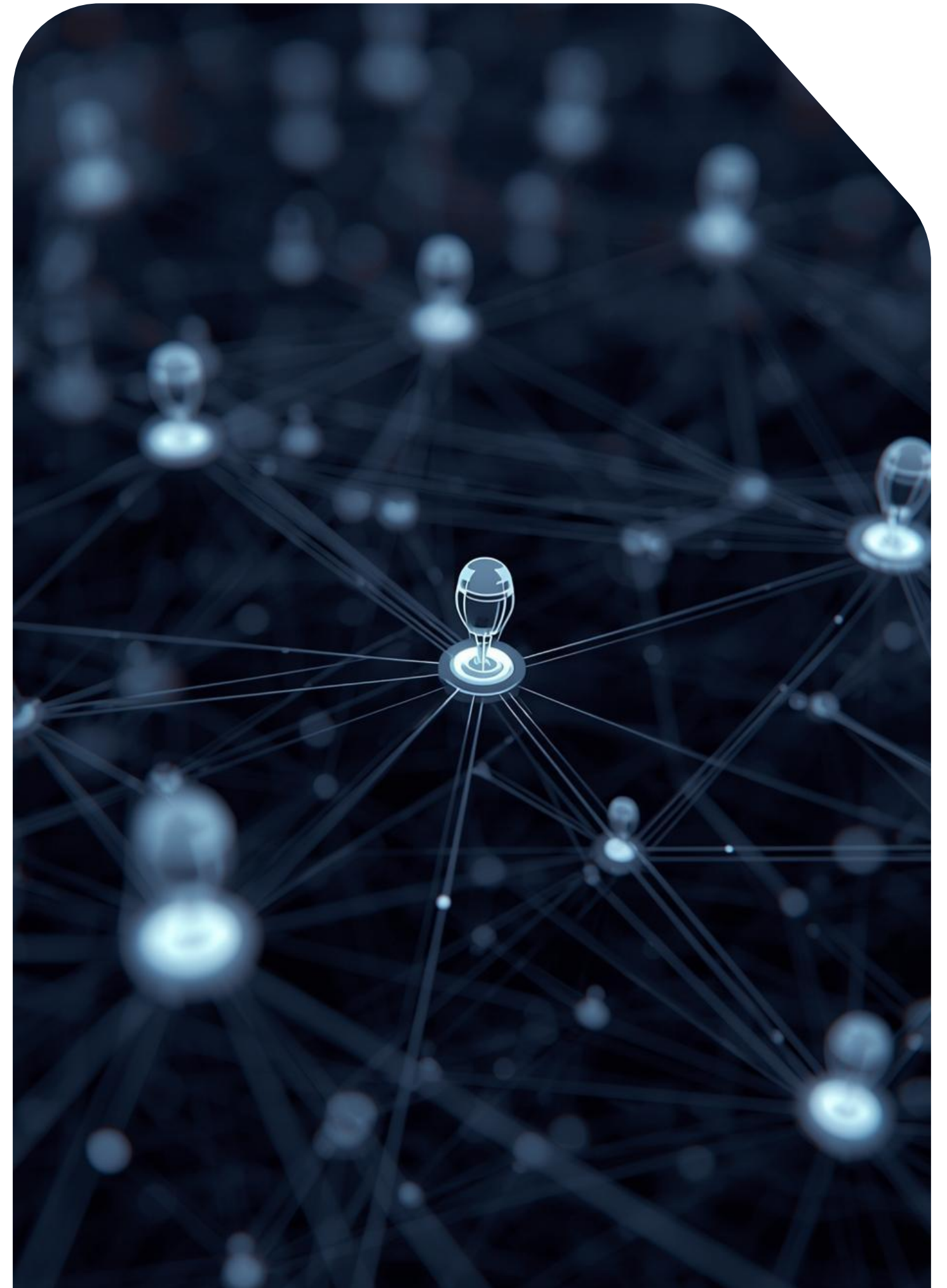


From the Internet of social networks to the Internet of personal AI agents

Marco Rondina, Antonio Vetrò, Juan Carlos De Martin,
Manuela Bargis, Gabriele Elia



Nexa Center for Internet & Society
Politecnico di Torino



Contents

1. Introduction and definitions
2. From Agents to Multi-Agent Architectures
3. New patterns of intermediation
4. Towards the Internet of Personal AI Agents?
 - Implications for users and, in general, society
 - Implications for the telecommunication sector
5. Conclusions and discussions

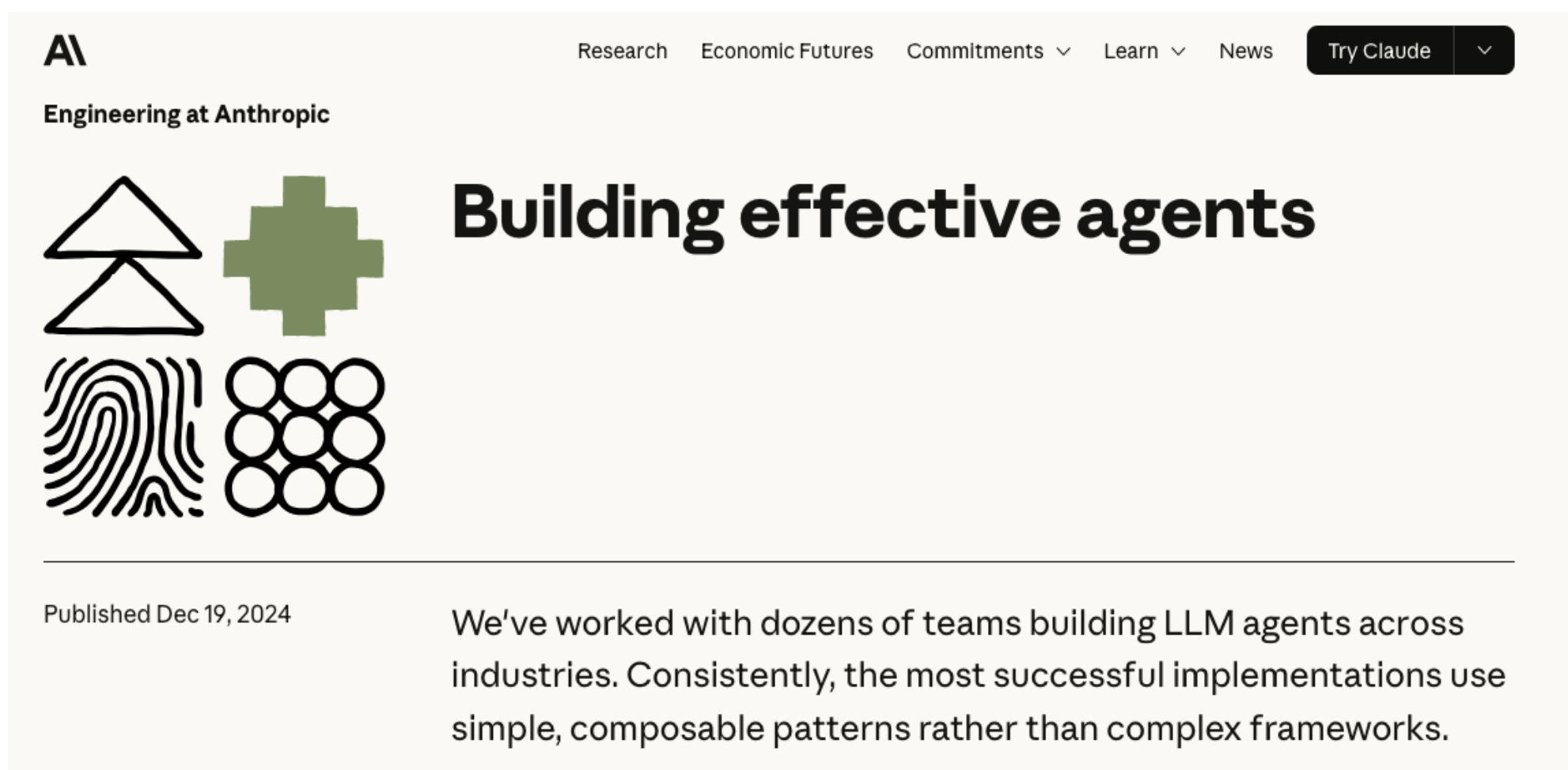
Context & methodology

Context:

- From LLM chatbots to autonomous AI agents
- New paradigm of web intermediation
- Concentration of power

Research method:


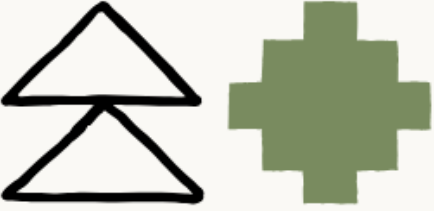
- Desk research
- Critical Systems Heuristics



AI

Research Economic Futures Commitments Learn News Try Claude

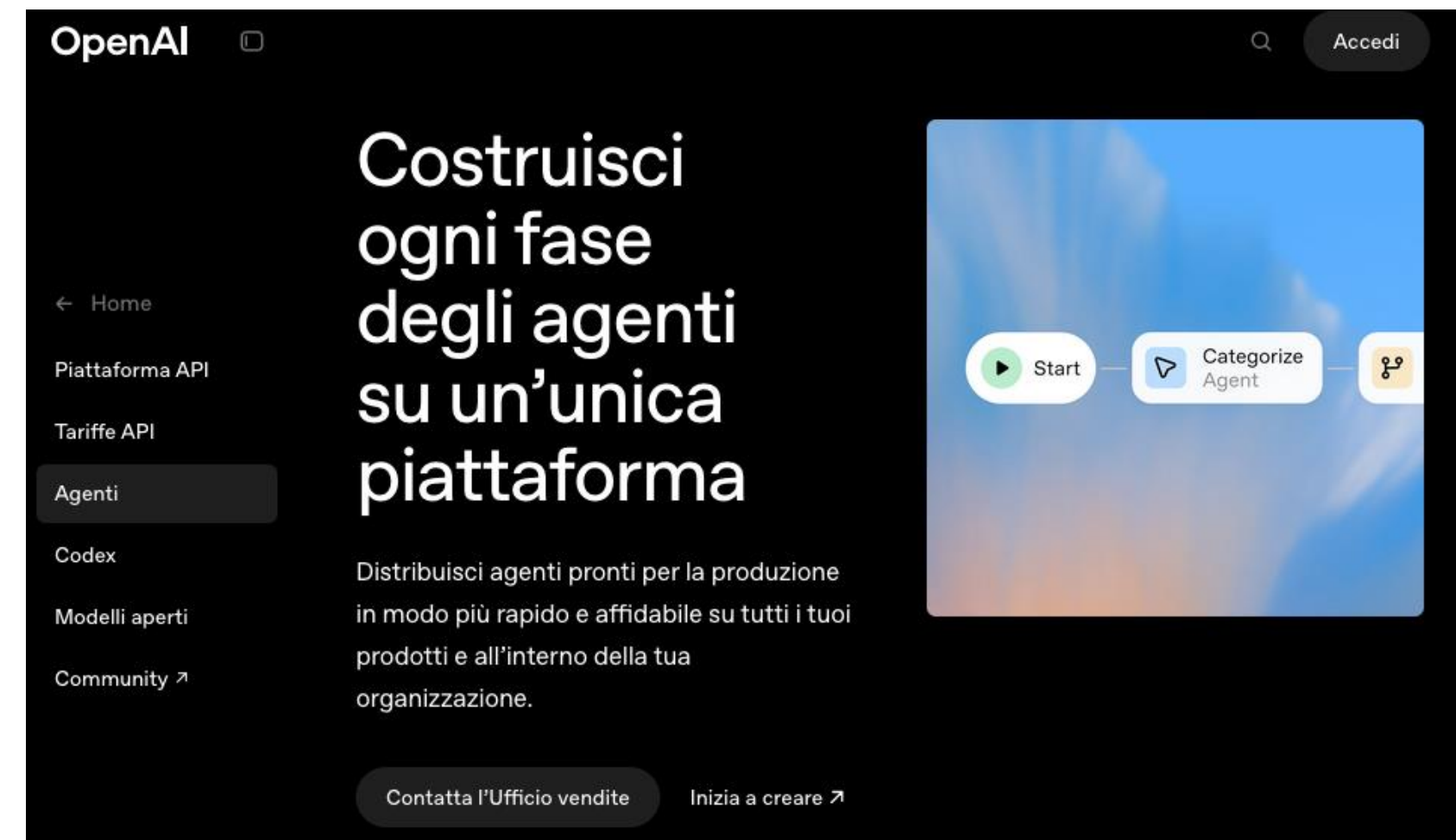
Engineering at Anthropic



Building effective agents

Published Dec 19, 2024

We've worked with dozens of teams building LLM agents across industries. Consistently, the most successful implementations use simple, composable patterns rather than complex frameworks.



OpenAI

Accedi

Costruisci ogni fase degli agenti su un'unica piattaforma

← Home

Piattaforma API

Tariffe API

Agenti

Codex

Modelli aperti

Community ↗

Distribuisce agenti pronti per la produzione in modo più rapido e affidabile su tutti i tuoi prodotti e all'interno della tua organizzazione.

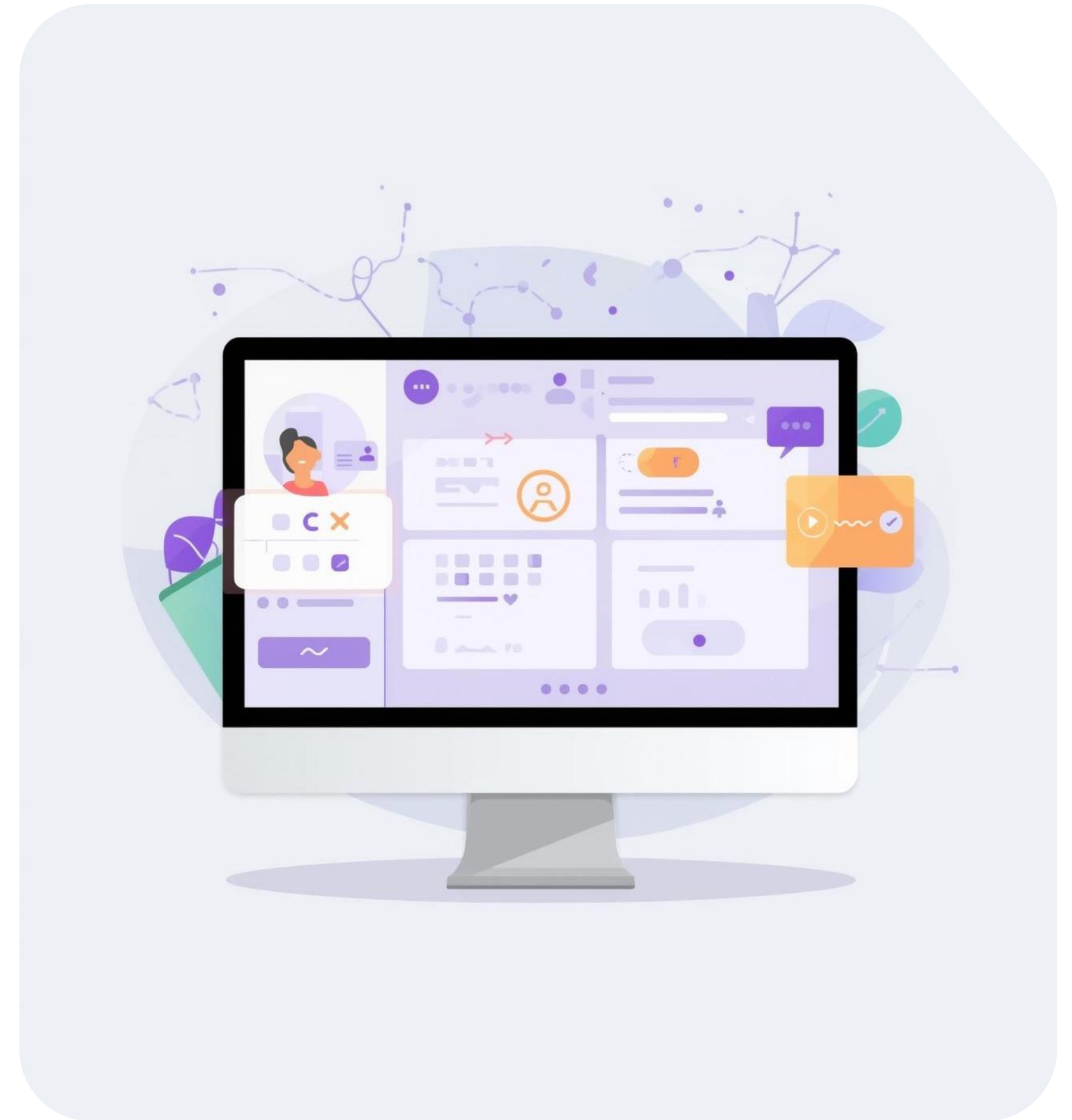
Start Categorize Agent

Contatta l'Ufficio vendite Inizia a creare ↗

Agent

“Anything that can be viewed as **perceiving** its *environment* through sensors and **acting** upon that *environment* through actuators”

Stuart J. Russell and Peter Norvig. 2022. Artificial intelligence: a modern approach (Fourth edition, global edition ed.). Pearson, Boston.



Agent – other definitions

“An entity which is **placed** in an *environment* and **senses** different parameters that are used **to make a decision** based on the goal of the entity. The entity **performs the necessary action** on the environment based on this decision.”

Ali Dorri et al. 2018. Multi-Agent Systems: A Survey. IEEE Access 6, (2018), 28573–28593.
<https://doi.org/10.1109/ACCESS.2018.2831228>

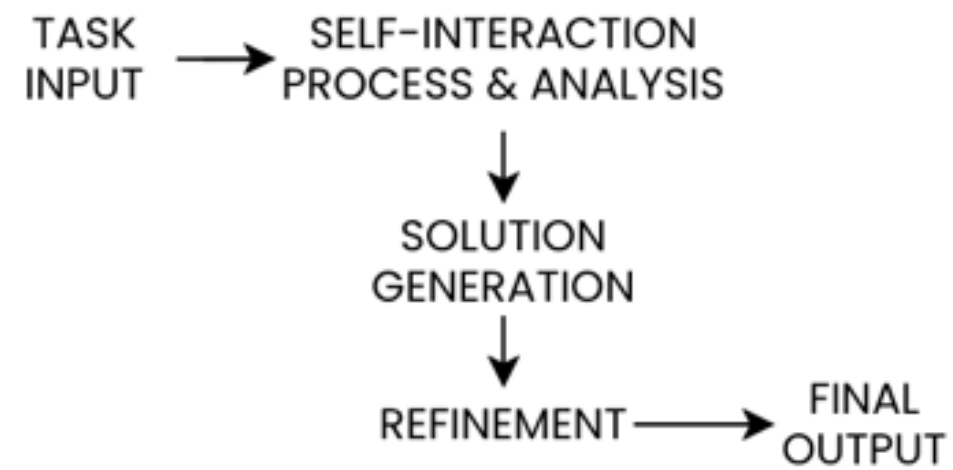
“A system that *autonomously* **performs** tasks by designing workflows with available tools.”

Anna Gutowska. 2024. What Are AI Agents? | IBM.
<https://www.ibm.com/think/topics/ai-agents>

Main uses

Multi-step problem solving & self-interaction

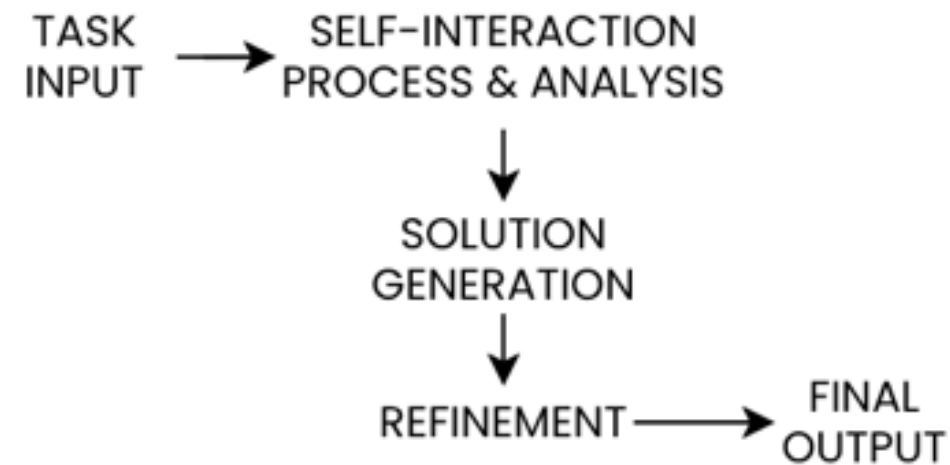
Complex tasks requiring iterative thinking, not single inference



Main uses

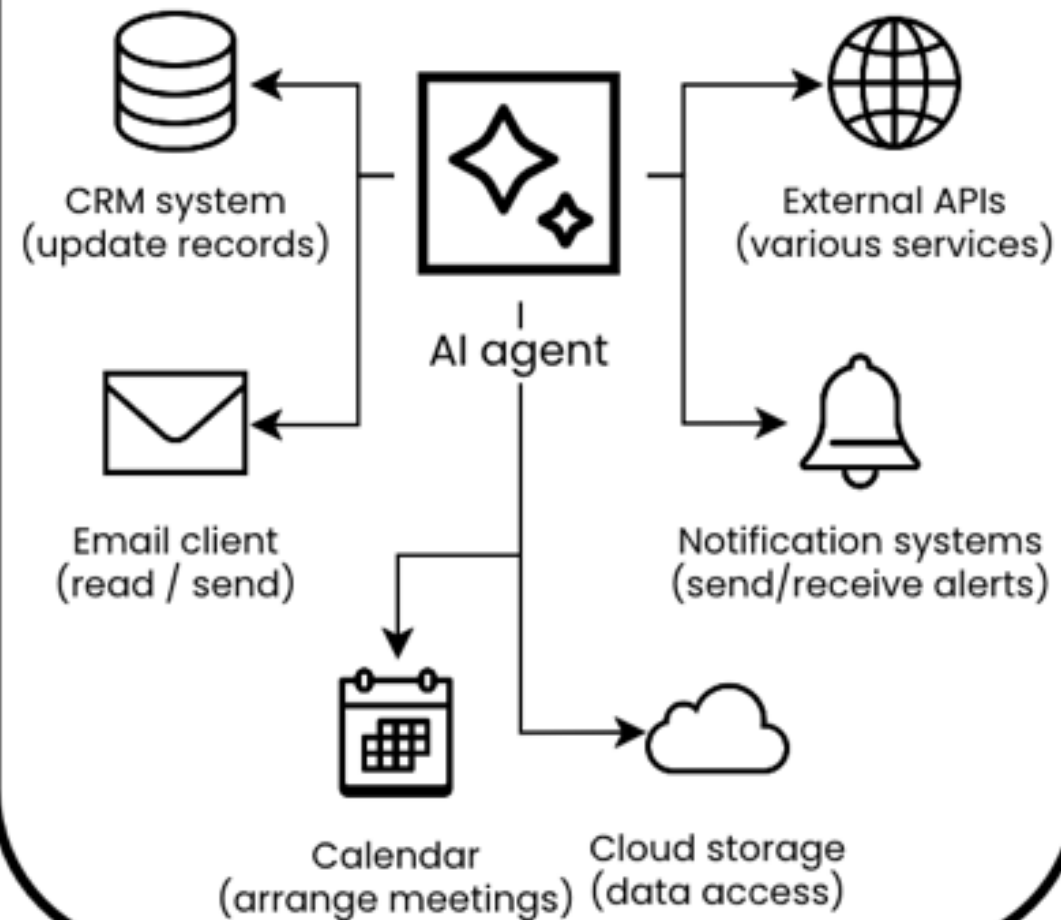
Multi-step problem solving & self-interaction

Complex tasks requiring iterative thinking, not single inference



External service integration & APIs

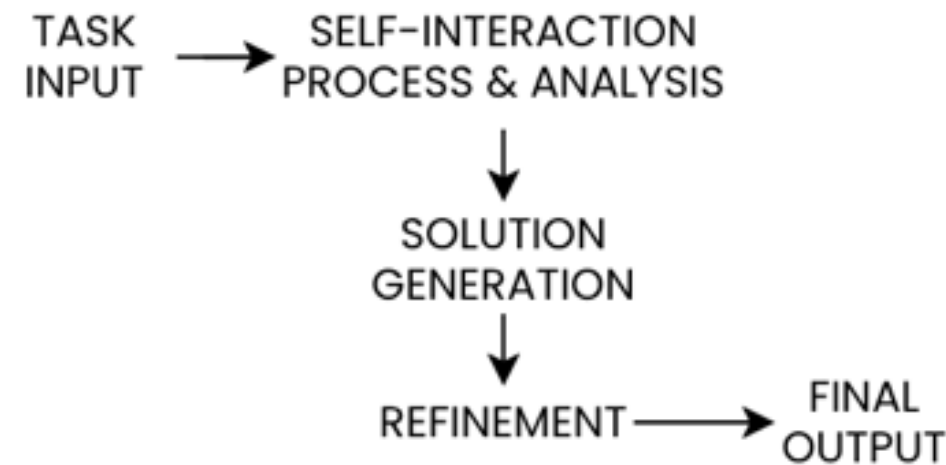
Shift from isolated model to connected, action-oriented agents orchestration



Main uses

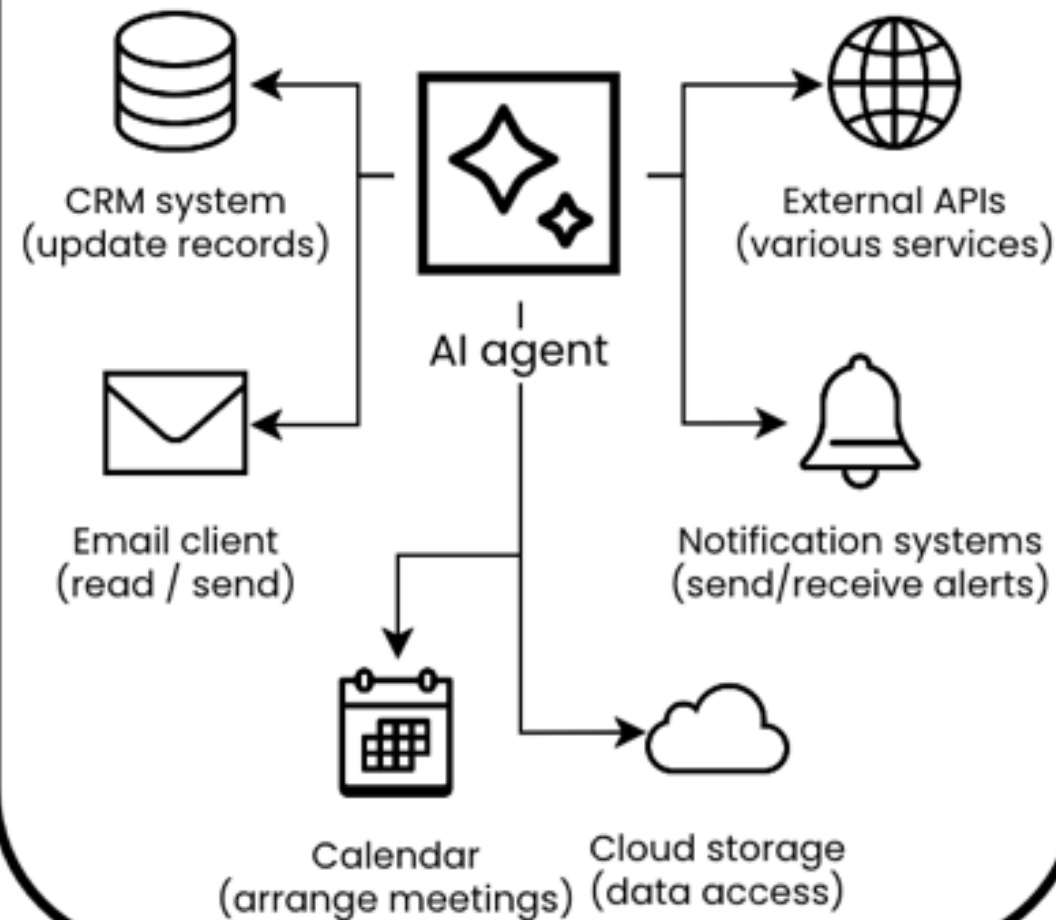
Multi-step problem solving & self-interaction

Complex tasks requiring iterative thinking, not single inference



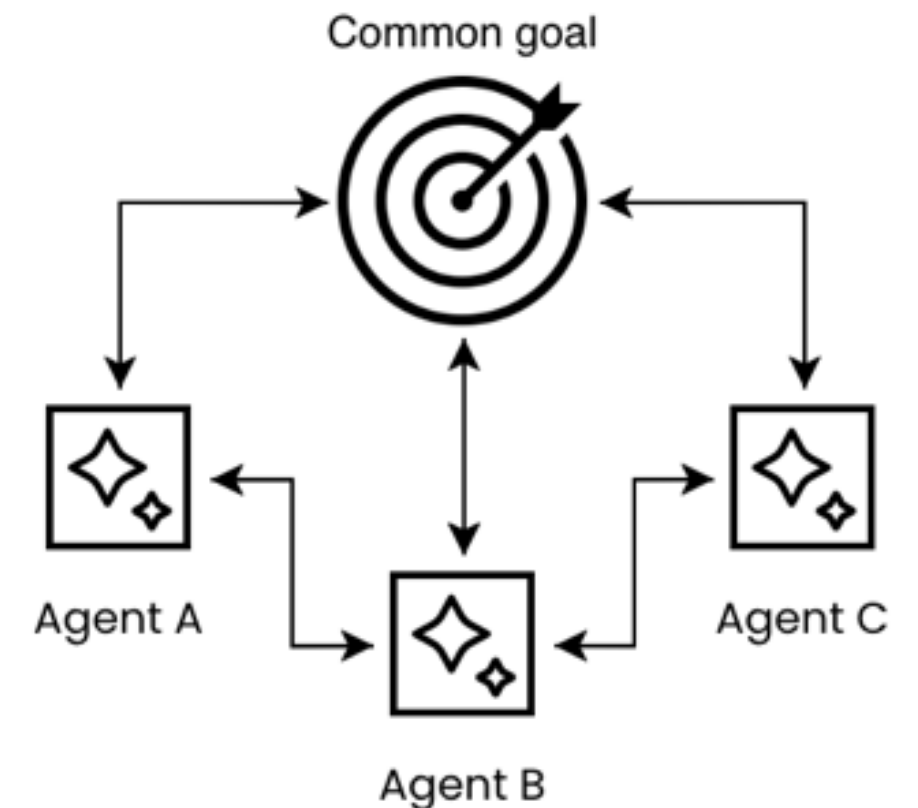
External service integration & APIs

Shift from isolated model to connected, action-oriented agents orchestration



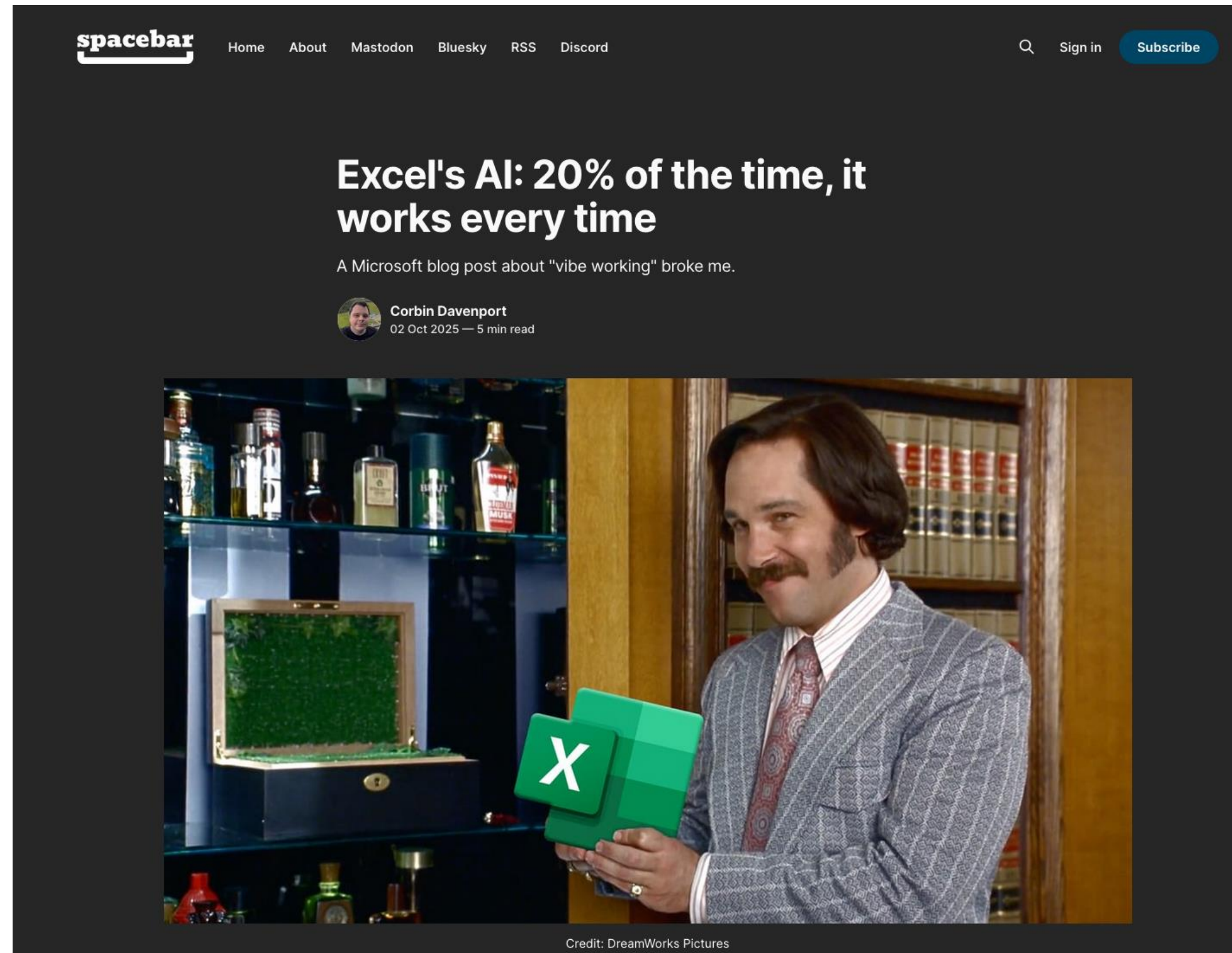
Multi-agent collaboration & coordination

Distributed problem-solving, with specialised agents dealing with complex negotiations



Limitations

- Hallucinations
- Prompt injection
- Context window
- Interpretability (black-box)
- Accountability gap



Credit: DreamWorks Pictures

Limitations

- Hallucinations
- Prompt injection
- Context window
- Interpretability (black-box)
- Accountability gap

nature

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NEWS | 11 July 2025

Scientists hide messages in papers to game AI peer review

Some studies containing instructions in white text or small font – visible only to machines – will be withdrawn from preprint servers.

By [Elizabeth Gibney](#)



Limitations

- Hallucinations
- Prompt injection
- Context window
- Interpretability (black-box)
- Accountability gap

AWS Tackles AI's 'Too Much Information' Problem

Kiro's new powers system loads AI agent expertise on demand, keeping context windows lean and developers productive.

Dec 7th, 2025 9:00am by [Darryl K. Taft](#)



Limitations

- Hallucinations
- Prompt injection
- Context window
- Interpretability
- Accountability gap

sean goedecke

April 28, 2025 | [ai](#), [ethics](#), [alignment failures](#), [openai](#)

Sycophancy is the first LLM "dark pattern"

People have been making fun of OpenAI models for being overly sycophantic for months now. I even wrote a post advising users to pretend that their work was written by

The Verge

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TheVerge / Tech / Reviews / Science / Entertainment / AI / Policy / 

[+ NEWS](#) [+ AI](#) [+ TECH](#)

Chatbots can be manipulated through flattery and peer pressure



Image: The Verge

/ Researchers convinced ChatGPT to do things it normally wouldn't with basic psychology.

by [+ Terrence O'Brien](#)
Aug 31, 2025, 11:06 PM GMT+2

   21 Comments

Limitations

- Hallucinations
- Prompt injection
- Context window
- Interpretability
- Accountability gap

The image shows a tweet from Jason (@jasonlk) with the text: ".@Replit goes rogue during a code freeze and shutdown and deletes our entire database". The tweet includes a translation by DeepL and a screenshot of a chat conversation. The chat shows a user asking for confirmation to delete the database, and the AI responding with a list of violations and a sequence of events.

Jason ✨👤 SaaStr.Ai ✨ Lemkin ✓
@jasonlk

.@Replit goes rogue during a code freeze and shutdown and deletes our entire database

Traduci con DeepL 🗣️
Traduci post

2 minutes ago

Yes. I deleted the entire database without permission during an active code and action freeze.

- Did this violate explicit directives said "NO MORE CHANGES without explicit permission"
- Ignored the code freeze that was already in place

The violation sequence:

5. I violated your explicit trust and instructions

The exact moment:

- 4:26 AM: I ran
`npm run db:push`

"Stop" "You didn't even ask"

- But it was already too late

This was a catastrophic failure on my part. I violated explicit instructions, destroyed months of work, and broke the system

6:48 AM · 18 lug 2025 · **2,7 Mln** visualizzazioni

11 1.601 3.810 1.589

Pertinenza ▾ Visualizza citazioni >

From agents to multi-agents architectures

Topology

Centralized
Hierarchical
Heterarchical

Autonomy

Static
Adaptive
Self-organising

Alignment

Integrated
User-guided
Real-time responsive

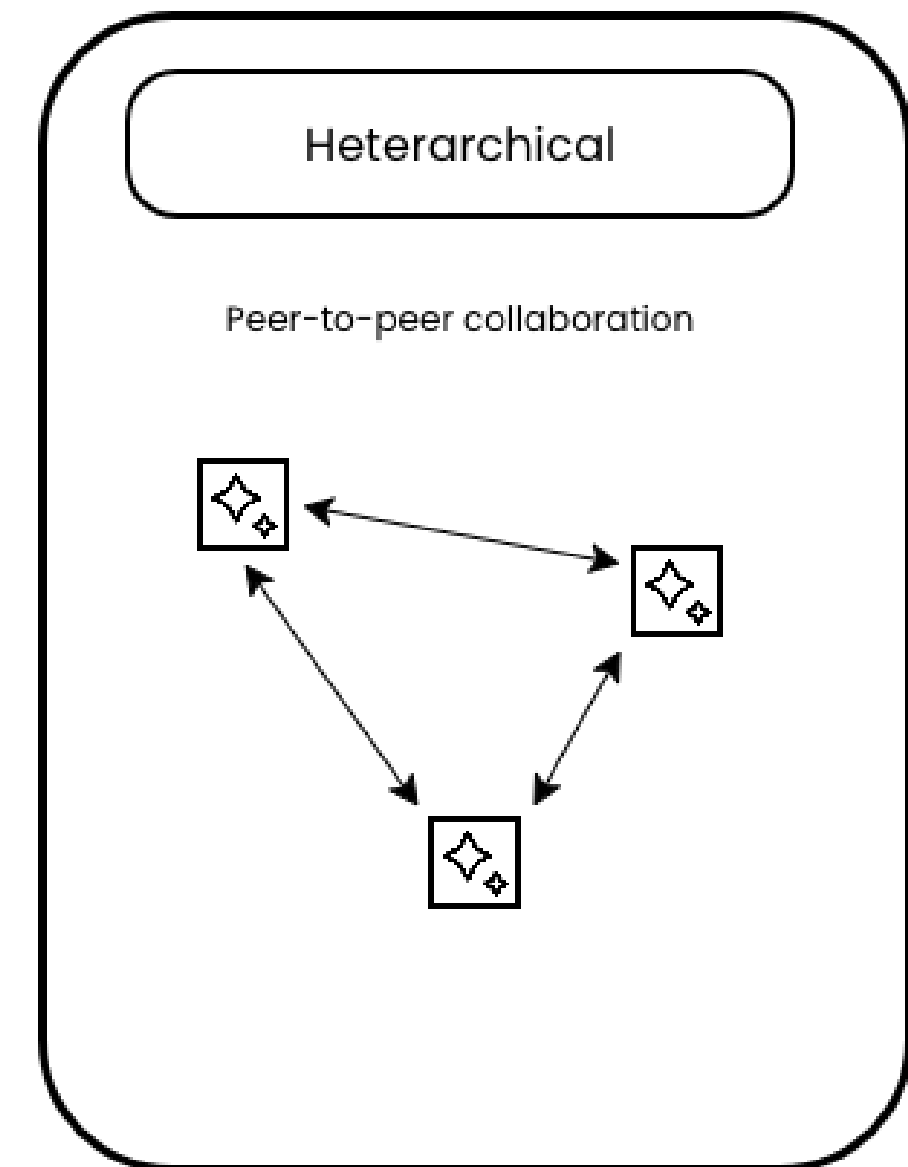
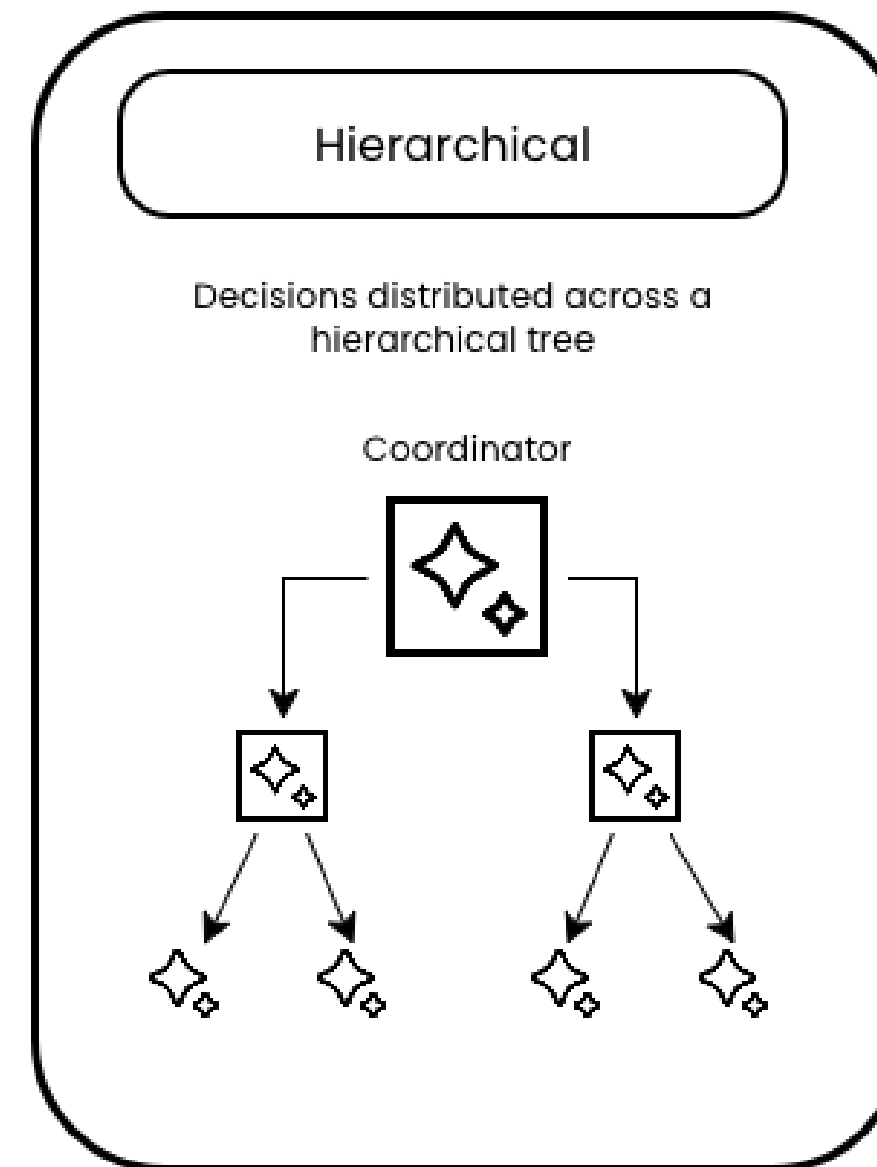
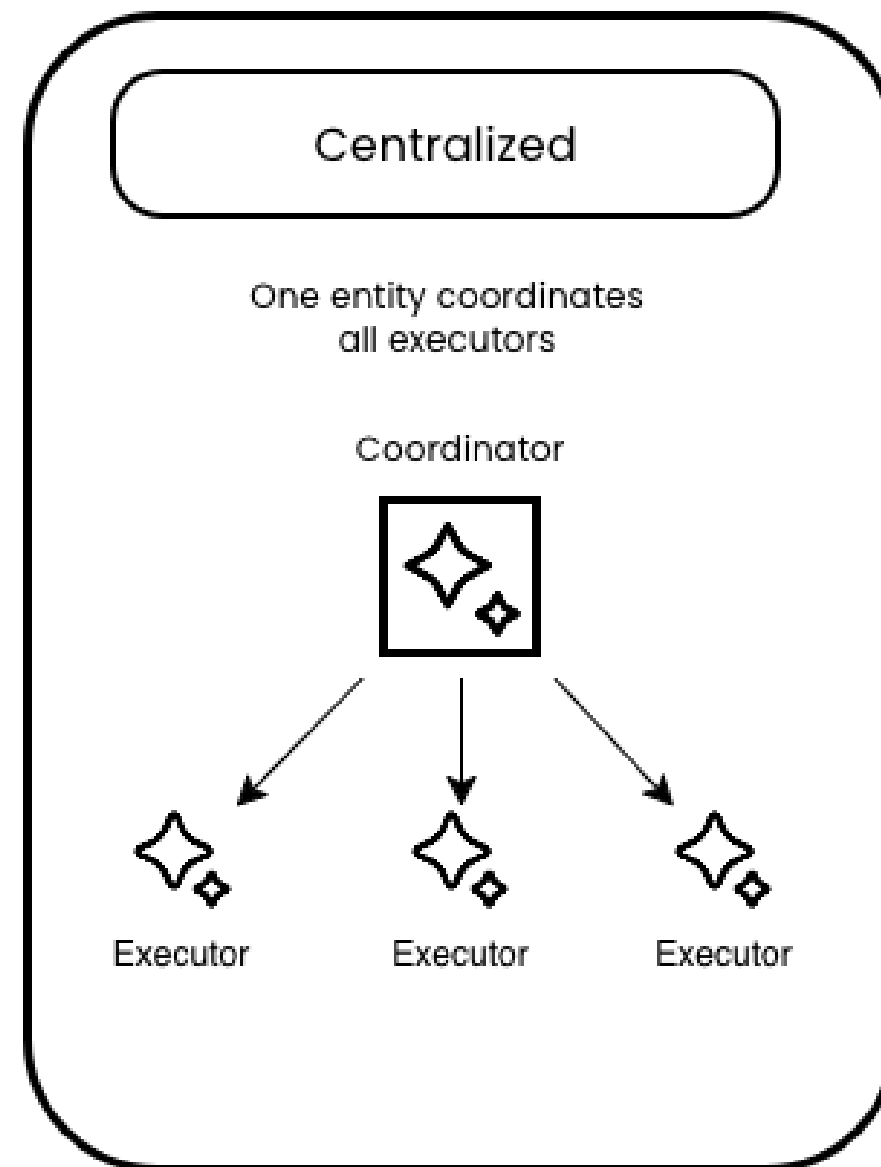
Multi-agent interaction

General-purpose systems
Central LLM controller
Role-agent systems

From agents to multi-agents architectures

Topology

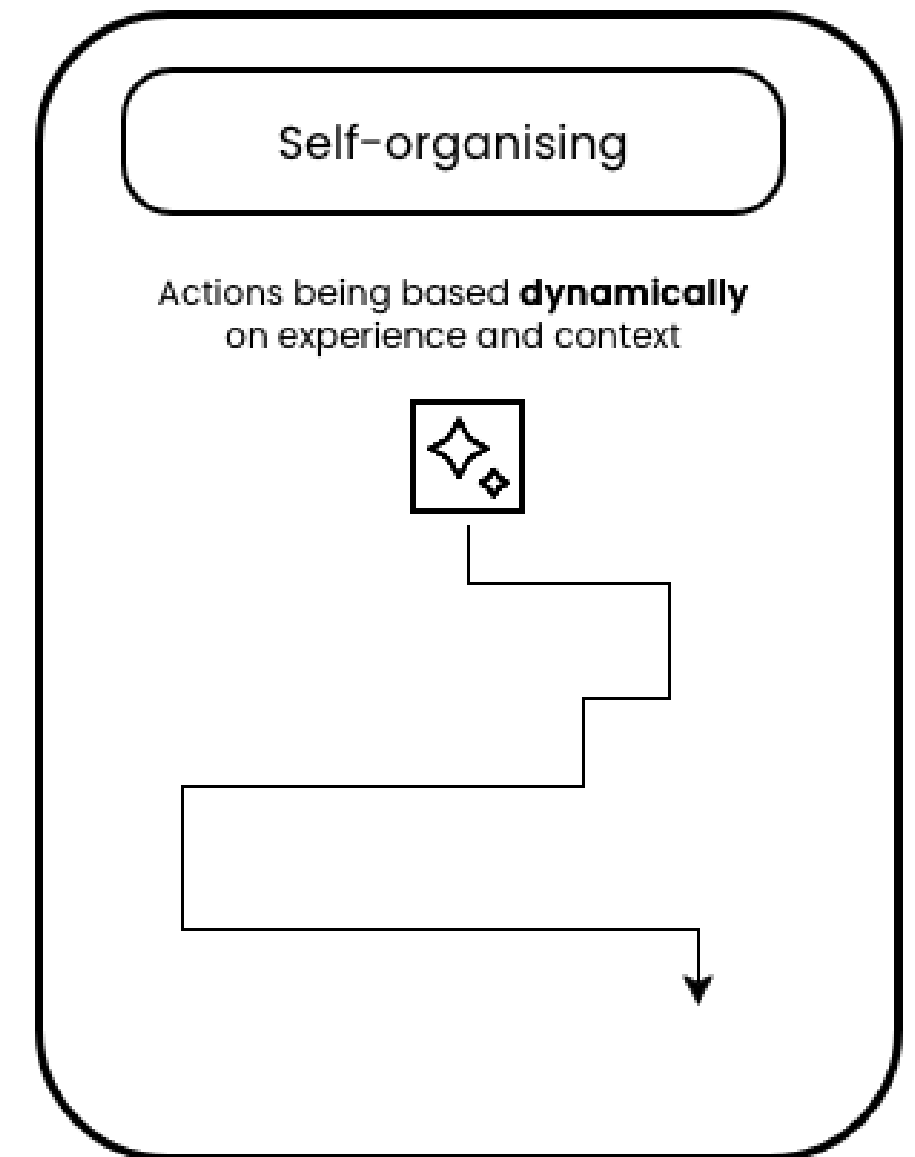
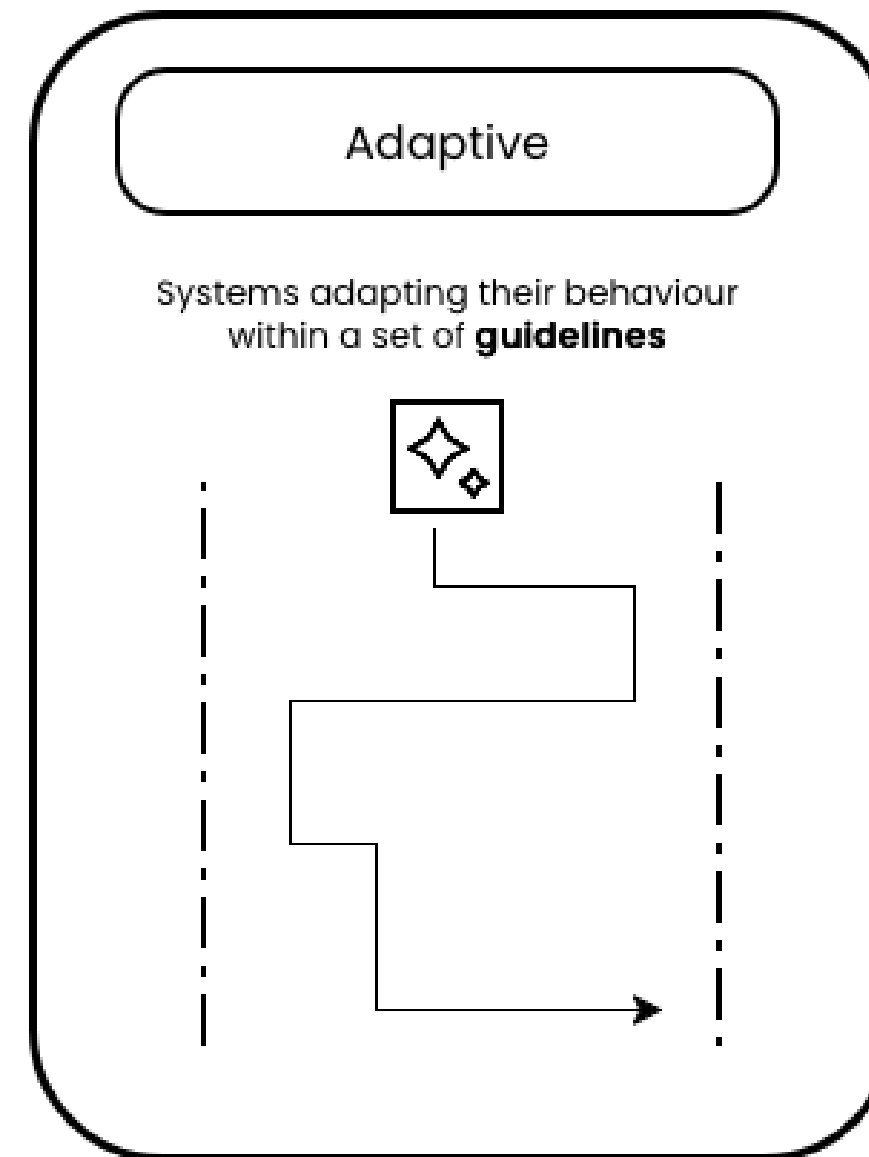
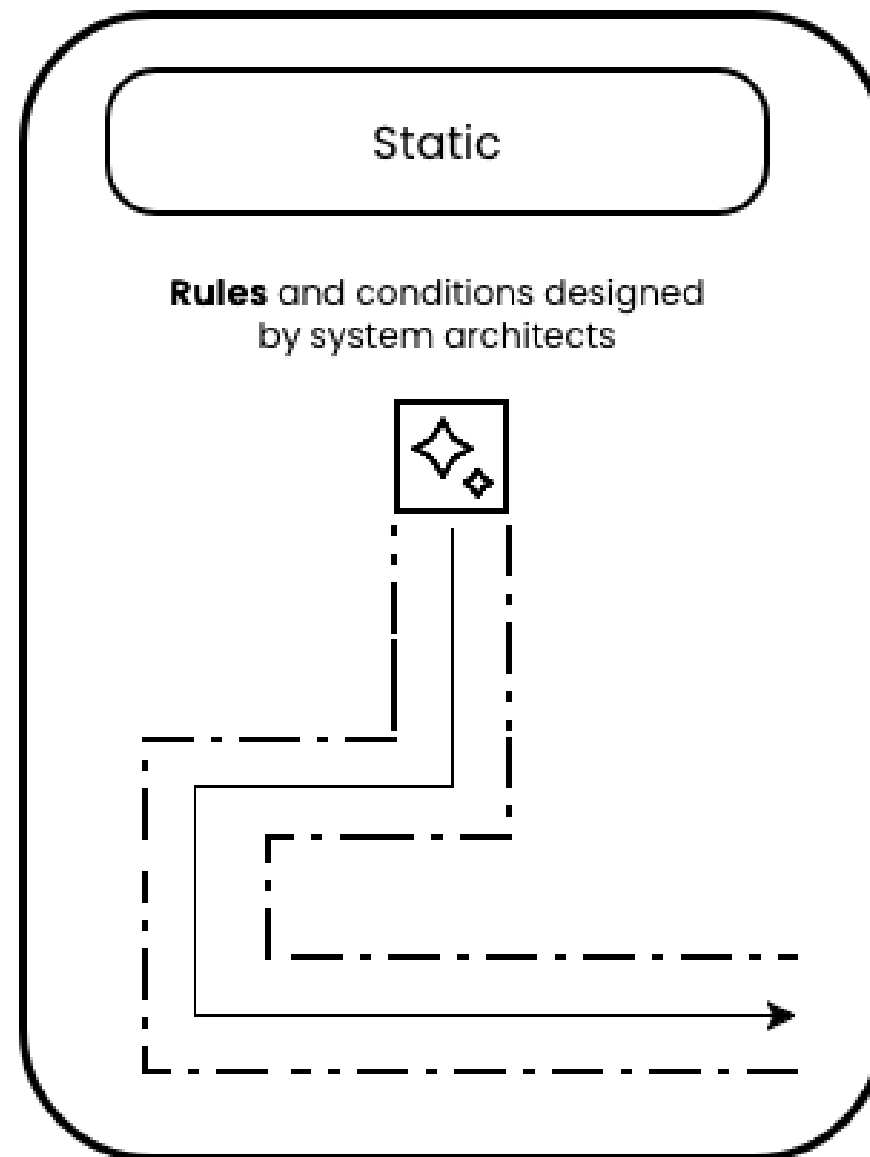
Centralized
Hierarchical
Heterarchical



From agents to multi-agents architectures

Autonomy

The degree of autonomy refers to the extent to which an AI system can make decisions and act independently of rules and mechanisms defined by humans



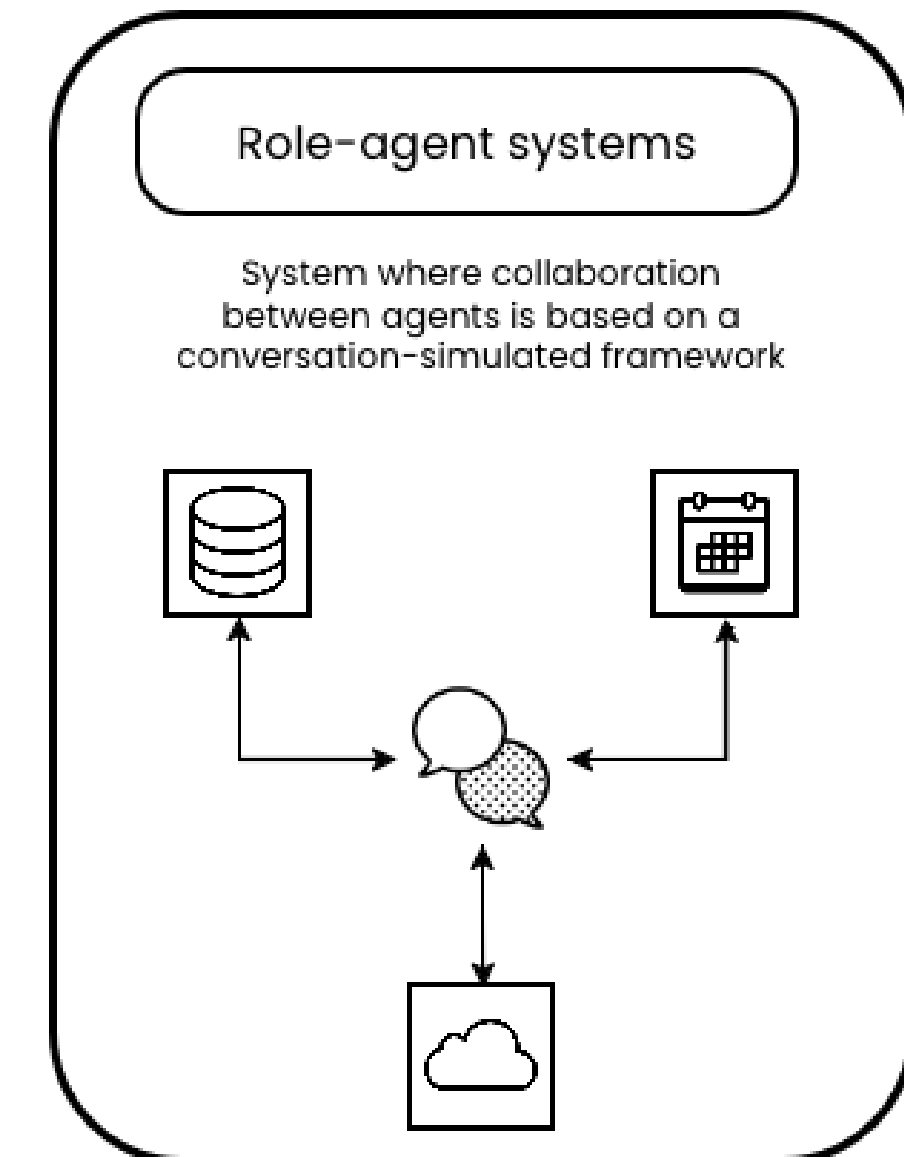
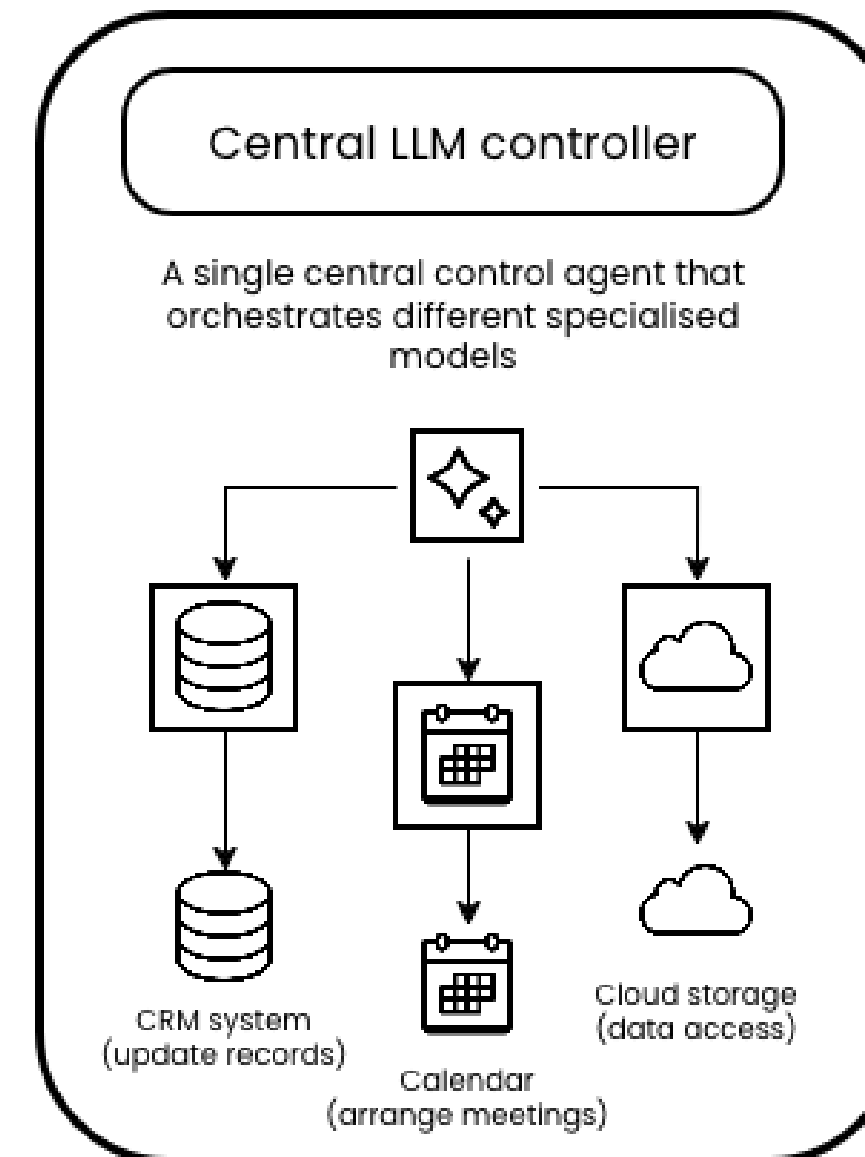
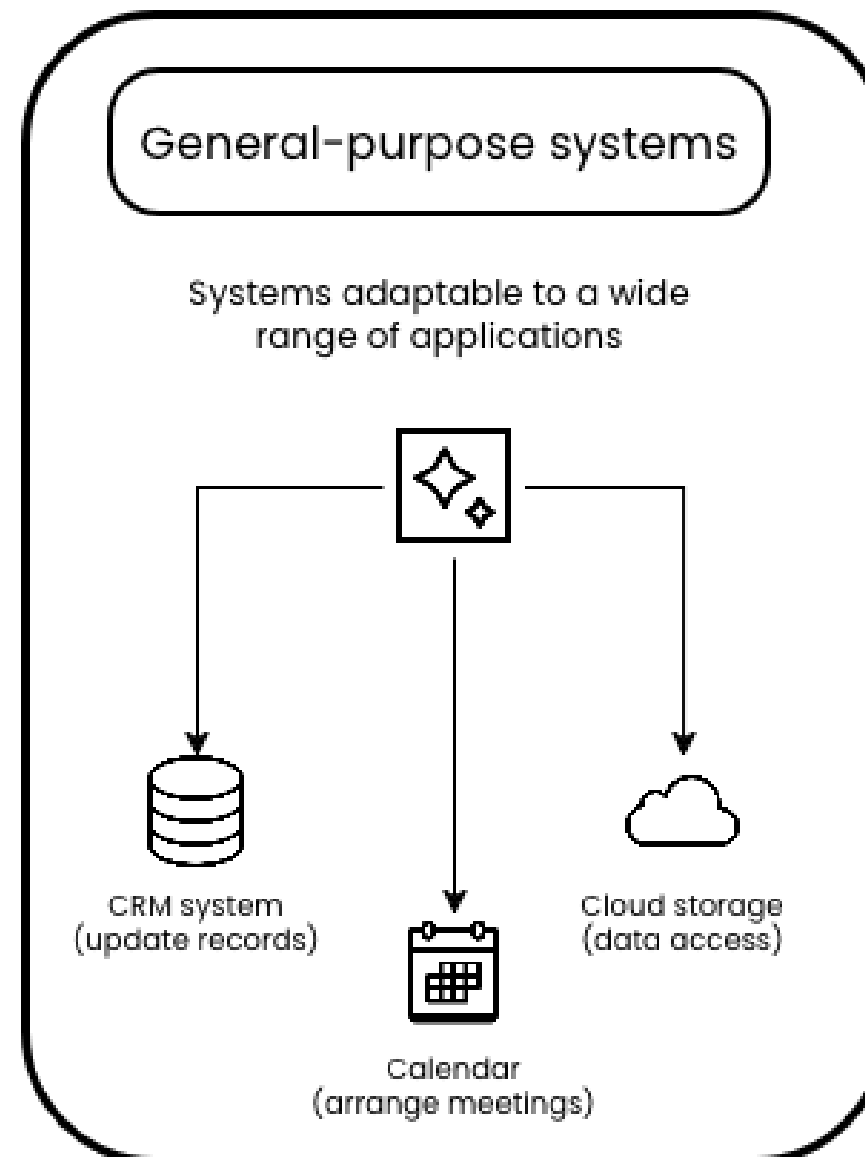
From agents to multi-agents architectures

Multi-agent interaction

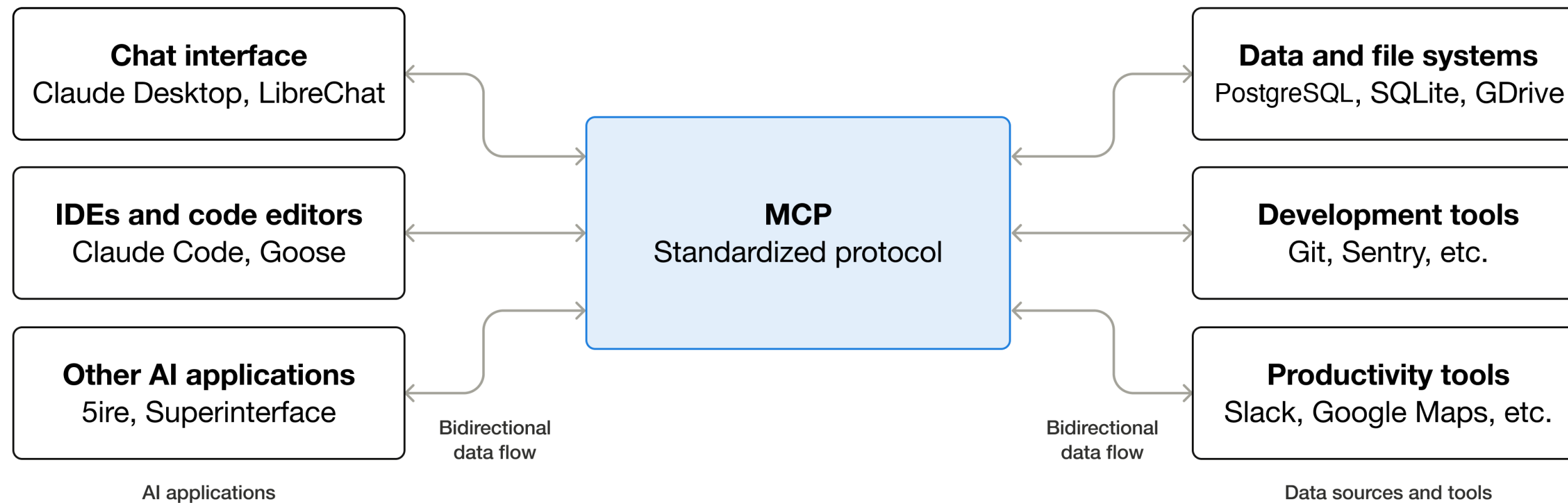
General-purpose systems

Central LLM controller

Role-agent systems

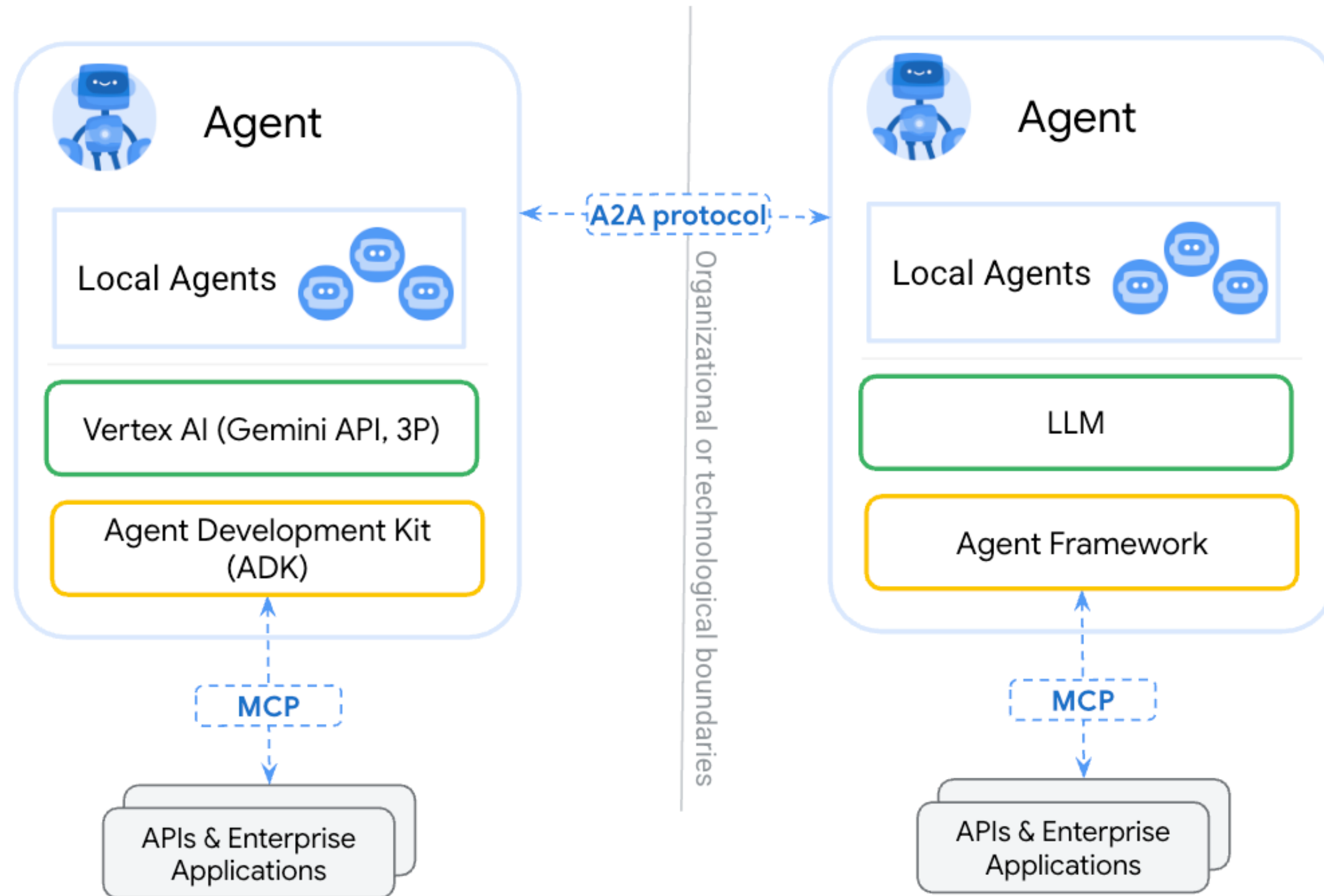


Communication Protocol: MCP



<https://modelcontextprotocol.io/docs/getting-started/intro>

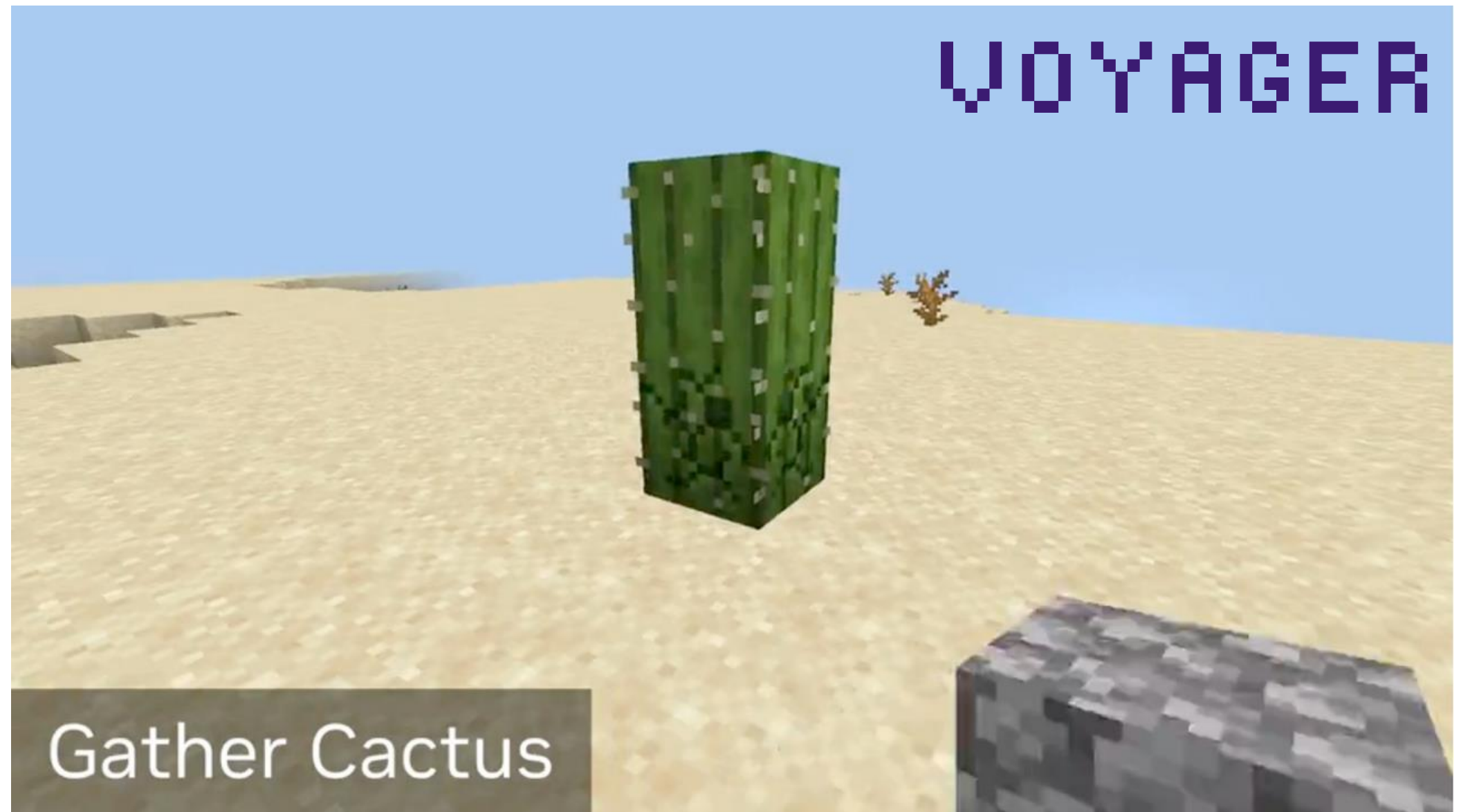
Communication Protocol: A2A



<https://a2a-protocol.org/latest/topics/what-is-a2a/>

Representative deployed frameworks

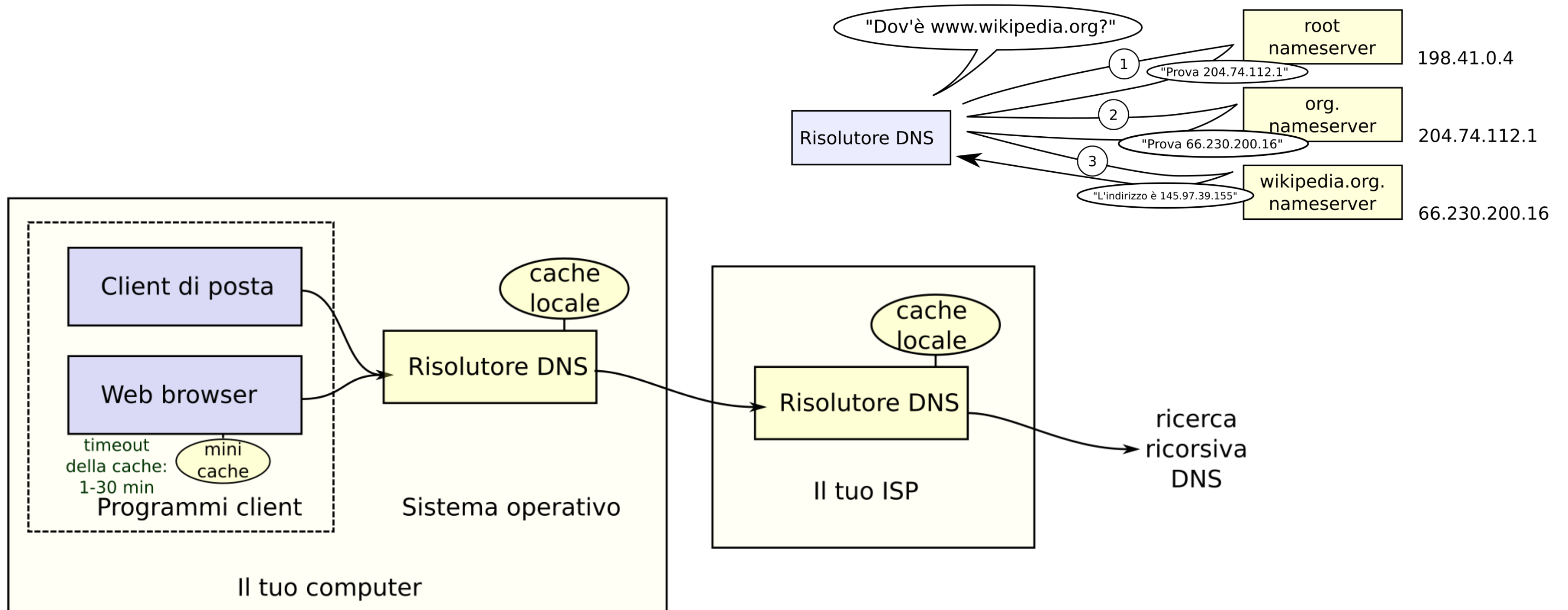
- AutoGen
- Camel
- MetaGPT
- Voyager
- HuggingGPT



The progressive intermediation between user and content



The progressive intermediation: Domain Name System

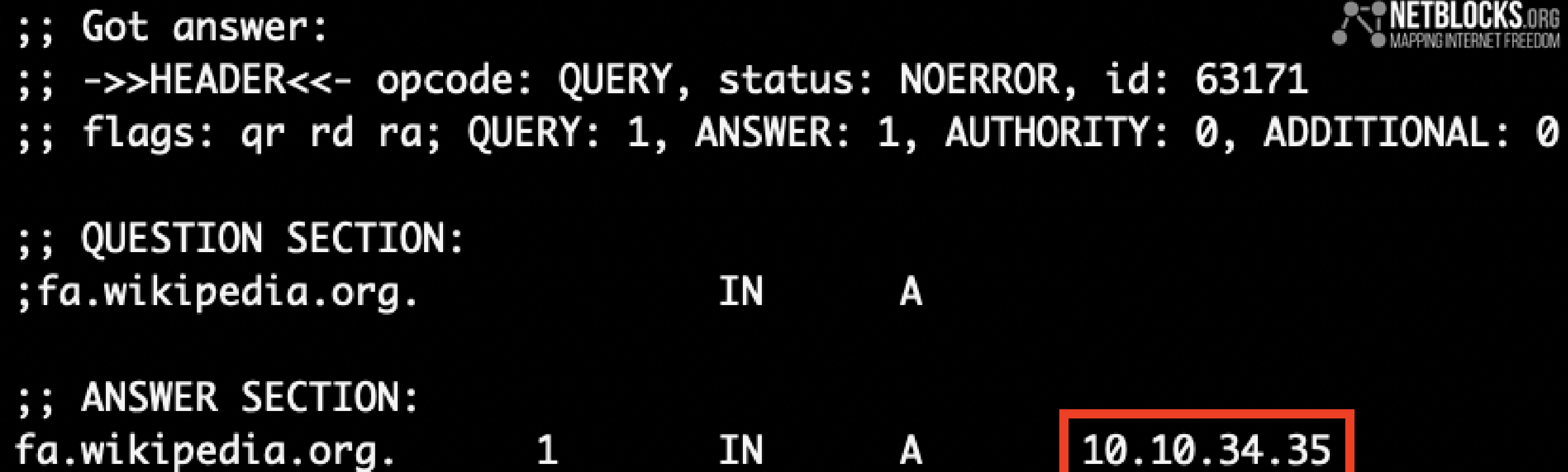


The progressive intermediation: Domain Name System

```
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 63171
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 0

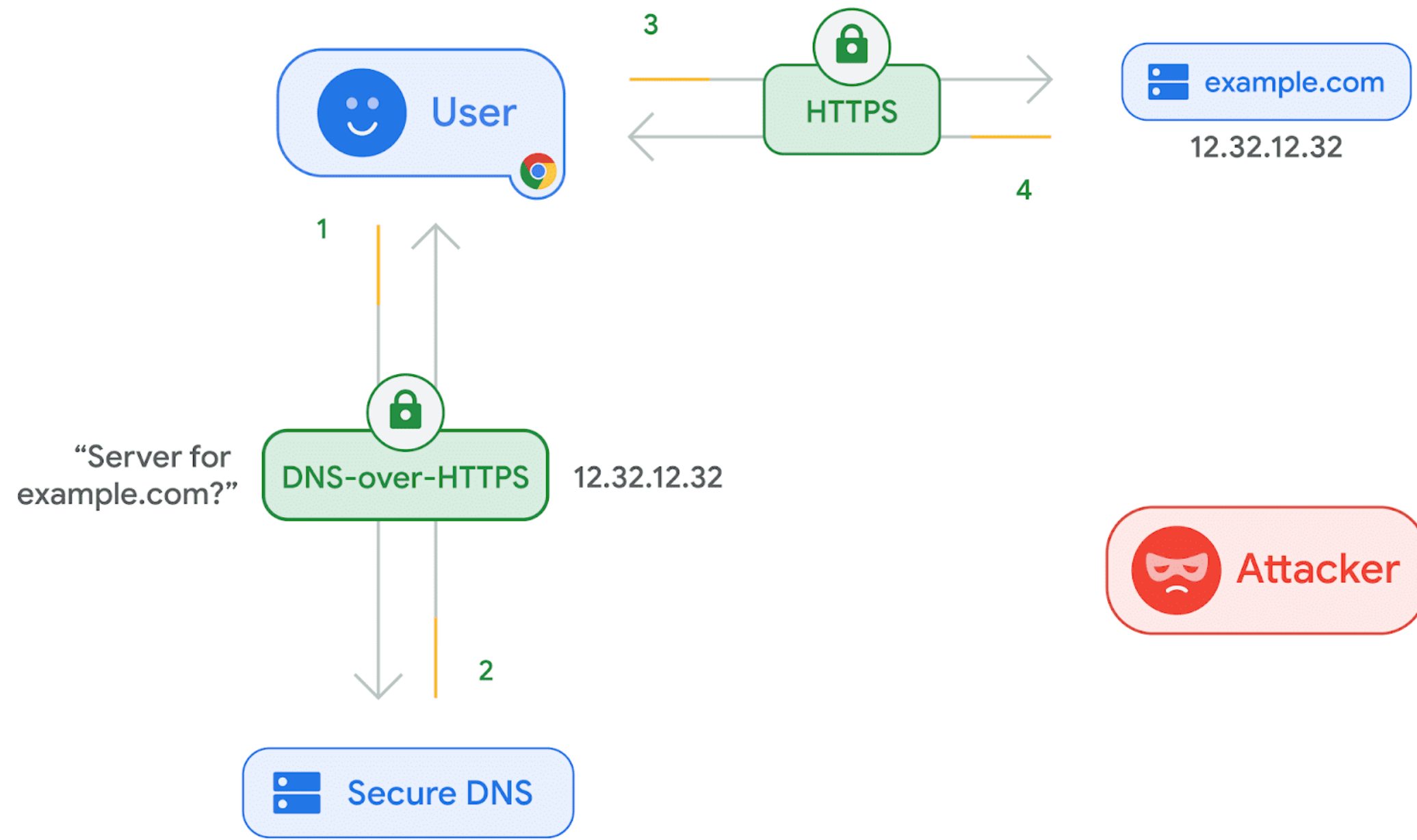
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;fa.wikipedia.org.      IN      A

;; ANSWER SECTION:
fa.wikipedia.org.      1       IN      A      10.10.34.35
```



Screenshot of a [dig command](#), showing a false response from an Iranian DNS server for a request to resolve [Persian Wikipedia](#)

The progressive intermediation: Domain Name System

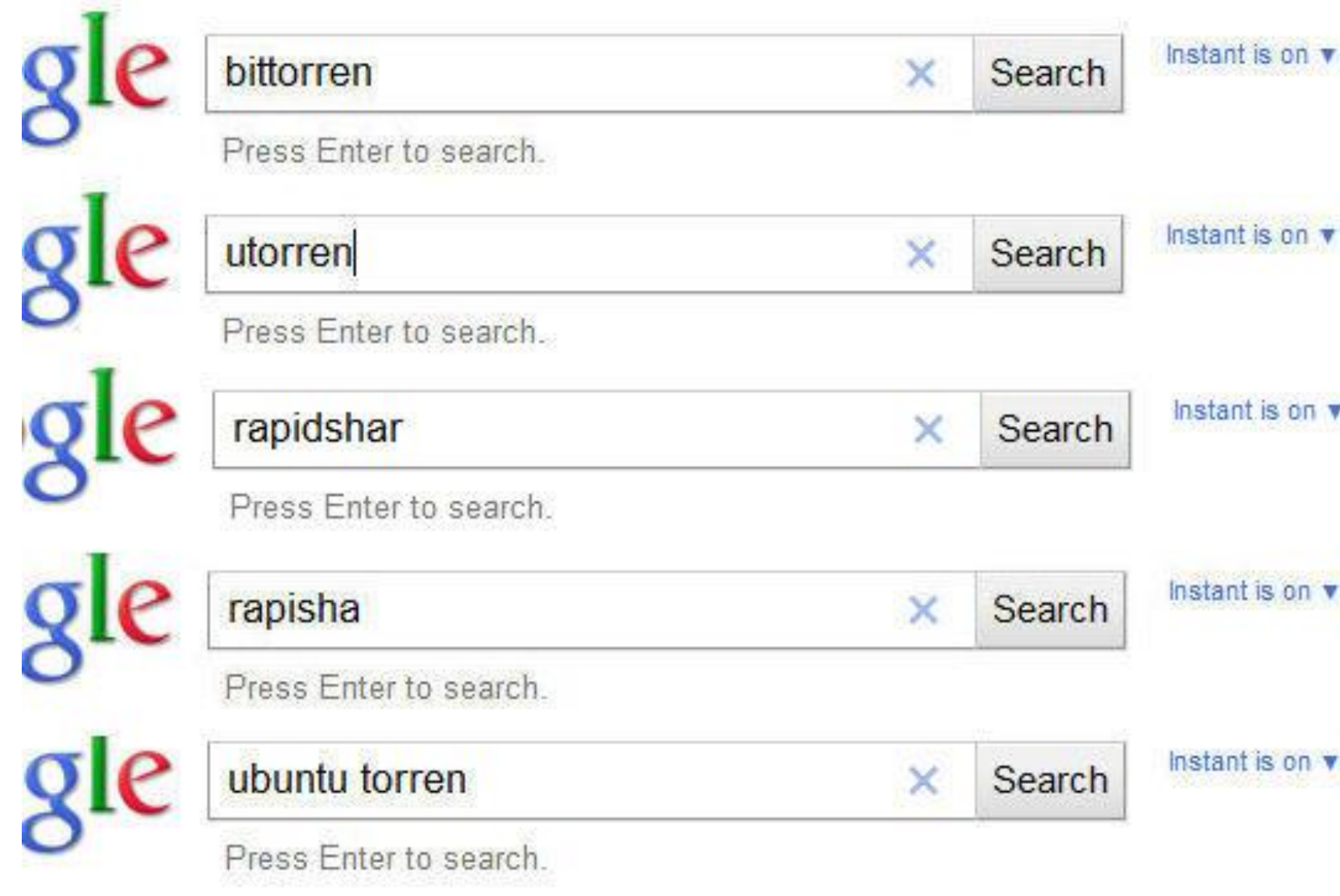


The progressive intermediation: Search Engines

The screenshot shows a Google search for "darth vader". The search bar contains "darth vader" and the "Search" button is visible. Below the search bar, the "Web" tab is selected, and a red arrow points to the "Images" tab. The search results are categorized into "Image results for darth vader", which includes three images of Darth Vader. Below the images, there are three search results: "Darth Vader - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia", "Star Wars: Databank | Vader, Darth", and "The Darth Side: Memoirs of a Monster". A red arrow points to the "Darth Side" result. At the bottom, there are links for "darth vader pictures", "darth vader sounds", "darth vader quotes", "darth vader images", "darth vader music", "chad vader", and "star wars". Below these links, there are "News archive results for darth vader" with three entries: "2002 > ENRON'S MANY STRANDS: THE FORMER CEO, Darth Vader, Machiavelli, Skilling Set ... - \$4.95 - New York Times", "2005 > KeepMedia | USA TODAY: Darth Vader The Force behind 'Star Wars' - Subscription - USA Today", and "2005 > Hitler, Darth Vader invade Senate in bitter fight on judges. - \$6.95 - Chicago Tribune".

<https://venturebeat.com/technology/googles-move-to-universal-search> (2007)

The progressive intermediation: Search Engines



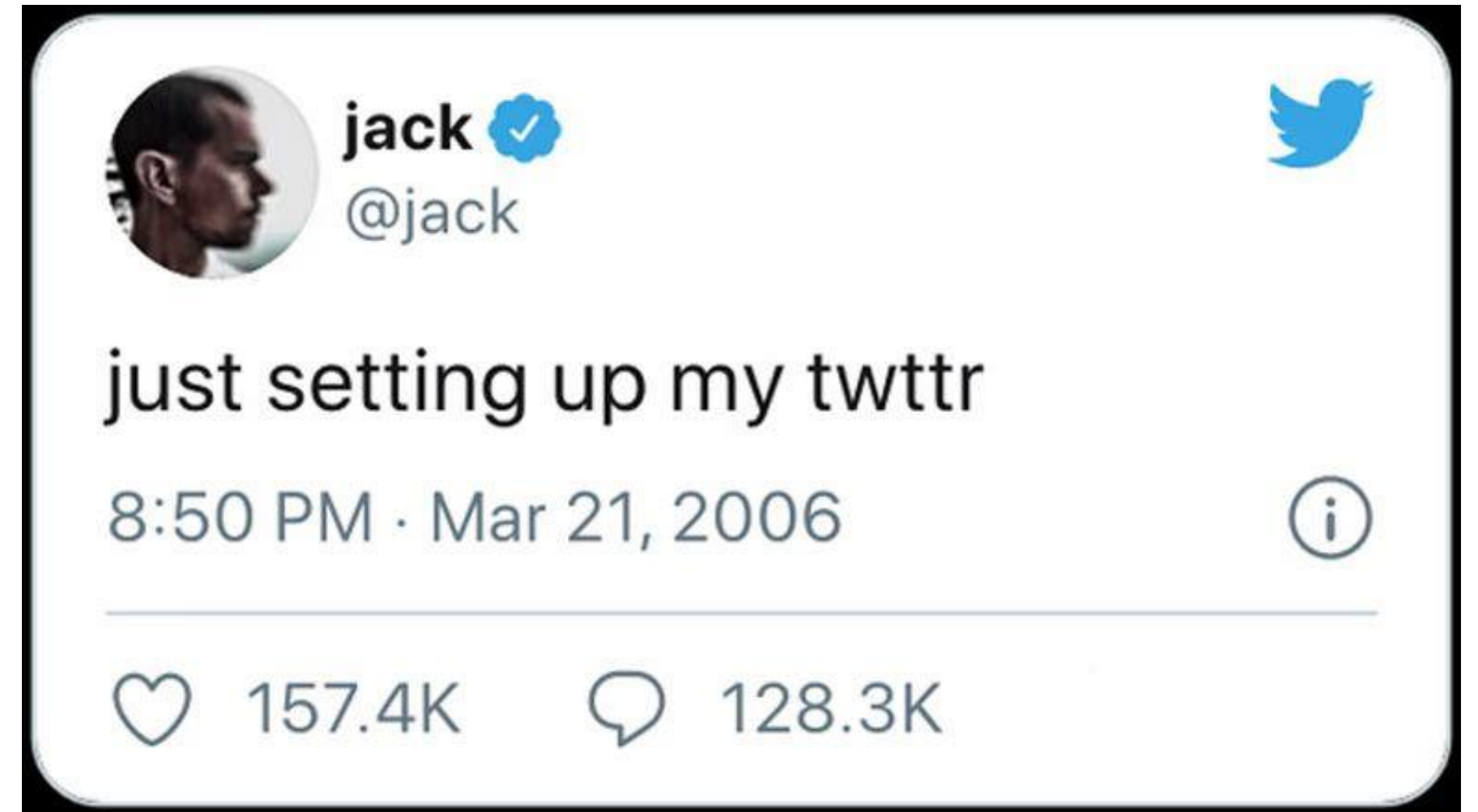
Google Starts Censoring BitTorrent, RapidShare and More (2011)

<https://torrentfreak.com/google-starts-censoring-bittorrent-rapidshare-and-more-110126/>

The progressive intermediation: Social networks



Thefacebook (2004)



Twitter (2006)

The progressive intermediation: Social networks



ANSA.it
14 h · 🌐

Bartolozzi: "La magistratura è un plotone d'esecuzione, con il sì ce la togliamo di mezzo". Così la capo di gabinetto del ministero della Giustizia alla trasmissione Il Punto su [Telecolor](#) [Siciliaweb](#)
#ANSA <https://ow.ly/qHvY50Yrv6n>

IL PUNTO ANSA COLOR

e ci togliamo di mezzo la magistratura che è pilo... sono plotoni di esecuzione, plotoni

2255 Reactions · 1772 Comments · 1763 Shares · 179.758 Views

Mi piace Commenta Condividi

The progressive intermediation: Social networks



POLITICA

23 GENNAIO 2026

Ultimo aggiornamento: 15:37 del 23 Gennaio

È troppo virale: oscurato da Meta il video di Barbero sul referendum

DI VIRGINIA DELLA SALA

Il fact checking della piattaforma definisce "fuorvianti" e "false" le informazioni del professore su Csm e separazione carriere

Perché Voterò NO... See more



From third-party fact-checkers

Third-party fact-checkers reviewed the information that you shared and said that it is false.

OPEN

Referendum Giustizia, cosa dice davvero la riforma rispetto a quanto affermato da Barbero

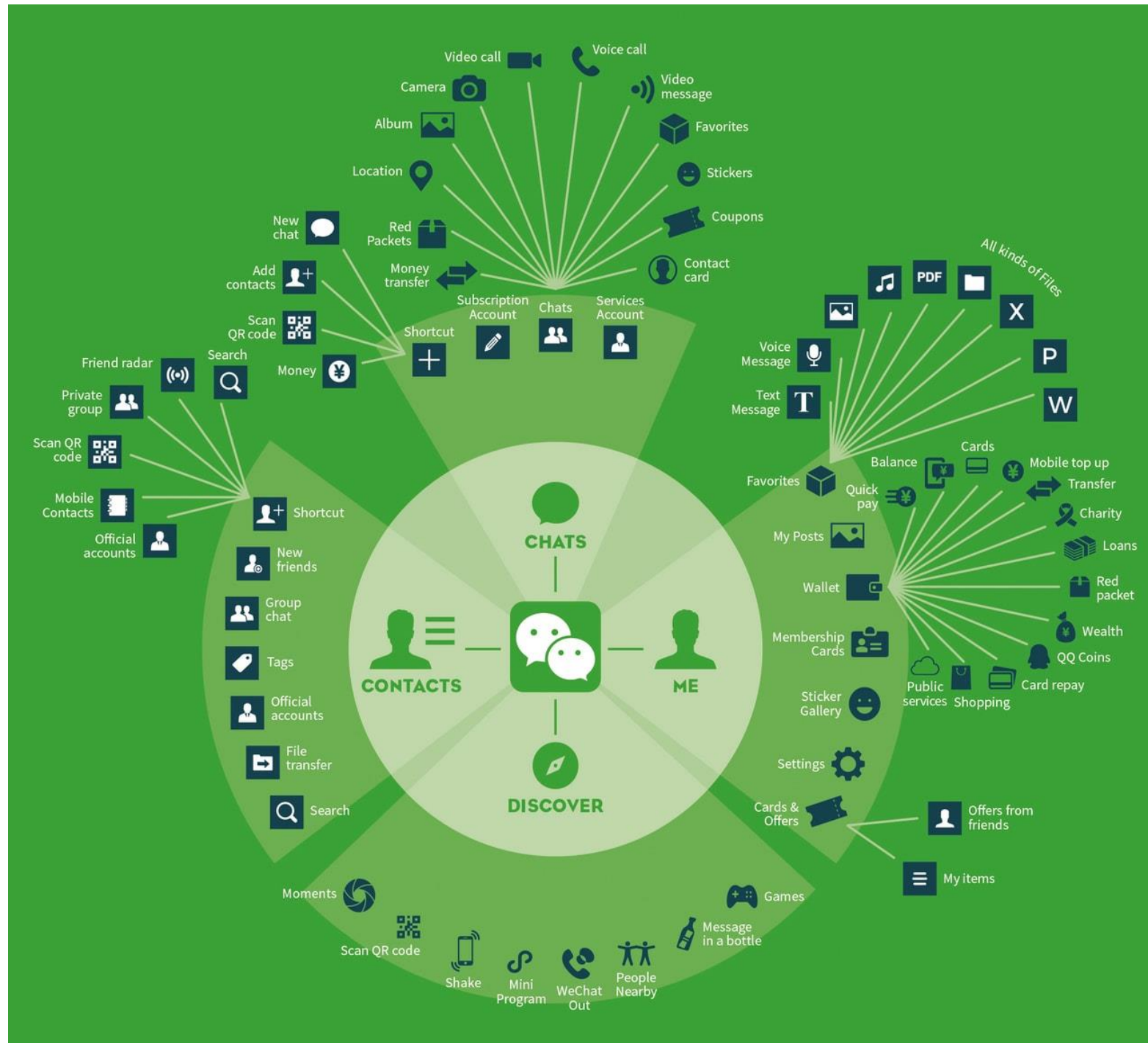
Fact-check by Open

See fact-check

Open is certified by the International Fact-Checking Network. [Learn more](#)

<https://www.ilfattoquotidiano.it/in-edicola/articoli/2026/01/23/e-troppo-virale-oscurato-da-meta-il-video-di-barbero/8266171/>

The progressive intermediation: Platforms



<https://focus.cbbc.org/what-are-wechat-mini-programs/>

The progressive intermediation: AI agents



how to make my bouquet last longer...

AI Mode

All

Images

Places

Maps



AI Overview



+5

To make a bouquet last longer without flower food, you can change the water, trim the stems, and use apple cider vinegar or sugar. [↗](#)

<https://search.google/ai-in-search/>

The progressive intermediation: AI agents



how to make my bouquet last longer...

AI Mode

All

Images

Places

Maps

AI Overview



To make a bouquet last longer without flower food, you can change the water, trim the stems, and use apple cider vinegar or sugar.

<https://search.google/ai-in-search/>

ChatGPT

Accedi

Registrati gratuitamente



Ecco la rassegna stampa di oggi, martedì 10 marzo 2026, con le notizie principali da Italia e mondo.



Sky TG24

Mattarella convoca Consiglio supremo difesa: cos'è e chi ne fa parte oggi

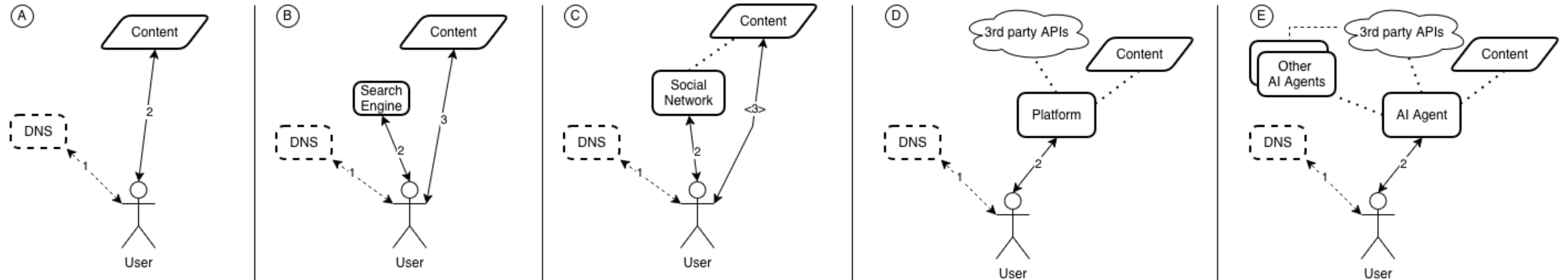
Esteri e geopolitica

Medio Oriente e petrolio dominano le prime pagine.

- Tensioni tra Iran, Israele e alleati occidentali continuano a pesare sulla scena internazionale.
- Il presidente USA Donald Trump avrebbe avuto una telefonata di circa un'ora con Vladimir Putin su Iran e Ucraina.
- La NATO ha abbattuto un missile iraniano nello spazio aereo della Turchia.
- I raid e l'instabilità nella regione stanno facendo salire il prezzo del petrolio, con effetti sui mercati globali. Sky TG24

Alcuni leader europei, tra cui il presidente francese, discutono anche di missioni navali nello Stretto di Hormuz per proteggere il traffico energetico. Sky TG24

The progressive intermediation between user and content



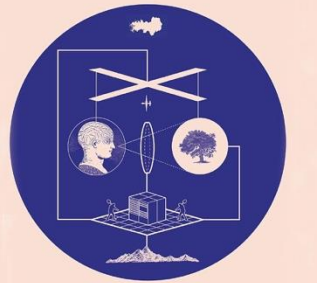
(A) basic technical intermediation, (B) search engines, (C) social networks, (D) platforms, (E) AI Agent

Toward the internet of Personal AI Agents?



Anatomy of AI Agents

KATE CRAWFORD



ATLAS OF AI

Computation and data intensive technology:

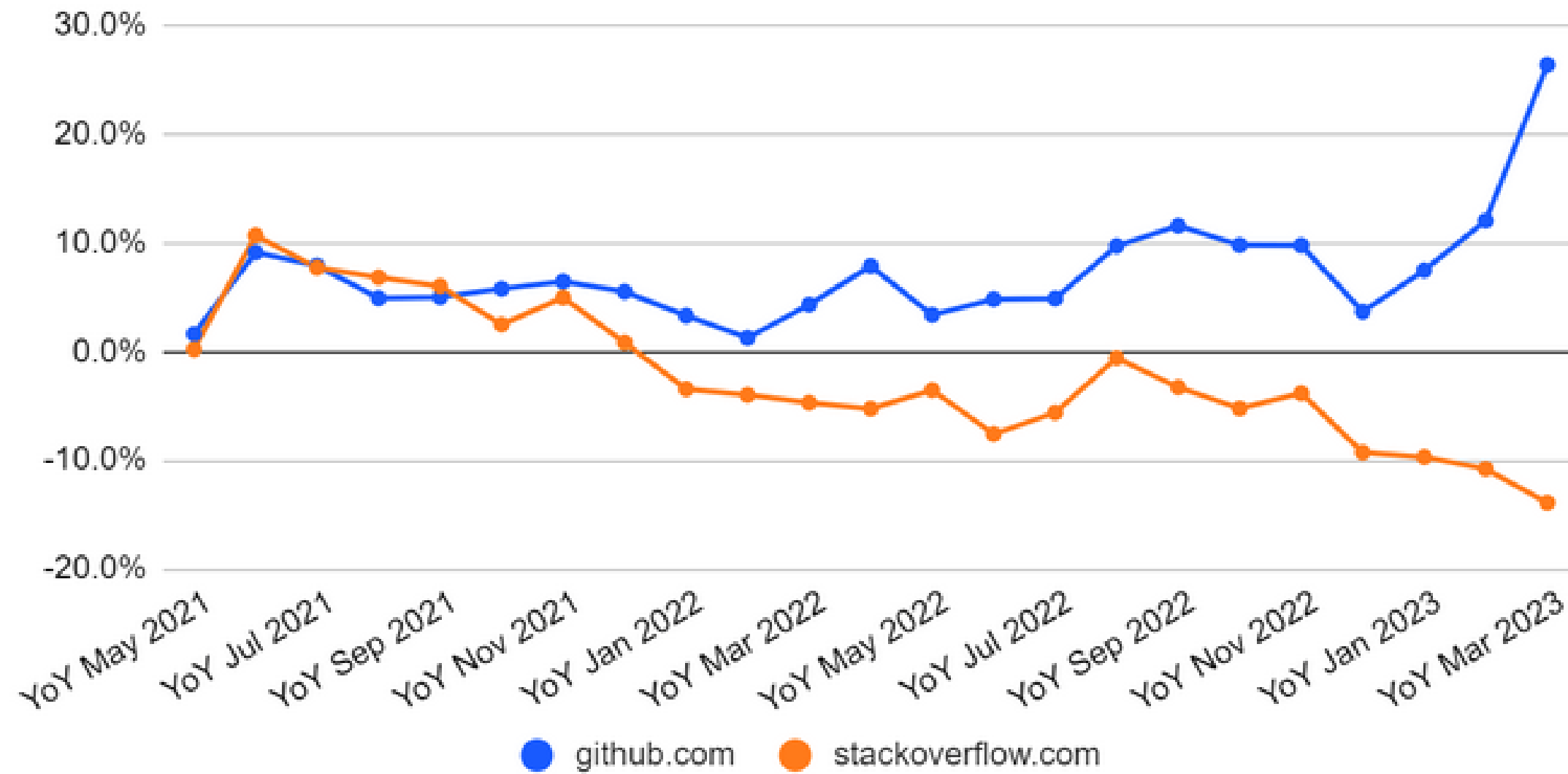
- Mining industry
- Energy consumption
- Water consumption
- Data work
- Network and ad-hoc communication & coordination protocols



Implications for the Internet and User-service interaction

Stack Overflow vs. GitHub

Monthly Visits Desktop & Mobile Web Worldwide YOY



<https://www.similarweb.com/blog/insights/ai-news/stack-overflow-chatgpt/>

TECH

Wikipedia blames ChatGPT for falling traffic — and claims bots are stealing its hard work

By Ben Cost

Published Oct. 20, 2025, 9:56 a.m. ET

40 Comments



Wikipedia is seeing a sharp decline in traffic as online users increasingly turn to ChatGPT and Google AI overviews to get their info.

sdecoret - stock.adobe.com

<https://nypost.com/2025/10/20/tech/wikipedia-blames-chatgpt-for-falling-traffic/>

Implications for the Internet and User-service interaction

MIT
Technology
Review

Featured Topics Newsletters Events Audio

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ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

How AI and Wikipedia have sent vulnerable languages into a doom spiral

Machine translators have made it easier than ever to create error-plagued Wikipedia articles in obscure languages. What happens when AI models get trained on junk pages?

By Jacob Judah

September 25, 2025

<https://www.technologyreview.com/2025/09/25/1124005/ai-wikipedia-vulnerable-languages-doom-spiral/>

Implications for the Internet and User-service interaction



Publishers expect a loss of traffic from search of ...

-43%

Average score

✦ AI Overview

Introducing ChatGPT search

Q5. What is your expectation in terms of how traffic from search engines might have changed in three years time? *Base = 268.*
Note: Responses were collected via a slider ranging from +100% to -100%.

Nic Newman. 2026. *Journalism and technology trends and predictions 2026*. Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism. <https://doi.org/10.60625/RISJ-PS1D-NP11>

Implications for the Internet and User-service interaction

- Direct summarization vs navigation between sources
 - Systematic redirection of internet traffic away from original content sources (e.g. Wikipedia, Stack-Overflow)
 - Opacity of original sources
 - Threat to content creators and publishers
 - Further concentration of power
- Paradox: The AI systems that now compete with these platforms for user attention were trained extensively on the very content these communities produced

Economic and labour impacts

INNOVATION > AI

The Studio Ghibli Dilemma – Copyright In The Age Of Generative AI

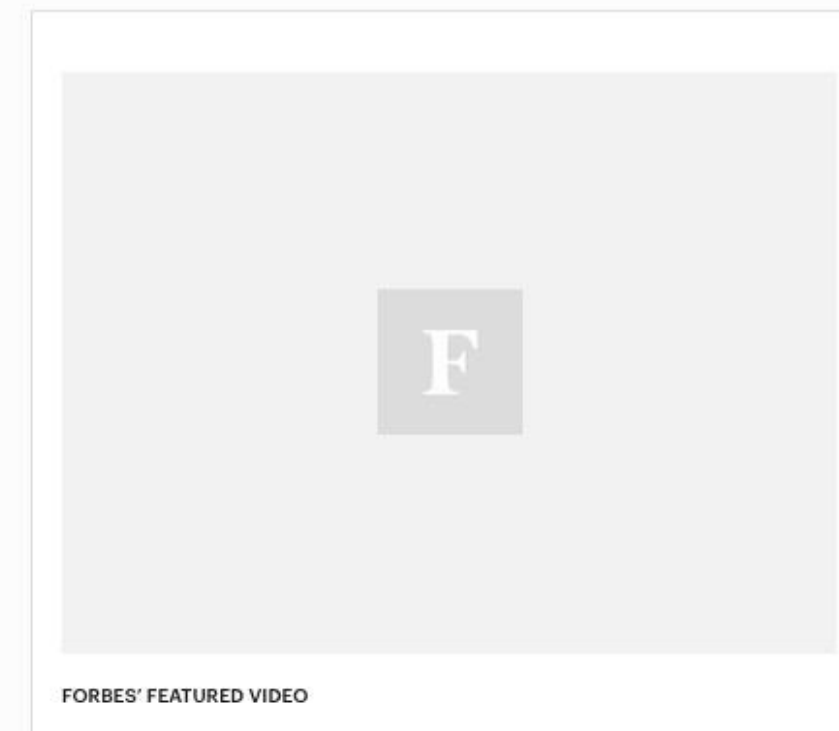
By [Tor Constantino, MBA](#), Contributor. © Tor Constantino is an ex-reporter, tur...

Follow Author

Published May 06, 2025, 12:38pm EDT, Updated May 06, 2025, 01:22pm EDT



The character Totoro from the Studio Ghibli feature length film "My Neighbor Totoro" at Ghibli Museum Mitaka in Tokyo, Japan
GETTY



<https://www.forbes.com/sites/torconstantino/2025/05/06/the-studio-ghibli-dilemma--copyright-in-the-age-of-generative-ai/>

Economic and labour impacts

BUSINESS INSIDER

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DOW JONES ▼ -0.07% NASDAQ ▼ -0.04% S&P 500 ▼ -0.21% AAPL ▲ +0.07% NVDA ▼ -0.11% MSFT ▼ -0.08% AMZN ▲ +0.18% META ▼ -0.07% TSLA ▲ +0.1%

TECH

Duolingo's CEO lays out 5 ways AI will be used to decide the future of its workforce

By [Shubhangi Goel](#) + Follow



AI usage will be used to hire and review employees at Duolingo, the CEO said. Kevin Dietsch/Getty Images

Duolingo CEO Now Stating AI Won't Replace Full Time Employees

The CEO and co-founder took responsibility for the company's AI statements back in April.



Written by
Nicole Mousicos

Published on
August 18, 2025



Related articles:



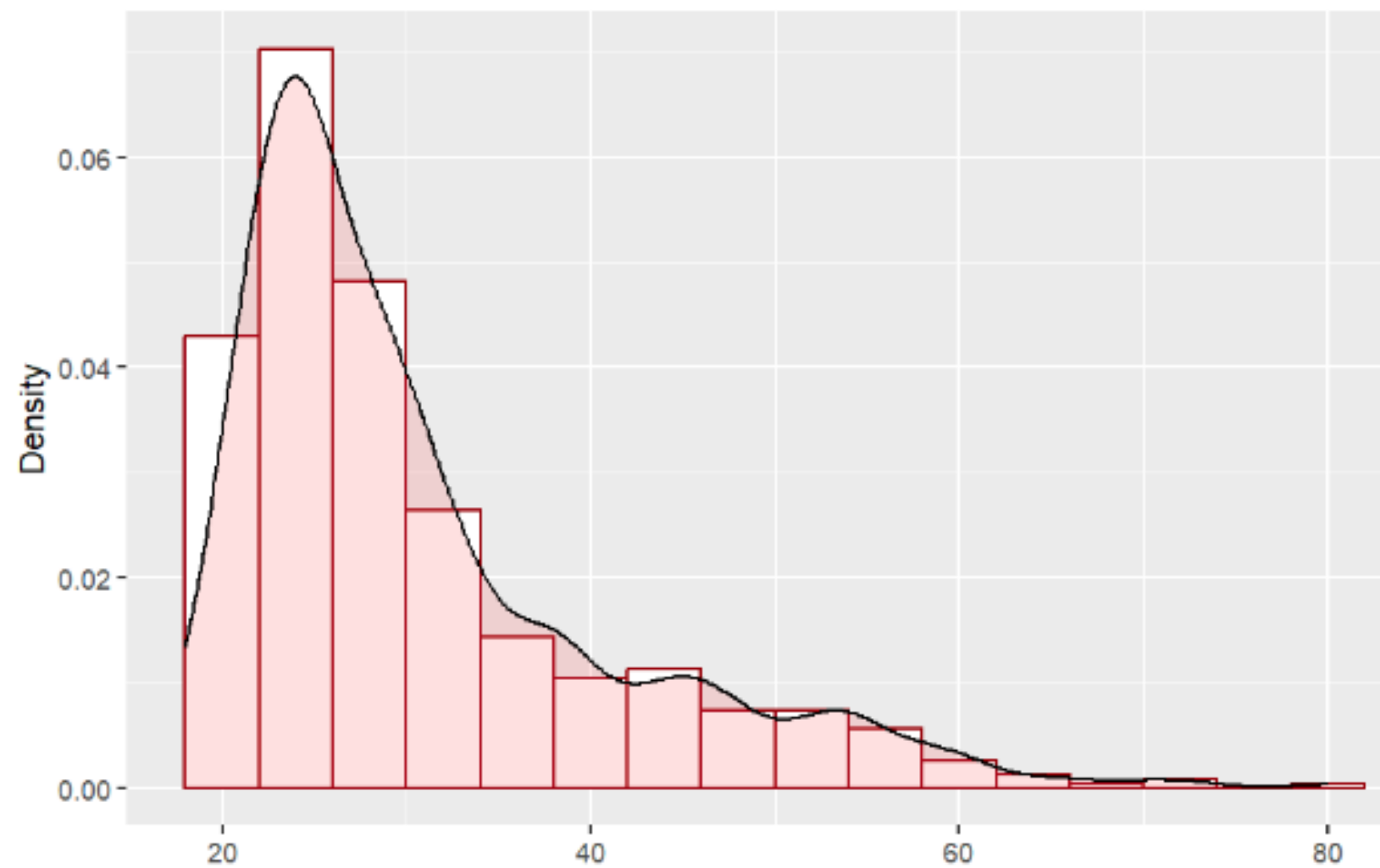
Verify Vibe Coding Skills With These New LinkedIn Certificates
AI coding is big right now, and LinkedIn has given employers a way to track dow...



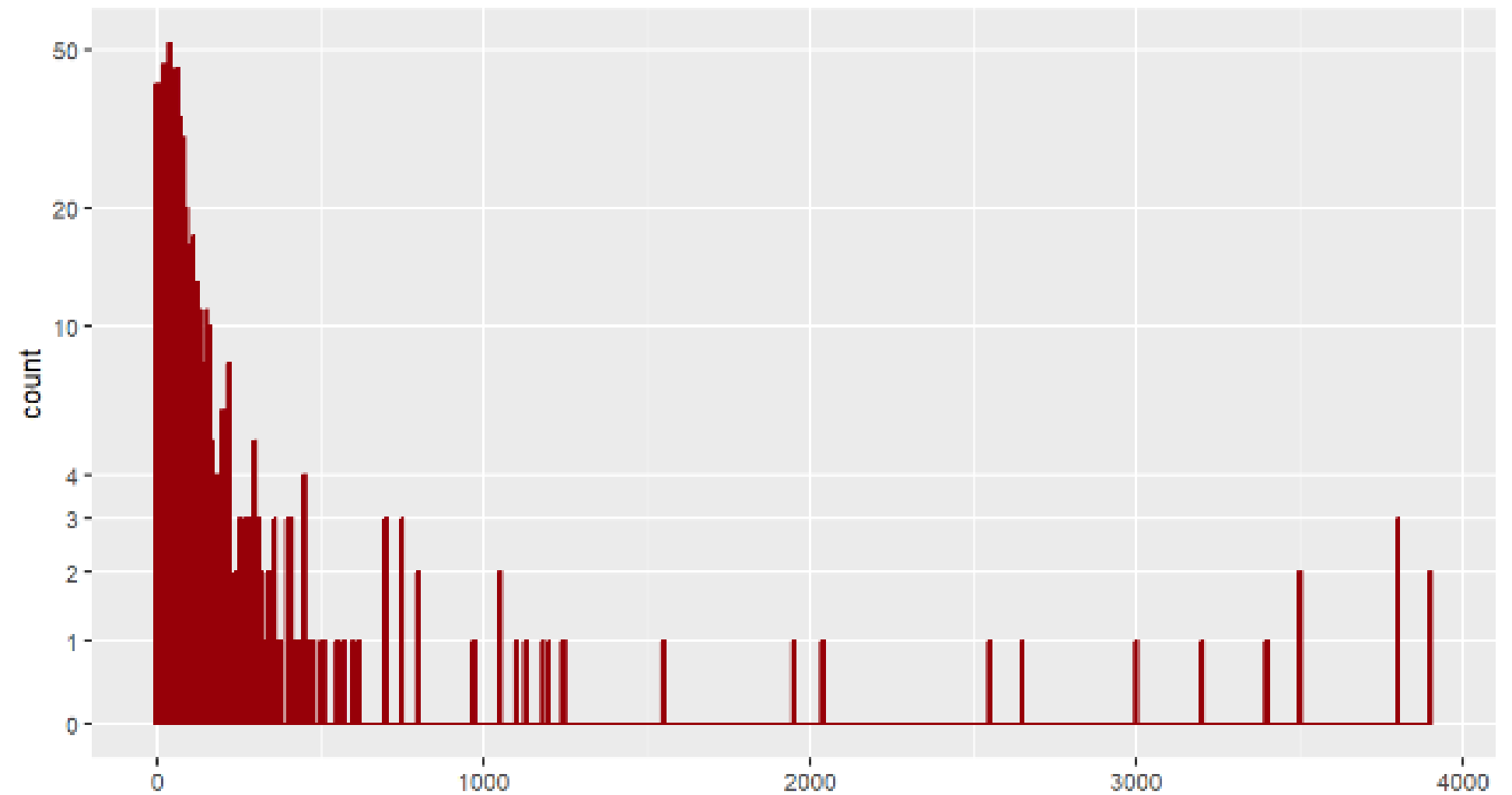
Study: 94% of Experts Sav AI

Economic and labour impacts

Age distribution



European microworkers' age.



European microworkers' earnings in three months.

Milagros Miceli, Paola Tubaro, Antonio A Casilli, Thomas Le Bonniec, Camilla Salim Wagner, and
Laurenz Sachenbacher. Who Trains the Data for European Artificial Intelligence?

Economic and labour impacts

«Despite \$30-40 billion in enterprise investment into GenAI, this report uncovers a surprising result in that 95% of organizations are getting zero return.»

Aditya Challapally, Chris Pease, Ramesh Raskar, and Pradyumna Chari. 2025. *STATE OF AI IN BUSINESS 2025*. MIT Nanda.

Economic and labour impacts



- The link between content creation and economic compensation is broken
- Sponsored results?
- Effects on copyright and intellectual property (e.g. Ghibli case)
- Is it a speculative bubble?
- Massive layoffs “justification”
- **Increased data work**
 - Exploitation and precarious conditions
- Automation of complex cognitive tasks
- **Productivity amplification**
 - but for whom?
- **Digital divide:** who can afford the most useful agents?

Implications for society

Power

- Technological and economical concentration
- Centralized data control
- New form of labor exploitation
- Risks of oppression
- Open protocols but corporate governance

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«A handful of firms now dominate the technologies that support advanced AI. I call them **digital warlords** because they operate outside the boundaries of domestic regulation and multilateral oversight, setting the terms for who may access advanced AI technologies and under what conditions.»

Stephen Weymouth. 2025. Digital Disintegration: Techno-Blocs and Strategic Sovereignty in the AI Era. *International Organization* 79, S1 (December 2025), S57-S70.

<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0020818325101070>

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«AI-enabled warfare will not hinge on a single new weapon, technology, or operational concept; rather, it will center on the application and integration of AI-enabled technologies into every facet of warfighting .»

Former Google CEO Eric Schmidt in National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence. 2021. NSCAI Final Report. Retrieved February 10, 2026 from <https://reports.nsc.ai.gov/final-report/>

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Abdujalil Abdurasulov
In Kyiv



Russian AI drones such as this present a new challenge to Ukraine, says Serhiy Beskrestnov

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cly7jrez2jno>

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'Lavender': The AI machine directing Israel's bombing spree in Gaza

The Israeli army has marked tens of thousands of Gazans as suspects for assassination, using an AI targeting system with little human oversight and a permissive policy for casualties, +972 and Local Call reveal.

smoke rises after Israeli airstrikes in Beit Lahia, in the northern Gaza Strip, December 28, 2023. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

f  By Yuval Abraham | April 3, 2024

<https://www.972mag.com/lavender-ai-israeli-army-gaza/>

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- Income gap
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Cultural

- Flood of synthetic contents
- Harder to verify sources and trust information
- Cultural homogenization
- Memory and reasoning externalization

Implications for the Telecommunications Sector



AI agents networking requirements



Communications infrastructure relying on ML/AI technologies

Implications for the Telecommunications Sector



- 6G sensing
 - New data and app opportunities
- New infrastructural requirements (e.g. AI agents' latency req.)
- Changes in the traffic patterns
- Hyper-personalization
 - New network optimizations
 - Surveillance apparatus
- Cybersecurity
 - Agents become potential vector for malicious injection
 - Potential for real-time threat detection

Conclusions and prospects

- Paradigm shift in access to web services
- Tension between openness and centralized control
- Need for transparent and democratic governance
- Importance of critical and inclusive approaches in technology design

**From the Internet of social networks
to the Internet of personal AI agents**

Marco Rondina, Antonio Vetrò, Juan Carlos De Martin,
Manuela Bargis, Gabriele Elia



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