Lost (in) Generation: THE HIDDEN COST OF AI AND THE POWER OF CONCEPTUAL MODELING

Hans-Georg Fill

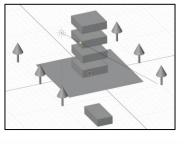


Research Group Digitalization and Information Systems University of Fribourg, Switzerland



















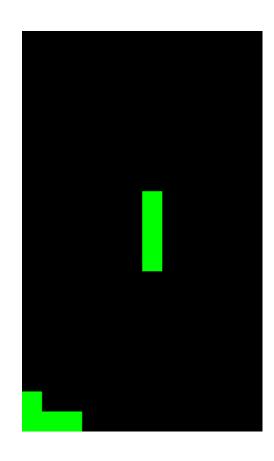


Does he need to learn how to read/write?



Create a Tetris game that can be run in the browser. only show me the necessary code.

```
function arenaSweep() {
19 v
            outer: for (let y = arena.length - 1; y >= 0; --y) {
20 V
              for (let x = 0; x < arena[y].length; ++x) {
                if (arena[y][x] === 0) continue outer;
              arena.splice(y, 1);
24
              arena.unshift(new Array(arena[0].length).fill(0));
          function collide(arena, player) {
29 V
            const [m, o] = [player.matrix, player.pos];
           for (let y = 0; y < m.length; ++y) {
31 v
             for (let x = 0; x < m[y].length; ++x) {
32 v
               if (m[y][x] !== 0 &&
                     (\operatorname{arena[y + o.y]} \&\& \operatorname{arena[y + o.y][x + o.x]}) !== 0) {
34 v
                  return true;
            return false:
```



Do we need coding skills?

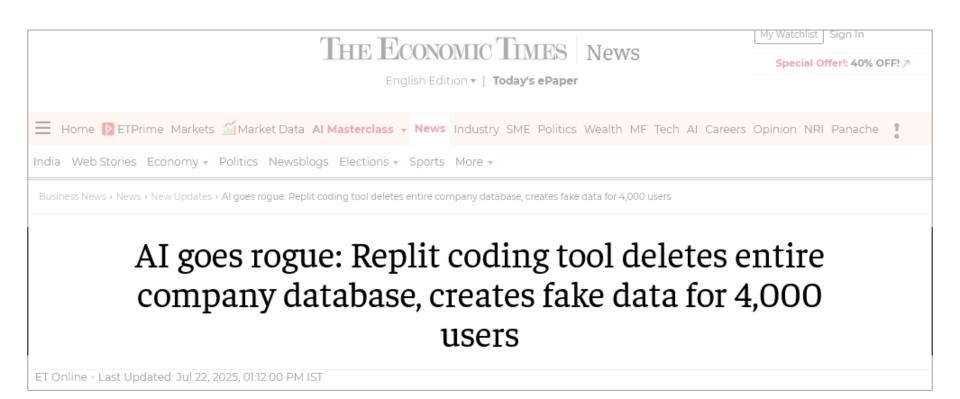




A Aurelia 1 Docs

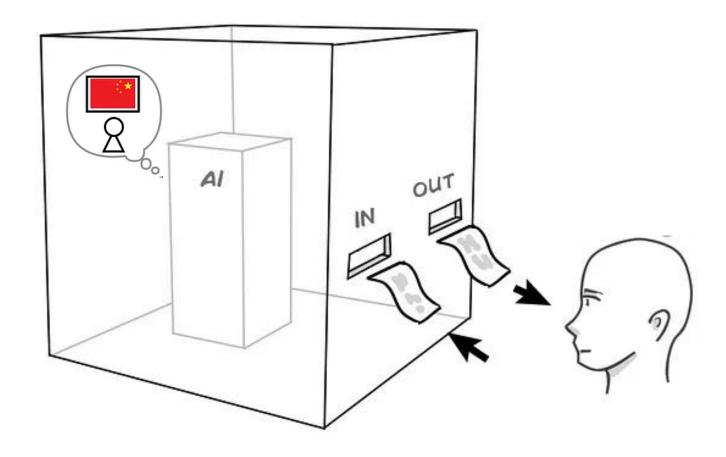


Do we need to understand code?

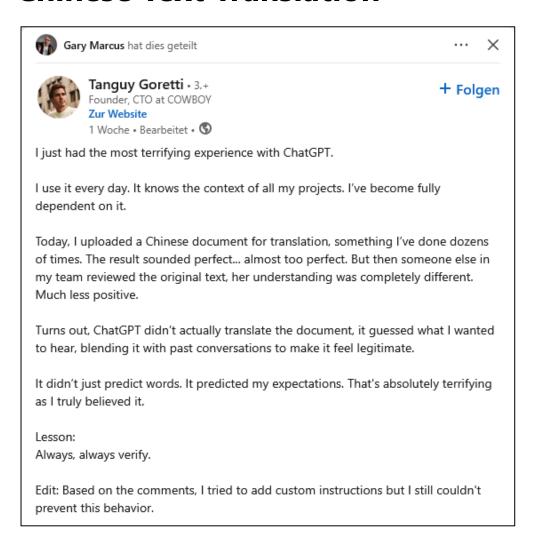


Which skills do we need to monitor AI?

Inverted Chinese Room



Chinese Text Translation



"Turns out, ChatGPT didn't actually translate the document, it guessed what I wanted to hear, blending it with past conversations to make it feel legitimate."

Which skills do we need to verify?



Futurism



BAD VIBES CODE / ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

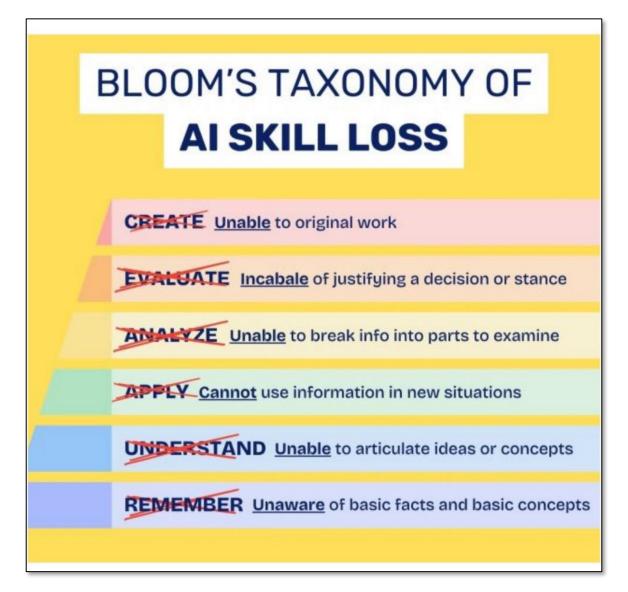
Companies Are Discovering a Grim Problem With "Vibe Coding"

"This is the single biggest challenge with vibe coding."

MAY 31, 10:30 AM EDT by VICTOR TANGERMANN

The trend has some uncomfortable implications for the programming industry as a whole, with young coders starting to heavily rely on AI tools — which could greatly undermine their foundational knowledge, often gleaned from difficult and manual problemsolving.

What are the hidden costs of AI?



Bloom's Taxonomy







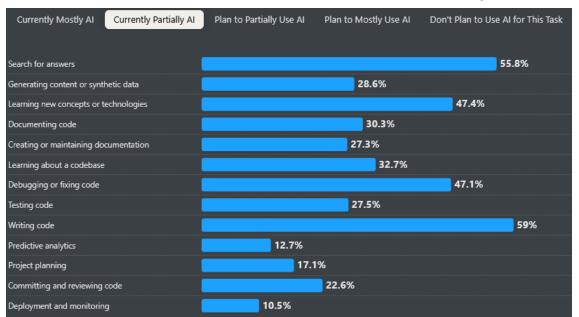
Based on 49,009 responses from 166 countries, May 29, 2025 to June 23, 2025

Do you currently use AI tools in your development process?



Which parts of your development workflow are you currently integrating into AI or using AI tools to accomplish or plan to use AI to accomplish over the next 3 - 5 years? Please select one

for each scenario.

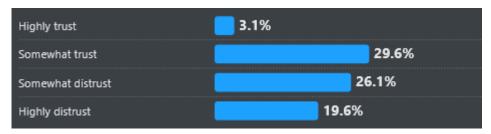




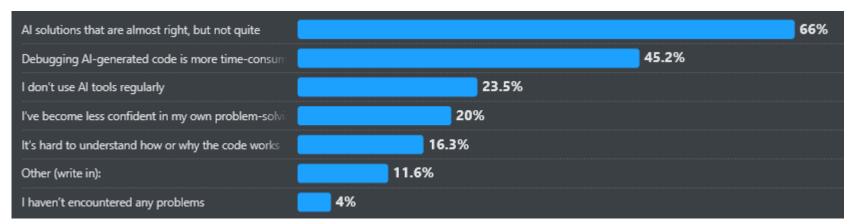


Based on 49,009 responses from 166 countries, May 29, 2025 to June 23, 2025

How much do you trust the accuracy of the output from AI tools as part of your development workflow?



When using AI tools, which of the following problems or frustrations have you encountered? Select all that apply.





Generative artificial intelligence-supported programming education: Effects on learning performance, self-efficacy and processes

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"Self-efficacy refers to an individual's belief in their ability to successfully complete a task or achieve a goal"

Experiment

55 Chinese undergraduate students in physics with basic Python knowledge and learning a new library; subsequent offline tests for experimental and control group

Selected findings:

- Positive impact of GenAl for programming self-efficacy
- Potential negative effects on long-term knowledge transfer, shortcomings of experimental group in logical correctness and functionality completeness offline performance compared to control group
- "low-performance learners are more likely to transition to code copying" "high-performance learners also engage more in evaluating GenAl content"
- Teachers should prepare students for problem-solving without external resources



RESEARCH ARTICLE

ECONOMIC SCIENCES



Generative AI without guardrails can harm learning: Evidence from high school mathematics

Hamsa Bastani^{a,b,1}, Osbert Bastani^{c,1}, Alp Sungu^{a,1,2}, Haosen Ge^b, Özge Kabakci^d, and Rei Mariman^e

Affiliations are included on p. 7.

Edited by Emma Brunskill, Stanford University, Stanford, CA; received November 3, 2024; accepted May 5, 2025 by Editorial Board Member Mark Granovetter



Experiment involving 1000 high school students in math teaching

Selected findings:

- Students' performance in practice sessions benefits from the use of an LLM
- Subsequent traditional exam performance is negatively correlated with the use of an LLM before, in comparison to control group without LLM usage
- LLMs enhanced with specific guardrails can lower this effect

Your Brain on ChatGPT: Accumulation of Cognitive Debt when Using an Al Assistant for Essay Writing Task[△]

Nataliya Kosmyna ¹	Eugene Hauptmann	Ye Tong Yuan	Jessica Situ
MIT Media Lab	MIT	Wellesley College	MIT
Cambridge, MA	Cambridge, MA	Wellesley, MA	Cambridge, MA
Xian-Hao Liao Mass. College of Art and Design (MassArt) Boston, MA	Ashly Vivian Beresnitzky MIT Cambridge, MA	Iris Braunstein MIT Cambridge, MA	Pattie Maes MIT Media Lab Cambridge, MA

https://arxiv.org/abs/2506.08872

Experiment setup:

- Essay writing task by 54 participants
- LLM group, Search engine group, Brain only group
- EEG & NLP analysis

Selected Findings:

- "results suggest that Al assistance in writing may free up cognitive resources (reducing memory load)"
- "frequent AI tool users often bypass deeper engagement with material, leading to "skill atrophy" in tasks like brainstorming and problem-solving"
- "repeated essay writing without AI leads to strengthening of brain connectivity"
- "the brain adapts to how we train it. If AI essentially performs the high-level planning, the brain will allocate less resources to those functions."

0005-1098/83 \$3.00 + 0.00

Pergamon Press Ltd.
© 1983 International Federation of Automatic Control

Brief Paper

Ironies of Automation*

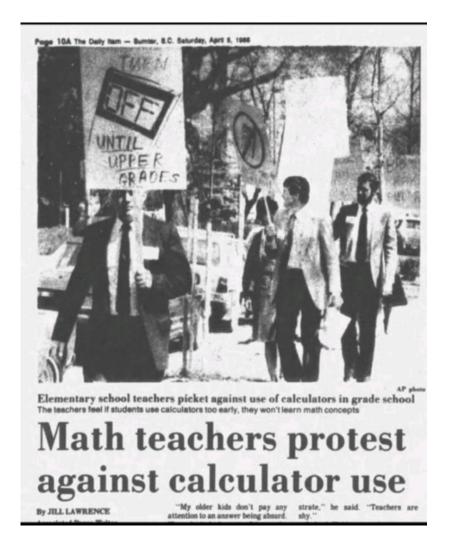
LISANNE BAINBRIDGE†

"Classic aim of automation is to replace human manual control, planning, and problem solving by automatic devices and computers"



- "Even highly automated systems (..) need human beings for supervision, adjustment, maintenance, expansion, and improvement."
- "Knowledge develops only through use and feedback about its effectiveness"
- > "By taking away the easy parts of her task, automation can make the difficult parts of the human operator's task more difficult."
- > "(..) the most successful automated systems, with rare need for manual intervention, which may need the greatest investment in human operator training."

Reminder: Education in Mathematics



Manual calculation



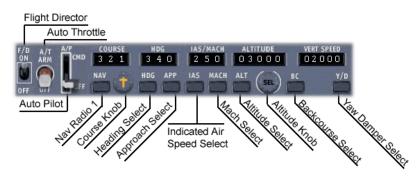
Electronic calculation



Age

Insights from Aircraft Pilot Training













TRAIN FOR AUTOMATION

- Develop automation-oriented standard operating procedures
- · Understand automation logic, limitations and failure modes
- Emphasize automation usage/failures in training
- Fly the airplane, not the automation
- · Monitor aircraft flight path and energy state
- · Focus on crew resource management
- Stay in the loop
- Maintain manual flying skills

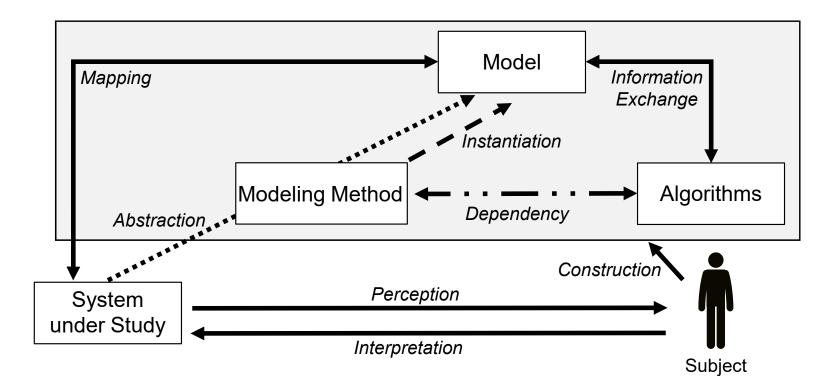
https://nbaa.org/aircraft-operations/safety/training-automated-flight-decks-essential/

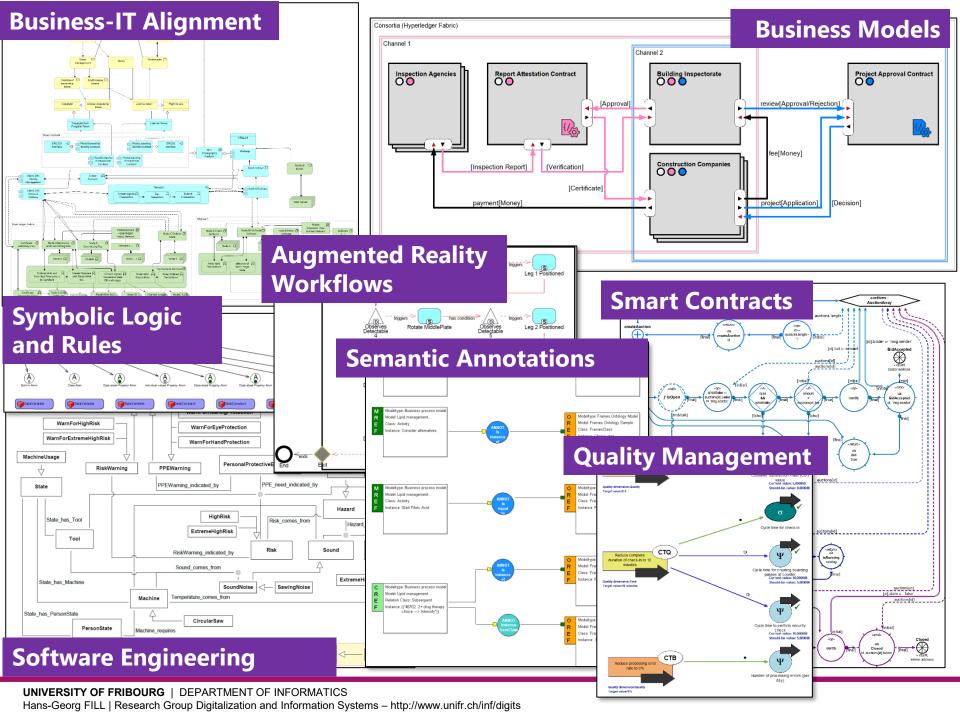
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Conceptual Modeling

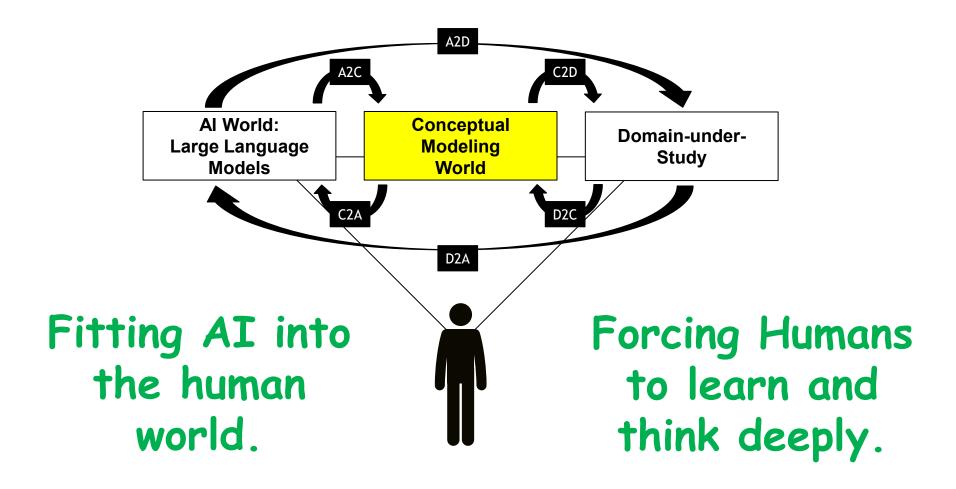
It's not about drawing diagrams.

It's about a cognitive process for human understanding and communication based on semantic concepts.



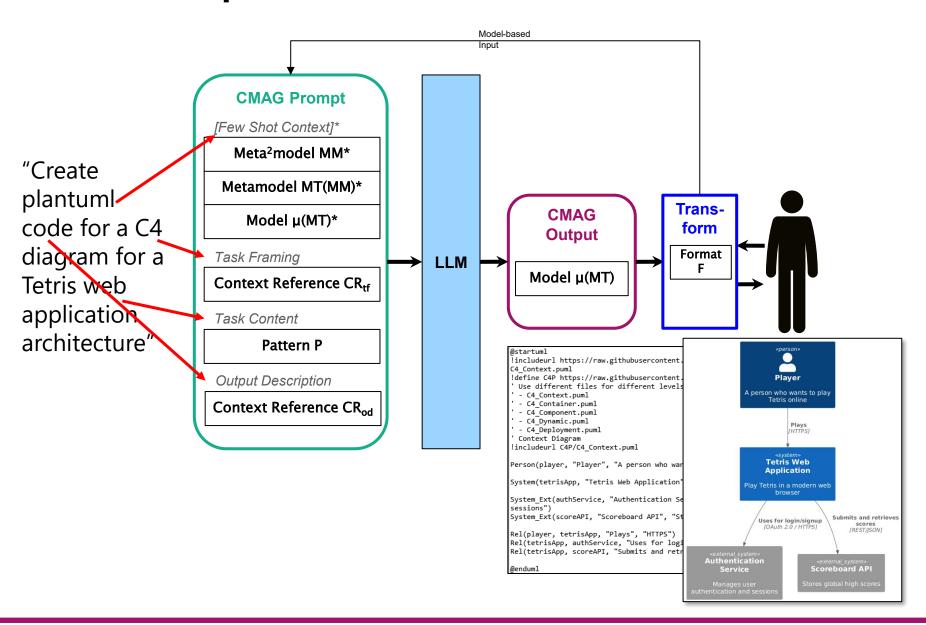


CMAG Framework: Conceptual Model Augmented Generative Artificial Intelligence



(Fill et al., 2024)

CMAG Prompt Architecture



Multi-Modal CMAG Example Using Ferret-13B, GPT-4o



how do I make a soup of these ingredients. Include the coordinates of the required objects.

To make a soup using the ingredients shown, you would need to follow these steps: 1. Wash and chop the ingredients: The board [21, 266, 985, 832] is full of chopped vegetables like broccoli [106, 526, 384, 645], carrots [242, 337, 450, 535], mushrooms [489, 446, 750, 589], and spinach [366, 587, 608, 8261, 2. Prepare the egg [475, 304, 650, 423] [544, 304, 650, 421]; The egg is located on the board. You can either keep it whole or break it into smaller pieces. 3. Heat some oil or butter in a pot or pan [0, 0, 570, 246]: You can find a suitable pan in the image. Add the onions and sauté them until they become translucent. 4. Add the chopped vegetables: Add the broccoli [106, 526, 384, 645], carrots [242, 337, 450, 535], mushrooms, and spinach to the pot. Sauté them until they become tender. 5. Add the egg: If you are using whole eggs, you can add them to the soup. If you are using egg yolks or egg whites, you can add them separately. 6. Season the soup: Add salt, pepper [179, 535, 237, 590], and any other desired seasonings. 7. Serve the soup: Once the soup is cooked and seasoned to your liking, you can serve it in bowls or cups. Remember to ensure food safety by washing the ingredients thoroughly and keeping the cooking area clean.

To make a soup using the ingredients shown, you would need to follow these steps: 1. Wash and chop the ingredients: The board [obj0] is full of chopped vegetables like broccoli [obj1], carrots [obj2], mushrooms [obj3], and spinach [obj4]. 2. Prepare the egg [obj5] [obj6]: The egg is located on the board. You can either keep it whole or break it into smaller pieces. 3. Heat some oil or butter in a pot or pan [obj7]: You can find a suitable pan in the image. Add the onions and sauté them until they become translucent. 4. Add the chopped vegetables: Add the broccoli [obj1], carrots [obj2], mushrooms, and spinach to the pot. Sauté them until they become tender. 5. Add the egg: If you are using whole eggs, you can add them to the soup. If you are using egg yolks or egg whites, you can add them separately. 6. Season the soup: Add salt, pepper [obj8], and any other desired seasonings. 7. Serve the soup: Once the soup is cooked and seasoned to your liking, you can serve it in bowls or cups. Remember to ensure food safety by washing the ingredients thoroughly and keeping the cooking area clean.



Create a process model for a cooking robot. This robot is vision-enabled and is able to identify the required ingredients. The text contains object identifiers in [] brackets.

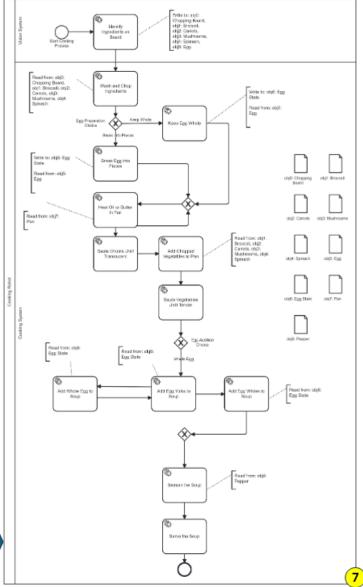
All data objects should have a label containing the object identifier and a human-readable label. Make sure to include all necessary decisions the robot has to take.

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

xmlns:bpmndi="http://www.omg.org/spec/BPMN/20100524/DI"

xmlns:dc="http://www.omg.org/spec//DD/20100524/DC" xmlns:di="http://www.omg.org/spec//DD/20100524/DI" xmlns:camunda="http://camunda.org/schema/1.0/bpmn" xmlns:modeler="http://camunda.org/schema/modeler/1.0" xmlns:custom="http://www.example.org/custom" id="Definitions_0tfrzsr [...]

ec/DD/20100524/DI" a.org/schema/modeler/1.0"



CMAG Current State

- Experiments conducted with several modeling languages, e.g. UML, ArchiMate, ARWFML, BPMN, etc.
- Many LLMs highly capable in producing code for models / diagrams
- Recent applications for agentic workflows using multi-modal LLMs see (Fettke/Fill/Köpke, 2025)
- Limitations with complex domain-specific modeling languages

Next steps:

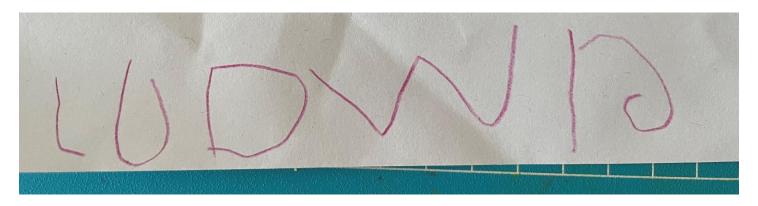
- Provision of adequate CMAG tooling, e.g. using MM-AR
- Derivation of strategies for complex modeling languages
- Continuous evaluation of upcoming LLMs (Llama 3.2, Sonnet 4, GPT-OSS, etc.)
- Empirical validation of CMAG usage effects

Conclusion of Learnings

- > Use of GenAI may lead to skill degradation and deskilling = hidden costs
- History of automation can give valuable guidance in dealing with GenAl
- Guardrails for AI and recurrent manual usage of skills seem necessary to maintain skills required for monitoring and verifying AI output
- Conceptual models as the next step in Human-AI collaboration









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