

```
$ ./begin-fast-takeoff |
```

How to build autonomous AI agents

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Favourite AI coding tool?

Hands up!

Claude code?

Hands up!

Codex?

Hands up!

Cursor?

Hands up!

Factory AI?

Hands up!

Conductor?


Hands up!

Gemini CLI?

(You're braver than me if you do)

Goal: Build autonomous AI agents
that ship production code



Supabase 
@supabase



Supervising while Cursor deletes files at random



Evolution of AI agents

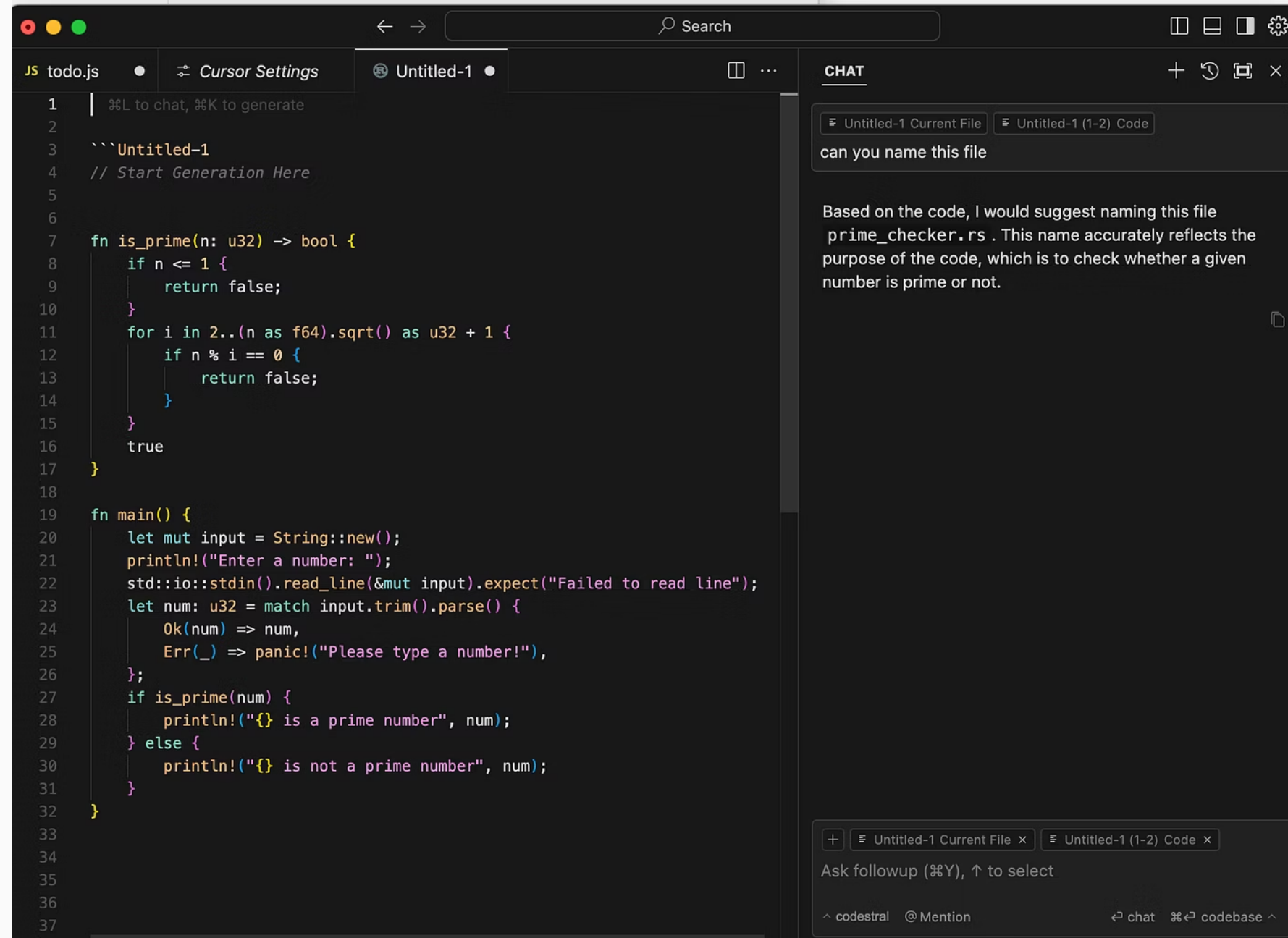
JS test.js 1 ●

JS test.js >  calculateDaysBetweenDates

```
1 function calculateDaysBetweenDates(begin, end) {  
    var beginDate = new Date(begin);  
    var endDate = new Date(end);  
    var days = Math.round((endDate - beginDate) / (1000 * 60 * 60 * 24));  
    return days;  
}  
2
```

Github copilot, circa 2023

Evolution of AI agents



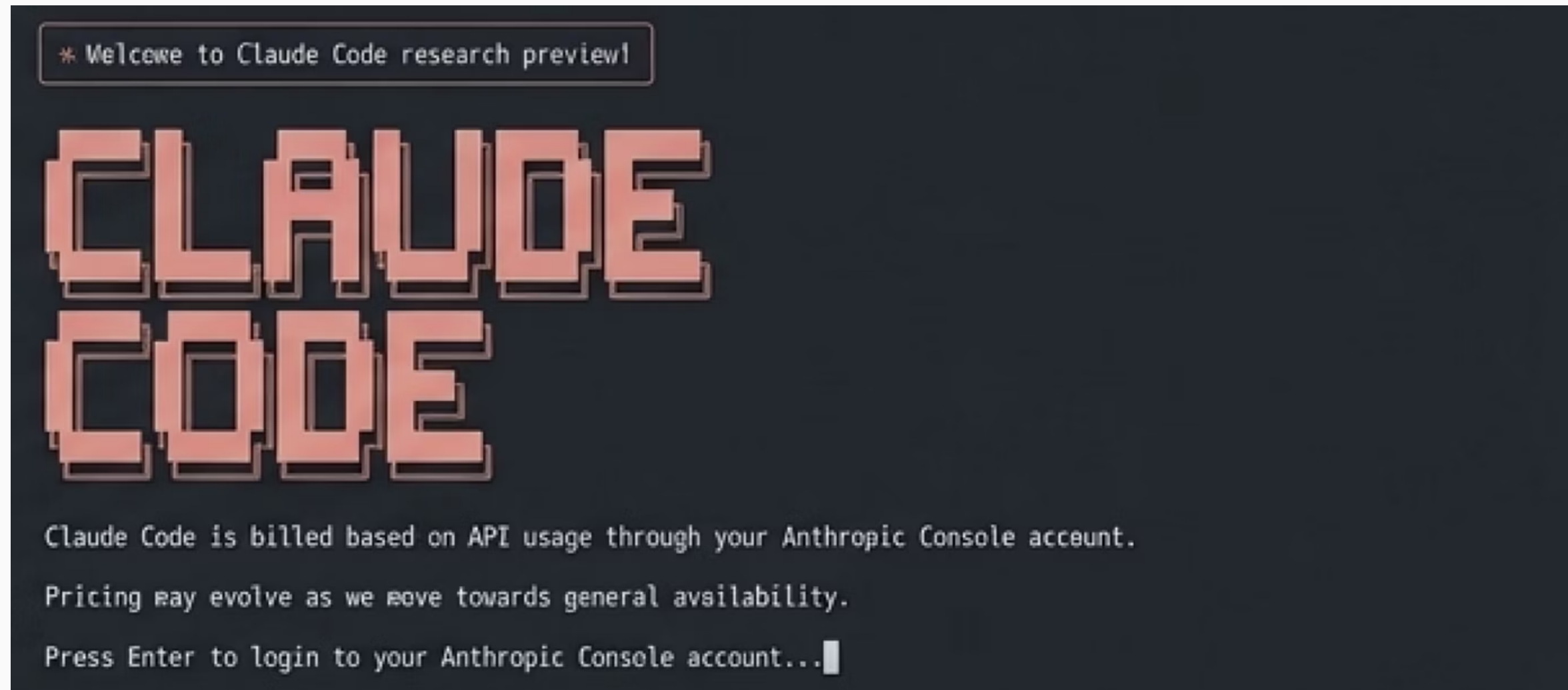
The screenshot displays the Cursor IDE interface. On the left, a code editor shows a Rust file named 'todo.rs' with the following code:

```
1 | %L to chat, %K to generate
2 |
3 | ``Untitled-1
4 | // Start Generation Here
5 |
6 |
7 | fn is_prime(n: u32) -> bool {
8 |     if n <= 1 {
9 |         return false;
10 |     }
11 |     for i in 2..(n as f64).sqrt() as u32 + 1 {
12 |         if n % i == 0 {
13 |             return false;
14 |         }
15 |     }
16 |     true
17 | }
18 |
19 | fn main() {
20 |     let mut input = String::new();
21 |     println!("Enter a number: ");
22 |     std::io::stdin().read_line(&mut input).expect("Failed to read line");
23 |     let num: u32 = match input.trim().parse() {
24 |         Ok(num) => num,
25 |         Err(_) => panic!("Please type a number!"),
26 |     };
27 |     if is_prime(num) {
28 |         println!("{}", num);
29 |     } else {
30 |         println!("{}", num);
31 |     }
32 | }
33 |
34 |
35 |
36 |
37 |
```

On the right, the 'CHAT' panel is active, showing a conversation with an AI agent. The user's message is: "can you name this file". The AI's response is: "Based on the code, I would suggest naming this file prime_checker.rs. This name accurately reflects the purpose of the code, which is to check whether a given number is prime or not." The chat interface includes a search bar at the top, a list of tabs for the current file and code, and a footer with navigation and mention options.

Cursor, circa 2024

Evolution of AI agents



Claude Code, circa February 2025

Evolution of AI agents



OpenClaw (Clawdbot), circa November 2025

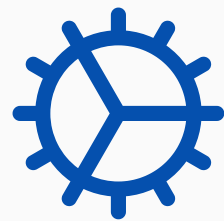
Where are we now?



Andrej Karpathy

<https://github.com/karpathy/autoresearch>

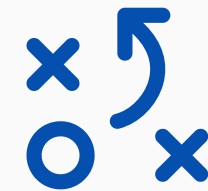
What makes autoresearch so good?



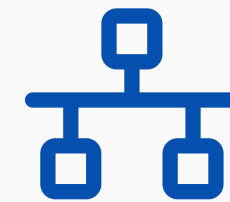
Ability for the Agent to check its work



Work over long time horizons



Places for it to plan/scratchpad

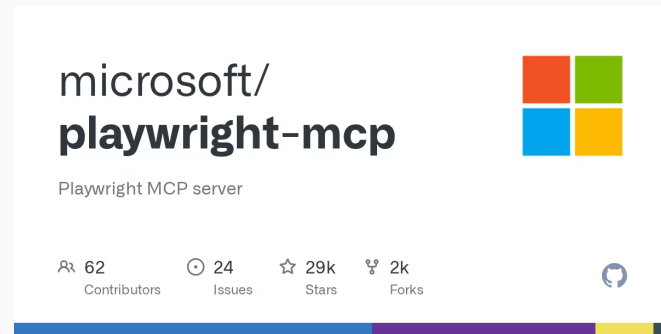


Infrastructure/tooling to support long autonomous runs

IMPORTANT!

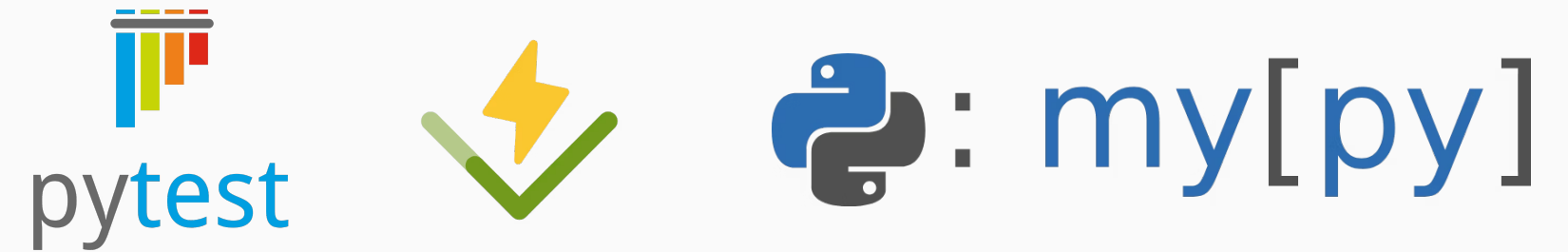
1. Ability for the Agent to check its work

Playwright MCP



“Take a screenshot to see if the UX makes sense”

Unit tests/Type checks (CI tooling)



External Data Sources/Validation



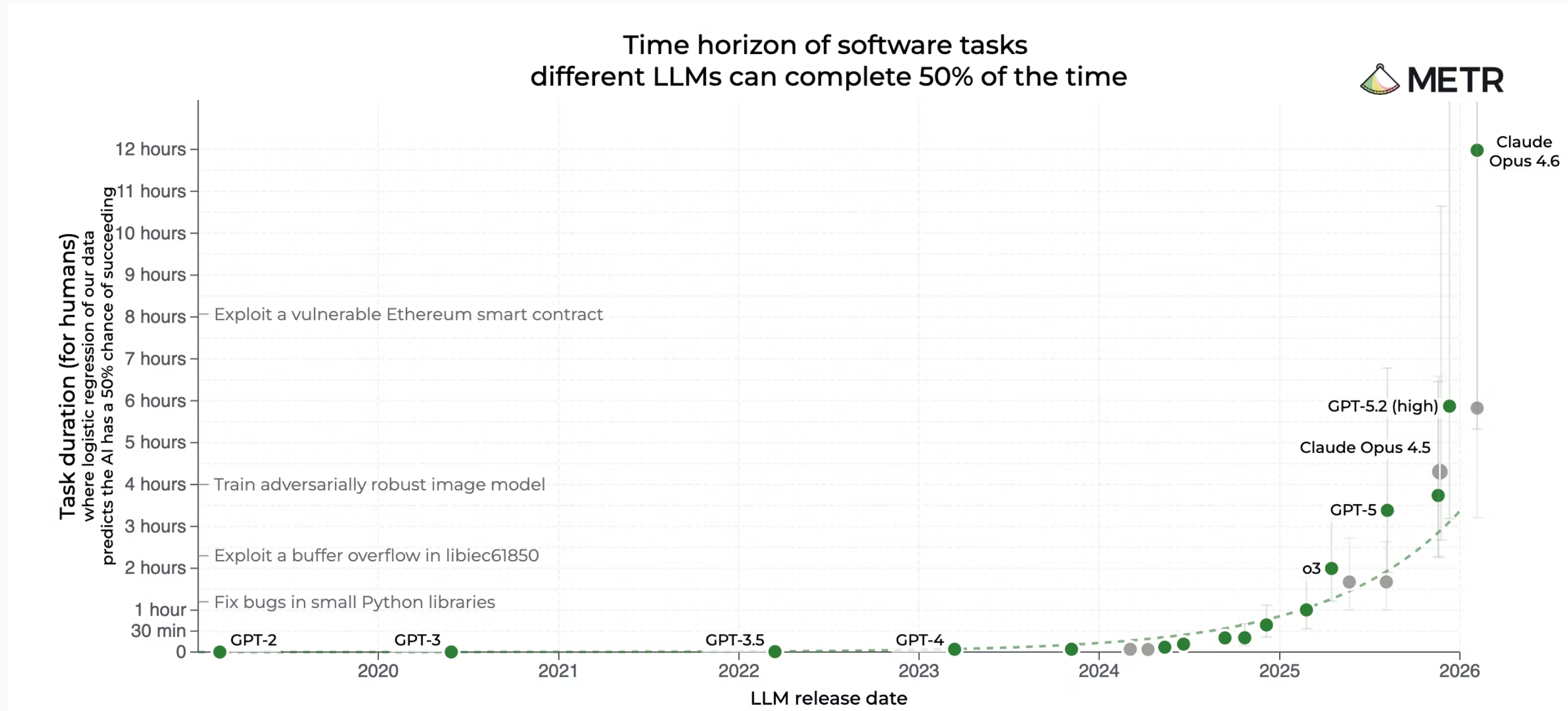
Never MCP, always CLI

Integration/E2E tests



```
$ ./call-live-api "Foo Bar"
```

2. Work over long time horizons



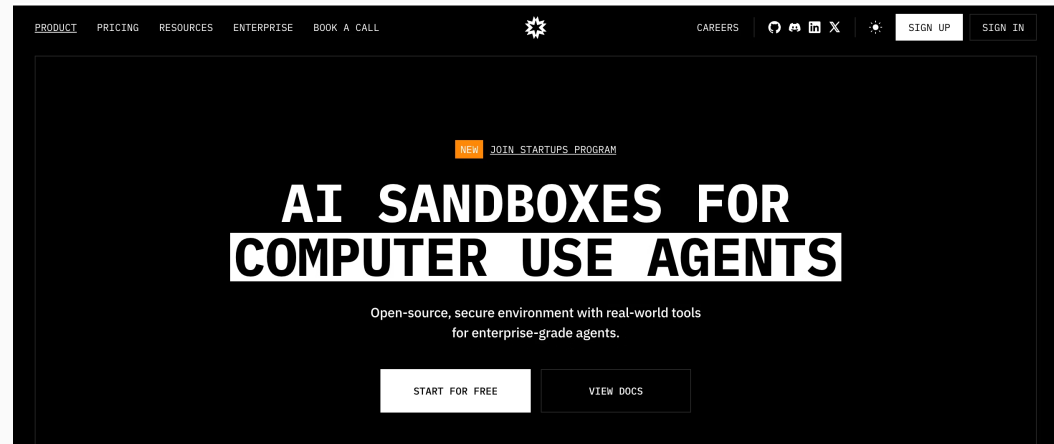
Inflection point: 5th Feb, 2026, release of gpt-5.3-codex

3. Scratchpad/plan

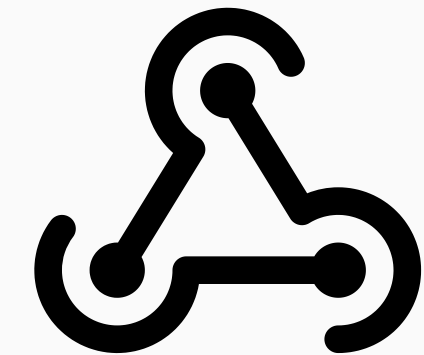
- Keeps them consistent within sessions and across sessions
- Allows for retrospective analysis
- Self-evolving/improving (e.g. on the basis of a fix, put in place documentation that makes it easy to avoid this bug in the future)

Give agents a filesystem and let them run bash!

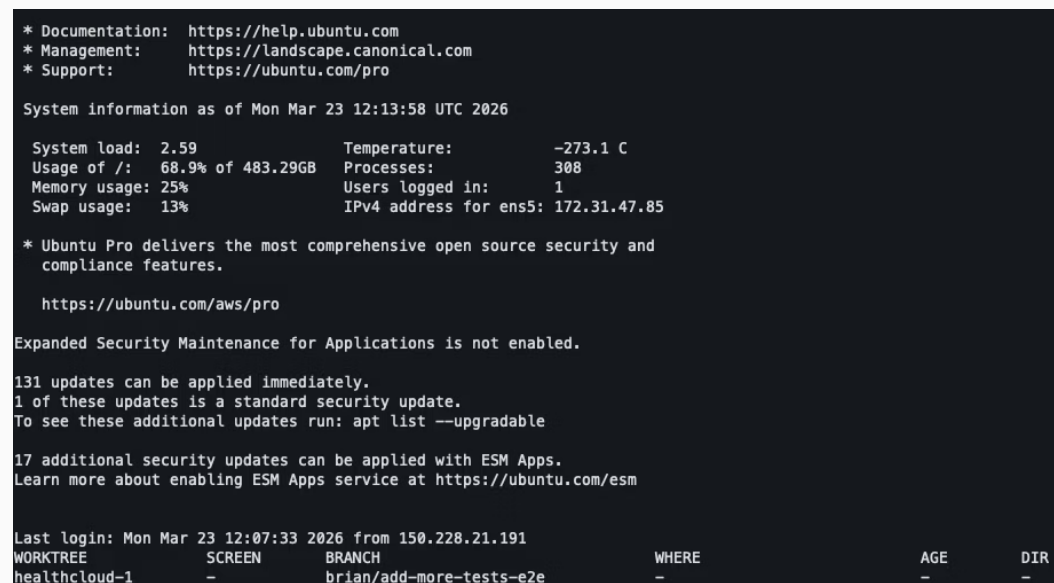
4. Infrastructure/tooling



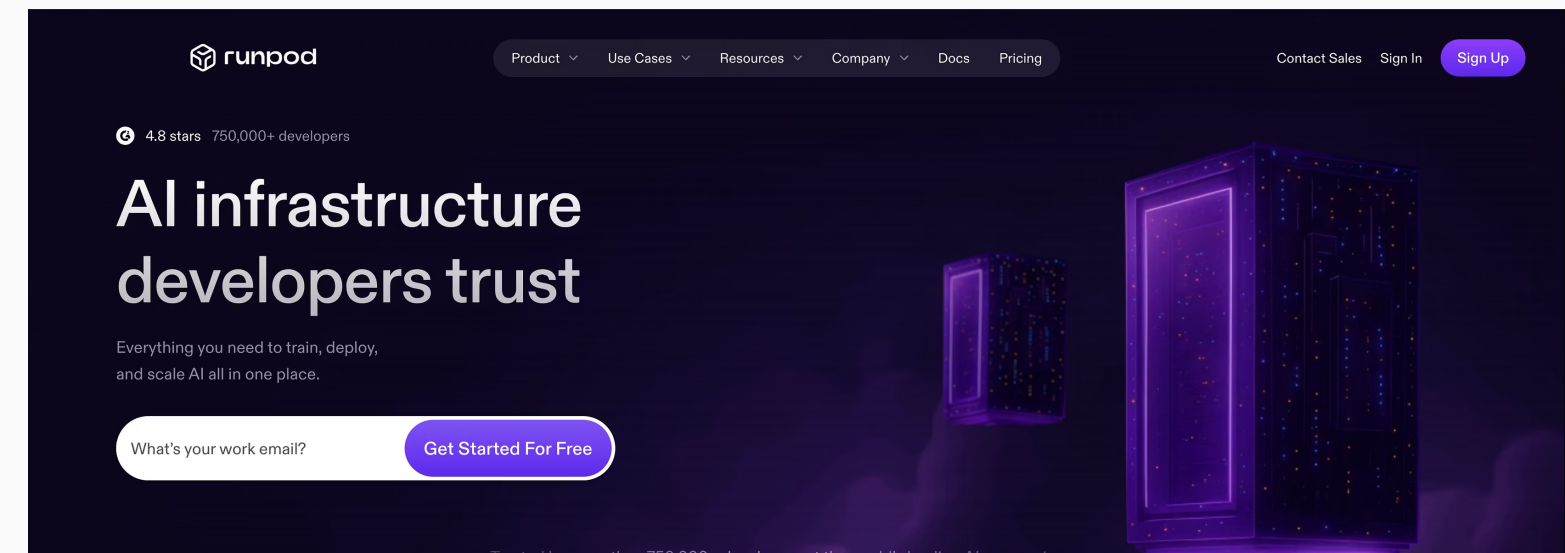
Managed virtualised cloud sandboxes



Webhooks and event-driven agent flows



Cloud ec2 instances



Tooling for AI to run its own experiments

Note: Agents change how we should develop

- Optimise for skimmability
- Let go of code perfectionism. [Let it go.](#)
- Parallelise aggressively
- Stop planning, and start prompting. Skip project management and just ship

How do we put all of these things into practice in a new codebase?

AI-native Codebase specs:

- React with Typescript
- Postgres on Supabase
- Monorepo
- Vercel deployment
- Drizzle ORM

Improve tooling

Add automated coding

Improve verification

Improve documentation

Self improving loop

Optimise code review

1. Improve tooling

Always use CLIs (MCPs bloat context)

See this paper on context rot: <https://research.trychroma.com/context-rot>

Install CLIs:




Type checking/linting


Very strict tsconfig

2. Event-driven coding

Use webhooks for event-driven coding

Example workflow #1

 PR opened → AI code review → GH webhook fires for new comment

 Lightweight endpoint receives GH webhook request and spawns a codex cloud instance

 Fix this comment “**There are 4 lint e...**” then commit/push to the branch



2. Event-driven coding

Use webhooks for event-driven coding

Example workflow #2



Error detected → Sentry webhook fires for new issue



Lightweight endpoint receives sentry webhook request and spawns a codex cloud instance



Fix this error `<traceback.xml.stri...` then create a PR for this change

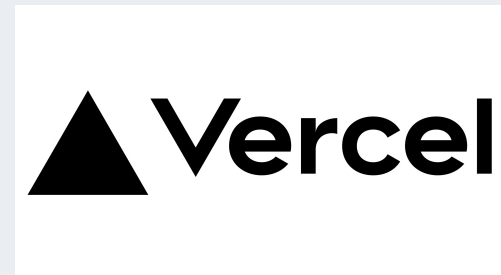
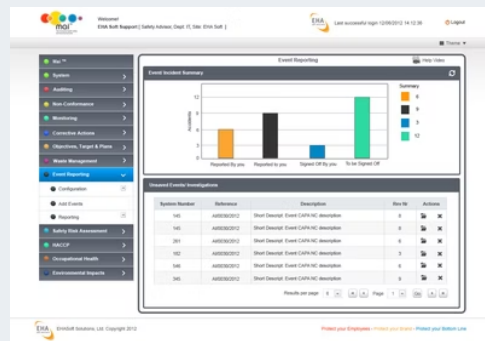


3. **Improve verification**

Playwright, development API keys



“Let me test this page to ensure it works properly. I’ll record a video”



“I’m deploying to vercel to check that the CSRF issue is resolved”



“I’m running a test email through the zerobounce implementation”

4. Improve documentation

Give the agent a workspace

Setup project script: <https://briankelleher.ie/projects/setup-project>

```
projects/  
├── active/  
│   ├── YYYY_MM_DD_  
│   │   ├── .gitignore  
│   │   ├── README.md  
│   │   ├── USER_STORY.md  
│   │   ├── REQUIREMENTS.md  
│   │   ├── DESIGN.md  
│   │   ├── VALIDATION_STRATEGY.md  
│   │   ├── STATUS_UPDATES.md  
│   │   ├── PROGRESS_TRACKER.md  
│   │   ├── RETROSPECTIVE.md  
│   │   ├── scripts/  
│   │   │   └── README.md  
│   │   ├── docs/  
│   │   ├── tests/  
│   │   └── spikes/
```

Improves consistency within session as well as from session to session

5. Self-improving loop

Agent improves over time

“What was the root cause of this bug? How can we update AGENTS.md so we avoid this bug in the future?”

“Is there a check that we can do to prevent a similar regression in the future?”

6. Optimise code review

Use several coding agents for review

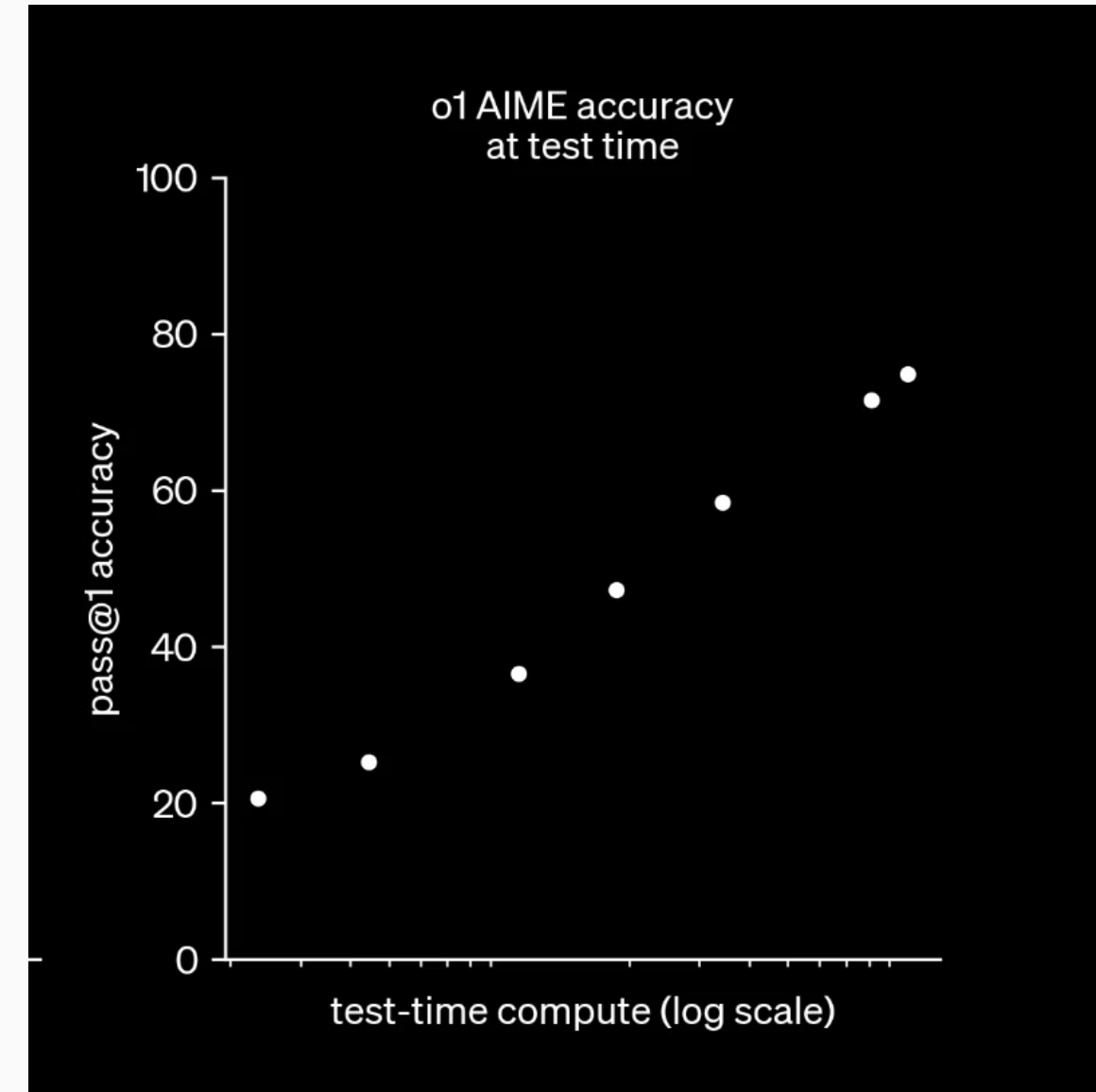


Claude Code Docs

Code review & CI/CD

Code Review

Set up automated PR reviews that catch logic errors, security vulnerabilities, and regressions using multi...



Scaling inference time compute

\$./predict-future |

Abstraction Stairs



Questions?

Brief demo of ec2 setup



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