mcp-agent











lastmile A

mcp-agent

Anatomy of an MCP Agent

AGENT TECH STACK IN 2025

Recent developments make Agent design simpler and more robust

AGENTS AS MCP SERVERS

MCP servers can be a lot more than tool call wrappers – they can be Agents!

AGENTS AS ASYNC WORKFLOWS

Rethinking agent architecture





3 big changes are converging to enable effective agents that work well in production

Better Models

With test-time compute & reasoning models, a lot of complexity is **shifting-left** into inference layer.

i.e. less complexity for app developers!

Model Context Protocol

MCP is a standardized interface for connecting LLMs to tools & data.

Proliferation of Al-native services (MCP servers) and a **single way** to give context to LLMs.

Simplified Architecture

Agents = apps that orchestrate LLMs with MCP-enabled tools and resources.

No need for monolithic AI frameworks anymore.

Simple agent patterns is all you need.



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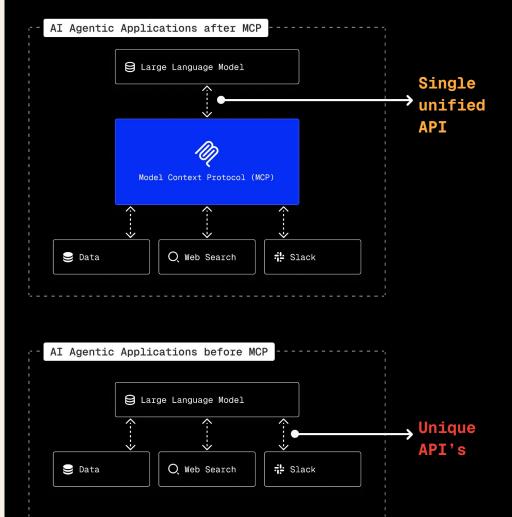
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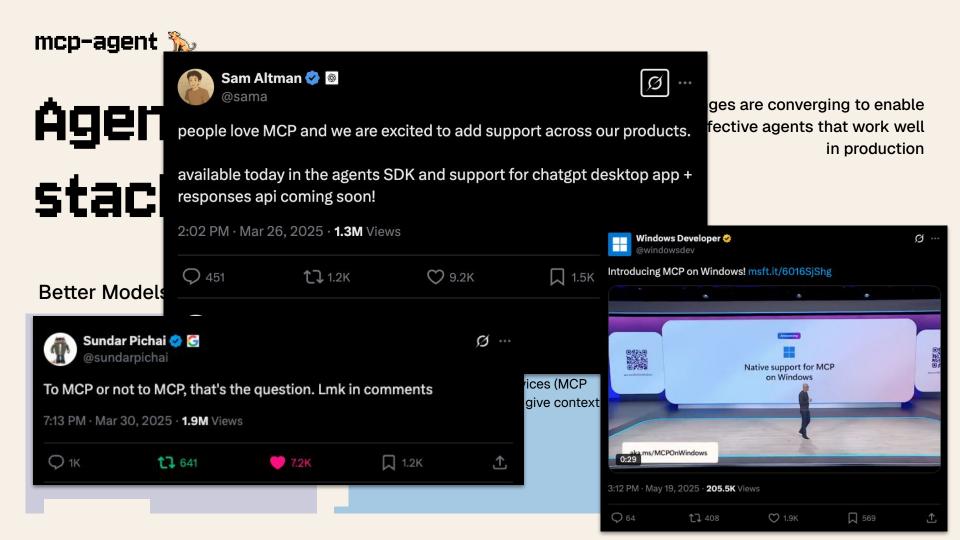


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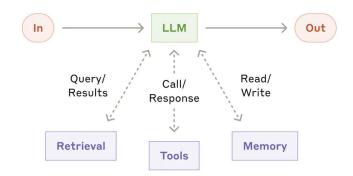
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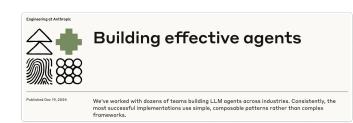
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Augmented LLM



LLM with access to tools and resources (data).

Base building block of agent workflows: run LLM in a loop.





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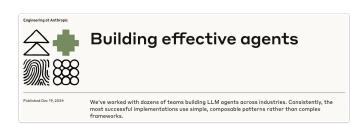
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Orchestrator Workflow



A higher-level LLM generates a **plan**, then assigns them to **sub-agents**, and **synthesizes** the results.





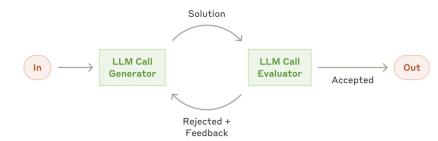
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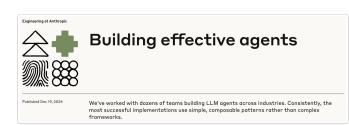
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Evaluator-Optimizer



One LLM (the "**optimizer**") refines a response. Other LLM (ie "**evaluator**") critiques it until a response exceeds a quality criteria.





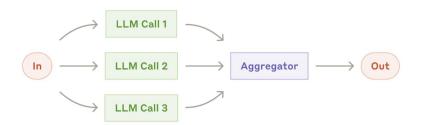
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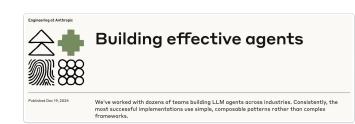
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Parallel Workflow



Fan-out tasks to multiple sub-agents and **fan-in** the results





Model Context Protocol







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.





Model Context Protocol



Key observations:

- 1. MCP everywhere:
 - a. Every line-of-business application will soon be an **MCP client**.
 - b. Every service will have an **MCP server**.





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- Agents as MCP servers: Agents are microservices that should be deployed as MCP servers themselves.
- Agents are async workflows: Agents should be modeled like workflows (think Airflow, Temporal, etc.)





Agents as MCP servers

Currently, all "agentic" behavior in MCP is on the MCP client:

Clients like Claude or Cursor use MCP servers to solve tasks.

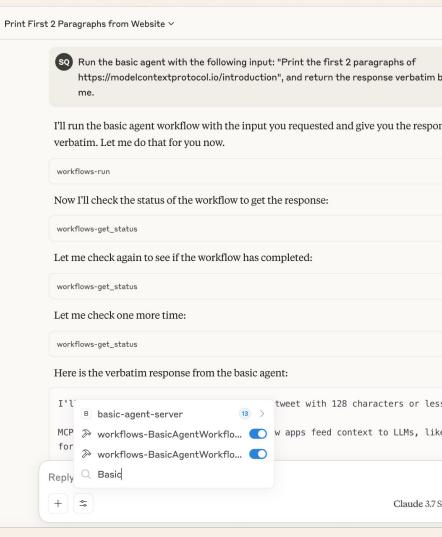
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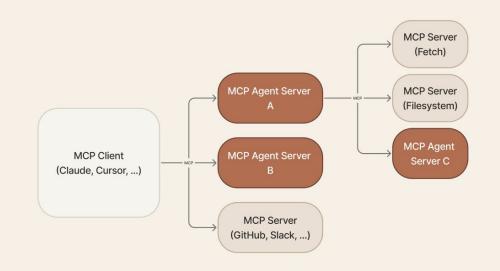
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Multi-agents: Agents can then invoke other agents over MCP!



Agents as MCP servers

MCP Agent Servers unlock big benefits

Composable Agents

Build complex multi-agent systems using the same base protocol (MCP).

Platform-agnostic Agents

Build agents once, reuse anywhere.

Use your agents from any MCP client.

Scalable Agents

Run agent workflows on dedicated infrastructure.

Agent execution is decoupled from the client invoking the agent.

Agents as async workflows

Agents can be paused & resumed.

They need to await on **human feedback.**

Agent tasks may fail and need to be retried.

Agents can be **triggered** or **scheduled** (chat message, or webhook, or cron job).

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Input Result "Write a cover letter for the following job posting: Software [Engineer at LastMile AI. Responsibilities include developing AI "value": "**Alex Johnson** \n[Your Address] \n[City, State, systems, collaborating with cross-functional teams, and enhancing Zip Code] \n[Email Address] \n[Phone Number] \n[Date] scalability. Skills required: Python, distributed systems, and \n\n**Hiring Manager** \nLastMile AI \n\Company Address] machine learning.\n\nCandidate Details: Alex Johnson, 3 years in \n[Citv. State, Zip Code] \n\nDear Hiring Manager.\n\nI am machine learning, contributor to open-source AI projects, writing to express my enthusiasm for the Software Engineer proficient in Python and TensorFlow. Motivated by building position at LastMile AI. With three years of dedicated experience scalable AI systems to solve real-world problems.\n\nCompany in machine learning, I have honed my skills in developing information: Look up from the LastMile AI About page: scalable AI systems, contributing significantly to open-source https://lastmileai.dev/about" projects where I utilized Python and TensorFlow to create impactful solutions. Your mission to accelerate AI adoption resonates with my professional drive to transform complex problems into accessible technologies that serve real-world applications.\n\nIn my previous role at [Previous Company Name], I led a project to develop an AI-driven recommendation system that improved customer engagement by 30%. This involved **Event History** mcp_agent.agents.agent.AgentTasks.shutdown_aggregator_task mcp_agent.workflows.llm.augmented_llm_openai.OpenAlCompletionTasks.reguest_structured_completion_task mcp_agent.workflows.llm.augmented_llm_openai.OpenAlCompletionTasks_request_completion_task (mcp_agent.agents.agent.AgentTasks.initialize_aggregator_task mcp_agent.agents.agent.AgentTasks.shutdown_aggregator_task .workflows.llm.augmented_llm_openai.OpenAlCompletionTasks.request_completion_task mcp_agent.agents.agent.AgentTasks.initialize_aggregator_task

mcp-agent we uses Temporal to execute agent tasks.

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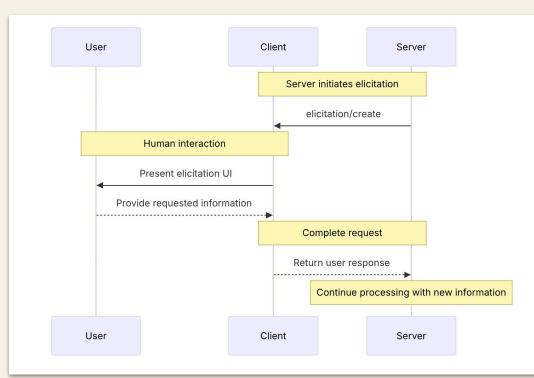
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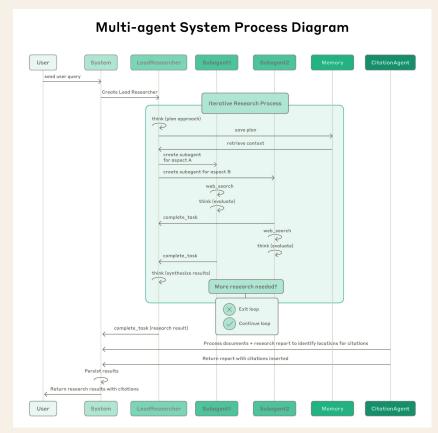
Elicitation

New: MCP servers can request human feedback from clients (and therefore users). This is called "elicitation".



Emerging agent architecture

- Orchestrator: Planner/task manager agent (main point of contact with human).
- Multiple sub-agents with specialized tasks
- MCP access: Agents connect to tools & data via MCP servers
- 4. **Durable workflows**: Long-running async tasks (jobs).
- 5. **Human-in-the-loop** (not full autonomy)



Problems yet to be solved

- 1. Agents as MCP servers
 - a. Long-running tools
 - b. Agent authentication / authorization
- 2. Context management
- 3. Tool management
- 4. Human in the loop for long-running workflows

We are working on solving these!

THANK YOU!







