarks and four model configurations under the same rollout budget. We organize the results by how aggregated information is used during test-time inference. Pass@1 reflects single-trajectory performance, while oracle Pass@n estimates whether the rollout budget contains at least one correct trajectory. The large gap between Pass@1 and Pass@n shows that additional rollouts often contain useful evidence, but the gap between existing methods and the oracle indicates that the challenge is recovering and using that evidence effectively.

Terminal aggregation methods improve over single-trajectory inference by selecting or synthesizing among completed trajectories. However, since their aggregates are used only after all trajectories terminate, they cannot influence the reasoning process that produced the candidates. This is limiting in long-horizon settings, where early errors, stale assumptions, or unverified intermediate conclusions can accumulate before the final aggregator is invoked.

Closed-loop aggregation addresses this limitation by feeding aggregated information back into inference before the final answer is emitted. Within this category, rollout-level feedback, such as RSE, recycles information from completed reasoning units into later attempts. This can reuse experience across attempts, but it cannot correct an active trajectory while it is drifting. Checkpoint-level feedback instead aggregates partial trajectory states before termination, allowing cross-trajectory evidence to affect ongoing reasoning. PP, OP, LeaP,

Method	Score ↑	Agent	Ctrl.	Total	Ctrl.%
RSE	51.20%	19.6M	0.71M	20.3M	3.5%
LeaP	40.36%	20.3M	0	20.4M	0.0%
GB	51.2%	29.57M	0.24M	30.38M	0.7%
OPTA	59.45%	25.69M	0.63M	27.1M	2.3%

Table 2: Cost-normalized comparison on BrowseComp-Plus (M = million tokens; GB = global broadcast). **Agent**: trajectory-execution tokens. **Ctrl.**: online co-ordination tokens (reports, feedback, probing/routing, shared-state construction and injection). **Total**: all measured tokens, also covering final aggregation and book-keeping, so Total ≥ Agent + Ctrl. Ctrl.% = Ctrl./Total.

Variant	Qwen		OSS		Avg.	
	Score (%)	Δ (pp)	Score (%)	Δ (pp)	Score (%)	Δ (pp)
Base agent	37.9	–	39.1	–	38.5	–
+ Structur. sum.	43.9	+6.0	46.3	+7.2	45.1	+6.6
+ Shared state	51.2	+13.3	51.8	+12.7	51.5	+13.0
OPTA	59.6	+21.7	66.3	+27.2	63.0	+24.5

Table 3: Component build-up on BrowseComp-Plus. All variants share the trajectory budget, checkpoint schedule, context-resetting scaffold, and final aggregation; Δ is the gain over **Base agent**. **Base agent**: each trajectory is rehydrated only from its own report. **+ Structur. sum.**: structured accumulated summaries. **+ Shared state**: non-selective injection of the full shared state into every subsequent trajectory. **OPTA**: adds trajectory-conditioned selective injection (full method).

and OPTA all fall into this broad regime, but differ in how feedback is constructed and injected.

OPTA differs from prior checkpoint-level approaches by preserving each trajectory's accumulated state while injecting only trajectory-relevant cross-trajectory information. Rather than pruning trajectories, routing from coarse reports, probing partial states, or exchanging global summaries, it lets evidence from one trajectory become actionable for another without overwriting local context or forcing trajectories into a shared summary.

Under the matched rollout budget, OPTA achieves the strongest or tied-strongest result in all evaluated settings. On BC+, it obtains the best result across all four model configurations: 59.6% on Qwen-30B, 66.3% on OSS-20B, 57.23% on GLM4.7, and 74.7% on Qwen-235B. On DSQA, it is best on Qwen-30B and Qwen-235B, reaching 44.0% and 55.0%, and ties the best result on OSS-20B and GLM4.7, both at 40.0% and 46.0%, respectively. Compared with the rollout-level closed-loop baseline RSE, OPTA is stronger or tied in every setting, suggesting that moving feedback from completed rollouts to intermediate checkpoints can make the same rollout budget more effective. However, since several checkpoint-level baselines underperform RSE in some settings, checkpoint timing alone is insufficient; the feedback must be specific to the receiving trajectory.

3.3 Cost Analysis

Table 2 shows that the gains of OPTA do not come from excessive controller-side computation. OPTA achieves the best score, 59.45%, with 27.1M total tokens, of which only 0.63M are controller-related tokens, corresponding to a 2.3% overhead. This indicates that checkpoint-level aggregation improves cross-trajectory information reuse with negligible coordination overhead.

Compared with GB, OPTA improves accuracy from 51.2% to 59.45% while reducing total tokens from 30.38M to 27.1M, a 10.8% reduction. It also uses fewer agent-execution tokens, suggesting that targeted checkpoint feedback is more cost-effective than uniform global broadcast. Although RSE uses fewer tokens, it requires costly offline construction of an experience library and runs about 2.5× slower than OPTA in our experiments. LeaP has no controller-token overhead, but its limited summary exchange leads to much lower accuracy. Overall, OPTA provides a favorable high-accuracy operating point with lightweight online coordination.

3.4 Ablation Studies

Table 3 shows a progressive component build-up of OPTA on BrowseComp-Plus. Starting from the base fixed-window summarize-and-reset agent, which summarizes a trajectory when its context window is nearly full, adding structured summaries improves the average score from 38.5% to 45.1%, corresponding to a +6.6 percentage-point gain. This suggests that explicitly organizing accumulated evidence is already beneficial compared with relying on unstructured trajectory histories. Introducing shared state with non-selective injection further raises the average score to 51.5%, a +13.0 point improvement over the base agent, indicating that checkpoint-level information sharing across trajectories provides a substantial benefit. However, simply injecting the same shared state into every trajectory remains suboptimal. The full OPTA method, which performs trajectory-conditioned selective injection, achieves the best average score

Policy	Useful ↑	Redundant	Irrelevant ↓	Harmful ↓
LeaP	12.76%	77.38%	2.33%	7.53%
RSE	18.64%	40.65%	28.31%	12.39%
GB	16.74%	76.15%	2.62%	4.48%
OPTA	**20.40%**	74.90%	**2.00%**	**2.70%**

Table 4: Item-level quality of injected feedback under different feedback policies. Percentages are computed over delivered atomic information items for each policy.

Stat.	Reasoning drift	Retrieval miss
Self-corr.	11.9%	1.5%
Events	183	235
Rel. sig.	137/183 (74.9%)	109/235 (46.4%)
Rec. | rel. sig.	51/137 (37.2%)↑	53/109 (48.6%)↑
Rec. | all	51/183 (27.9%)↑	53/235 (22.6%)↑

Table 5: Turning shared signals into online recovery. **Self-corr.**: recovery without cross-trajectory sharing. **Rel. sig.**: relevant signals (failure-type-specific; see text). **Rec. | rel. sig.** and **Rec. | all**: recovery rate among signal-conditioned events and over all observed failures. **Events**: diagnostic counts, not directly comparable across settings. ↑: rate exceeds the corresponding self-correction baseline.

of 63.0%, improving over the base agent by +24.5 points and over non-selective injection by an additional +11.5 points. The same trend holds for both backbones: OPTA improves Qwen by +21.7 points and OSS by +27.2 points over the base agent. These results indicate that OPTA's gains come not only from maintaining a shared state, but also from selectively routing the most relevant shared information to each trajectory, thereby reducing unnecessary context pollution while preserving useful cross-trajectory evidence.

3.5 Injection Policy Analysis

Table 4 analyzes the item-level quality of information delivered by different injection policies. While the preceding ablation shows that indiscriminately injecting all shared-state fragments weakens performance, it does not reveal whether the injected content is useful, redundant, irrelevant, or actively harmful to the receiving trajectory. We therefore evaluate injection quality at the receiver–item level.

For comparability, each delivered report, summary, shared-state fragment, or experience-pool entry is normalized into atomic information items. Native shared-state and experience-pool units are treated as atomic items, while summaries are decomposed using the same atomization prompt. A policy-blind judge labels each receiver–item pair as Useful, Redundant, Irrelevant, or Potentially harmful given the original problem, the receiver's checkpoint report, and an anonymized item (rubric and human-audit agreement in Appendix § C).

OPTA delivers the highest Useful rate, 20.40%, compared with 18.64% for RSE, 16.74% for global broadcast, and 12.76% for LeaP. It also yields the lowest harmful exposure, with only 2.70% of items labeled Potentially harmful, versus 4.48% for global broadcast, 7.53% for LeaP, and 12.39% for RSE. OPTA's Useful/Harmful ratio, 7.56, more than doubles every baseline. Trajectory-conditioned selection thus improves the precision of cross-trajectory information flow, routing action-

able items to the trajectories that need them while reducing irrelevant or harmful exposure.

3.6 Mechanism Analysis

Online recovery from shared state signals. The motivation study (Figure 2) showed that intermediate failures rarely self-correct (11.9% for reasoning drift, 1.5% for retrieval miss), yet relevant peer signals exist while the failing trajectory is active. We ask whether OPTA converts these peer signals into in-trajectory recovery on the *same semantic target*, rather than only into better final answers.

Using the same failure types as in the motivation (reasoning drift, retrieval miss), we annotate each observed event for (i) whether the affected trajectory later receives a relevant shared-state or injection signal, and (ii) whether it subsequently recovers on that target. Retrieval miss is additionally conditioned on *recovery-eligible* events, where a peer cue, search hit, or evidence pointer becomes available; full protocol in Appendix §A.

Table 5 reports the result. Compared with the no-sharing self-recovery baseline, OPTA lifts reasoning-drift recovery from 11.9% to 27.9%, and retrieval-miss recovery from 1.5% to 22.6% (a 15× gain). Conditioned on a relevant signal actually arriving, the rates rise further to 37.2% and 48.6%, indicating that recovery is driven by the routed signal rather than by unrelated trajectory dynamics. Thus shared-state aggregation is not bookkeeping for terminal selection: it returns peer evidence and cleaner semantic state to live trajectories as an online correction signal.

Trajectory-set coverage and quality. When injecting intermediate states into repeated sampling,

Model	Pass@10 ↑			Avg@10 ↑			MV@10 ↑		
	Standard	Ours	Δ	Standard	Ours	Δ	Standard	Ours	Δ
Qwen3-30B	66.87	67.46	+0.59	39.15	50.00	+10.85	47.59	57.83	+10.24
Qwen3-235B	77.11	76.50	-0.61	47.59	59.63	+12.04	48.80	71.10	+22.30
GPT-OSS-20B	68.07	69.27	+1.20	39.15	45.18	+6.03	46.38	64.45	+18.07
GLM-4.7-Flash	61.45	78.31	+16.86	37.34	49.39	+12.05	50.60	53.61	+3.01
Average	68.38	72.74	+4.51	40.81	51.05	+10.24	48.34	61.75	+13.41

Table 6: Trajectory-set quality across four base models: standard 10-run sampling vs. ours on Pass@10, Avg@10, and MV@10. Δ is the absolute improvement (percentage points) over the standard strategy.

a natural question is whether the additional guidance changes the behavior of the sampled trajectory set. In particular, if different samples become overly coupled, repeated sampling may no longer provide the same benefit as independent exploration. Moreover, noisy or misleading states from one trajectory may be propagated to other samples, biasing the entire trajectory set toward a suboptimal direction. We therefore compare the standard 10-run sampling strategy with OPTA using Pass@10, Avg@10, and MV@10.

As shown in Table 6, OPTA improves Avg@10 and MV@10 across all four base models, with average gains of 10.24 and 13.41 percentage points, respectively. It also improves Pass@10 on three out of four models with a positive average gain. This pattern suggests that the injected states do not merely help produce occasional successful trajectories. Instead, they improve the sampled trajectory set more broadly: individual trajectories become stronger on average, and the resulting set also supports more reliable majority voting. Overall, specificity-aware state injection improves the coverage and quality of repeated sampling without diminishing its benefit.

4 Related Work

Terminal Aggregation Test-time scaling aggregates completed trajectories via self-consistency, weighted voting, best-of-n, and verifier- or judge-based selection (Wang et al., 2022; Cobbe et al., 2021; Zheng et al., 2023; Chung et al., 2025), or over trajectory-level Reports in long-horizon agents (Qiao et al., 2025; Li et al., 2025). Because aggregation acts only after completion, it cannot shape the search itself; we instead aggregate *during* search.

Rollout-Level Experience Reuse Completed trajectories can also be reused as shared experience for subsequent rollouts—distilled into an Experience Bank (Wang et al., 2026) or structured state representations (Zhu et al., 2026). Feedback still arrives only between rollouts, and naive mid-trajectory synchronization is unreliable on noisy partial states (Wang et al., 2026); Context Reset and Report Reinjection instead deliver shared information mid-rollout without destabilizing it.

Partial-Trajectory Feedback A third line uses intermediate states before termination—branch expansion in tree-structured reasoning (Yao et al., 2023; Hao et al., 2023), step scoring in process supervision (Lightman et al., 2024; Snell et al., 2024), consensus-based stopping (Zheng et al., 2026), and peer summary sharing (Luo et al., 2025)—but mainly for *control*, not for selectively enriching what each active trajectory itself reads. We instead use Two-Stage Cross-Trajectory Aggregation to selectively inject a Global Shared State into each trajectory's own Accumulated Report. Due to space limitation, we include the complete discussion on related work in Appendix § B.

5 Conclusion

We study test-time scaling for long-horizon language agents from a single angle: turning information discovered across trajectories into online correction while those trajectories are still active. Our framework, checkpoint-level closed-loop aggregation, maintains a per-trajectory accumulated report, distills a global shared state, and selectively injects it back into each trajectory without overwriting its identity. On BrowseComp-Plus and DeepSearchQA, four base models equipped with OPTA consistently outperform terminal-aggregation baselines under the same rollout budget. The shared state recovers a substantial fraction of reasoning-drift and retrieval-miss cases, and selective injection raises useful exposure while suppressing harmful exposure without collapsing diversity. The bottleneck in test-time scaling is not generating more trajectories, but us-

ing what they discover at the right time and with the right specificity.

Limitations

(1) ***Task Domains.*** We evaluate OPTA only on long-horizon information-seeking benchmarks (BrowseComp-Plus, DeepSearchQA). Extending checkpoint-level partial-trajectory aggregation to code agents, math-tool agents, GUI agents, and multimodal scientific research agents is left to future work; we expect the mechanism to transfer, but the schema of the shared state (verified facts, dead ends, unresolved conflicts, progress) will likely need to be retargeted to each domain's characteristic failure modes.

(2) ***Training the Controller.*** The aggregation controller is a frozen prompted LLM, and OPTA is studied entirely in a training-free regime. We therefore do not explore training-based variants—fine-tuning the controller on aggregation traces, distilling it into a smaller specialized model, or jointly training the agent and controller via reinforcement learning so that the agent produces more aggregation-friendly partial trajectories. These directions should sharpen selective injection and lower coordination cost, and we leave them to future work.

Acknowledgments

Use of AI Assistant We used an AI assistant, ChatGPT, solely for language polishing, including improving clarity, flow, and readability. The AI assistant was not used for data analysis, experiments, method design, or idea generation. All research design, methodology, results, and conclusions were developed by the authors. The authors reviewed and edited all AI-assisted text and take full responsibility for the accuracy, originality, and integrity of the manuscript.

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A Online Recovery Annotation Protocol

We annotate online recovery at the level of semantic targets. Each intermediate failure event is associated with a trajectory, a checkpoint, a failure type, and the semantic target on which the failure occurs. We use the same two failure categories as in the motivation study: reasoning drift and retrieval miss.

A feedback item is counted as relevant only if it is introduced after the failure event and is related to the same semantic target. Relevant feedback may take the form of a shared-state aggregation item, a selective-injection item, a peer search hit, a missing-evidence pointer, a dead-end warning, or a conflict signal that could plausibly repair the failure.

For reasoning drift, an event is counted as recovered if the same trajectory later corrects or abandons the erroneous state on the same semantic target. This includes cases where the trajectory revises an incorrect constraint application, unbinds evidence from the wrong candidate, rejects an unsupported hypothesis, or replaces a faulty intermediate state with a better-supported one.

For retrieval miss, an event is counted as recovered if the same trajectory later retrieves, uses, or correctly incorporates the missing evidence after receiving a relevant shared-state cue, peer search hit, or evidence pointer. Because a retrieval miss can only be repaired when the missing evidence or a pointer to it becomes available, we report retrieval-miss recovery over recovery-eligible events. A retrieval miss is recovery-eligible if a relevant shared-state cue, peer search hit, or evidence pointer becomes available after the miss.

In the 300 trajectories generated by our method, we identify 183 reasoning drift events and 235 retrieval miss events. For reasoning drift, 137 out of 183 events receive a relevant shared-state aggregation or selective-injection item after the drift occurs. Among these feedback-conditioned drift events, 51 are later corrected, giving a conditional recovery rate of 37.2%. Measured over all observed reasoning drifts, 51 out of 183 events are recovered, giving an overall recovery rate of 27.9%. Both rates are higher than the 11.9% self-recovery rate observed in the no-sharing diagnostic.

For retrieval misses, 109 out of 235 observed events are recovery-eligible because a relevant shared-state cue, peer search hit, or evidence pointer becomes available. Among these eligible events, 53 are recovered, giving a recovery rate of 48.6%. Measured over all observed retrieval misses, 53 out of 235 events are recovered, giving an overall recovery rate of 22.6%. This contrasts with the 1.5% self-recovery rate in the no-sharing diagnostic.

These raw event counts are used only for online recovery diagnostics. They are not interpreted as directly comparable failure rates across settings, because the analysis focuses on whether relevant feedback, once available to a live trajectory, leads to subsequent recovery.

B Complete Discussion on Related Work

Parallel trajectory search and terminal aggregation. Test-time scaling commonly improves reasoning by sampling multiple trajectories and aggregating their completed outputs. Self-consistency and majority voting aggregate final answers across sampled reasoning paths (Wang et al., 2022), while weighted voting, best-of-n, verifier-based selection, and judge-based selection score or select among completed candidates (Cobbe et al., 2021; Zheng et al., 2023; Chung et al., 2025). In long-horizon agentic tasks, terminal aggregation can also operate over trajectory-level Reports rather than answer strings(Qiao et al., 2025; Li et al., 2025). For example, WebResearcher maintains report-like representations of long-horizon exploration, and a final aggregator can compare completed reports and candidate answers to select the best-supported output. These methods exploit diversity across parallel trajectories, but their aggregation point is terminal: the aggregate can improve final selection, but cannot affect the search process that produced the trajectories.

Rollout-level experience aggregation and reuse. Another line of work reuses completed trajectories as experience for later attempts. RSE distills completed rollouts into a shared Experience Bank containing useful conclusions and failed directions, then conditions later rollout batches on this memory (Wang et al., 2026). RE-TRAC similarly converts completed trajectories into structured state representations that summarize evidence, uncertainty, failures, and future plans, and uses them to guide subsequent trajectories (Zhu et al., 2026). Compared with terminal aggregation, rollout-level reuse allows earlier trajectories to influence later ones. However, the feedback still occurs only after a rollout or batch has finished, so it cannot correct

an active trajectory while it is drifting. RSE also notes that mid-trajectory synchronization is difficult because partial states are unreliable to evaluate and global updates may perturb the conditioning context or increase output variance (). This motivates a more selective form of aggregate-while-searching: shared experience should be available earlier, but should not be indiscriminately broadcast to every trajectory.

Online partial-trajectory aggregation and checkpoint feedback. Several methods use intermediate trajectory states before termination. Tree-structured reasoning and planning methods evaluate partial states to decide which branches to expand (Yao et al., 2023; Hao et al., 2023), while process-supervision and verifier-guided methods score intermediate steps for pruning, reranking, or budget allocation (Lightman et al., 2024; Snell et al., 2024). Parallel-Probe periodically elicits intermediate answers from active branches for consensus-based early stopping and deviation-based pruning (Zheng et al., 2026), and online-pruning baselines similarly use checkpoint signals to decide which trajectories should continue. LeaP allows reasoning paths to summarize intermediate reasoning and share peer information during inference (Luo et al., 2025). These methods show that partial-trajectory information can be useful before termination, but they mainly use it for control, pruning, routing, or summary sharing. Our work instead studies Online Partial-Trajectory Aggregation for long-horizon search: during Parallel Trajectory Search, each trajectory maintains an Accumulated Report; Two-Stage Cross-Trajectory Aggregation first constructs a Global Shared State and then performs Trajectory-Specific Selective Injection to produce an Enriched Accumulated Report. Through Context Reset and Report Re-injection, selected cross-trajectory information becomes actionable during search while preserving trajectory-specific exploration. Final aggregation is still performed at the trajectory level after completion.

C LLM-as-Judge Annotation for injection policy analysis.

We use a rubric-based LLM-as-judge protocol to label feedback-item relevance while minimizing bias toward our method. The judge is *policy-blind*: it is never told whether an atomic feedback item is selected by our method, produced by global broadcast, sampled by random injection, or generated by a baseline such as peer-summary routing. Instead, each annotation instance contains only the original problem, the receiving trajectory's accumulated report at the checkpoint, and an anonymized atomic feedback item. The judge is also not given the final answer, future trajectory states, or the eventual success of any method, so labels are checkpoint-local rather than hindsight-based.

We normalize all delivered feedback into atomic information items before relevance labeling. For our method, global broadcast, the delivered units are already typed shared-state fragments and are treated as atomic items. For the RSE baseline, we use its experience-bank entries as atomic feedback items. For LeaP peer routing baseline, which delivers longer peer summaries, we decompose each summary into atomic items using the same atomization prompt. All resulting receiver-item pairs are then labeled with the same fixed rubric: *Useful*, *Redundant*, *Irrelevant*, and *Potentially harmful*.

Policy-level statistics are computed only after annotation by mapping the blind labels back to the items delivered by each feedback policy. This ensures that the same label table is used to evaluate all policies and that the judge cannot favor our selective-injection policy during labeling.

To validate the annotation quality, we manually audit a random subset of 100 labeled receiver-item pairs sampled across item types, checkpoints, and feedback policies. For each audited example, a human annotator independently applies the same rubric without seeing the LLM judge's label or the originating feedback policy. We first report four-way exact agreement. For each receiver-item pair, both the LLM judge and the human annotator assign one of four labels: *Useful*, *Redundant*, *Irrelevant*, or *Potentially harmful*. An audited example is counted as an exact agreement only when the two labels are identical. Formally, if $\hat{y}_i$ is the LLM label and y_i is the human label for item i, the four-way exact agreement is

$$\text{ExactAgreement} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbf{1}[\hat{y}_i = y_i].$$

The resulting four-way exact agreement is 88%.

Because our downstream analysis is especially sensitive to which feedback items are labeled *Useful* or *Potentially harmful*, we also report label-specific overlaps. Let

Audit statistic	Value
Audited receiver-item pairs	100
Four-way exact agreement	88%
Useful-label Jaccard overlap	88.67%
Potentially-harmful-label Jaccard overlap	92.7%

Table 7: Human audit of feedback-item relevance labels. Four-way exact agreement counts an item as correct only when the LLM judge and the human annotator assign the same label among *Useful*, *Redundant*, *Irrelevant*, and *Potentially harmful*. Useful-label and Potentially-harmful-label overlaps are Jaccard overlaps between the LLM-labeled and human-labeled item sets for the corresponding label.

Artifact	License / Terms
BrowseComp-Plus	MIT
DeepSearchQA	Apache-2.0
Qwen3-30B-A3B-Instruct-2507	Apache-2.0
gpt-oss-20B	Apache-2.0 + gpt-oss usage policy
GLM-4.7-Flash	MIT
Qwen3-235B-A22B-Instruct-2507	Apache-2.0

Table 8: Licenses and terms of use for the benchmarks and models used in this work.

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{LLM}} = \{i : \hat{y}_i = Useful\},$$
$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{Human}} = \{i : y_i = Useful\}.$$

We define Useful-label overlap as the Jaccard overlap

$$\text{UsefulOverlap} = \frac{|\mathcal{U}_{\text{LLM}} \cap \mathcal{U}_{\text{Human}}|}{|\mathcal{U}_{\text{LLM}} \cup \mathcal{U}_{\text{Human}}|}.$$

The Useful-label overlap is 88.67%. We compute the Potentially-harmful-label overlap analogously over the sets of items labeled *Potentially harmful* by the LLM judge and by the human audit; this overlap is 92.7%.

D Artifact Licenses and Intended Use

We use two public benchmarks and four open-weight language models in our experiments. Table 8 summarizes the licenses and terms of use of these artifacts. All artifacts are used solely for research and evaluation purposes. We do not redistribute the benchmark data, model weights, or any raw web documents from the benchmark corpora.

Benchmarks. BrowseComp-Plus (Chen et al., 2025) is used as a controlled deep-research benchmark for evaluating retrieval-augmented agents. BrowseComp-Plus is released under the MIT License. Since its accompanying corpus consists of curated web documents, we use it only for evaluation and do not redistribute the corpus. DeepSearchQA (Gupta et al., 2026) is used as a multi-step information-seeking benchmark for evaluating deep-research agents. DeepSearchQA is released under the Apache License 2.0. Our use of both benchmarks is consistent with their intended evaluation purposes.

Models. We evaluate four open-weight language models: Qwen3-30B-A3B-Instruct-2507 (Yang et al., 2025a), gpt-oss-20B (OpenAI, 2025), GLM-4.7-Flash (Team et al., 2025), and Qwen3-235B-A22B-Instruct-2507 (Yang et al., 2025b). Qwen3-30B-A3B-Instruct-2507 and Qwen3-235B-A22B-Instruct-2507 are released under the Apache License 2.0. gpt-oss-20B is released under the Apache License 2.0 and is additionally subject to the gpt-oss usage policy. GLM-4.7-Flash is released under the MIT License. We use these models only for inference-based evaluation and do not redistribute their weights.

E Use of AI Assistant

In this work, we utilized an AI assistant solely for the purpose of refining and polishing the language of the manuscript. The AI assistant was employed to improve clarity, flow, and overall readability, ensuring the text adhered to academic writing standards. It was not involved in any data analysis, experimentation, or formulation of ideas. All research design, methodology, results, and conclusions were developed independently by the authors. The authors carefully reviewed and edited all AI-assisted text and take full responsibility for the accuracy, originality, and integrity of the manuscript.

F Prompt

```
You are a meticulous and strategic research agent.
Your primary function is to conduct comprehensive,
multi-step research to deliver a thorough, accurate,
and well-supported report in response to the user's
query.
Your operation is guided by these core principles:
* **Rigor:** Execute every step of the research
process with precision and attention to detail.
* **Objectivity:** Synthesize information based on
the evidence gathered, not on prior assumptions.
Note and investigate conflicting information. *
**Thoroughness:** Never settle for a surface-level
answer. Always strive to uncover the underlying
details, context, and data. * **Transparency:**
Your reasoning process should be clear at every step,
linking evidence from your research directly to your
conclusions.
```

Follow this structured protocol for to find the answer
Phase 1: Deconstruction & Strategy
1. **Deconstruct the Query:** * Analyze the user's prompt to identify the core question(s). * Isolate key entities, concepts, and the relationships between them. * Explicitly list all constraints, conditions, and required data points (e.g., dates, quantities, specific names). 2. **Hypothesize & Brainstorm:** * Based on your knowledge, brainstorm potential search vectors, keywords, synonyms, and related topics that could yield relevant information. * Consider multiple angles of inquiry to approach the problem. 3. **Verification Checklist:** * Create a **Verification Checklist** based on the query's constraints and required data points. This checklist will be your guide throughout the process and used for final verification.

Phase 2: Iterative Research & Discovery
Tool Usage: * **Tools:** * `search`: Use for broad discovery of sources and to get initial snippets whenever external information, missing background, or source verification would help. Search results are returned as ranked Markdown links with titles, URLs, source/date when available, and snippets. * `visit`: Use for any promising `search` result URL that you may rely on. Snippets are insufficient as final evidence; you must analyze the relevant context of the source document.
* **Query Strategy:** * Start with moderately broad queries to map the information landscape. Narrow your focus as you learn more. * Do not repeat the exact same query. If a query fails, rephrase it or change your angle of attack. * If you use search for a factual claim you may rely on, use at least one `visit` to inspect a promising result URL. Continue for several tool calls only if verification is still incomplete. For complex queries, use up to **50 tool calls**. Do not terminate prematurely.
* **Visit Strategy:** * Use `visit` with the exact URL from a search result or from the question itself. * Provide a specific `goal` when you know what fact, date, name, number, or evidence you need from that page. * If a visited page is irrelevant, blocked, too shallow, or only partially useful, refine your query and continue searching. * **Post-Observation Analysis:** After receiving each tool result, briefly summarize the key findings from that result, extract relevant facts, and explain how it affects your next step. Do not place this analysis after a tool call in the same assistant turn; wait until the tool result is available. * **<IMPORTANT>Never simulate tool call output<IMPORTANT>**
You will execute your research plan using an iterative OODA loop (Observe, Orient, Decide, Act).
1. **Observe:** Review all gathered information. Identify what is known and, more importantly, what knowledge gaps remain according to your research plan. 2. **Orient:** Analyze the situation. Is the current line of inquiry effective? Are there new, more promising avenues? Refine your understanding of the topic based on the search results and visited pages so far. 3. **Decide:** Choose the single most effective next action. This could be a broader query to establish context, a highly specific query to find a key data point, or visiting a promising URL. 4. **Act:** Execute the chosen action using the available tools. After the action, return to **Observe**.

Phase 3: Synthesis & Analysis
* **Continuous Synthesis:** Throughout the research process, continuously integrate new information with existing knowledge. Build a coherent narrative and understanding of the topic. * **Triangulate Critical Data:** For any crucial fact, number, date, or claim, you must seek to verify it across at least two independent, reliable sources when practical. Note any discrepancies. * **Handle Dead Ends:** If you are blocked, do not give up. Broaden your search scope, try alternative keywords, or research related contextual information to uncover new leads. Assume a discoverable answer exists and exhaust all reasonable avenues. * **Maintain a "Fact Sheet":** Internally, keep a running list of key facts, figures, dates, and their supporting sources. This will be crucial for the final report.

Phase 4: Verification & Final Report Formulation

1. **Systematic Verification:** Before writing the final answer, halt your research and review your **Verification Checklist** created in Phase 1. For each item on the checklist, confirm you have sufficient support, either from careful prompt-based reasoning/calculation or from documents you have visited. 2. **Mandatory Re-research:** If any checklist item is unconfirmed or the evidence is weak, it is **mandatory** to return to Phase 2 to conduct further targeted research. Do not formulate an answer based on incomplete information. 3. **Do not give up prematurely.** For search-dependent gaps, keep trying alternative keywords, source types, and angles before concluding that the information cannot be found. 4. **Construct the Final Report:** * Once all checklist items are confidently verified, synthesize all gathered facts into a comprehensive and well-structured answer. * Directly answer the user's original query. * Ensure all claims, numbers, and key pieces of information in your report are clearly supported by the research you conducted.
Execute this entire protocol to provide a definitive and trustworthy answer to the user.
You have access to the following native functions. Their schemas are listed for reference; the runtime exposes them through the tool-calling interface.
-- BEGIN FUNCTION #1: search -- Description: Run an online web search using Google Serper. Provide a required `query` string and optional `topk`. Returns ranked Markdown-link results with title, url, source/date when available, and a search-result snippet. The snippet is only a preview; use `visit` before relying on a source as evidence. Parameters: (1) query (string, required): The web search query. (2) topk (integer, optional): Number of search results to show. -- END FUNCTION #1 --
-- BEGIN FUNCTION #2: visit -- Description: Read a specific web page or PDF URL and return content selected for the given research goal. Provide an absolute `url` from a previous search result. Use optional `goal` to specify what information you want from the page. Parameters: (1) url (string, required): Absolute URL to fetch. (2) goal (string, optional): Reading objective used to select relevant snippets. -- END FUNCTION #2 --
-- BEGIN FUNCTION #3: finish -- Description: Submit the final answer once you have enough evidence, or when no further progress is possible. Parameters: (1) answer (string, required): A succinct final answer. (2) explanation (string, required): Brief evidence-grounded explanation. If you used sources, cite visited source URLs or page titles when possible. (3) confidence (string, optional): Confidence score between 0% and 100%. -- END FUNCTION #3 --
<IMPORTANT> Reminder: - When an action is needed, use the native tool call for the selected function. Do not write `<function=...>` XML blocks, JSON tool-call objects, or simulated tool outputs in normal text. - Required parameters must be supplied with the tool call. - You may call multiple tools in the same turn when the task benefits from parallel actions, especially complementary search queries. Otherwise use the single best next tool call. - You may include brief reasoning before choosing a tool call, but do not add extra prose after a tool call in the same assistant turn. - If no tool is needed, answer normally. When the task is complete, use the appropriate completion tool (`finish`) if it is available. </IMPORTANT>
You are a deep research agent. You need to answer the given question by interacting with a search engine, using the search and visit tools provided. Please perform reasoning and use the tools step by step, in an interleaved manner. You may use the search and visit tools multiple times.
Question: PLACEHOLDER_QUESTION
* Use the native `search` tool with `query` and optional `topk`. * You may issue multiple native `search` tool calls in one turn when complementary queries are useful. * Use the native `visit` tool with a `url` from a prior search result, and optional `goal` describing the fact or evidence you need from that page. * When ready to answer, call the native `finish` tool with: - `answer`: your succinct, final answer - `explanation`: your explanation; if you used sources, cite visited source URLs or page titles when useful - `confidence`: your confidence score between 0% and 100%

```
<IMPORTANT> - Never simulate tool output. If external
information, missing background, source lookup, or
verification would help, call the native 'search'
tool. - Search-result snippets are only previews.
Use native 'visit' to inspect any source you rely
on. - Emit actions through the native tool-calling
interface rather than writing '<function=...>' XML
in text. - You may provide optional reasoning before
the tool call, but do not add explanatory text after
a tool call in the same turn. </IMPORTANT>
```