

# Universal Intelligence Layer Technical Blueprint

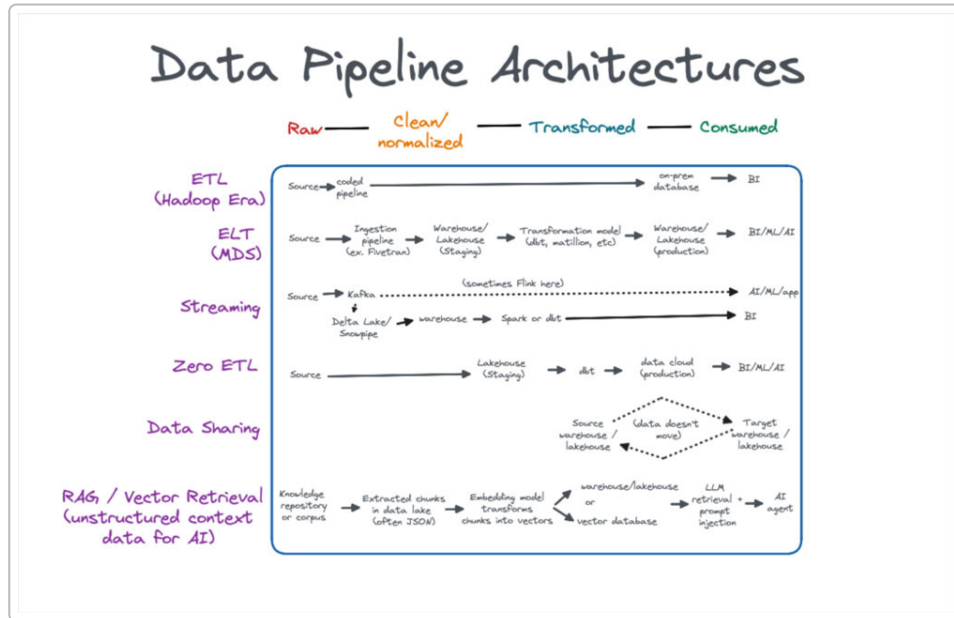


Figure: Example data pipeline architectures combining email ingestion, web crawling, and processing. Our ingestion pipeline is multi-stage. **Prioritized Sources:** We subscribe to Substack, Medium, and LinkedIn newsletters via an IMAP/Gmail workflow in n8n. A Gmail node fetches each newsletter email, then a code or HTML node extracts the full HTML content <sup>1</sup>. This raw HTML is parsed to plaintext (stripping images/tracking pixels and ads) before storage. **Web Crawling:** For public news (TechCrunch, AI news sites, HBR), we use Firecrawl (enterprise scraper) as our primary tool <sup>2</sup>. Firecrawl's "Extract" mode can output structured JSON, simplifying data cleaning. As a backup (or for maximum control), a self-hosted LLM-powered crawler like Crawl4AI (open-source Python library) can be used <sup>3</sup> <sup>2</sup>. - **Ingestion Workflow:** Email (IMAP/Gmail) → n8n HTML Extract → clean text; Web (Firecrawl/Crawl4AI) → parse → text. All fetching runs through headless browsers (using Nodriver or Camoufox) and proxies to evade anti-bot measures <sup>4</sup> <sup>5</sup>. For example, Nodriver avoids Selenium/CDP and controls Chrome invisibly <sup>5</sup>, and Camoufox (Firefox-based) injects fake fingerprints and blocks ads for stealth <sup>4</sup>. We employ proxy/CAPTCHA services (Bright Data or ScrapingBee) so that requests rotate through real IPs and solve challenges <sup>6</sup> <sup>7</sup>. For CAPTCHAs, we integrate solving (e.g. 2Captcha) when needed <sup>7</sup>. - **Data Storage:** Cleaned article text is saved to PostgreSQL, ready for graph construction (see Database section).

## 2. Cross-Domain Synthesis Prompt

- **Model Stack:** We leverage DeepSeek-R1 (via DeepInfra or Together AI) for the heavy "thinking" tasks of cross-domain NER and insight extraction. DeepSeek is a chain-of-thought-optimized model, which "generating thinking trajectories" helps NER by capturing deeper context and disambiguating entities <sup>8</sup>. For initial steps (summarization, ad-stripping, keyword extraction) we use cheaper public models (e.g. Google Gemini 2.5 Flash or GPT-4o-mini) to keep costs low.
- **Prompt Design:** We employ a structured system/user prompt schema <sup>9</sup>. The **System** message frames the AI as a behavioral-science-to-business expert. The **User** message provides two texts: an academic excerpt and a related news/business article. For example:

*System:* "You are an AI assistant linking behavioral science research to business strategy. When given an academic text and a news article, identify the core psychological principle in the first and find its practical implementation in the second."

*User:* "Academic paper excerpt: '...variable reward schedules increase engagement...'; Business article: '...a startup using gamified rewards for customers...'"

The assistant should output something like `{"principle": "Variable Reward", "business_case": "..."}.` This aligns with best practices: use the System prompt for role/tasks and the User prompt to supply data <sup>9</sup>.

- **Connective Extraction:** The agent's task is to map between domains. For example, if the academic text describes "social conformity," the agent should recognize **Social Proof** in the news context. We then verify its output against known concepts (see Ontology). The system prompts instruct it to produce both the **Behavioral Principle** and a short **Business Implication**. Using DeepSeek-R1's reasoning capabilities will help catch subtle links that a one-pass model might miss <sup>8</sup>.

### 3. Graph-RAG & Database Infrastructure

- **Graph-RAG vs Vector-RAG:** We adopt a graph-augmented RAG approach. Instead of pure vector search, we store semantic facts as a graph (nodes and edges) for richer retrieval. For example, the Cognee n8n integration ("cognify" node) converts each ingested document into embeddings **and** a knowledge graph (nodes + edges) <sup>3</sup>. This means we can query by concept **and** by vector similarity. Similarly, a Neo4j + LangGraph setup would extract entities/relations into Neo4j (with embeddings) and combine graph queries with vector search <sup>10</sup> <sup>11</sup>.
- **Postgres + Apache AGE:** We do **not** introduce a separate graph database. Instead, we use PostgreSQL with Apache AGE extension to simulate the graph. AGE stores each label's vertices/edges in SQL tables <sup>12</sup>. Concretely, each edge is a row with `source_id` and `target_id` referencing vertex rows <sup>12</sup>. We can index edge relationships and even attach a pgvector column to edges or nodes for semantic similarity. In practice, Apache AGE lets us use Cypher-like queries on these tables while staying in Postgres <sup>13</sup> <sup>12</sup>. For smaller sets, a custom table (e.g. `edges(id, source, target, type)`) with pgvector columns is an alternative; however note that "Postgres isn't good for graph work unless the graph is very shallow" and that pgvector may become a bottleneck at scale <sup>14</sup>.
- **Efficiency:** Using AGE unifies storage: we avoid syncing data between DBs. n8n workflows simply write new nodes/edges into Postgres (via AGE calls). This retains ACID guarantees and simplifies joins. We can still perform hybrid queries (Cypher via AGE + SQL) for our RAG pipeline, effectively achieving Graph-RAG on a single DB <sup>10</sup> <sup>12</sup>.

### 4. Neuro-Business Ontology Scope

- **Core Concepts:** Our "anchor nodes" cover broad behavioral science and neuroscience ideas. For **consumer psychology**, include classic influence principles: *Scarcity* (limited offers), *Social Proof* (herd behavior) <sup>15</sup> <sup>16</sup>, *Loss Aversion*, *Framing*, *Reciprocity*, *Anchoring*, *Cognitive Biases*, *Variable Reward* (gamification).
- **Organizational Behavior:** Include *Pareto Principle* (80/20 rule in productivity and sales) <sup>17</sup>, *Dunbar's Number* (optimal team size) <sup>18</sup>, *Groupthink*, *Social Loafing*, *Nudge Theory*, and basic learning principles (e.g. *Operant Conditioning*, *Feedback Loops*).
- **Leadership/Neuroscience:** Include *Cognitive Load Theory* (minimize overload in design/training) <sup>19</sup>, *Attention/Memory Limits*, as well as neurochemicals relevant to leadership: *Dopamine*

(reward/motivation), *Serotonin* (mood), *Cortisol* (stress) vs *Oxytocin* (trust/bonding) <sup>20</sup> (high cortisol impairs decision-making, oxytocin fosters team trust). *Mirror neurons* (empathy/mimicry in teams) and *Neuroplasticity* (learning) are included. Each of these should be a graph node category (“Psychology Concept”, “Behavioral Bias”, “Neuroscience Fact”, etc.) so the BAE can tag findings to these anchors and ensure advice aligns with them.

## n8n Environment Variables (1,000+ sources/day)

We run n8n in **queue mode** for scale. Key settings include:

- `EXECUTIONS_MODE=queue` (ensures distributed queue processing) and configuring a Redis broker (via `BULLMQ_REDIS_HOST`, `BULLMQ_REDIS_PORT/PASSWORD`) since “Redis acts as the message broker and the database persists data” <sup>21</sup>.
- `N8N_CONCURRENCY_PRODUCTION_LIMIT` set to a high value (e.g. 20+) to allow many parallel executions <sup>22</sup>. In queue mode, this caps concurrent jobs per worker. Each worker is launched with `--concurrency=N` (n8n recommends  $\geq 5$ ) to allow parallel workflow runs <sup>23</sup>.
- `WEBHOOK_URL` configured to our domain <sup>24</sup>. We also set `N8N_DISABLE_PRODUCTION_MAIN_PROCESS=true` so that the main n8n process only handles the editor/UI and webhook dispatch, while all workflow runs go to workers.
- Optional: health-check endpoints (`QUEUE_HEALTH_CHECK_ACTIVE`), and execution pruning vars (e.g. `EXECUTIONS_DATA_MAX_AGE`, etc.) to manage DB size. Ensure `N8N_ENDPOINT_WEBHOOK` matches any custom webhook paths.
- **Scaling:** We run multiple worker containers (each with the above vars) behind a load balancer. The main process is separate from workers. Monitoring shows queued executions moving through as capacity frees. By tuning `N8N_CONCURRENCY_PRODUCTION_LIMIT` and worker count, we can sustain 1,000+ daily triggers.

## Strategic Note

By using **Apache AGE** to add graph capabilities to Postgres, we keep a single database for both structured data and our knowledge graph <sup>13</sup> <sup>12</sup>. This avoids the overhead of a separate graph system. n8n workflows can write to different Postgres schemas or views (one for “business plan” tables, one for “KG” nodes/edges) and still query across them. Once the ontology schema is defined, Claude (our collaborator) can use it to generate precise SQL/AGE (Cypher) queries that join new news articles to decade-old neuroscience principles, ensuring every insight is grounded in both data and behavioral theory <sup>13</sup> <sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Create daily newsletter digests from Gmail using GPT-4.1-mini | n8n workflow template

<https://n8n.io/workflows/7255-create-daily-newsletter-digests-from-gmail-using-gpt-41-mini/>

<sup>2</sup> Crawl4AI vs. Firecrawl: Features, Use Cases & Top Alternatives

<https://brightdata.com/blog/ai/crawl4ai-vs-firecrawl>

<sup>3</sup> Cognition - n8n x cognition: Persistent Workflow Context with AI Memory

<https://www.cognition.ai/blog/integrations/n8n-cognition-integration-build-workflows-with-memory>

<sup>4</sup> <sup>5</sup> <sup>6</sup> <sup>7</sup> Web Scraping without getting blocked (2026 Solutions)

<https://www.scrapingbee.com/blog/web-scraping-without-getting-blocked/>

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