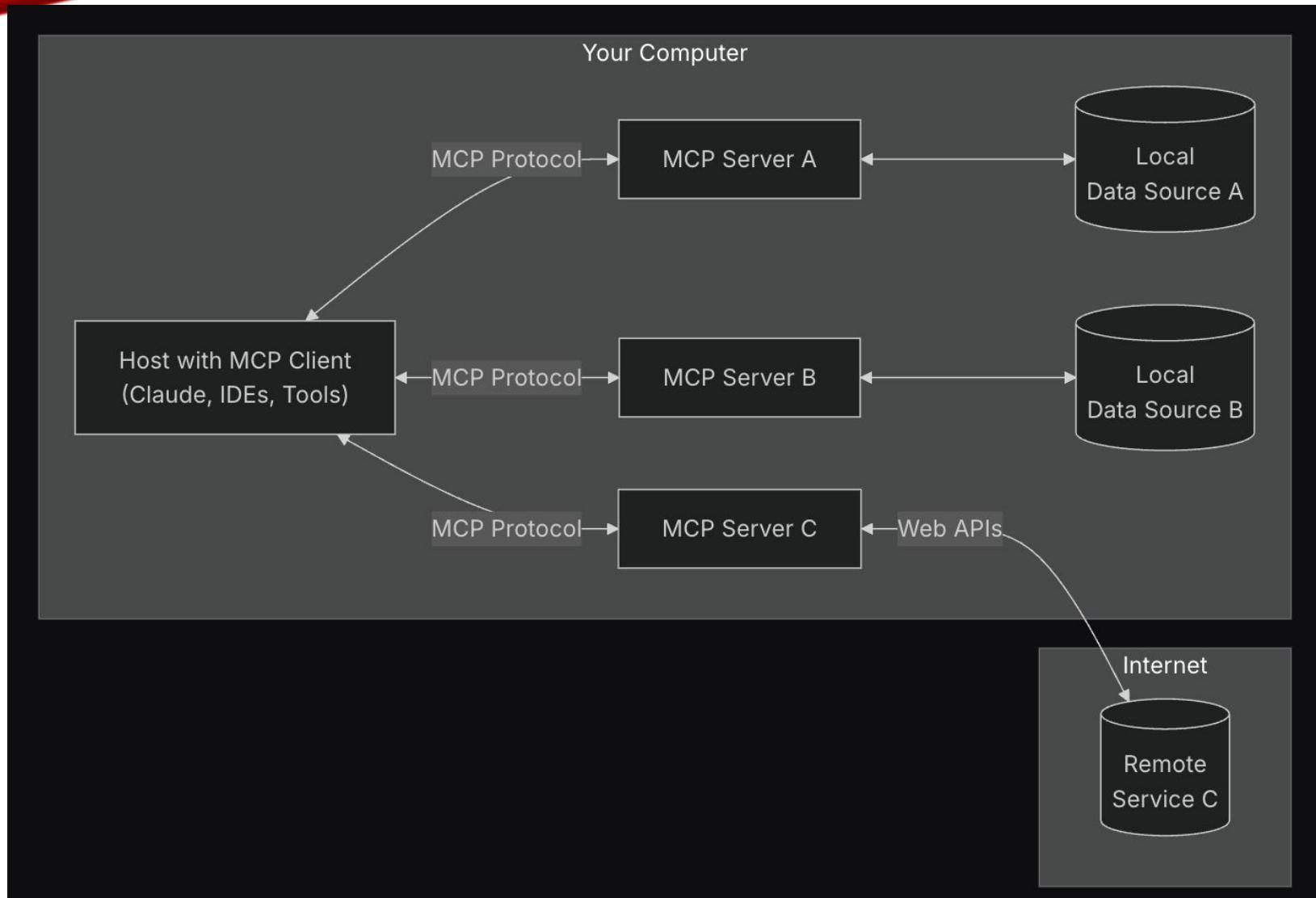


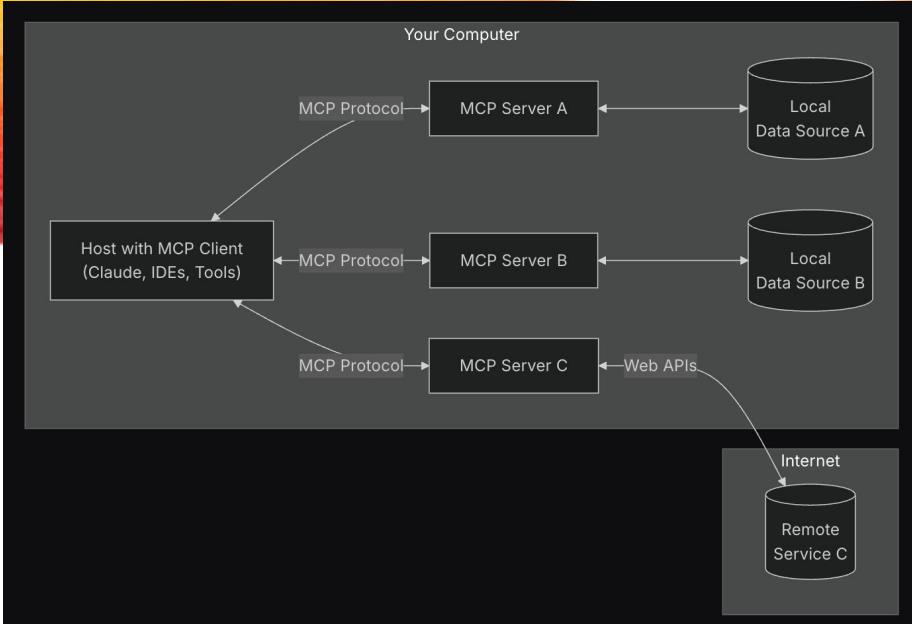
# Model Context Protocol (MCP)

# What is MCP?

Open standard that enables developers to build secure, two-way connections between their data sources and AI-powered tools.

The architecture is straightforward: developers can either expose their data through MCP servers or build AI applications (MCP clients) that connect to these servers.





- **MCP Hosts:** Programs like Claude Desktop, IDEs, or AI tools that want to access data through MCP
- **MCP Clients:** Protocol clients that maintain 1:1 connections with servers
- **MCP Servers:** Lightweight programs that each expose specific capabilities through the standardized Model Context Protocol
- **Local Data Sources:** Your computer's files, databases, and services that MCP servers can securely access
- **Remote Services:** External systems available over the internet (e.g., through APIs) that MCP servers can connect to