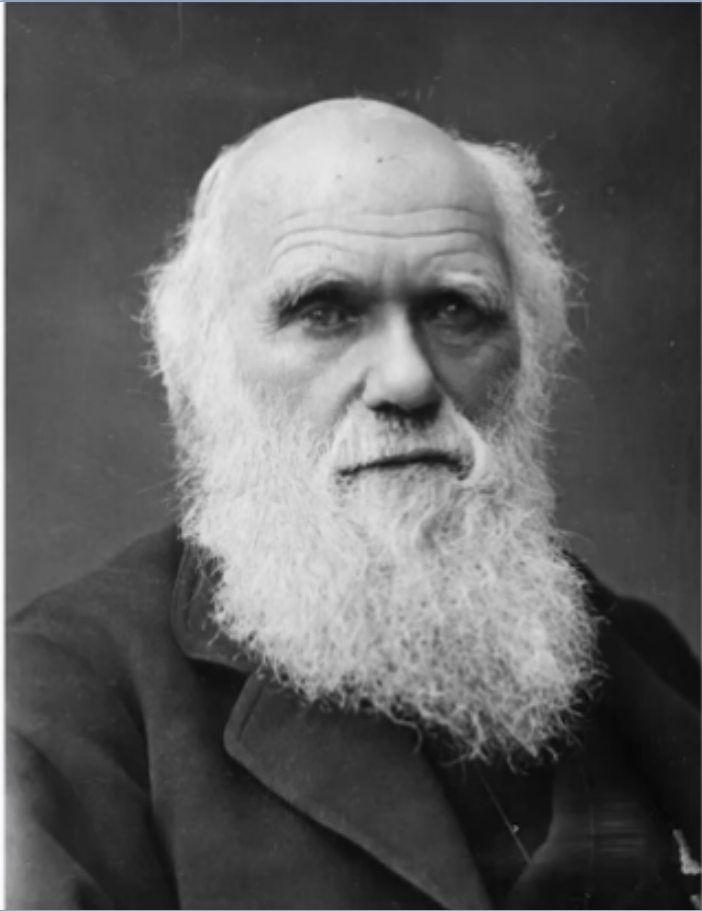# LIVING FILES THEORY

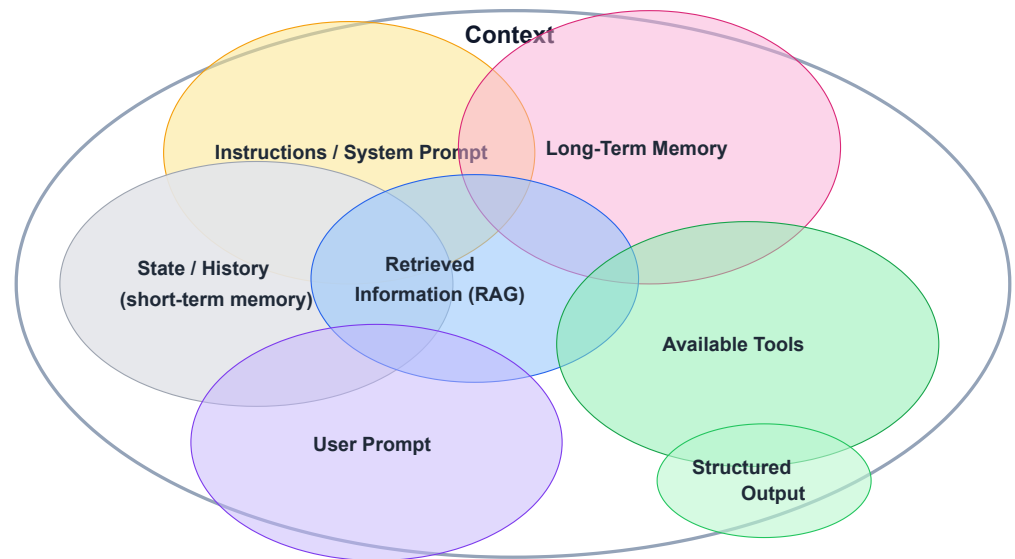**From static notes to adaptive memory systems**

Evolution as the operating metaphor

Useful memory systems improve like living organisms: keep what works, prune what doesn't, and adapt quickly under changing context.

Context Engineering Map

Readable-at-distance labels

Context

Instructions / System Prompt

Long-Term Memory

State / History (short-term memory)

Retrieved Information (RAG)

Available Tools

User Prompt

Structured Output

● Instructions   ● Long-term memory   ● Short-term state