

Bachelorarbeit 2024

Studiengang Informatik

A2C2 – Natural Language-Instructed Autonomous Agent for Computer Control

Diplomanden
Gabriel Nobel
Rebekka von Wartburg-Kottler

Supervisor
Prof. Thilo Stadelmann
Pascal Sager

Institut / Zentrum
Center for Artificial Intelligence

Recent advances in artificial intelligence (AI) have boosted progress across various domains, particularly enabling breakthroughs in the discipline of **Natural Language-Instructed Autonomous Agents for Computer Control (A2C2s)**. Due to their capabilities of understanding natural language and executing actions the same way a human would, these agents have the potential to significantly simplify human-machine interaction, reduce resource requirements in business, and empower non-technical users to operate computer systems effortlessly.

Problem Statement

- What does the research landscape **look** like, and how can it be **categorized** to gain a clear and valuable overview?
- What are the **strengths** and **potentials** of existing systems, and how can they be exploited?
- Which **challenges** are known to be **unsolved** and could lead to breakthroughs in the field if solved?
- What does the look like **proposed system**, based on well-founded knowledge in this field and ideally representing a further step towards A2C2?

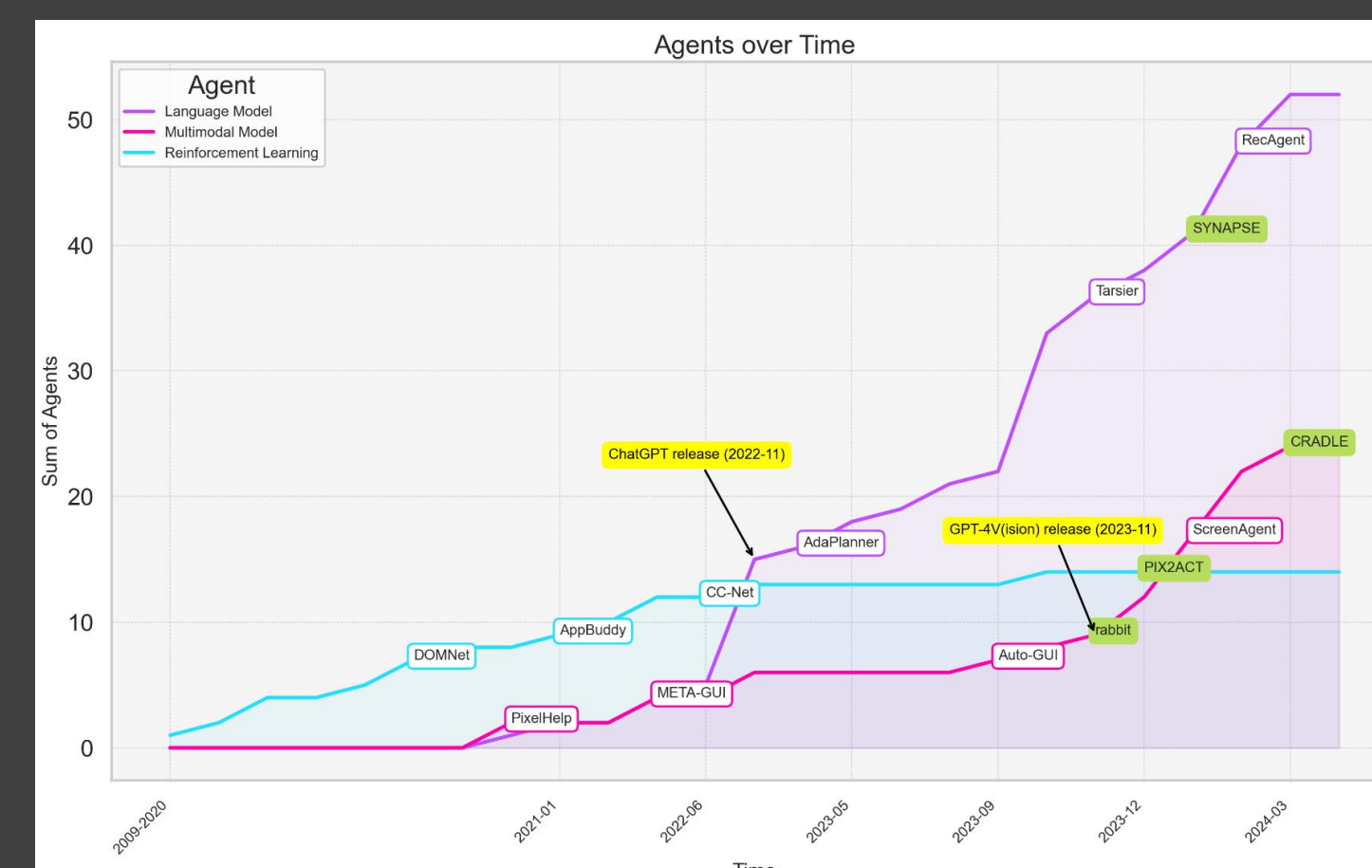
Input

Instruction Space – *what is the user instruction?* – can be affected by wording, precision and completeness.

Observation Space – *what does the agent perceive?*

- Pixel-Based** (Screenshot, Video): **generalizable**, **large possible action space**
- Textual** (API, HTML): **structured**, **interpretable**, **domain-dependent**
- Multimodal** (Text+Image): **structured**, **generalizable**, **domain-dependent**
- Preprocessed** (Minecraft): **clear action space**, **not generalizable**

Background



The research area has made a clear transition from **reinforcement learning** to **language models** to more advanced **multimodal models**. The impact of generative models is highly visible.

Learning

Neural learning – *how can the model weights be adjusted?*

- RL: **predefined policy**, **not generalizable**
- Fine-Tuning: **iterative**, **few examples**, **highly available**
- Memory** – *how is an external knowledge base built?*
 - Natural Language: **comprehensible**, **difficult to query**
 - Embedding: **semantic query**, **flexible**, **integrated in models**, **resource-intensive**
 - Symbolic DB: **structured**, **stable**, **static schema**

Taxonomy

- Input** – *providing information to the agent*
- Learning** – *refining skills and building knowledge*
- Input Decomposition** – *ensuring task comprehensibility*
- Plan Refinement** – *debating and refining subtasks*
- System Output** – *interacting with the environment*

Input Decomposition

	Size (KB)	Actions	tokens
raw HTML	224	1331 tags	76485
raw image	530	2400 x 1080px	425
filtered HTML	20	41 tags	6178
processed image	530	91 elements	425
inferred representation	2	48 elements	797

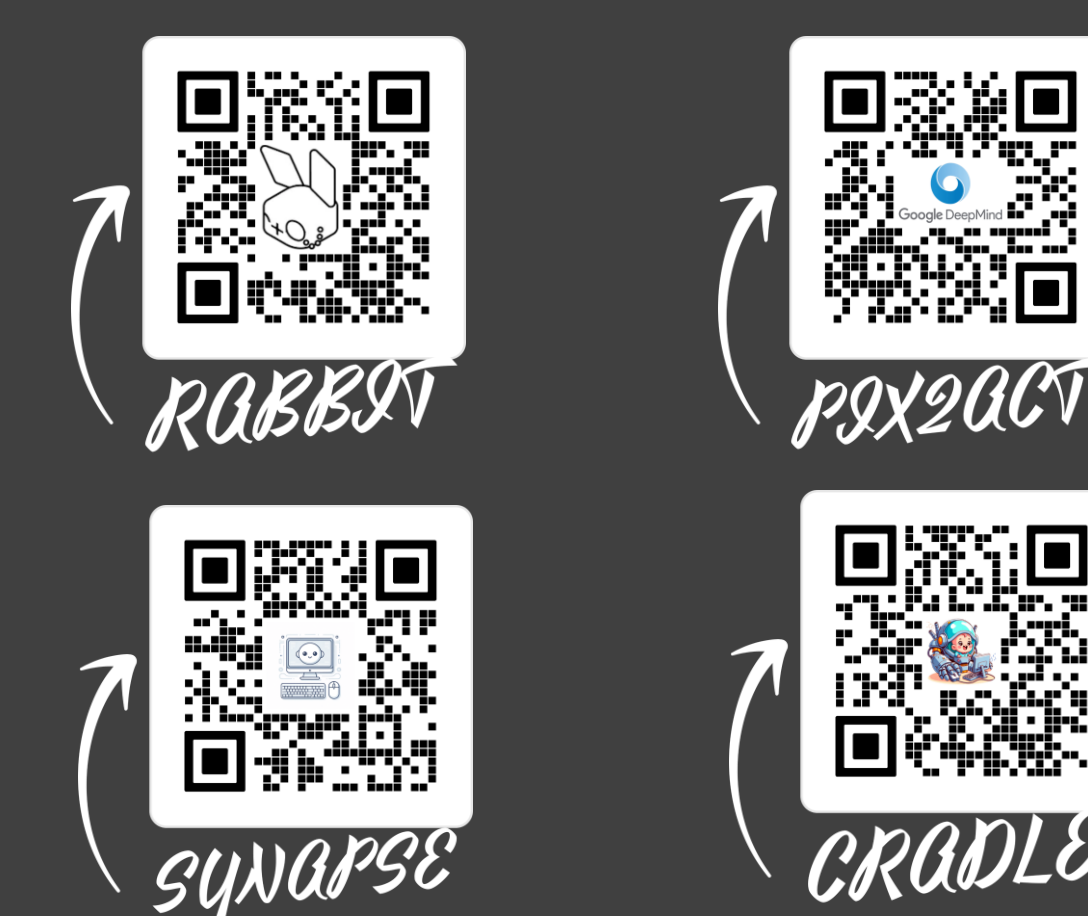
Input Decomposition can be divided into **dynamic action inference** – *how can the observation space be simplified?* – and **subtask inference** – *how can a complex instruction be partitioned?*



System Output

- IO Peripherals:** **generalizable**, **large action space**
- Executable Code:** **execute actions independently (task & domain)**, **less interpretable**
- Tool usage:** **reduces complexity**, **determining the appropriate tool and its parameters**

Pinnacle Methods



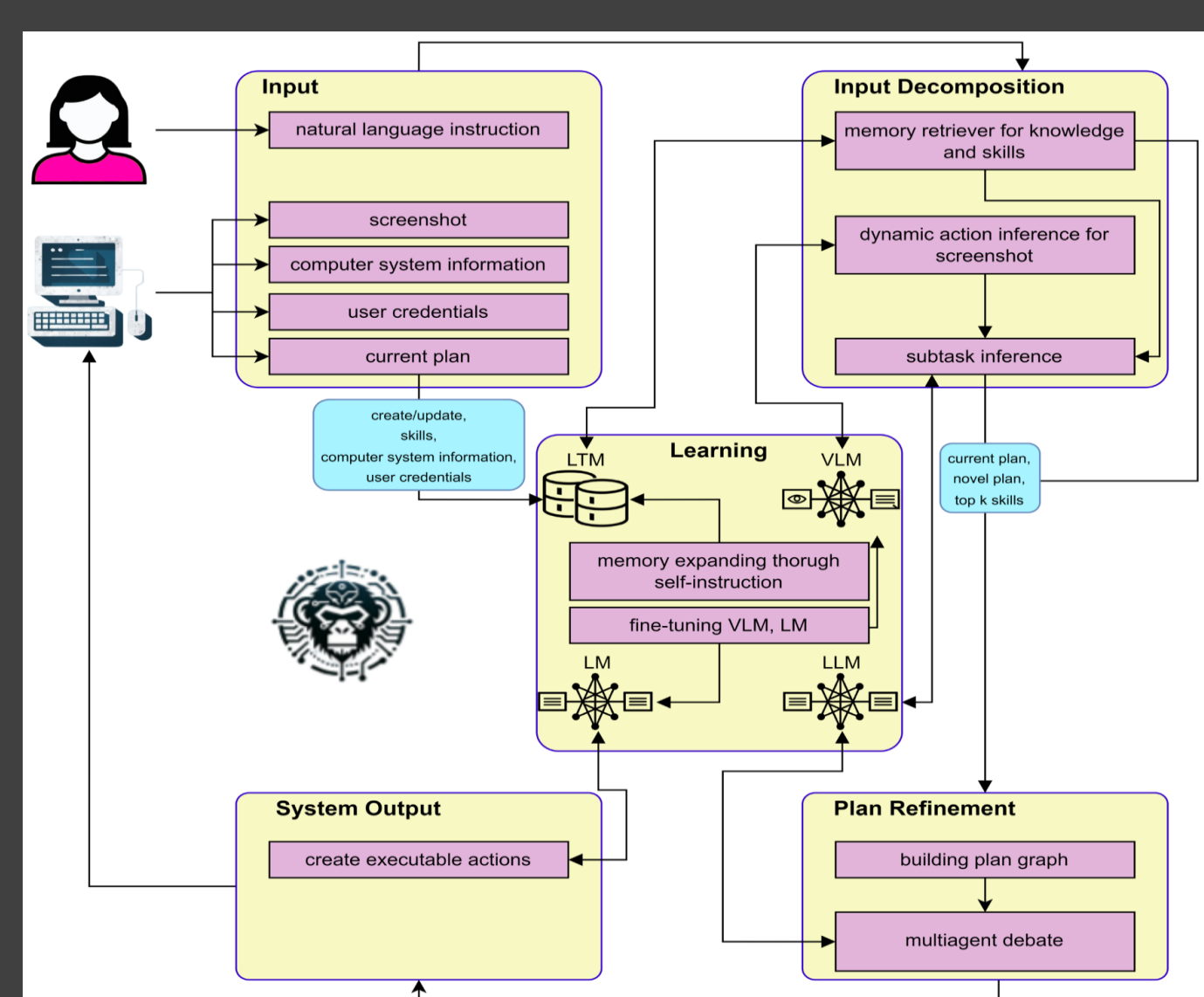
Plan Refinement

Open loop reasoning – *how good is the plan in itself?* – can correct a plan through few-shot examples without feedback.

Multiagent reasoning – *how good is the plan if compared?* – introduces debating and independent control agents.

Closed loop reasoning – *what if an unexpected behavior occurs?* – adds refinement via environment- and human feedback.

Conclusion



Our proposed architecture, contains identified strengths and further research areas like security, performance, and personalization optimizations.