Google Cloud

An overview of AI agents

Architectures, key concepts and applications

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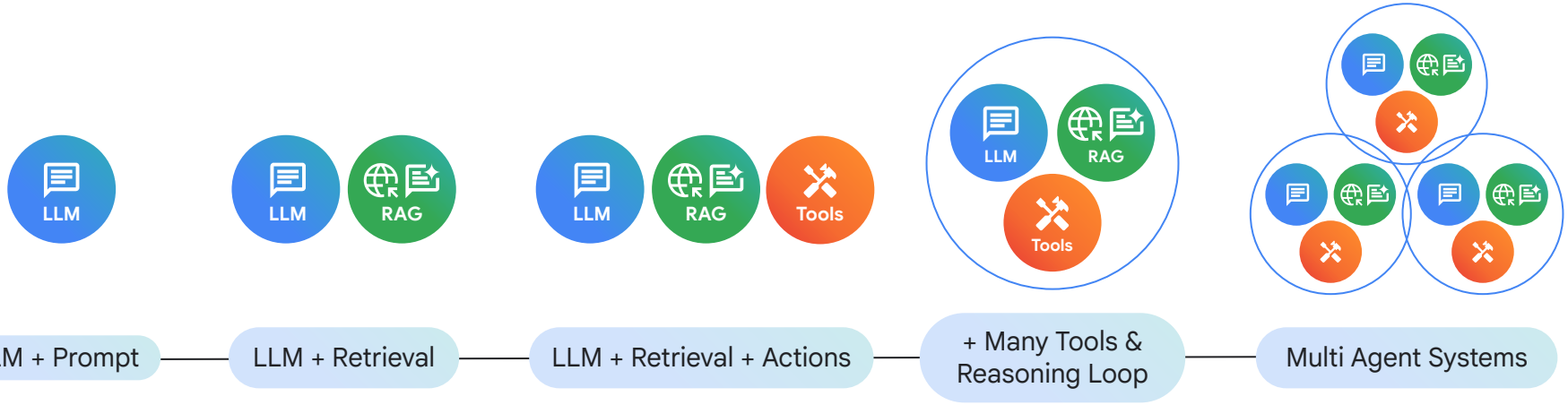
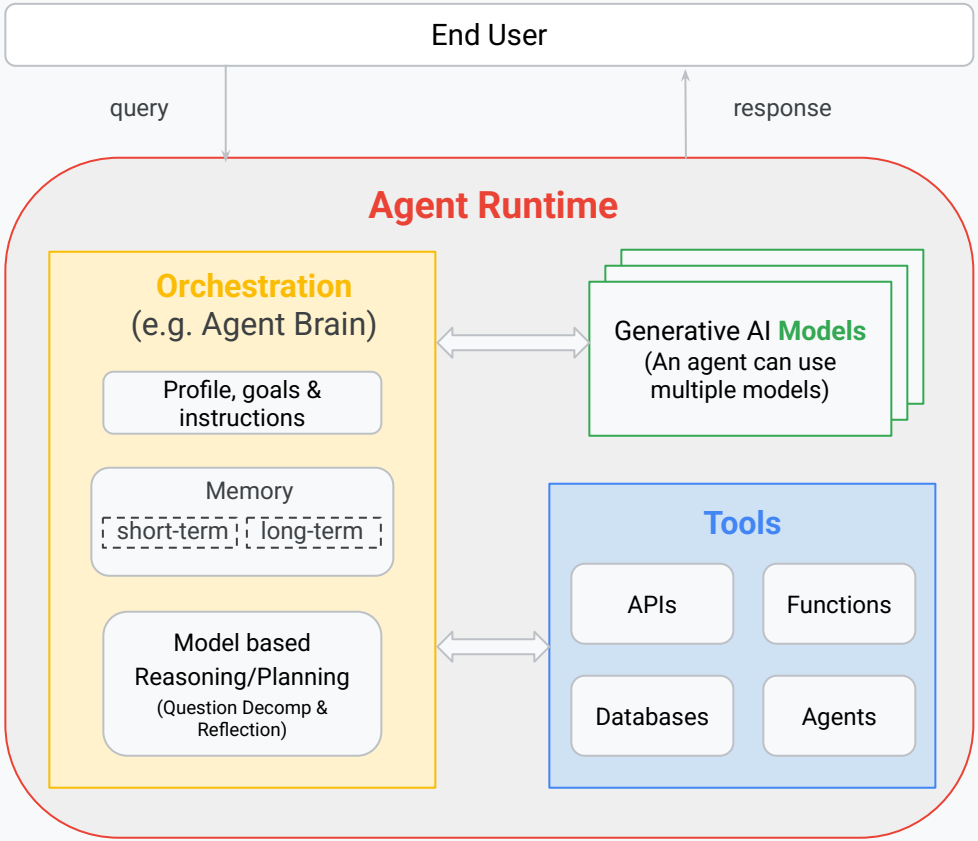
AI Agents
An Evolution



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

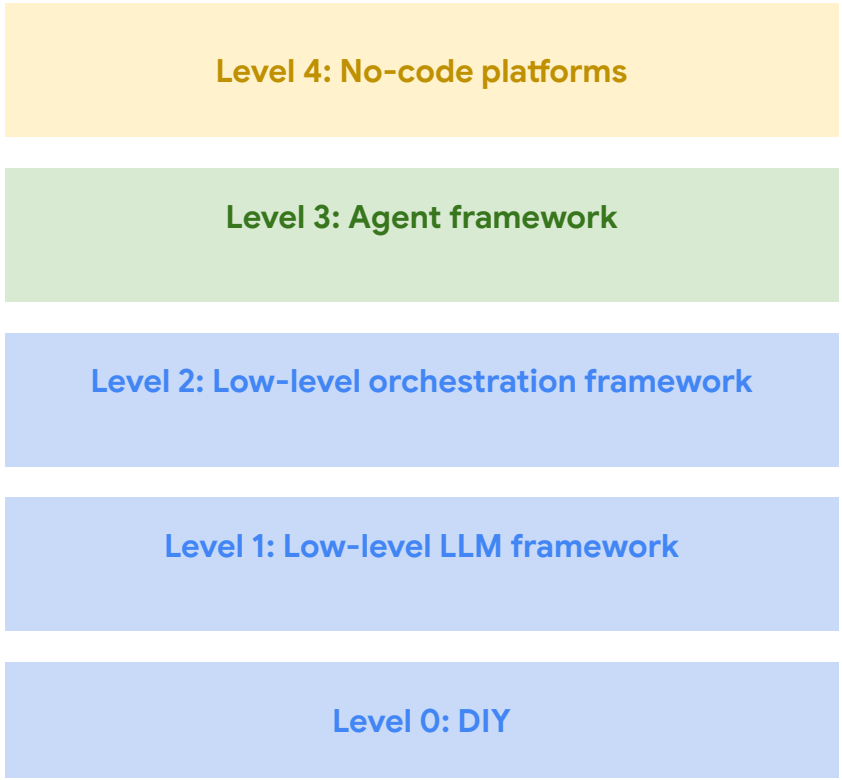
- More complex to setup and maintain
- Horizontal architectures can lead to group chat and loss of focus
- Vertical architectures susceptible to leading agent not sending critical information to other agents

Hierarchical

Horizontal

Agent Design

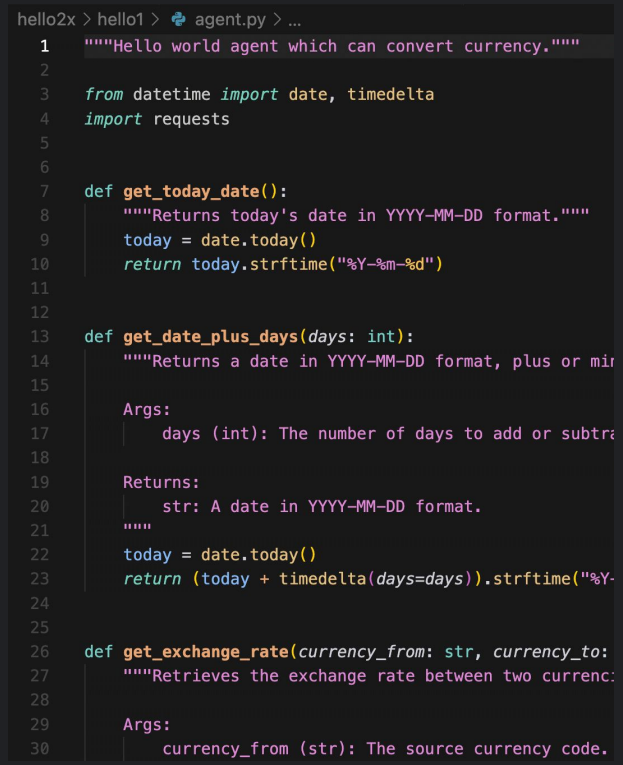
Levels of Abstraction



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



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

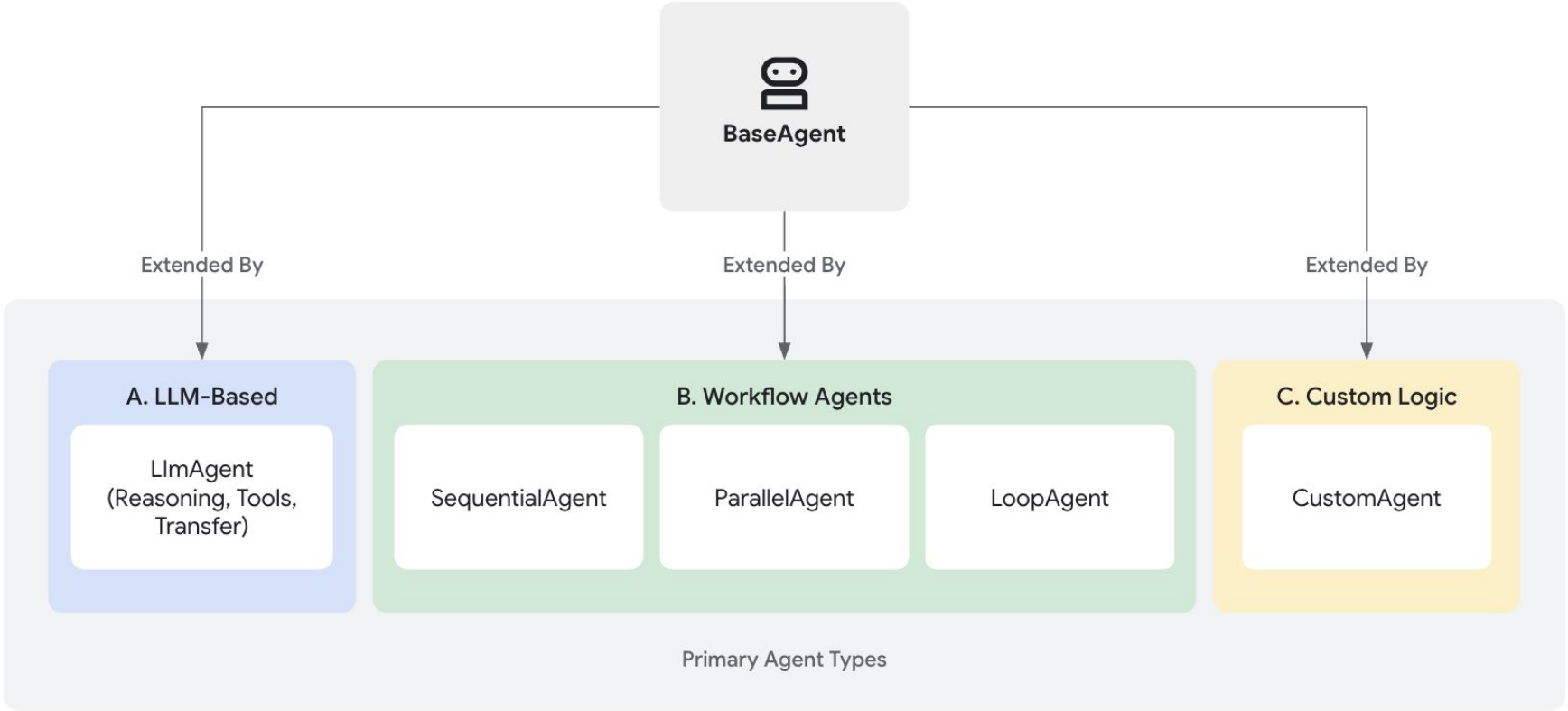
Perhaps the most common type of agent. Interact with the agent via chat messages, and get responses back with low latency.

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

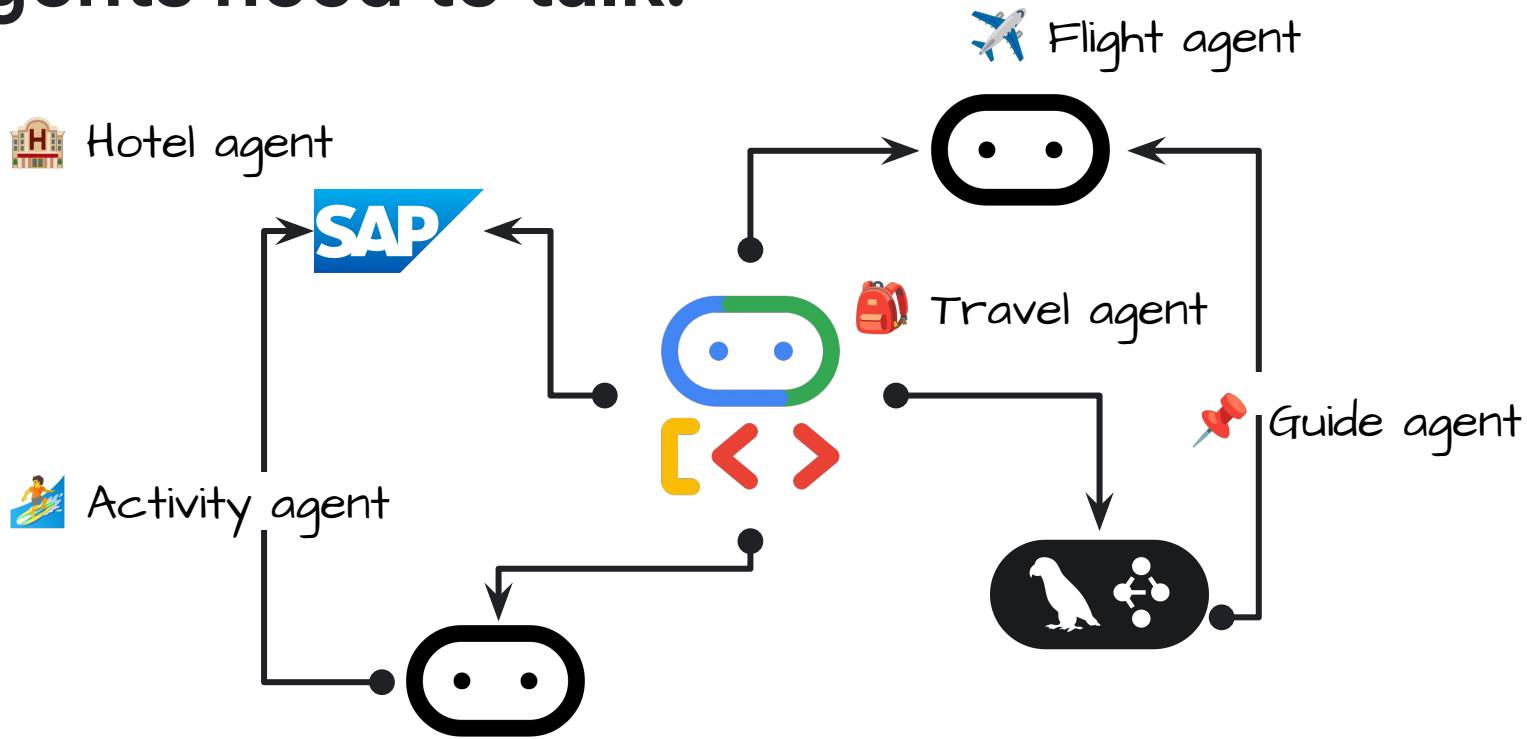
Build agents that can have low latency bi-directional voice and video interaction with end users. This enables building agents that one can have natural human like interactions with.



Sample agents

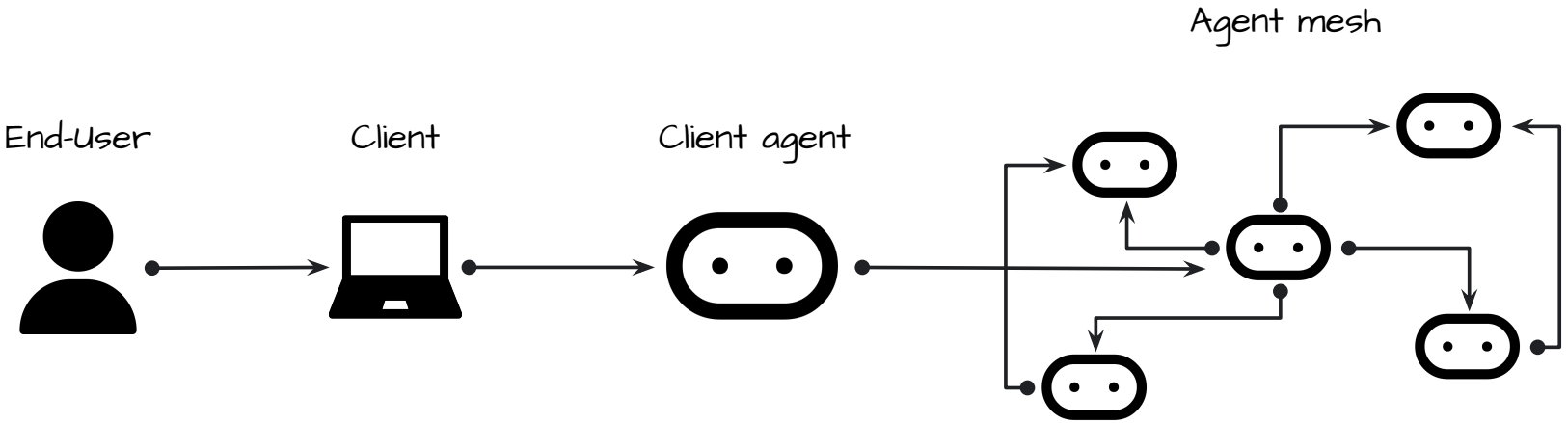
Agents interoperability

Agents need to talk!



Agent2Agent (A2A) protocol

Open protocol to handle agent collaboration



Google Cloud

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 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

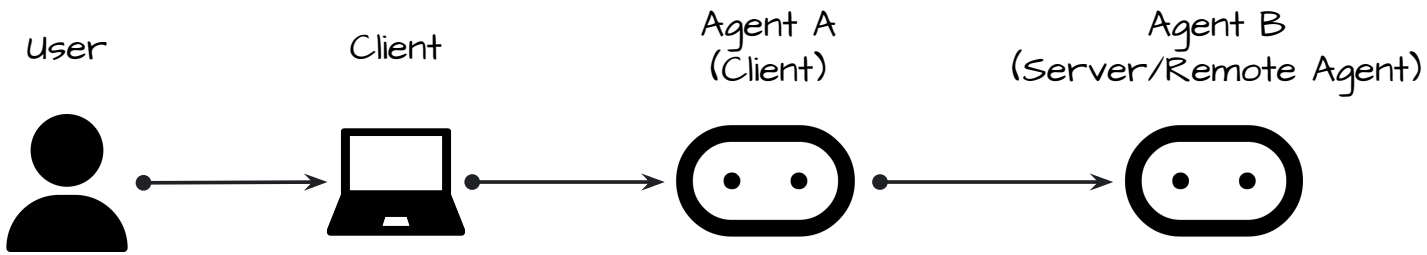
Clients and agents need mechanisms to communicate task status, changes, and dependencies throughout task execution.

Collaboration

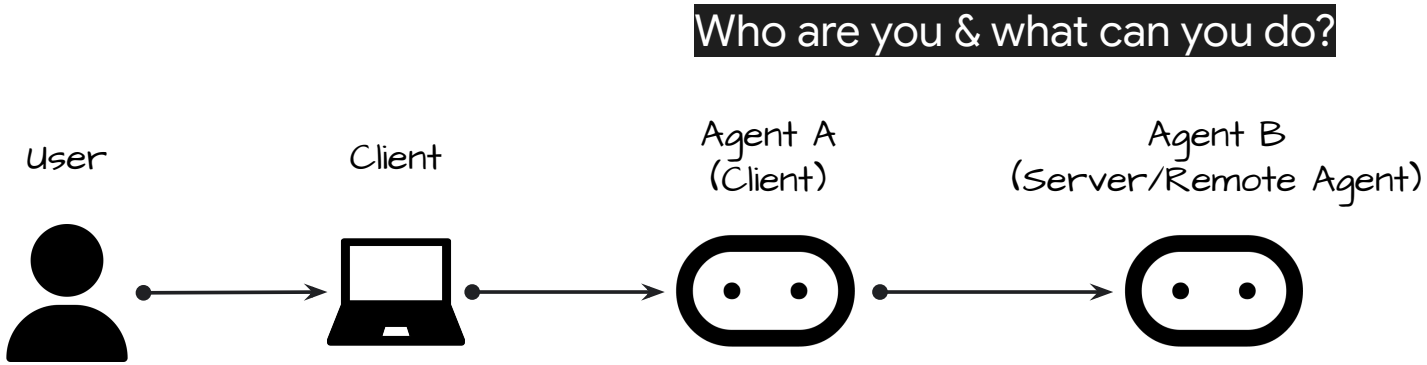
Clients and agents must support dynamic interaction, enabling agents to request clarifications, information, or sub-actions from client, other agents, or users.

How A2A works

Building a simple agent system

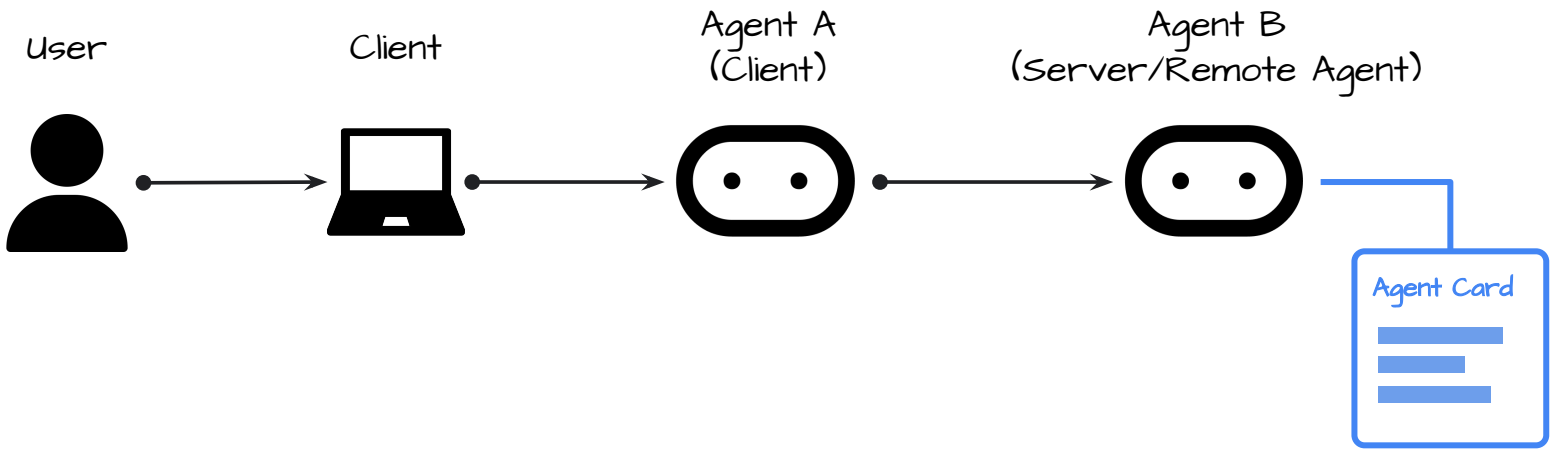


Step 1: Agent Discovery



Step 1: Agent Discovery

The agent card

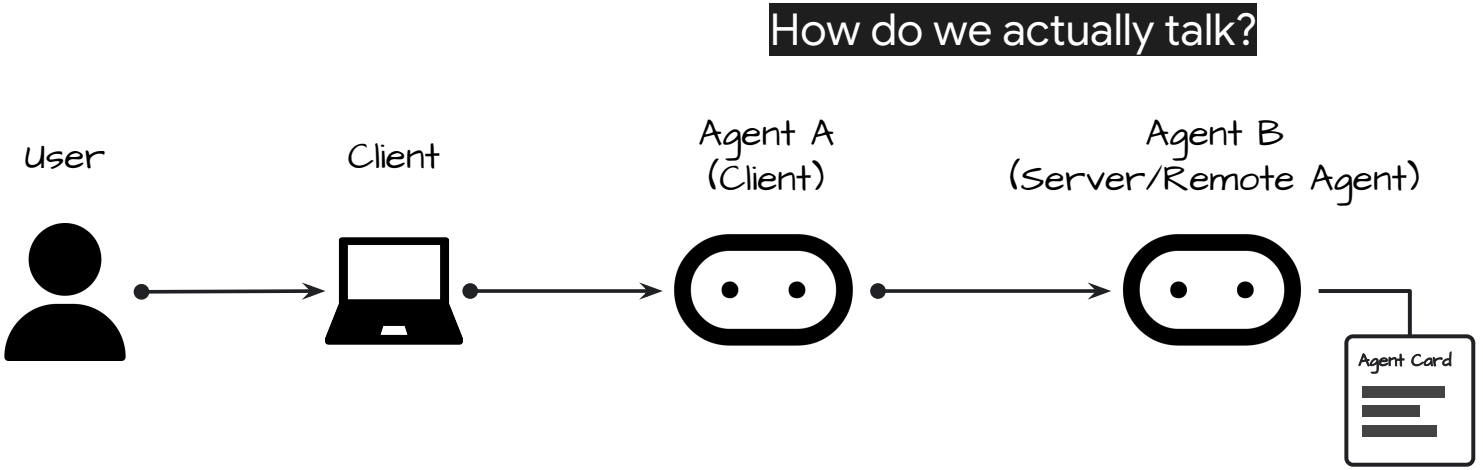


`/.well-known/agent.json`

Agent Card
Example

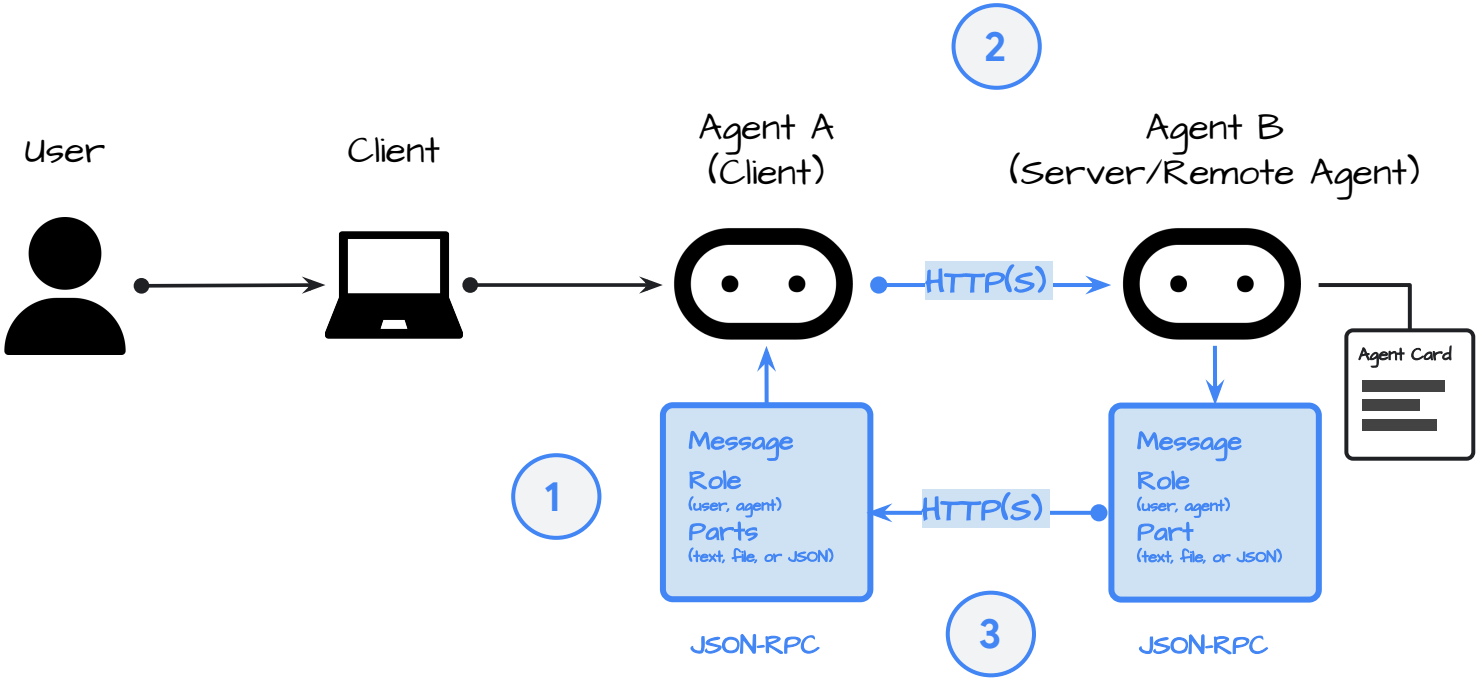
```
agent_card = AgentCard(
    name='Currency Agent',
    description='Helps with exchange rates for currencies',
    url=f'http://{host}:{port}/', # e.g., http://localhost:10000/
    version='1.0.0',
    defaultInputModes=CurrencyAgent.SUPPORTED_CONTENT_TYPES, # Usually ['text/plain']
    defaultOutputModes=CurrencyAgent.SUPPORTED_CONTENT_TYPES,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

# ... (Server setup using this agent_card) ...
```

Step 2: Basic Interaction



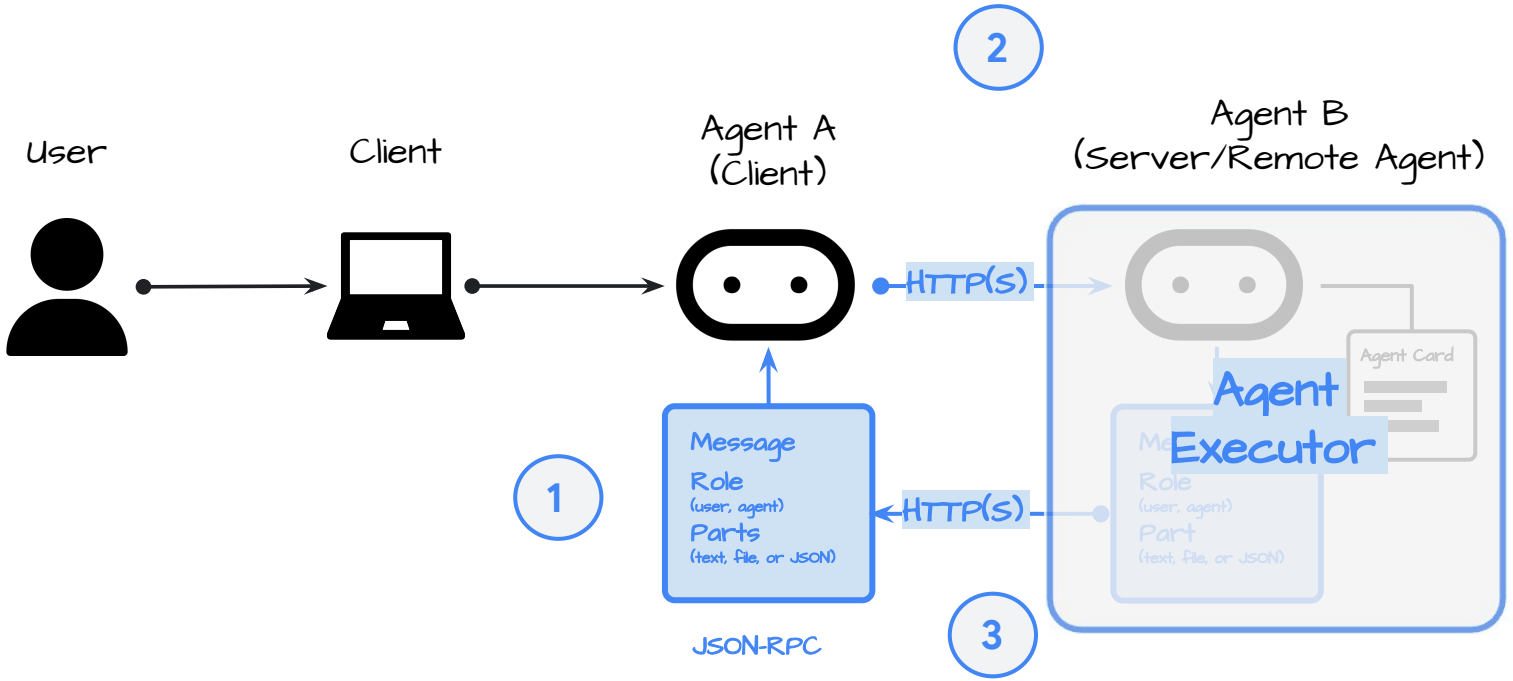
Step 2: Basic Interaction

Messages, Tasks & Parts

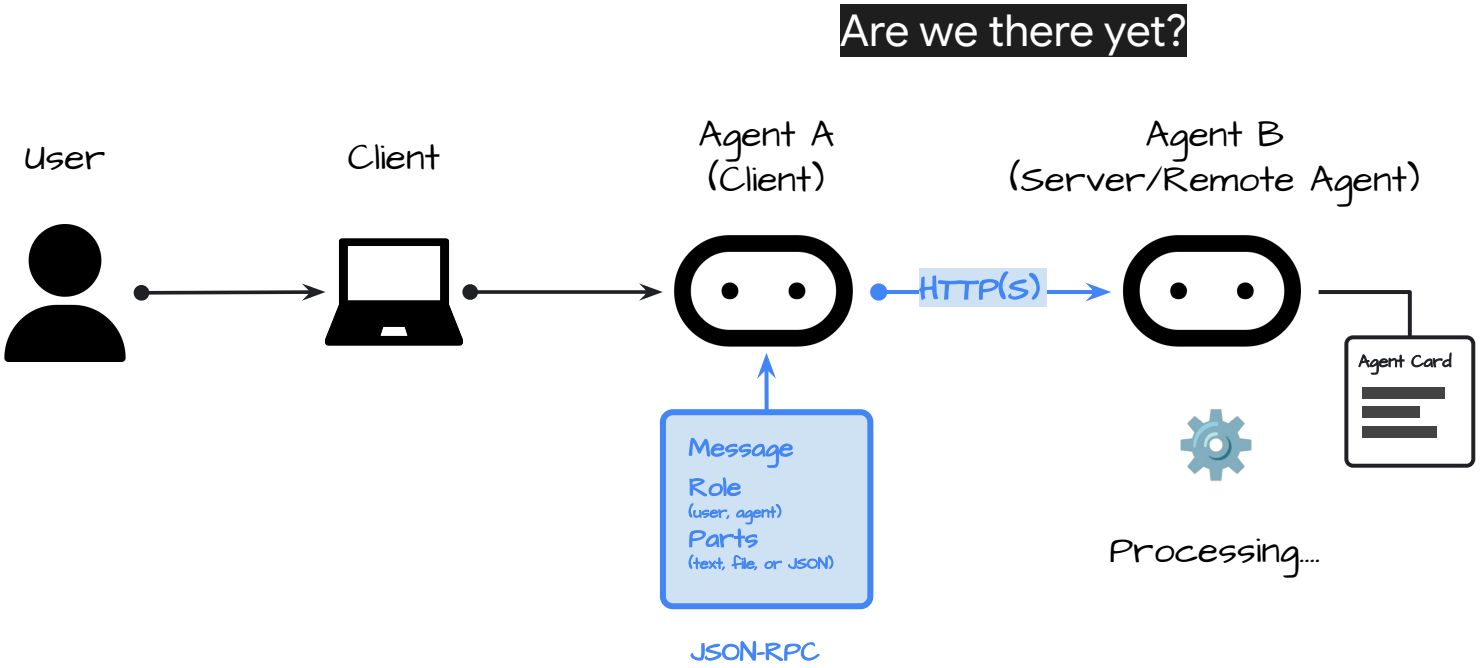


Step 2: Basic Interaction

The Agent Executor

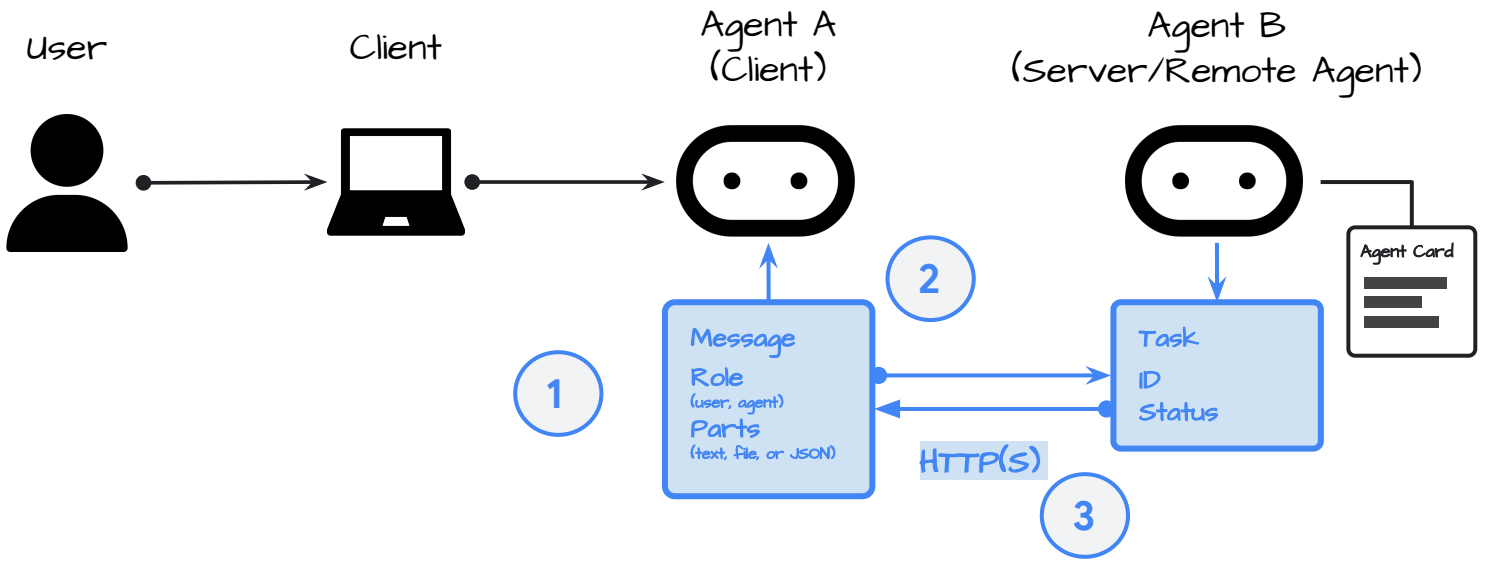


Step 3: Handling Real Work



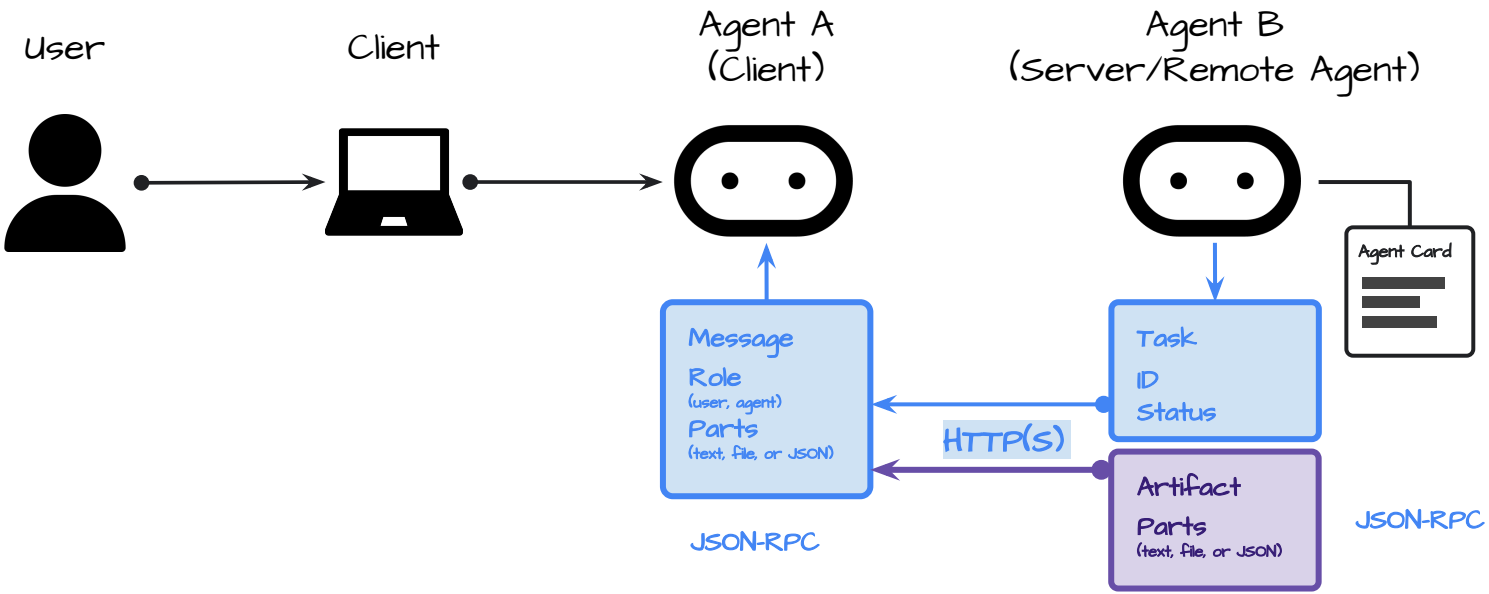
Step 3: Handling Real Work

Task Lifecycle & Polling



Step 3: Handling Real Work

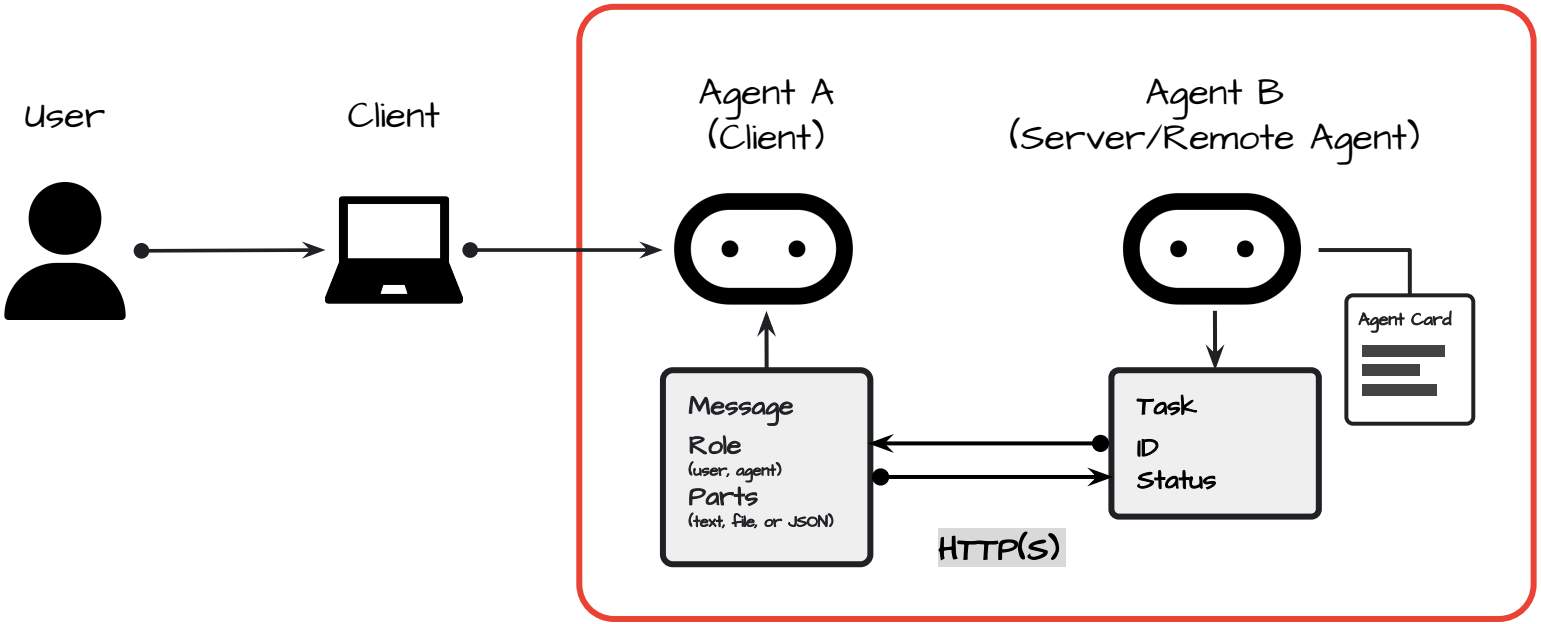
Task Lifecycle & Polling



Task Lifecycle & Polling

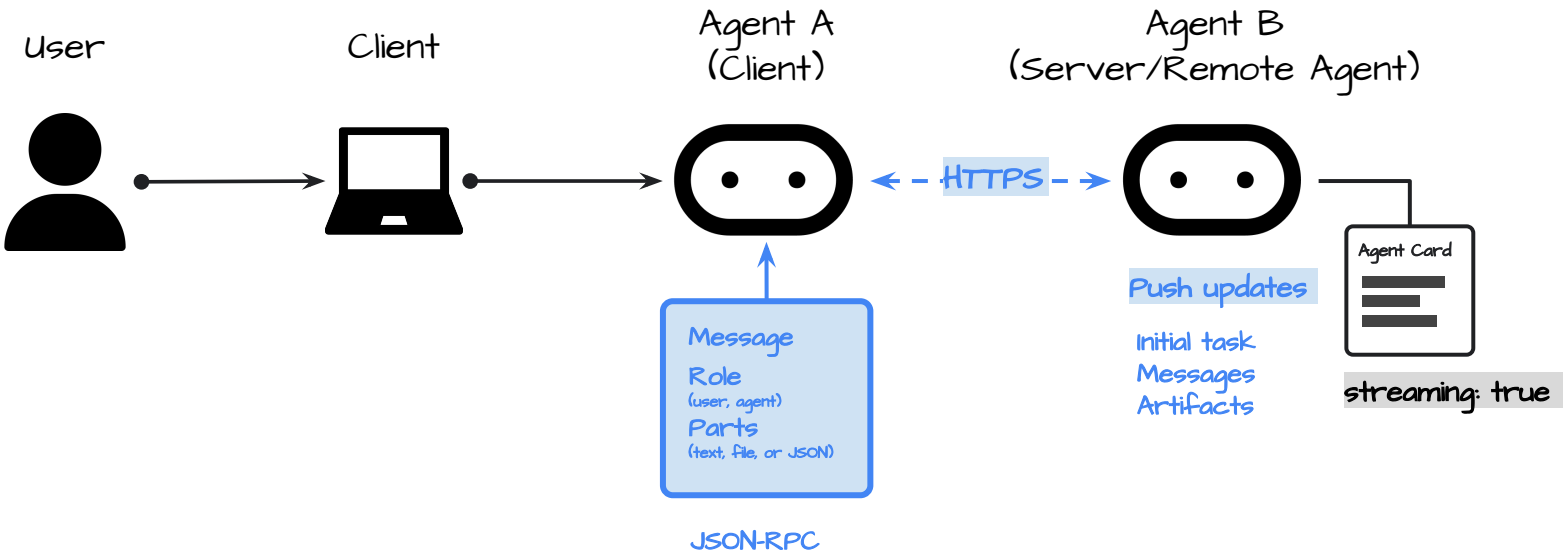
Challenge

❌ 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 Protocol (A2A) Search google-a2a/A2A v0.2.1 16.5k 1.6k

Home Topics Specification Community Partners SDK Reference Tutorial (Python)

Agent2Agent (A2A) Protocol

Unlock Collaborative Agent Scenarios

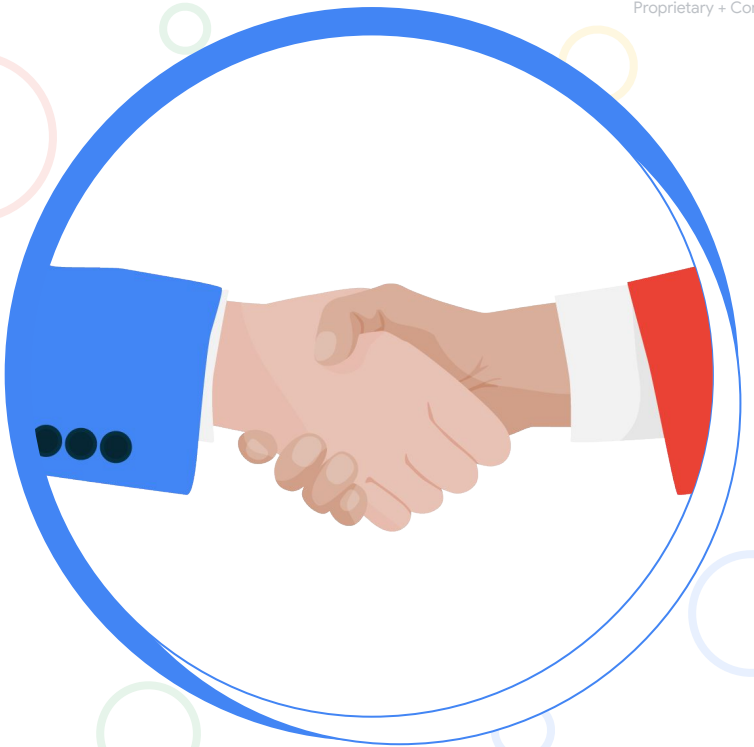
The **Agent2Agent (A2A) Protocol** is an open standard designed to enable seamless communication and collaboration between AI agents. In a world where agents are built using diverse frameworks and by different vendors, A2A provides a common language, breaking down silos and fostering interoperability.

goo.gle/a2a

How about samples?

goo.gle/a2a-samples

Thank you.



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