

# There and Back Again

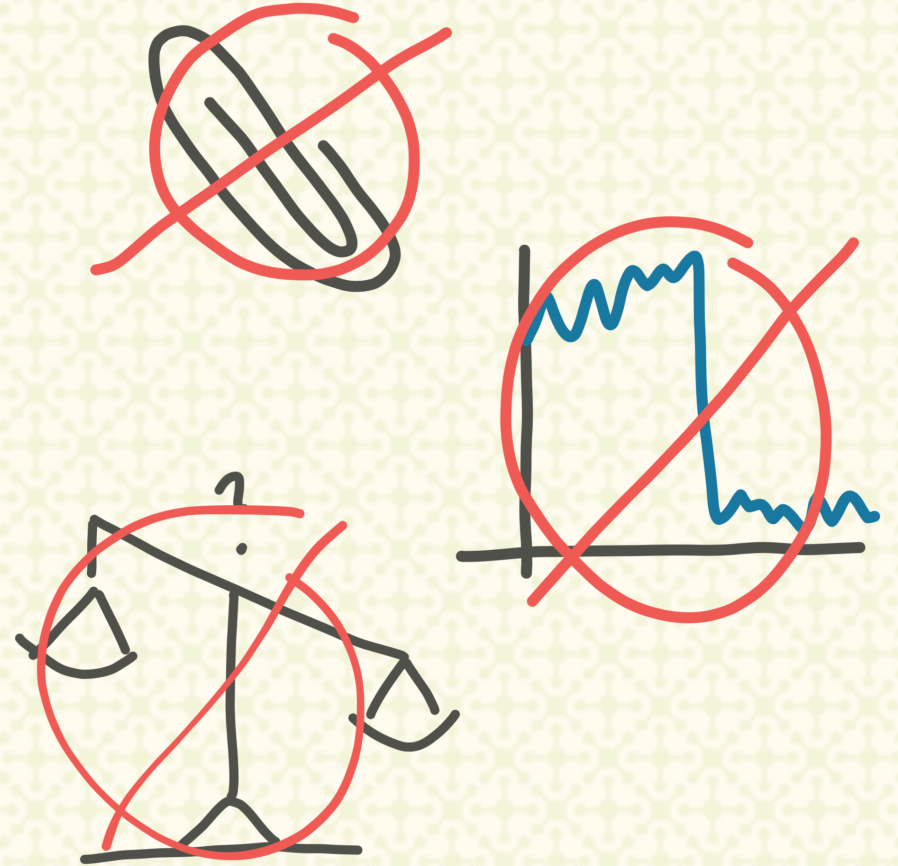
How to get the most from AI tooling today, without forgetting  
to think

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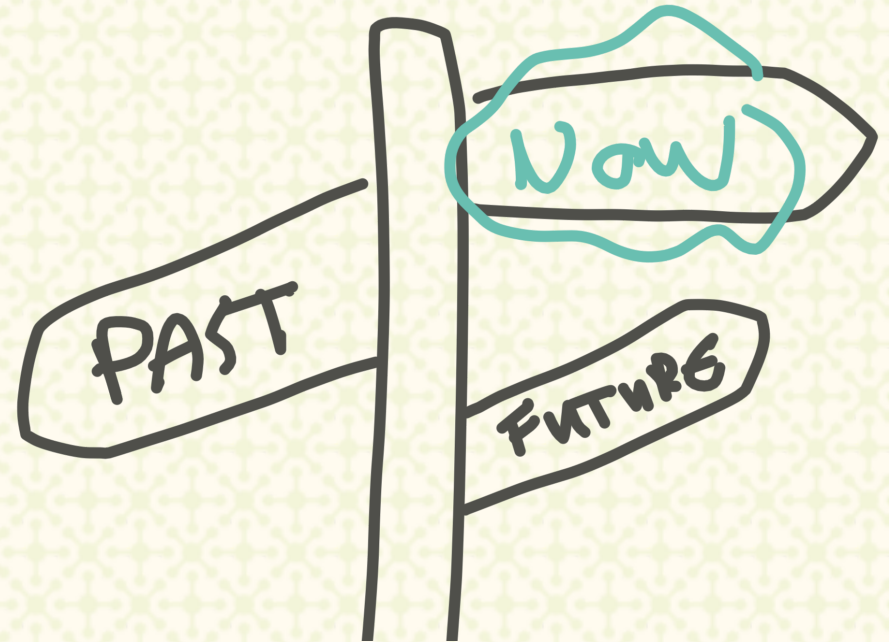
# What I won't do

- No AI future theorizing
- No “take your job” fearmongering
- No genAI ethics deep-dive
  - complex, not for today



# What I will do

- Show what's possible today
- Trace how we got here
- Recommend a starting point



# **Brief History of AI Tooling**

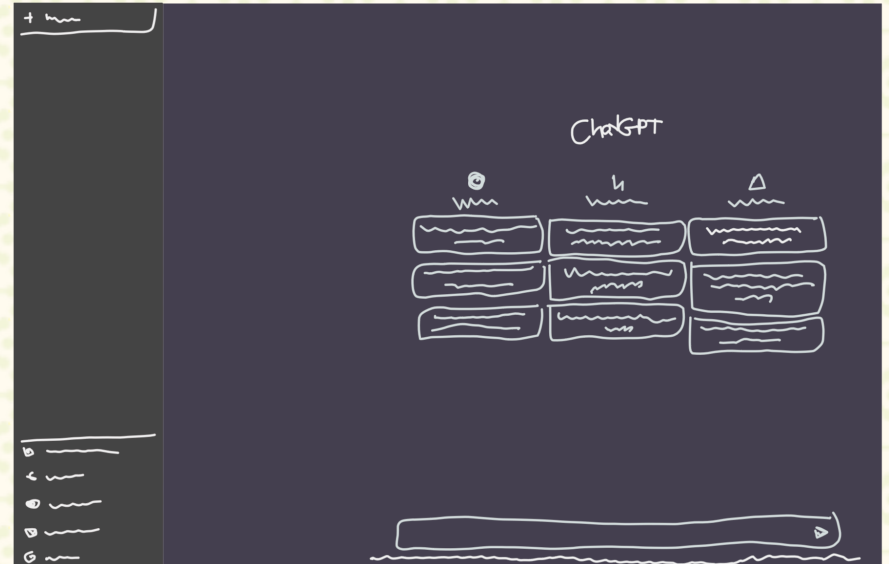
# Tab autocomplete

- Tab autocomplete
  - The often forgotten OG
  - Useful for small, in-context help

```
# these were the OG prompts  
# recursive fibonacci function  
def fib(n):  
    if n <= 1:  
        return n  
    return fib(n - 1) + fib(n - 2)
```

# Chat window

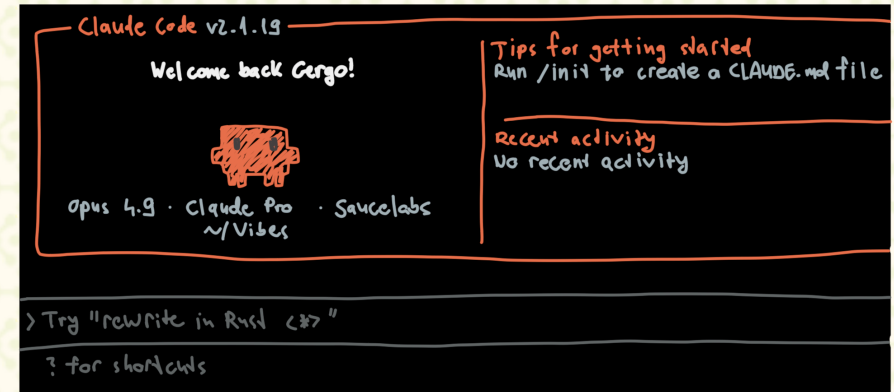
- Chat window: November 2023 ChatGPT
  - Helps with the blank page
  - Also helps with small functionality
  - Copy/paste hell



# Chat demo

# Coding agent

- Coding agent
  - An LLM that operates on your files
  - Removes copy/paste hell



# Coding agent demo with OpenCode

# Stateful agent

- Stateful agent
  - A coding agent with memory
  - You don't have to re-explain yourself

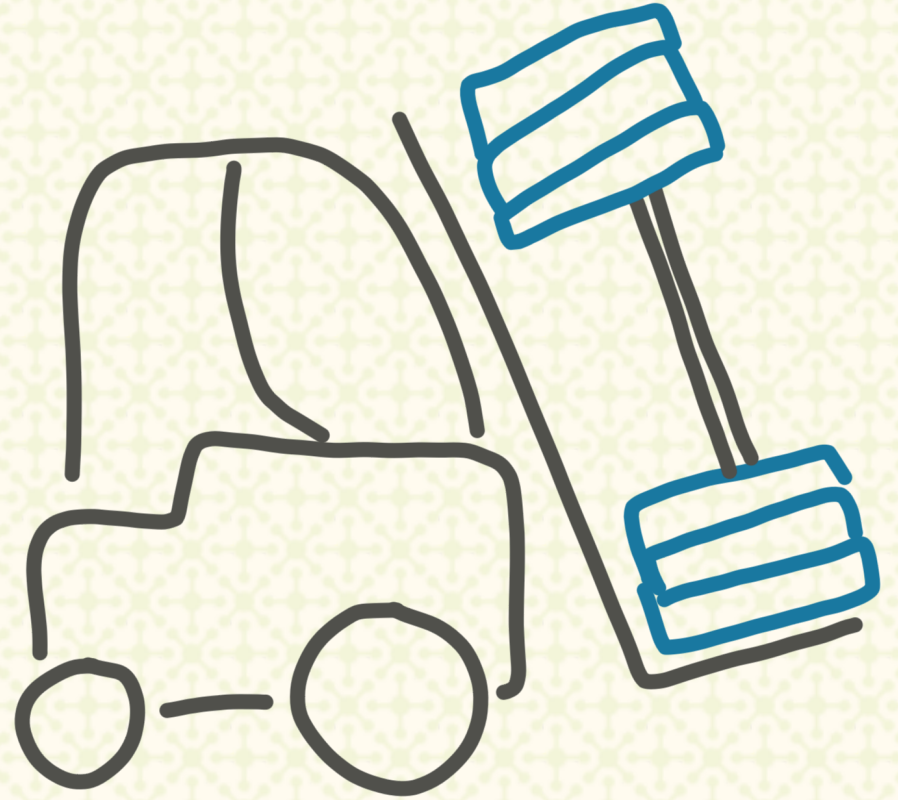


# Stateful agent demo

# **Practical recommendations**

# Forklift in the gym

- AI is powerful
- Keep in mind what you're goal is
- Don't forget when you're supposed to learn



# Genie in a bottle

- AI is like a genie that you ask for stuff
- Think twice about how your request can be misinterpreted
- These *are* destructive tools, make sure to limit blast radius
  - Separate working directories
  - Version control
  - Backups

# Quickstart

- Install [OpenCode](#)
- Sign up for GH Copilot Pro or [OpenCode Go \(referral link\)](#)
- Open a project and MAKE SURE YOU'RE VERSION CONTROLLED
- Start asking for small changes
- ??????
- Profit

# Takeaways

- AI is really good at code, so use it. But use it for plumbing, not decisions.
- The fastest way to figure out what these tools can do: open a coding agent on a project you care about and just start chatting.

# Links / handout

- [OpenCode](#)
- [Opencode Go \(referral link\)](#)
- [Letta](#)
- [nanobot](#)
- [marimo](#)
- [DuckDB](#)
- [Quarto](#)
- [uv](#)