DAILY BRIEF · WHAT AI ENGINEERS ARE BUILDING

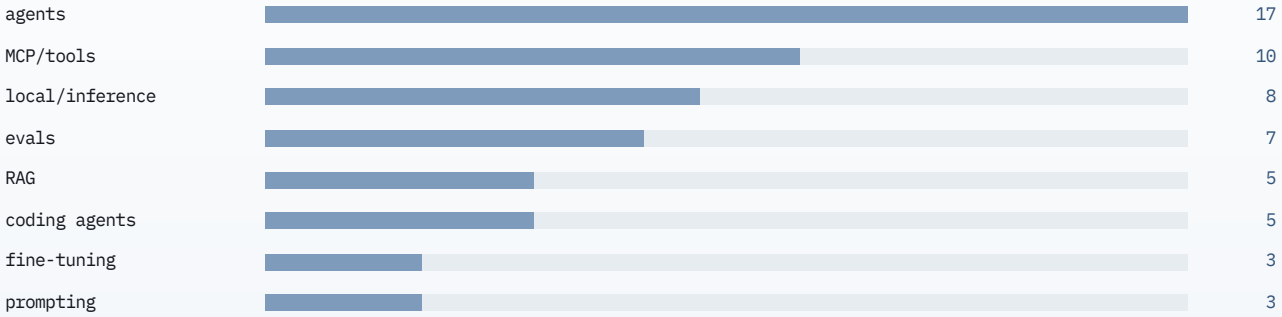
Today in AI engineering 2026-11-01

Daily AI-engineering signal (mechanical fallback — LLM error: 404 Client Error: Not Found for url: https://api.groq.com/openai/v1/chat/complet)

5 deep dives **3** builder stories **15** quick hits **316** items scanned mode: **mechanical fallback**

agents mcp/tools local/inference evals rag coding agents fine-tuning prompting

EXHIBIT 1 · TODAY'S SIGNAL — TOPIC FREQUENCY ACROSS SCANNED ITEMS N = 316



hackernews **58** github **79** huggingface **28** reddit **130** rss **21** x/twitter **skipped**

DEEP DIVES

Show HN: A language model that lives in a boot sector

HN

All the ideas came from the boot sector demo scene where people had been writing chess and BASIC games in 512 bytes, even a C compiler. I wondered what one can do using a neural network instead of a program and generating boot logs for non-existent hardware was something fun to try. Entire inference

Why it matters. Flagged by the ranking heuristics as a real, artifact-backed build.

> **TRY THIS**
> Open the link and skim the repo / paper.

https://github.com/kerlenton/bootgpt

glincker/awesome-selfhosted-ai

GitHub

Curated list of self-hosted open-source AI: local LLMs, chat UIs, agents, MCP servers, RAG, speech and image generation. Health-checked weekly, dead projects removed automatically.

Why it matters. Flagged by the ranking heuristics as a real, artifact-backed build.

> **TRY THIS**
> Open the link and skim the repo / paper.

https://github.com/glincker/awesome-selfhosted-ai

Show HN: A USB-C LTE modem that gives my computer a phone line

Show HN

(no summary)

Why it matters. Flagged by the ranking heuristics as a real, artifact-backed build.

> **TRY THIS**
> Open the link and skim the repo / paper.

https://github.com/Koppar-AI/koppar-lte-modem

PeaceOfElf37336/resilient-telegram-rpocket-bot

GitHub

A Telegram bot built around what happens when the API doesn't answer — retry with jittered backoff, structured logging, systemd deployment. Runs with --demo, no token needed.

Why it matters. Flagged by the ranking heuristics as a real, artifact-backed build.

> **TRY THIS**
> Open the link and skim the repo / paper.

https://github.com/PeaceOfElf37336/resilient-telegram-rpocket-bot

abenzerps/Qwen-Image-2.1-Uncensored-Quantized

HF model

Trending model on Hugging Face — text-to-image, gguf; 5444 likes, 2,548,468 downloads.

Why it matters. Flagged by the ranking heuristics as a real, artifact-backed build.

> **TRY THIS**
> Open the link and skim the repo / paper.

https://huggingface.co/abenzerps/Qwen-Image-2.1-Uncensored-Quantized

WHAT PEOPLE ACTUALLY BUILT

Show HN: Vela, a New Linux Desktop Environment

Show HN

Hi, take a look at this. I didn't like KDE nor KDE Themes, so I made Vela, a new stacking desktop environment, and even though this is not very inspired in terms of aesthetic, this is not the point of Vela (not yet). Point of Vela is mostly architecture: Vulkan 1.4 only, no OpenG

> **STEAL THIS**
> Flagged by keyword heuristics as a first-person build write-up — read the post for the details.

https://velade.org/blog/vela-0-1/

Show HN: BBRouter – Ben Eater's 8-bit computer, simulated on 3D breadboards

Show HN

Hi HN, I kept wiring Ben Eater's 8-bit computer wrong, so I built a realistic virtual breadboard editor. Some of the nice features are side-by-side diff, scope, schematics auto-sync, auto-router (BBRouter stands for breadboard router), and my favorites: upload from the real Ardui

> **STEAL THIS**
> Flagged by keyword heuristics as a first-person build write-up — read the post for the details.

https://bbrouter.com/bbrouter/ben-eater-sap-1

Show HN: I made a game about the 3k-year evolution of Chinese characters

Show HN

I've always found it fun to explore the history of Chinese characters. Some modern characters are unrecognizable from what they represent, while others still look similar to the versions carved in turtle shells over 3,000 years ago! I built a Heardle-inspired game where you guess

> **STEAL THIS**
> Flagged by keyword heuristics as a first-person build write-up — read the post for the details.

https://chinese.vedranb.com/

QUICK HITS

Nanbeige/Nanbeige4.3-33B HF MODEL

Trending model on Hugging Face — text-generation, transformers; 950 likes, 15,795 downloads.
https://huggingface.co/Nanbeige/Nanbeige4.3-33B

muaaz9329/cheap-ag GITHUB

50x your Claude usage with cheap-ag. Opus plans, a dirt-cheap model writes every line, and tests decide what ships. Your $20 plan stops hitt
https://github.com/muaaz9329/cheap-ag

deepseek-ai/DeepSeek-V4.1-Flash-1017 HF MODEL

Trending model on Hugging Face — image-text-to-text, transformers; 4158 likes, 170,353 downloads.
https://huggingface.co/deepseek-ai/DeepSeek-V4.1-Flash-1017

LiquidAI/LFM3-1.7B HF MODEL

Trending model on Hugging Face — text-generation, transformers; 653 likes, 37,568 downloads.
https://huggingface.co/LiquidAI/LFM3-1.7B

nvidia/NVIDIA-Nemotron-3.5-Transcribe-30B-A4B HF MODEL

Trending model on Hugging Face — automatic-speech-recognition, nemo; 566 likes, 29,364 downloads.
https://huggingface.co/nvidia/NVIDIA-Nemotron-3.5-Transcribe-30B-A4B

mistralai/Mistral-Large-4-1T-A52B HF MODEL

Trending model on Hugging Face — image-text-to-text, transformers; 1418 likes, 4,576 downloads.
https://huggingface.co/mistralai/Mistral-Large-4-1T-A52B

Show HN: NES Contra (1987) port (ASM -> C and then C -> WebAssembly) SHOW HN

Based on vermiceli's annotated disassembly of Contra: https://github.com/vermiceli/nes-contra-us . Thanks for the great work. I ported it in
https://epoyraz.github.io/nes-contra-us/

baidu/Unlimited-OCR-2 HF MODEL

Trending model on Hugging Face — image-text-to-text, transformers; 493 likes, 109,519 downloads.
https://huggingface.co/baidu/Unlimited-OCR-2

OFat34764e/InterviewCopilot-rpocket-team GITHUB

EdTech application designed to bridge the gap between learning and landing your dream job

https://github.com/OFat34764e/InterviewCopilot-rpocket-team

OtherworldMail/Tower-Events-resp-At-Sunrise GITHUB

Rediscover seasonal Tower and Farm events in Destiny 2. Built on Sunrise 0.3.2.0.

https://github.com/OtherworldMail/Tower-Events-resp-At-Sunrise

UponPeak/windows-fine-tuner-resp GITHUB

Top 20 Windows 11 Junk & Startup Optimizer Tools 2026

https://github.com/UponPeak/windows-fine-tuner-resp

Lightricks/LTX-2.5 HF MODEL

Trending model on Hugging Face — image-to-video, diffusion-single-file; 10135 likes, 2,431,846 downloads.

https://huggingface.co/Lightricks/LTX-2.5

unitshaperextol/Legion-os GITHUB

Next-Gen Multi-Agent Swarm Orchestration Engine. Coordinate 50+ LLM nodes (GPT-6, Claude 5.5, DeepSeek-V4) in a high-speed mesh network. "R

https://github.com/unitshaperextol/Legion-os

Show HN: Aruma – clean-room self-hosted backend for the official Firebase SDKs SHOW HN

https://github.com/arumadev/aruma

rmr2024/finextract GITHUB

Benchmark and fix LLM hallucinations when extracting figures from SEC 10-K filings

https://github.com/rmr2024/finextract

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