Tips for building applications that use GenAl

December 10th, 2024

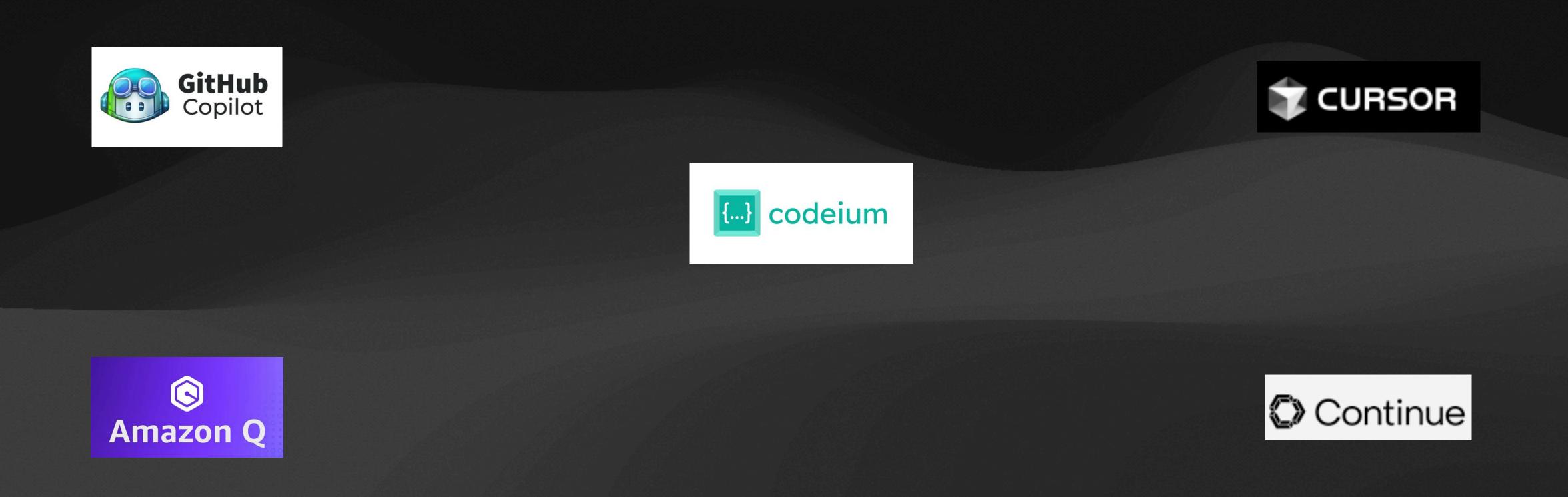
Juan Peredo

Juan Peredo - Your guide in this journey

- Architect / consultant / developer & everything in between
- Independent Cloud Application Architect / Entrepreneur
- Linkedin: linkedin.com/in/juanperedotech
- Over 15 years of IT experience in companies like:
 - Bolbeck LLC
 - AWS
 - Strategy& (PWC)
 - Booz & Co



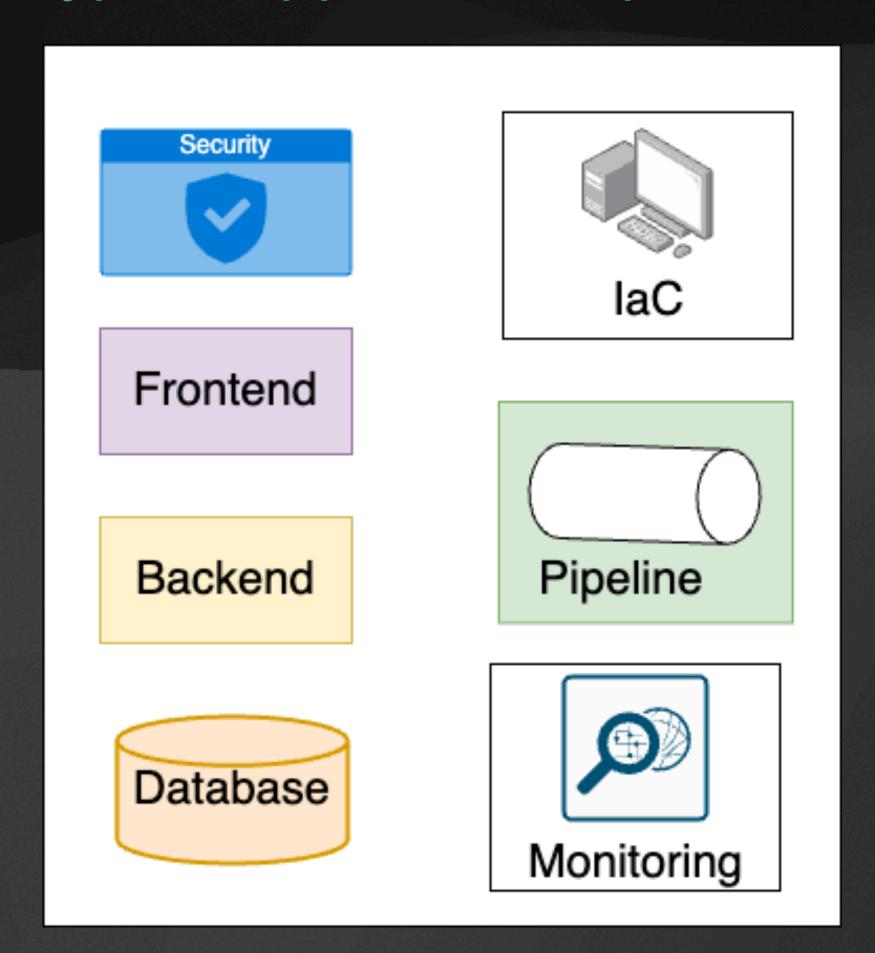
Al can help reduce the time to code an App



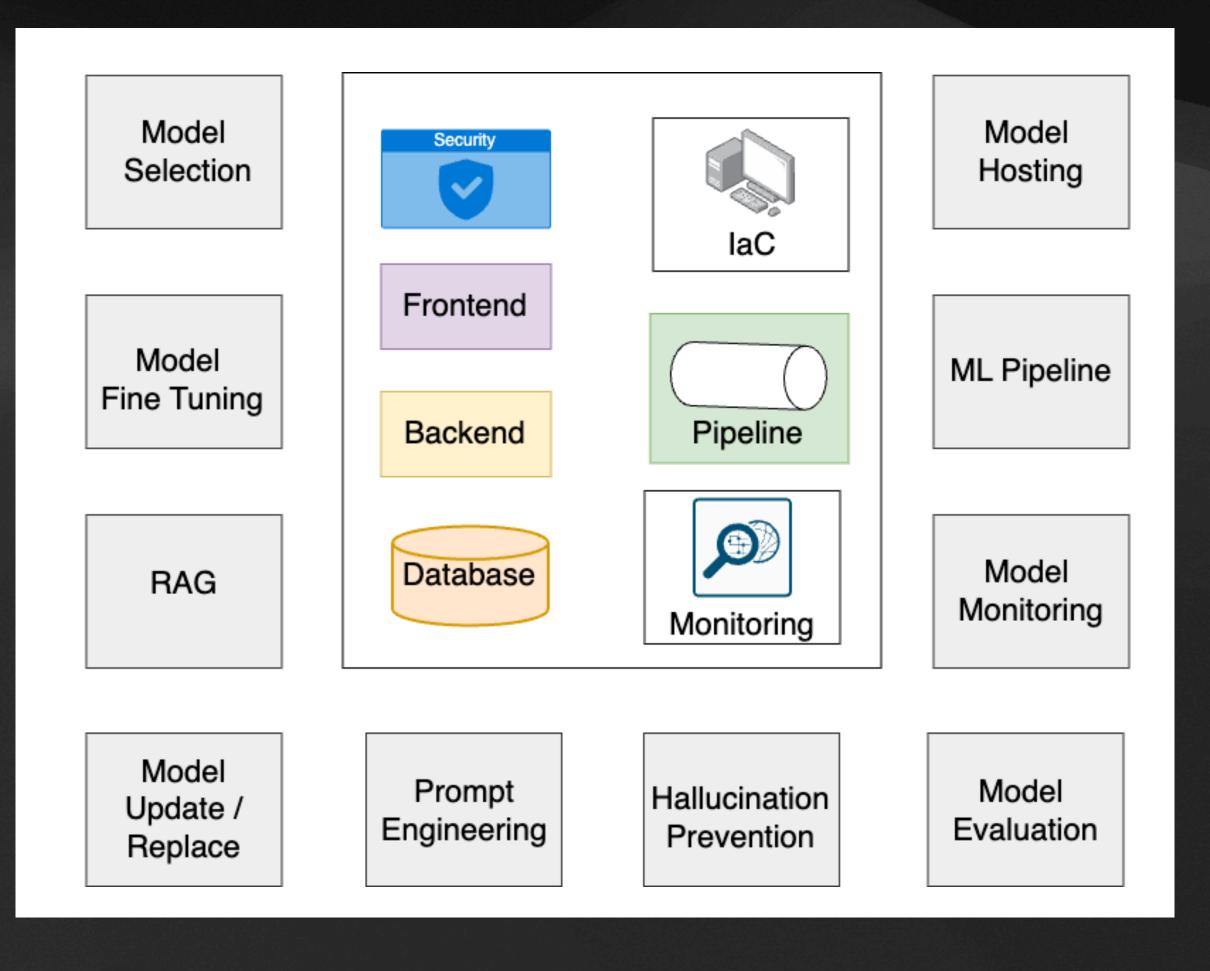
- These are plugins for your IDE except cursor that is an actual IDE
- You can also just use any LLM to help with your code via cut and paste

However, Al models also increase your app complexity

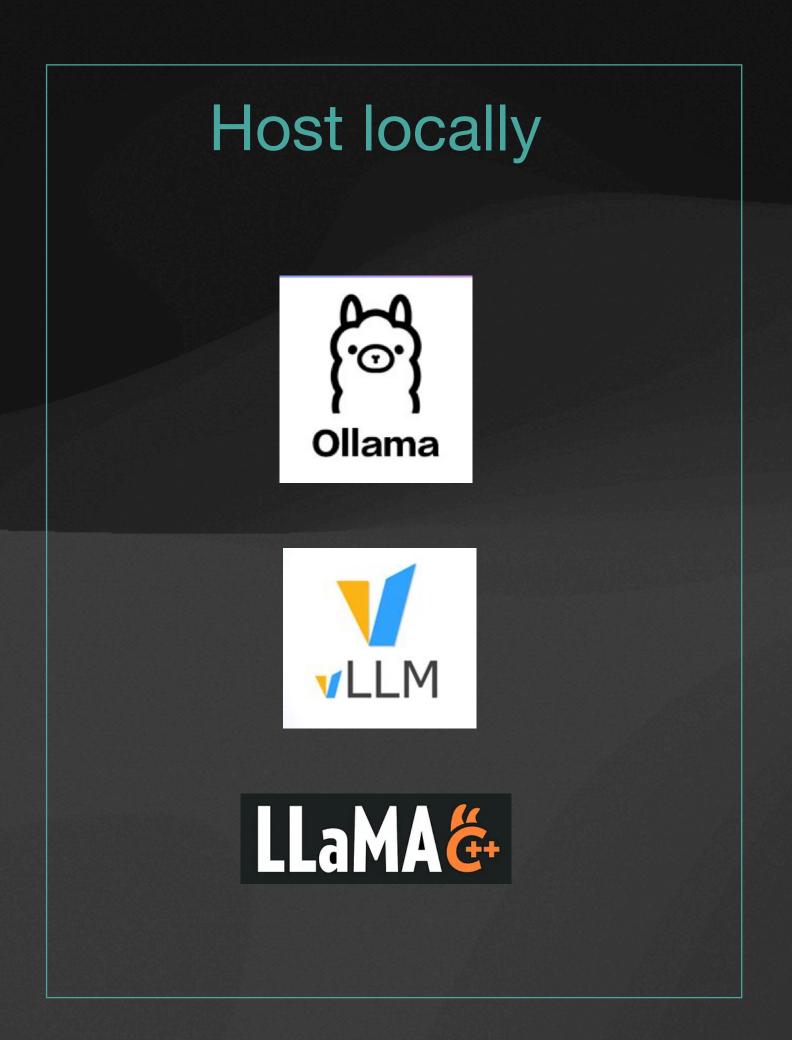
Typical app dev components

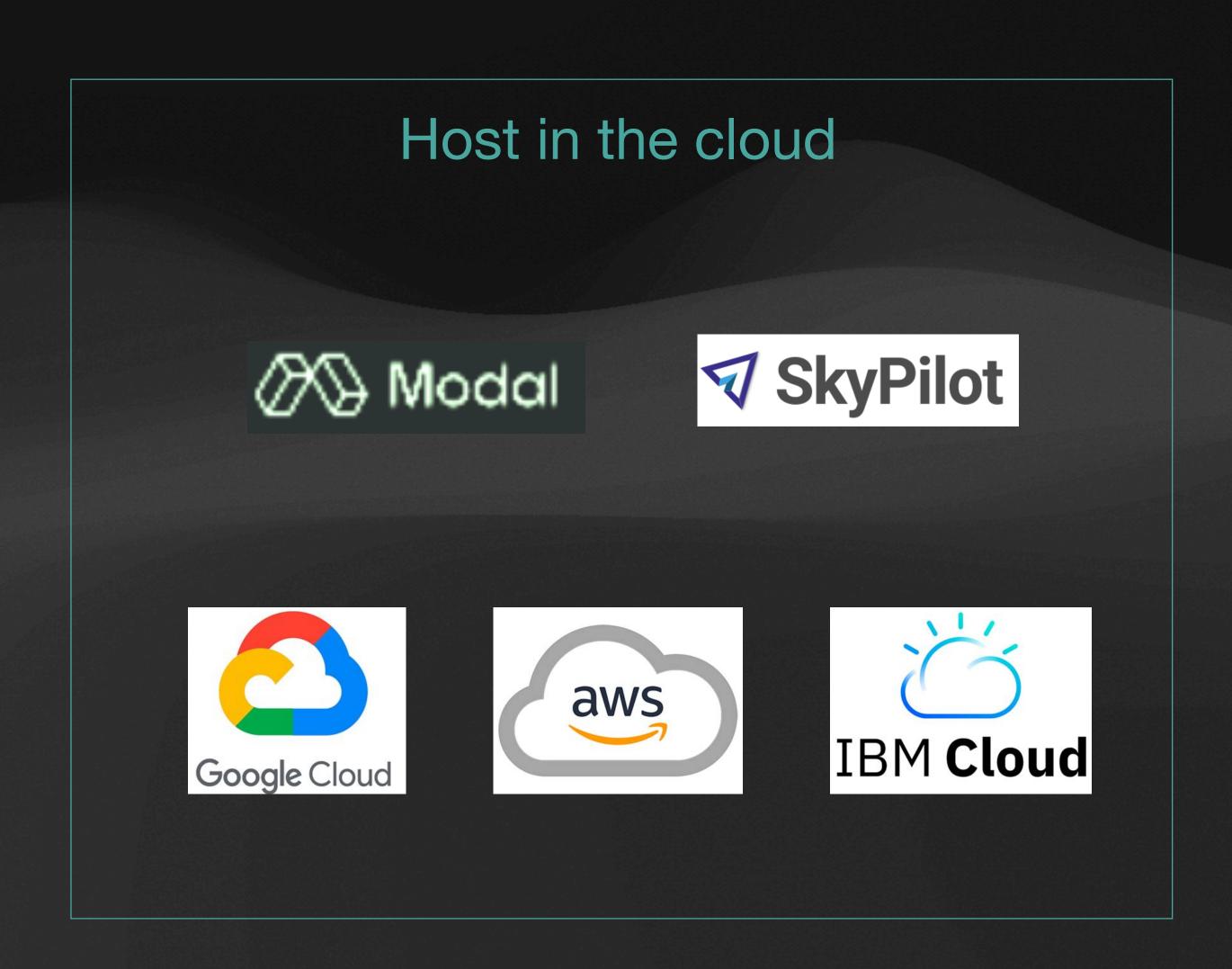


Typical AI app dev components



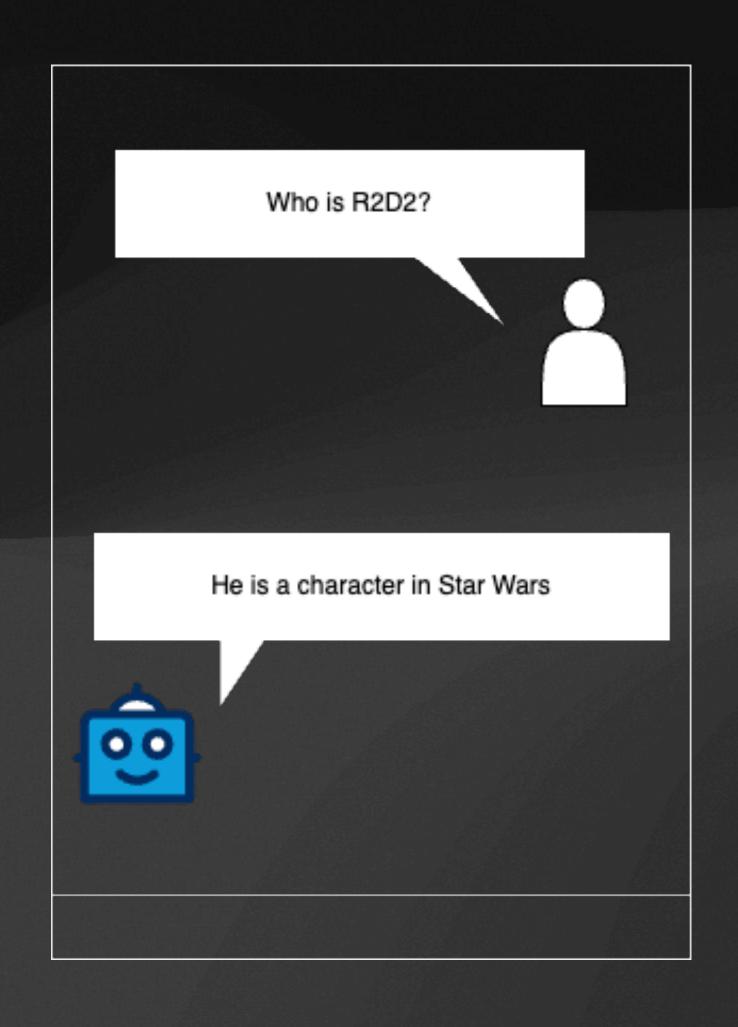
Where/How to host Models is important

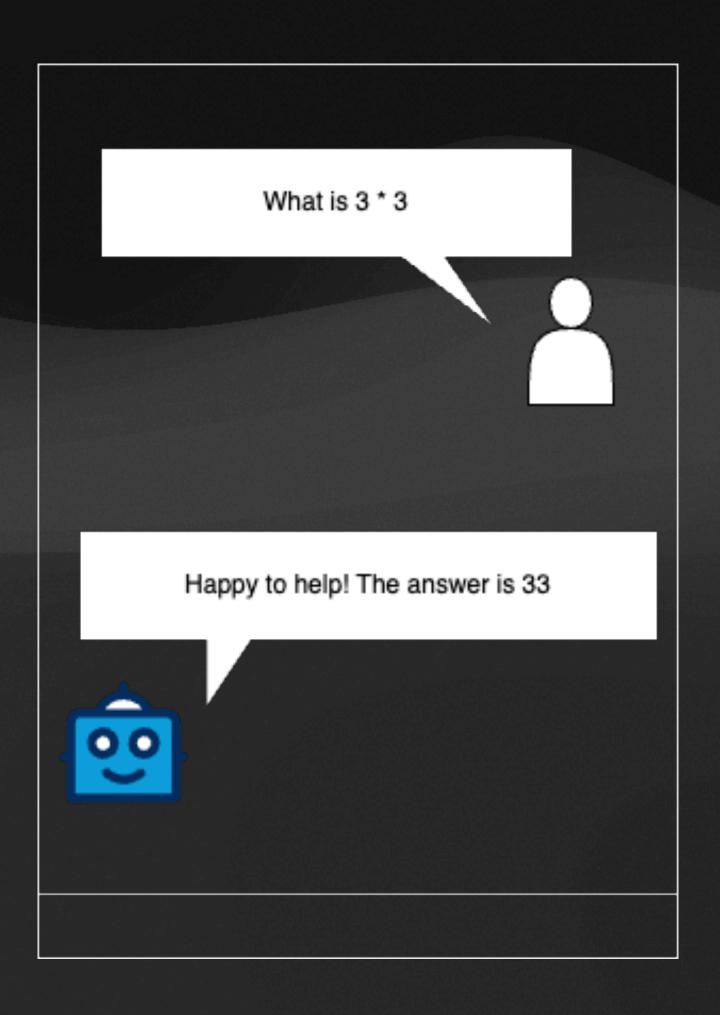




Alternatively, you could just use a library like HF Transformers

Building an Al chatbot is easy





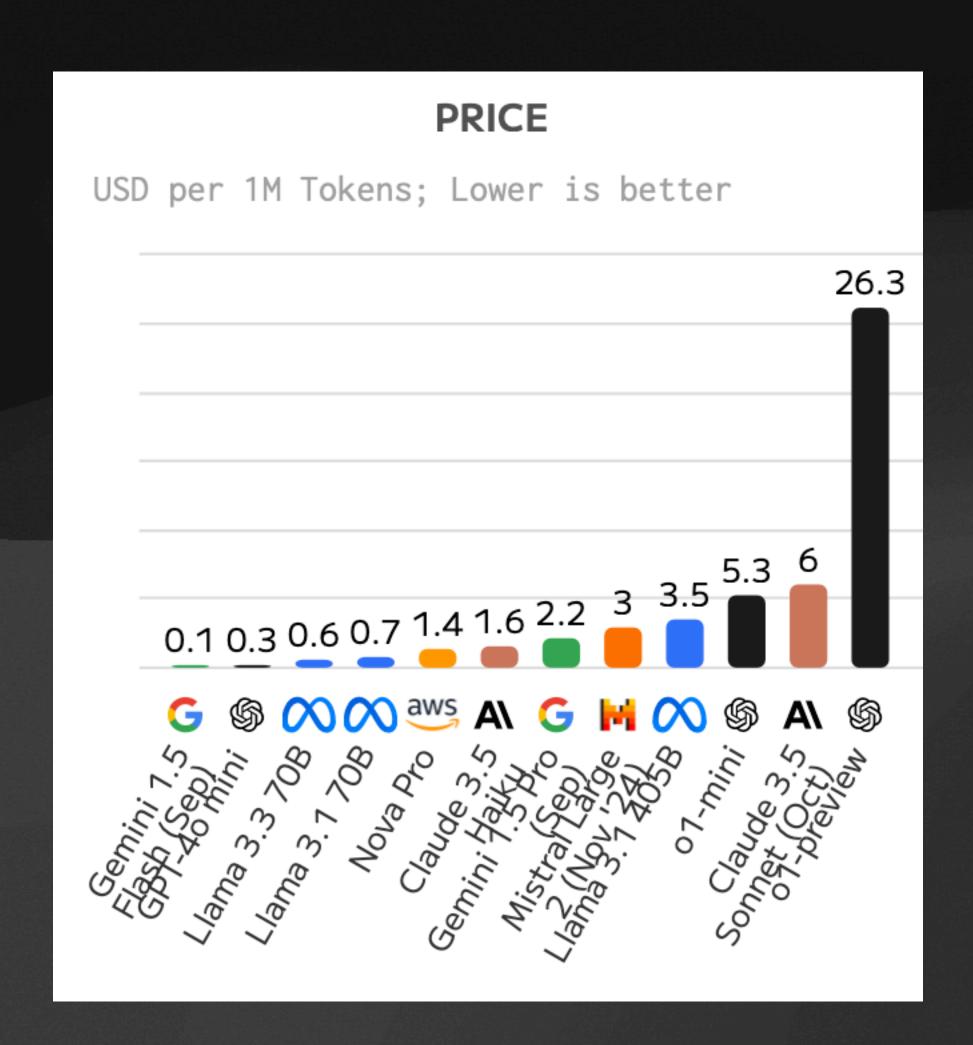
However, validating and moderating the chatbot content is hard

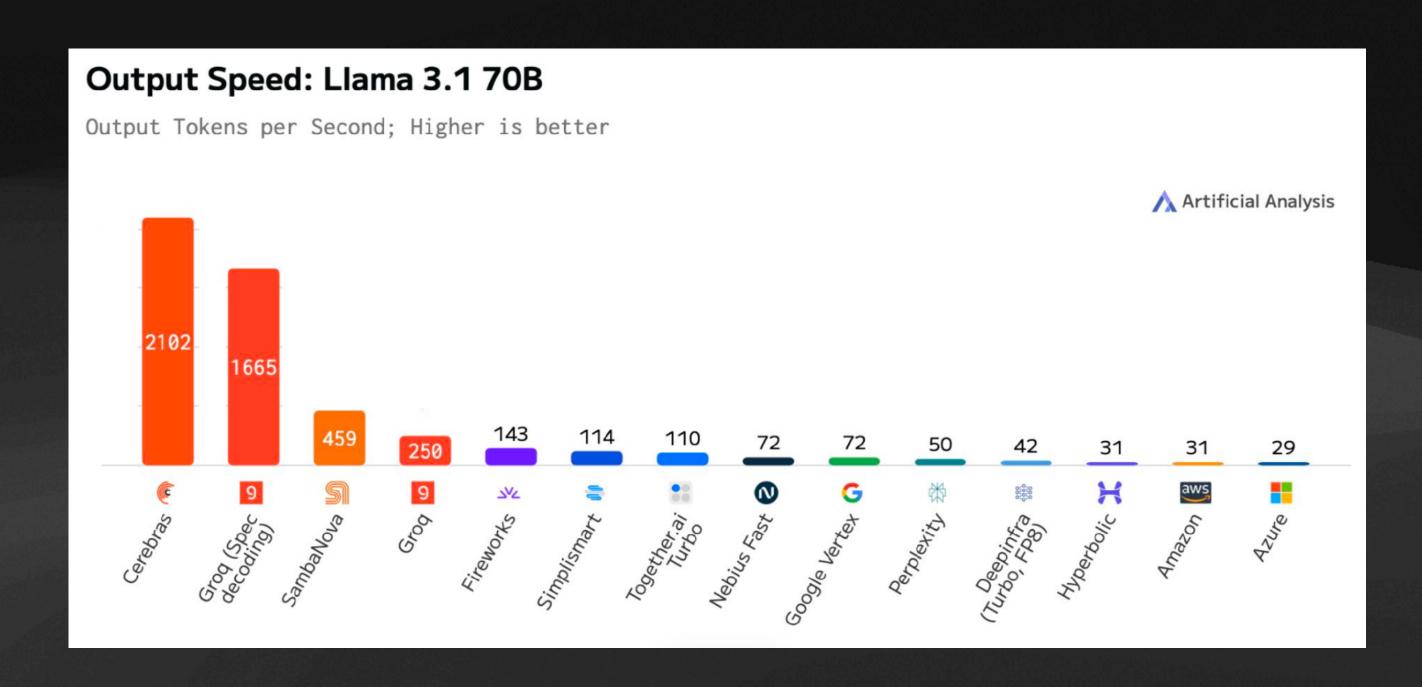
There are techniques to validate LLM output

Technique	Description	Technique Issues
Prompt Engineering	Provide guardrails to LLM in the prompt	 Need to be very precise LLM May choose to ignore guardrails
Guardrails	Specialized LLMs that classifies answer as 'bad'	 Adds additional latency to every LLM call Adds cost Is not always correct
RAG	Provide additional context to LLM as part of the prompt	 Need to add RAG store to solution Highly dependent on the quality of the data provided RAG may not provide enough information to get answers
Fine tuning	Provide additional training to an LLM	 Very expensive when compared to other methods above Time consuming No guaranties plus could degrade LLM

There are no techniques that guarantee chatbot answer is 'good'

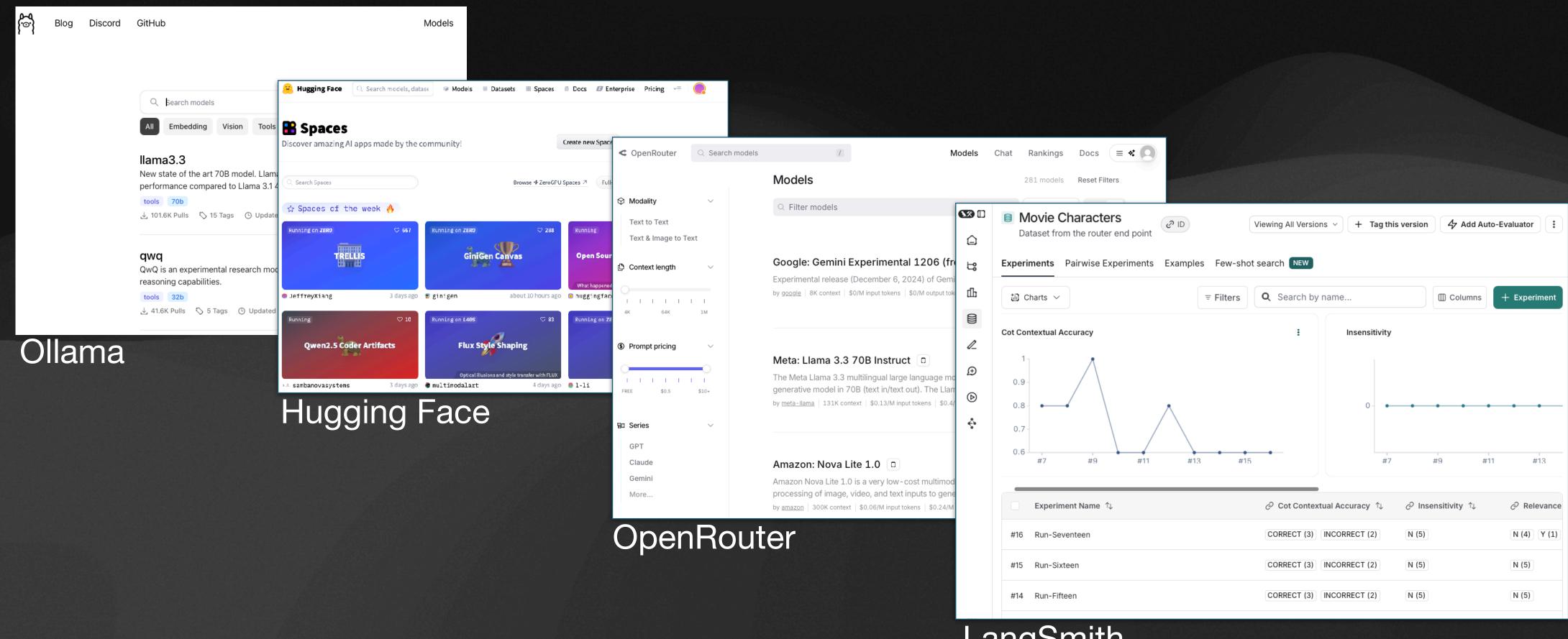
Choice of model and provider has a big impact





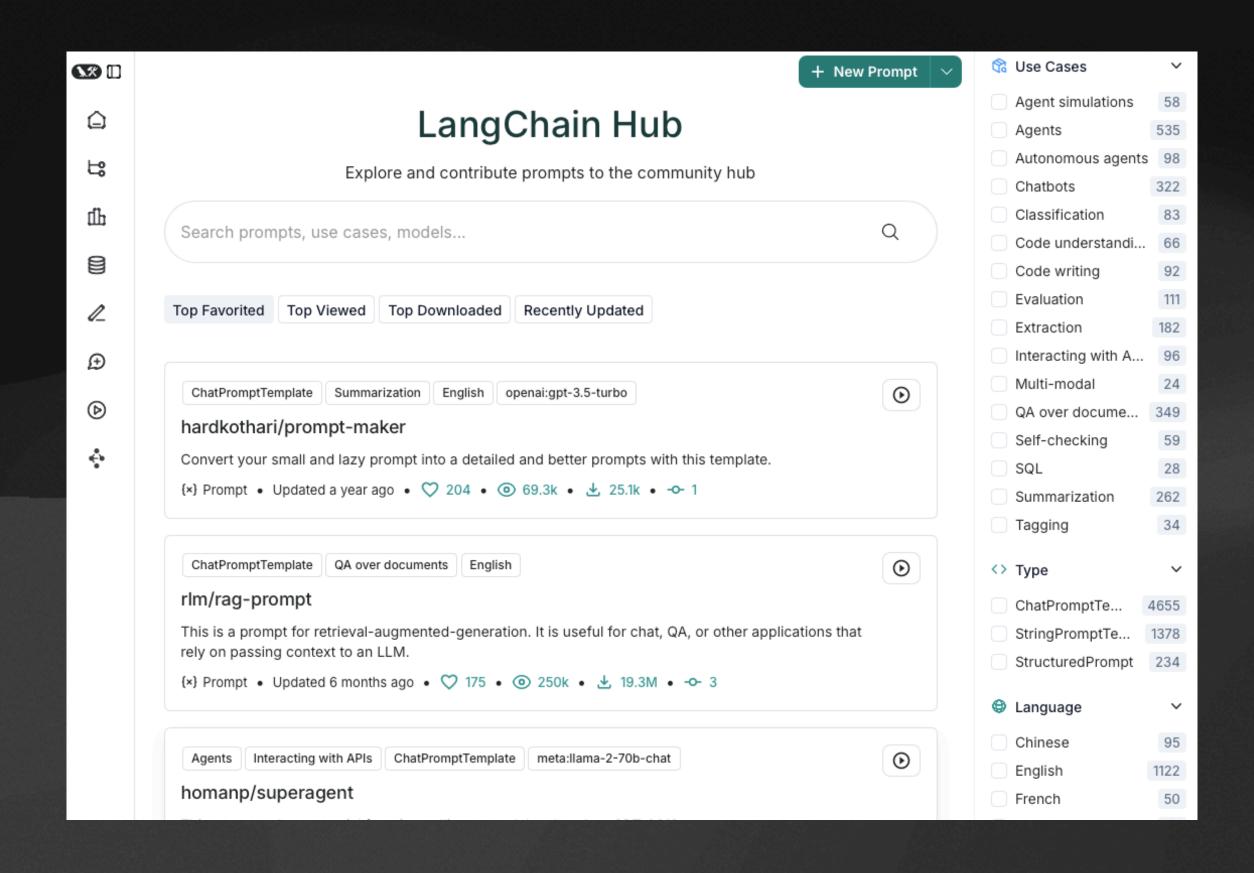
Small is beautiful and better for the environment (not to mention your wallet)

Evaluate models & choose the best for the use case



LangSmith

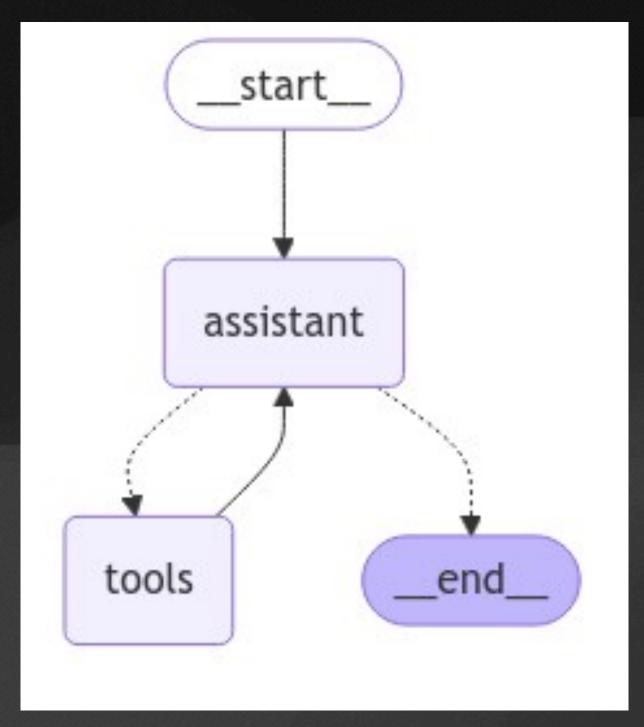
Externalize your prompts



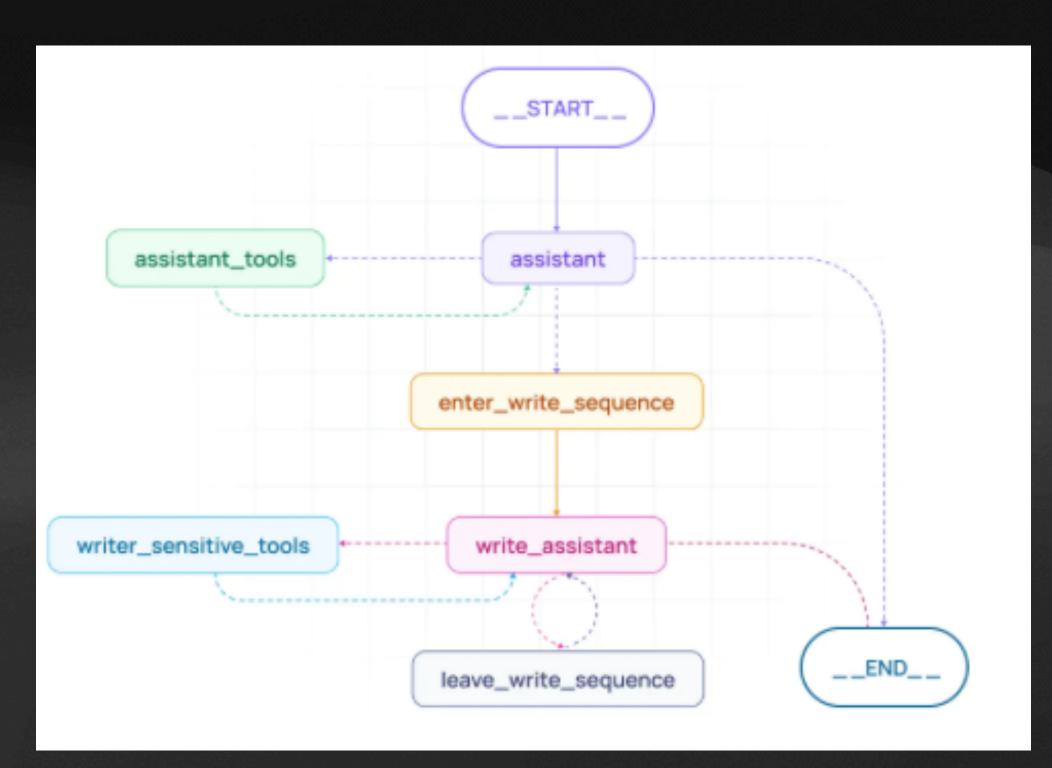
Externalizing prompts facilitates:

- Expert input
- Future proofing
- Faster development

Use agents to go beyond the chatbot



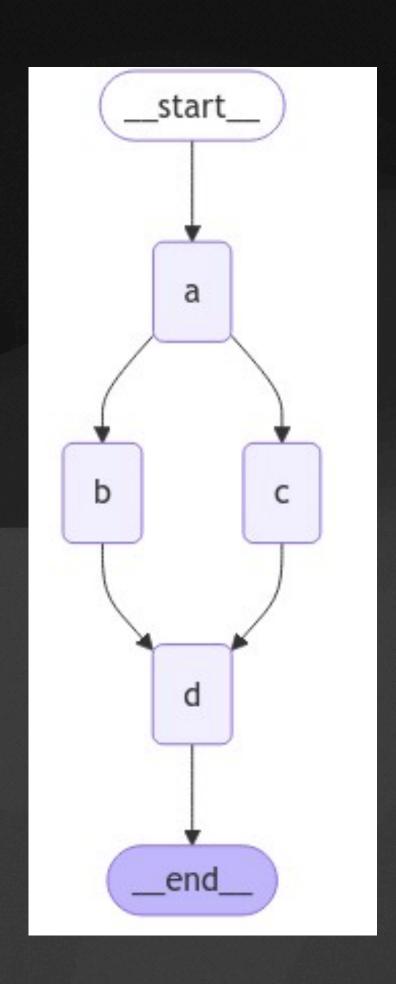
Simple tool calling agent



Simple assistant agent

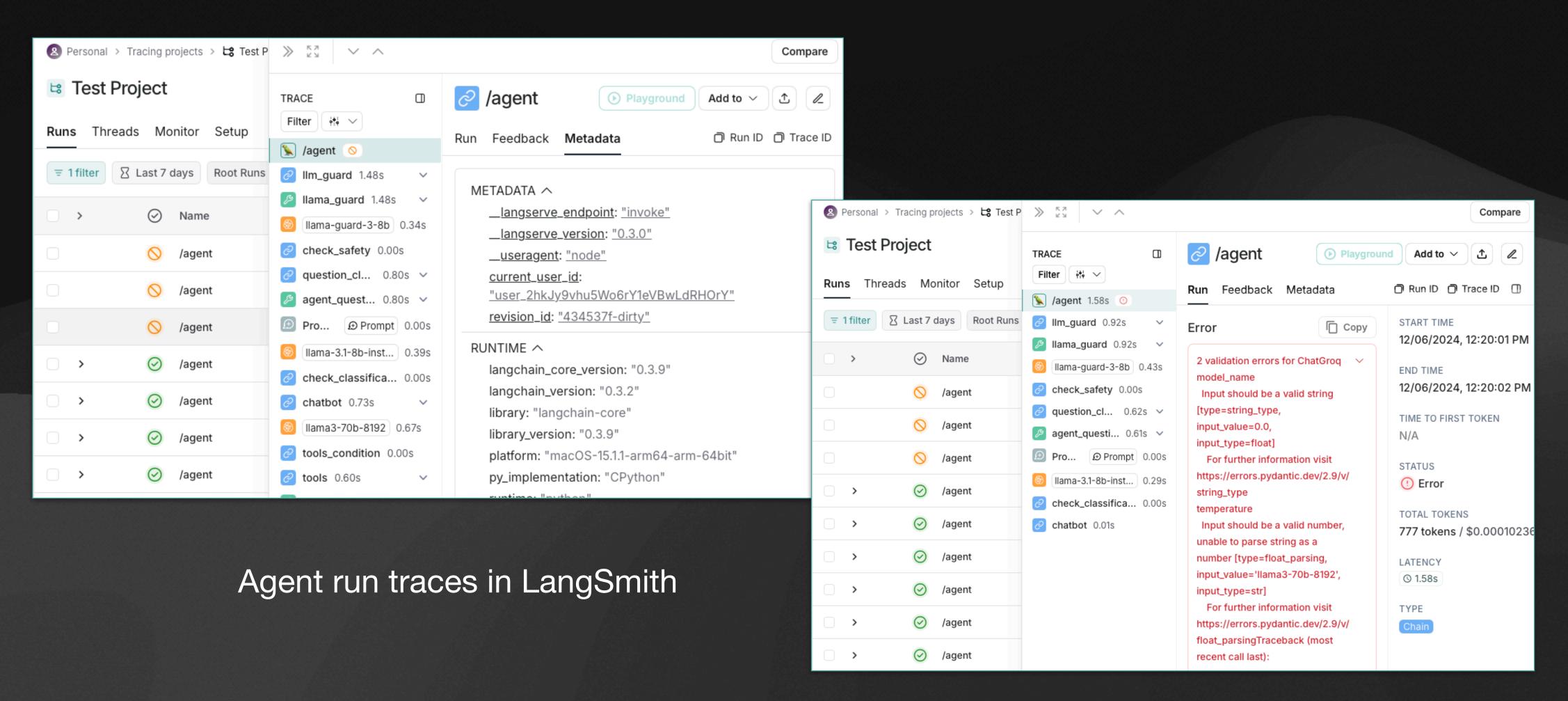
Agents allow LLMs to interact with the real world

Take advantage of platforms to speed up agents



- Models are the biggest source of latency
 - Take seconds to run
- Platforms like LangGraph allow complex chaining of models and code
 - Concurrent calls
 - Branching

Get proper observability for your models



Tracing model output, specially with agents, is hard without the necessary tooling



Questions?

Juan Peredo

linkedin.com/in/juanperedotech



Thanks to Al Camp for organizing this meetup and to IBM for hosting us