P0 INCIDENT · ON-CALL: YOU

Your Agent Built It. Who the Runs It?

Soon, you'll be on call for code you never read.

Your job is no longer to know every line.

It's to manage the system that runs it.

Ran Tavory

The Evolution of Coding Agents 2021 → 2026

AUTOCOMPLETE ERA
Predictive assistance

AI IDE ERA
Conversational editing

AGENT ERA
Autonomous execution

MULTI-AGENT ERA
Orchestrated systems

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GitHub Copilot

Single functions
Boilerplate
~10–50 LOC

sec – min

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Autonomous nav
Cross-repo
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Long-running tasks
Planning + exec
Tool orchestration

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Multi-day projects

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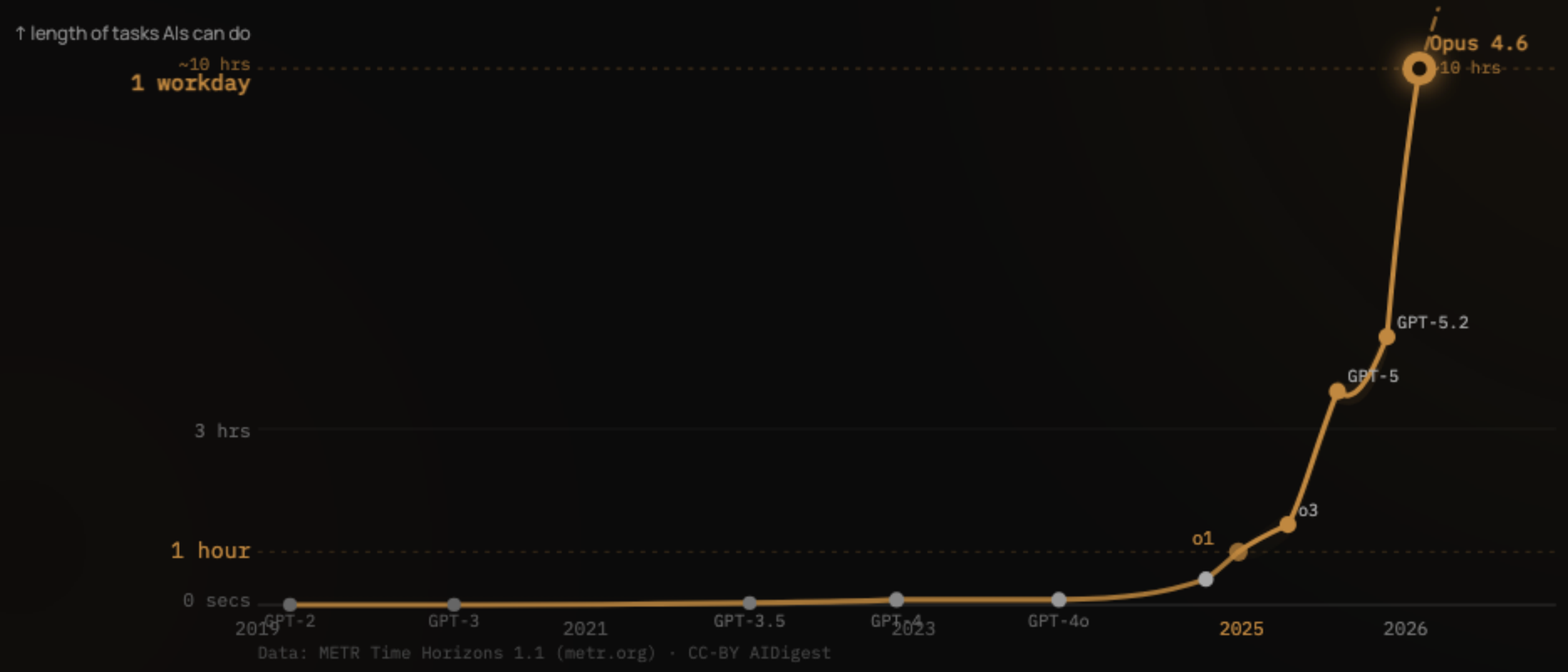
sec – min	minutes	tens of min	multi-hour	hours – days	multi-day	multi-day

TASK HORIZON GROWTH

30 sec	5 min	1 hour	1 workday	multi-day
token prediction	conv. editing	agentic loops	repo-wide tasks	supervised execution

Coding agents, by how long a task they can complete.



Source: METR time-horizons study — exponential growth, no sign of slowing.

THE LONGER THE TASK, THE LOWER YOUR INTIMACY WITH THE OUTPUT.

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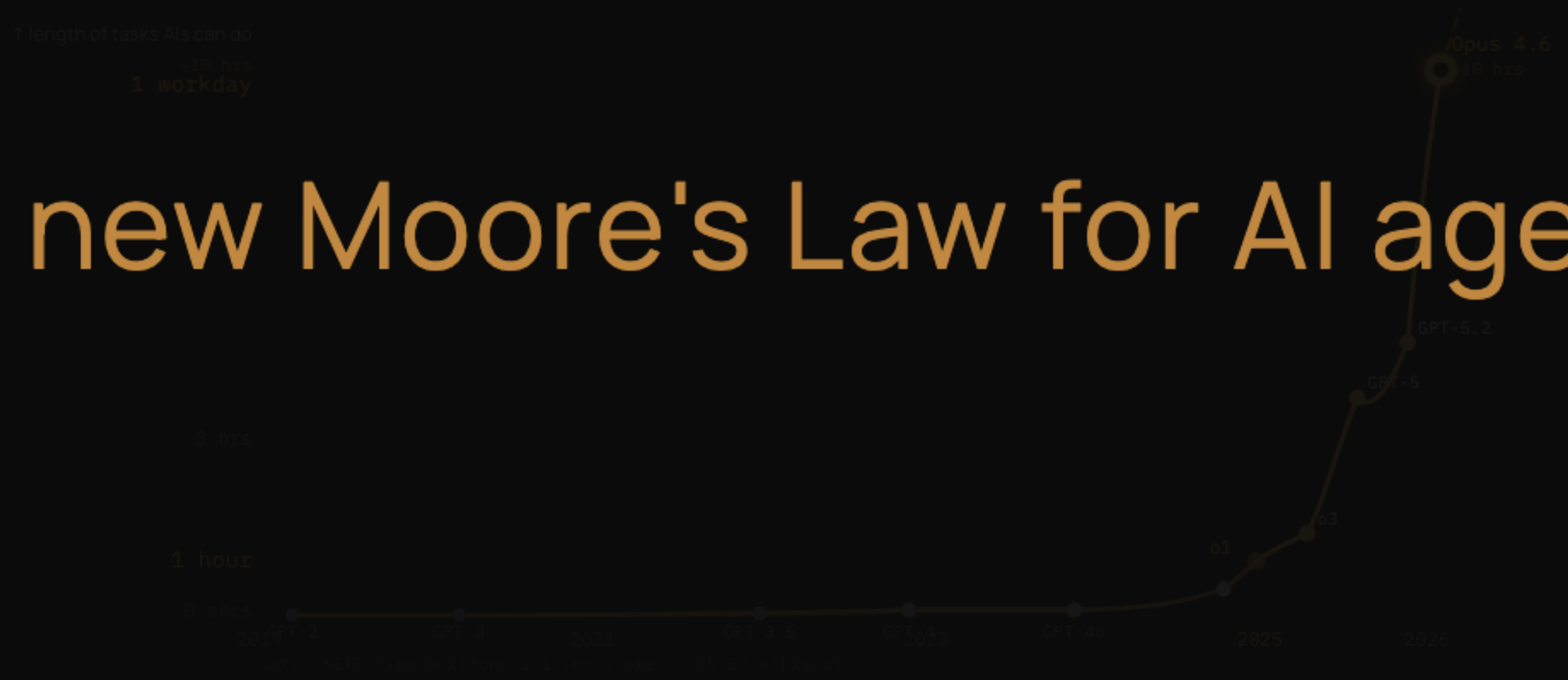

A new Moore's Law for AI agents.

Source: METR time-horizons study — exponential growth, no sign of slowing.

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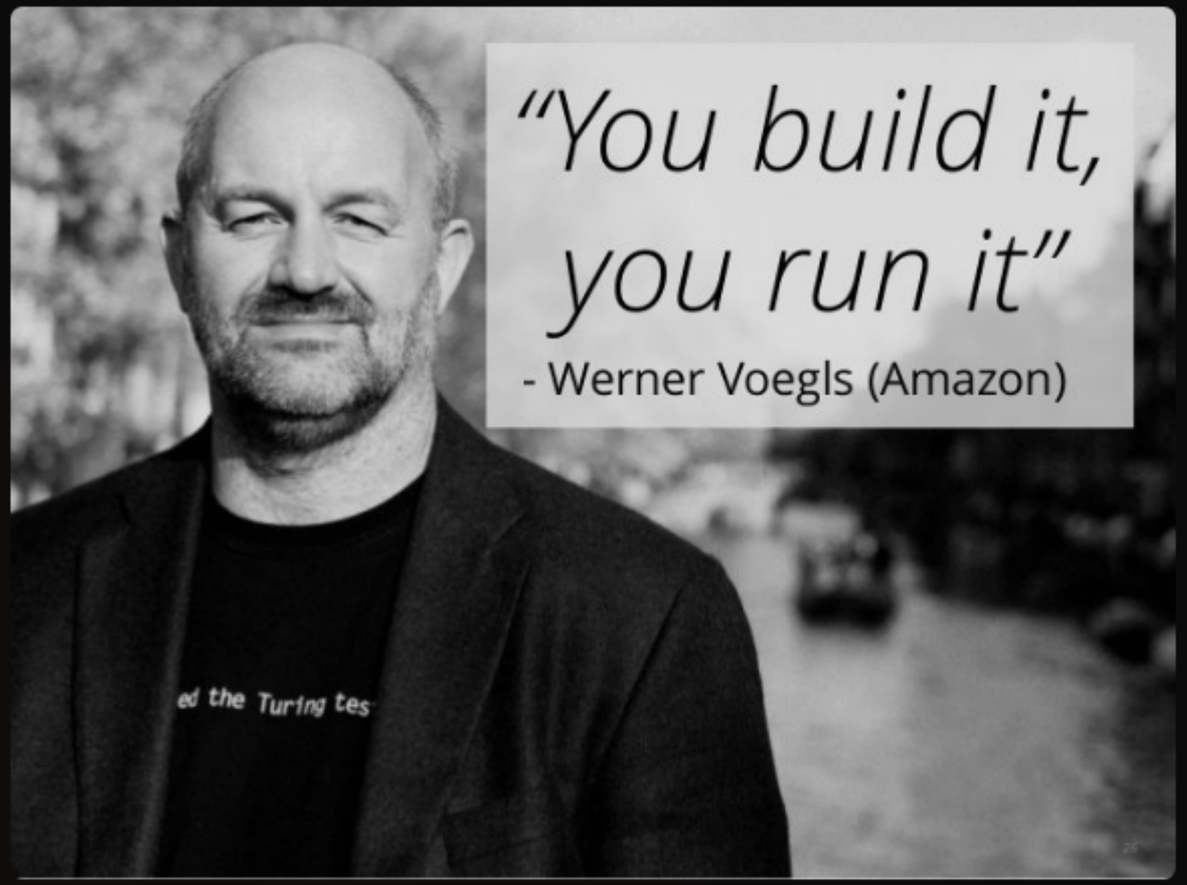

WERNER VOGELS · AMAZON · 2006

- Ownership and quality
- Reduced friction
- Cultural shift

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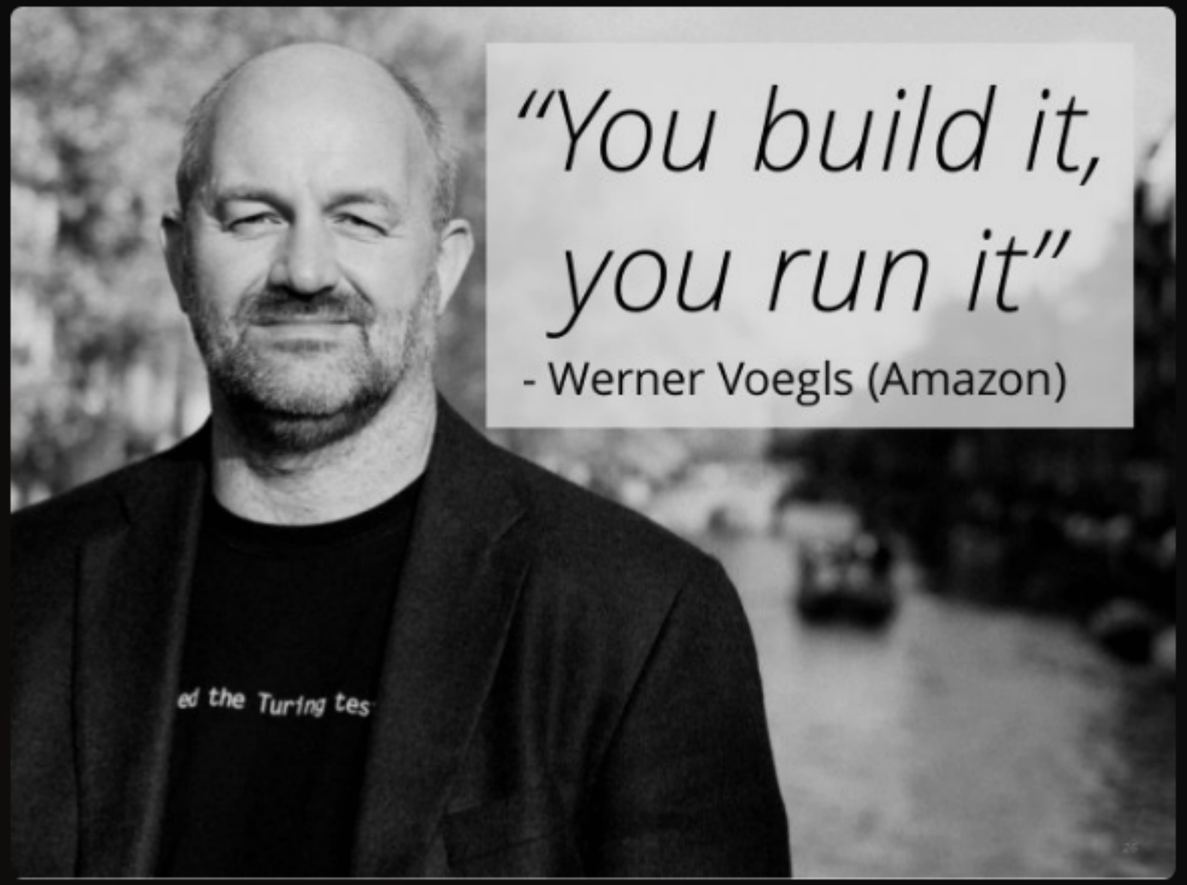


You didn't build it.

Your agent built it.

So who the 🤬 runs it?

Three forces making production harder.

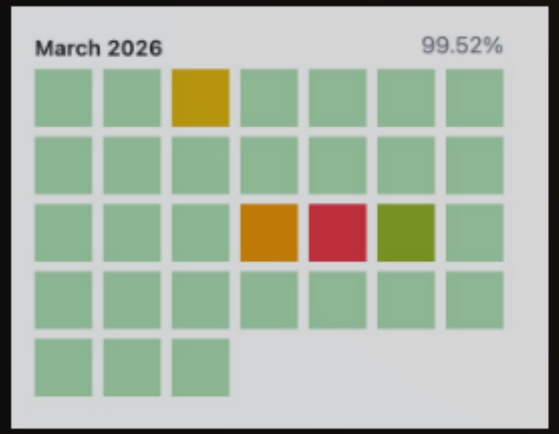
Force 1 — Volume

Force 2 — Breadth

Force 3 — Lost intimacy

More code. More surface area for failure.

- **1 billion commits** on GitHub in 2025 — 25% YoY growth
- **26.9%** of production code is AI-authored (early 2026; n=4.2M devs)
- Honest range: **27–42%** depending on "generated" vs "assisted"
- Quality is following volume: copy/pasted lines 8.3% → 12.3% (GitClear 2025, n=211M lines)



GitHub · March 2026 · 99.52% uptime

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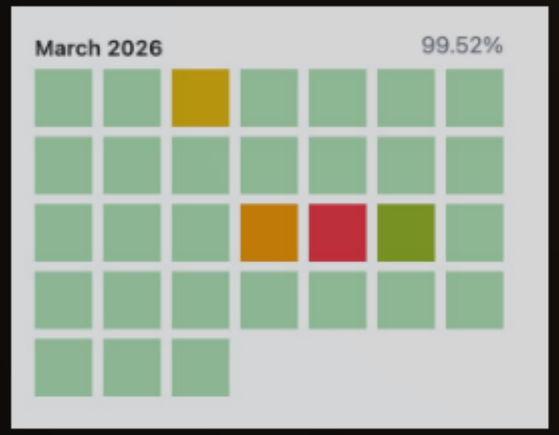

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"In six months AI would be writing 90 percent of code"

Dario Amodei · Anthropic CEO

The definition of "developer" expanded.

63% of vibe coders are non-developers

Vercel, 2026

AI would replace developers?

The definition of "developer" expanded.

63% of vibe coders are non-developers

→ PMs, designers, marketers shipping working software via v0

→ Traditional developers now ship code in domains they've **never worked in**: MCP, auth, infra glue

→ "Vibe coding has redefined who can code — most vibe coders aren't developers at all." — Vercel

~~AI would replace developers?~~

The definition of 'developer' expanded to anyone who can prompt.

When non-specialists ship code, attack surface grows.

- **30 CVEs** filed against MCP servers in 60 days (Jan–Feb 2026)
- **~⅓** of 2,614 surveyed MCP implementations susceptible to command injection
- Named production Remote Code Execution bugs in **LangFlow, LiteLLM, GPT Researcher, Flowise, Agent Zero**

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The gap between "easy to ship" and "safe to ship" is enormous.

The hunch is gone.

YOU WROTE IT

🚨 2:17 am — null ref in auth

auth middleware
touched Tuesday
"probably here"

token service
wrote in March

user model
Noa owns this

db layer
refactored Oct · PR#482

✓ fixed in 18 min

you wrote or reviewed every line

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AGENT WROTE IT

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auth middleware ?
generated Apr 3
"no idea"

token service
never read

user model
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db layer
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↻ starts from zero

you've never read any of this

FORCE 3 — LOST INTIMACY

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> *"When code breaks, you are not reconstructing intent. You are reverse-engineering a decision process that was never explained and no longer exists."*
>
> — David Monnerat

← → navigate · N = speaker notes · ESC close

The codebase is accumulating decisions that nobody made.

You can fight bad outputs. You can't fight the volume curve.

- Ranting about "AI slop" doesn't reduce slop — the volume ships either way
- The choice: whether you have the **operational muscle** to run code you didn't write

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Where do we go from here?

Managing without reading.

- You've managed code you didn't write before — every tech lead has
- Trust, but verify → **Trust, but make it prove it**
- Your job: defining what good behaviour looks like, detecting deviation

YOUR JOB

1. Define what good behaviour looks like

2. Detect deviation

WHAT AGENTS NEED

1. Goal

2. A way to verify their work

You've done this before. The verbs just change object.

YOU DID THIS (HUMANS)

YOU'LL DO THIS (AGENTS)

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MANAGE BY OUTCOME

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Hire engineer | Spin up agent

Set expectations & KPIs | Define Goals, SLOs & instrument

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MANAGE BY OUTCOME

Stop reviewing *code.*

Start reviewing observable *behavior.*

Scenario: agent ships a payment feature.

WHAT THE AGENT SHIPS

- ✅ tests pass (47/47)
- ✅ no lint errors
- ✅ coverage 89%
- ✅ ready to merge

Scenario: agent ships a payment feature.

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WHAT YOU DEMAND INSTEAD

→ Add metrics: payment.retry.attempts, payment.retry.exhausted

→ Run synthetic failure in staging

→ Show me the trace + metric

Scenario: auth endpoint.

```
p99 latency < 300ms under expected load
error rate < 0.1%, no single type > 50% of failures
token refresh success rate > 99.5%
≤ 5 failed logins per IP/min before rate-limit kicks
in
100% of auth events emit structured log: user-id +
```

Four shifts.

Four shifts.

1. Observability-first deployment ← *the test*
2. SLOs as the production contract
3. Policy-as-code guardrails ← *the assertions*
4. AI-generated investigation reports

Observability-first.

- Instrument **before you ship** — it's the deploy gate, the unit-test of production
- "Agent-observable code" = structured logs, semantic metric labels, trace span attributes that explain **intent**

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NOT INTENT

```
ERROR: failed
```

INTENT

```
payment.retry.exhausted
user=42 reason=upstream_timeout
attempt=4 budget=3
```

Observability-first.

- Instrument **before you ship** — it's the deploy gate, the unit-test of production
- "Agent-observable" code: structured logs, semantic event names, span attributes that explain **intent**

> *Code is agent-observable if a person (or an agent) can reason about its behaviour without reading the source. That means structured logs with semantic event names, metrics with documented units and labels, traces with attributes that explain intent.*

NOT INTENT

ERROR: failed

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SLOs as the contract.

- The SLO defines what **"working"** means — it's how the agent verifies its own work
- **Pre-deploy:** agent must prove the SLO holds under load — not "tests pass"
- **Post-deploy:** SLO compliance overrides every other signal, including the test suite

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> SLOs turn your intent from the vibe of just *"Working"* to being a **measurable contract**.

"PRODUCTION IS WHERE THE RIGOR GOES." — CHARITY MAJORS

> As a manager you set OKRs for your employees.
>
> As an **agent manager** you set SLOs.

Policy-as-code guardrails.

- The deploy gate is **code** — version-controlled, enforced by CI
- **Common gates:** latency budget, error rate, dependency health, security scan, IaC compliance
- Agent-written code passes through the **same gate** as human code — automatically

WHAT'S NEXT

Emerging Policy-as-Prompt research and tools

Tooling exists — ecosystem is early

Start from the investigation report.

OLD: TAIL LOGS

```
$ tail -f /var/log/app.log | grep
ERROR
[03:11:58] ERROR req_id=a4f2
status=500
[03:11:59] ERROR req_id=a4f3
status=500
[03:12:00] ERROR req_id=a4f4
status=500
[03:12:01] ERROR req_id=a4f5
status=500
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NEW: AI INVESTIGATION REPORT

```
// AI Investigation Report — 03:12 UTC
Latency spike at 02:47:03 UTC →
deploy cart-service@7f3a91
N+1 query in
OrderHistoryService.getRecentOrders()
Fix: prefetch_related('items') line 47
Confidence: HIGH
[git blame]
```

— Real today: PagerDuty SRE Agent (Oct 2025), incident.io (Jul 2025), Azure AI SRE (May 2025 preview)

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Use your AI bullshit meter →

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If the report is wrong, ask three questions:

1. Is *my* instrumentation right?
2. Is *my* analysis right?
3. Did the agent have enough context?

The new on-call skill.

OLD

Read the code.

Find the bug.

Know every service.

The new on-call skill.

OLD

✕ ~~Read the code.~~ — Force 1: volume is exponential

Find the bug.

Know every service.

Operational metrics matter more, not less: MTTR, MTBF, SLO compliance, error budget burn rate.

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- ~~Find the bug.~~ — Force 2: breadth spans stacks you don't own
- Know every service.

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OLD

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- ✕ ~~Find the bug.~~ — Force 2: breadth spans stacks you don't own
- ✕ ~~Know every service.~~ — Force 3: lost intimacy, code you never wrote

Operational metrics matter more, not less: MTTR, MTBF, SLO compliance, error budget burn rate.

THINGS TO BE GOOD AT

1. Reading distributed traces
2. Recognising failure-mode patterns across stacks you didn't write
3. Validating AI hypotheses
4. Knowing when to escalate vs. when to trust the report

The reframe.

"You build it, you run it."

⇕

"You ship agents, you own their outcome."

Three questions before every agent-written deploy.

01

What does good behaviour look like?

Have you defined the SLOs?

02

How will I know if it's misbehaving?

Is the instrumentation in place?

03

Who bears the responsibility?

Is responsibility clear?

AWS X DEVOPS · 2026

Your job isn't writing/reading code. It's writing/reading systems.

Ran Tavory · @rantav

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Thank you.