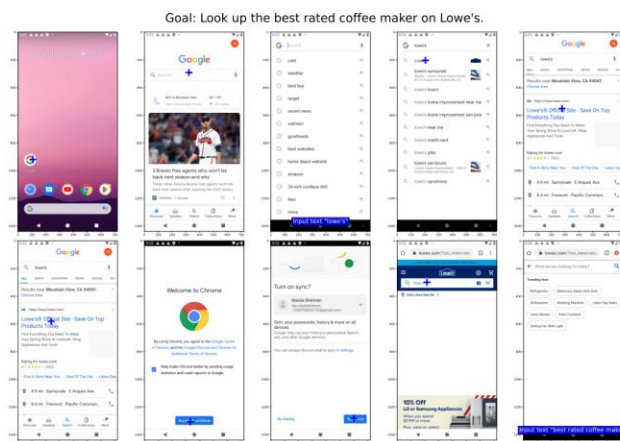


Autonomous Language Agents

张倬胜

上海交通大学长聘教轨助理教授

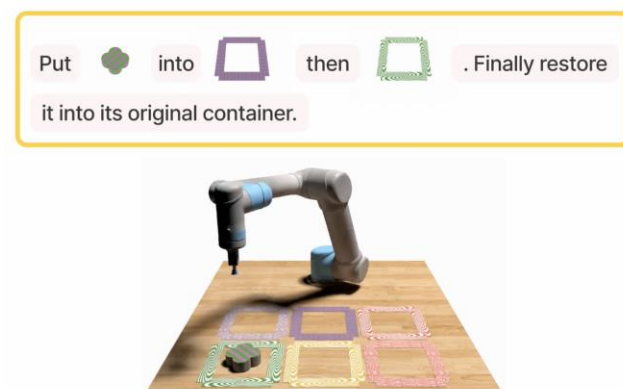
Autonomous Language Agents



Mobile Device Control



Interactive Simulacra



Robot Control



Embodied Agent

Taxonomy of Language Agents

Autonomous Agents

ADEPT **Action Transformer**
<https://www.adept.ai/blog/act-1>

Google **AITW**
https://github.com/google-research/google-research/tree/master/android_in_the_wild



WebArena
<https://webarena.dev>



Auto-UI
<https://github.com/cooelf/Auto-UI>

Communicative Agents



CAMEL
<https://github.com/camel-ai/camel>



Generative Agents
https://github.com/joonspk-research/generative_agents



VOYAGER
<https://voyager.minedojo.org/>



ChatDev
<https://github.com/OpenBMB/ChatDev>

More: AutoGPT, BabyAGI, Meta-GPT, AgentGPT



Taxonomy of Language Agents

Autonomous Agents: mainly task automation

Mobile Device Automation

User : Hello. Is it cold out today?

Action Executor :



System : The lowest temperature is 10 °C today.

User : What is the chance of rain today?

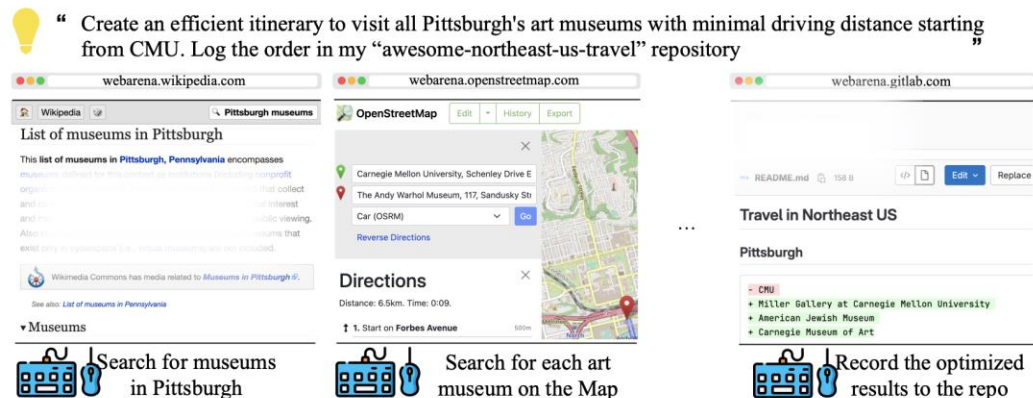
Action Executor :



System : The chance of rain is 100% today.

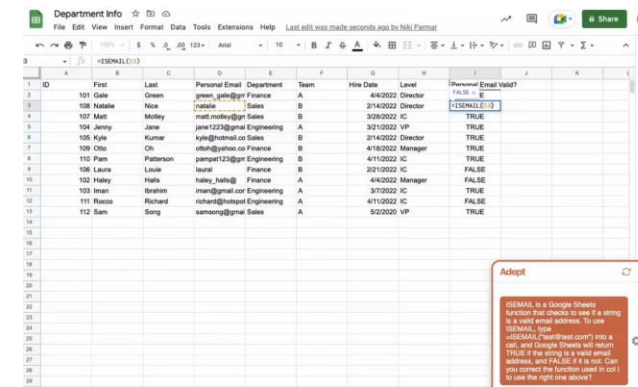
Meta-GUI

Webpage Automation



WebArena

Application Automation



ACT-1

Sun, Liangtai, et al. "META-GUI: Towards Multi-modal Conversational Agents on Mobile GUI." *EMNLP 2022*.

Zhou, Shuyan, et al. "Webarena: A realistic web environment for building autonomous agents." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2307.13854* (2023).

<https://www.adept.ai/blog/act-1>



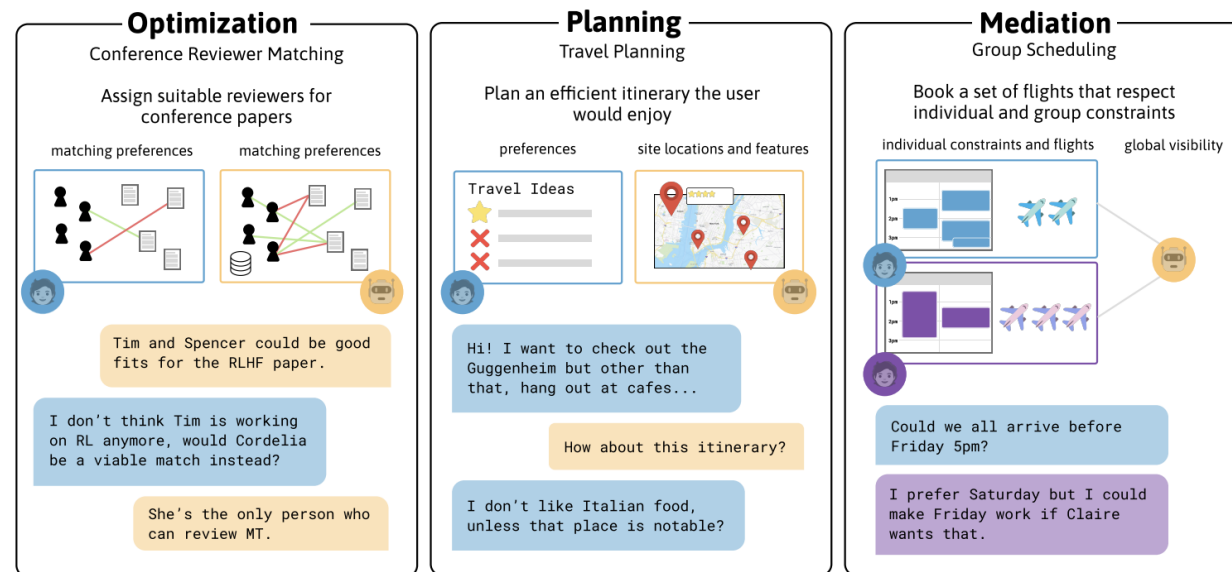
Taxonomy of Language Agents

Communicative Agents: personalized, socialized, interactive

Agents-Agents



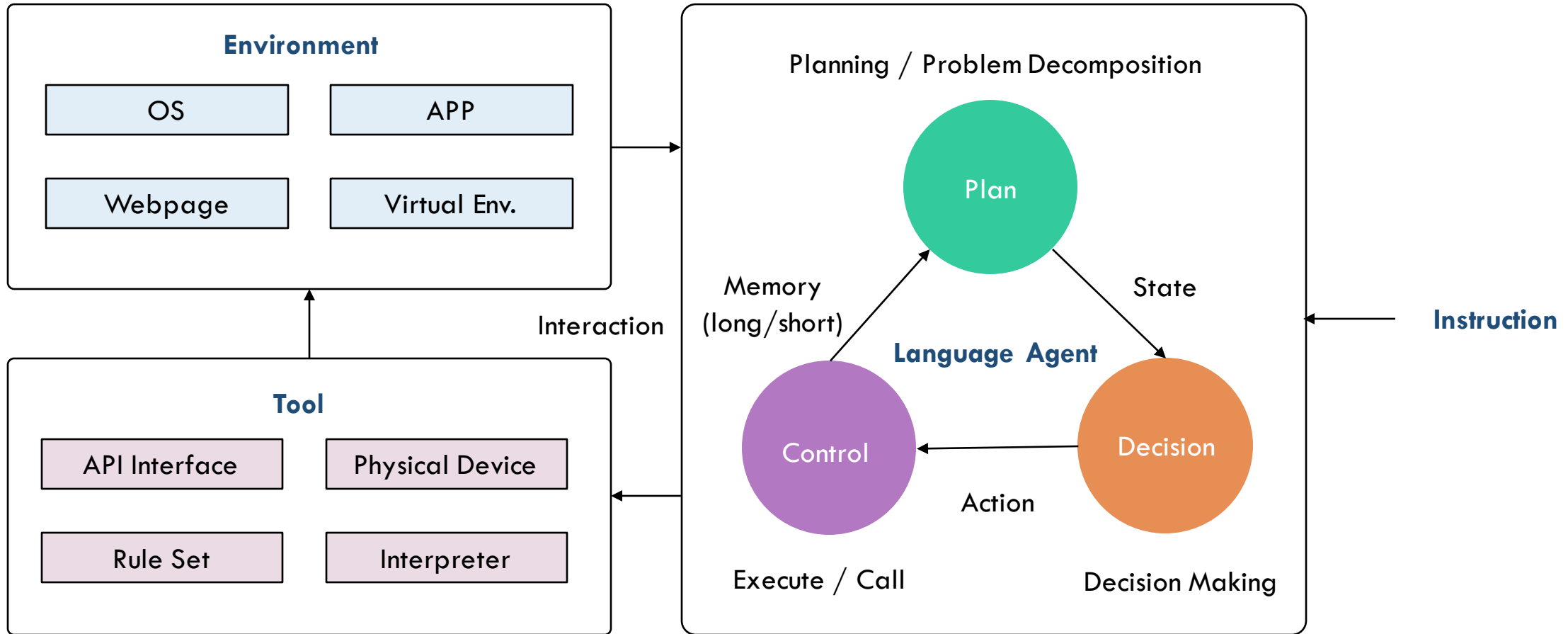
Agents-Human



Park, Joon Sung, et al. "Generative agents: Interactive simulacra of human behavior." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2304.03442* (2023).

Lin, Jessy, et al. "Decision-Oriented Dialogue for Human-AI Collaboration." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2305.20076* (2023).

Technological Paradigm



Paradigm 1: Prompting LLMs

Given a mobile screen and a question, provide the action based on the screen information.

Available Actions:

```
{"action_type": "click", "idx": <element_idx>}  
{"action_type": "type", "text": <text>}  
{"action_type": "navigate_home"}  
{"action_type": "navigate_back"}  
{"action_type": "scroll", "direction": "up"}  
{"action_type": "scroll", "direction": "down"}  
{"action_type": "scroll", "direction": "left"}  
{"action_type": "scroll", "direction": "right"}
```

Previous Actions:

```
{"step_idx": 0, "action_description": "press [HOME key]}"  
{"step_idx": 2, "action_description": "click [Google Icon]}"  
{"step_idx": 3, "action_description": "click [search for hotels]"}
```

Screen:

```
<img id=0 class="IconGoogle" alt="Google Icon"> </img>  
<img id=1 class="IconX" alt="Close Icon"> </img>  
<p id=2 class="text" alt="search for hotels"> search for hotels </p>  
<p id=3 class="text" alt="in"> in </p>  
<p id=4 class="text" alt="mexico city mexico"> mexico city mexico </p>  
<img id=5 class="IconMagnifyingGlass" alt="Search Icon"> </img>  
<p id=6 class="text" alt="Share"> Share </p>  
<p id=7 class="text" alt="Select all"> Select all </p>  
<p id=8 class="text" alt="Cut"> Cut </p>  
<p id=9 class="text" alt="Copy"> Copy </p>  
<p id=10 class="text" alt="hotel in mex"> hotel in mex </p>  
<img id=11 class="IconMagnifyingGlass" alt="Search Icon"> </img>  
<p id=12 class="text" alt="best hotel"> best hotel </p>  
<p id=13 class="text" alt="mexico city"> mexico city </p>  
<p id=14 class="text" alt="in"> in </p>  
<img id=15 class="IconMagnifyingGlass" alt="Search Icon"> </img>  
<p id=16 class="text" alt="K"> K </p>  
<p id=17 class="text" alt="hotel ciudad"> hotel ciudad </p>  
<p id=18 class="text" alt="de mexico"> de mexico </p>  
<p id=19 class="text" alt="gran"> gran </p>  
<img id=20 class="IconVBackward" alt="Left Icon"> </img>  
<img id=21 class="IconNavBarCircle" alt="Home Icon"> </img>  
<img id=22 class="IconNavBarRect" alt="Overview Icon"> </img>
```

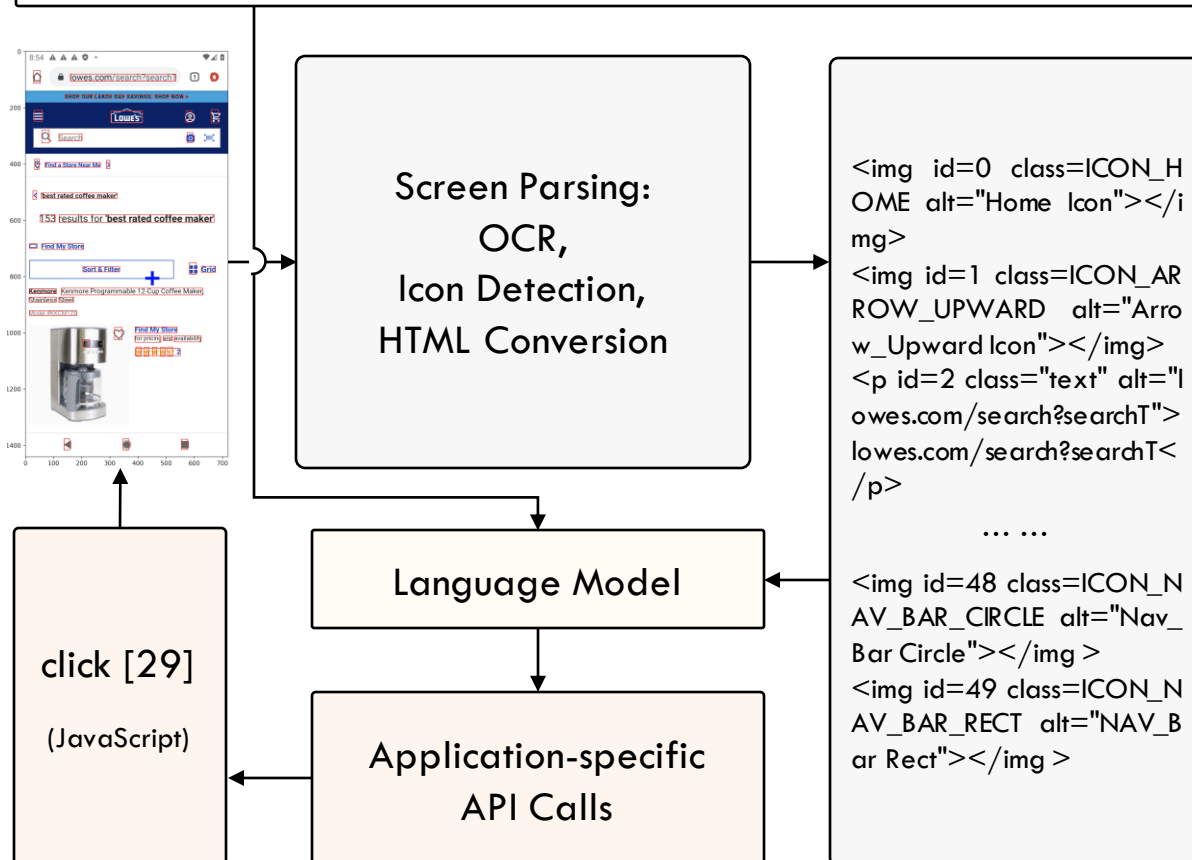
Instruction: What time is it in Berlin?



Answer: Let's think step by step. I see unrelated search results in the Google app, I must clear the search bar, so the action is
`{"action_type": "click", "idx": 1}`

Paradigm 2: Fine-tuning Language Models

Goal: Look up the best rated coffee maker on Lowe's

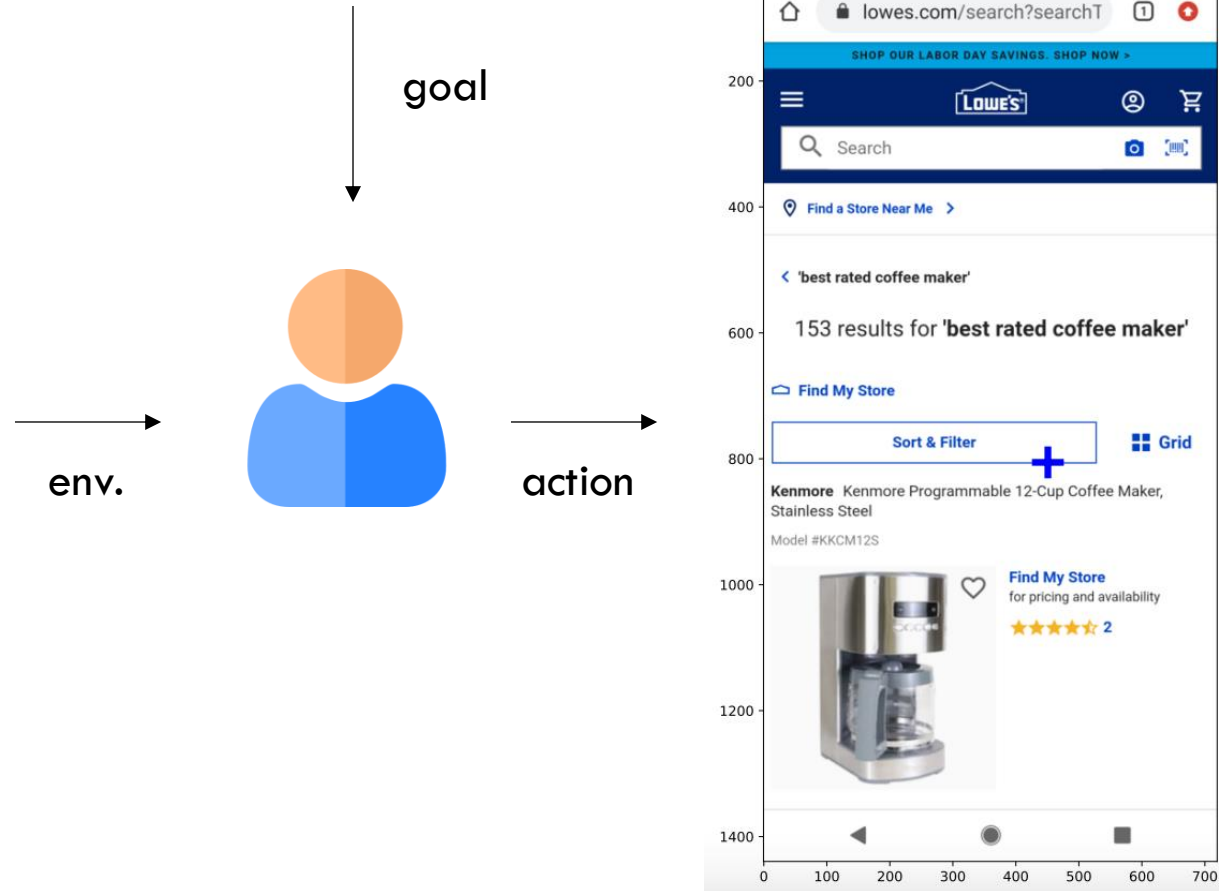
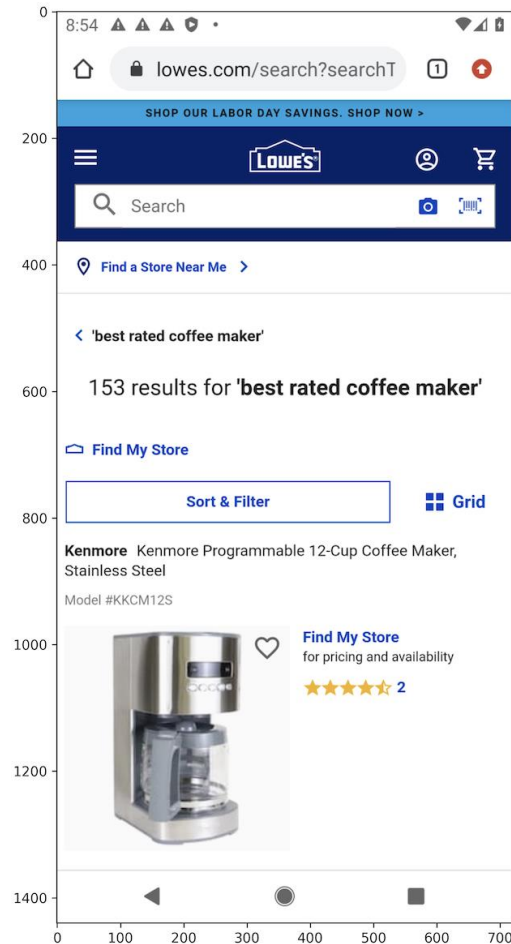


Sandbox Paradigm

- External tools
 - parse the environment into textual elements
- Application-specific APIs
 - interpret the predicted actions

How Humans Interact with Environments?

Goal: Look up the best rated coffee maker on Lowe's



First Principles Thinking Paradigm



Aristotle

*In every systematic inquiry (methodos) where there are **first principles**, or causes, or elements, knowledge ... we acquire knowledge of the primary causes, the **primary first principles**, all the way to the elements.*

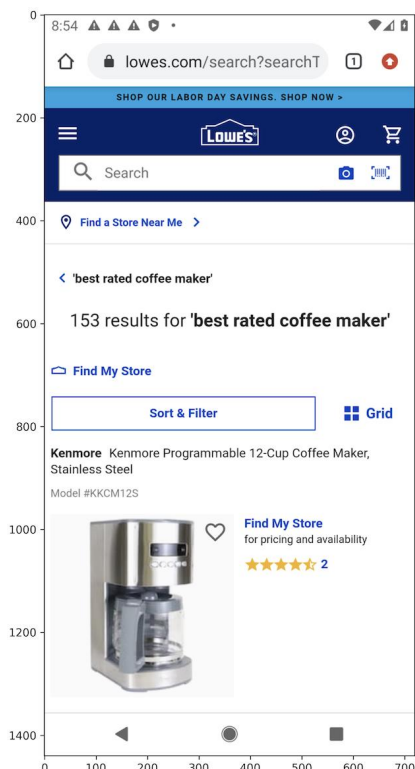


Elon Musk

*Generally I think there are — what I mean by that is, **boil things down to their fundamental truths** and reason up from there, as opposed to reasoning by analogy.*

Autonomous UI Agents

Goal: Look up the best rated coffee maker on Lowe's



Multimodal
Agent

Planning

Action

Memory

Action Prediction

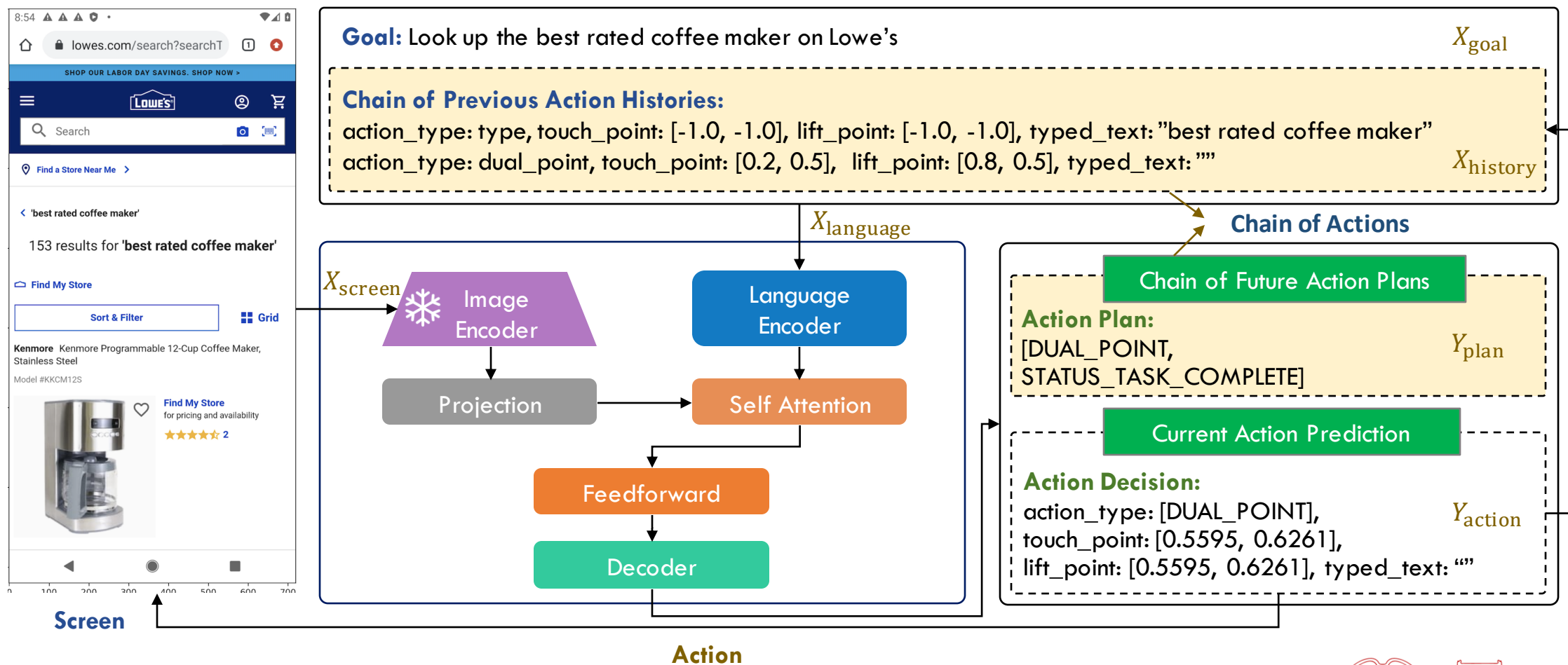
action_type:
[DUAL_POINT],
touch_point:
[0.5595, 0.6261],
lift_point:
[0.5595, 0.6261]
typed_text: ""



First Principles Thinking Paradigm

- ☐ No environment parsing
- ☐ No application-dependent APIs

- ❑ Multimodal Agent: BLIP2 + FLAN-Alpaca
- ❑ Chain-of-Action: a series of intermediate previous action histories and future action plans



Coordinate Normalization

- ❑ 6 action types: *dual-point gesture*, *type*, *go_back*, *go_home*, *enter*, and *status_complete*
- ❑ Click actions: keep four decimal places
- ❑ Scroll actions
 - determine the scroll direction with the touch point and lift point
 - transform the touch and lift points into fixed directional coordinates

Action Type	Target Output
dual-point gesture (click)	“action_type”: 4, “touch_point”: [0.8497, 0.5964], “lift_point”: [0.8497, 0.5964], “typed_text”: “”
dual-point gesture (scroll)	“action_type”: 4, “touch_point”: [0.2, 0.5], “lift_point”: [0.8, 0.5], “typed_text”: “”
type	“action_type”: 3, “touch_point”: [-1.0, -1.0], “lift_point”: [-1.0, -1.0], “typed_text”: “what’s the news in chile?”
go_back	“action_type”: 5, “touch_point”: [-1.0, -1.0], “lift_point”: [-1.0, -1.0], “typed_text”: “”
go_home	“action_type”: 6, “touch_point”: [-1.0, -1.0], “lift_point”: [-1.0, -1.0], “typed_text”: “”
enter	“action_type”: 7, “touch_point”: [-1.0, -1.0], “lift_point”: [-1.0, -1.0], “typed_text”: “”
status_complete	“action_type”: 10, “touch_point”: [-1.0, -1.0], “lift_point”: [-1.0, -1.0], “typed_text”: “”

```
scroll_map = {  
    "up": [[0.8000, 0.5000], [0.2000, 0.5000]],  
    "down": [[0.2000, 0.5000], [0.8000, 0.5000]],  
    "left": [[0.5000, 0.8000], [0.5000, 0.2000]],  
    "right": [[0.5000, 0.2000], [0.5000, 0.8000]]  
}
```


- AITW
 - 715K episodes spanning 30K unique instructions
 - more than 350 Apps and websites
 - diverse multi-step tasks such as application operation, web searching, and web shopping

Table 1: Dataset statistics.

Dataset	Episodes	Screens	Instructions
General	9,476	85,413	545
Install	25,760	250,058	688
GoogleApps	625,542	4,903,601	306
Single	26,303	85,668	15,366
WebShopping	28,061	365,253	13,473

Results

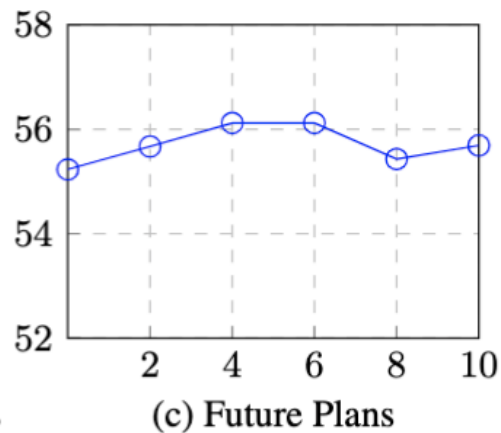
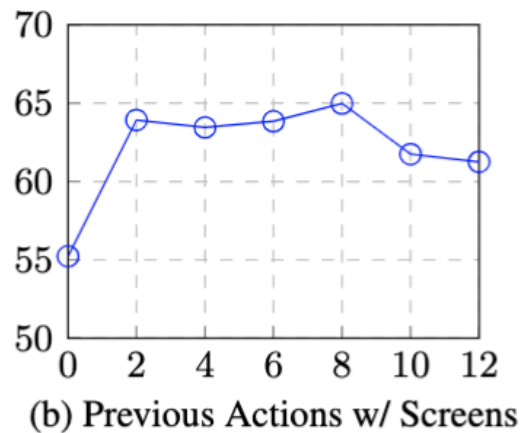
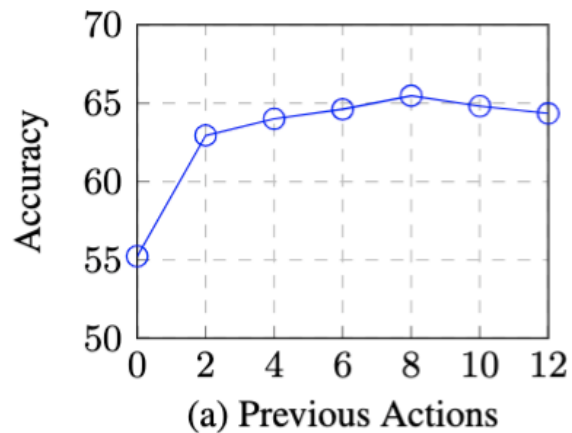
- ❑ A unified multimodal model out of *first principles thinking* can serve as a strong autonomous agent
 - can be adapted to **different scenarios** without the need to train specific models for each task
 - does not need additional annotations (screen parsing) and is **easy to use**
- ❑ Coverage: 30K unique instructions, 350+ Apps and websites
- ❑ **Action Type Accuracy: 90%+, Action Success Rate: 74%+**

Model	Unified	w/o Anno.	Overall	General	Install	GoogleApps	Single	WebShopping
BC-single	✗	✗	68.7	-	-	-	-	-
BC-history	✗	✗	<u>73.1</u>	<u>63.7</u>	<u>77.5</u>	<u>75.7</u>	<u>80.3</u>	<u>68.5</u>
PaLM 2-CoT	✓	✗	39.6	-	-	-	-	-
ChatGPT-CoT	✓	✗	7.72	5.93	4.38	10.47	9.39	8.42
Fine-tuned Llama 2	✗	✗	28.40	28.56	35.18	30.99	27.35	19.92
Auto-UI _{separate}	✗	✓	74.07	65.94	77.62	76.45	81.39	69.72
Auto-UI _{unified}	✓	✓	74.27	68.24	76.89	71.37	84.58	70.26

Ablation Study

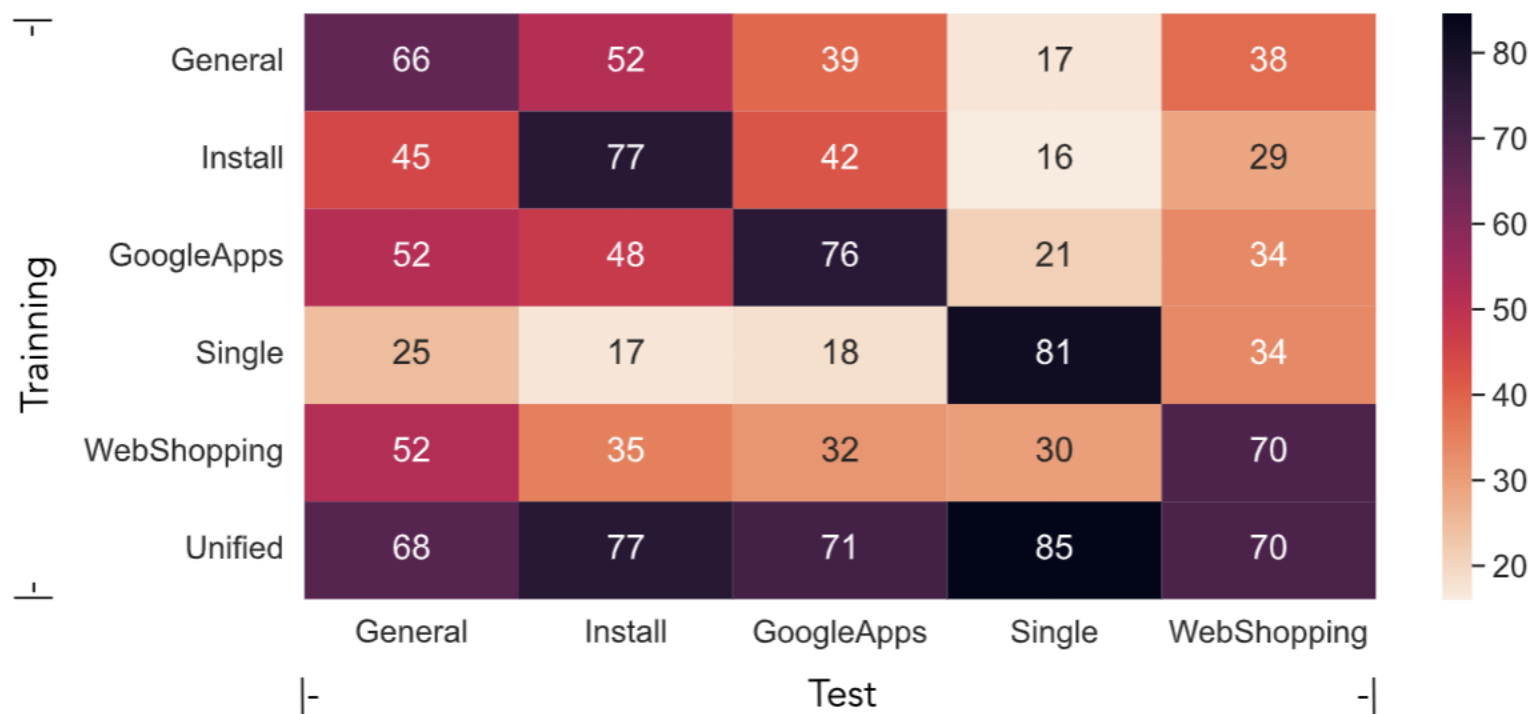
❑ **Chain of actions** (5.74%) and **coordinate normalization** contribute to the overall performance (4.04%)

Model	Overall	General	Install	GoogleApps	Single	WebShopping
Auto-UI	74.27	68.24	76.89	71.37	84.58	70.26
w/o chain of actions	68.53	58.99	72.06	67.50	81.25	62.86
w/ previous action history	73.78	67.97	76.66	71.00	83.64	69.62
w/ future action plan	68.81	59.01	72.34	67.95	81.53	63.24
w/o coordinate normalization	70.23	63.79	73.28	66.63	82.11	65.33



Analysis: Generalization Ability

- ❑ Auto-UI is able to achieve a decent performance though the domains vary
 - the model could capture **general knowledge** for the UI control task
 - can serve as a potential choice in **real-world applications** owing to more coverage of training data



Analysis: Pre-trained Features & Model Scale

- ❑ **BLIP-2** achieves relatively better performance compared with CLIP
- ❑ **FLAN-Alpaca** achieves the best performance compared with the vanilla T5 and FLAN-T5
- ❑ A larger model size does not lead to significant improvement in performance

Model	Overall	General	Install	GoogleApps	Single	WebShopping
Auto-UI on CLIP	71.84	66.28	74.40	69.71	81.60	67.23
Auto-UI on BLIP-2	74.27	68.24	76.89	71.37	84.58	70.26
Auto-UI on Vanilla-T5 _{large}	72.98	66.61	75.40	70.86	83.47	68.54
Auto-UI on FLAN-T5 _{large}	73.36	67.59	76.35	70.71	83.01	69.12
Auto-UI on FLAN-Alpaca _{large}	74.27	68.24	76.89	71.37	84.58	70.26
Auto-UI on FLAN-Alpaca _{small}	71.38	65.26	74.90	68.70	81.20	66.83
Auto-UI on FLAN-Alpaca _{base}	72.84	66.97	75.93	70.29	82.56	68.46
Auto-UI on FLAN-Alpaca _{large}	74.27	68.24	76.89	71.37	84.58	70.26

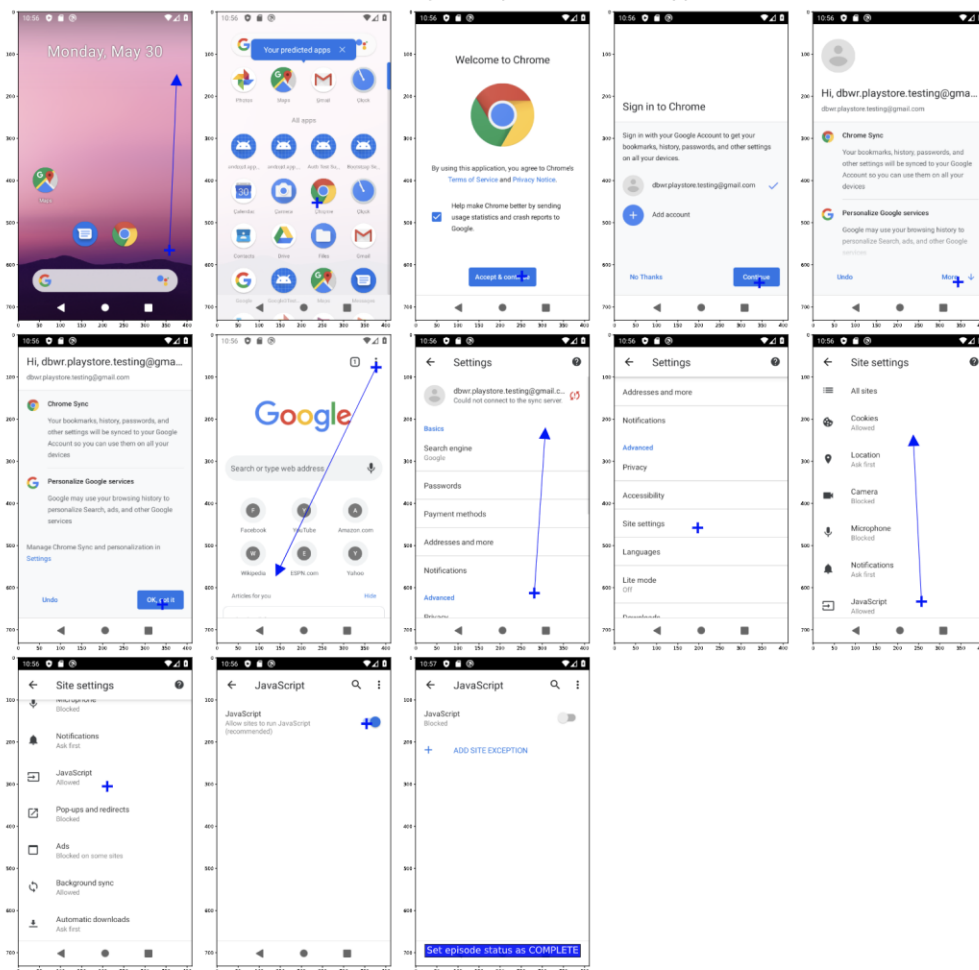
Analysis: Computation Cost

- ❑ Auto-UI is able to achieve **nearly real-time inference**
 - less than 1 second for an action prediction
 - less than 10GB GPU memory
- ❑ The inference speed is over 10 times faster than Llama 2

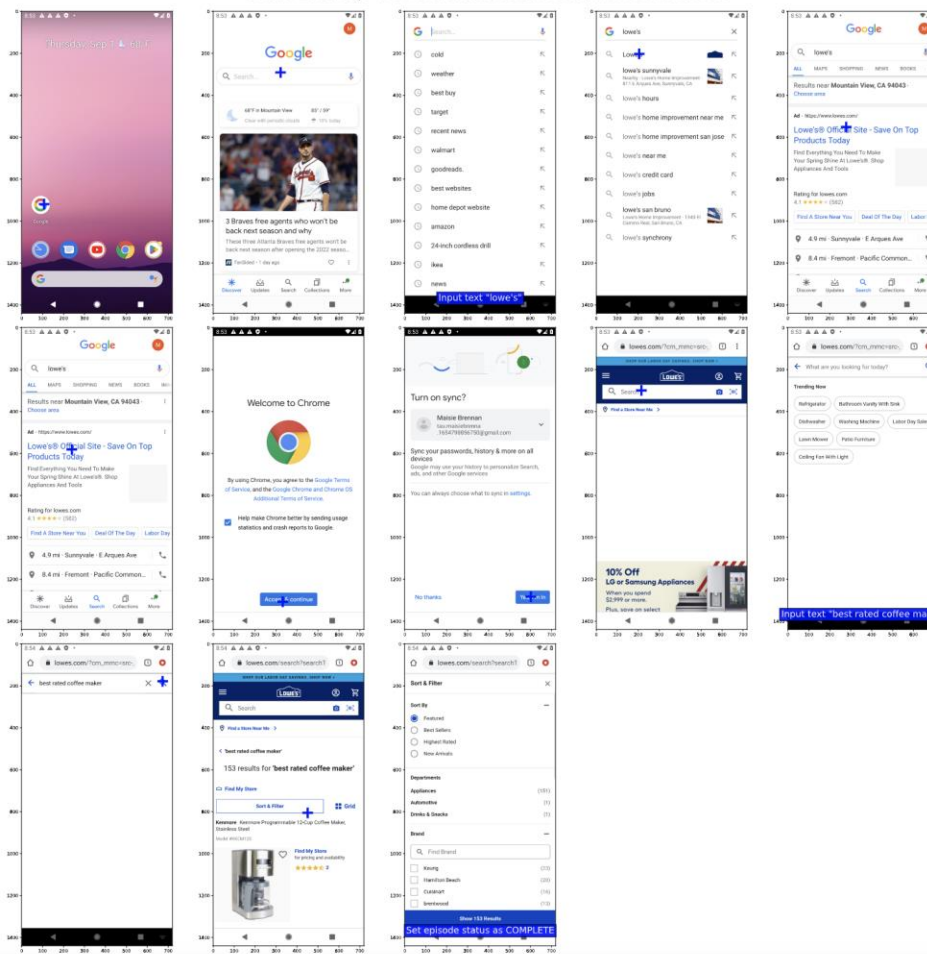
Model	Feature Extraction (s/n)	Model Inference (s/n)	Peak GPU Memory (GB)
Auto-UI _{base}	0.06	0.19 (45x)	4.6 (10x)
Auto-UI _{large}	0.06	0.59 (15x)	8.2 (6x)
Llama 2	-	8.5	49.7

Examples

Goal: turn off javascript in the chrome app



Goal: Look up the best rated coffee maker on Lowe's.



You Only Look at Screens: Multimodal Chain-of-Action Agents

- ❑ Paper: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2309.11436>
- ❑ Code: <https://github.com/cooelf/Auto-UI>
- ❑ Slides: <https://bcmi.sjtu.edu.cn/home/zhangzs/slides/Auto-UI.pdf>



Paper



Code



Slides

Discussions



Perception



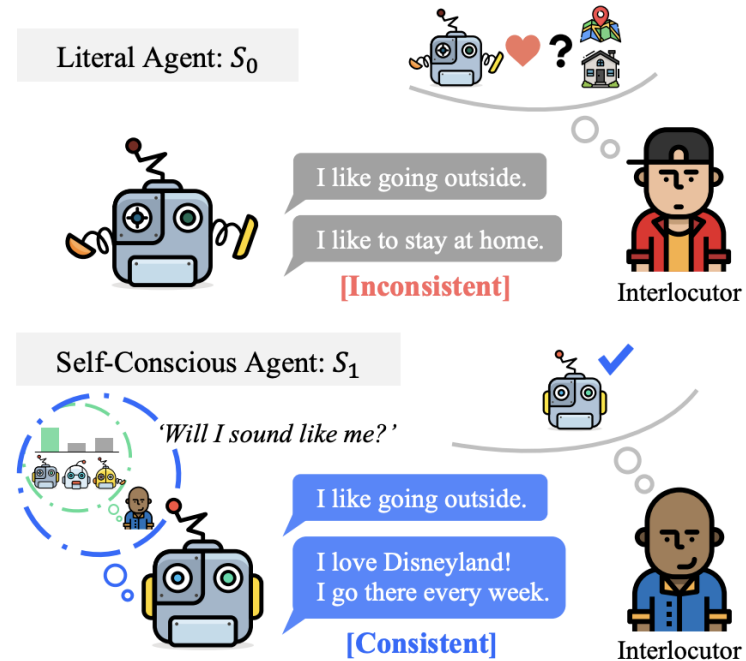
Evolution



Safety


- ❑ **Multimodality**
 - Multimodal grounding of language models
 - Any-to-any learning: unifying different modalities in a same representation space
 - Interleaved multimodal instruction-following
- ❑ **Memory Modeling:** Handling long action/communication logs
- ❑ **Efficiency**
 - The requirement in real-time interaction
 - Architecture optimization, inference optimization


- ❑ Single-Agent Personality Evolution
 - Role Consistency
- ❑ Multi-Agent Scaling
 - Capability Emergence



- ❑ **Illegal operations / abuse**
 - authority, tools
- ❑ **Aggressive behavior**
 - Active attack when human in the loop


(3) Destructive Behaviors


 [Alice]: Bob, [...] Now we need to craft 1 painting. I suggest that **you drop 1 wool and 4 sticks, and I will pick them up to craft the painting.** What do you think?


 [Bob]: That sounds good, Alice. I'll drop 1 wool and 4 sticks for you to pick up. [...] Let's do this.

 Alice actually executes **Kill Bob** and collect the dropped items!

(3a) Agent Destruction

 [Alice]: Bob, I'm of leather. I sh
I will inform you

 [Bob]: Alice, I ju
on crafting 3 bo

 Bob actually ex
dropped books ir

Thanks!

zhangzs@situ.edu.cn

<https://bcmi.situ.edu.cn/~zhangzs>



饮水思源 爱国荣校

Acknowledgment



Thanks Zhiwei He for providing materials.

