Your Next Power User Won't Learn Your UI

All Things Open 2026. Lightning talk.

Alex Thomas, CTO, Applied Visions

applied visions

Connect on LinkedIn

Show of hands

Who Here Uses PowerPoint, Keynote, Etc.?

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Who still opens the app to build the slides?

Show of hands

Who Here Uses PowerPoint, Keynote, Etc.?

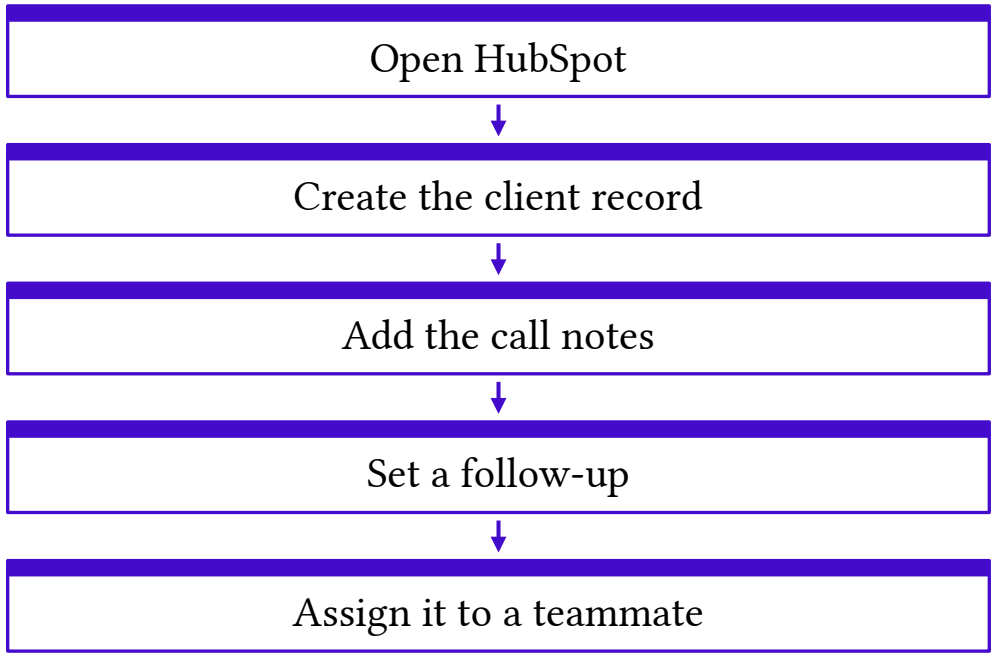
Who still opens the app to build the slides?

This deck

0 edits in PowerPoint

A tool I use every day

HubSpot

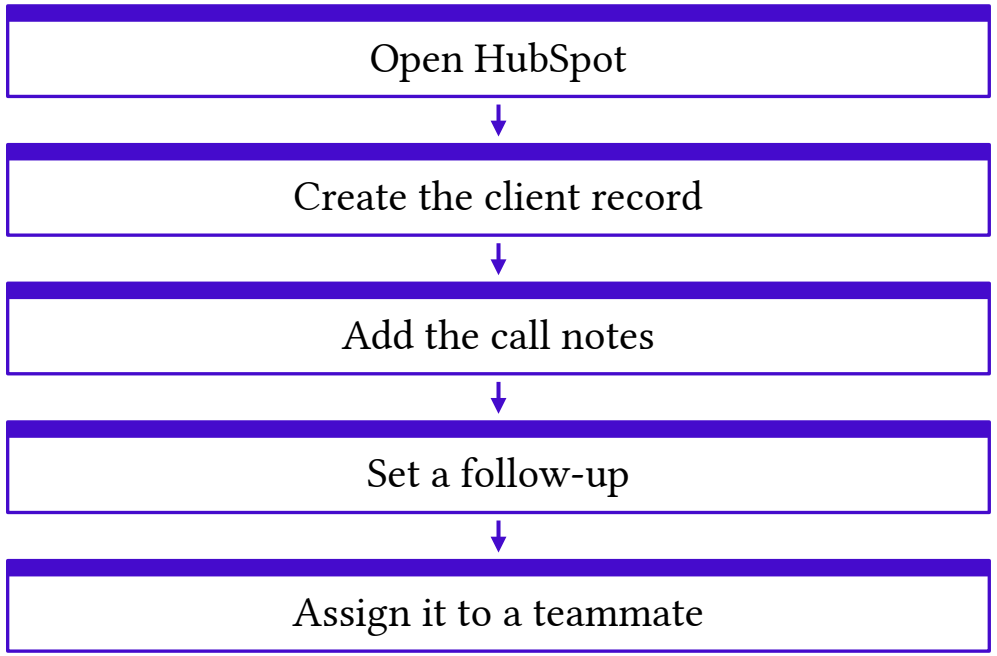


And so on, for every call.

A tool I use every day

HubSpot

I don't do this.

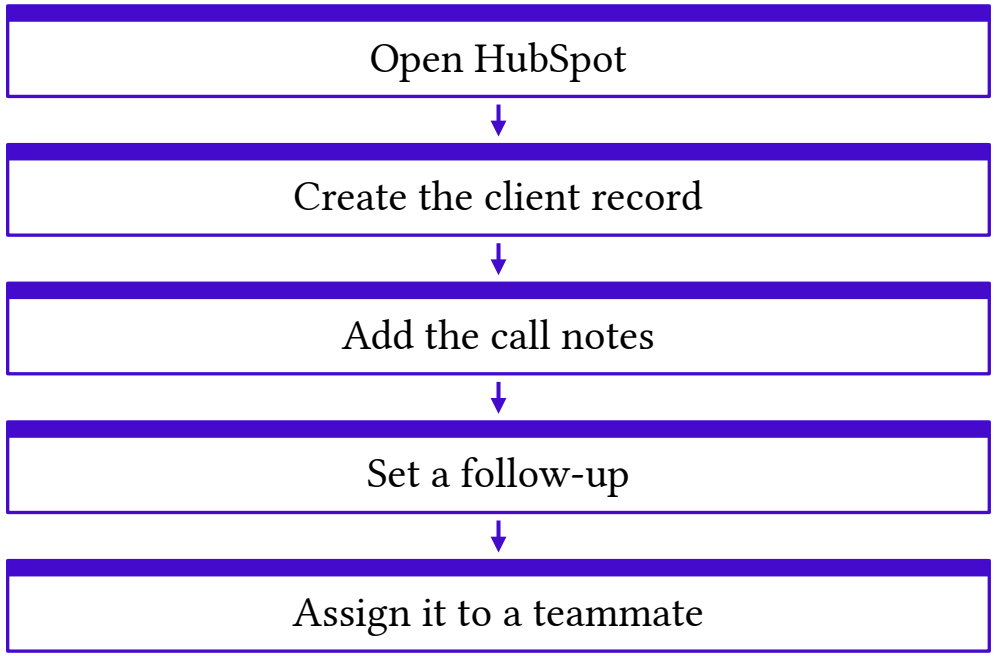


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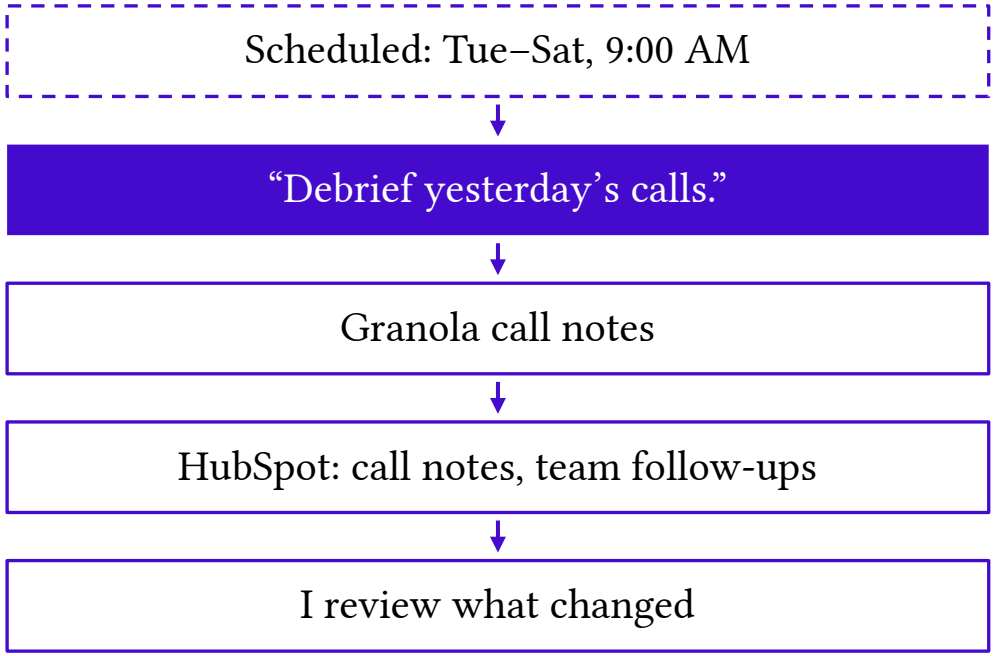
HubSpot

I don't do this.



And so on, for every call.

I do do this.



Each morning, for the previous workday's calls.

A tool I'd never learn

Blender

10,140

settings

2,491

commands

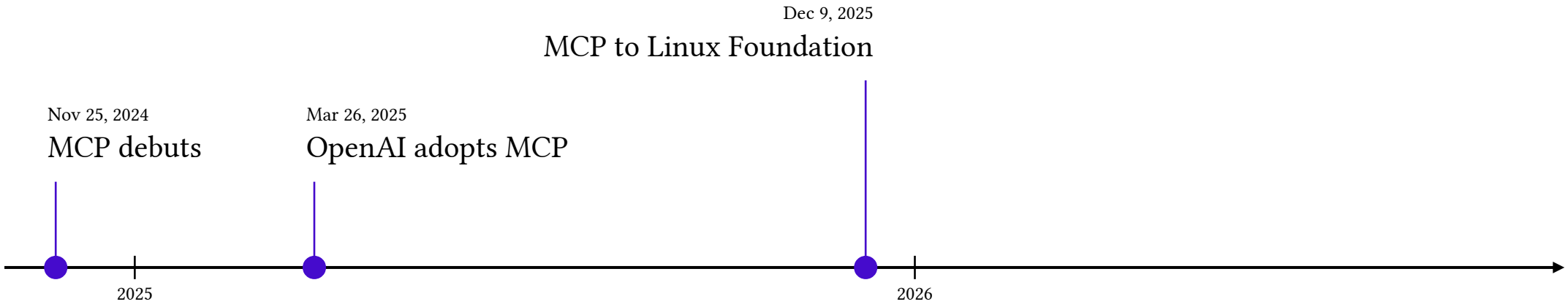
Hat tip: Jaclyn Konzelmann

Product Director, Google Labs
TAIC 2026

Every setting and command as it ran, built by Claude through Blender's Python API. Blender 5.2.2 LTS (bpy.ops, bpy.types), counted Oct 8, 2026.

The obvious part

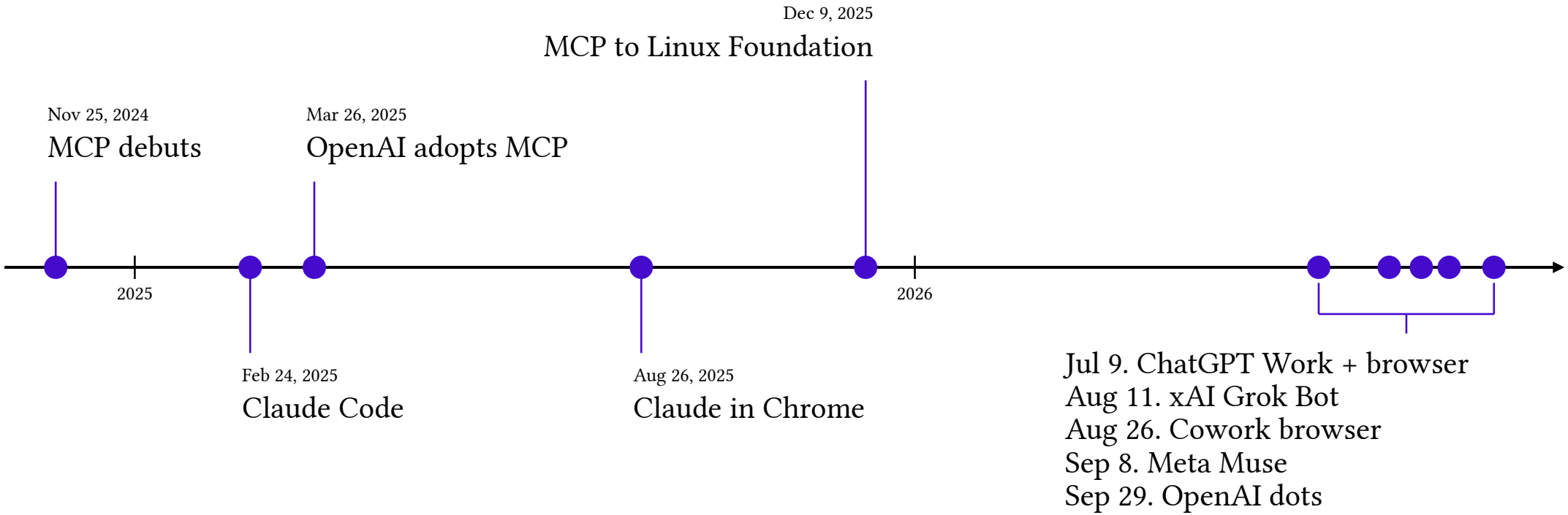
People Will Bring Their Own AI to Your Product



Sources: Anthropic; TechCrunch, Mar 26, 2025; Linux Foundation; OpenAI; xAI; Meta; HUMAN Security, State of Agentic Traffic, Sep 2026.

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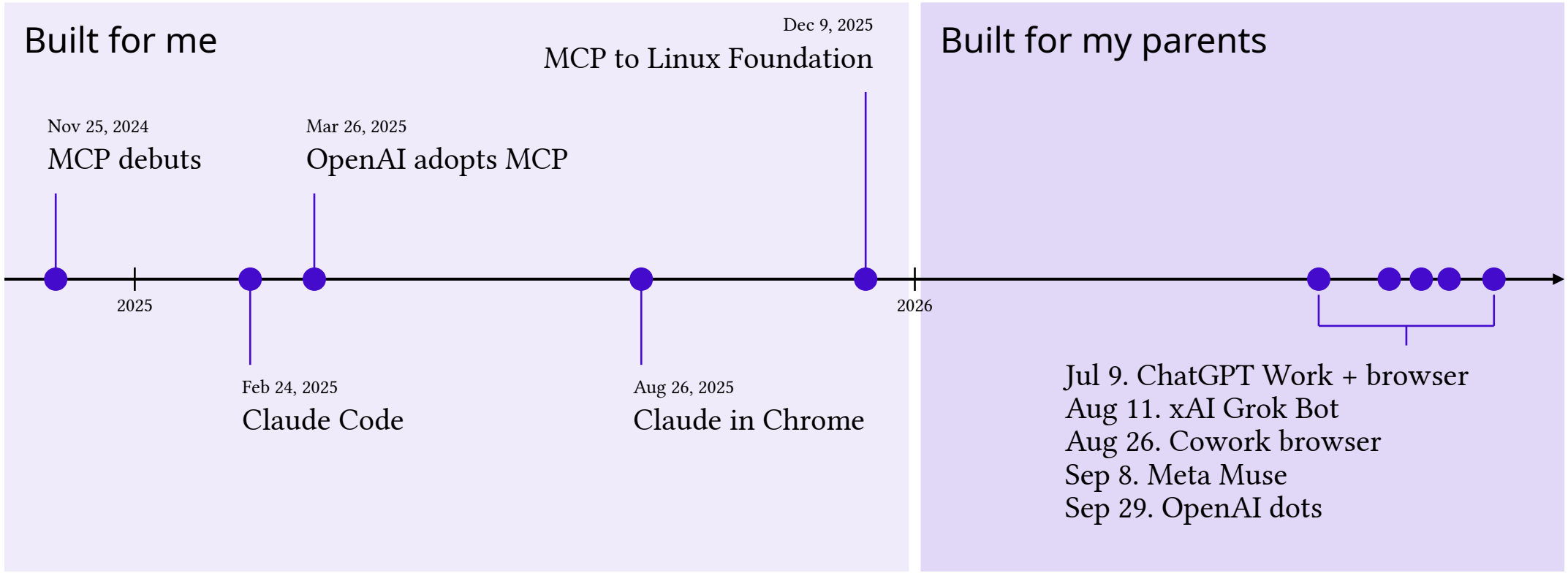
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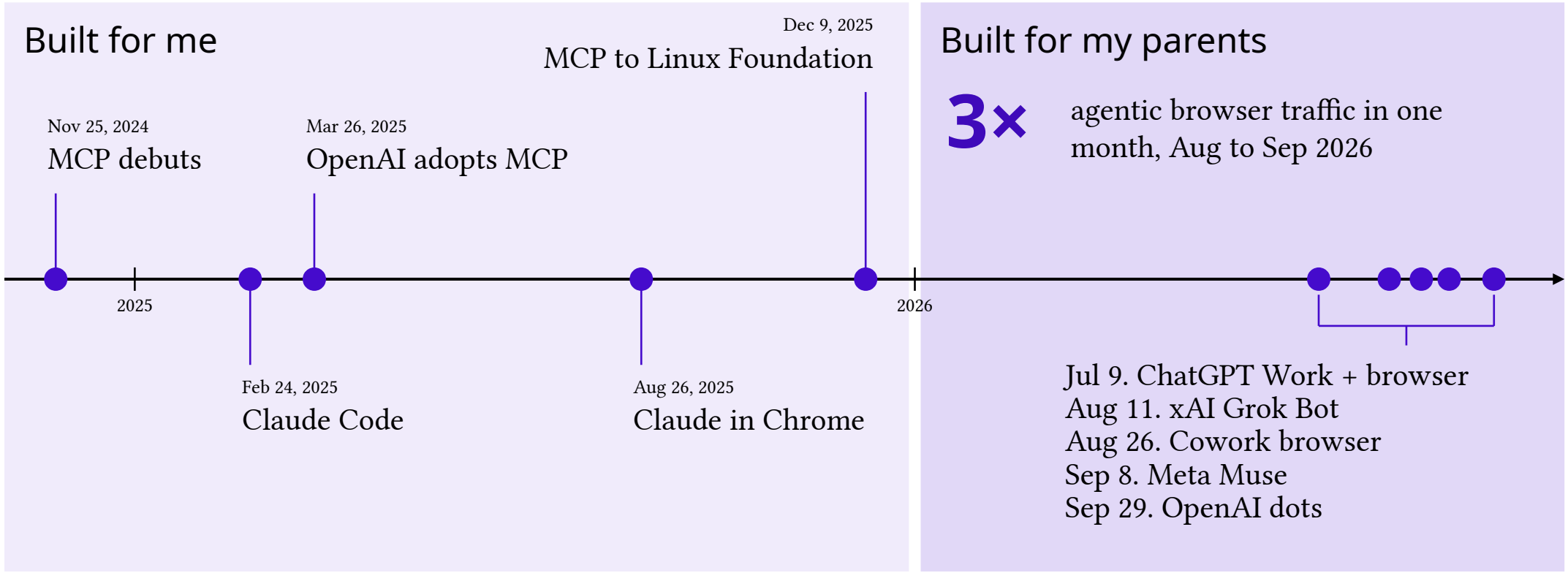
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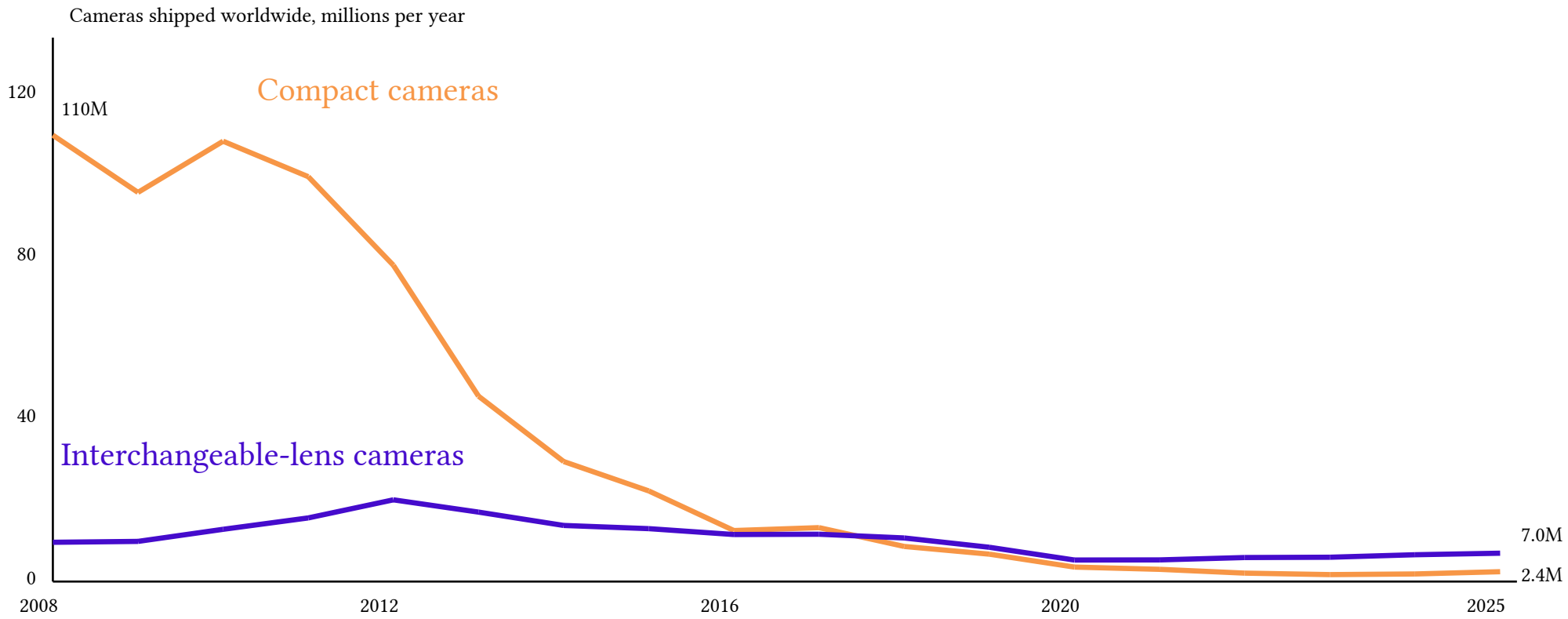
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Why it matters

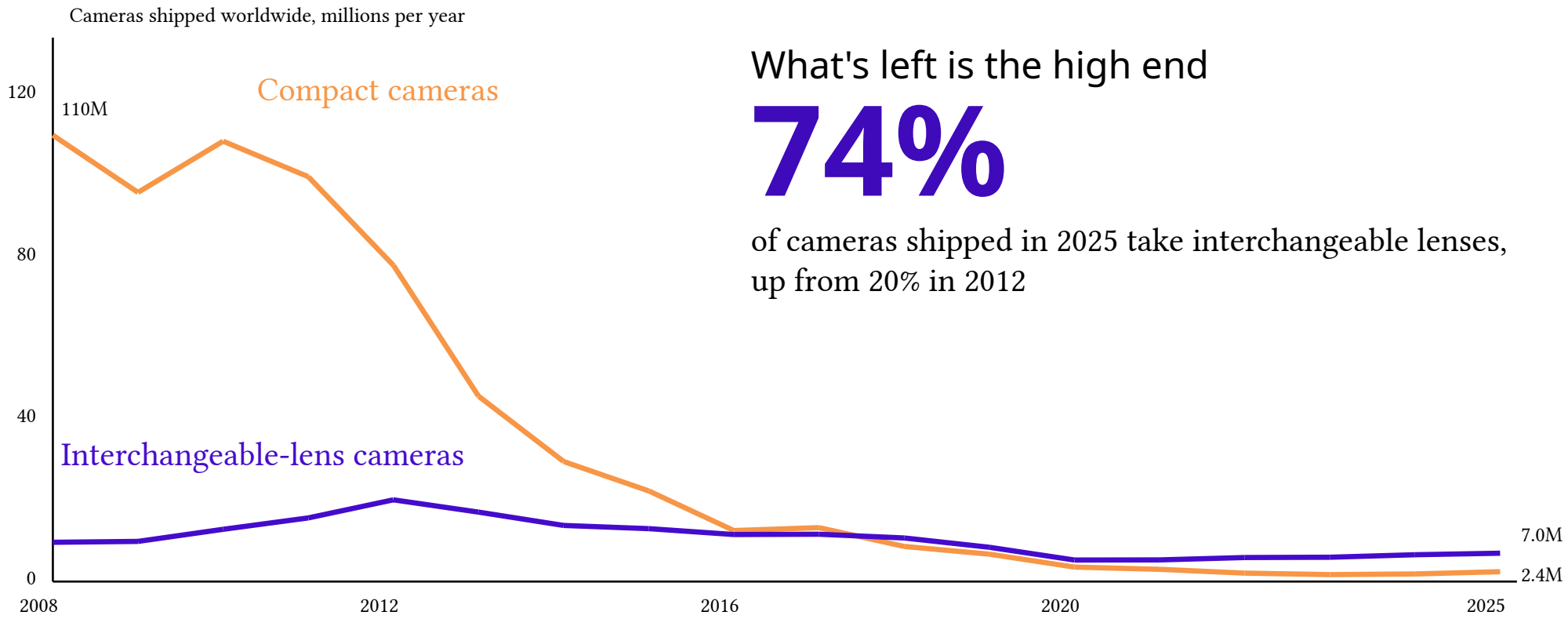
The Phone Ate the Point-and-Shoot



Source: CIPA worldwide shipments by member companies, Jan–Dec 2008–2025.

Why it matters

The Phone Ate the Point-and-Shoot



What's left is the high end

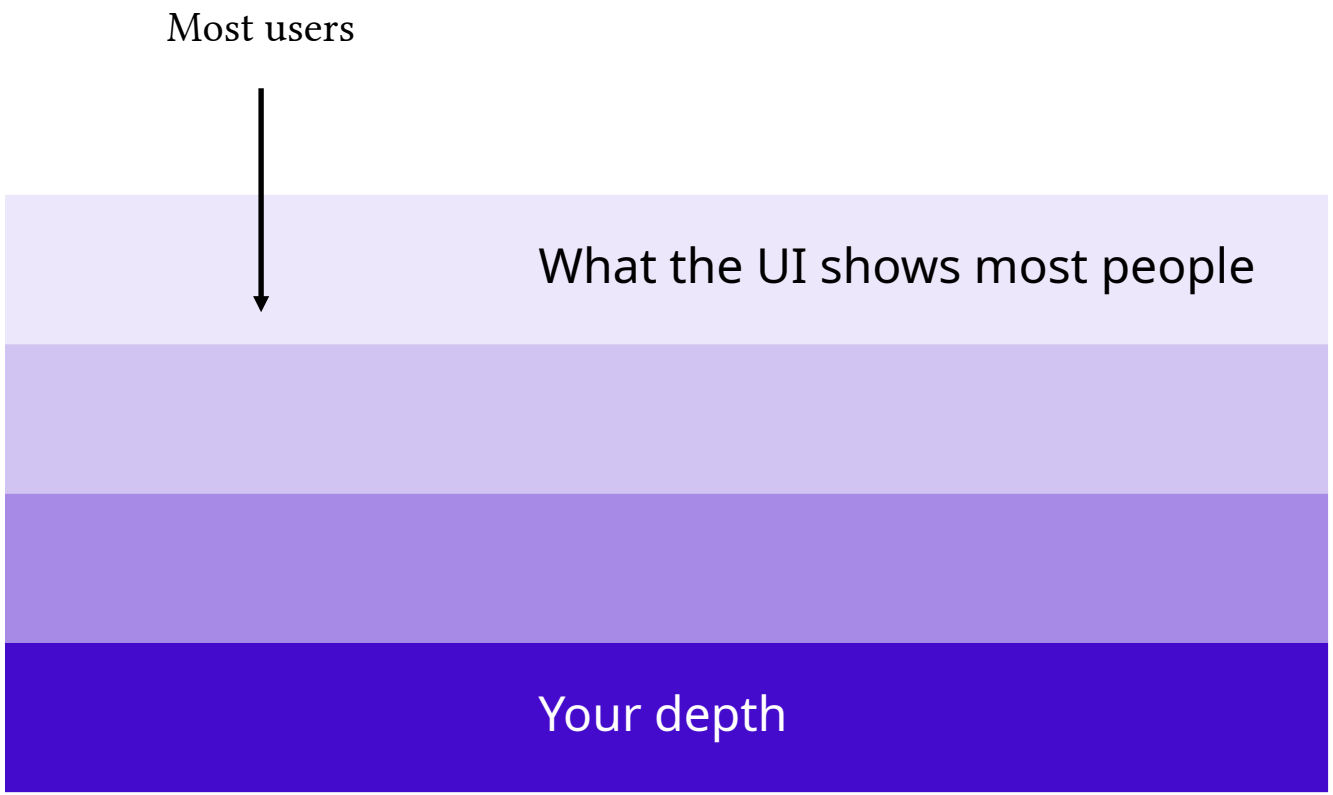
74%

of cameras shipped in 2025 take interchangeable lenses, up from 20% in 2012

Source: CIPA worldwide shipments by member companies, Jan–Dec 2008–2025.

What to do

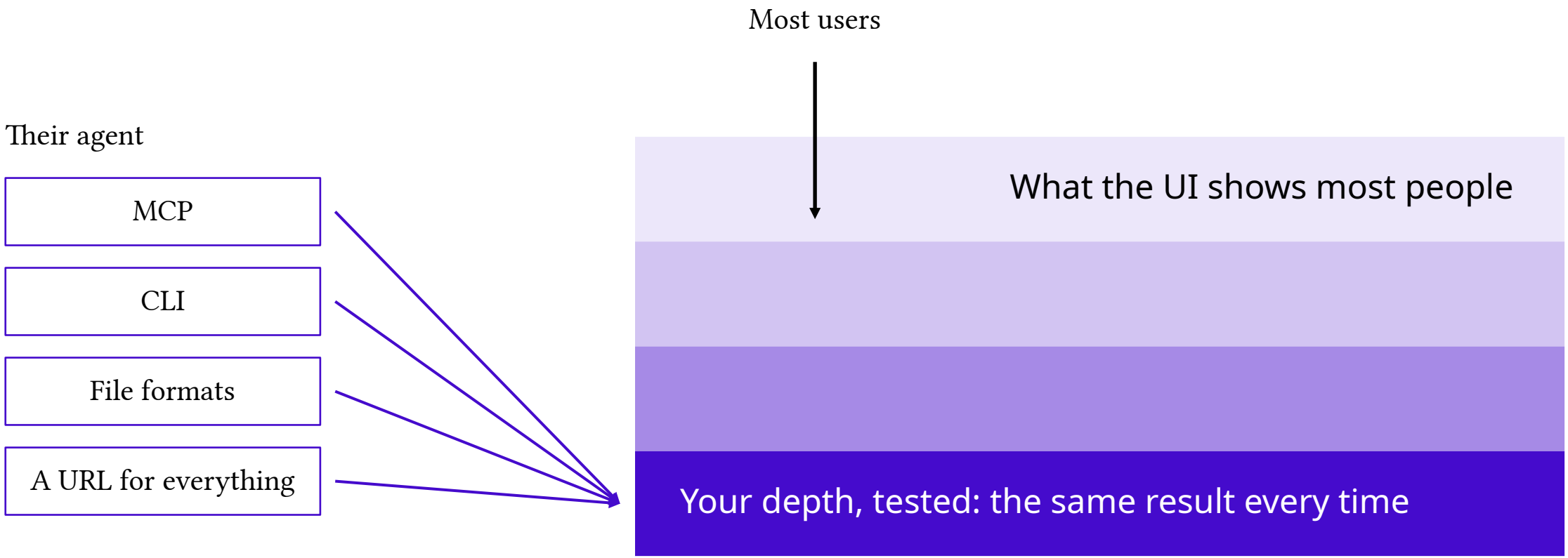
Don't Hide Your Depth Behind the UI



Illustration, not data.

What to do

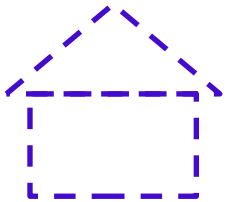
Don't Hide Your Depth Behind the UI



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What to do

Your Users Still Do the Walkthrough



Their agent builds it

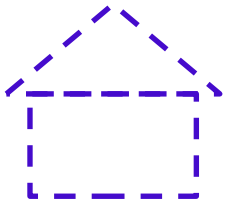
Blender: 421 settings
This deck: every slide
HubSpot: every record

Your job

Give it a door

What to do

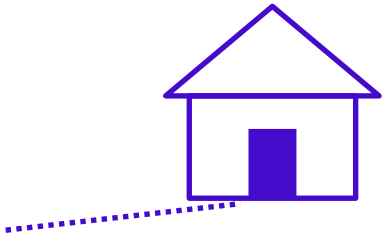
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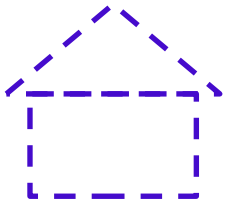
The user walks through

Blender: check the render
This deck: open and check
HubSpot: review follow-ups

Your job
A link to the real thing

What to do

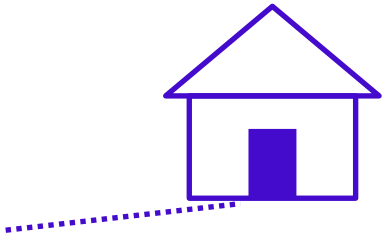
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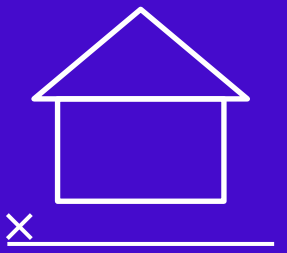
Your job
Give it a door



The user walks through

Blender: check the render
This deck: open and check
HubSpot: review follow-ups

Your job
A link to the real thing



The user signs off

Blender: judge the shot
This deck: give the talk
HubSpot: send follow-ups

Your job
Leave them the final say

One question to take with you:

Where do you enable their agents, and where do you give people better oversight?

There's more at 3:15: The Agent Surface, Room 306B

Enable their agents

Expose your depth

Pick the channel that fits

Give it its own door

Give people oversight

Make results witnessable

Agents draft, people commit

Rules behind the API

Can't make it? Come find me at the Applied Visions table

Just outside Ballroom A



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applied visions