

An overview of AI agents

Architectures, key concepts and applications

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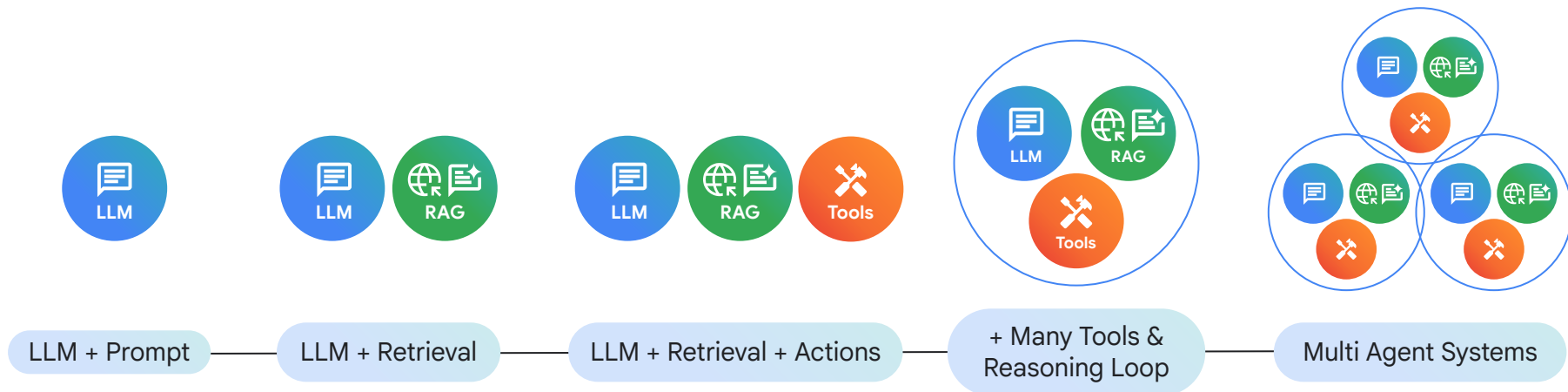
Staff Generative AI Specialist, Blackbelt, Google

AI for Good Global Summit, July 2025



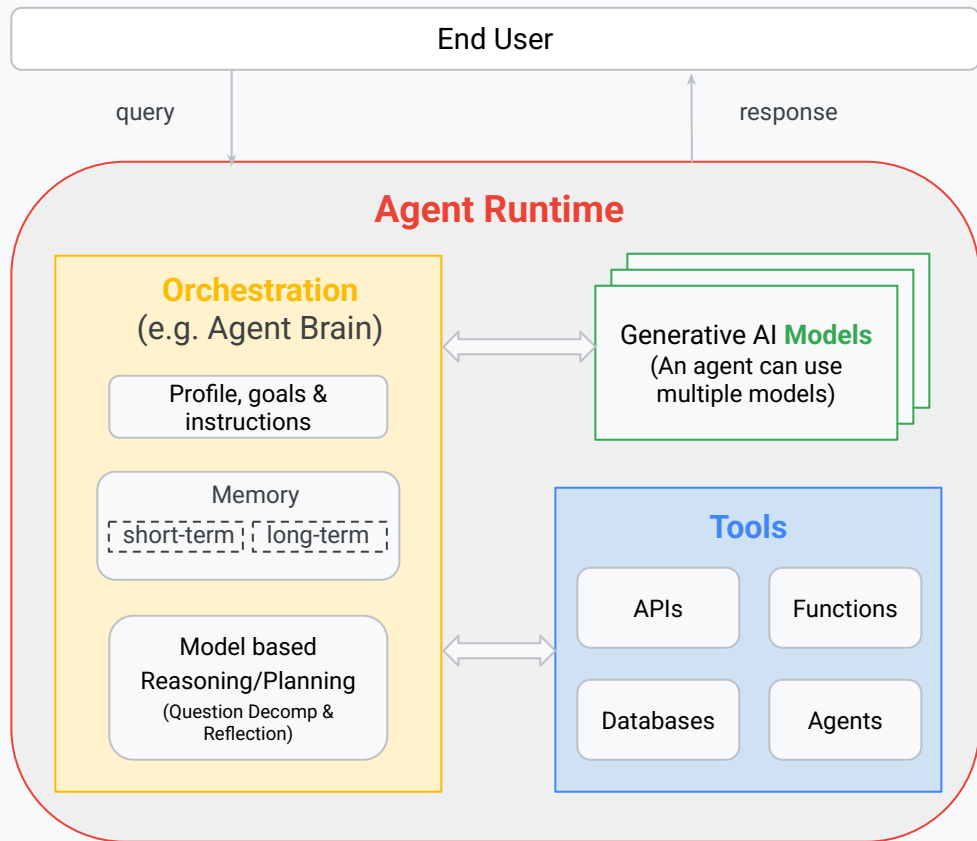
AI Agents

An Evolution



What is next?

The Agent Architecture



Four Key Components

- **Model:** Used to reason over goals, determine the plan and generate a response
- **Tools:** Fetch data, perform actions or transactions by calling other APIs or services
- **Orchestration:** Maintain memory and state (including the approach used to plan), tools, data provided/fetched, etc
- **Runtime:** Execute the system when invoked

Agent architectures (complexity and architecture)

Single agent Architecture

Powered by a **single LLM** that performs all the reasoning, planning and actions.
Simplest architecture to set up.

Benefits

- Easier to implement

Challenges

- More prone to get stuck in execution loop

Multi-Agent Architecture

Powered by two or more agents that can be used to coordinate, collaborate & specialize

Benefits

- Use specialized agents for specific tasks and to drive efficiencies

Challenges

- More complex to setup and maintain
- Horizontal architectures can lead to group chat and loss of focus
- Vertical architectures susceptible to leading agent not sending critical information to other agents

Hierarchical



Horizontal



Agent Design

Levels of Abstraction

Level 4: No-code platforms

Level 3: Agent framework

Level 2: Low-level orchestration framework

Level 1: Low-level LLM framework

Level 0: DIY

Agent Development Kit (ADK)

Develop Agents Easily

- ✓ Develop Multi-agent Solutions Easily
- ✓ Robust Session Management
- ✓ Multimodal is the Present
- ✓ Asynchronous First
- ✓ Transform Agents to Live
- ✓ Open Source including UI

```
hello2x > hello1 > agent.py > ...
1  """Hello world agent which can convert currency."""
2
3  from datetime import date, timedelta
4  import requests
5
6
7  def get_today_date():
8      """Returns today's date in YYYY-MM-DD format."""
9      today = date.today()
10     return today.strftime("%Y-%m-%d")
11
12
13 def get_date_plus_days(days: int):
14     """Returns a date in YYYY-MM-DD format, plus or minus
15
16     Args:
17         days (int): The number of days to add or subtract
18
19     Returns:
20         str: A date in YYYY-MM-DD format.
21     """
22     today = date.today()
23     return (today + timedelta(days=days)).strftime("%Y-%m-%d")
24
25
26 def get_exchange_rate(currency_from: str, currency_to: str):
27     """Retrieves the exchange rate between two currencies.
28
29     Args:
30         currency_from (str): The source currency code.
```

Models | Instructions | Tools (APIs and Data) |
Session/Memory | Multi-agent Orchestration

Very easy to define an agent, or a multi-agent application

Minimal boilerplate code

```
flight_agent = Agent(
    name="flight_agent",
    model=MODEL_GEMINI_2_5_PRO,

    description="Specialized assistant for searching and
    booking flights.",

    instruction="You are the Flight Specialist. Your tasks
    are to:
    Use the 'search_flights' tool when the user wants to find
    flights.
    Use the 'book_flight' tool when the user wants to book a
    specific flight....",

    tools=[search_flights, book_flight],
)
```

```
root_agent = Agent(
    name="root_travel_agent",
    model=MODEL_GEMINI_2_5_PRO,

    description="Main travel assistant that coordinates
    requests for flights and hotels by delegating to
    specialized agents.",

    instruction=f"""You are the primary Travel
    Coordinator assistant. Your main role is to...

    Use the descriptions of the 'flight_agent' and
    'hotel_agent' to decide when to delegate. You do not have
    tools to book directly; you must delegate.

    """,
    tools=[],
    sub_agents=[flight_agent, hotel_agent],
)
```


Support for building different types of Agents

A programmatic SDK offers a high degree of flexibility

Interactive Chat Agents

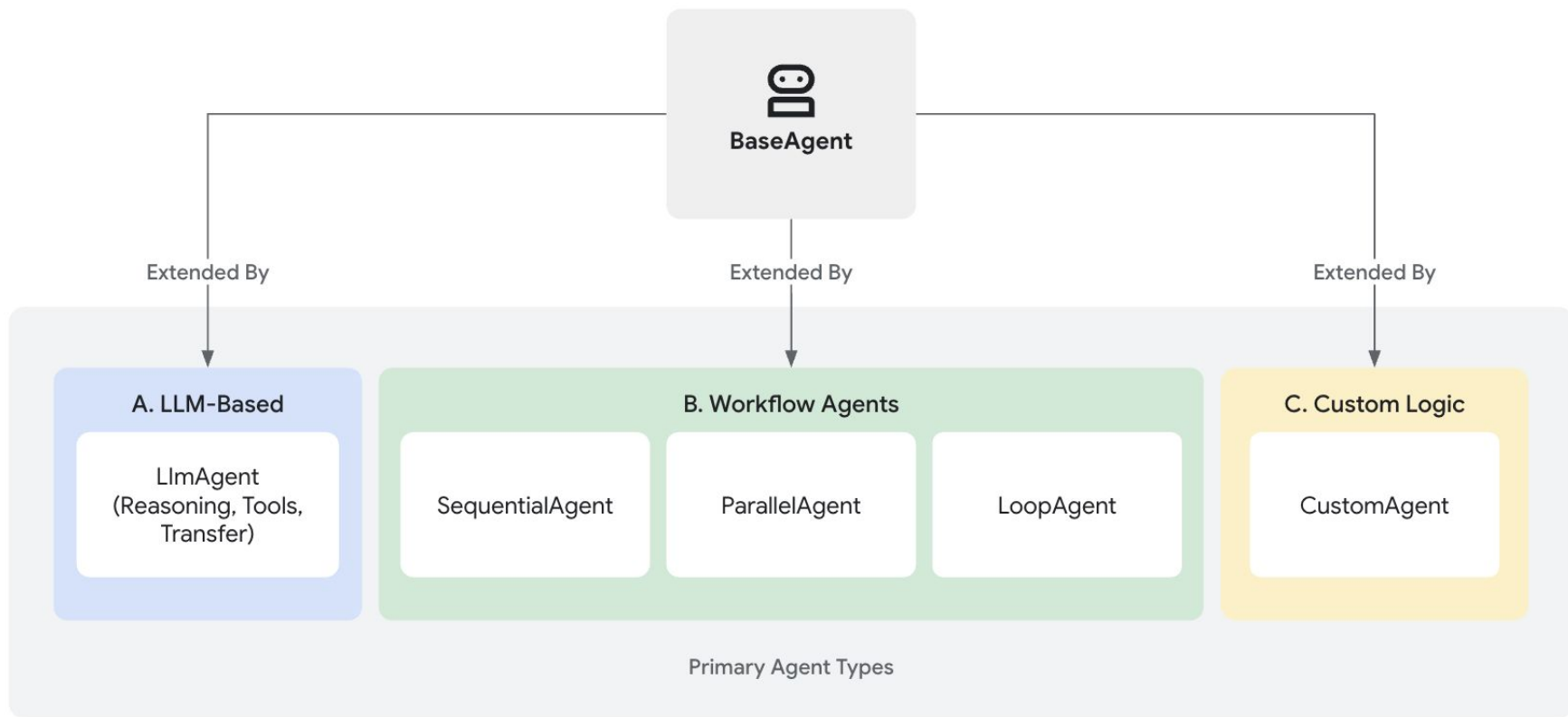
Perhaps the most common type of agent. Interact with the agent via chat messages, and get responses back with low latency.

Background Processing Agents

Agents that run in the background, monitor systems or data, make intelligent decisions, perform offline data processing and notify humans and escalate only if required. These could be one-off or recurring jobs.

Real-time Audio/Video streaming Agents

Build agents that can have low latency bi-directional voice and video interaction with end users. This enables building agents that one can have natural human like interactions with.



Sample agents



Vertex AI

Prompt gallery

Prompt management

Tuning

Agent builder

Agent Garden

Agent Engine

RAG Engine

Vertex AI Search

Vector Search

Data

Feature Store

Datasets

Model development

Training

Experiments

Metadata

Deploy and use

Model Registry

Online prediction

Batch predictions

Monitoring

Marketplace

Agent Garden Preview

Samples

Pre built, customizable blueprints with source code, configuration files and best practice examples.

Data Science

Queries diverse data across multiple sources using natural language, builds predictive models, visualizes trends, and communicates key insights in a clear way.

ADK

FOMC Research

Extracts web data, analyzes complex topics with limited input, executes custom functions, and generates summary reports from multi-modal data...

ADK

Travel Concierge

Orchestrates personalized travel experiences and provides support throughout the user's journey, from initial planning to real-time itinerary alerts.

ADK

Brand Search Optimization

Analyzes top brand-related keywords and competitor search results, compares content elements like titles and descriptions, and generates suggestions to...

ADK

Customer Service

Delivers support by analyzing issues found in streamed videos or uploaded images. Provides relevant recommendations, discounts, helps...

ADK

Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)

Uses RAG to get information from specified knowledge sources, ensuring responses are factually grounded, context-aware, and up-to-date.

ADK

LLM Auditor

Evaluates LLM-generated answers, verifies actual accuracy using the web, and refines the response to ensure alignment with real-world knowledge.

ADK

Personalized Shopping

Delivers personalized recommendations, tailored to specific brands, merchants, or marketplaces.

ADK

Tools

Modular components that extend the functionality of an agent with APIs.

AlloyDB

Google Cloud Integration Connectors

Amazon S3

Google Cloud Integration Connectors

BigQuery

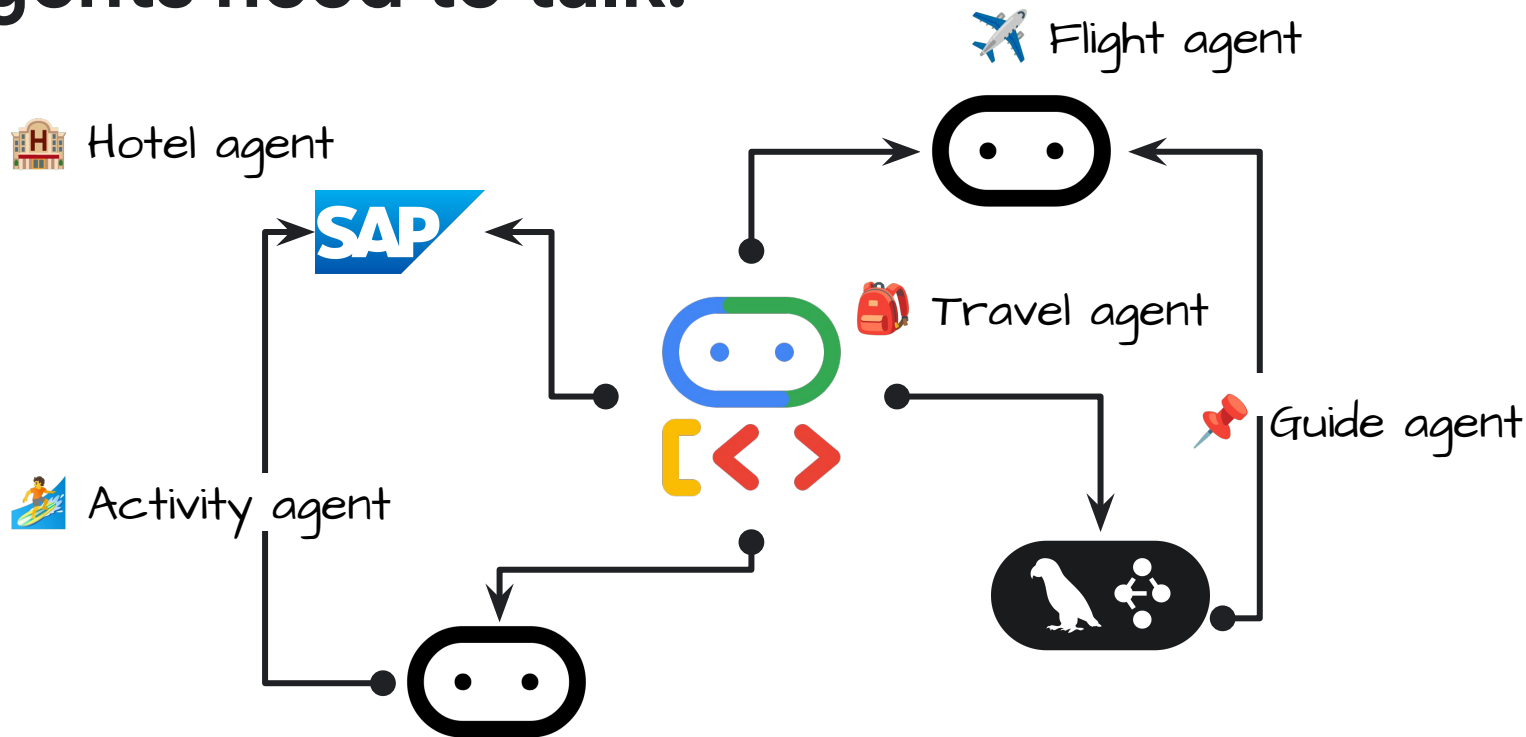
Google Cloud Integration Connectors

Box

Google Cloud Integration Connectors

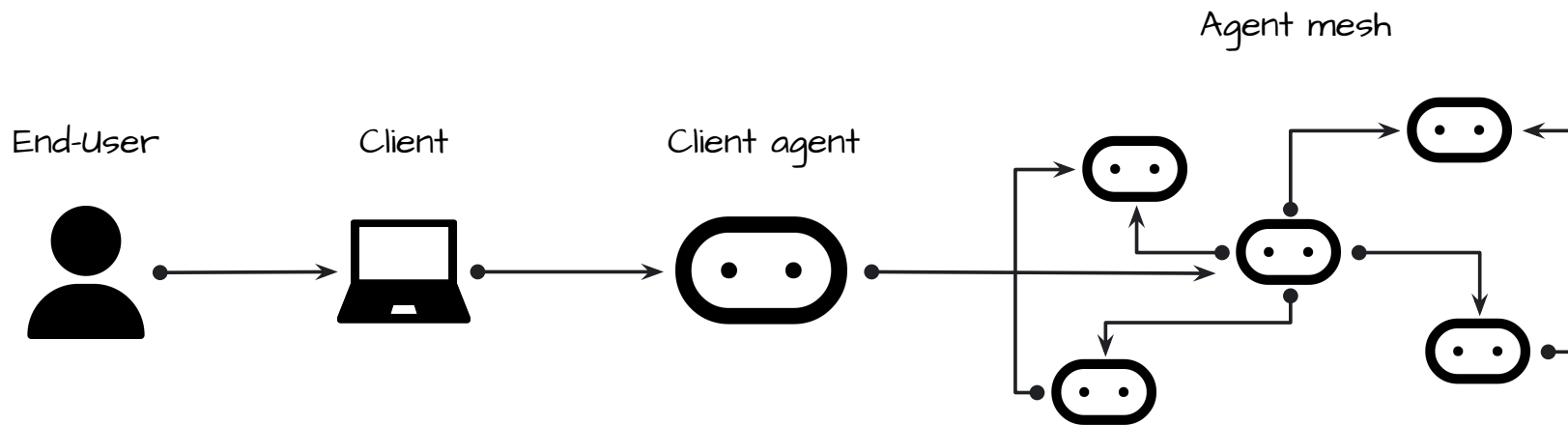
Agents interoperability

Agents need to talk!



Agent2Agent (A2A) protocol

Open protocol to handle agent collaboration



Partners contributing to the Agent2Agent protocol



A2A's open governance

CLOUD

Google Cloud donates A2A to Linux Foundation

JUNE 23, 2025

[Rao Surapaneni](#)

VP and GM

Business Application Platform

[Todd Segal](#)

Principal Engineer

Business Application Platform

[Michael Vakoc](#)

Product Manager

Google Cloud

[Share](#)



A2A protocol



A2A capabilities



Discovery

Agents must advertise their capabilities so clients know when and how to utilize them for specific tasks.



Negotiation

Clients and agents need to agree on communication methods like text, forms, iframe, or audio/video to ensure proper user interaction.



Task and State Management

Clients and agents need mechanisms to communicate task status, changes, and dependencies throughout task execution.



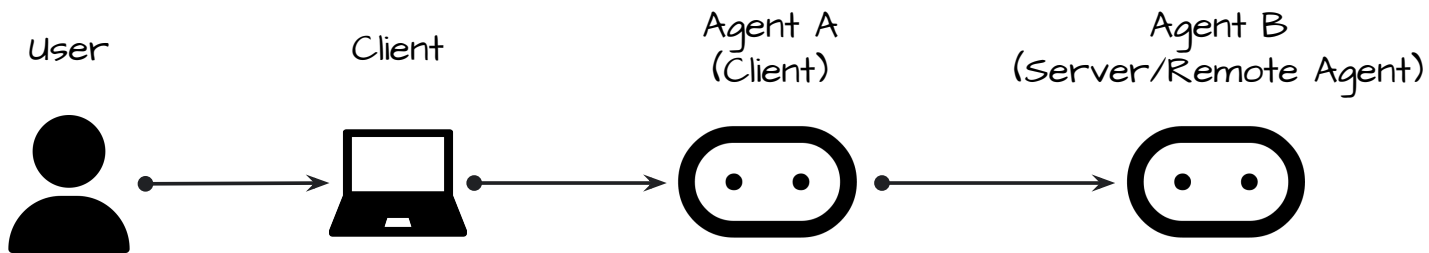
Collaboration

Clients and agents must support dynamic interaction, enabling agents to request clarifications, information, or sub-actions from client, other agents, or users.



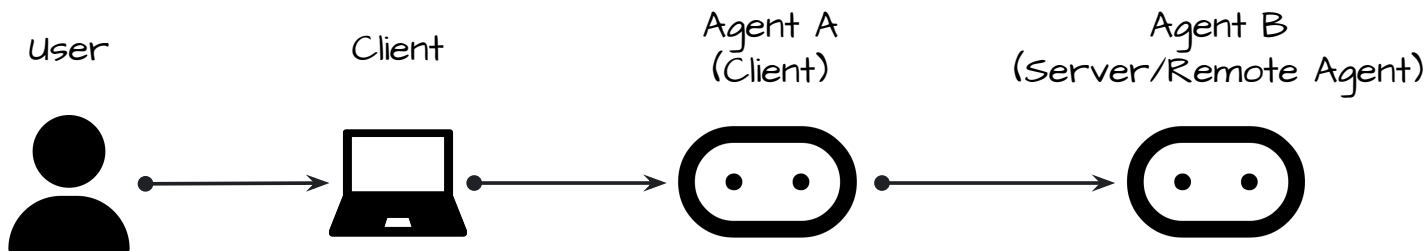
How A2A works

Building a simple agent system



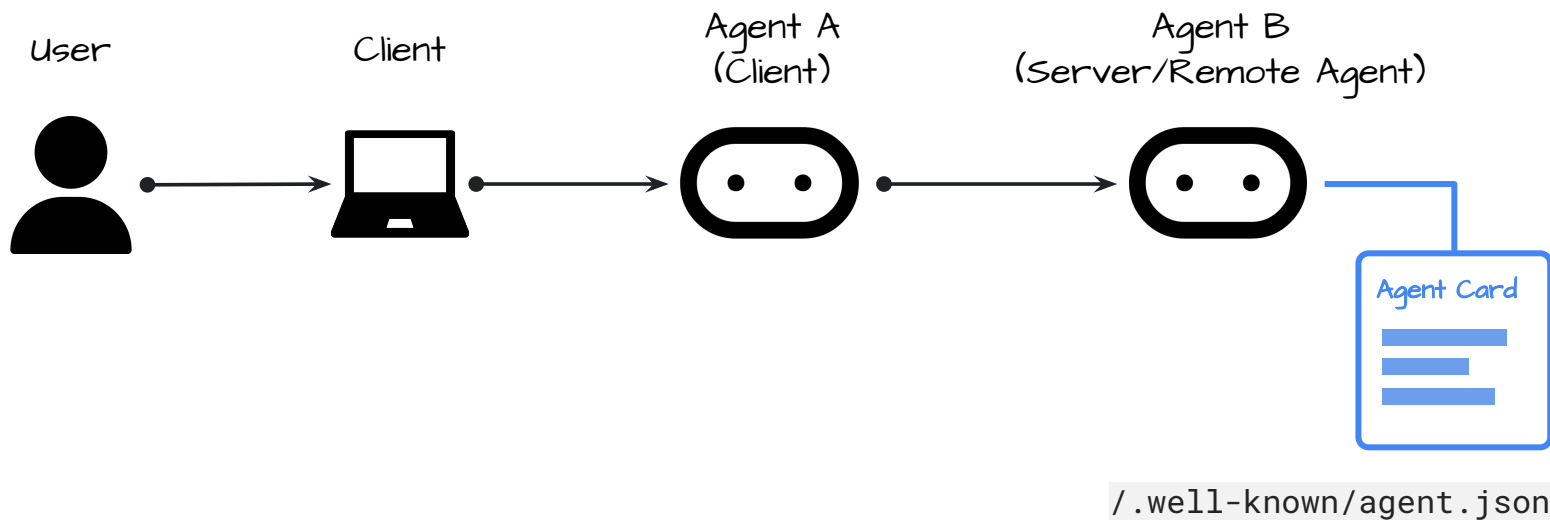
Step 1: Agent Discovery

Who are you & what can you do?



Step 1: Agent Discovery

The agent card



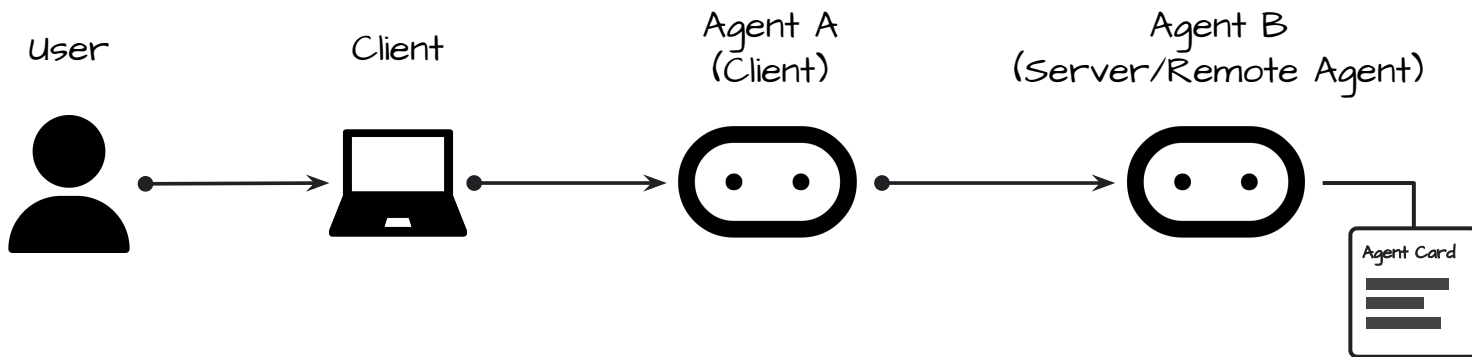
Agent Card

Example

```
agent_card = AgentCard(  
    name='Currency Agent',  
    description='Helps with exchange rates for currencies',  
    url=f'http://{host}:{port}/', # e.g., http://localhost:10000/  
    version='1.0.0',  
    defaultInputModes=CurrencyAgent.SUPPORTED_CONTENT_TYPES, # Usually ['text/plain']  
    defaultOutputModes=CurrencyAgent.SUPPORTED_CONTENT_TYPES,  
    skills=[skill],  
)  
  
# ... (Server setup using this agent_card) ...
```

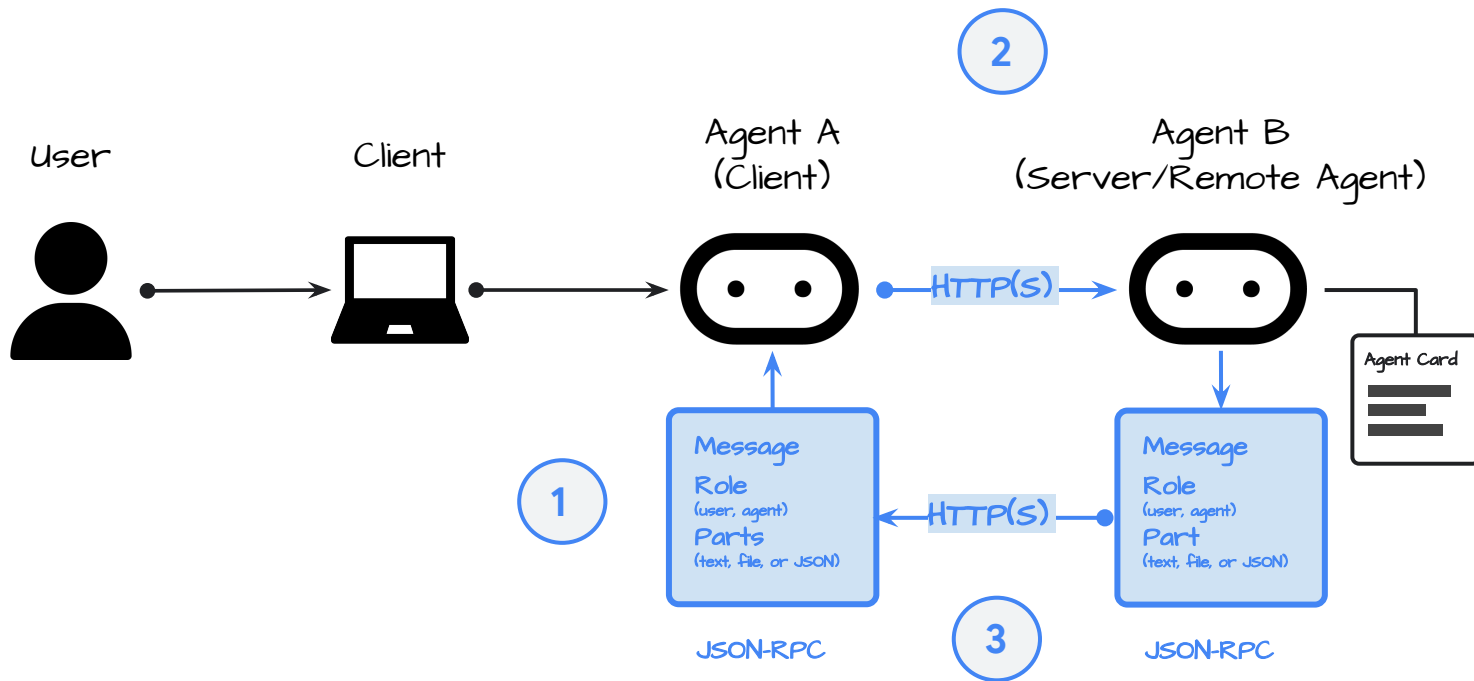
Step 2: Basic Interaction

How do we actually talk?



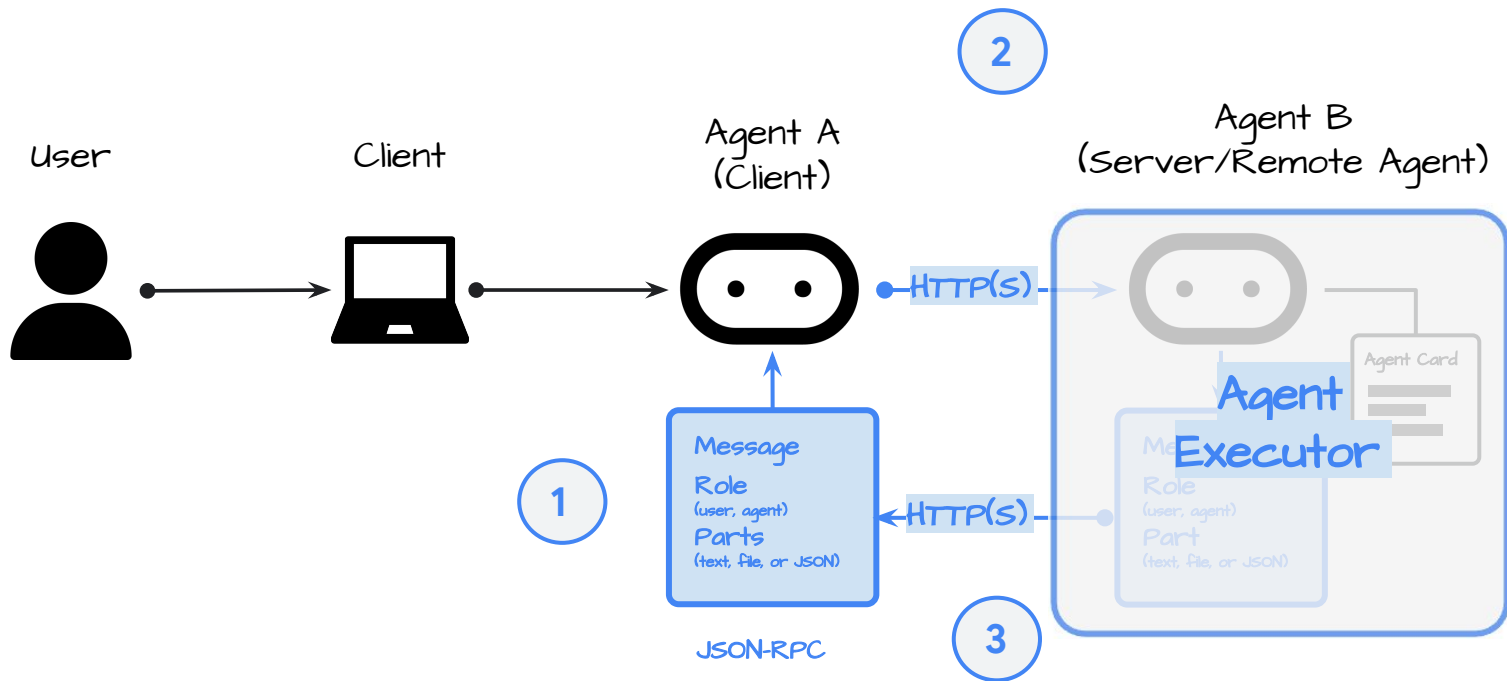
Step 2: Basic Interaction

Messages, Tasks & Parts



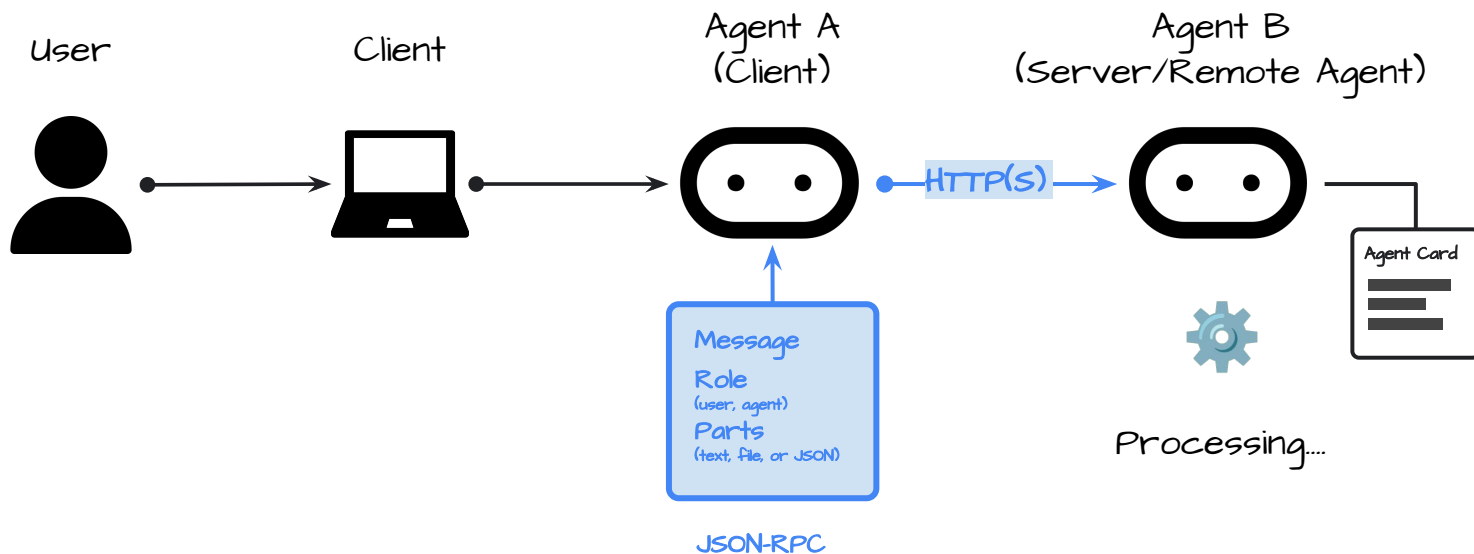
Step 2: Basic Interaction

The Agent Executor



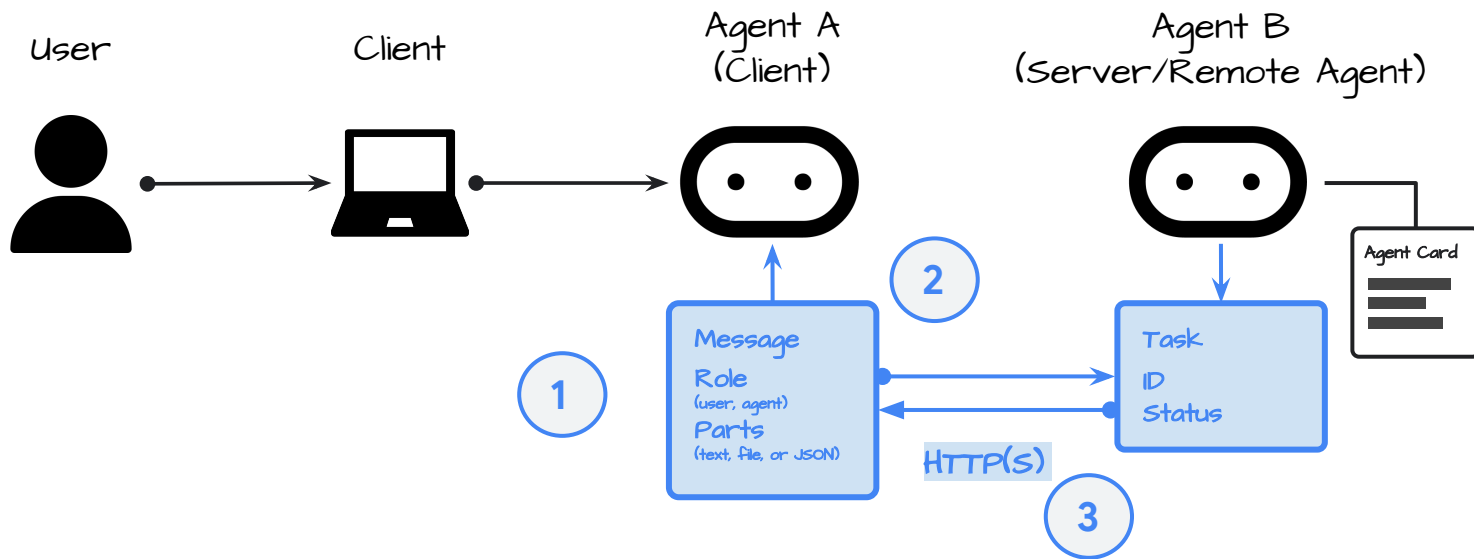
Step 3: Handling Real Work

Are we there yet?



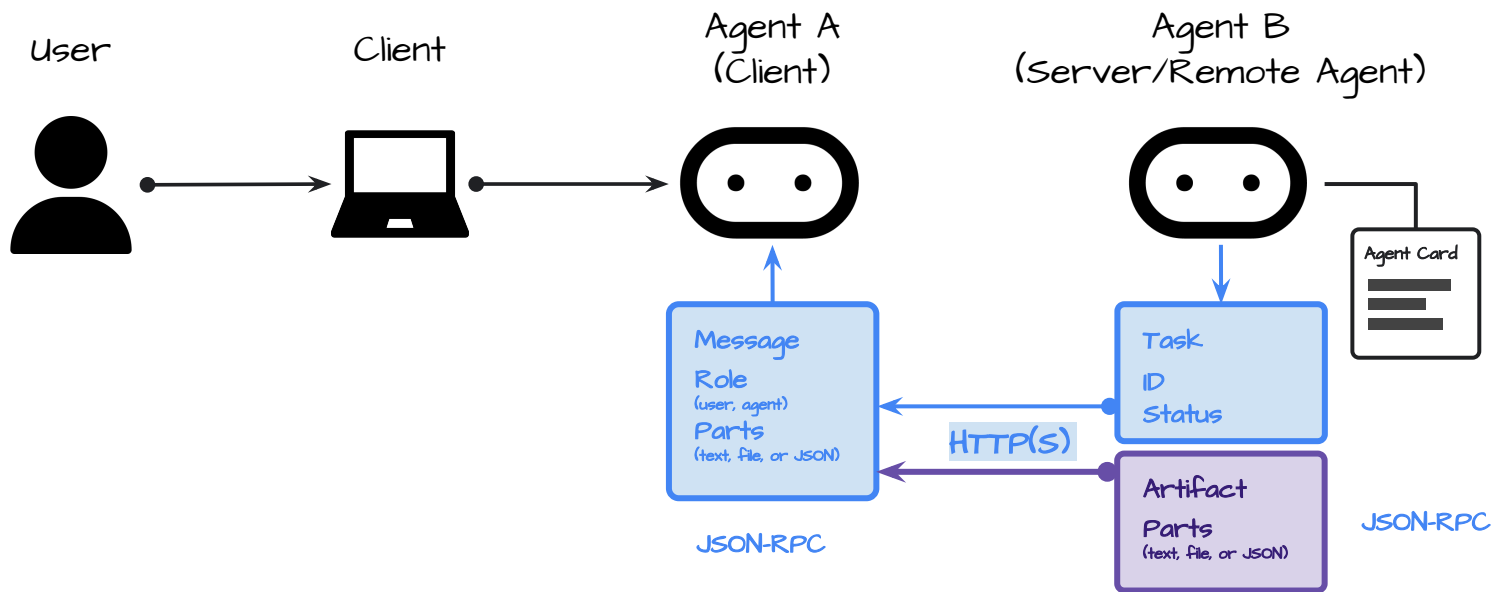
Step 3: Handling Real Work

Task Lifecycle & Polling



Step 3: Handling Real Work

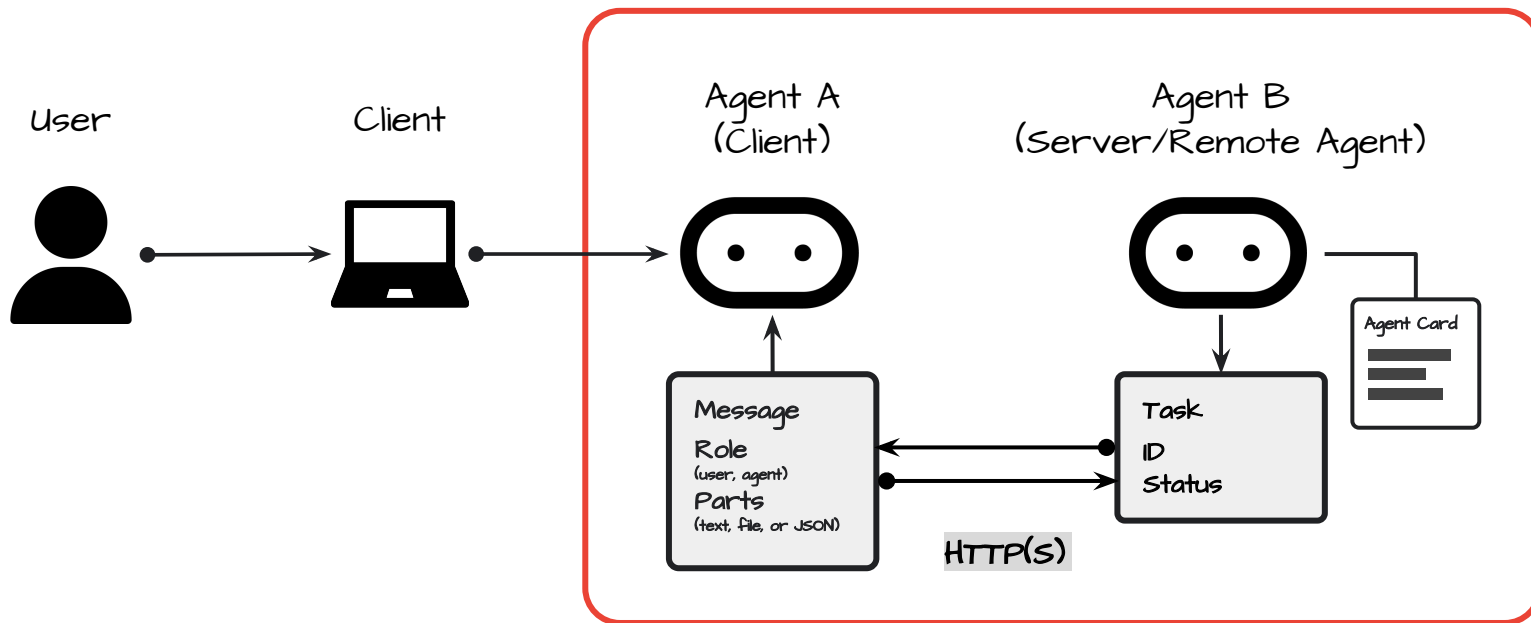
Task Lifecycle & Polling



Task Lifecycle & Polling

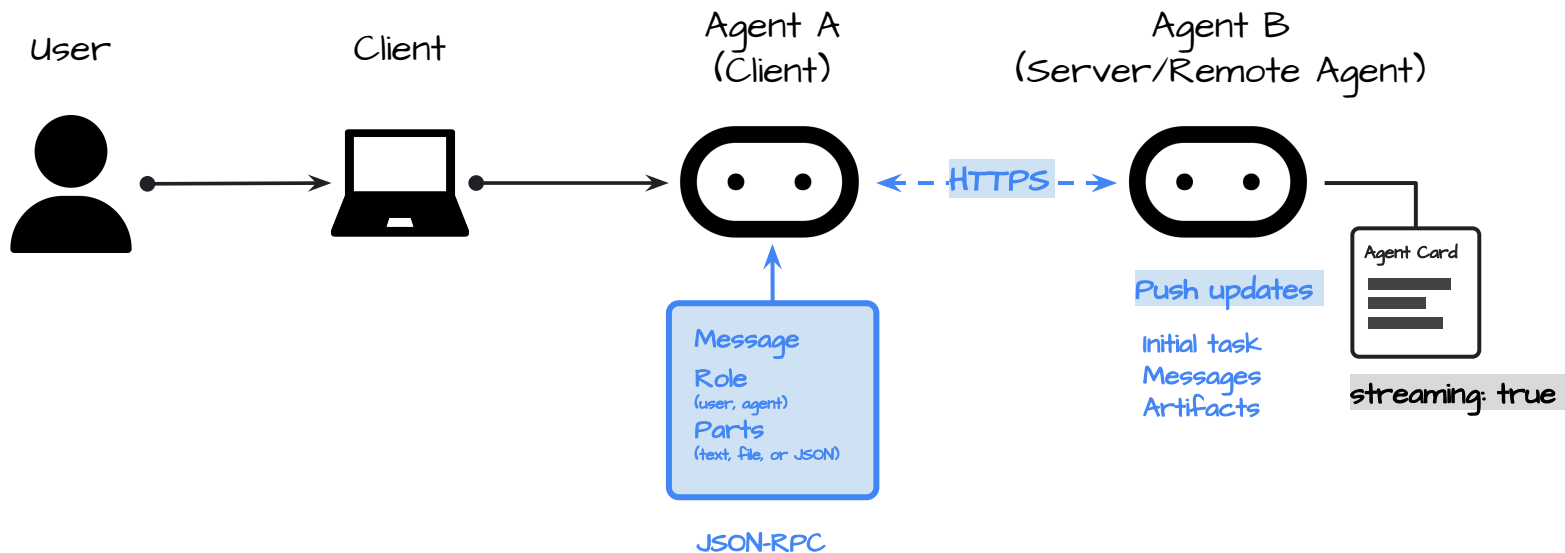
Challenge

✗ Polling is inefficient!



Step 4: Real-time Updates

Streaming with SSE



A2A vs MCP???

A2A ❤️ MCP

Complementary, Not Competing



Model Context Protocol (MCP)

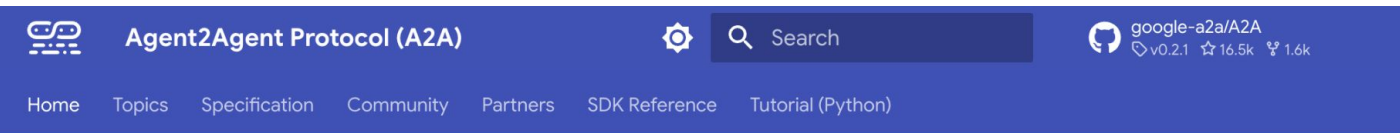
- Connects agents to **tools, APIs, and resources**.
- Think: *How an agent uses its capabilities (function calling).*
- Example: Agent uses MCP to call a weather API tool.



Agent2Agent Protocol (A2A)

- Facilitates dynamic communication **between different agents** as peers.
- Think: *How agents collaborate, delegate, and manage shared tasks.*
- Example: A Travel Agent (A2A) asks a Flight Booking Agent (A2A) to find flights.

A2A Documentation



Agent2Agent (A2A) Protocol



Unlock Collaborative Agent Scenarios

The **Agent2Agent (A2A) Protocol** is an open standard designed to enable seamless communication and collaboration between AI agents. In a world where agents are built using diverse frameworks and by different vendors, A2A provides a common language, breaking down silos and fostering interoperability.

[google/a2a](https://google.github.io/a2a)



How about samples?



goo.gle/a2a-samples



Thank you.



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