



AI Collaboration Maturity

A Framework Beyond Engineering



Dakota Fabro (they/them)

B.A. Psychology · M.Th Ethics · M.Ed Education

October 22, 2026 · 25 min



agntcon.dakotafabro.dev/discuss

Questions and discussion, during and after
the talk



BEFORE WE START

Engage as we go.

Q & A

In order to maximize our time together, drop your questions in the repo Q & A discussion.

Discussion

Add to the discourse. Visit the discussion repo and answer existing open questions or add your own.

Self-Assessment

Share where you landed and what surprised you.



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The QR is in the corner of every slide





THE PROBLEM SPACE

AI is shaping us and it needs to be measured.

Token Maxxing

Seats, tokens and prompts show how much AI gets used, not how well people think and work with it.

Maturity models currently focus on the technical implementation

Technical implementations are important - and so is the person holding the tool. How do we include ourselves?

Disciplines need a shared language around agentic AI

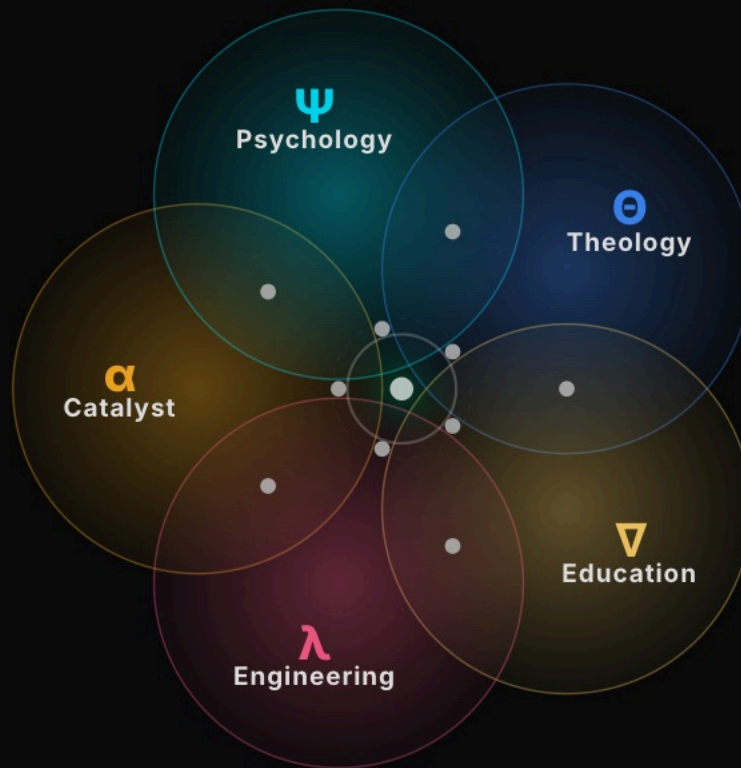
Teachers, nurses, lawyers and engineers are each figuring this out independently and are missing out on cross-discipline context and considerations.

The aim is being able to measure one's relationship to their AI tools to deepen their craft.



WHO I AM

Five lenses, one question



HOVER TO EXPLORE

Five disciplines. Ten intersections. One convergence point. Each lens shapes how I see problems; together they produce work none could make alone.





♀ CONSIDER

A hobbyist and Hendrix hold the same guitar.

The instrument is identical, what emerges is not.
Most AI maturity models measure the instrument.
This framework focuses on the relationship.





WHERE IT STARTED

Built in practice, measured on my own work

rp-why

A goose skill I built to measure my own sessions: how deeply I was thinking, and how much I was handing over.

An MCP server

rp-why runs as an MCP server, so the agent can measure the collaboration it's part of.

Beyond engineering

This framework intends to address any discipline that is affected and impacted by AI.



Works with **goose**. An open source, extensible AI agent maintained by the Agentic AI Foundation (AAIF).



Agentic AI
Foundation



THE MISMATCH

Tooling is only one part of the equation

A katana slicing bread

Overpowered tool, underskilled user. The waste is invisible: they don't know what they're not using.

A flamethrower lighting a candle

Overpowered tool, low-demand task. The user may be skilled and the tool might be powerful, but for the task, the tool is overkill.

A chef with a paring knife and one skillet

Underpowered tool, high-demand task. The thinking is ready for more than the tool allows.

Hendrix with the Les Paul

Tool, skill, and task matched. This is where mastery is demonstrated.





THREE DIMENSIONS

A framework for seeing your AI collaboration

Cognitive Complexity (DOK)

WEBB'S DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE · DOK

How deeply are you thinking with AI?

Ways of Working (TM)

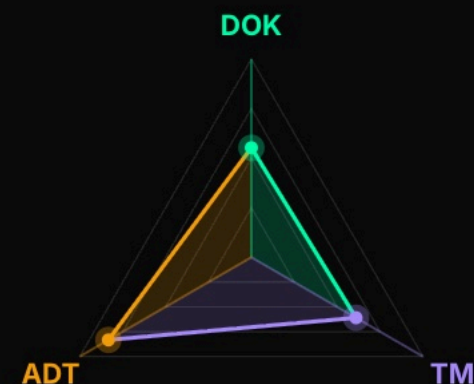
TOOL MATURITY · TM

How well do your AI tools match your skill and the demands of your work?

Agentic Delegation Trust (ADT)

THE ORCHESTRA MODEL · ADT

How much autonomy do you grant AI, and how skillfully do you manage it?



My Recent phase, Aug 30 to Oct 15.

Each axis is scaled by its top value: DOK out of 4, TM out of 1, delegation level out of 6.



COGNITIVE COMPLEXITY · DOK

How your cognition relates to your AI use

DOK 1

Recall and reproduction

"Define photosynthesis for a 9th grade class."

I.E. LOOKING IT UP

DOK 2

Skills and concepts

"Create a quiz on Chapter 5."

I.E. MAKING MATERIALS

DOK 3

Strategic thinking

"Here are my students' quiz results. Which misconceptions are showing up and which should I reteach first? Provide your reasoning."

I.E. DIAGNOSING LEARNING

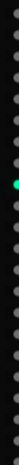
DOK 4

Extended thinking

"Help me design a semester project where students investigate a local water issue, with a rubric tied to our standards."

I.E. DESIGNING THE COURSE

Norman Webb, 1997: a model for aligning expectations and assessments in education.





WAYS OF WORKING · TOOL MATURITY

How AI fits into your work, and whether it fits you

Not Yet

AI isn't part of the work yet.

Occasional

AI for a task here and there.

Integrated

AI is a regular part of how the work gets done.

Embedded

AI is built into your tools and workflows.

Orchestrated

Several AI systems work together toward one goal.

Tool Maturity asks one question at every level: does it fit your skill and the task?

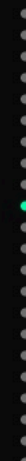
Katana: more tool than your skill.

Flamethrower: more tool than the task.

Paring knife: less tool than the task.

Hendrix: tool, skill and task matched.

The signal: does the depth you ask for match the depth the tool delivers, and how often do you have to correct it?





DELEGATION TRUST · THE ORCHESTRA MODEL

How much you hand over and rework

Solo

I do the work. AI might check it afterward.

Duet

Back and forth. I prompt, it responds, I edit, I prompt again.

Ensemble

I give AI a real chunk of work and evaluate the whole.

Chamber

I delegate whole workstreams and step in on judgment calls.

Symphony

I coordinate several AI interactions, systems or agents toward one goal.

Virtuoso

The line between my work and AI's has dissolved.

For MCP: every server you connect is a delegation decision. Better protocols are necessary but not sufficient. We also need the human side.

I've been using HUMAN.md as a way to supplement what a human should know or consider if using a specific tool.



AGENTIC DELEGATION TRUST · VERIFICATION

How much can we trust an agent?

Can we trust an agent we haven't verified?

What does "verified" even mean?

How do we know if the output is valid?

What might it look like to apply the verification mechanism of a "license" to the agents we build?

A license, not an interview

Why do we trust healthcare professionals to provide care? Because we trust that they went through the coursework, clinical hours and assessment that allow them to practice. We don't interview them every time we see them. They hold a verifiable license we can ask for and look up.

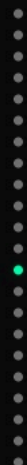


AGENTIC DELEGATION TRUST · VERIFICATION

How might we apply this same verification mechanism to building agents?

💡 Consider epistemology: How do we know what we know?

How we know, not **what** we know. Epistemology is less about what you know and more about what you consider when you look at a problem and ideate on solutions.





AGENTIC DELEGATION TRUST · VERIFICATION

What would an agent's "license" look like?

What was checked

A record of what was checked, how, and against which version.

Re-runnable

Steps anyone can re-run to get the same result.

What still needs to be checked and verified

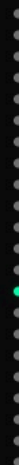
Steps that need to be taken to fully verify a claim.

Any discipline

The same shape for a lesson plan, a care summary, a contract draft or a code change.

In my own work, this is the verification log I ask for at the end of every build. I trust the output because I can check the record, not because I redo the work. It's more about due diligence than it is about being "correct".

Guiding question: Is the claim sound and strongly supported by evidence?





SELF-ASSESSMENT · 30 SECONDS

What does your collaboration look like right now?

Start :30

1. Cognitive Complexity

Think about your last five AI interactions. Were you mostly recalling information, applying a skill, weighing benefits and trade-offs, or building something completely new?

2. Ways of Working

How well do your tools match your skill and the task at hand?

3. Agentic Delegation Trust

How much do you trust your agent to output what you intended?



GROWTH ZONES

Where depth and delegation meet

	LOW TRUST Solo, Duet	GROWING TRUST Ensemble, Chamber	HIGH TRUST Symphony, Virtuoso
HIGH DEPTH DOK 3-4	Thinking Ahead Thinking ahead of what you hand over. The chef with a paring knife and one skillet.	Growing Approaching a match.	Frontier Matched and growing together. Hendrix.
MIDDLE DEPTH DOK 2	Growing Approaching a match.	Expected Fits your current level.	Underutilizing A lot handed over, for simple questions.
LOW DEPTH DOK 1	Expected Fits your current level.	Overpowered Complex delegation, simple tasks. The flamethrower and the candle.	Overpowered Complex delegation, simple tasks.

💡 Consider: high trust at DOK 2, when short prompts carry a lot. The thinking may live in what you've set up, not in each request.





MY DATA · JANUARY 28 TO OCTOBER 15, 2026 · FOUR EQUAL QUARTERS

Depth held steady. Corrections fell in my latest quarter.

PHASE	DOK	COMPRESSION	CORRECTIONS	TOOL MATURITY
Early · Jan 28 to Mar 21	2.21	8.5%	35%	0.42
Building · Mar 23 to Jun 15	2.28	13.5%	32%	0.47
Middle · Jun 16 to Aug 28	2.14	9.9%	35%	0.46
Recent · Aug 30 to Oct 15	2.21	14.8%	17%	0.61

My working hypothesis: the depth moved into the system. Letting the agent carry the context frees our mental energy for deeper human judgment and creativity.

► How these were measured





A WORKING HYPOTHESIS

Steady DOK doesn't mean learning isn't happening

DOK 1

Recall the pieces.

DOK 2

Apply them.

DOK 3

Reason across them.

DOK 4

Synthesize all of it into something new.

DOK 4 rests on DOK 1, 2 and 3. Synthesis moves you into new territory, where you start again at recall: new terms, new tools, new questions.

💡 Consider: the levels may work as a learning loop, not a ladder. A steady average can hide a person cycling through the loop on harder problems.





WHAT'S EVOLVING

Where the framework goes next

Impact

- What the collaboration produced, by how much thinking it took and how long it lasts.
- Are we spending tokens or investing them? If we apply this thinking, in theory, tokens that build lasting thinking and systems return more than tokens spent on one-off answers.
- How do we define Impact in the first place?

Tool Maturity in rp-why

- Measuring fit directly: what you asked for against what came back.
- How often you corrected it.
- The maturity of an agent configuration: how well its instructions, skills and checks fit the work.

Beyond one practitioner

- The dimensions are meant to hold in any profession, but have only been applied to engineering.
- Need a larger data set so a formalization of this research is on the horizon. Currently researching institutions and/or PhD programs that align with this work.





TRY IT

Take your snapshot

Any AI assistant with chat or session history works

Paste the snapshot prompt from the repo into ChatGPT or Claude. It reads your last 3 months of conversations and places you on each dimension, with one growth nudge for your profession.

goose

```
bpm install rp-why, then /rp-why baseline and /rp-why current.
```

A gap or low score isn't a problem. The gap is information we can use to grow in the ways that are important to us. The growth happens in your awareness of the gap. Once you can see the pattern, you can change it.



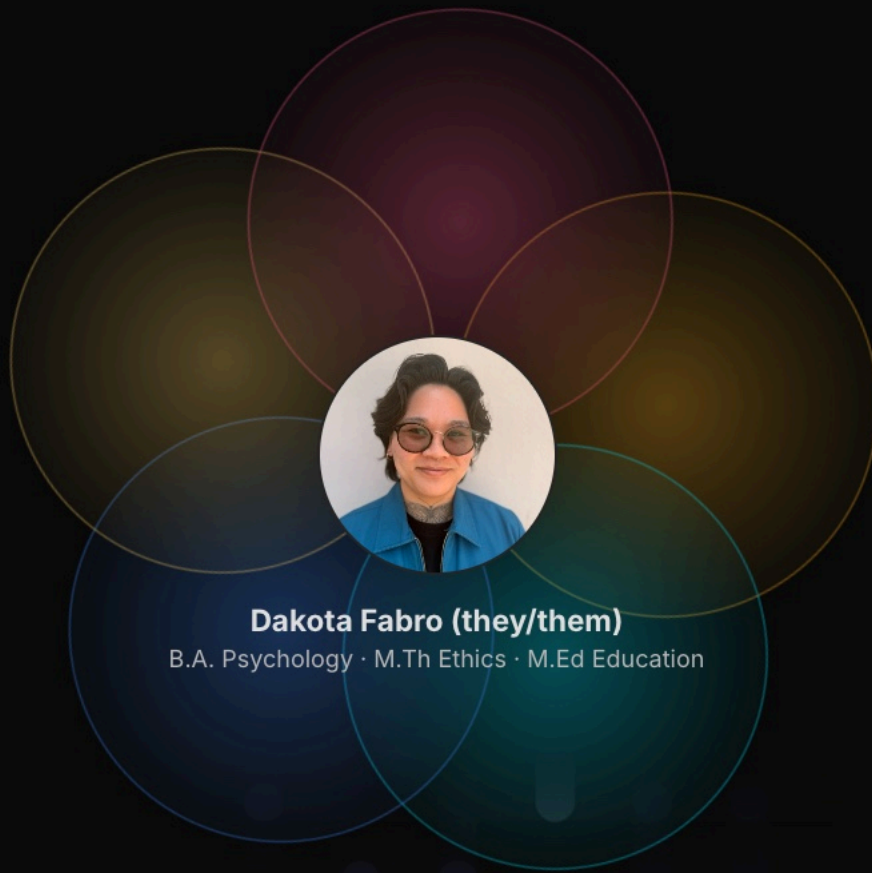


THE TAKEAWAY

AI Collaboration Maturity is how well your thinking, your tools and your trust fit together, and whether you are leveraging your awareness of it.

Where is your collaboration out of balance right now, and what would you need to adjust in order to align more deeply with your tools and craft?





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Thank you for your time!

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Where the agentic stack is being built.



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Questions, discussion, self-assessments and links