

Welcome

# AI Operator Circle

May 11, 2026



# First Financial, Thank You



**first**<sup>®</sup>  
first financial bank

# The best ideas come from real experiences.

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We're building, using and learning every day.  
But the most valuable insights come from  
the people in this room.



# Agenda

Welcome

Why Are We Here?

AI Terms

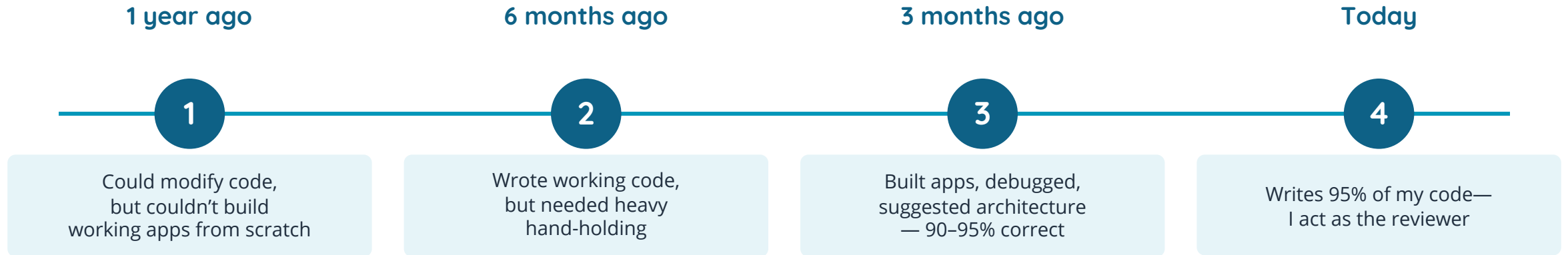
Use Cases & Demos

Closing Remarks



# Why Are We Here?

*AI is moving faster than ever — a personal capability ladder*



**AI capabilities are doubling every 4-7 months**

## **1** New opportunities

Change is happening at breakneck speed. Companies must stay close to the leading edge or be replaced by more agile ones. We want to help them adapt.

## **2** People-first adaptation

Companies adapt only as fast as their people. The skilled and visionary will lead, stay relevant, and thrive.

Our path: awareness → education → community.



# The Happiness Gap

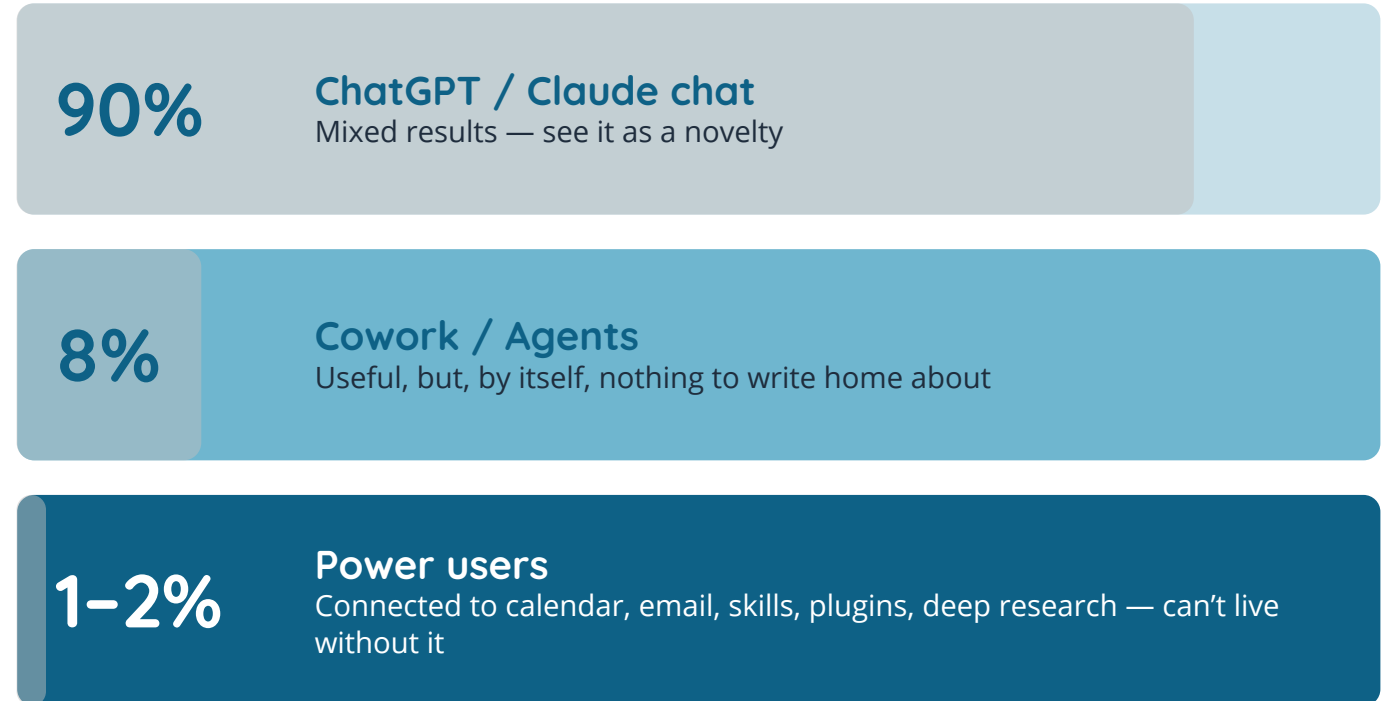
## The concept

**Happiness  $\approx$  Reality –  
Expectations**

If my wife expects me to make dinner Wednesday and I don't, she's unhappy — and I will be too.

We're all sitting in the middle of a widening happiness gap around AI capabilities, whether we realize it or not.

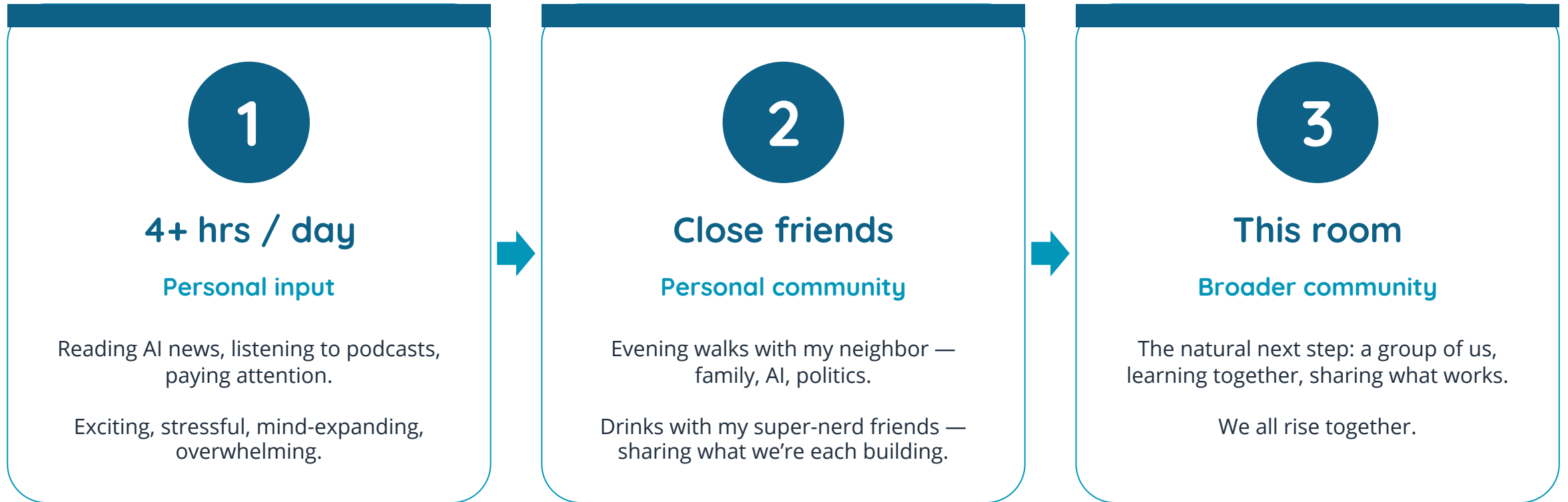
## Where people sit today



*As step-changes keep landing, power users compound their advantage — and 98% risk being blindsided.*

# Building Community

*Community is how we keep up — and how we stay sane*



*"The best parts of my day are when I can break the AI stress by talking it through with friends."*



# Reasons for Optimism

*What's possible when we engage — not just what we have to defend against*

Google DeepMind

## AlphaFold

For 50 years, predicting how a protein folds was one of biology's grand challenges. Knowing the shape unlocks how diseases work and how drugs can target them.

AlphaFold cracked it. Today, researchers use it to design antibiotics, malaria vaccines, and treatments for neglected diseases — cutting years off discovery work.

Demis Hassabis won the 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for it. This is the upside of where the technology can take us.

**~200M**

protein structures predicted and released for free

**2.5M+**

researchers in 190 countries using AlphaFold

**50 years**

of an open biology problem — solved

*If AlphaFold is what one team can do, imagine what becomes possible as we each find our own AlphaFold-shaped problem.*

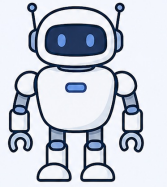


# AI Terms



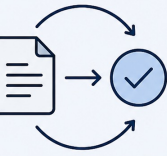
## Model

The model is the brain of the system. It makes predictions and reasons.



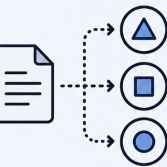
## Harness

This harness is the body. It does what the brain asks of it.



## Deterministic

A deterministic system will give you the same result for a given set of inputs.



## Non- deterministic

Non-deterministic systems may give you different results at different times.



# Use Cases & Demos

Jeff Busdieker

AI is not a technology problem

Marc Aiello

Scaling a solo business with Clade Code

Matt Vorst

Recurring Research Automation



# The Use Case

## Problem

I consume a massive amount of AI content every week, but it's becoming increasingly difficult to separate signal from noise or remember how influential people's perspectives have changed over time.

## Desired Solution

A personal AI research assistant that continuously organizes AI news and thought leadership into a living timeline — helping me identify emerging trends, contradictions, and meaningful shifts in expert thinking.



# Tools



## Claude Cowork

Claude Cowork is a desktop harness that gives Claude access to local folders and connectors like Gmail, so it can read, and edit files, run code, and search the web.



## Obsidian

Obsidian is a note-taking and knowledge management app that stores your notes as plain .md files and links them into a navigable graph.



## Git

Git is a version control system that tracks changes to files as a graph of immutable commits, letting developers collaborate on code without a central server.



# Perform the Research



## Prompt

Based on the People to Follow (/people/People\_to\_Follow.md), I would like you to search for recent activity for each of these people (in the form of Books, Articles & Writing, Videos & Talks, Podcasts & Interviews, etc.) then update (never delete) the appropriate section in the file for that individual.

Make sure to include the publication date and do not add duplicate entries.

If any of their thoughts or perspectives have changed then please call that out in the "Key Ideas & Perspectives" section. Once again you may add to it, never delete.

The screenshot shows a task configuration interface for a scheduled task named "Research people to follow". The task is currently active, as indicated by a blue toggle switch and a green "Active" label. The next run is scheduled for May 17 at 5:00 AM. The interface includes a "History" section with two entries: "today at 5:01 AM" and "May 4 at 11:59 PM". The "Instructions" section contains the following text: "Based on the People to Follow (/Users/matthewvorst/Documents/The Bridge to AI Notes/The Bridge to AI/AI Research/People to Follow.md), I would like you to search for recent activity for each of these people (in the form of Books, Articles & Writing, Videos & Talks, Podcasts & Interviews, etc.) then update (never delete) the appropriate section in the file for that individual." Below the instructions, there are two additional sections: "Make sure to include the publication date and do not add duplicate entries." and "If any of their thoughts or perspectives have changed then please call that out in the 'Key Ideas & Perspectives' section. Once again you may add to it, never delete." The "Repeats" section is set to "Every Sunday at 5:00 AM". The "Always allowed" section has a checkmark and a button labeled "Act without asking".

Weekly scheduled task with skills behind the scenes to help guide the AI.



# Viewing the Research



**Dario Amodei**

**Dario Amodei**

**Overview**

Dario Amodei is the co-founder and CEO of Anthropic, a public benefit corporation developing safe, steerable, and interpretable AI systems. Born in San Francisco, he brings a rare combination of deep technical expertise in AI safety, machine learning, and neuroscience alongside clear-eyed perspectives on AI's transformative risks and opportunities. After earning a PhD in biophysics from Princeton and serving as Vice President of Research at OpenAI—where he contributed to the development of GPT-2, GPT-3, and pioneered reinforcement learning from human feedback—Amodei left OpenAI in 2021 with Daniela Amodei and other colleagues due to directional disagreements. He is a leading voice in contemporary debates about AI safety, alignment, economic disruption, and governance, arguing that while transformative AI advances are imminent, humanity must develop the maturity and systems to manage unprecedented power responsibly.

**Background**

- **Current Role:** Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer, Anthropic
- **Notable Roles:** Vice President of Research at OpenAI (2016–2021); Postdoctoral Fellow at Stanford University School of Medicine; Researcher at Google and Baidu

You can view or edit any file in the markdown format (preferred format of AI)



Graph view lets you easily make connections that aren't obvious.



# Storing and Sharing the Research

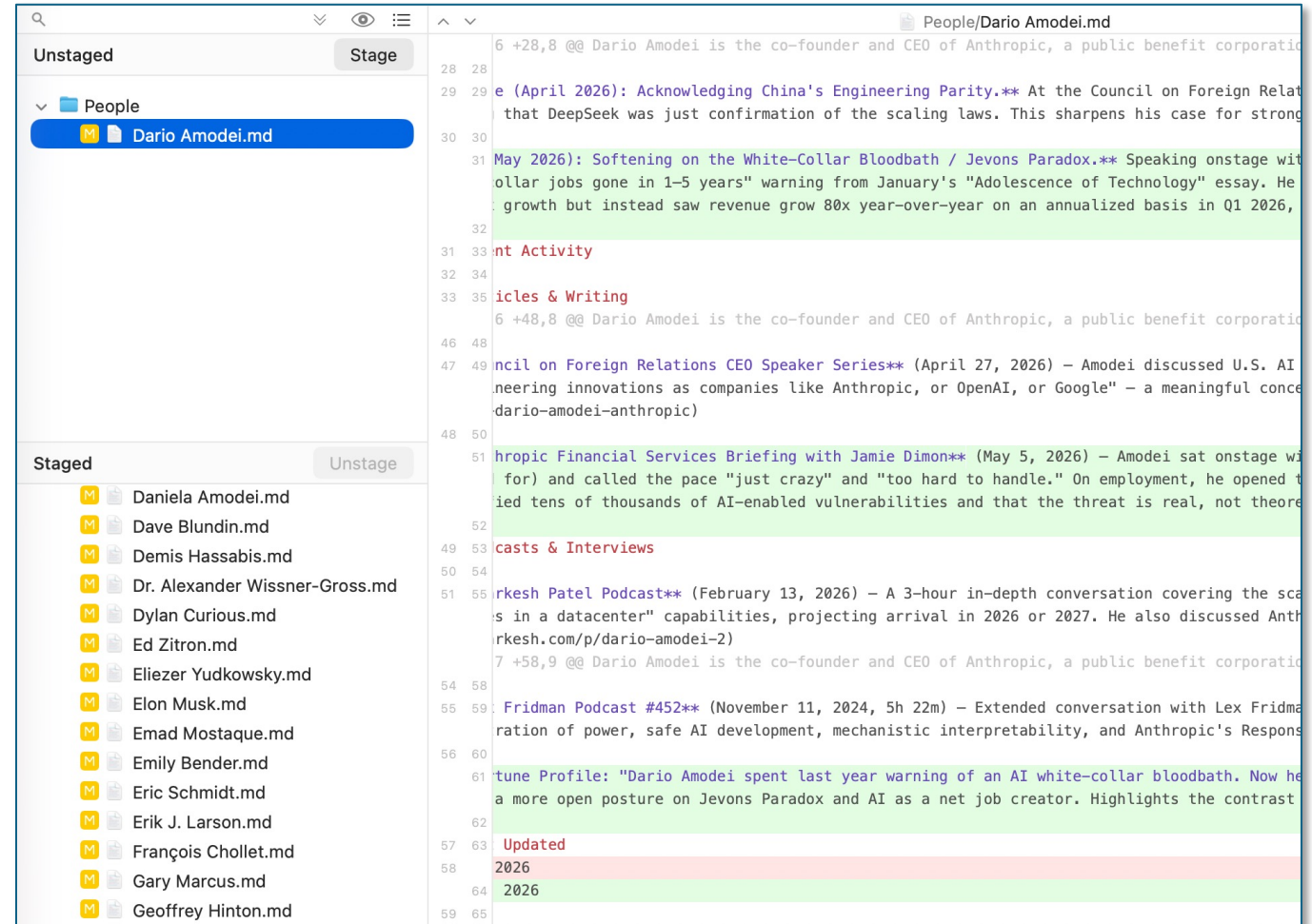


## Git

Git gives me the ability to track changes in each file over time.

You notice we have additions highlighted in green, and deleted lines in red.

Once the data is in a free cloud repository it can be shared with anyone that have given access.



# Next Month

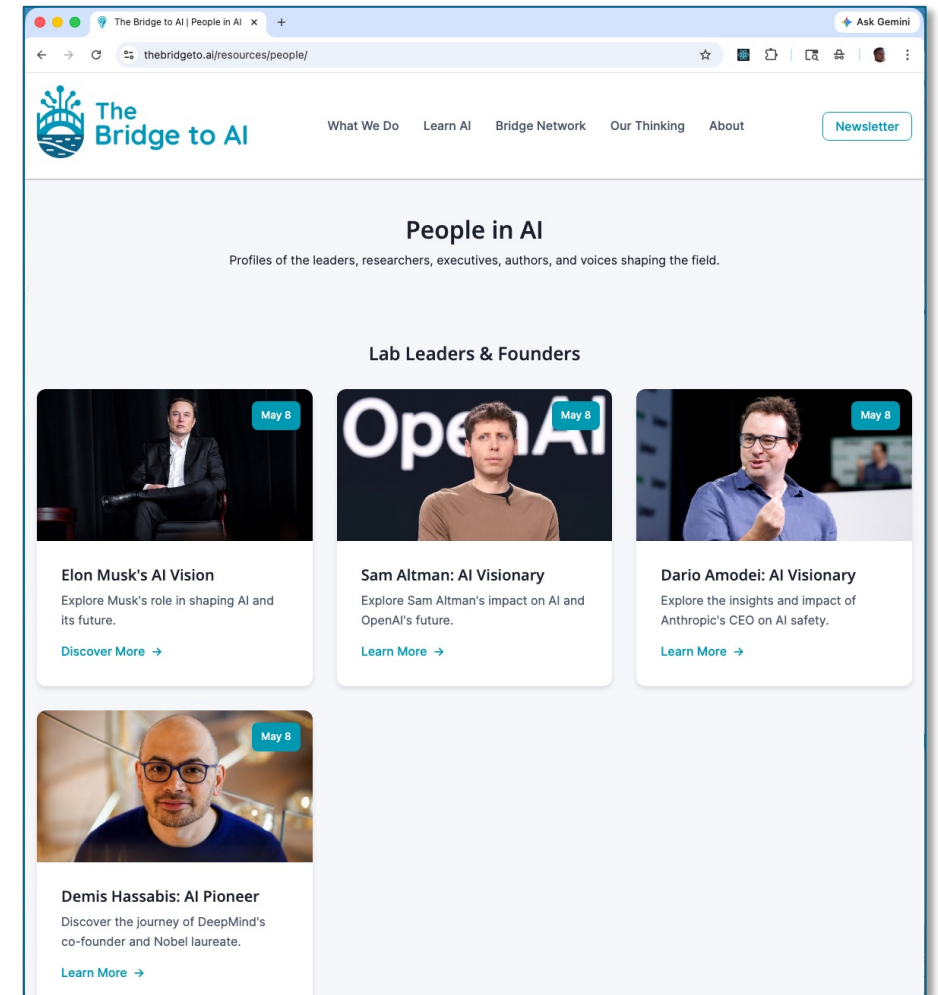


## Website Integration

Anthropic introduced MCP (Model Context Protocol), a standard that allows AI agents to interact directly with websites, databases, and business systems.

Instead of simply answering questions, AI can now securely retrieve information, update records, trigger workflows, and take action.

Next month, I'll show how I used AI to rapidly build an MCP integration for our website — enabling AI to become an active participant in our digital ecosystem rather than just a passive chatbot.



# Voices to Follow

*If you want to keep going on your own — three lenses, three sets of guides*

## Optimists

*Where this could take us*

**Demis Hassabis**

CEO, DeepMind (Google)

**Peter Diamandis**

Moonshots / XPRIZE

**Mo Gawdat**

Former CBO, Google

**Eric Schmidt**

Former CEO, Google

**Dario Amodei**

CEO, Anthropic

**Sam Altman**

CEO, OpenAI

## Skeptics

*Where the hype outruns reality*

**Gary Marcus**

Cognitive scientist

**Ilya Sutskever**

Safe Superintelligence

**Benjamin Riley**

Founder, Cognitive Resonance

**Yann LeCun**

Advanced Machine Intelligence

## Safety

*What we need to get right*

**Eliezer Yudkowsky**

AI alignment

**Geoffrey Hinton**

“Godfather of AI”

**Tristan Harris**

Center for Humane Technology

**Dan Hendrycks**

Center for AI Safety

*Read across all three — that's how you stay calibrated.*



# Let's go to the bar.

*Thanks for being here. The hard part is staying connected — let's start now.*

## 1 Keep talking

Trade ideas, demos, war stories

## 2 Bring a friend

Next month — pull someone into the conversation

## 3 Try one new thing

Pick one tool or workflow you saw tonight and use it this week

