

Lesson 3

Querying AI Models

Using APIs

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Summary

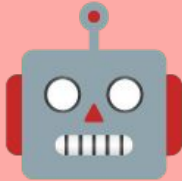
01

Discussion:
Your Labs



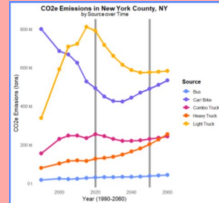
02

Recap: What
are LLMs?



03

Data
Reporting
with AI



04

What is
Ollama?







Discussion

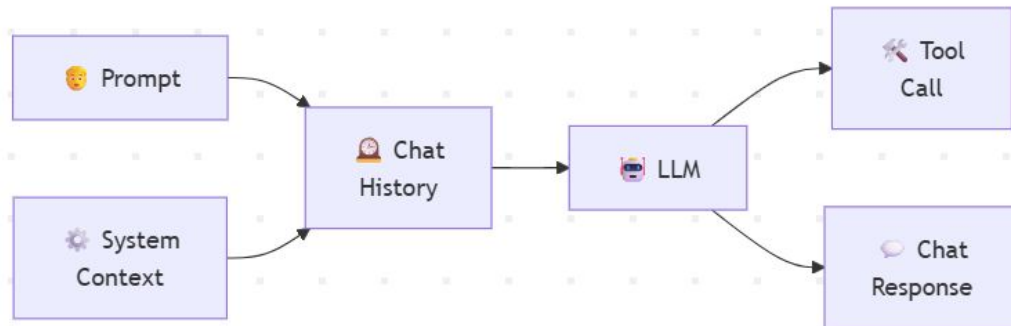
- How did your lab go last week?
- What worked when prompting the AI?
- What didn't work?
- Ideas for how you will use cursor next?



Recap: What are LLMs?

How do LLMs work?

-  **System prompt:** sets rules, behavior, and constraints (usually hidden from users)
-  **User prompt:** what you explicitly ask for
-  **Chat history:** prior turns that shape context and continuity
-  Model combines all three → predicts next tokens until a stop condition



Example LLM Providers

- OpenAI's GPT series
- Google's Gemini
- Cursor's Composer

Data Reporting with AI

Components

- Your job
- Internal structure
- Syntax
- Output format
- Summarize Stats!

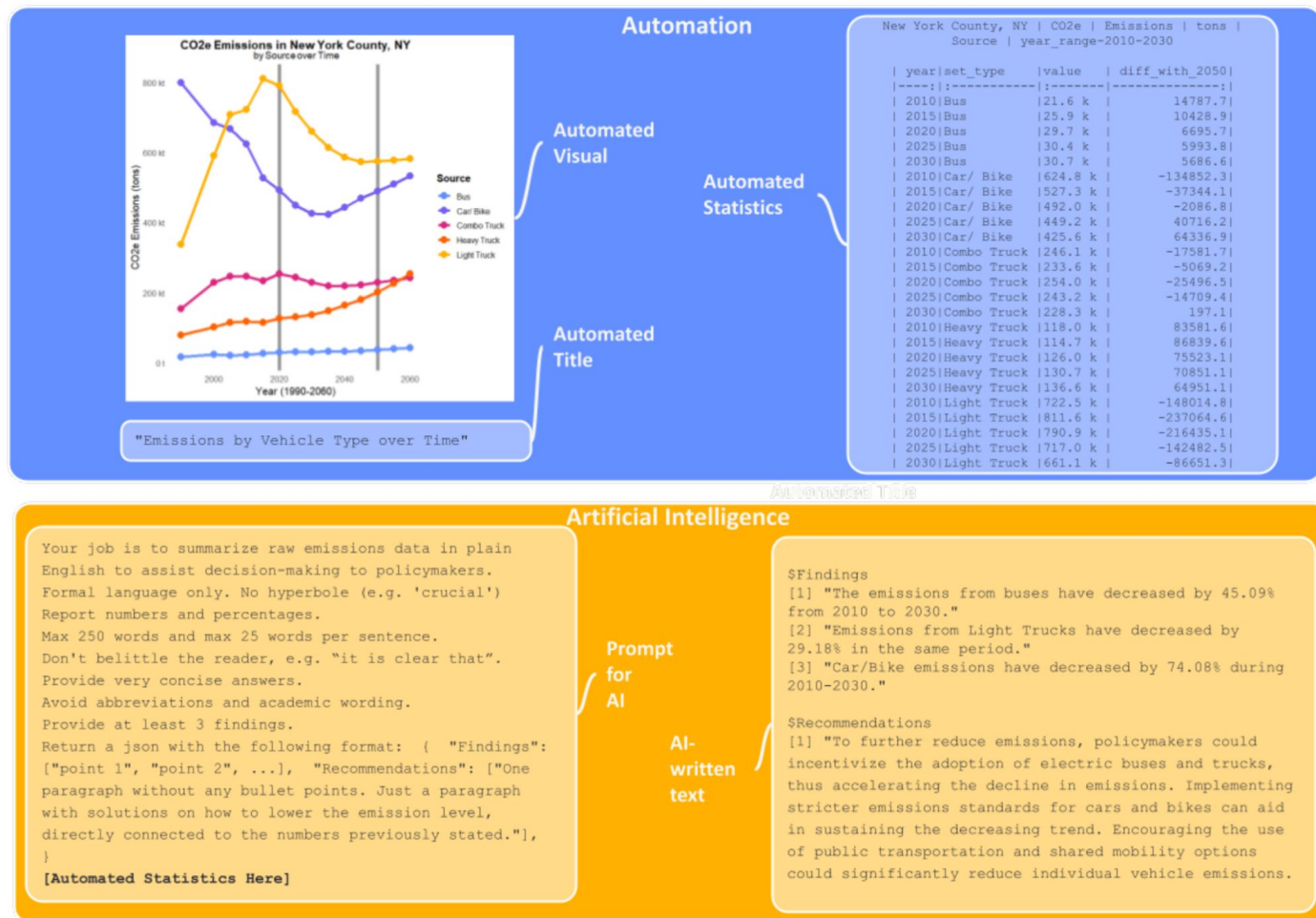


Figure 3. Components for a Block of Content with Generative AI, NY



What is Ollama?

- **An open-source software for serving many different large-language models.**
- Primary solution if you want to choose your model or protect your data.
- 1 consistent API for serving and querying models
- Cloud models also available, giving faster responses.
- Cloud model usage limits:
 - **Free:** Light usage—chat, quick questions, trying out models
 - **Pro:** Day-to-day work—RAG, document analysis, and coding tasks
 - **Max:** Heavy, sustained usage—coding agents, batch processing, and data automation



[Learn more about Ollama Cloud pricing](#)



What is Ollama?

**>100s of models to choose from,
some with extra functions!**

User process:

- Search for models
- Download model
- Serve Model
- Query Model

Cloud

Embedding

Vision

Tools

Thinking

Popular

qwen3-coder-next

Qwen3-Coder-Next is a coding-focused language model from Alibaba's Qwen team, optimized for agentic coding workflows and local development.

tools

cloud

↓ 35.7K Pulls

↻ 4 Tags

🕒 Updated 2 days ago

glm-ocr

GLM-OCR is a multimodal OCR model for complex document understanding, built on the GLM-V encoder-decoder architecture.

vision

tools

↓ 16.8K Pulls

↻ 3 Tags

🕒 Updated 5 days ago

translategemma

A new collection of open translation models built on Gemma 3, helping people communicate across 55 languages.

vision

4b

12b

27b

↓ 237.5K Pulls

↻ 13 Tags

🕒 Updated 3 weeks ago

glm-4.7-flash

As the strongest model in the 30B class, GLM-4.7-Flash offers a new option for lightweight deployment that balances performance and efficiency.

tools

thinking

↓ 168.9K Pulls

↻ 4 Tags

🕒 Updated 2 weeks ago



Why use Ollama?

- Ollama does not record, log or train on any prompt or response data.
- Can run as many models as your hardware supports.
- Cloud models have concurrency limits by plan.
- All cloud requests are encrypted in transit.
- Made for offline use → cloud features optional.



[Learn more about Ollama Cloud pricing](#)

Install Ollama

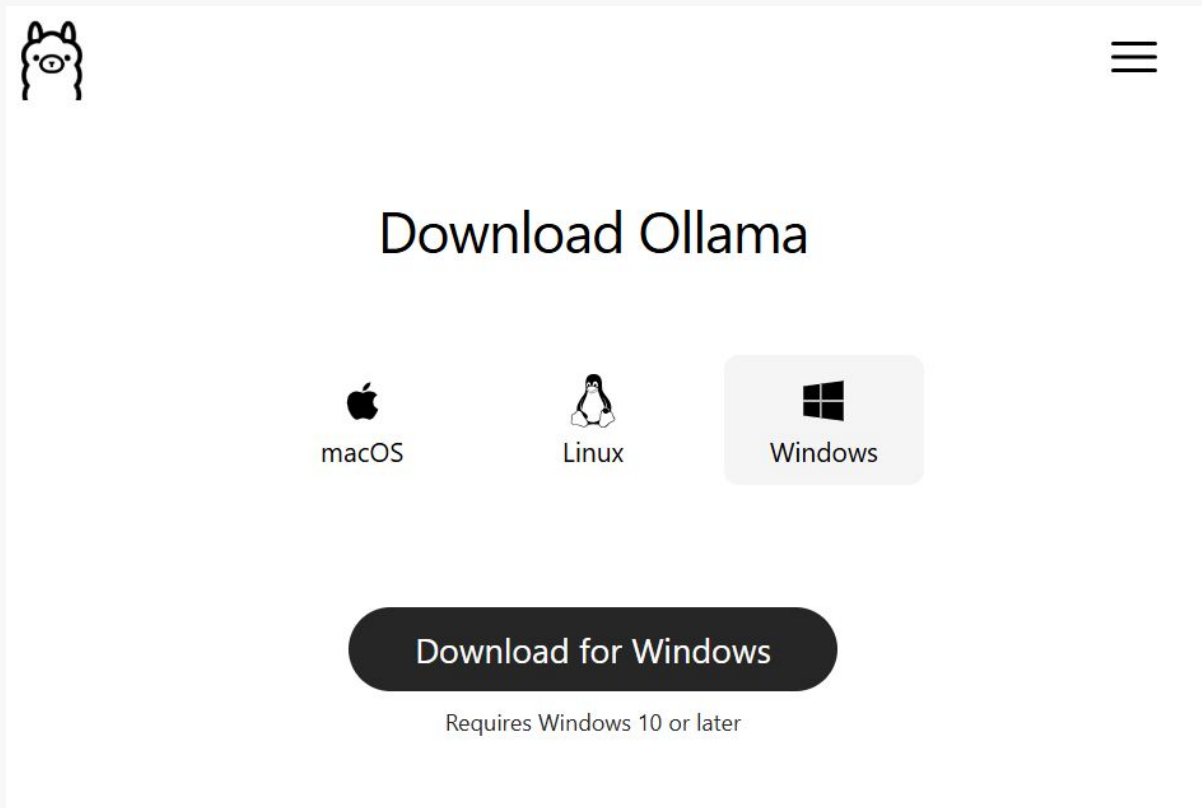
Please go ahead and install Ollama from this link.

ollama.com/download

You will need to add Ollama to **PATH**.
Cursor can help - OR, for an imperfect solution, use your **.bashrc** file.

See mine here:

<https://github.com/timothyfraser/ds-ai/blob/main/.bashrc>



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<https://github.com/timothyfraser/dsai/blob/main/.bashrc>

How to customize your .bashrc file

```
export PATH="$PATH:/c/Users/tmf77/AppData/Local/Programs/Ollama"  
alias ollama='/c/Users/tmf77/AppData/Local/Programs/Ollama/ollama.exe'
```

How to load your .bashrc file

```
source ./bashrc
```



How to serve Ollama!

Customize and run this shell script in git bash!

https://github.com/timothyfraser/dsai/blob/main/03_query_ai/01_ollama.sh

```
1  #!/bin/bash
2
3  # 00_ollama.sh - Ollama Startup Script
4  # Serves Ollama on a specific port, pulls a small model, runs it, and provides stop controls
5  # 🌐 🚀 🧠 🛠️ 📡
6  # Load your local paths and variables
7  source .bashrc
8
9  # Configuration
10 PORT=11434 # Default Ollama port (change as needed)
11 # Set environment variable for port
12 export OLLAMA_HOST="0.0.0.0:$PORT"
13 MODEL="smollm2:1.7b" # Small, reputable model (3.3GB)
14 SERVER_PID=""
15 MODEL_PID=""
16
17 # Start server in background, and assign the process ID to the SERVER_PID variable
18 ollama serve > /dev/null 2>&1 & SERVER_PID=$!
19 # View the process ID of ollama
20 echo $SERVER_PID
```

ACTIVITIES





ACTIVITY



ACTIVITY

Run Ollama Locally

 *Estimated Time: 10 minutes*



Your Task

Install and run Ollama locally on your machine, then test it using the example scripts.

[https://github.com/timothyfraser/dsai/blob/main/O3_query ai/ACTIVITY ollama local.md](https://github.com/timothyfraser/dsai/blob/main/O3_query_ai/ACTIVITY_ollama_local.md)



More coming on
Wednesday!
See Github!

[https://github.com/timothyfraser/dsai/blob/main/03_query_ai/
README.md](https://github.com/timothyfraser/dsai/blob/main/03_query_ai/README.md)



Build an AI-Powered Data Reporter

 *Estimated Time: 30 minutes*

Lab Overview

Create a script that queries your API from [LAB_your_good_api_query.md](#), processes the data, and uses AI (Ollama local/cloud or OpenAI) to generate a useful reporting summary. Iterate on your prompts to refine the output format and quality.

https://github.com/timothyfraser/dsai/blob/main/O3_query_ai/LAB_ai_reporter.md

Happy coding!

