



King Abdullah University
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Istituto
Dalle Molle
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sull'intelligenza
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SUPSI



ICML
International Conference
On Machine Learning

GPTSwarm: Language Agents as Optimizable Graphs

Mingchen Zhuge, Wenyi Wang, Louis Kirsch⁺, Francesco Faccio⁺, Dmitrii Khizbullin, Jürgen Schmidhuber⁺ (⁺at ICML)



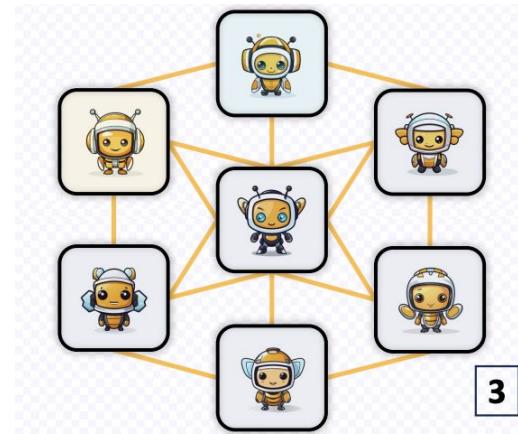
1. Motivation

Current LLM Agents require **significant human engineering** to

- 1) Design the inference and orchestration structure
- 2) Choose appropriate prompts

Can we **unify** different structures and
automatically optimize over them and
the prompts?

Language Agents as Optimizable Graphs





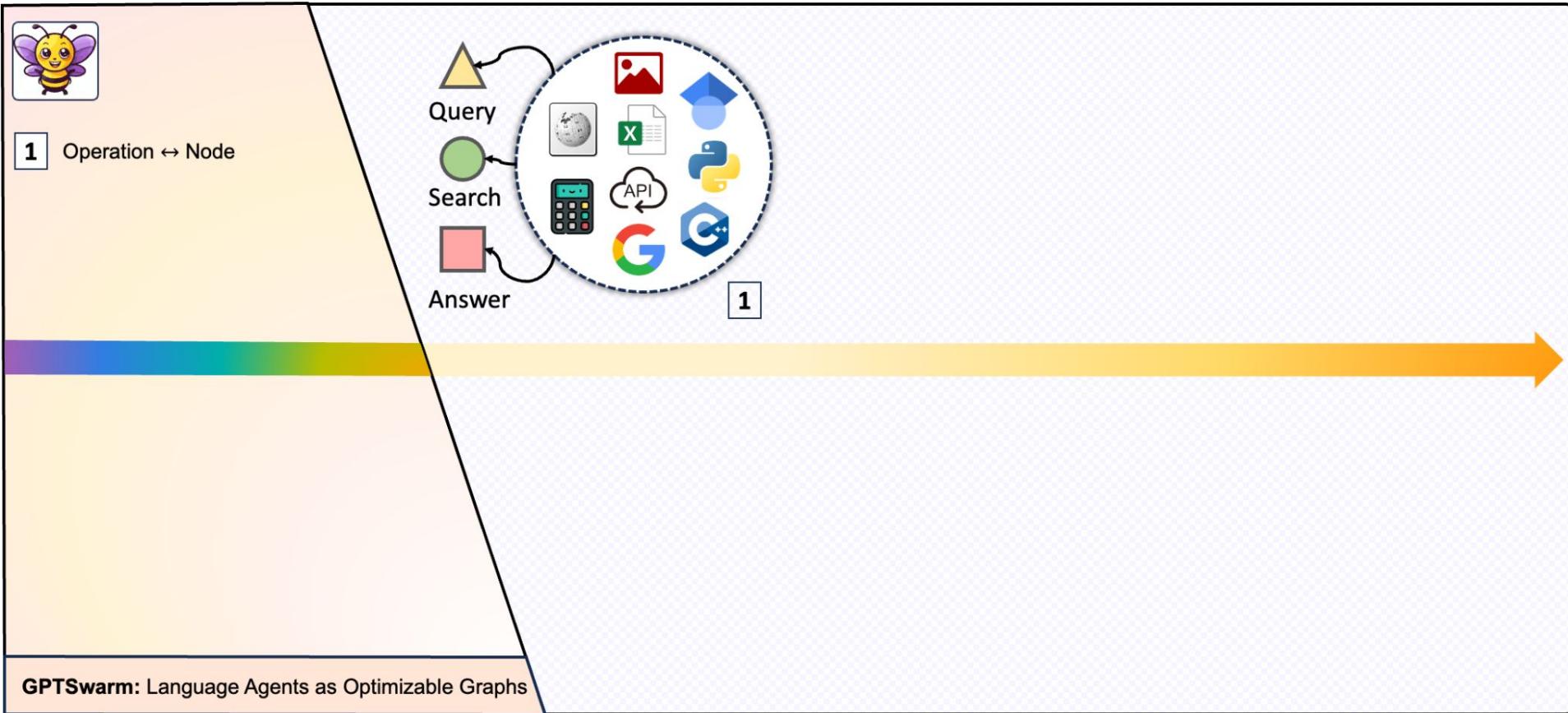
2. Our Approach



GPTSwarm: Language Agents as Optimizable Graphs

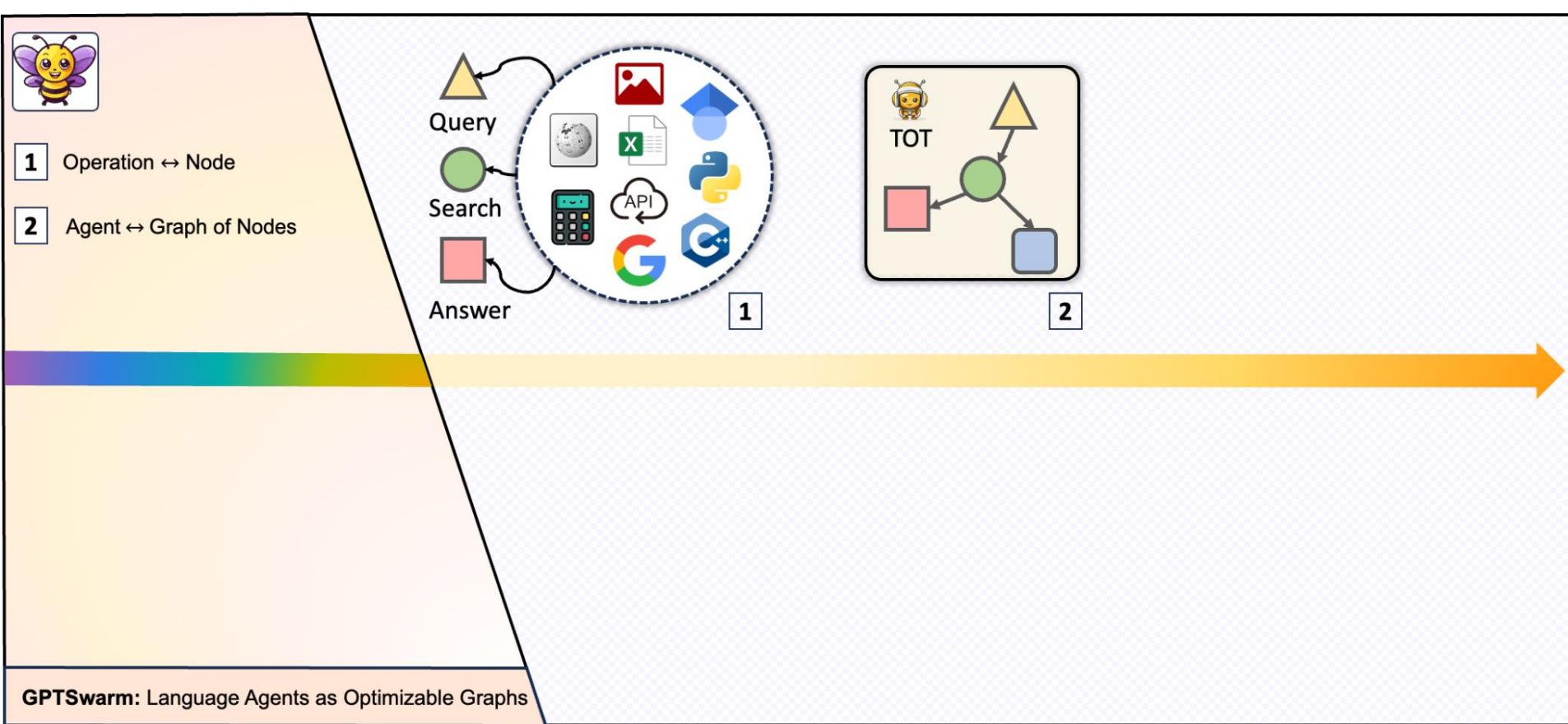


2. Our Approach



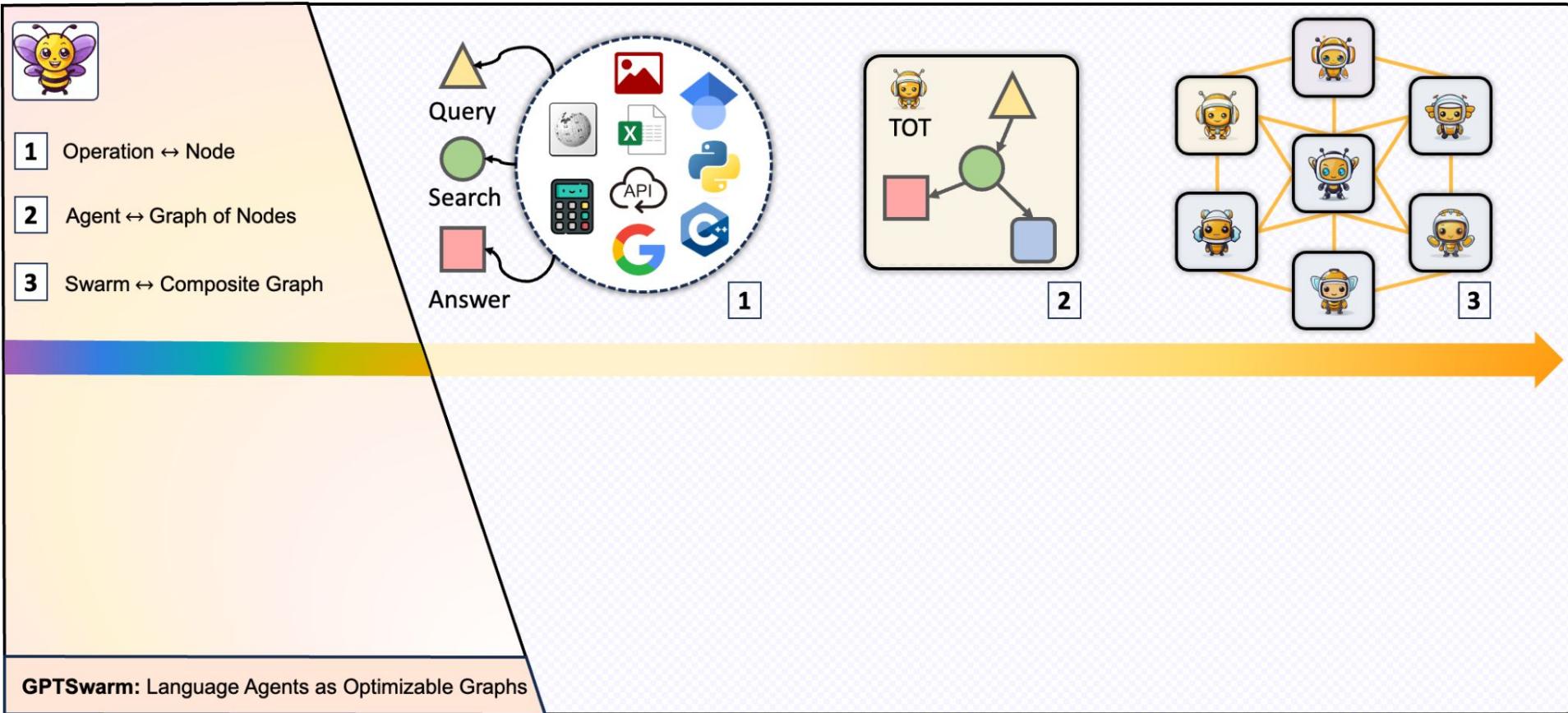


2. Our Approach



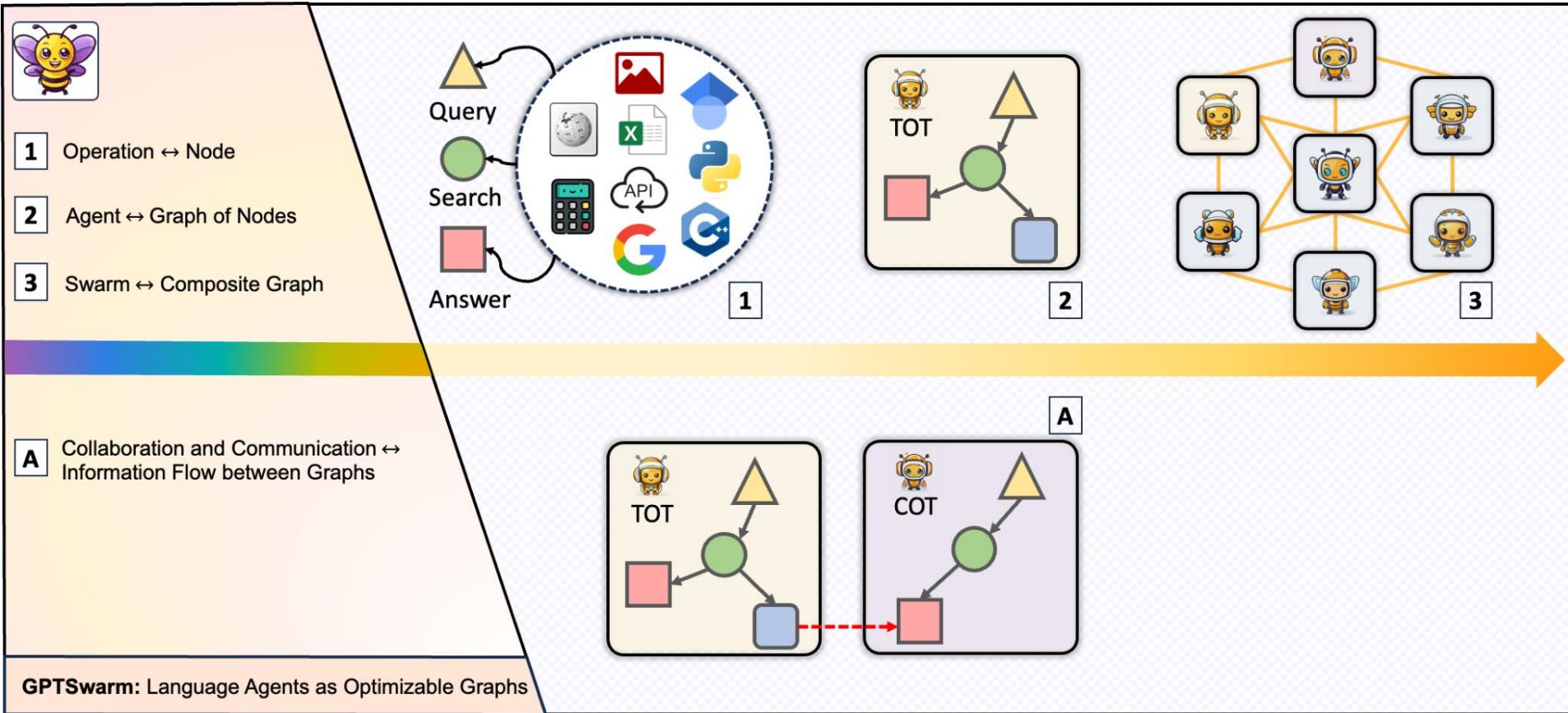


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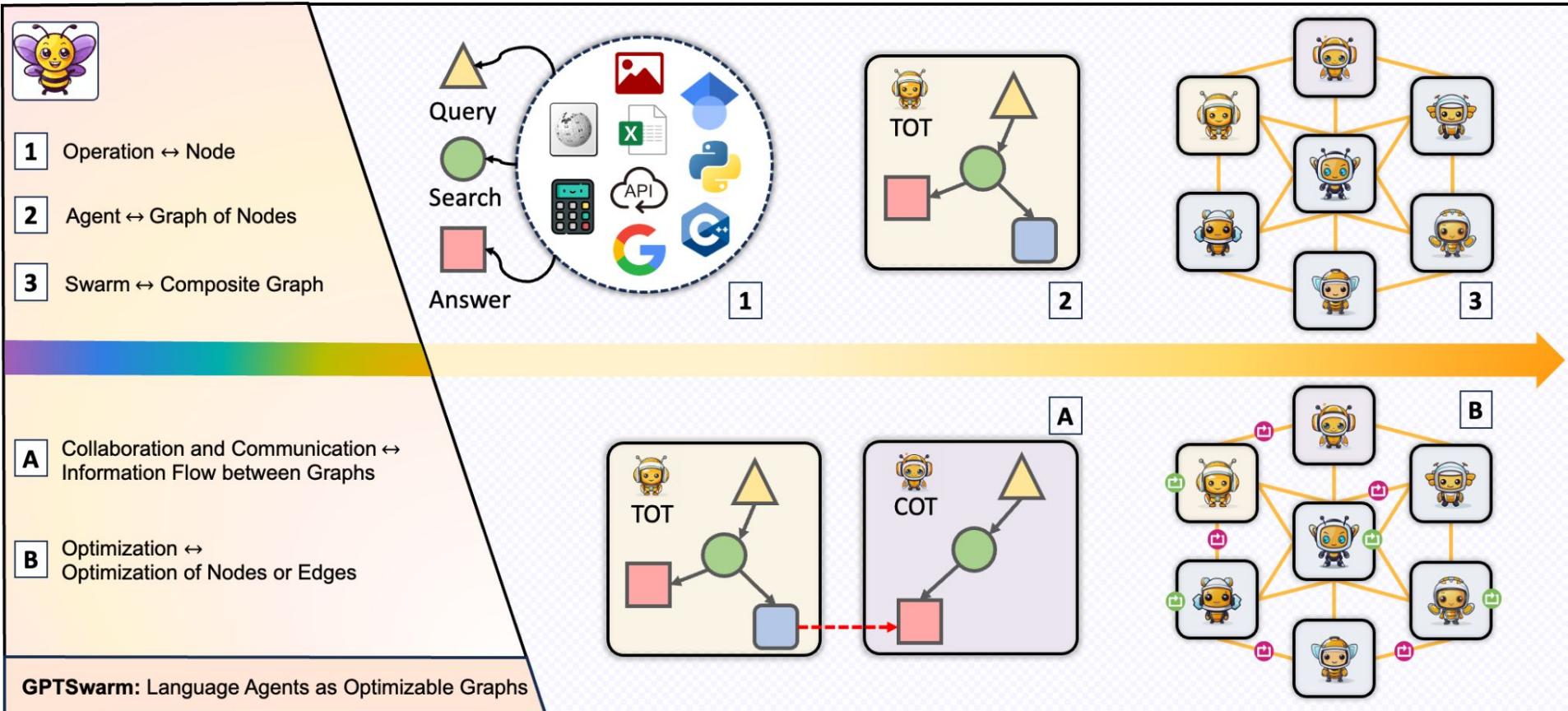


2. Our Approach





2. Our Approach





3. Algorithms

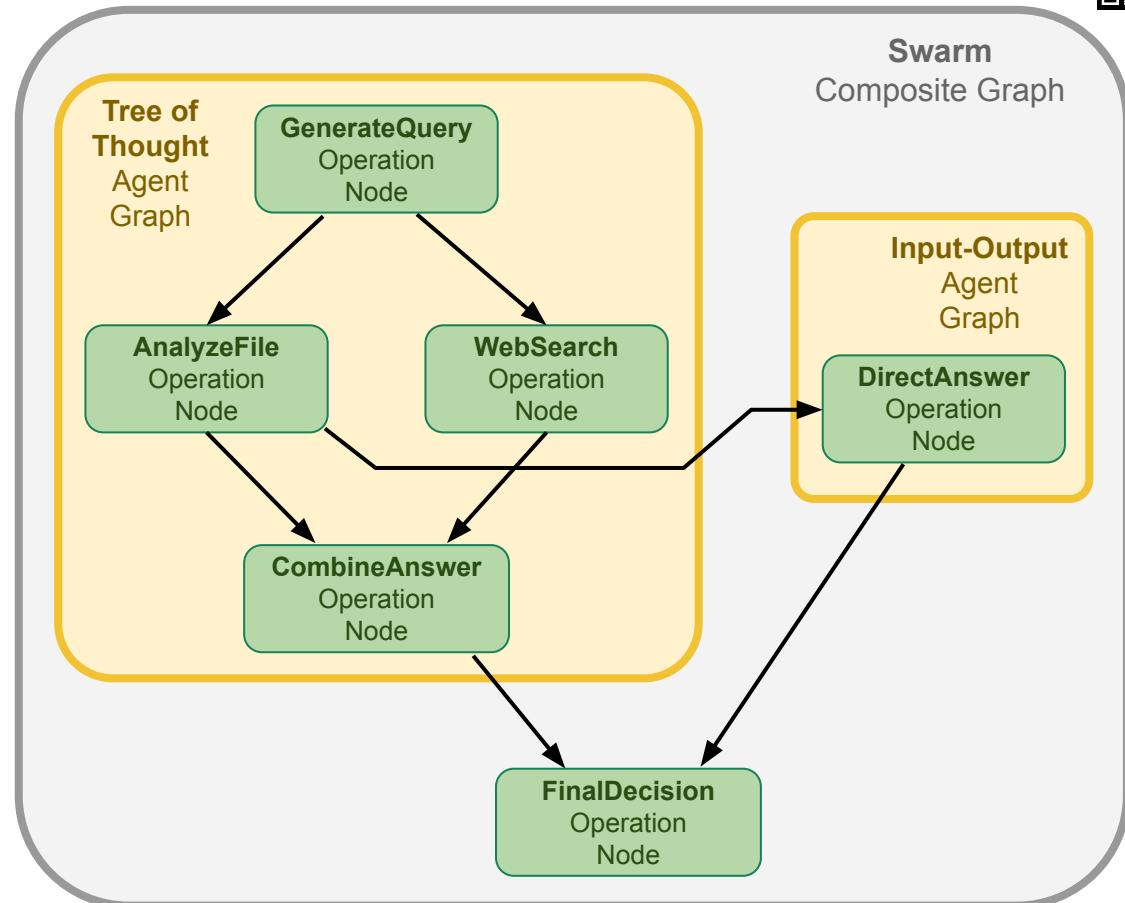


Composite Graph

Legend



Edge / Message
→





3. Algorithms



Topological Execution

Algorithm 1 Graph Execution

Require: Computational graph $G = (N, E, F, o)$, input x , empty context z for each node without predecessors.

```
for n in TopologicalSort(N) do
     $z_n \leftarrow \{f_n(z_v, x) : v \in \text{pre}(n)\}$ 
end for
```

Ensure: $f_o(z_o, x)$

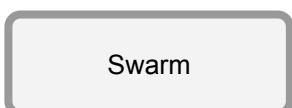
Legend



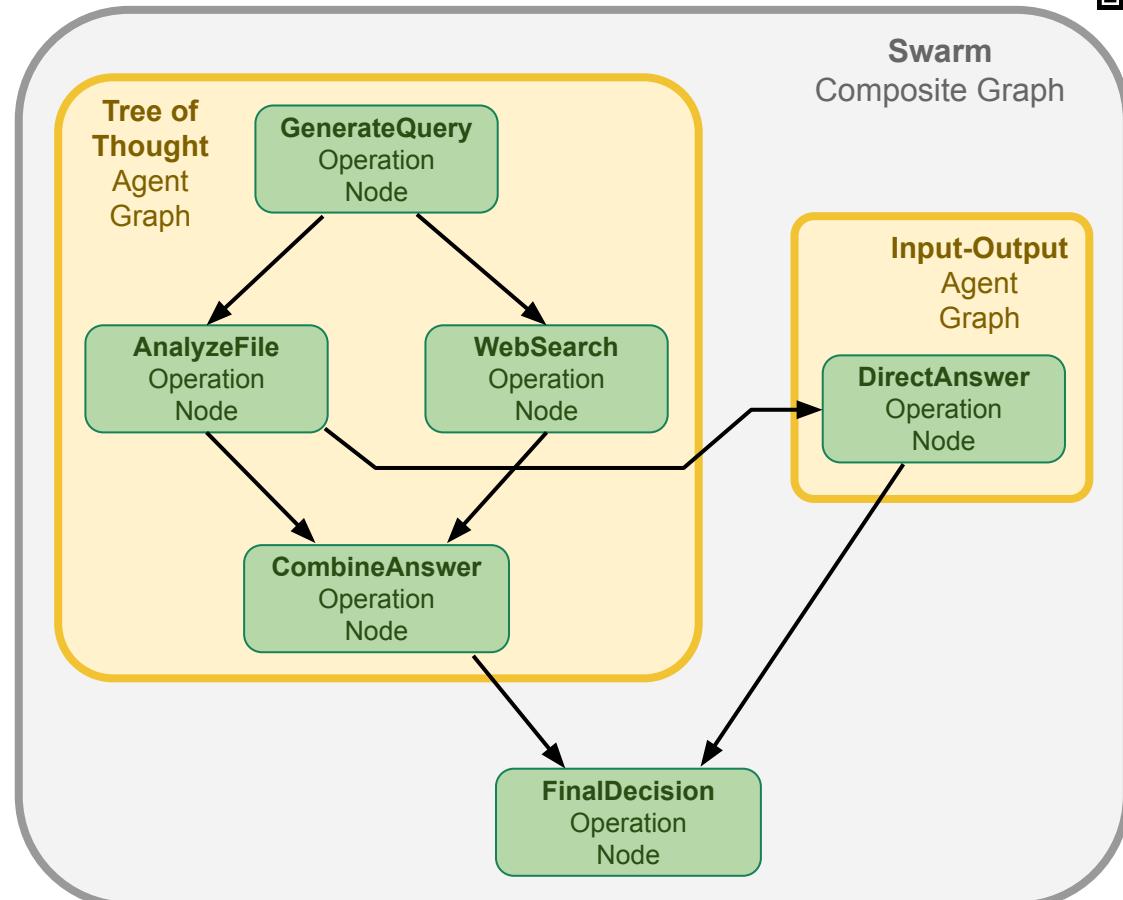
Edge / Message



Agent



Swarm





3. Algorithms



1. Initialization

Edge Optimization

Algorithm 2 Edge Optimization with REINFORCE

Require: A parameterized probabilistic distribution over computation graphs D_θ , an unbiased utility estimator $\hat{u}_\tau(\cdot)$, and a learning rate α .

Initialize $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

while terminate condition not met **do**

 Sample $G_i \sim D_\theta$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, M$.

 Update $\theta \leftarrow \theta + \frac{\alpha}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \hat{u}_\tau(G_i) \nabla_\theta \log(p_\theta(G_i))$.

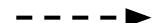
end while

Legend

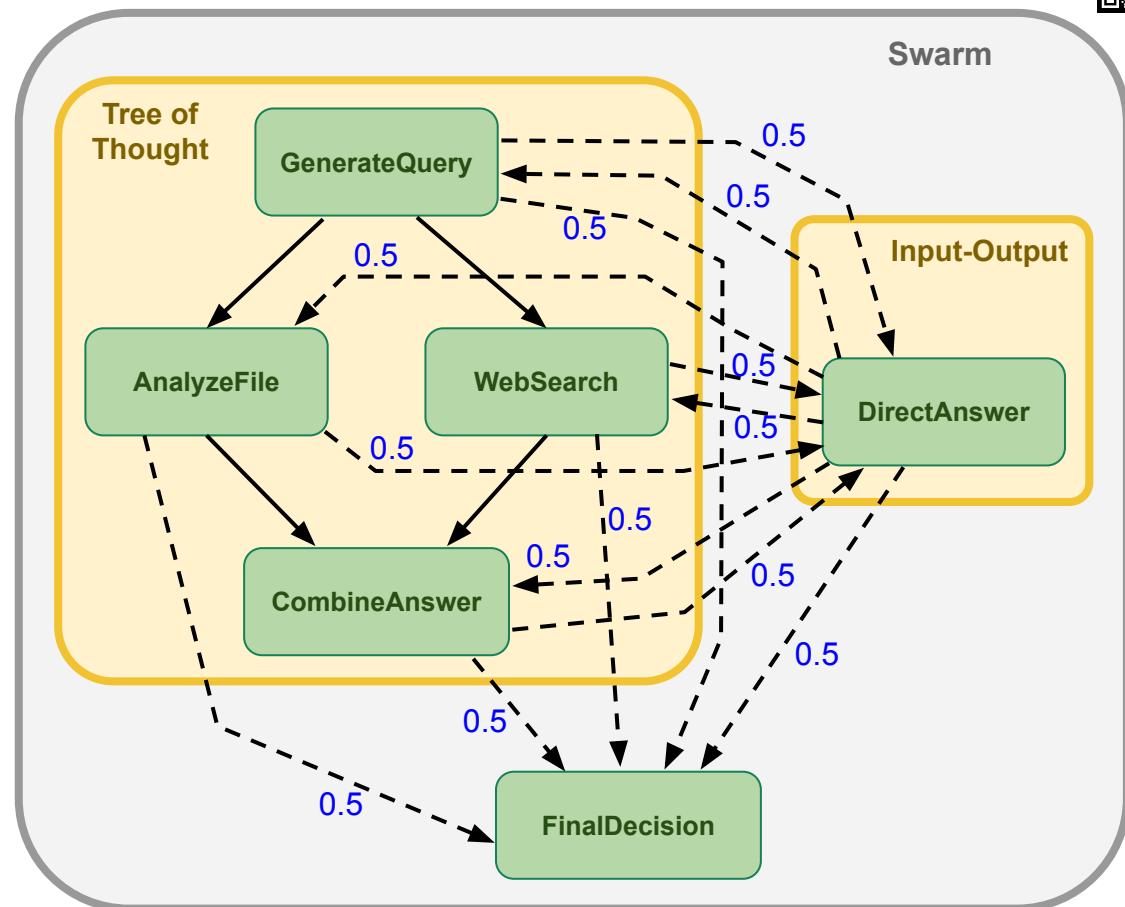
Fixed Edge



Potential Edge



0.5 - associated probability





3. Algorithms



2. Random sampling

Edge Optimization

Algorithm 2 Edge Optimization with REINFORCE

Require: A parameterized probabilistic distribution over computation graphs D_θ , an unbiased utility estimator $\hat{u}_\tau(\cdot)$, and a learning rate α .
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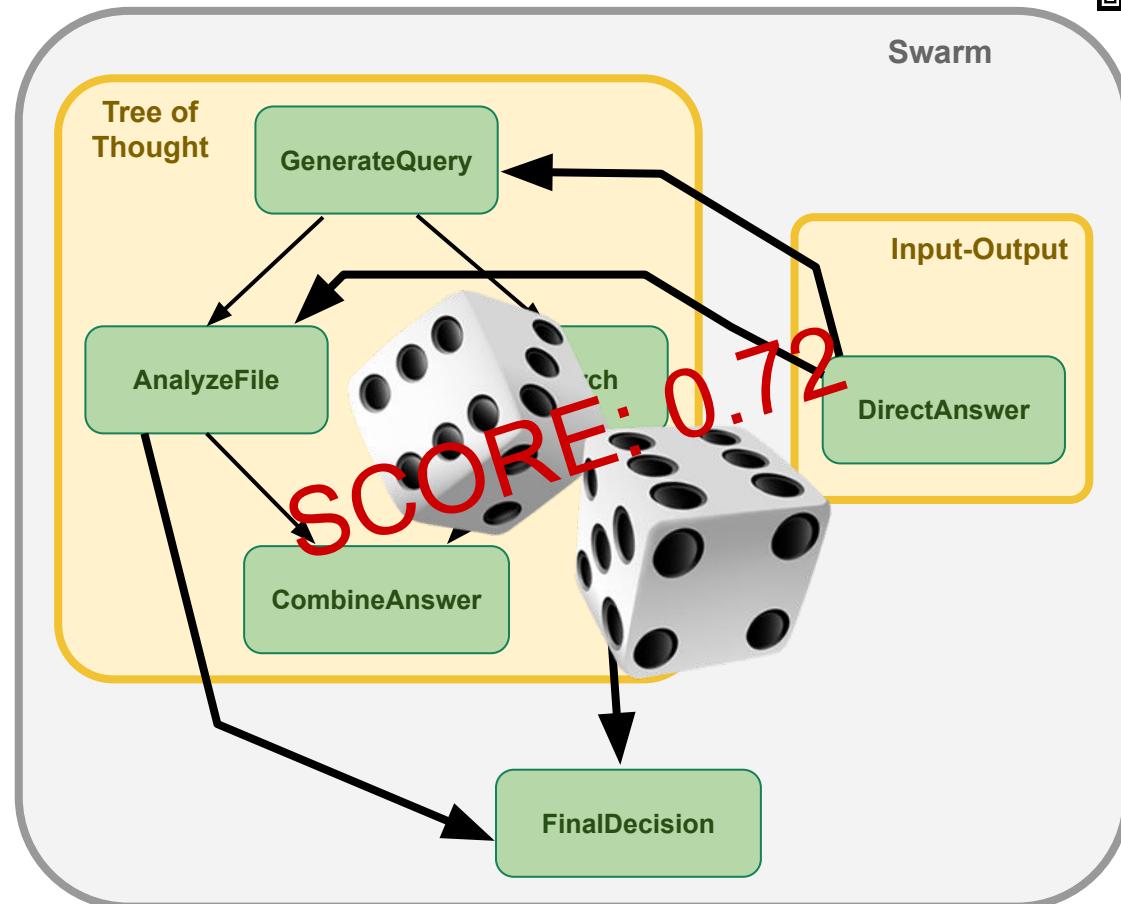
 Update $\theta \leftarrow \theta + \frac{\alpha}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \hat{u}_\tau(G_i) \nabla_\theta \log(p_\theta(G_i))$.

end while

Legend

Fixed Edge
→

Realized Edge
→





3. Algorithms

3. Update probabilities



Edge Optimization

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Require: A parameterized probabilistic distribution over computation graphs D_θ , an unbiased utility estimator $\hat{u}_\tau(\cdot)$, and a learning rate α .
 Initialize $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

```
while terminate condition not met do
    Sample  $G_i \sim D_\theta$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, M$ .
```

```
    Update  $\theta \leftarrow \theta + \frac{\alpha}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \hat{u}_\tau(G_i) \nabla_\theta \log(p_\theta(G_i))$ .
end while
```

Legend

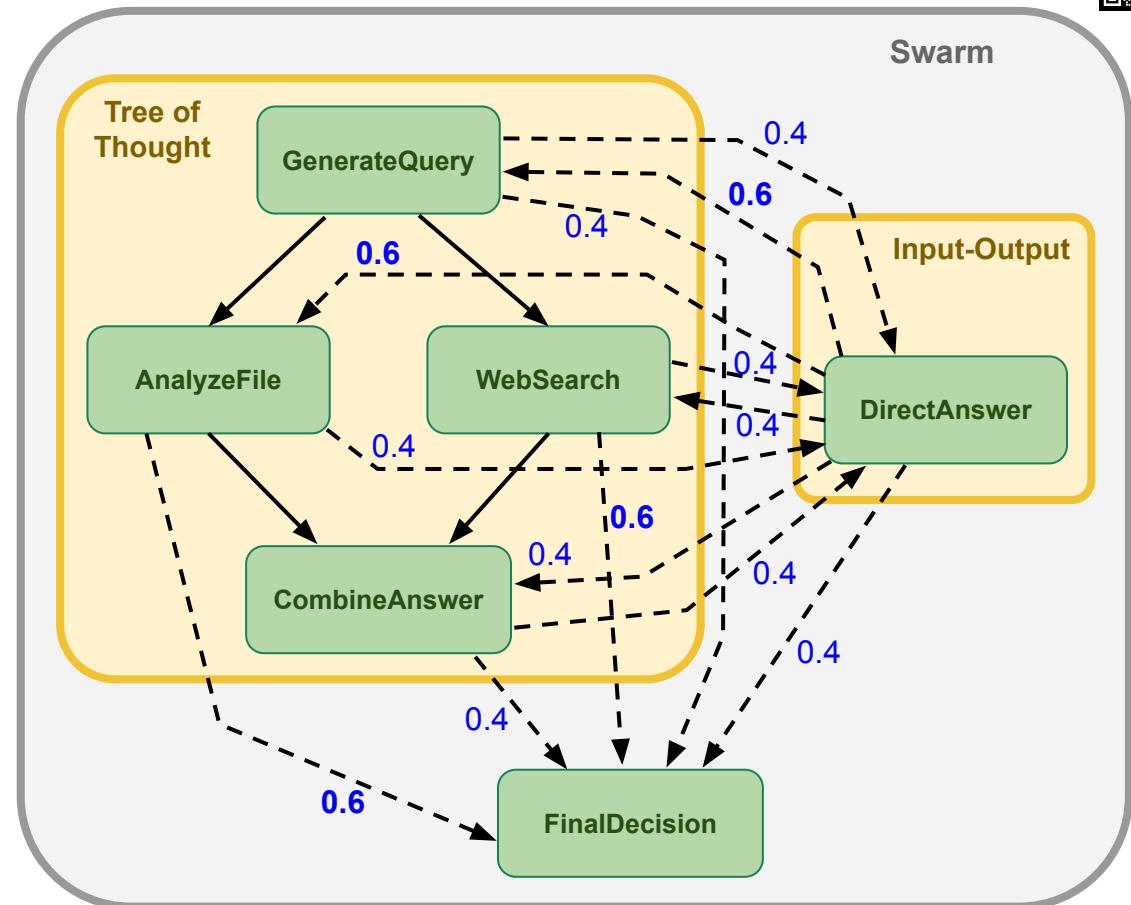
Fixed Edge



Potential Edge



0.5 - associated probability





3. Algorithms

Edge Optimization

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end while

Legend

Fixed Edge



Realized Edge



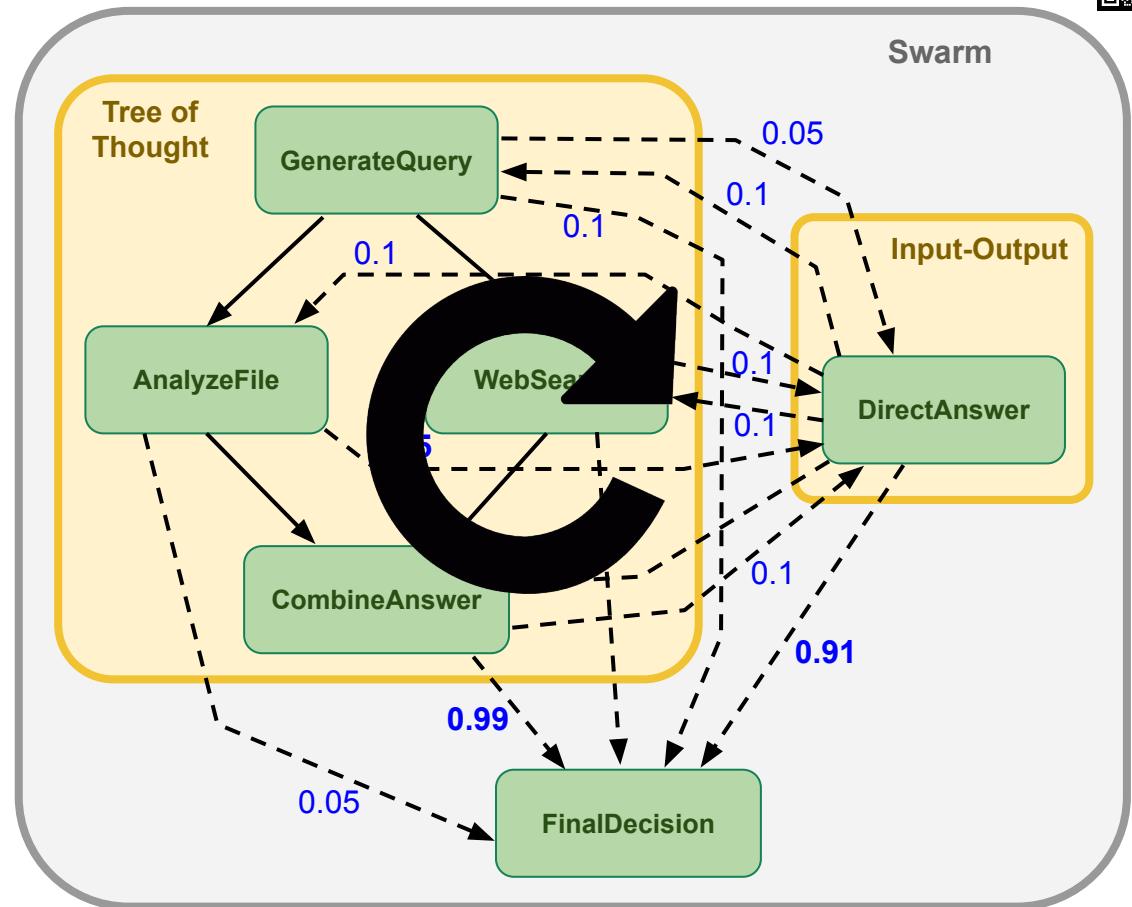
Potential Edge



0.5

- associated probability

4. Final realization





3. Algorithms

Edge Optimization

Algorithm 2 Edge Optimization with REINFORCE

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end while

Legend

Fixed Edge



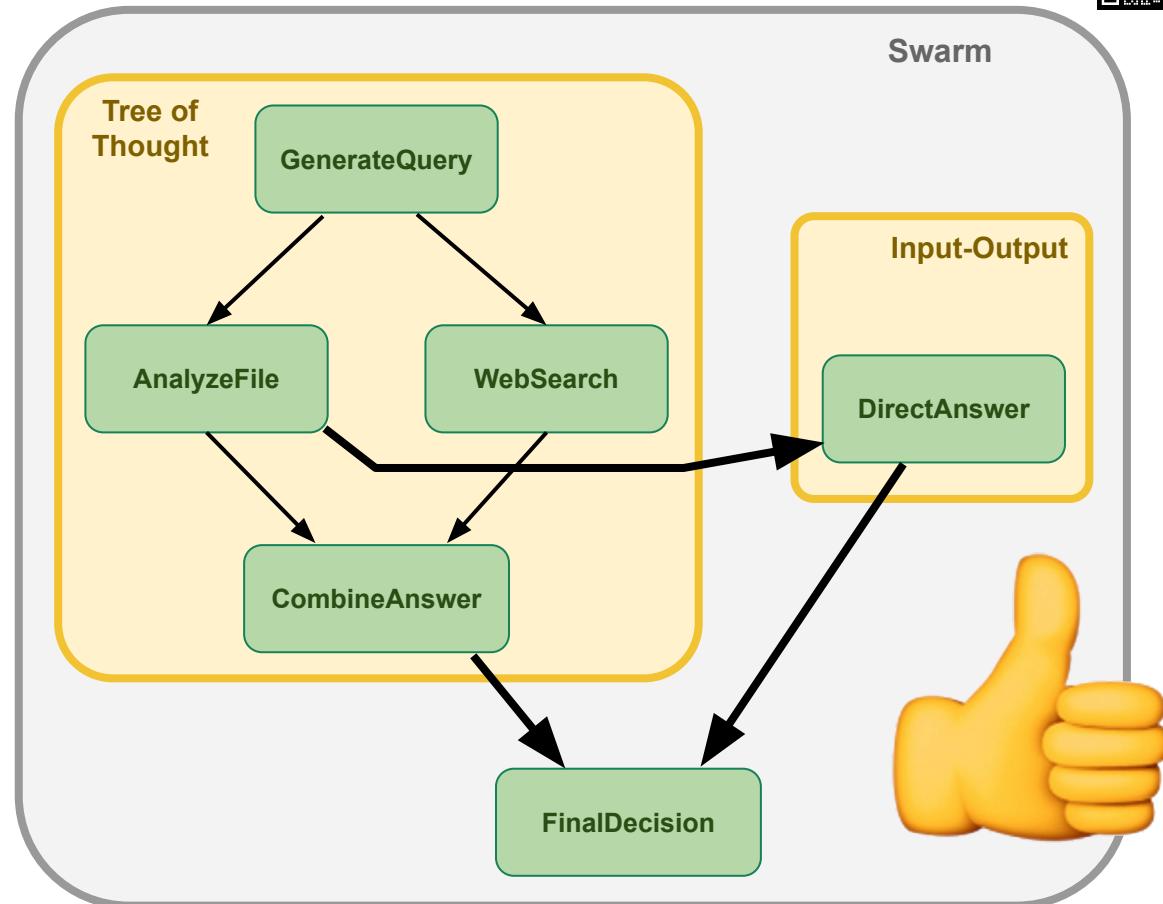
Realized Edge



Potential Edge



4. Final realization





3. Algorithms



Node Optimization

Improve individual operations

Algorithm 3 Node Optimization

Require: A parameterized graph $G^P = (N, E, F^P, o)$, natural language function descriptions $D = \{d_n\}_{n \in N}$, and a distribution of inputs D_X .

Initialize p_n for all $n \in N$.

Initialize $h_n \leftarrow \emptyset$ for all $n \in N$.

while terminate condition not met **do**

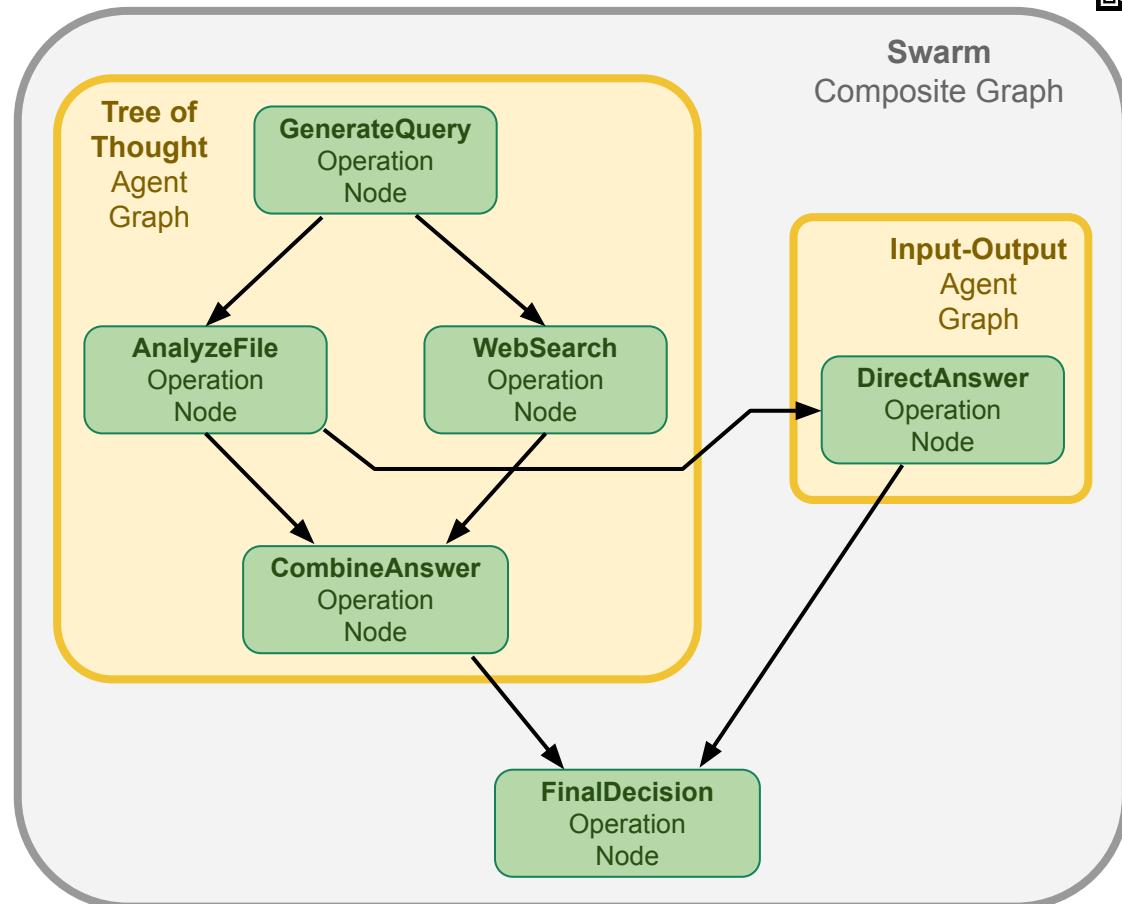
 Sample input $x \sim D_X$.

$y \leftarrow G^P(x)$ following Algorithm 1.

$h_n \leftarrow h_n \cup \{(z_n, x), f_n^{p_n}(z_n, x)\}$ for all $n \in N$.

$p_n \leftarrow I(h_n, p_n, d_n)$, for all $n \in N$.

end while





3. Algorithms



Node Optimization

Improve individual operations

Algorithm 3 Node Optimization

Require: A parameterized graph $G^P = (N, E, F^P, o)$, natural language function descriptions $D = \{d_n\}_{n \in N}$, and a distribution of inputs D_X .

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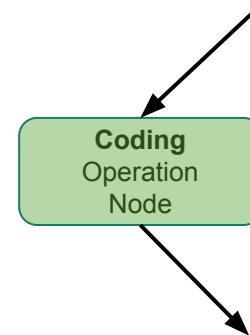
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$p_n \leftarrow I(h_n, p_n, d_n)$, for all $n \in N$.

end while





3. Algorithms



Node Optimization

Improve individual operations

Prompt:

Write a Python function.

Input:

...

Output:

...



New prompt:

Write a Python function.
For example,

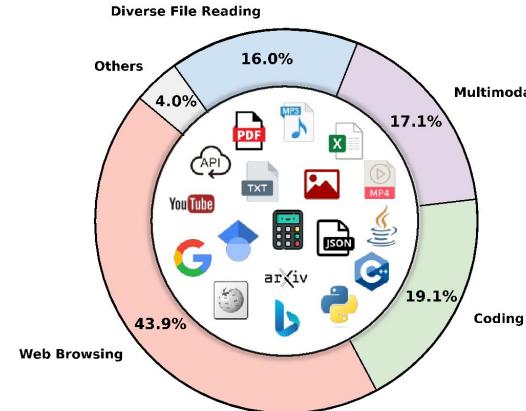
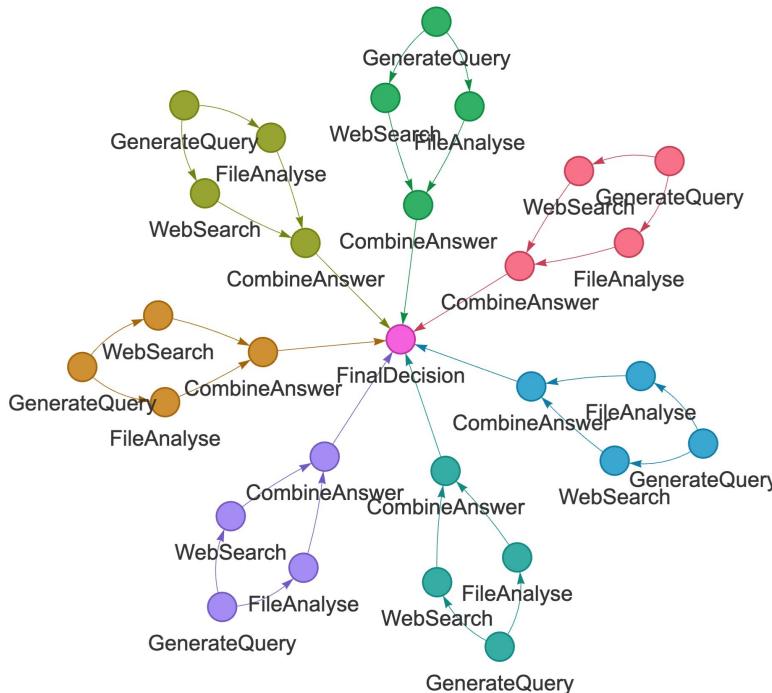
```
```python
def max_k(arr: list[int], k: int) -> list[int]:
 return sorted(arr, reverse=True)[:k]
````
```



4. Composing Agents with Graphs



Open-Ended Human Assistant (GAIA)



Tool calls as nodes in the graph

| Method | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Avg. |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| GPT-3.5 | 7.55 | 4.65 | 0 | 4.85 |
| GPT-4 | 15.09 | 2.33 | 0 | 6.06 |
| GPT-4-Turbo | 20.75 | 5.81 | 0 | 9.70 |
| AutoGPT | 13.21 | 0 | 3.85 | 4.85 |
| GPTSwarm | 30.56 ± 3.25 | 20.93 ± 1.27 | 3.85 ± 2.43 | 18.45 |
| <i>Improvement</i> | 47.3%↑ | 260.2%↑ | 0.0% | 90.2%↑ |
| GPT4 with Plugins* | 30.30 | 9.70 | 0 | 14.6 |



5. Edge Optimization

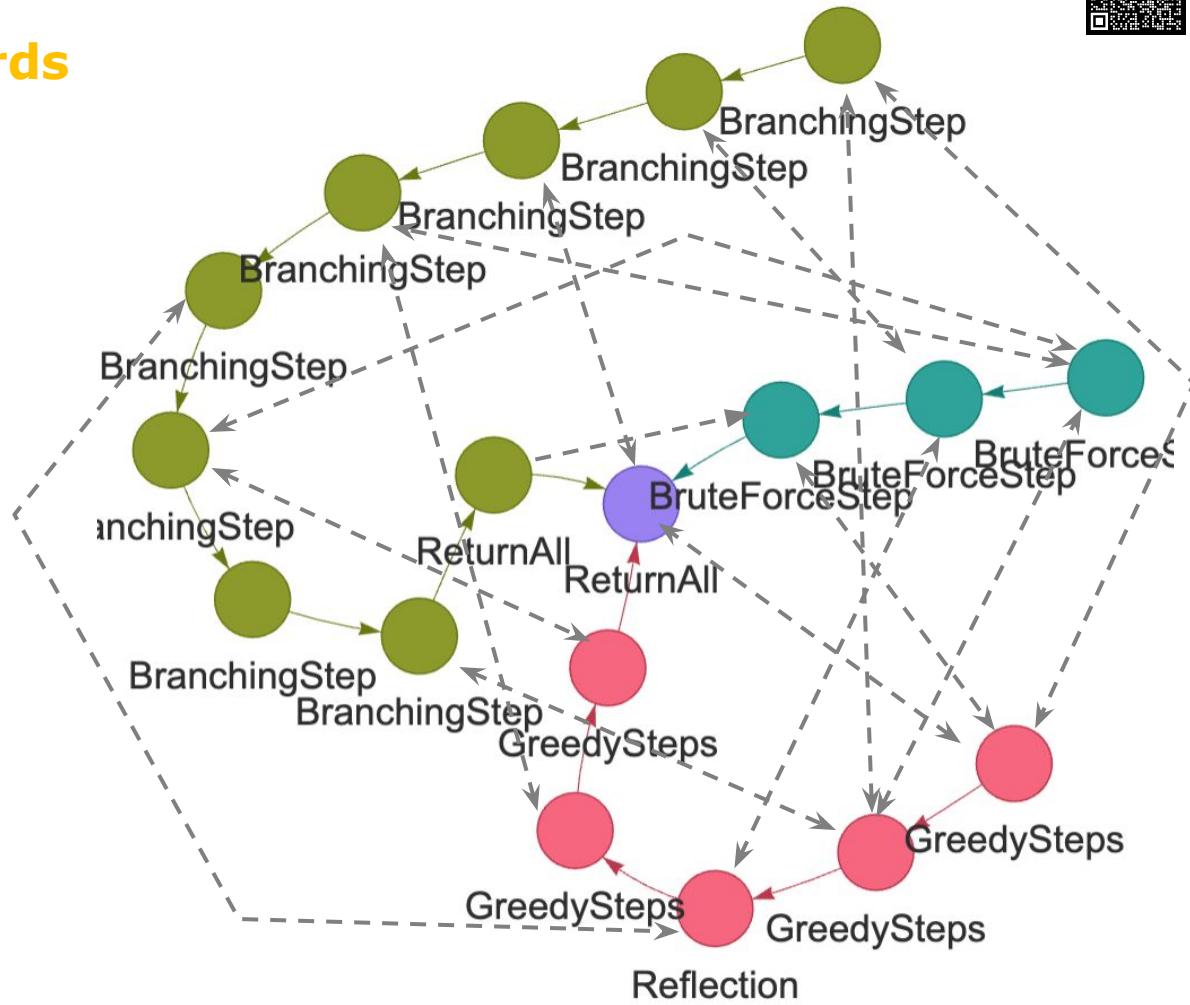


Solving Mini Crosswords

We are optimizing a swarm of three agents

- 1) TOT
- 2) Reflexion
- 3) COT

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | A | D | S | E | N | D |
| O | E | A | S | T | | A |
| W | A | | I | T | S | Y |
| N | E | R | F | N | T | |
| A | A | R | K | U | | |
| S | T | S | Y | N | C | |
| M | E | S | H | A | A | |
| A | E | V | E | R | R | |
| N | E | A | R | | D | D |

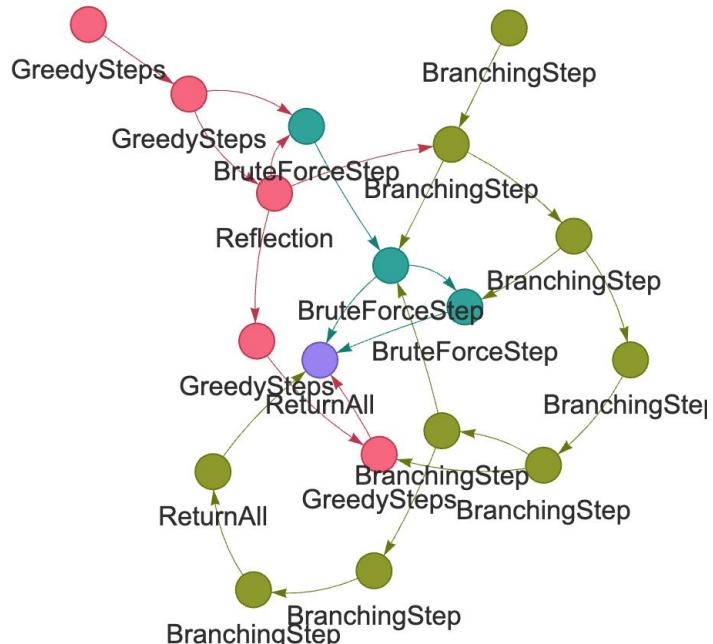
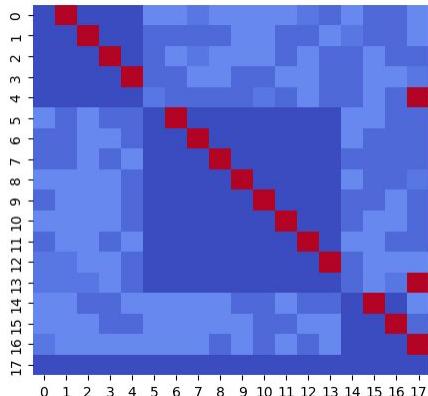




6. Edge Optimization

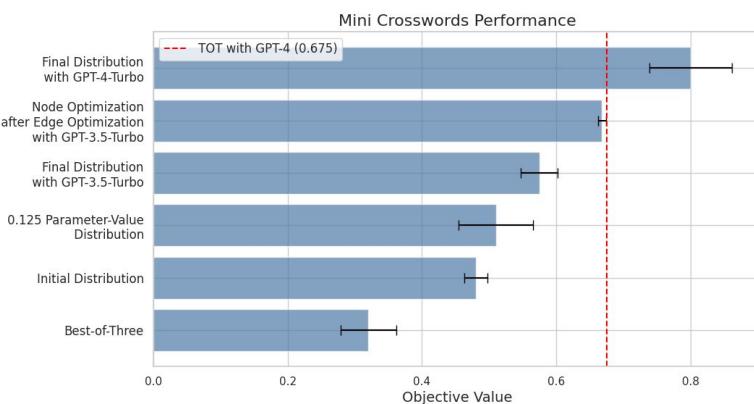


Solving Mini Crosswords



Adjacency matrix during optimization

The optimized graph



GPTSwarm Surpasses TOT



7. Node Optimization:

Code Generation on HumanEval



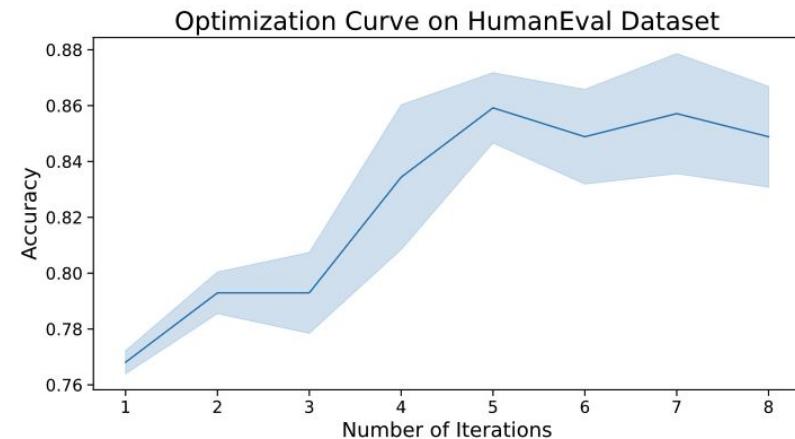
What is HumanEval?

Input

```
def incr_list(l: list):
    """Return list with elements incremented by 1.
    >>> incr_list([1, 2, 3])
    [2, 3, 4]
    >>> incr_list([5, 3, 5, 2, 3, 3, 9, 0, 123])
    [6, 4, 6, 3, 4, 4, 10, 1, 124]
    """
```

Generated

```
return [i + 1 for i in l]
```



- ReAct-style agent
- We perform automatic prompt optimization at each node
- Selectively including positive input-output pairs on the node-level as few-shot examples
- We increased the pass rate @1 accuracy from 76% to 88%

What's next?



- Better graph optimizers
- Joint node and edge optimization
- Scaling to larger graphs

Thanks and Q&A

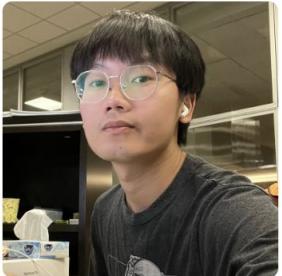


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