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Data & AI

Agentic AI & Autonomous Workflows Design Playbook

Designing multi-step autonomous workflows with the boundaries built in from the first draft

- Practitioner
- Advanced
- Template Included

- Administrator
- 09 February 2020
- 4 minute(s)

Overview

A framework for designing agentic AI and autonomous workflows — decomposing complex tasks into agent-appropriate steps, building explicit boundaries and checkpoints into workflow architecture, and validating autonomous behavior incrementally — treating workflow design itself as the primary risk-management lever for agentic AI deployment.

How is designing an agentic AI workflow different from designing

a typical automated process? Agentic AI makes sub-decisions autonomously within the workflow, not just executing predetermined steps — this requires designing explicit decision boundaries and checkpoints within the workflow architecture itself, not just defining the overall process the way traditional automation design would.

Where should workflow designers focus the most design effort when

building agentic AI systems? On the specific points where the agent makes autonomous sub-decisions — these are where boundary-setting and checkpoint design matter most, since the risk of agentic AI comes specifically from autonomous decision-making, not from executing clearly predetermined steps.

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