

Agentic Science Toolkit for Exoplanet Research - ASTER

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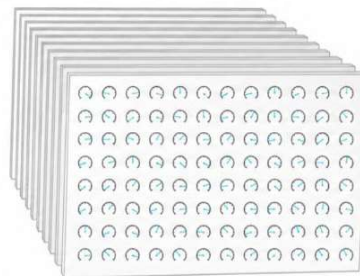


What is an LLM?

- LLM Large Language Models
- Generative pre-trained transformers
- Context: the input of LLMs

It was the best of times it was the worst

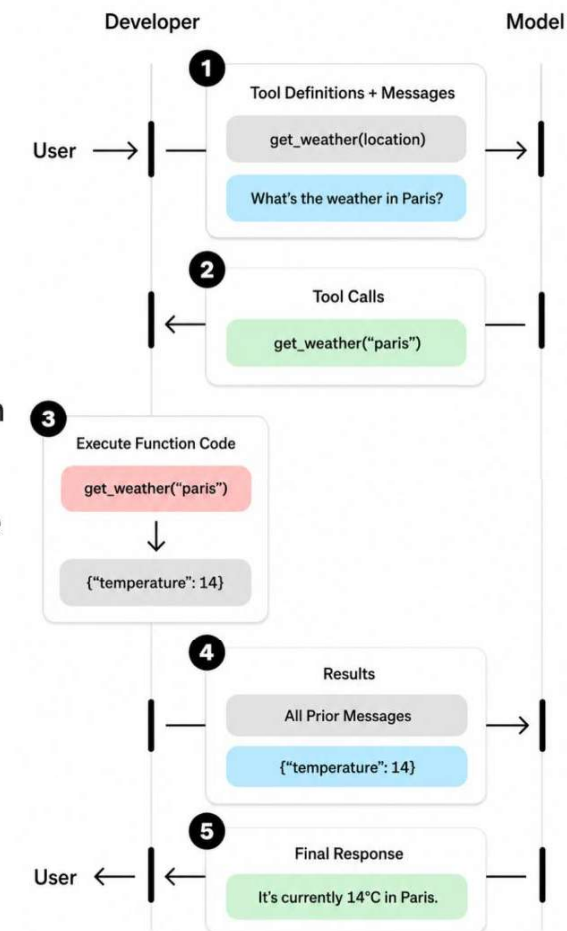
It was the best
of times it was
the _____



worst	70%
age	20%
worse	8%
best	0%
most	0%
end	0%
very	0%
blur	0%

What is an agent?

- An agent is a system which:
 - Observes a state
 - Chooses an action
 - The action affects the state
- An AI chatbot like chatGPT trivially takes actions within the context of the chat
- An AI agent takes actions that affects the external state (using tools!)





Orchestral AI

Building agents to accelerate science

Orchestrating LLM agents to solve complex tasks

Philosophy of Abstraction

"Civilization advances by extending the number of important operations which we can perform without thinking of them."

— Alfred North Whitehead

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ASTER -- Agentic Science Toolkit for Exoplanet Research

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The expansion of exoplanet observations has created a need for flexible, accessible, and user-friendly workflows. Transiting exoplanets provide a unique opportunity for probing atmospheric composition of transiting exoplanets. The analyses of these data require the combination of archival data, retrieval models, and Bayesian retrieval frameworks, each demanding specialized expertise. Modern large language models enable complex tasks by AI agents with tool integration, structured prompts, and iterative reasoning. In this study we present ASTER, an AI agent orchestration framework that brings LLM capability to the exoplanetary community by enabling LLM-driven interaction planning and management, and support for common data analysis tasks. Currently ASTER incorporates tools for downloading data from the NASA Exoplanet Archive, as well as the generation of transit spectra from the TauREx radiative transfer model, and retrieval of model parameters with TauREx. Beyond tool integration, the agent assists users by proposing alternative modeling approaches, results, and interpretations. We demonstrate ASTER's workflow through a complete case study of WASP-39b, performing multiple retrieval analyses from the archive. The agent efficiently transitions between datasets, generates appropriate forward model spectra and performs retrieval characterization of exoplanet atmospheres. Ongoing development and community contributions will continue expanding the capabilities of ASTER for exoplanet research.

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