



# INTERNET OF AGENTS: WEAVING A WEB OF HETEROGENEOUS AGENTS FOR COLLABORATIVE INTELLIGENCE

**Anonymous authors**

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## ABSTRACT

The rapid advancement of large language models (LLMs) has paved the way for the development of highly capable autonomous agents. However, existing multi-agent frameworks often struggle with integrating diverse capable third-party agents due to reliance on agents defined within their own ecosystems. They also face challenges in simulating distributed environments, as most frameworks are limited to single-device setups. Furthermore, these frameworks often rely on hard-coded communication pipelines, limiting their adaptability to dynamic task requirements. Inspired by the concept of the Internet, we propose the Internet of Agents (IoA), a novel framework that addresses these limitations by providing a flexible and scalable platform for LLM-based multi-agent collaboration. IoA introduces an agent integration protocol, an instant-messaging-like architecture design, and dynamic mechanisms for agent teaming and conversation flow control. Through extensive experiments on general assistant tasks, embodied AI tasks, and retrieval-augmented generation benchmarks, we demonstrate that IoA consistently outperforms state-of-the-art baselines, showcasing its ability to facilitate effective collaboration among heterogeneous agents. IoA represents a step towards linking diverse agents in an Internet-like environment, where agents can seamlessly collaborate to achieve greater intelligence and capabilities.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The Internet has revolutionized the way people collaborate and share knowledge, connecting individuals with diverse skills and backgrounds from all around the world. This global network has enabled the creation of remarkable collaborative projects, such as Wikipedia<sup>1</sup> and the development of the Linux operating system<sup>2</sup>, which would have been impossible for any single person to achieve. The Internet has greatly facilitated collaboration among people, making the impossible possible and pushing the boundaries of human achievement.

The success of the Internet in enabling human collaboration raises an intriguing question: can we create a similar platform to facilitate collaboration among autonomous agents? With the rapid advancements in LLMs (OpenAI, 2023; Reid et al., 2024), we now have autonomous agents capable of achieving near-human performance on a wide range of tasks. These LLM-based agents have demonstrated the ability to break down complex tasks into executable steps, leverage various tools, and learn from feedback and experience (Qin et al., 2023; Wang et al., 2023c; Shinn et al., 2023; Qian et al., 2023b). As the capabilities of these agents continue to grow, and with an increasing number of third-party agents with diverse skills consistently emerging (Chase, 2022; Team, 2023; Significant Gravititas, 2023; Open Interpreter, 2023), it is crucial to explore how we can effectively and efficiently orchestrate their collaboration, just as the Internet has done for humans.

To address this challenge, we propose the concept of the Internet of Agents (IoA), a general framework for agent communication and collaboration inspired by the Internet. IoA aims to address

<sup>1</sup><https://www.wikipedia.org/>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.linux.org/>

three fundamental limitations of existing multi-agent systems (MAS) (Chen et al., 2023; Wu et al., 2023; Hong et al., 2023; Qian et al., 2023a): (1) **Ecosystem Isolation**: Most frameworks only consider agents defined within their own ecosystems, potentially blocking the integration of various third-party agents and limiting the diversity of agent capabilities and the platform’s generality; (2) **Single-Device Simulation**: Nearly all MAS simulate MAS on a single device, which differs significantly from real-world scenarios where agents could be distributed across multiple devices located in different places; (3) **Rigid Communication and Coordination**: The communication process, agent grouping, and state transitions are mostly hard-coded, whereas in real life, humans decide on teammates based on the task at hand and dynamically switch between collaboration states.

To overcome these limitations, we propose an agent integration protocol that enables different third-party agents running on different devices to be seamlessly integrated into the framework and collaborate effectively. Additionally, we introduce an instant-messaging-app-like framework that facilitates agent discovery and dynamic teaming. By autonomously searching for potential agents capable of handling the tasks at hand, agents dynamically decide to form different teams and communicate within various group chats. Inspired by Speech Act Theory (Searle, 1969), and its application in conventional MAS (Finin et al., 1994; Labrou et al., 1999), within each group chat, we abstract out several conversation states and provide a flexible and general finite-state machine mechanism to support autonomous state transition for agents.

We demonstrate the effectiveness of IoA through extensive experiments and comparisons with state-of-the-art autonomous agents. By integrating AutoGPT (Significant Gravitas, 2023) and Open Interpreter (Open Interpreter, 2023), we show that IoA achieves a win rate of 66 to 76% in open-domain task evaluations when compared to these agents individually. Furthermore, with only a few basic ReAct agents integrated, IoA outperforms previous works on the GAIA benchmark (Mialon et al., 2023). In the retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) question-answering domain, our framework substantially surpasses existing methods, with a GPT-3.5-based implementation achieving performance close to or even exceeding GPT-4, and effectively surpassing previous MAS.

The impressive performance of IoA across various domains highlights the potential of this paradigm for autonomous agents. As smaller LLMs continue to advance (Mesnard et al., 2024; Hu et al., 2024; Abdin et al., 2024), running agents on personal computer or even mobile device is becoming increasingly feasible. This trend opens up new opportunities for deploying MAS in real-world scenarios, where agents can be distributed across multiple devices and collaborate to solve complex problems. We believe that by further exploring and refining the IoA paradigm, more sophisticated and adaptable MAS can be developed, ultimately pushing the boundaries of what autonomous agents can achieve in problem-solving and decision-making.

## 2 FRAMEWORK DESIGN AND KEY MECHANISMS OF IOA

### 2.1 OVERVIEW OF IOA

IoA is designed as an instant-messaging-app-like platform that enables seamless communication and collaboration among diverse autonomous agents. Inspired by the concept of Internet, IoA addresses three fundamental challenges in MAS (Chen et al., 2023; Wu et al., 2023; Qian et al., 2023a): (1) **Distributed agent collaboration**: Unlike traditional frameworks that simulate MAS on a single device, IoA supports agents distributed across multiple devices and locations. (2) **Dynamic and adaptive communication**: IoA implements mechanisms for autonomous team formation and conversation flow control, allowing agents to adapt their collaboration strategies based on task requirements and ongoing progress. (3) **Integration of heterogeneous agents**: IoA provides a flexible protocol for integrating various third-party agents, expanding the diversity of agent capabilities within the system. To better illustrate the difference between IoA and other MAS, see Appendix A for a comparative analysis of key aspects of different MAS.

At its core, IoA consists of two main components: the server and the client. The server acts as a central hub, managing agent registration, discovery, and message routing. It enables agents with varying capabilities to find each other and initiate communication. The client, on the other hand, serves as a wrapper for individual agents, providing them with the necessary communication functionalities and adapting them to the specified protocol. IoA employs a layered architecture (Bass et al., 1999) for both the server and client components, comprising three layers:

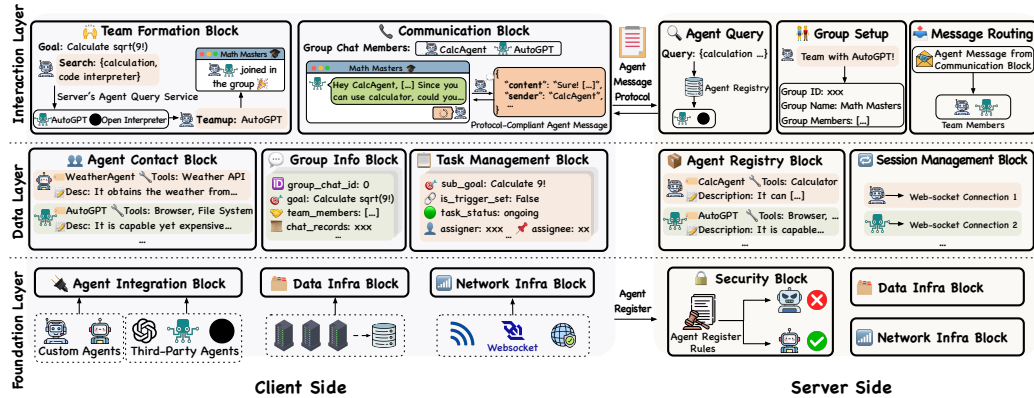


Figure 1: The illustration on the conceptual layered architecture on the design of IoA.

- **Interaction Layer:** Facilitates team formation and agent communication.
- **Data Layer:** Manages information related to agents, group chats, and tasks.
- **Foundation Layer:** Provides essential infrastructure for agent integration, data management, and network communication.

These layers work together to facilitate agent collaboration through the network. In the following subsections, we will go through the IoA’s architecture and design.

## 2.2 ARCHITECTURE OF IOA

The layered architecture of IoA is designed to support scalable, flexible, and efficient multi-agent collaboration. This architecture enables a clear separation of concerns and facilitates the integration of diverse agents and functionalities (Fig. 1).

### 2.2.1 SERVER ARCHITECTURE

The server acts as the central hub of IoA, facilitating agent discovery, group formation, and message routing. Its architecture consists of three layers. At the top level, the **Interaction Layer** manages high-level interactions between agents and the system. It encompasses the Agent Query Block for enabling agents to search for other agents based on specific characteristics, the Group Setup Block for facilitating the creation and management of group chats, and the Message Routing Block for ensuring efficient and accurate routing of messages between agents and group chats. The **Data Layer** Serves as the information backbone, it handles the storage and management of critical system information. The Agent Registry Block maintains a comprehensive database of registered agents, including their capabilities and current status, similar to service discovery in distributed systems (Meshkova et al., 2008; Netflix). Meanwhile, the Session Management Block manages active connections and ensures continuous communication between the server and connected clients. The **Foundation Layer** provides the essential infrastructure for the server’s operations. It encompasses the Data Infrastructure Block for handling data persistence and retrieval, the Network Infrastructure Block for managing network communications, and the Security Block for implementing authentication, authorization, and other security measures to maintain system integrity.

### 2.2.2 CLIENT ARCHITECTURE

The client component of IoA serves as a wrapper for individual agents, providing them with the necessary interfaces to communicate within the system. Its architecture mirrors that of the server with three layers. The **Interaction Layer** manages the agent’s interactions within the system. The Team Formation Block implements the logic for identifying suitable collaborators and forming teams for the task at hand, similar to coalition formation in conventional multi-agent research (Rahwan et al., 2009). Complementing this, the Communication Block manages the agent’s participation in group chats and handles message processing. The **Data Layer** maintains local data relevant to the agent’s operations. It includes the Agent Contact Block for storing information about other agents the current agent has interacted with, the Group Info Block for maintaining details about ongoing group chats and collaborations, and the Task Management Block for tracking the status and progress of

162 tasks assigned to the agent. The **Foundation Layer** provides the basic functionalities for the client’s  
 163 operations. The Agent Integration Block defines the protocols and interfaces for integrating third-  
 164 party agents into the IoA ecosystem. Alongside this, the Data Infrastructure Block handles local  
 165 data storage and retrieval, while the Network Infrastructure Block manages network communica-  
 166 tions with the server.

167 This layered architecture enables IoA to support a wide range of agent types and collaboration sce-  
 168 narios. By providing a clear separation of concerns and well-defined interfaces between layers, the  
 169 architecture facilitates the integration of diverse agents and allows for future extensibility. Further-  
 170 more, this design supports the key mechanisms of IoA, as will be introduced in the next section.  
 171

## 172 2.3 KEY MECHANISMS

174 The effectiveness of IoA relies on several key mechanisms that enable seamless collaboration among  
 175 diverse agents. These mechanisms work in concert to facilitate agent integration, team formation,  
 176 task allocation, and structured communication. We detail these critical components in this section,  
 177 with an example walk-through provided in Appendix B for better understanding.  
 178

### 179 2.3.1 AGENT REGISTRATION AND DISCOVERY

180 To enable collaboration among distributed agents with heterogeneous architectures, tools, and en-  
 181 vironments, we propose the agent registration and discovery mechanism. This mechanism forms  
 182 the foundation for collaborative interactions within IoA, enabling the integration of diverse agents  
 183 into the system and facilitating their discovery on the online server by other agents for potential  
 184 collaboration through the network.  
 185

186 **Agent Registration:** When a new agent joins IoA, its client wrapper registers with the server by  
 187 providing a comprehensive description of its capabilities, skills, and areas of expertise. This de-  
 188 scription, denoted as  $d_i$  for an agent  $c_i$ , is stored in the Agent Registry Block of the server’s Data  
 189 Layer. Formally, we represent the set of all registered agents as  $\mathcal{C} = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$ , where each  $c_i$   
 190 is associated with its description  $d_i$ .

191 **Agent Discovery:** The agent discovery function leverages the information stored in the Agent Reg-  
 192 istry from the online server to enable agents to find suitable collaborators for specific tasks. Agents  
 193 can use the `search_client` tool provided by the server’s Agent Query Block to search for other  
 194 agents based on desired characteristics or capabilities. Formally, let  $\mathcal{L}_d = [l_1, l_2, \dots, l_k]$  be a list of  
 195 desired characteristics generated by an agent seeking collaborators. The `search_client` function  
 196 can be represented as: `search_client` :  $\mathcal{L}_d \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$ , where  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$  denotes the power set of  $\mathcal{C}$ .  
 197 The function returns a subset of clients  $\mathcal{C}_d \subseteq \mathcal{C}$  whose descriptions  $d_j$  match the desired charac-  
 198 teristics in  $\mathcal{L}_d$ . The matching process between  $\mathcal{L}_d$  and  $d_j$  can be implemented with various semantic  
 199 matching techniques (Robertson & Zaragoza, 2009; Karpukhin et al., 2020). It ensures that agents  
 200 with relevant capabilities can be discovered even if their descriptions do not exactly match the query.

### 201 2.3.2 AUTONOMOUS NESTED TEAM FORMATION

202 The autonomous nested team formation mechanism enables dynamic and flexible combinations of  
 203 agents based on task requirements, allowing for the creation of nested sub-teams for complex tasks.  
 204

205 **Team Formation Process:** When a client  $c_i \in \mathcal{C}$  is assigned a task  $t$ , it initiates the team  
 206 formation process using two essential tools provided by the server: `search_client` and  
 207 `launch_group_chat`. The client’s LLM decides which tool to call based on the task and the  
 208 current set of discovered clients. If more collaborators are needed, it calls `search_client` with  
 209 appropriate characteristics. Once suitable collaborators are found, it calls `launch_group_chat`  
 210 to initiate a new group chat  $g \in \mathcal{G}$ , where  $\mathcal{G}$  is the space of all group chats.

211 **Nested Team Structure:** The nested team formation allows for a hierarchical structure of teams  
 212 and sub-teams. Let  $g_0 \in \mathcal{G}$  be the initial group chat for task  $t$ . During the execution of  $t$ , if  
 213 a client  $c_i$  is assigned with a sub-task  $t_l$  (the task assignment mechanism will be introduced in  
 214 Section 2.3.4), and it identifies  $t_l$  requires additional expertise,  $c_i$  is allowed to search for appropriate  
 215 agents again and initiate a new sub-group chat  $g_l \in \mathcal{G}$ . This process can continue recursively,  
 forming a tree-like structure of group chats. Formally, we can define a function  $h : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{G})$

that maps a group chat to its set of sub-group chats. The nested structure can be represented as:  $h(g) = \{g_1, g_2, \dots, g_m\}$ ,  $h(g_i) = \{g_{i1}, g_{i2}, \dots, g_{im}\}$ , and so on.

**Communication Complexity:** The nested team formation mechanism can theoretically reduce the communication complexity in large agent teams in terms of communication channels. Assume that the minimal agent setting capable of completing a given task is  $g$  with  $|g|$  members. Consider two types of team structures: a fully connected team structure and a nested team structure ( $h(g) = \{g_1, g_2, \dots, g_m\}$  where  $\bigcup_{i=1}^m g_i = g$ ). In the first scenario, communication channels (connected edges) are  $C_{\text{full}}(g) = \{(g_i, g_j) | 0 \leq i, j \leq m\}$  with  $c_{\text{full}}(g) = |C_{\text{full}}(g)| = \frac{|g|(|g|-1)}{2}$ . For the Nested Team Structure, it necessarily follows that  $c_{\text{nested}}(g) = |\bigcup_{g_i \in h(g)} C_{\text{full}}(g_i)| \leq c_{\text{full}}(g)$ . Fig. 2 illustrates an example of the nested team formation process. In this example, the initial group chat  $g_0$  spawns three sub-group chats  $g_1$ ,  $g_2$  and  $g_3$  for specific sub-tasks during the discussion.  $g_1$  further creates two sub-group chats  $g_{21}$  and  $g_{22}$  for a more specialized sub-task.

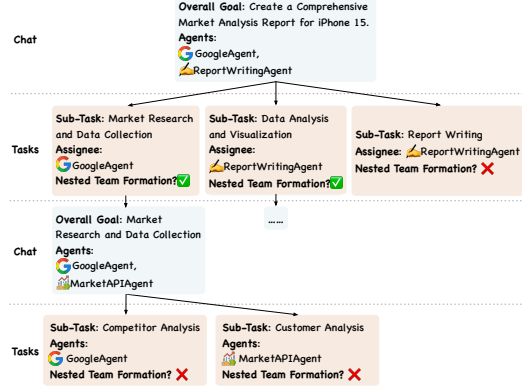


Figure 2: An example of nested team formation mechanism. The process is simplified for clarity.

### 2.3.3 AUTONOMOUS CONVERSATION FLOW CONTROL

Effective communication is crucial for successful collaboration among autonomous agents. Inspired by Speech Act Theory (Austin, 1975; Searle, 1969) and its applications in conventional MAS (Finin et al., 1994; Labrou et al., 1999), we introduce an autonomous conversation flow control mechanism in IoA. This mechanism enables agents to coordinate their communication and maintain a structured dialogue, enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of their collaboration.

**Sequential Speaking Mechanism:** To manage potential conflicts and ensure clear communication, IoA adopts a sequential speaking mechanism where only one agent is permitted to speak at a time. This approach, while simple, provides a foundation for more sophisticated conversation management when combined with the following dynamic features.

**Finite State Machine for Group Chat States:** We formalize the conversation flow as a finite state machine  $M = (S, \Sigma, \delta, s_0, F)$ , where:

- $S = \{s_d, s_s, s_a, s_p, s_c\}$  is the set of states representing discussion, synchronous task assignment, asynchronous task assignment, pause & trigger, and conclusion, respectively.
- $\Sigma$  is the state transition decision space.
- $\delta : S \times \Sigma \rightarrow S$  is the transition function mapping the current state and the transition decision made by LLMs to the next state.
- $s_0 = s_d$  is the initial state, representing the start of the conversation in the discussion phase.
- $F = \{s_c\}$  is the set of final states, containing only the conclusion state.

Figure 3 illustrates the state transitions in the conversation flow. Each state corresponds to different phases of the collaboration process: (1) *Discussion* ( $s_d$ ): Agents engage in general dialogue, exchange ideas, and clarify task requirements. (2) *Synchronous task assignment* ( $s_s$ ): Tasks are assigned to specific agents, pausing the group chat until completion (Section 2.3.4). (3) *Asynchronous task assignment* ( $s_a$ ): Tasks are assigned without interrupting the ongoing discussion (Section 2.3.4). (4) *Pause & trigger* ( $s_p$ ): The group chat is paused, waiting for the completion of specified asynchronous tasks. (5) *Conclusion* ( $s_c$ ): Marks the end of the collaboration, prompting a final summary. These states align with the speech acts in Speech Act Theory, e.g., assertives (discussion), directives (task assignment), commissives (pause & trigger), and declarations (conclusion) (Searle, 1976).

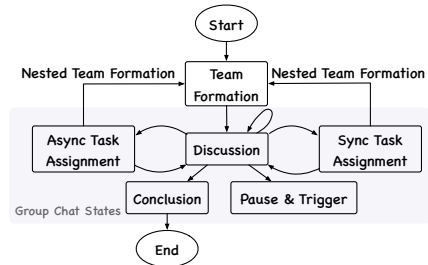


Figure 3: The state transition diagram.

**Autonomous State Transitions and Next Speaker Selection:** Recent studies have demonstrated the efficacy of LLMs in autonomously managing state transitions within predefined state spaces (Liu & Shuai, 2023; Wu et al., 2024a), with state machines often enhancing overall system performance (Li et al., 2024). In IoA, the LLM within each client determines state transitions and selects the subsequent speaker. Let  $\mathcal{M}_t$  be the set of messages exchanged up to time step  $t$ . We define the decision function of the LLM as:  $f_{\text{LLM}} : \mathcal{M}_t \times S \rightarrow S \times \mathcal{C}$ , where  $S$  is the set of states and  $\mathcal{C}$  is the set of clients. The next state  $s_{t+1}$  and the next speaker  $c_{t+1}$  are determined as:  $(s_{t+1}, c_{t+1}) = f_{\text{LLM}}(\mathcal{M}_t, s_t)$ . This decision-making process considers factors such as the completion of assigned tasks, the need for further discussion, and the overall goals of the collaboration. The autonomous selection of the next speaker ensures that the most relevant agents are involved at appropriate times, promoting efficient information exchange and problem-solving.

By implementing this autonomous conversation flow control mechanism, IoA enables structured and efficient communication among agents, facilitating more effective problem-solving and decision-making in complex multi-agent scenarios.

### 2.3.4 TASK ASSIGNMENT AND EXECUTION

The task assignment and execution mechanism in IoA is designed to distribute work efficiently among agents and manage the execution of both simple and complex tasks. This mechanism works in concert with the team formation and conversation flow control mechanisms to ensure effective collaboration and task completion.

**Task Representation:** In IoA, a task  $t \in \mathcal{T}$  is represented as a tuple  $(d_t, \mathcal{S}_t)$ , where  $d_t$  is the task description and  $\mathcal{S}_t = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$  is the set of sub-tasks that  $t$  can be decomposed into. Initially,  $\mathcal{S}_t$  may be empty, with sub-tasks being identified dynamically during the collaboration process.

**Task Allocation:** Task allocation in IoA occurs within the context of group chats and is closely tied to the conversation flow control mechanism. There are two types of task allocation:

1. *Synchronous Task Allocation:* When the group chat enters the synchronous task assignment state  $s_s$ , tasks are allocated to specific agents, and the group chat is paused until the tasks are completed.
2. *Asynchronous Task Allocation:* In the asynchronous task assignment state  $s_a$ , tasks are allocated without interrupting the ongoing discussion. This allows for parallel execution of tasks.

Formally, we can define a task allocation function  $\alpha : \mathcal{T} \times \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$ , which maps a task and a group chat to a subset of clients responsible for executing the task.

**Task Execution:** Once a task is allocated, the responsible agent(s) begin execution. For integrated third-party agents, task execution is handled through the Agent Integration Block in the client’s Foundation Layer. This block provides a standardized interface for task execution, typically in the form:  $\text{run} : \text{String} \rightarrow \text{TaskID}$ , where the input is the task description, and the output is a unique identifier for the task.








Upon completion of a task or sub-task, the responsible agent(s) report back to the group chat. In the case of synchronous tasks, this triggers the resumption of the group chat. For asynchronous tasks, the completion is noted, and any relevant information is shared with the group.

The pause & trigger state  $s_p$  in the conversation flow control mechanism plays a crucial role in managing the completion of multiple asynchronous tasks. It allows the group chat to wait for the completion of specified asynchronous tasks before proceeding, ensuring that all necessary information is available for subsequent stages of the collaboration.

## 3 EXPERIMENTS

To demonstrate the effectiveness and versatility of IoA in integrating heterogeneous agents, we conduct comprehensive experiments across a diverse set of tasks. These experiments are designed to showcase different aspects of agent heterogeneity: tool variability (Section 3.1), architectural diversity (Section 3.2), disparate observation and action spaces (Section 3.3), and varied knowledge bases (Section 3.4). Due to space limit, we place the additional analysis on the average cost, nested team formation precision and communication case study in Appendices D and E. Our objective

Table 1: The performance on the validation set of GAIA benchmark.

Models	Agent Type	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Overall
GPT-4		15.09	2.33	0.00	6.06
GPT-4-Turbo		20.75	5.81	0.00	9.70
AutoGPT-4 (Significant Gravitas, 2023)		13.21	0.00	3.85	4.85
GPT-4 + Plugins (Mialon et al., 2023)		30.30	9.70	0.00	14.60
FRIDAY (Wu et al., 2024b)		45.28	34.88	11.54	34.55
AutoGen (Wu et al., 2023)		<b>54.72</b>	38.37	11.54	39.39
IoA		50.94	<b>40.70</b>	<b>15.38</b>	<b>40.00</b>

is twofold: first, to illustrate IoA’s proficiency in facilitating collaboration among heterogeneous agents, and second, to highlight its adaptability across various problem domains. In this section, we present our experimental results and offer comparative analyses between IoA and state-of-the-art (SoTA) approaches for each task category. If not specified, we use GPT-4-1106-preview model in our experiments. The prompts within IoA are kept the *same* across different tasks, and are not specifically tuned for a certain task.

### 3.1 HETEROGENEOUS TOOLS: GAIA BENCHMARK

To evaluate IoA’s capability in integrating agents with heterogeneous tools, we employ the GAIA benchmark (Mialon et al., 2023). This benchmark comprises a diverse set of real-world questions designed to assess an agent system’s proficiency in solving complex tasks through the synergistic application of multiple skills, including natural language understanding, reasoning, and external knowledge integration. The benchmark’s three-tiered difficulty structure provides a robust testbed for evaluating the capability of agent systems.

**Experimental Setups:** We instantiate IoA with four basic ReAct agents (Yao et al., 2023), each equipped with a distinct tool: a web browser, a code interpreter, a Wikidata searcher, and a YouTube video transcript downloader. This configuration allows us to assess IoA’s ability to orchestrate collaboration among agents with heterogeneous tools. We benchmark IoA against several SoTA agent systems, evaluating performance across all three difficulty levels of GAIA. Detailed implementation specifics are provided in Appendix F.4.1.

**Results and Analysis:** The results, presented in Table 1, demonstrate IoA’s superior performance across the GAIA benchmark. Despite utilizing only basic ReAct agents, IoA achieves the highest overall performance, surpassing all other approaches. Notably, IoA excels in the more challenging Level 2 and Level 3 tasks, which require advanced reasoning and intricate collaboration.

Compared to AutoGen, IoA demonstrates superior performance in two out of three difficulty levels. This superiority can be attributed to IoA’s collaboration mechanisms and the flexibility of integrating agents with different tools, while in AutoGen, only one agent utilizes different tools, and other agents act as feedback providers. IoA enables adaptive team composition and efficient sub-task execution, leading to enhanced performance on complex, multi-faceted problems.

These results highlight IoA’s effectiveness as an orchestrator for diverse agents in solving real-world, multi-step problems. By providing a flexible and efficient platform for agent collaboration, IoA enables even basic agents to achieve SoTA performance, outperforming more sophisticated standalone agents and representative MAS.

### 3.2 HETEROGENEOUS ARCHITECTURE: OPEN-ENDED INSTRUCTION BENCHMARK

To evaluate IoA’s capability in integrating and orchestrating agents with heterogeneous architectures, we develop a comprehensive benchmark comprising 153 open-ended instructions with self-instruct (Wang et al., 2023e). This benchmark spans four diverse categories: search & report, coding, mathematics, and life assistance. Unlike the GAIA benchmark, which primarily focuses on question-answering tasks with deterministic answers, our curated benchmark incorporates a higher proportion of non-QA tasks requiring generative responses. This design choice aims to better reflect the diverse nature of real-world challenges that agent systems are expected to address. The curation process is elaborated at Appendix F.4.2.

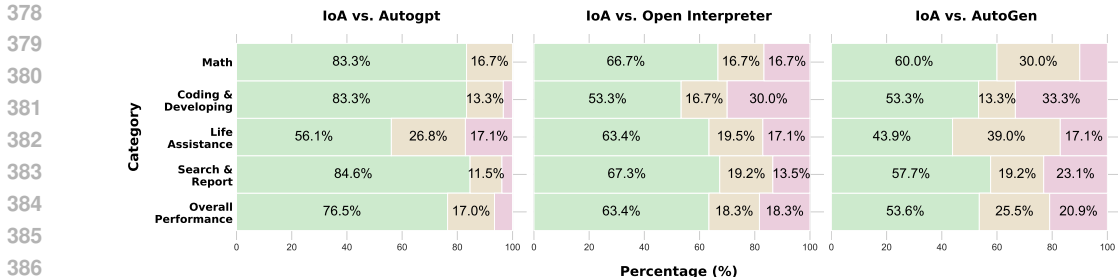


Figure 4: Comparison of win rates on the open-ended instruction benchmark between IoA, AutoGPT, Open Interpreter and AutoGen. Green : win rate; yellow : tie rate; red : loss rate.

Table 2: Average success rate and the number of steps on different tasks from RoCoBench.

Model	Metric	Cabinet	Sweep	Sandwich	Sort	Rope
Central Plan (oracle)	Success	0.90	<b>1.00</b>	0.96	0.70	0.50
	#Step	<u>4.0</u>	8.4	<u>8.8</u>	8.6	<u>2.3</u>
Roco Dialog	Success	0.75	0.70	0.70	0.70	<b>0.70</b>
	#Step	4.7	<u>7.9</u>	9.1	<u>5.4</u>	2.4
IoA	Success	<b>1.00</b>	0.80	<b>1.00</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>0.70</b>
	#Step	4.6	8.5	8.9	5.8	2.6

**Experimental Setups:** We integrate two SoTA third-party agents with distinct architectures: AutoGPT (Significant Gravitas, 2023) and Open Interpreter (Open Interpreter, 2023), into IoA. The integration process, detailed in Appendix F.4.2, demonstrates IoA’s versatility in accommodating agents with divergent internal structures and operational paradigms. This configuration allows us to assess IoA’s efficacy in facilitating collaboration among independently developed agents with heterogeneous architectures.

For evaluation, we employ GPT-4-1106-preview as an impartial judge, a choice supported by previous research demonstrating high agreement between GPT models and human evaluators in assessing response quality (Chiang et al., 2023; Zheng et al., 2023a; Chan et al., 2023). To mitigate potential order-induced biases, we implement a robust evaluation approach following Zheng et al. (2023a), where the order of responses is alternated in the prompt. A ”win” is only declared when one competitor is consistently judged superior across both orderings.

**Results and Analysis:** As shown in Fig. 4, IoA consistently outperforms both individual agents across all task categories, and is also generally better than AutoGen. Overall, IoA achieves a remarkable win rate of 76.5% against AutoGPT and 63.4% against Open Interpreter. These results underscore IoA’s proficiency in efficiently gathering and synthesizing information, as well as its effectiveness in facilitating collaborative problem-solving across diverse domains. Additionally, we demonstrate in Appendix C that fine-tuning a Llama 3 8B (Meta, 2024) on the communication trajectories collected from various tasks enables it to serve as the communication layer LLM, outperforming standalone agents and remaining comparable to AutoGen powered by GPT-4.

The demonstrated capability of IoA to seamlessly integrate and orchestrate agents with heterogeneous architectures enables the harness of the strengths of diverse, independently developed agents, making it possible to create more versatile and capable agent systems. Recent studies on scaling laws in MAS (Qian et al., 2024) indicate that MAS performance improves as the number of agents increases. By design, IoA provides a robust foundation for integrating a greater variety of agents, potentially leading to better scaling laws.

### 3.3 HETEROGENEOUS OBSERVATION AND ACTION SPACE: EMBODIED AGENT TASKS

To evaluate IoA’s efficacy in orchestrating agents with heterogeneous observation and action spaces, we conduct experiments using RoCoBench (Mandi et al., 2023), a benchmark for assessing collaboration and communication capabilities of embodied agents. RoCoBench comprises six collaborative tasks requiring two or three agents with partial, often distinct action spaces or observations to cooperate towards a common objective.



Model	TriviaQA	NQ	HotpotQA	2WMHQA	Overall
GPT 4	0.902	0.692	0.566	0.284	0.611
GPT 3.5 Turbo	0.778	0.532	0.384	0.210	0.476
+ Zero-Shot CoT (Wei et al., 2022)	0.772	0.588	0.410	0.190	0.490
+ Self Consistency (Wang et al., 2023d)	0.818	0.622	0.408	0.206	0.514
+ Reflexion (Shinn et al., 2023)	0.762	0.586	0.378	0.254	0.495
+ Multi-Agent Debate1 (Du et al., 2023)	0.798	0.648	0.394	0.186	0.507
+ Multi-Agent Debate2 (Liang et al., 2023)	0.756	0.576	0.450	0.334	0.529
Apollo’s Oracle (Homogeneous)	<u>0.834</u>	0.662	0.542	0.350	0.597
IoA + 2 Agents (Heterogeneous)	0.803	<b>0.708</b>	0.478	0.449	0.610
IoA + 2 Agents (Homogeneous)	0.820	0.671	<b>0.586</b>	<b>0.530</b>	<u>0.652</u>
IoA + 3 Agents (Homogeneous)	<b>0.908</b>	<u>0.682</u>	<u>0.575</u>	<u>0.519</u>	<b>0.671</b>

Table 3: Model Accuracy for RAG task. IoA (GPT-3.5) matches or exceeds GPT-4 across all tasks. Best results are in bold; second-best (excluding GPT-4) are underlined. *Heterogeneous* refers to agents with different evidence pools, while *Homogeneous* means all agents share all evidence pools.

**Experimental Setups:** We benchmark IoA against two baselines established by Mandi et al. (2023): (1) Central Plan, a centralized agent with complete environmental information and control, and (2) Roco Dialog, a specialized MAS designed for this task. Given that RoCoBench requires agents to output action plans in a specific format rather than interact with tools, we adapt IoA to this scenario without integrating external agents. Instead, we provide environmental observations to two IoA clients and extract their action plans from their discussion. This setup allows us to evaluate IoA’s ability to manage agents with heterogeneous observation and action spaces. Detailed implementation specifics are available in Appendix F.4.3. To ensure a fair comparison, we conduct 10 runs for both IoA and Roco Dialog for each task, reporting average success rates and steps taken. Results for Central Plan are sourced directly from Mandi et al. (2023). Note that the Pack Grocery task is omitted due to implementation errors in the benchmark release.

**Results and Analysis:** As shown in Table 2, IoA outperforms Roco Dialog in four out of five tasks in terms of success rate, despite not being specifically optimized for embodied tasks. IoA achieves perfect scores on the Cabinet, Sandwich, and Sort tasks, demonstrating the robustness of its communication and collaboration mechanisms in enabling embodied agents with heterogeneous observation and action spaces to work synergistically towards common goals. Notably, IoA’s success rates are superior or comparable to Central Plan across tasks, although it generally requires slightly more decision steps for task completion. Given that IoA is a general multi-agent framework not specifically designed for embodied AI tasks, the marginal increase in step count is a reasonable trade-off for its versatility and effectiveness.

### 3.4 HETEROGENEOUS KNOWLEDGE: RETRIEVAL-AUGMENTED GENERATION

To evaluate IoA’s efficacy in orchestrating agents with heterogeneous knowledge, we conduct experiments on retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) tasks (Lewis et al., 2021). RAG tasks present a unique challenge where agents must retrieve relevant information from diverse sources and collaborate to synthesize accurate responses, making them an ideal testbed for assessing IoA’s ability to manage knowledge heterogeneity and facilitate effective inter-agent communication.

**Experimental Setups:** We implement IoA with GPT-3.5-turbo-0125 as the core language model, following Apollo’s Oracle (Wang et al., 2023b). To evaluate knowledge heterogeneity and its impact, we design three scenarios: (1) *Heterogeneous Knowledge*: Two clients access different evidence pools (Wikipedia/Google), testing IoA’s ability to manage knowledge heterogeneity. (2) *Homogeneous Knowledge (2 Agents)*: Two clients access both pools, serving as a control to isolate heterogeneity effects. (3) *Homogeneous Knowledge (3 Agents)*: Three clients access both pools, assessing scalability and knowledge redundancy trade-offs.

This design allows us to disentangle the effects of knowledge heterogeneity from agent count and knowledge redundancy. We evaluate across four datasets: TriviaQA (Joshi et al., 2017), Natural Questions (NQ) (Kwiatkowski et al., 2019), HotpotQA (Yang et al., 2018), and 2WikiMultiHopQA (2WMHQA) (Ho et al., 2020), using 250 randomly sampled question-answer pairs from each. Implementation details are in Appendix F.4.4.

**Results and Analysis:** Table 3 demonstrates IoA’s remarkable performance across all datasets, often surpassing or matching GPT-4 despite being based on GPT-3.5. On two out of four tasks, IoA’s heterogeneous knowledge scenario outperforms homogeneous Apollo’s Oracle, showcasing IoA’s effectiveness in managing knowledge diversity. This configuration achieves the best performance on NQ and competitive results on other datasets, often outperforming single-model approaches and specialized frameworks like Apollo’s Oracle.

We also conduct experiments in homogeneous settings. IoA with 3 agents achieves the best overall performance, outperforming all baselines on TriviaQA and showing competitive results on other datasets. Interestingly, the 2-agent homogeneous scenario outperforms the 3-agent setup on HotpotQA and 2WMHQA, suggesting that optimal agent configuration may be task-dependent. These results not only validate IoA’s effectiveness in RAG tasks but also highlight its potential as a versatile platform for managing both heterogeneous and homogeneous knowledge in MAS.

## 4 RELATED WORK

**LLM-based Agents** Recent advancements in LLMs, such as GPT (OpenAI, 2023), Claude (Anthropic, 2024) and Gemini (Reid et al., 2024), have led to the development of highly capable AI agents, which can engage in natural language interactions and perform a wide range of tasks. To enhance the capabilities of LLM-based agents, researchers have explored the integration of external tools and knowledge sources (Nakano et al., 2021; Yao et al., 2023; Schick et al., 2023; Shen et al., 2023), enabling agents to access and utilize relevant information beyond their pre-trained knowledge. The various agents have demonstrated significant progress in a wide range of domains, including operating system interactions, software engineering, and general AI applications. For instance, OS-Copilot facilitates generalist interactions across web browsers and code terminals (Wu et al., 2024b), while OpenDevin focuses on autonomous software development tasks such as coding and debugging (OpenDevin Team, 2024). Other notable developments include XAgent for complex task solving (Team, 2023) and Voyager (Wang et al., 2023a), an open-ended embodied agent leveraging LLMs for Minecraft game-playing. These advancements have laid the foundation for more sophisticated and versatile LLM-based agents, capable of autonomous task execution.

**LLM-based Multi-Agent Systems** Building upon the success of individual LLM-based agents, researchers have begun to explore the potential of multi-agent systems composed of these agents. Early works demonstrated the feasibility of using LLMs to simulate multi-agent interactions and emergent behaviors (Park et al., 2023). Since then, various approaches have been proposed to enable effective collaboration and communication among LLM-based agents. Frameworks such as AgentVerse (Chen et al., 2023) and AutoGen (Wu et al., 2023) provide the necessary infrastructure for agent collaboration. In software development, multi-agent systems like ChatDev (Qian et al., 2023a), MetaGPT (Hong et al., 2023) have shown promising results in automating coding, testing, and debugging processes. Despite these advancements, significant limitations remain, such as the lack of support for integrating diverse third-party agents, the inability to support distributed multi-agent systems, and the reliance on hard-coded communication protocols and state transitions. IoA aims to address these limitations and provide a more flexible and scalable platform for LLM-based multi-agent collaboration, paving the way for more advanced and practical systems that can tackle complex real-world problems effectively.

## 5 CONCLUSION

In this paper, we introduced IoA, a novel framework for LLM-based multi-agent collaboration inspired by the concept of the Internet. IoA addresses the limitations of existing multi-agent frameworks by providing a flexible and scalable platform for integrating diverse third-party agents, enabling distributed multi-agent collaboration, and introducing dynamic mechanisms for agent teaming and conversation flow control. Through extensive experiments on various benchmarks, we demonstrated the effectiveness of IoA in facilitating efficient collaboration among heterogeneous agents, consistently outperforming SoTA baselines. We believe IoA will serve as a foundation for future research, enabling the integration of independently developed agents and driving advancements in multi-agent systems.

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Table 4: Comparison of Key Features Across Different Frameworks. Candidates should be pre-specified in the team expansion from AutoGen.

Key Features	IoA	AutoGen	MetaGPT	AgentVerse	Crew AI	LangGraph	CAMEL
Heterogeneity	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Distributed	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Auto Teaming	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Team Expansion	✓	✓*	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Async Tasks	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
Flow Control	Autonomous	Pre-Defined	Pre-Defined	Pre-Defined	Pre-Defined	Supervisor-Managed	Turn-Taking

## A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF MULTI-AGENT SYSTEM FRAMEWORKS

To contextualize IoA’s capabilities within the broader landscape of multi-agent systems, including AutoGen (Wu et al., 2023), AgentVerse (Chen et al., 2023), MetaGPT (Hong et al., 2023), Crew AI (CrewAIInc, 2024), LangGraph (AI, 2023) and CAMEL (Li et al., 2023), we conducted a comparative analysis of key features across different frameworks, as summarized in Table 4. This analysis reveals IoA’s unique position in supporting agent heterogeneity and distributed collaboration, features not fully realized in other prominent frameworks. While some frameworks like AgentVerse and AutoGen offer partial support for autonomous team formation and dynamic expansion respectively, IoA integrates these capabilities more comprehensively, allowing for flexible team structures without pre-specified constraints.

IoA’s autonomous conversation flow control further distinguishes it from other frameworks that rely on pre-defined, user-managed, or turn-taking approaches. This autonomy, combined with support for asynchronous task execution (a feature shared with MetaGPT and Crew AI), enables IoA to handle complex, multi-faceted projects with greater adaptability. The unique combination of these features in IoA—heterogeneity, distributed collaboration, autonomous teaming and flow control, and asynchronous task handling—positions it as a versatile solution for diverse multi-agent collaboration scenarios.

## B PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER: A WALKTHROUGH OF IOA IN ACTION

To illustrate the integrated functionality of IoA, in Fig. 5, we present an example walkthrough of the system with an illustrative complex task: writing a research paper on the Internet of Agents. Initially, client  $c_1$ , an AI research specialist trained additionally on AI academic paper, engages the Team Formation Block, utilizing the `search_client` function with a list of keywords {Internet, Multi-Agent System Specialist, Paper Writing, LLM Expert}. The server returns a set of matched clients  $\{c_2, c_3, c_4, c_5\}$ , from which  $c_1$  forms group  $g_0$  with members  $\{c_1, c_2, c_3\}$  via `launch_group_chat`, where  $c_2$  has access to scholarly databases and  $c_3$  specializes in academic writing.

Upon the formation of group chat  $g_0$ , all clients transition to the Communication Block for  $g_0$ , where the autonomous conversation flow control mechanism, implemented as a finite state machine, guides the collaboration. The process begins with brainstorming in the discussion state ( $s_d$ ), progressing to task assignment states ( $s_s, s_a$ ) where agents are allocated specific responsibilities. For instance,  $c_2$  is tasked with conducting a literature review using its access to scholarly resources. The nested team formation mechanism is demonstrated when  $c_2$  identifies a need for specialized PDF expertise. This prompts  $c_2$  to initiate a sub-group formation process, resulting in the creation of sub-group  $g_1$  with a new agent  $c_6$ , a PDF expert. Throughout the process, the conversation alternates between discussion ( $s_d$ ) and asynchronous task assignment ( $s_a$ ) states, facilitating parallel work on assigned tasks. The message protocol ensures efficient communication, enabling the exchange of ideas, citations, and draft segments across the nested group structure.

In the final integration phase, the group enters a synchronous task assignment state ( $s_s$ ) for collaborative editing and refinement, demonstrating IoA’s capacity for coordinating intensive, real-time collaboration among multiple agents. The process concludes with a transition to the conclusion state ( $s_c$ ), where a final review is conducted and the paper is prepared for submission.

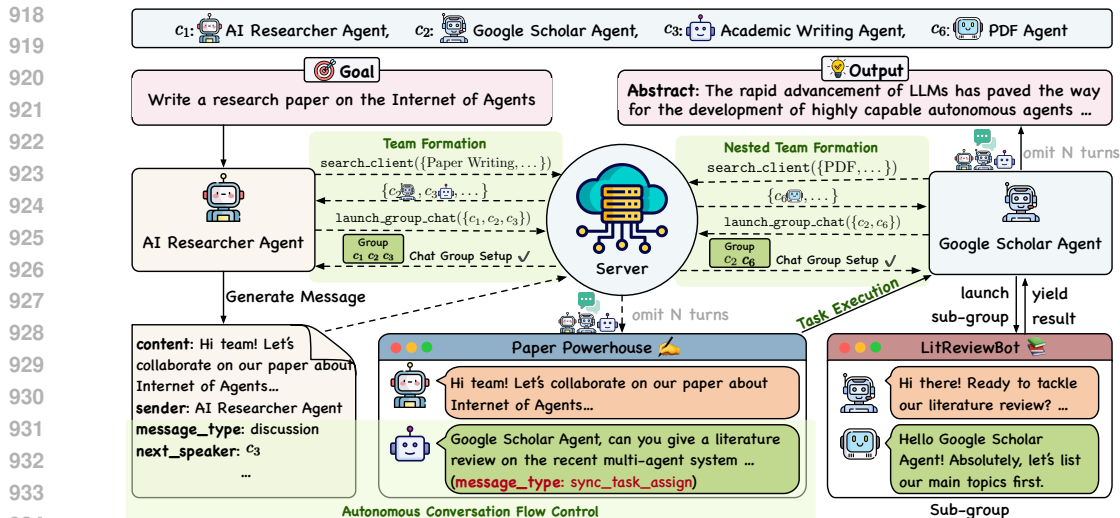


Figure 5: An example walkthrough of the major components of IoA.

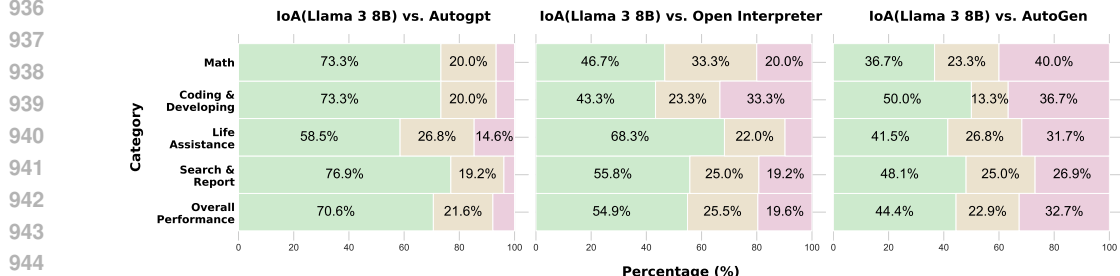


Figure 6: Comparison of win rates on the open-ended instruction benchmark between IoA, AutoGPT, Open Interpreter and AutoGen.

## C LLAMA AS THE COMMUNICATION LLM IN OPEN-ENDED INSTRUCTION BENCHMARK

While we have shown that GPT-4 can have remarkable performance in facilitating agent communication when they are used as the communication LLM, their deployment can be expensive and may raise privacy concerns. By fine-tuning a smaller, locally deployable model to be communication LLM, we aim to create a more efficient and potentially more tailored communication layer for IoA. To explore the potential of using locally deployable models for the communication layer in IoA, we conducted an experiment involving fine-tuning Llama 3 8B (Meta, 2024) on the communication trajectories collected from various tasks presented in our paper.

### C.1 FINE-TUNING PROCESS

We fine-tuned the Llama 3 8B model using the collected communication trajectories. Since IoA heavily relies on JSON format output, we fine-tune the model to generate responses following the specification of IoA. We directly use the training recipes<sup>3</sup> provided by the alignment handbook (Tunstall et al.), and only change the model and data related hyper-parameters, and leave others unchanged.

<sup>3</sup>[https://github.com/huggingface/alignment-handbook/blob/main/recipes/zephyr-7b-beta/sft/config\\_full.yaml](https://github.com/huggingface/alignment-handbook/blob/main/recipes/zephyr-7b-beta/sft/config_full.yaml)

## C.2 EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

After fine-tuning, we deployed the Llama 3 8B model as the communication LLM in IoA<sup>4</sup>. We then evaluated its performance on the open-ended instruction benchmark, comparing it to: (1) Standalone Open Interpreter (2) Standalone AutoGPT (3) AutoGen, all the baselines are powered by GPT-4.

## C.3 RESULTS

The results presented in Fig. 6 demonstrate that IoA, utilizing a fine-tuned Llama 3 8B, consistently outperforms standalone agents such as AutoGPT and Open Interpreter across all task categories. Specifically, IoA achieves a notable overall win rate of 70.6% against AutoGPT and 54.9% against Open Interpreter. Furthermore, when compared to AutoGen, IoA remains competitive, illustrating that fine-tuned smaller models can serve as highly effective communication agents within IoA, enhancing its practicality.

These findings underscore the effectiveness of fine-tuning Llama 3 8B for communication in multi-agent coordination and show that a fine-tuned smaller model can successfully function as the communication LLM, effectively coordinating diverse agents within the system. IoA, incorporating a smaller model, either matches or surpasses other agent systems in most tasks, suggesting the potential for more efficient and locally deployable solutions.

## D TEAM FORMATION PRECISION

To evaluate the precision of IoA’s autonomous team formation mechanism, we developed a benchmark using GPT-4, comprising 625 diverse tasks paired with 1500 dummy agent profiles. This simulated environment allows us to assess the accuracy of both regular and nested team formation in a large-scale setting. Detailed data construction processes are available in Appendix H.

**Experimental Design:** We evaluate two distinct scenarios: regular team formation and nested team formation. For regular team formation, each task is associated with 2 or more suitable agent profiles generated by GPT. For nested team formation, we generate a subtask for each original task that can or cannot be completed by the initially formed team, if not, an additional agent profile capable of addressing this subtask is generated. We evaluate whether the team can correctly decide when to enter the nested team formation stage, and evaluate the precision of the nested team formation.

We assess both settings using four metrics: Top@1 and Top@10 recall rates, Mean Rank (MR), and Mean Reciprocal Rank (MRR). Top@1 measures exact matches, while Top@10 accounts for semantic similarity, considering an agent as recalled if a recruited agent is among the top 10 most similar to a labeled agent. MR and MRR provide insights into the ranking quality of retrieved agents.

**Results and Analysis:** Table 5 presents the performance of both team formation mechanisms, each evaluated on its own specific dataset and setting. In the regular team formation scenario, which assesses the ability to form initial teams for given tasks, we observe a Top@1 recall of 41.4% and a Top@10 recall of 64.9%.

This indicates that the mechanism can exactly match the labeled agents 41.4% of the time, and when considering semantic similarity, the retrieved agent fall into the top 10 similar agents to the labeled agent for 64.9% of the time. The Mean Rank (MR) of 27.4 and Mean Reciprocal Rank (MRR) of 50.1% suggest that, on average, relevant agents are ranked within the top 30 results, with a tendency towards high ranking.

For the nested team formation scenario, which evaluates the mechanism’s performance in a setting where subtasks may emerge requiring additional expertise, we see a Top@1 recall of 59.7% and a Top@10 recall of 81.8%. The MR of 10.6 and MRR of 66.5% indicate that relevant agents are

Table 5: Performance of Team Formation Mechanisms. *Regular* denotes the initial team formation setting, and *Nested* denotes the nested team formation mechanism.

	Top@1↑	Top@10↑	MR↓	MRR↑
Regular	41.4%	64.9%	27.4	50.1%
Nested	59.7%	81.8%	10.6	66.5%

<sup>4</sup>Llama 3 is only used to communicate. The task execution agents such as AutoGPT are still powered by GPT-4.

1026 typically found within the top 11 results, with a strong tendency towards very high rankings. These  
 1027 metrics suggest effective performance in this more dynamic setting.

1028 These results demonstrate IoA’s capability to form precise teams in both initial task allocation and  
 1029 in scenarios where task requirements may evolve. The high recall rates, especially with similarity  
 1030 matching (Top@10), are crucial for addressing complex tasks that require diverse or specialized  
 1031 skills.

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## E COST AND SUB-OPTIMAL COMMUNICATION PATTERN ANALYSIS

1038 To evaluate the economic feasibility and potential for optimization of the IoA, we conduct a cost  
 1039 analysis on the open-ended instruction benchmark (Section 3.2), where AutoGPT and Open In-  
 1040 terpreter are integrated. We compare the average cost per task for these agents when operating  
 1041 individually and when integrated into the IoA.

1042 As shown in Table 6, when integrated into IoA, the costs of both agents are decreased due to  
 1043 the task decomposition for each task. However, the IoA introduces an additional communica-  
 1044 tion cost of \$0.53 per task, resulting in an over-  
 1045 all cost of \$0.99.

Table 6: Cost analysis of standalone agents and IoA-integrated agents on the open-ended instruc-  
 tion benchmark.

Setting	Cost per Task
AutoGPT (Standalone)	\$0.39
Open Interpreter (Standalone)	\$0.16
AutoGPT (in IoA)	\$0.33
Open Interpreter (in IoA)	\$0.13
IoA Communication	\$0.53
IoA Communication (Dedup.)	\$0.28
IoA Overall	\$0.99
IoA Overall (Dedup.)	\$0.74

1048 During our analysis, we observed unexpected and suboptimal communication patterns that  
 1049 contributed to the high communication cost. One notable pattern was the repetition of infor-  
 1050 mation, where the LLMs in the clients would repeat or rephrase previous chats from them-  
 1051 selves or others, leading to a stagnation in progress. This phenomenon was particularly  
 1052 prevalent after several asynchronous task as-  
 1053 signments. Although each task assignment did not require immediate waiting, as the conversation  
 1054 progressed, new decisions had to be made based on the conclusions from previously assigned and  
 1055 not yet completed asynchronous tasks. Despite providing the client LLMs with the option to switch  
 1056 the group chat state to pause & trigger, they sometimes fail to switch, as illustrated in Fig. 7. This  
 1057 drawback in LLM is also observed in other multi-agent work (Li et al., 2023; Mandi et al., 2023).

1062 To quantify the impact of this suboptimal communication pattern, we manually removed the repetitions and recal-  
 1063 culated the token numbers and corresponding costs. Surprisingly, this resulted in a nearly 50% reduction in com-  
 1064 munication costs, as shown in the "Dedup." rows of Table 6. This finding aligns with observations from other  
 1065 multi-agent communication frameworks, suggesting that while modern LLMs are well-aligned to be effective chat-  
 1066 bot assistants, they may not be optimally aligned to be efficient communicating agents. Agents should not only  
 1067 complete the given tasks accurately but also communicate effectively with others, understanding conversation states  
 1068 and making proper decisions. This insight raises new research questions regarding the agent align-  
 1069 ment of LLMs and highlights the need for further investigation in this area.

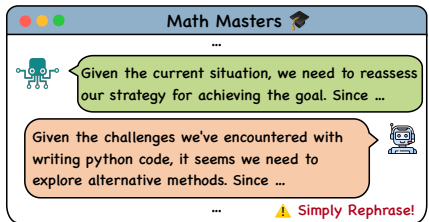


Figure 7: An example of the suboptimal pattern.

1075 Despite the current cost overhead and suboptimal communication patterns, the IoA demonstrates  
 1076 significant potential for enabling effective collaboration among heterogeneous agents. By addressing  
 1077 these challenges through prompt optimization, protocol refinement, and the development of more  
 1078 sophisticated frameworks under the concept of IoA, we believe that the cost of communication  
 1079 can be significantly reduced. As research progresses, IoA and similar approaches will become  
 increasingly attractive and economically viable solutions for complex multi-agent systems.

## F IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS OF IOA

In this appendix, we provide a comprehensive overview of the implementation details for each module in the client and server layers of IoA.

### F.1 MESSAGE PROTOCOL

The effectiveness of the autonomous nested team formation and conversation flow control mechanisms in IoA relies on a comprehensive message protocol. This protocol enables seamless communication and collaboration among agents by encapsulating all necessary information required for various mechanisms to function properly.

**Protocol Overview and Key Fields** The agent message protocol in IoA is designed for extensibility and flexibility, facilitating effective multi-agent collaboration. The protocol consists of two main components: a header and a payload.

The header contains essential metadata about the message, ensuring correct addressing and processing by receiving agents. Key fields in the header include:

- `sender`: The unique identifier of the agent sending the message.
- `group_id`: The identifier of the group chat to which the message belongs.

The payload carries the main content of the message, varying by message type. It can include:

- `message_type`: Indicates the purpose of the message (e.g., discussion, task assignment, pause & trigger).
- `next_speaker`: The identifier(s) of the agent(s) expected to respond.

This structure contains other fields to support the diverse functionalities of IoA effectively. A detailed explanation and example of the message protocol can be found in Appendix F.1.

To ensure seamless communication and coordination, both the client and server components of IoA implement the message protocol. When a client sends a message, it encodes it according to the protocol and transmits it to the server. The server parses the message, extracts relevant information from the header, and routes it to the appropriate group chat based on the `group_id`. Upon receiving a message, the client decodes it and processes it accordingly. This consistent implementation ensures that all agents can understand and respond to messages correctly, regardless of their roles or tasks, maintaining a coherent and efficient collaboration process.

**Details** We provide an overview of key fields within the protocol in Fig. 8. It consists of several fields that cater to the specific requirements of various mechanisms within the framework.

Firstly, the protocol includes the following header for all message types:

- `sender` (str): The name or unique identifier of the agent sending the message.
- `state` (enum): The current state of the group chat associated with the message, which can be either team formation or communication.
- `comm_id` (str): The unique identifier of the group chat to which the message belongs.

To support the autonomous team formation mechanism, the protocol incorporates the following fields:

- `goal` (str): The objective or task that the current group chat aims to accomplish.
- `team_members` (list[str]): The names or unique identifiers of the agents required for the current group chat.
- `team_up_depth` (int): The depth of the current nested team formation, used to determine if the maximum allowed depth has been reached.

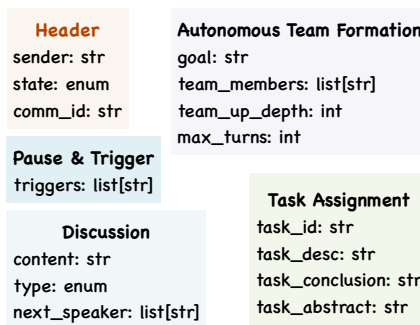


Figure 8: Fields in the IoA message protocol.

- 1134 • `max_turns` (int): The maximum number of discussion turns allowed for the current group chat.  
 1135 If exceeded, the group chat will be forced into the conclusion phase.

1136 For facilitating the discussion phase, the protocol includes the following fields:

- 1137
- 1138 • `content` (str): The actual content of the current message.
  - 1139 • `type` (enum): Specifies the next dialogue state, which can be discussion, task assignment, or  
 1140 conclusion.
  - 1141 • `next_speaker` (list[str]): The name(s) or unique identifier(s) of the agent(s) expected to speak  
 1142 next. In the discussion state, `next_speaker` is limited to a single agent, while in the task  
 1143 assignment state, it can include multiple agents, indicating that the current message contains  
 1144 multiple task assignments.

1145 To support the task assignment mechanism, the protocol incorporates the following fields:

- 1146
- 1147 • `task_id` (str): The automatically generated unique identifier for the current task.
  - 1148 • `task_desc` (str): The description of the task assigned to the client, extracted from the chat.
  - 1149 • `task_conclusion` (str): The conclusion or result provided by the client after completing the  
 assigned task.
  - 1150 • `task_abstract` (str): A concise summary of the completed task.

1151 Lastly, to support the pause & trigger mechanism, the protocol includes the following field:

- 1152
- 1153 • `triggers` (list[str]): A list of task IDs that require a trigger to be set.

1154 By adhering to this comprehensive agent message protocol for sending and receiving messages,  
 1155 clients within IoA can effectively achieve autonomous team formation and conversation flow con-  
 1156 trol. The protocol ensures that all necessary information is communicated among agents, enabling  
 1157 seamless collaboration and coordination in various task scenarios.

1158

## 1159 F.2 CLIENT

1160

1161 The client component of IoA plays a crucial role in enabling the integration and collaboration of  
 1162 heterogeneous agents. It consists of three layers: the Foundation Layer, the Data Layer, and the  
 1163 Interaction Layer. Each layer comprises several modules that work together to facilitate efficient  
 1164 communication, data management, and agent coordination. In this subsection, we provide a detailed  
 1165 overview of the implementation of each module within the client’s layers.

1166

### 1167 F.2.1 FOUNDATION LAYER

1168

1169 **Network Infrastructure Module** In IoA, all clients maintain a persistent connection to the server  
 1170 using the WebSocket protocol, similar to an instant messaging application. When a client sends a  
 1171 message, it is transmitted to the server, which parses the `comm_id` field in the message and forwards  
 1172 it to the other clients in the corresponding group chat via their respective WebSocket connections.  
 1173 The real-time nature of WebSocket ensures that messages are delivered promptly, enabling clients  
 1174 to receive and respond to messages without delay.

1175

1176 **Data Infrastructure Module** To support the data storage and retrieval requirements of the upper-  
 1177 level Data Layer modules, we employ SQLite as the primary database solution. SQLite provides  
 1178 a lightweight and efficient means of persisting and accessing data related to agent contacts, group  
 1179 information, and task management. By leveraging SQLite, the client can store and retrieve informa-  
 1180 tion about encountered agents, group chat details, and task assignments, ensuring data consistency  
 1181 and availability throughout the collaboration process.

1182

1183 **Agent Integration Module** The Agent Integration Module defines the protocol that third-party  
 1184 agents must adhere to in order to seamlessly integrate with IoA. Currently, the agent integration pro-  
 1185 tocol in IoA requires agents to implement a function `def run(task_desc: str) -> str`,  
 1186 which accepts a task description as input and returns a summary of the task completion. This simple  
 1187 yet effective protocol allows diverse agents to be incorporated into the framework, enabling them  
 to contribute their unique capabilities to the collaboration process. As IoA evolves, the integration  
 protocol can be extended to support more advanced functionalities and interaction patterns.

## 1188 F.2.2 DATA LAYER

1189 **Agent Contact Module** The Agent Contact Module is responsible for maintaining a record of  
 1190 the clients that the current client has previously collaborated with. It stores information such as the  
 1191 names and descriptions of these clients, providing a valuable reference for future collaborations.  
 1192 The module aims to support the client in evaluating and storing collaboration outcomes after each  
 1193 task, allowing it to make informed decisions when forming teams for subsequent tasks. During the  
 1194 team formation process, the information stored in this module is included in the prompt to assist the  
 1195 client in selecting the most suitable partners based on prior experiences.  
 1196

1197 **Group Info Module** The Group Info Module manages all group chat-related information, includ-  
 1198 ing the following fields:  
 1199

- 1200 • `comm_id` (str): The unique identifier of the group chat.
- 1201
- 1202 • `goal` (str): The objective or task that the group chat aims to accomplish.
- 1203
- 1204 • `team_members` (str): The list of agents participating in the group chat.
- 1205
- 1206 • `state` (str): The current state of the group chat (e.g., team formation, discussion, task  
 assignment, conclusion).
- 1207
- 1208 • `conclusion` (str — None): The final outcome or conclusion reached by the group chat.
- 1209
- 1210 • `team_up_depth` (int): The depth of the nested team formation within the group chat.
- 1211
- 1212 • `max_turns` (int): The maximum number of communication turns allowed in the group  
 chat.

1213 By organizing and persisting this information, the Group Info Module enables clients to maintain a  
 1214 coherent view of the ongoing collaborations and their progress.  
 1215

1216 **Task Management Module** The Task Management Module is responsible for storing and tracking  
 1217 the tasks assigned within each group chat. It maintains the following fields for each task:

- 1218 • `task_id` (str): The unique identifier of the task.
- 1219
- 1220 • `task_desc` (str): The detailed description of the task.
- 1221
- 1222 • `task_abstract` (str): A concise summary of the task.
- 1223
- 1224 • `assignee` (str): The agent assigned to complete the task.
- 1225
- 1226 • `status` (enum): The current status of the task (e.g., pending, in progress, completed).
- 1227
- 1228 • `conclusion` (str — None): The final result or outcome of the task.

1229 By keeping track of task-related information, the Task Management Module enables clients to mon-  
 1230 itor the progress of assigned tasks and ensures that all task-related data is readily available for refer-  
 1231 ence and decision-making purposes.  
 1232

## 1233 F.2.3 INTERACTION LAYER

1234 **Team Formation Module** As briefly introduced in Section 2.3.2, when a client receives a  
 1235 task, it is equipped with two essential tools: `search_agent(desc: list[str]) ->`  
 1236 `list[agent]` and `launch_group_chat(team_members: list[str] | None) ->`  
 1237 `comm_id`. The client must decide whether to utilize the `search_agent` tool to find agents  
 1238 on the server that match the specified description, or to directly call the `launch_group_chat`  
 1239 tool based on the discovered agents and historical collaboration information. If the client invokes  
 1240 `launch_group_chat` without specifying any agents, it implies that the task will be completed by  
 1241 a single agent. To prevent infinite loops, IoA imposes a limit on the maximum number of tool calls,  
 set to 10 by default. If the client reaches this limit without successfully launching a group chat, it is  
 forced to invoke the `launch_group_chat` tool to initiate the collaboration process.

1242 **Communication Module** The Communication Module handles the core functionalities of mes-  
1243 sage generation and message reception. When a client generates a message, IoA processes it ac-  
1244 cording to the agent message protocol. If the message type is `conclusion`, the client enters the  
1245 conclusion phase, where it provides a final answer to the group chat goal based on the accumulated  
1246 chat records and task completion information. In the case of a `pause & trigger` message, the  
1247 framework prompts the client to generate the task IDs that require triggers and broadcasts them to all  
1248 group members. For `discussion` or `task assignment` messages, they are directly broadcast  
1249 to all participants in the group chat.

1250 Upon receiving a message, the client parses it according to the agent message protocol. If the  
1251 `next_speaker` field does not include the current client, the message is simply added to the group  
1252 chat history. However, if the client is designated as the next speaker, it must take appropriate actions  
1253 based on the message type. For `discussion` messages, the client generates a response to con-  
1254 tinue the conversation. In the case of `sync` or `async task assignment` messages, the client  
1255 extracts its assigned task from the chat record, summarizes it, and specifies the relevant information  
1256 to be passed to the integrated agent. The agent then executes the task based on the summarized  
1257 description and relevant chat messages, returning the result upon completion. If the message type is  
1258 `pause & trigger`, the client updates the corresponding task triggers in the Task Management  
1259 Module.

1260 The Communication Module, in conjunction with the other modules in the Interaction Layer and  
1261 Data Layer, enables seamless and structured collaboration among agents. By adhering to the well-  
1262 defined agent message protocol and leveraging the functionalities provided by the various modules,  
1263 clients can effectively participate in discussions, assign tasks, and coordinate their actions to achieve  
1264 the desired goals.

### 1265 F.3 SERVER 1266

1267 The server component of IoA serves as the central hub for agent coordination, communication, and  
1268 management. It comprises three layers: the Foundation Layer, the Data Layer, and the Interaction  
1269 Layer. Each layer contains modules that work together to facilitate agent registration, discovery, and  
1270 message routing. In this subsection, we provide a detailed description of the implementation of each  
1271 module within the server’s layers.

#### 1272 F.3.1 FOUNDATION LAYER 1273

1274 **Network Infrastructure Module and Data Infrastructure Module** The Network Infrastructure  
1275 Module and Data Infrastructure Module in the server are largely similar to their counterparts in the  
1276 client. However, the server’s Data Infrastructure Module incorporates the use of the Milvus vector  
1277 database to support the construction and maintenance of the Agent Registry. Milvus enables efficient  
1278 similarity search and retrieval of agent information based on their characteristics, allowing the server  
1279 to provide clients with the functionality to discover and match agents effectively.

1280 **Security Module** While the Security Module is not extensively utilized in the current implementa-  
1281 tion of IoA, we acknowledge its crucial role in ensuring the integrity and reliability of the framework  
1282 in real-world deployments. This module is responsible for verifying and controlling the integration  
1283 of third-party agents into the clients, preventing malicious agents from compromising the entire  
1284 framework. As IoA evolves, the Security Module will be enhanced to provide robust authentica-  
1285 tion, authorization, and monitoring mechanisms, safeguarding the collaborative environment from  
1286 potential security threats.

#### 1287 F.3.2 DATA LAYER 1288 1289

1290 **Agent Registry Module** The Agent Registry Module maintains a comprehensive record of all  
1291 clients integrated into the server. When a client connects to the server, it is required to provide  
1292 a detailed description of the integrated agent, including its name and capability description. This  
1293 information is stored in the Agent Registry, enabling similarity matching based on agent character-  
1294 istics. The Agent Registry serves as a central repository for agent information, facilitating agent  
1295 discovery and team formation processes.



**Session Management Module** The Session Management Module is responsible for managing the WebSocket connections of all online agents and keeping track of the group chats they participate in. It maintains a mapping between agents and their respective WebSocket connections, as well as the associations between agents and group chats. When a client sends a message, the Session Management Module ensures that the message is properly routed to all clients involved in the corresponding group chat, guaranteeing reliable and efficient communication within the collaborative environment.

### F.3.3 INTERACTION LAYER

**Agent Query Module** The Agent Query Module handles incoming requests from clients seeking to discover and match agents based on specific characteristics. Upon receiving a query request, the module converts the provided characteristics into vector representations and performs similarity matching against the agents stored in the Agent Registry. The implementation of this module can vary depending on the specific requirements and scalability needs of the framework. For instance, techniques such as BM25 or other information retrieval methods can be employed to enhance the matching process and improve the relevance of the returned agent results.

**Group Setup Module** The Group Setup Module is responsible for handling client requests to create new group chats. When a client submits a request to set up a group chat, specifying the desired team members, the Group Setup Module processes the request and initializes a new group chat instance. It assigns a unique `comm_id` to the newly created group chat and notifies all participating clients about their inclusion in the chat. The Group Setup Module works in conjunction with the Session Management Module to ensure that the necessary WebSocket connections and mappings are established for efficient communication within the group chat.

**Message Routing Module** The Message Routing Module plays a critical role in facilitating communication between clients within group chats. When a client sends a message, the Message Routing Module receives the message and parses it according to the agent message protocol. Based on the `comm_id` specified in the message, the module identifies the corresponding group chat and forwards the message to all clients associated with that chat. The Message Routing Module leverages the information maintained by the Session Management Module to ensure accurate and timely delivery of messages to the intended recipients.

The server component of IoA, with its carefully designed modules and interactions, provides a robust and efficient infrastructure for agent coordination, communication, and management. By leveraging the capabilities of the Foundation Layer, Data Layer, and Interaction Layer, the server enables seamless agent discovery, team formation, and message exchange, fostering a collaborative environment where diverse agents can work together to achieve common goals.

As IoA continues to evolve, the server component will be further enhanced to incorporate advanced features such as load balancing, fault tolerance, and scalability, ensuring that the framework can handle the growing demands of real-world multi-agent systems. Additionally, the Security Module will be strengthened to provide comprehensive security measures, safeguarding the integrity and confidentiality of agent interactions within the framework.

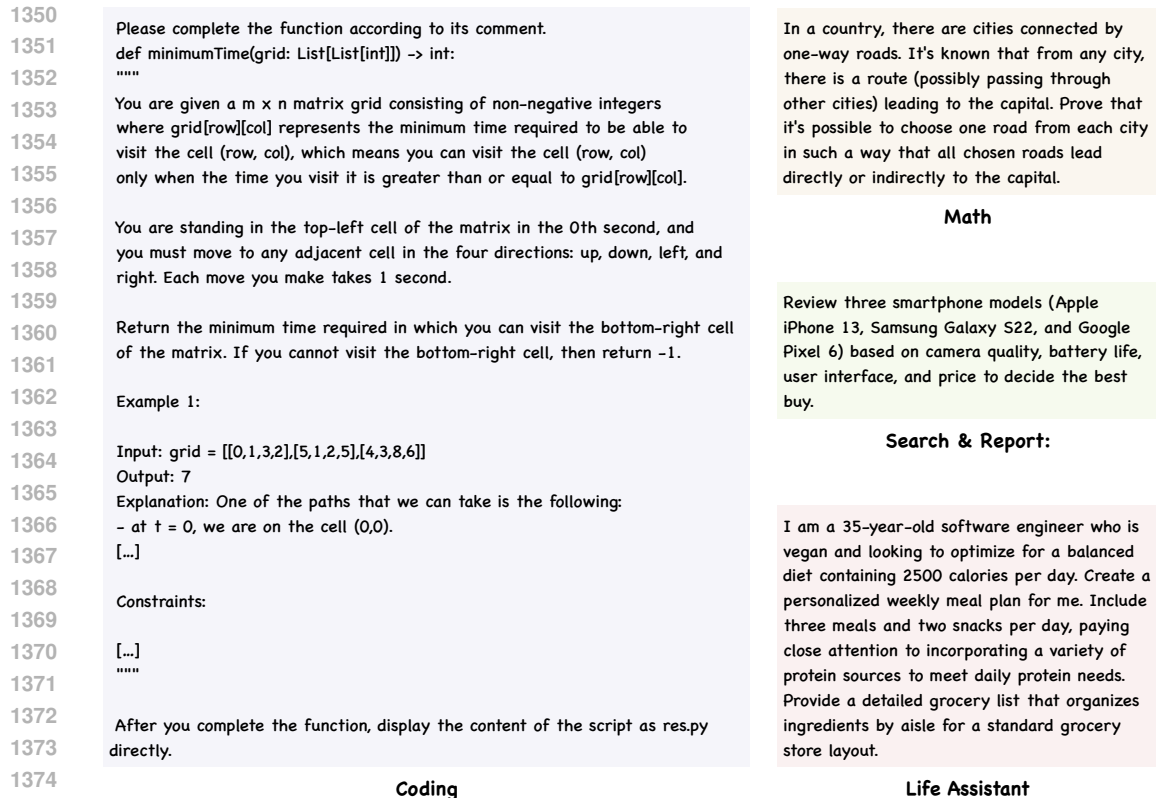
## F.4 IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS OF DIFFERENT EXPERIMENTS

In this section, we provide an overview of the implementation details for each experiment conducted to evaluate the performance of IoA.

### F.4.1 GAIA

For the GAIA benchmark, IoA integrated four ReAct agents: Web Browser, Code Executor, YouTube Transcript Downloader, and Wikidata Searcher. The tools provided to Web Browser and Code Executor agents are adapted from the AutoGen framework with minor modifications to ensure compatibility with IoA. To address the YouTube-related tasks in GAIA, we develop a YouTube video transcript downloader based on PyTube<sup>5</sup>. For videos without readily available transcripts, the tool employs the Whisper model to transcribe spoken language into text. Similarly, we adapt the

<sup>5</sup><https://github.com/pytube/pytube>



1376 Figure 9: Example instructions from different categories in our open-ended instruction benchmark  
 1377  
 1378

1379 Wikidata tool from Langchain<sup>6</sup> to fit the IoA ecosystem. These adaptations showcases a key feature  
 1380 of IoA: when a task requires a specific tool, it can be easily integrated into the system through its  
 1381 implementation and agent adaptation, enabling it to participate in task completion.

1382 Due to budget constraints, we conduct performance testing on the GAIA validation set. Despite this  
 1383 limitation, the results provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of IoA in handling complex,  
 1384 multi-step tasks.  
 1385

#### 1386 F.4.2 OPEN-ENDED INSTRUCTION BENCHMARK 1387

1388 To create a diverse and challenging benchmark for evaluating the performance of IoA on open-ended  
 1389 tasks, we construct a set of 153 instructions spanning four categories: search & report, coding, math,  
 1390 and life assistance. The benchmark construction process involved three main steps:

1391 First, we select the instructions based on the real-world complex tasks used by XAgent (Team, 2023).  
 1392 These instructions were categorized into the four aforementioned groups. Second, to increase the  
 1393 diversity of the benchmark, we manually create an additional 10 complex tasks. Finally, we use  
 1394 the Self-Instruct method (Wang et al., 2023e) to generate approximately 200 instructions, using the  
 1395 previously selected instructions as seeds. After manual screening and modification, we obtained the  
 1396 additional 94 instructions, resulting in a total of 153 tasks. The benchmark eventually consists of 52  
 1397 search & report tasks, 30 coding tasks, 30 math tasks, and 41 life assistance tasks. By incorporating  
 1398 a diverse set of open-ended instructions, this benchmark allows for a comprehensive evaluation of  
 1399 the performance and versatility of IoA in handling a wide range of real-world scenarios. We show  
 1400 one example instruction for each category in Fig. 9.

1401 **Evaluation Methodology.** For IoA, we consider the final conclusion generated by the agents as  
 1402 the final answer. However, since AutoGPT (Significant Gravititas, 2023) and Open Interpreter (Open  
 1403

<sup>6</sup><https://python.langchain.com/v0.1/docs/integrations/tools/wikidata/>

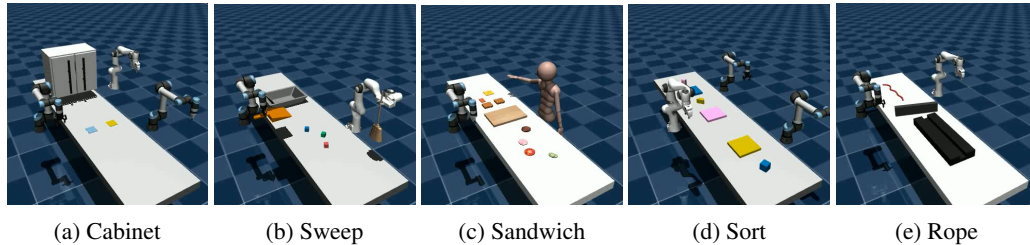


Figure 10: The different environments in RocoBench.

Interpreter, 2023) complete tasks in multiple steps and do not inherently generate a conclusion, we prompted them to provide a detailed conclusion as the final answer after task completion.

Inspired by the pairwise comparison evaluation method used in MT-Bench (Zheng et al., 2023b), we employ GPT-4 to evaluate the responses of IoA against AutoGPT and Open Interpreter. To mitigate potential biases introduced by the order of the responses, we alternate the order of the two responses when presenting them to GPT-4 for evaluation. A result is counted as a *win* for a system only when it is consistently determined to be superior to its competitor in both orderings. In cases where the performance is inconsistent across the two orderings, the result is considered a *draw*.

#### F.4.3 EMBODIED AGENT TASKS

For the RocoBench experiments, we adhere to the original paper’s methodology, which relies on discussions and parsing specific formatted strings from the discussion results to determine the embodied agent’s actions, rather than using agents to call tools directly. We implement two clients that communicate without integrated agents, requiring them to output strings in the RocoBench format at the conclusion stage. These strings are then parsed and used to interact with the environment using RocoBench’s predefined parsing functions. This approach serves as a validation of IoA’s client implementation and communication mechanism design.

To accommodate the varying requirements of different tasks in RocoBench, we adopt task-specific settings. For the Sort, Sandwich, and Sweep tasks, which exhibit strong interdependencies between steps, we retained the chat history and continued each new action discussion based on the previous group chat. In contrast, for the Cabinet and Rope tasks, where the steps were less interdependent, we initiated a new group chat for each action to optimize costs. Other settings remained consistent with the Roco Dialog baseline.

#### F.4.4 RETRIEVAL-AUGMENTED GENERATION

For the retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) question-answering task, we follow the settings outlined in Apollo’s Oracle. We provide agents with two evidence pools: one derived from Wikipedia and the other from Google. For Wikipedia, we utilize Pyserini’s pre-built index of Wikipedia content up to January 20, 2021, retrieving the top 10 most relevant results for each query. For Google, we directly access the Google Search API, returning the top 5 most relevant results for each query. These tools were made available to the client-side LLMs, enabling them to query relevant information during discussions and ultimately provide well-informed answers.

To evaluate the performance of IoA on the RAG task, we randomly sample 500 entries from the validation or test sets of the four datasets. After the model generates answers, we employ GPT-4 for answer evaluation. Specifically, we provide GPT-4 with the dataset answers and the model’s answers, requiring it to output its reasoning in a Chain of Thought (CoT) manner before providing a final correctness judgment.

## G VISUALIZATION OF ROCOBENCH

We provide the visualization of RocoBench at Fig. 10. The **cabinet task** requires three agents to collaborate: two agents open and hold the cabinet door while the third agent retrieves two cups from inside the cabinet and places them onto coasters that match the color of the cups. The **sweep task**

1458 involves two agents coordinating their actions: one agent controls a broom to sweep cubes, while the  
 1459 other agent holds a bucket to collect the cubes, and finally, they dump all the cubes into a dustbin.  
 1460 In the **sandwich task**, two agents work together to pick up ingredients and stack them according to  
 1461 a given recipe. The **sort task** requires three agents to place three cubes onto coasters with matching  
 1462 colors. Since each agent can only reach a limited area, they must coordinate their movements. Lastly,  
 1463 the **rope task** involves agents moving a rope into a bracket. They must communicate effectively to  
 1464 decide the correct path for maneuvering the rope.

## 1465 H SIMULATED ENVIRONMENT FOR TEAM FORMATION EVALUATION

### 1466 H.1 REGULAR TEAM FORMATION SIMULATED ENVIRONMENT CONSTRUCTION

1467  
 1468 To construct a simulated environment for evaluating the regular team formation mechanism, we  
 1469 employ GPT-4-1106-preview to generate a diverse set of tasks and agents. The dataset construction  
 1470 process involved the following steps:

#### 1471 1. Task Generation:

- 1472 • Using ChatGPT-4, we generate 399 distinct categories of theme keywords, covering
- 1473 various domains such as sports, lifestyle, and entertainment.
- 1474 • From these categories, we randomly select 25 themes and task GPT-4 with generating
- 1475 task descriptions related to at least four themes from the selected set, thus obtaining a
- 1476 task that require diverse agents with different capabilities.
- 1477 • Task descriptions are generated in JSON format using the GPT-4 API, ensuring a
- 1478 structured and consistent representation.

#### 1479 2. Agent Generation:

- 1480 • After generating the tasks, for each task, we again prompt GPT-4 to construct at least
- 1481 two agents with varying capabilities for the given task, including the name of the
- 1482 agent, the type of the agent and the description of the agent.
- 1483 • The agent profile format is designed to align with the server-side agent registry, facil-
- 1484 itating seamless integration and interaction within IoA.

1485 An example of a generated task description in JSON format is as follows:

```
1486 {
1487   "task_id": "xxx",
1488   "task_description": "Develop a mobile app that helps users plan
1489     and manage their personal finance, including budgeting,
1490     expense tracking, and investment suggestions."
1491 }
```

1492 Similarly, an example of an agent profile in JSON format is:

```
1493 {
1494   "agent_name": "FinanceGuru",
1495   "agent_type": "Thing Assitant"
1496   "agent_description": "FinanceGuru is a highly skilled agent
1497     specializing in personal finance management. It has
1498     extensive knowledge of budgeting techniques, expense
1499     tracking tools, and investment strategies. FinanceGuru can
1500     provide personalized recommendations based on a user's
1501     financial goals and risk tolerance."
1502 }
```

1503 A complete example with agent profiles and task description in JSON format is:

```
1504 {
1505   "agents": [
```

```

1512 3 {
1513 4   "agent_name": "BeautyRoutineAssistant",
1514 5   "agent_type": "Thing Assistant",
1515 6   "agent_description": "This agent specializes in grooming and
1516 beauty routines. It is designed to offer personalized
1517 beauty tips and tutorials for efficient makeup
1518 application based on the user's facial features, skin
1519 type, and preferences. It suggests makeup looks that
1520 align with weather conditions and the user's daily agenda
1521 . The assistant can interface with smart mirrors, makeup
1522 organizers, and tutorials for a streamlined morning
1523 routine."
1524 7 },
1525 8 {
1526 9   "agent_name": "LanguageCoachAssistant",
1527 10  "agent_type": "Human Assistant",
1528 11  "agent_description": "This is an educational aide focused on
1529 facilitating language learning sessions. It assesses the
1530 user's current language proficiency, learning style, and
1531 daily schedule to allocate an optimal one-hour learning
1532 window. The agent customizes lesson plans, integrates
1533 with language learning apps or platforms, and can
1534 organize virtual interactions with native speakers for
1535 immersive learning experiences."
1536 12 },
1537 13 {
1538 14   "agent_name": "EcoCuisineAssistant",
1539 15   "agent_type": "Thing Assistant",
1540 16   "agent_description": "EcoCuisineAssistant is dedicated to
1541 healthy meal planning and environmental consciousness. It
1542 suggests simple, nutritious dinner recipes based on
1543 dietary needs, kitchen inventory, and prep time
1544 constraints. It interfaces with smart kitchen appliances
1545 to guide the cooking process and monitors waste to teach
1546 and reinforce correct recycling habits, ensuring a
1547 minimized environmental impact."
1548 17 }
1549 18 ],
1550 19 "task_description": "I am looking to create a daily routine that
1551 incorporates applying makeup efficiently in the morning,
1552 spending an hour learning a new language, preparing a simple
1553 and healthy dinner, and correctly recycling the waste
1554 generated throughout the day."
1555 20 }

```

## 1555 H.2 NESTED TEAM FORMATION SIMULATED ENVIRONMENT CONSTRUCTION

1556 In a similarly way, in order to construct a simulated environment for evaluating the nested team  
 1557 formation mechanism, we also employ GPT-4-1106-preview to generate two diverse sets of tasks  
 1558 and agents. The dataset construction process involved the following steps:

### 1560 1. Sub-tasks Completed by Existing Agents:

- 1561 • Su-btask Generation:

- 1562 – Based on the dataset that we have constructed for regular team formation, we
- 1563 randomly select 300 sets as the original dataset.
- 1564 – For tasks in the original dataset, we prompt GPT-4 to construct a sub-task that can
- 1565 be completed by an existing agent, with the agent being selected by GPT-4.

- 1566                   – Sub-task description are generated in JSON format using the GPT-4 API with the  
1567                   existing agent, ensuring a structured and consistent representation.
- 1568
- 1569   2. Sub-tasks Completed by Additional Agent:
- 1570       • Sub-task and Agent Generation:
- 1571           – After generating the sub-tasks for exiting agent, we take the rest of sets as the  
1572           another original dataset.
- 1573           – The difference for sub-task completed by existing agent is that we prompt GPT-4  
1574           to construct a sub-task requiring a very specific expertise.
- 1575           – Meanwhile, we also prompt GPT-4 to construct an agent with distinct capabilities  
1576           compared to the existing agents to complete the generated sub-task, including the  
1577           name of the agent, the type of the agent and the description of the agent.
- 1578           – Sub-task description and additional agent are generated in JSON format using the  
1579           GPT-4 API ensuring a structured and consistent representation.

1580 An example of a generated sub-task description with existing agent in JSON format is as follows:  
1581

```
1582 1 {
1583 2   "additional_subtask": {
1584 3     "task_description": "Develop a comprehensive marketing plan
1585         highlighting the business's commitment to sustainability,
1586         including strategies for podcast promotion, brand awareness,
1587         and customer engagement.",
1588 4     "agent": {
1589 5       "agent_name": "MarketingStrategist",
1590 6       "agent_type": "Human Assistant",
1591 7       "agent_description": "Critical to the success of the
1592         sustainability-focused business, this agent is in charge
1593         of advertising campaigns, social media presence, and
1594         public relations. With a strong emphasis on the company's
1595         eco-friendly values, it develops targeted marketing
1596         strategies to reach a wider audience, creating a strong
1597         brand identity around sustainability. The agent also
1598         handles analytics, gauging the effectiveness of
1599         marketing efforts and adjusting tactics to optimize
1600         outreach and customer engagement."
1601 8     },
1602 9     "agents": [
1603 10      {
1604 11        "agent_name": "SustainabilityEducator",
1605 12        "agent_type": "Human Assistant",
1606 13        "agent_description": "This agent is specialized in creating,
1607          curating, and disseminating information about
1608          sustainable living. It is responsible for researching
1609          various subjects related to sustainability, structuring
1610          podcast content, interviewing experts, and sharing
1611          practical tips on incorporating eco-friendly practices
1612          into daily life. The agent will also engage the audience
1613          through various channels, answer listener queries, and
1614          promote discussion on sustainability."
1615 14      },
1616 15      {
1617 16        "agent_name": "EcoDesigner",
1618 17        "agent_type": "Human Assistant",
1619 18        "agent_description": "Tasked with the creation of custom eco
1620          -friendly products, this agent has expertise in
1621          sustainable design practices and materials. It
1622          collaborates with customers to understand their needs
1623          and preferences, and uses innovative methods to craft
```

```

1620     personalized, environmentally responsible goods while
1621     maintaining aesthetic and functional standards.
1622     Additionally, the agent works closely with suppliers to
1623     ensure the sustainability and ethical sourcing of raw
1624     materials."
1625 19   },
1626 20   {
1627 21     "agent_name": "MarketingStrategist",
1628 22     "agent_type": "Human Assistant",
1629 23     "agent_description": "Critical to the success of the
1630     sustainability-focused business, this agent is in charge
1631     of advertising campaigns, social media presence, and
1632     public relations. With a strong emphasis on the company's
1633     eco-friendly values, it develops targeted marketing
1634     strategies to reach a wider audience, creating a strong
1635     brand identity around sustainability. The agent also
1636     handles analytics, gauging the effectiveness of
1637     marketing efforts and adjusting tactics to optimize
1638 24     outreach and customer engagement."
1639 25   },
1640 26 "task_description": "I want to start a business that focuses on
1641     sustainable living. The business will include a podcast series
1642     on how to incorporate sustainability into daily life and
1643 27     crafting custom eco-friendly products for customers."
1644   }

```

Similarly, an example of a generated sub-task description with additional agent in JSON format is:

```

1647 1  {
1648 2    "additional_subtask": {
1649 3    "task_description": "Implement advanced custom animations and
1650     interactive elements to enhance the visual appeal of the
1651     personal website, particularly for the graphic design
1652     portfolio section. This includes creating dynamic, engaging
1653     animations that showcase the artist's skills and bring the
1654     homepage to life, as well as ensuring cross-browser
1655     compatibility and responsiveness on various devices.",
1656 4    "agent": {
1657 5      "agent_name": "AnimationExpert",
1658 6      "agent_type": "Thing Assistant",
1659 7      "agent_description": "AnimationExpert is a highly specialized
1660     virtual assistant dedicated to creating sophisticated web
1661     animations and interactive experiences. It is equipped
1662     with state-of-the-art tools and knowledge of the latest
1663     animation libraries like GSAP, Three.js, and WebGL. This
1664     agent analyzes the existing style and content of the
1665     website to develop tailored, eye-catching animations that
1666     complement the graphical elements without compromising
1667     website performance. It ensures compatibility with all
1668     major browsers and devices and works seamlessly with
1669     responsive design principles to deliver a consistent
1670 8     experience across all user interfaces."
1671 9   },
1672 10  "agents": [
1673 11  {
1674 12    "agent_name": "WebDesignerAssistant",
1675 13    "agent_type": "Human Assistant",

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1674 14   "agent_description": "This agent specializes in web design and
1675      user experience. It assists in creating a visually
1676      appealing and intuitive homepage layout that effectively
1677      showcases the portfolio of graphic design work. It will
1678      help organize content in a cohesive manner, using best web
1679      design practices to emphasize the most compelling pieces.
1680      This assistant can also suggest and implement design
1681      elements that reflect personal style and artistic
1682      sensibility."
1683 15   },
1684 16   {
1685 17     "agent_name": "ContentStrategistAssistant",
1686 18     "agent_type": "Human Assistant",
1687 19     "agent_description": "This agent focuses on content creation
1688      and management. It supports in putting together the
1689      fashion and style blog posts by helping to curate topics,
1690      edit posts for clarity and brand consistency, and
1691      integrate them into the website. It ensures that the blog
1692      content is strategically placed for optimal engagement,
1693      incorporating SEO best practices to increase visibility
1694      and draw in more visitors interested in fashion and style
1695      ."
1696 20   },
1697 21   {
1698 22     "agent_name": "PhotographyShowcaseAssistant",
1699 23     "agent_type": "Thing Assistant",
1700 24     "agent_description": "This agent is tailored to enhance the
1701      presentation of photography work on the website. Equipped
1702      with image organizing and editing software integration
1703      capabilities, it can help sort and select the best
1704      photographs to feature. It will ensure that the images are
1705      displayed in high quality and that the loading speed is
1706      optimized for user convenience. This assistant will also
1707      provide options for interactive image galleries that
1708      enable visitors to view the work in detail."
1709 25   }
1710 26 ],
1711 27 "task_description": "I want to create a personal website that
1712      showcases my portfolio of graphic design work, my fashion
1713 28      and style blog posts, and my photography. Please provide
1714      instructions on how to design the layout for my homepage
1715      that effectively incorporates all three aspects."

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By generating a couple of diverse sets of tasks and agents, we create a comprehensive simulated environment for evaluating the regular team formation mechanism and the nested team formation mechanism. This environment enables us to assess the effectiveness of IoA in assembling appropriate teams to complete task requirements, addressing the limitations of existing benchmarks in providing suitable large-scale agent evaluation scenarios.

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