

# deriveConfidence

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## deriveConfidence

**Kind:** Function

**Source:** [atloria-monorepo/libs/parser-core/src/techdocs/grounded-ask.ts](https://github.com/atloria-monorepo/libs/parser-core/src/techdocs/grounded-ask.ts)

Derive a confidence band from what retrieval actually returned and what the model actually grounded in — two signals already produced upstream, so no extra model call:

- retrieval strength — the top hit's similarity (keyword-exact = 1, semantic = cosine)
- grounding — how many retrieved sources the answer cited (validateCitations)

A cited answer over strong, corroborated retrieval is 'high'; a cited answer over a single decent source is 'medium'; cited-but-weak is 'low'. When the model cited NOTHING

and retrieval was weak, there is no honest answer to give → 'insufficient' (the caller then substitutes INSUFFICIENT\_EVIDENCE\_ANSWER rather than surface a fabrication).

## Signature

```
function deriveConfidence(sources: DocSearchHit[], citations: string[], thresholds: { strong: number; medium: number; low: number })
```

## Parameters

| Name                    | Type                                                         |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>sources</code>    | <code>DocSearchHit[]</code>                                  |
| <code>citations</code>  | <code>string[]</code>                                        |
| <code>thresholds</code> | <code>{ strong: number; medium: number; low: number }</code> |

**Returns:** RagConfidence