









Large Language Model Powered Agents in the Web

Tutorial at The Web Conference 2024 in Singapore (WWW 2024)

Yang Deng¹, An Zhang¹, Yankai Lin², Xu Chen², Ji-Rong Wen², Tat-Seng Chua¹

¹NExT++ Research Centre, National University of Singapore ² Gaoling School of Artificial Intelligence, Renmin University of China

dengyang17dydy@gmail.com, an_zhang@nus.edu.sg, yankailin@ruc.edu.cn xu.chen@ruc.edu.cn, jrwen@ruc.edu.cn, chuats@comp.nus.edu.sg



Speakers









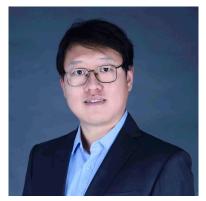
An Zhang

NUS

National University of Singapore



Yankai Lin



Xu Chen



Jirong Wen







Outline



- Part 1: Introduction of LLM-powered Agents
- Part 2: LLM-powered Agents with Tool Learning
- Part 3: LLM-powered Agents in Social Network
- Part 4: LLM-powered Agents in Recommendation
- Part 5: LLM-powered Conversational Agents
- Part 6: Open Challenges and Beyond



Motivation - Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) LLMs are not AGI



Aim of AGI

- Large LLMs exhibit characteristics of artificial general intelligence (AGI), which has cognitive abilities similar to that of human.
- In other words, AI can now perform most functions that humans are capable of doing.



• • • • • •

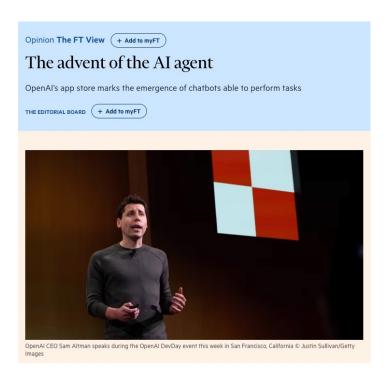


Autonomous Al Agents

What is Al Agent? Why it is important?

AI Agents

 LLM-powered Agents are artificial entities that enhance LLMs with essential capabilities, enabling them to sense their environment, make decisions, and take actions.



- Sam Altman (Former CEO of OpenAI) himself said in his keynote: "GPTs and Assistants are precursors to agents. They will gradually be able to plan and to perform more complex actions on your behalf. These are our first step toward AI Agents."
- Bill Gates said in his BLOG: "Agents are not only going to change how everyone interacts with computers. They're also going to upend the software industry, bringing about the biggest revolution in computing since we went from typing commands to tapping on icons."



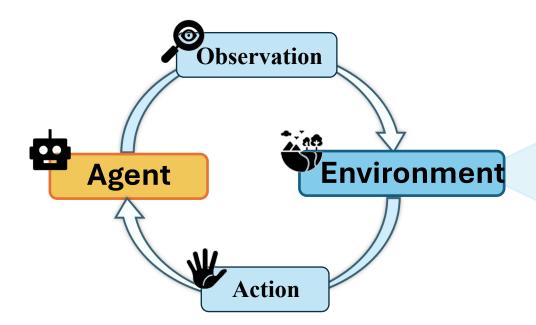
Al-powered visual assistance.

Application:



From LLM to Al Agent

This paves the way for the use of AI agents to simulate users and other entities, as well as their interactions.





- The external **context** or **surroundings** in which the agent operates and makes decisions.
- Human & Agents' behaviors
- External database and knowledges









Virtual & Physical environment





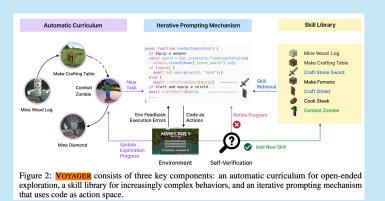


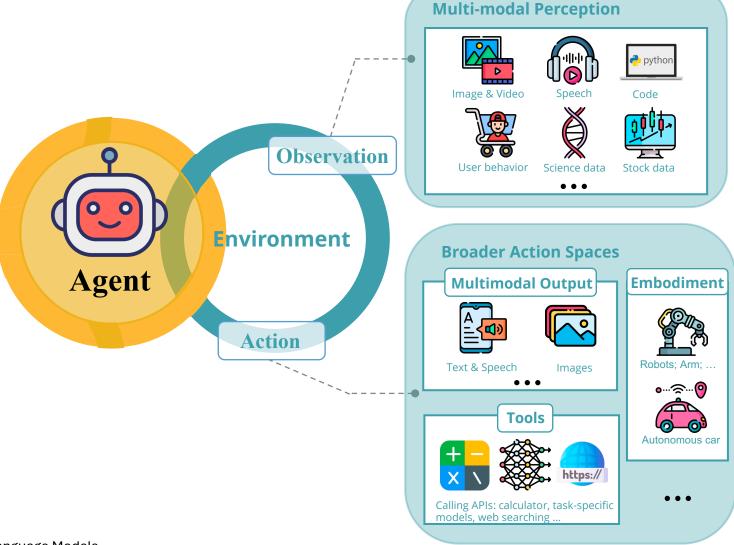


Observation & Action



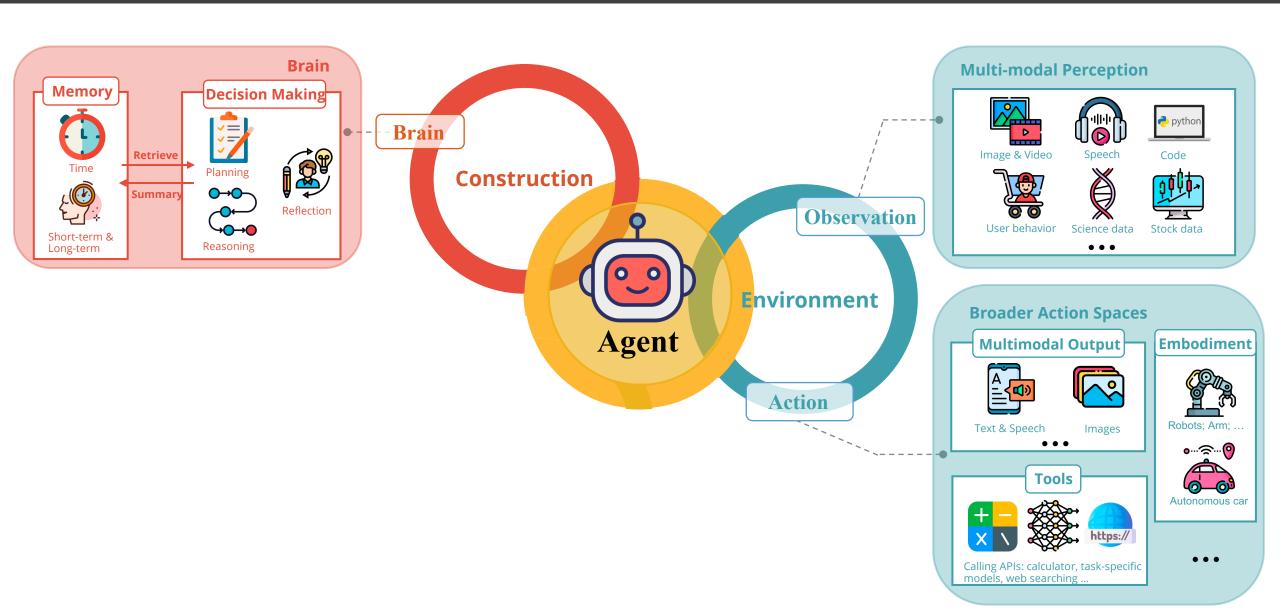
call external APIs for extra information that is missing from the model weights (often hard to change after pre-training):
 Generating multimodal outputs;
 Embodied Action; Learning tools;
 Using tools; Making tools;





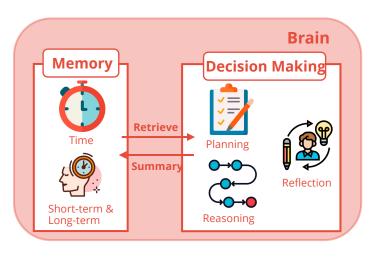


Brain





Brain



- Memory: "memory stream" stores sequences of agent's past observations, thoughts and actions:
 - Sufficient space for long-term and short-term memory;
 - Abstraction of long-term memory;
 - Retrieval of past relevant memory;

Decision Making Process:

- Planning: Subgoal and decomposition: Able to break down large tasks into smaller, manageable subgoals, enabling efficient handling of complex tasks.
- Reasoning: Capable of doing self-criticism and self-reflection over past actions, learn from mistakes and refine them for future steps, thereby improving the quality of final results.
- □ Personalized memory and reasoning process foster diversity and independence of Al Agents.



Overview

