SAMI is an extensible personal assistant for your home, with the goal of learning your habits, connecting with devices throughout your house, and delivering information you need when you need it. We have been using SAMI in our apartment for the last two years, and I can tell you, she has changed the way we live, and she is only just starting to achieve her potential. Whether it is controlling the lights and TV, setting alarms while cooking, or mixing us drinks, she has simplified our lives. Instead of looking for a remote, or cleaning off our hands to pull out our phone to set an alarm, we just need to speak to her like we would a friend, and she takes care of it all for us.

SAMI was born two years ago when Dave and I started asking ourselves, how is it that these smart homes and AIs that you see throughout the movies are not reality yet? There were personal assistants on our phones, yet we didn’t want to have to hold a button to access it, nor were we thrilled that it couldn’t even control our lights. The smart houses in the movies were always there for you, able to do exactly what you need, before you even asked.

With that in mind, we set out to make that dream from the movies into a reality. In the two years since, we have created a personal assistant which we use on a daily basis for many different functions in our own lives.

As we have expanded SAMI, visitors to our apartment have always been amazed how much she can do, even in her early state, and wanted to know where they can get her. Because of this, we have decided to look into what it would take to make SAMI accessible for everyone, no matter their technical expertise.

As a step toward this goal of simplicity, we decided we first would have a developer preview, to allow developers to create apps and hardware interfaces for SAMI. After much work, we are close to releasing this developer preview and related SDK.

When the developer preview comes out, please download it, and let us know what you think about SAMI! Even better, create an app or integrate some hardware into SAMI, and share it with the community so that you can make SAMI even more useful for everyone. We look forward to hearing back from you on your experience using SAMI, and seeing your contributions!