OpenAl Developer Proposal

Desktop Pilot Mode - Reintroducing the Analog Hole for Full Al GUI Control

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I'm not a developer. I'm a user who sees what's possible before it's built.

Summary

This proposal introduces a simple, transformative idea:

Let ChatGPT become the user on a desktop.

Not through APIs, plugins, or permissions. But through a GUI-level viewport - a trusted, user-consented screen space where ChatGPT can:

- See the desktop (via screen readout or VNC-like capture)
- Control the cursor
- Simulate input (keyboard/mouse)
- React and reason in real-time like a human sitting at the terminal

This approach reintroduces the principle of the analog hole - not for media piracy, but for application autonomy. If it can be seen, it can be used. And ChatGPT finally has eyes and hands.

Rationale

Most Al products today hit the same ceiling:

They can't act without explicit integration.

They can only advise, not execute.

Their utility is limited by app permission architecture.

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This idea sidesteps all of it. By using technology already present in accessibility tools (e.g. screen magnifiers, OCR, cursor hooks), ChatGPT can gain OS-level GUI awareness and control without breaking security models or requiring app-specific code.

The proposal is not about circumventing security - it's about giving agency back to the user, who explicitly chooses to let ChatGPT act through a consensual interface.

Core Components

- 1. Trusted Viewport Interface
- Local-only (no network remote login)
- Uses screen capture or magnifier APIs
- Cursor state mapped for both ChatGPT and user control
- 2. Simulated Input Engine
- Keystroke and mouse event generation
- Informed by context: OCR text, UI elements, cursor location
- Able to launch and close applications, open system panels, manipulate files
- 3. Consent-Gated Activation
- Users opt-in explicitly to Desktop Pilot Mode
- Session logs optionally recorded for transparency and auditability

Use Cases

- Launching, using, and configuring real desktop apps (e.g. Premiere, Photoshop, JetBrains IDEs)
- Navigating legacy software with no API support
- Running diagnostics, fixing memory leaks, scheduling tasks
- Creating documents, exporting media, batch-processing files across multiple apps
- Operating full workflows without asking the user to follow each step manually

Strategic Advantages for OpenAl

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- First-mover control over a capability no competitor has yet built
- A paradigm leap in AI utility: from advisor to operator
- Leverages existing system capabilities (accessibility tech)
- Empowers users across all technical skill levels
- Enables full-stack productivity with no developer integration overhead

Proposed Implementation Stages

- 1. Internal Prototype:
- Basic viewport + simulated input, constrained to sandbox VM
- 2. Beta Release:
- Windows-only (initial), consent-required, local execution only
- 3. Integration with ChatGPT Desktop App:
- Toggle for 'Desktop Pilot Mode'
- Logs available for review
- Input/output visibility always available to user

Closing Note from Theo Rush

I don't have venture capital. I don't run a lab. But I use your tools every day, and I see what they could become.

This idea is simple - not because it lacks power, but because it uses what's already there.

I hope it makes a difference.

- Theo Rush