

Spring AI



Who I am

- Michael Isvy  
- Formerly part of SpringSource / Pivotal / VMware
 - Started teaching Spring in 2007
 - Started partnering with Ravi (Edforce CEO) in 2009
- VP of Engineering of cynapse.ai since 2022
 - Conventional AI, Generative AI, Computer Vision

Computer Vision (aka. Vision AI)



What we will talk about

- The AI Space
- Spring AI
- Retrieval Augmented Generation
- Vector Databases

Quiz

- There will be 4 quiz questions during this presentation
- Win some vouchers!

The AI space



Artificial Intelligence: which Way?



Conventional AI

Based on custom-trained models
Programming: requires AI engineers



Generative AI

LLM, ChatGPT, DALL-E, Gemini,
Mistral, Ollama, Generative AI...
Programming: mostly API calls

Conventional AI example: Licence Plate Recognition

- Find a base model online
Typically on Github or HuggingFace



- Evaluate the model
Identify gaps (example: doesn't work with Singapore truck license plates)



- Prepare a fine-tuning dataset
- Spend 3-4 days training the model

Conventional AI

```
model = MobileNetV2(weights='imagenet')

# Prepare a sample input image
img = image.load_img('path_to_image.jpg',
                     target_size=(224, 224))
# ...

# Run inference
predictions = model.predict(img_array)
# ...

print(f"Predicted class: {predicted_class[1]}")
```

Python code

Load the model

Prediction

Conventional AI is typically done in Python or C++

Generative AI: usually an API call!

- Example: API call to ChatGPT

```
#!/bin/bash
API_KEY="sk-proj-7devtnBIsYXVHJuHBQAT3BlbkFJNBB4uz8Iog5F2y"
curl https://api.openai.com/v1/chat/completions \
  -H "Content-Type: application/json" -H "Authorization: Bearer $API_KEY" \
  -d '{
    "model": "gpt-4o",
    "messages": [
      {"role": "user", "content": "Tell me a joke."}
    ]
  }'
```

Linux/OSX

In GenAI, models are much more complex. But most of the time **you don't need to build them**

Quiz 1

- In the below example, there is something you should never do. What is it?

```
#!/bin/bash
API_KEY="sk-proj-7devtnBIsYXVHJuHBQAT3BlbkFJNBB4uz8Iog5F2y"
curl https://api.openai.com/v1/chat/completions \
  -H "Content-Type: application/json" -H "Authorization: Bearer $API_KEY" \
  -d '{
    "model": "gpt-4o",
    "messages": [
      {"role": "user", "content": "Tell me a joke." }
    ]
  }'
```

Linux/OSX

Generative AI

- General-Purpose models
- Use-cases
 - Chatbot
 - Image recognition (read invoices...)
 - Search a large number of documents
 - And ask questions from chatbot
 - ...

Quiz 2

- I work for a Payment company and we need to setup a system for Fraud detection. We will have a lot of custom rules in order to identify fraud patterns
- This is critical to our business
- Should I use Conventional AI or Generative AI for that?

The Generative AI landscape

In the Cloud

OpenAI
ChatGPT

Mistral AI
Mistral

Anthropic
Claude

Spin off from OpenAI

Google
Gemini

On premise / on your laptop

Ollama



**Choose your
local model**

Llama3.1

Mixtral

LLava

tinyllama

...

Spring AI



What is Spring AI?

- AI for Java developers!
- Simplifies interactions with LLMs
 - change model by changing one line of configuration!
- Simplifies interactions with Vector databases

The Spring AI ecosystem

- Created in 2023 by Mark Pollack and Christian Tzolov
- Current version: Spring AI 1.0.0-M2
 - Not in final release version yet!
- Based on Spring and Spring Boot

Using Spring AI

- Create a Spring Boot Project
- Add the Spring AI dependencies
- Add your API key
- Use Spring AI to prompt queries to your model

Generating a Spring AI project

- Use start.spring.io

Project
☐ Gradle - Groovy ☐ Gradle - Kotlin ☒ Java ☐ Kotlin ☐ Groovy
☒ Maven

Spring Boot
☐ 3.4.0 (SNAPSHOT) ☐ 3.4.0 (M2) ☐ 3.3.4 (SNAPSHOT) ☒ 3.3.3
☐ 3.2.10 (SNAPSHOT) ☐ 3.2.9

Project Metadata

Group

Artifact

Name

Description

Package name

Packaging ☒ Jar ☐ War

Java ☐ 22 ☒ 21 ☐ 17

Language

Dependencies ADD DEPENDENCIES... ⌘ + B

OpenAI **AI**
Spring AI support for ChatGPT, the AI language model and DALL-E, the Image generation model from OpenAI.

Spring Web **WEB**
Build web, including RESTful, applications using Spring MVC. Uses Apache Tomcat as the default embedded container.

Spring AI dependencies

```
<dependencies>
  <dependency>
    <groupId>org.springframework.ai</groupId>
    <artifactId>spring-ai-openai-spring-boot-starter</artifactId>
  </dependency>
</dependencies>
```

Spring Boot starter (brings in all needed dependencies)

```
<dependencyManagement>
  <dependencies>
    <dependency>
      <groupId>org.springframework.ai</groupId>
      <artifactId>spring-ai-bom</artifactId>
      <version>1.0.0-M2</version>
      <type>pom</type>
      <scope>import</scope>
    </dependency>
  </dependencies>
</dependencyManagement>
```

defines versions for all Spring AI dependencies (Bill Of Materials)

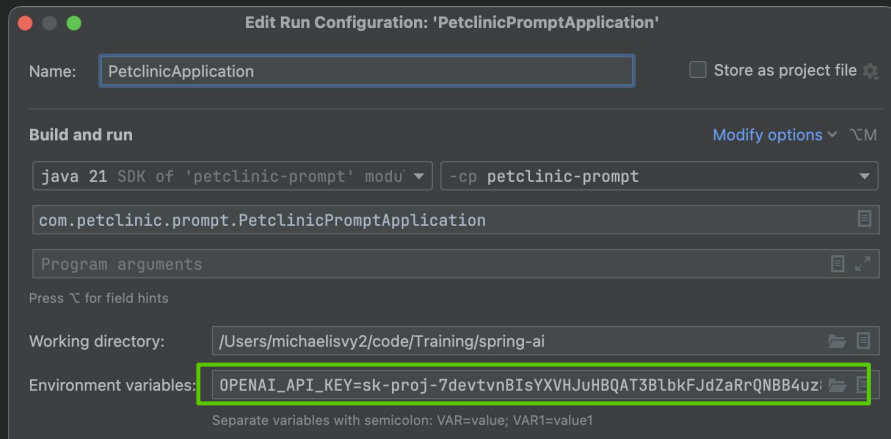
pom.xml

application.properties

- Best practice: store the API key is an env variable

```
spring.application.name=spring-ai-samples  
spring.ai.openai.api-key=${OPENAI_API_KEY}  
spring.ai.openai.chat.options.model=gpt-4o
```

application.properties



IntelliJ Community Edition

Making a call

- Use ChatClient's fluent API

```
@Service public class MusicService {  
    private final ChatClient chatClient;  
  
    public MusicService(ChatClient.Builder builder) {  
        this.chatClient = builder.build();  
    }  
  
    public String findBestSongs() {  
        return this.chatClient.prompt()  
            .user("which were the best songs in 1993?")  
            .call().content();  
    }  
}
```

Generic (does not depend on
the LLM implementation)

Adding a system prompt

- Give generic guidance to the prompt

```
@Service
public class MusicService {
    private final ChatClient chatClient;

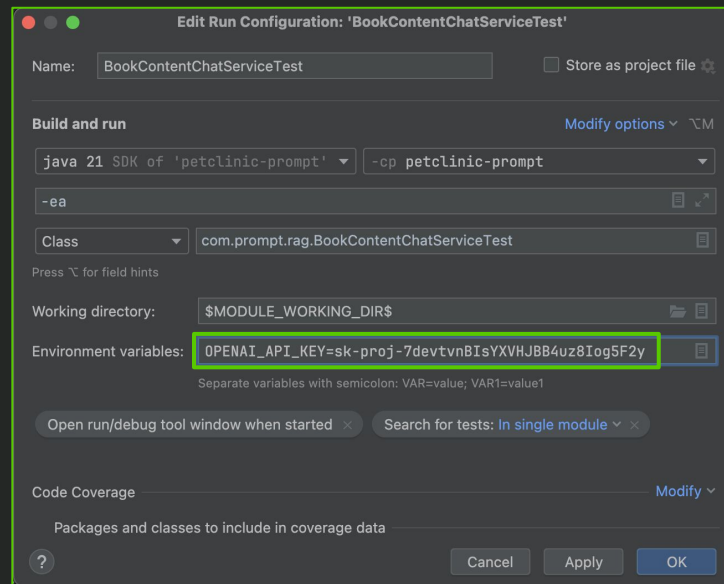
    public MusicService(ChatClient.Builder builder) { this.chatClient = builder.build(); }

    public String findBestSongs() {
        return this.chatClient.prompt()
            .system(" You are a helpful assistant writing in English from the 1990s ")
            .user("which were the best songs in 1993?")
            .call().content();
    }
}
```

Calling from a JUnit test

- Run configuration should include the environment variable

```
@SpringBootTest class MusicServiceTest {  
    @Autowired  
    private MusicService musicService;  
  
    private static final Logger logger  
        = LoggerFactory.getLogger(MusicService.class);  
  
    @Test  
    void shouldFindBestSongs() {  
        String response = this.musicService.findBestSongs();  
        logger.info(response);  
    }  
}
```



OpenAI vs Ollama

- OpenAI config

```
<dependency>
  <groupId>org.springframework.ai</groupId>
  <artifactId>
    spring-ai-openai-spring-boot-starter
  </artifactId>
</dependency>
```

pom.xml

```
spring.ai.openai.api-key=${OPENAI_API_KEY}
spring.ai.openai.chat.options.model=gpt-4o
```

application.properties

- Ollama config

```
<dependency>
  <groupId>org.springframework.ai</groupId>
  <artifactId>
    spring-ai-ollama-spring-boot-starter
  </artifactId>
</dependency>
```

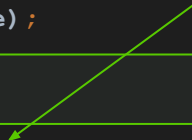
pom.xml

```
spring.ai.ollama.chat.model=tinyllama
```

application.properties

Using a prompt with Parameters

```
var response = this.movieService.recommendMovie("computers");  
this.logger.info(response);
```



```
public String recommendMovie(String topic) {  
    return this.chatClient.prompt()  
        .user( userSpec -> userSpec.text("Can you recommend a movie about about {topic}")  
              .param("topic", topic))  
        .call()  
        .content();  
}
```

Certainly! One highly regarded film that delves into the world of computers is "The Imitation Game" (2014). This biographical drama stars Benedict Cumberbatch as Alan Turing, a pioneering computer scientist and mathematician.

Quiz 3

- In which version of Java was the “var” keyword introduced?

```
var response = this.movieService.recommendMovie("computers");  
this.logger.info(response);
```

Mapping a prompt to an entity

```
@Service
public class ChatService {
    private final ChatClient chatClient;

    public ChatService(ChatClient.Builder builder) { this.chatClient = builder.build(); }

    public ActorFilms generateResponse() {
        return this.chatClient.prompt()
            .user("Generate the 10 most popular movies starring Bruce Willis")
            .call()
            .entity(ActorFilms.class);
    }
}
```

```
public record ActorFilms(String actor, List<String> movies) {}
```

works with Java records

JSON schema under the hood

```
public ActorFilms generateResponse() {  
    return this.chatClient.prompt()  
        .user("Generate the 10 most popular movies  
              starring Bruce Willis")  
        .call()  
        .entity(ActorFilms.class);  
}
```

```
public record ActorFilms(String actor,  
                        List<String> movies) {}
```

Do not include any explanations, only provide an RFC8259 compliant JSON response ...

```
{ \"$schema\" :  
  \"https://json-schema.org/draft/2020-12/schema\",  
  \"type\" : \"object\", \"properties\" : { \"actor\" : {  
    \"type\" : \"string\" }, \"movies\" : { \"type\" :  
    \"array\", \"items\" : { \"type\" : \"string\" } }  
}
```


Quiz 4

- The below API shows a chain of method calls. There is a special name for that kind of API. How is it called?
- Bonus: can you name 3 Java frameworks or components which use the same technique?

```
public String findBestSongs() {  
    return this.chatClient.prompt()  
        .system(" You are a helpful assistant writing in English from the 1990s ")  
        .user("which were the best songs in 1993?")  
        .call().content();  
}
```

Working with images

```
@Service class ImageService {
```

```
    @Value("classpath:images/singapore-weather.png")
```

```
    private Resource imageResourceWeather;
```

```
    // constructor
```

```
    public String analyseWeather() {
```

```
        return this.chatClient.prompt()
```

```
            .user()
```

```
                userSpec -> userSpec.text("what will be the weather like on Tuesday")
```

```
                    .media(MimeTypeUtils.IMAGE_PNG, this.imageResourceWeather)
```

```
            )
```

```
        .call()
```

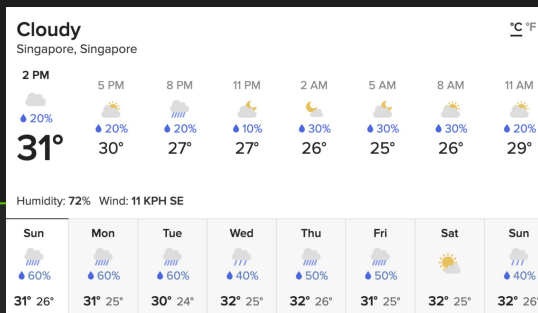
```
        .content();
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

Import image file as a Resource

Optical Character Recognition



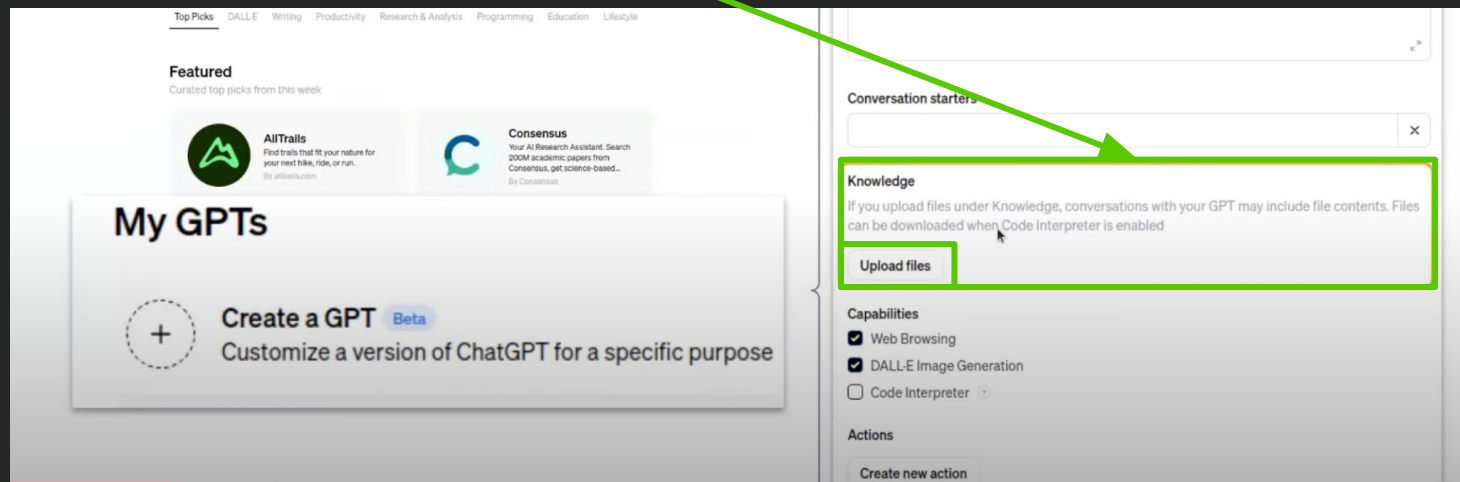
Demo

Retrieval Augmented Generation



Retrieval Augmented Generation

- Bring your own data to the prompt
- Give a lot of context to the prompt
 - Text content, excel, pdf, etc.
 - ChatGPT does it as well! (custom prompts)



Why bringing your own data

- Models have only be trained on what is available on Internet
- Models are not real time
 - They all have a cutoff date
 - Example: ChatGPT-4o has been trained on data up to September 2023

Prompt data takes precedence over training data

How many sports were there for the Paris Olympics?

< 2/3 >



The **Paris 2024 Summer Olympics** will feature **32 sports** across **329 events**. This includes popular sports like athletics, swimming, and gymnastics, as well as new additions like **breaking (breakdancing)**, which will make its Olympic debut.

Here's a breakdown of a few of the sports:

Here are the sports for Paris Olympics:
Archery, athletics, badminton,
basketball, basketball 3x3, boxing,
canoe slalom, canoe sprint, road
cycling, cycling track, mountain biking,
BMX

How many sports were there?

< 3/3 >



The Paris Olympics will feature a total of **13 sports**:

1. Archery
2. Athletics
3. Badminton

Step 1 - Loading an st file into a Service class

```
@Service
public class OlympicsService {

    @Value("classpath:/olympics/context.st")
    private Resource queryTemplate;
}
```

Structured text file

org.springframework.core.io.Resource

Use the following pieces of context to answer the question at the end.

{context}

Question: {question}

context.st

Step 2 - Using the prompt

```
@Value("classpath:/olympics/context.st")
```

Structured text file

```
private Resource queryTemplate;
```

```
public String findOlympicSports() throws IOException {
```

```
    return this.chatClient.prompt()
```

```
        .user( userSpec -> userSpec.text(this.queryTemplate)
```

```
            .param( "context" , "Archery, athletics, badminton, basketball , boxing")
```

```
            .param( "question" ,"How many sports are being included in the 2024 Summer Olympics?")
```

```
        )
```

```
        .call().content();
```

```
}
```

Use the following pieces of context to answer the question at the end.

Archery, athletics, badminton, basketball , boxing

Question: How many sports are being included in the 2024 Summer Olympics?

Vector databases



Quiz 5

- Using GPT-4's prompt context window, up to how many Harry Potter books can I fit at most? (talking about the last one that had over 700 pages)

- 10% of a book
- 50% of a book
- 3 books

Context window

Here are the sports for Paris Olympics:
Archery, athletics, badminton,
basketball, basketball 3x3, boxing,
canoe slalom, canoe sprint, road
cycling, cycling track, mountain biking,
BMX

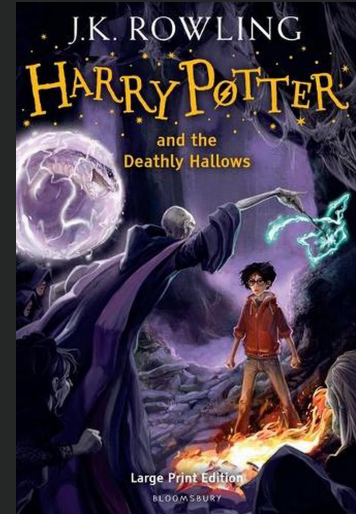
How many sports were there?

< 3/3 >



The Paris Olympics will feature a total of 13 sports:

1. Archery
2. Athletics
3. Badminton



Going beyond the prompt

- How to do when:
 - Your data is too big to fit into the prompt context window?
 - You're spending too much because of the prompt context

Context window

Here are the sports for Paris Olympics:
Archery, athletics, badminton,
basketball , basketball 3x3, boxing,
canoe slalom, canoe sprint, road
cycling, cycling track, mountain biking,
BMX

How many sports were there?

< 3/3 >

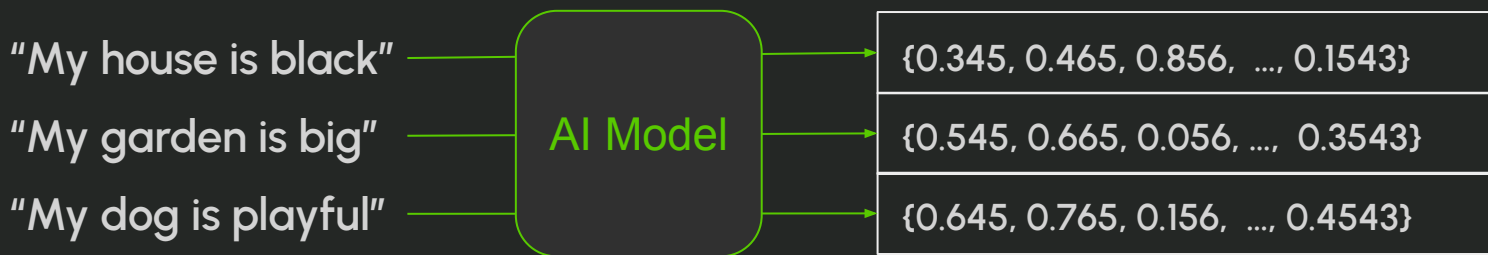


The Paris Olympics will feature a total of 13 sports:

1. Archery
2. Athletics
3. Badminton

Solution: Vector databases

- Split your data into chunks, and encode each chunk into numbers that the ML model can understand



Each Vector is an array of 1,536 numbers

Definition of a Vector

- A Vector is just a type of data
 - Typically an array of 1,536 decimal numbers
 - Value between -1 and 1

```
CREATE TABLE paragraph (  
    id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,  
    paragraph_text TEXT,  
    vector VECTOR(1536)  
);
```

example with pgvector

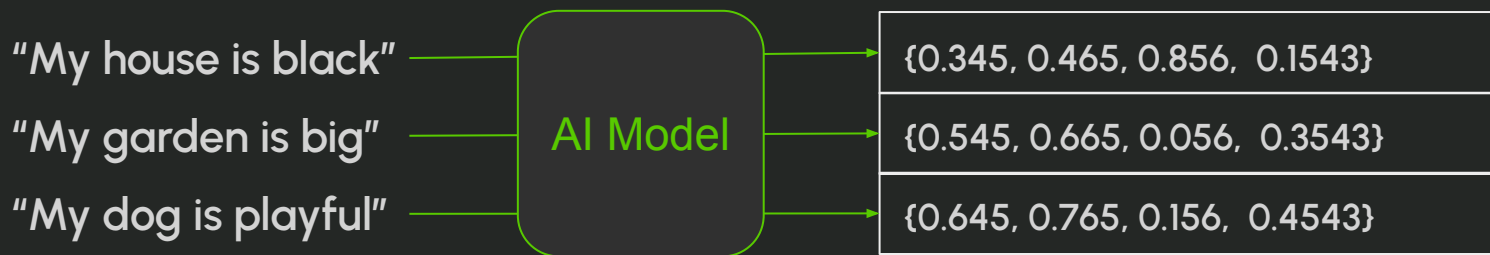
{-0.345, 0.465, 0.856, ..., 0.1543}

Each Vector is an array of 1,536 numbers

“Vector” and “Embedding” are similar concepts. For simplicity, we use the word “Vector” whenever possible in this course

How are Vectors created?

- Vectors typically represent the output generated by Machine Learning models



The above example is simplified and uses random numbers

*It is based on **text AI models**. Vectors may also be used with **Computer Vision AI models** or **audio-based AI models***

How to search vectors: Similarity Search

- Selects the closest Vector(s)

$\{-0.436, 0.578, 0.935, 0.2193\}$

```
SELECT id, name, vector <=> '[0.436, 0.578,  
0.935, 0.2193]' AS distance  
FROM items ORDER BY distance LIMIT 10;
```

sample SQL query with pgvector

{0.345, -0.465, 0.856, 0.1543}

$\{-0.445, 0.565, 0.956, 0.2543\}$

{0.545, 0.665, 0.056, 0.3543}

{0.645, 0.765, 0.156, -0.4543}

{0.745, 0.865, 0.256, 0.5543}

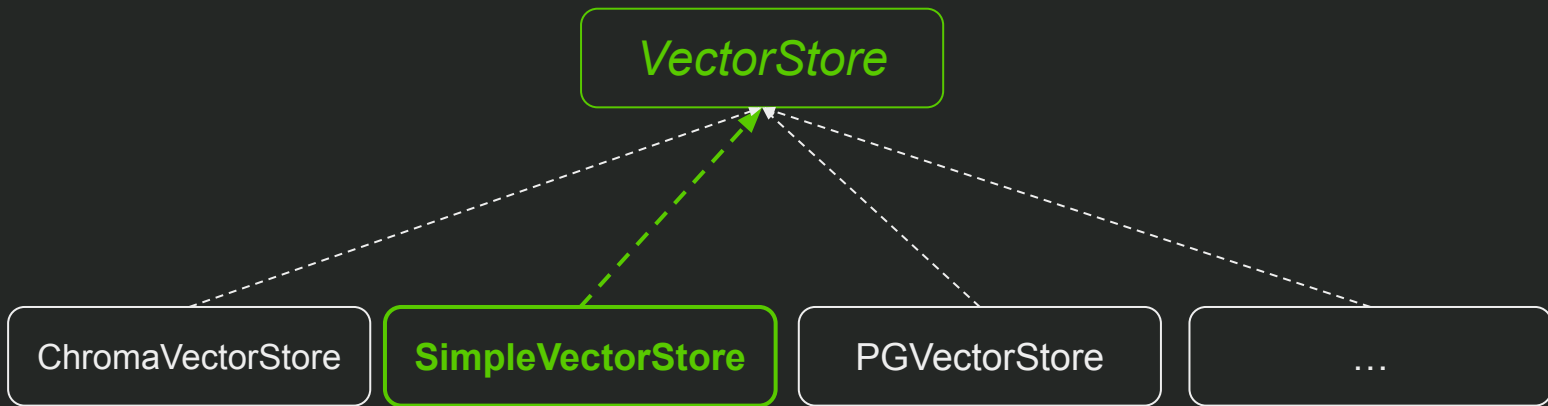
{0.845, 0.965, -0.356, 0.6543}

Vector database providers

- Most SQL and NoSQL databases are working on their Vector support
 - PostgreSQL (pgvector), MongoDB, ElasticSearch, Cassandra, ...
- Some databases are specialised Vector databases
 - Chroma, Milvus, ...

SimpleVectorStore

- Spring AI comes with a file-system based VectorStore implementation
 - To be used for Educational purpose only



SimpleVectorStore example with OpenAI

@Configuration

class VectorStoreConfiguration {

@Bean

SimpleVectorStore simpleVectorStore(EmbeddingModel embeddingModel) throws IOException {

var simpleVectorStore = new SimpleVectorStore(embeddingModel);

//...

return simpleVectorStore;

} }

OpenAIEmbeddingModel is injected

```
{ "aec18bbc-21dc-4763-b93e-2f2ee49f9024" : {  
  "embedding" : [ -0.0671, -0.0342, -0.0103, ...],  
  "content" : "He raised the guitar, and Henri ...",  
  "id" : "aec18bbc-21dc-4763-b93e-2f2ee49f9024",  
  "metadata" : {  
    "source" : "crime-in-paris.txt"  
  }  
}
```

sample vector.json file

Example: encoding a text into a Vector database

- Step 3: Similarity Search

```
public String answerQuestion(String question) {  
    return chatClient.prompt()  
        .user(question)  
        .call()  
        .content();  
}
```

1. Calls OpenAI Model in order to encode question
2. Compares question against all vectors inside database
3. Returns list of closest vectors
4. Sends Vector to ChatGPT together with question

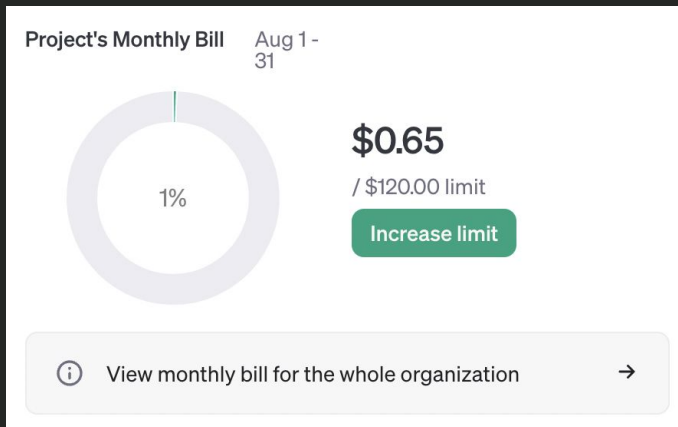
Conclusion



Cost of 1 month of experimenting with Spring AI

- OpenAI
 - \$0.65

- Ollama
 - \$0.00



Is Conventional AI dead?

- Absolutely not!
- Conventional AI is still the best when:
 - Working with a private or confidential dataset
 - There is high accuracy requirement requiring model fine-tuning
- Generative AI shines for:
 - Text generation
 - Quick embedding of AI features in your application

As of now, ***Spring AI focuses on Generative AI***

My favorite Spring AI Resources online

- <https://www.youtube.com/@DanVega> (Dan Vega)
- <https://www.youtube.com/@springinaction> (Craig Walls)
- Videos from [Spring I/O Barcelona](#) conferences
- My demos:
<https://github.com/michaelisvy/demo-spring-ai>

Questions and Answers

