AGENTS · DEBUGGING · THE STACK

The Seven-Layer Agent Audit

A one-page instrument for finding the layer that is actually starving your agent, before you upgrade the model or rebuild the harness.

One page. One afternoon.

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One page, one afternoon. Run it down your own agent and find the layer that is actually starved, before you upgrade the model or rebuild the harness.

1 · START LOW
Work bottom to top, Data first. A starved low layer poisons the most above it.

2 · POINT, DON'T VIBE
Name the evidence in your repo. If you can only describe how you "sort of" handle a row, it is starved.

3 · FIX THE FLOOR
The lowest starved row is where to start. Re-run the whole sheet when you change the model.

LAYER · THE QUESTION	THE EVIDENCE IN YOUR REPO	VERDICT · THE TELL
7 **PURPOSE**	What job does this agent eliminate? WHERE IT LIVES	☐ FED ☐ STARVED STARVED LOOKS LIKE *Demos well; adoption stalls after week one.*
6 **HARNESS**	What binds what it may touch, in what order, and what gets accepted? WHERE IT LIVES	☐ FED ☐ STARVED STARVED LOOKS LIKE *Every run is a new negotiation; quality swings day to day.*
5 **SKILLS**	Can it activate task-specific behaviour on demand? WHERE IT LIVES	☐ FED ☐ STARVED STARVED LOOKS LIKE *One generic mode; you re-prompt the same fix forever.*
4 **MEMORY**	What survives the end of a session? WHERE IT LIVES	☐ FED ☐ STARVED STARVED LOOKS LIKE *Monday's correction is gone by Thursday.*
3 **ORCHESTRATION**	When work outgrows one window, who takes which slice? WHERE IT LIVES	☐ FED ☐ STARVED STARVED LOOKS LIKE *One context holds everything and drops the middle.*
2 **VERIFICATION**	What stands between generated output and accepted output? WHERE IT LIVES	☐ FED ☐ STARVED STARVED LOOKS LIKE *Looks right, is wrong; trust erodes one output at a time.*
1 **DATA**	What reality does it reason from? WHERE IT LIVES	☐ FED ☐ STARVED STARVED LOOKS LIKE *Confident answers from a world that moved.*

BINDING LAYER (LOWEST STARVED) _____ DATE _____ RE-AUDIT BY _____

Fix the lowest starved row first. It is the one already costing you trust, one output at a time.