

Emotional memory is the missing technical moat for AI companions



The Problem: You spend 20 minutes opening up. You close the page. The next day, the AI greets you like a complete stranger.

99% of conversation is noise. The signal is in the tone. Without memory, there is no understanding.

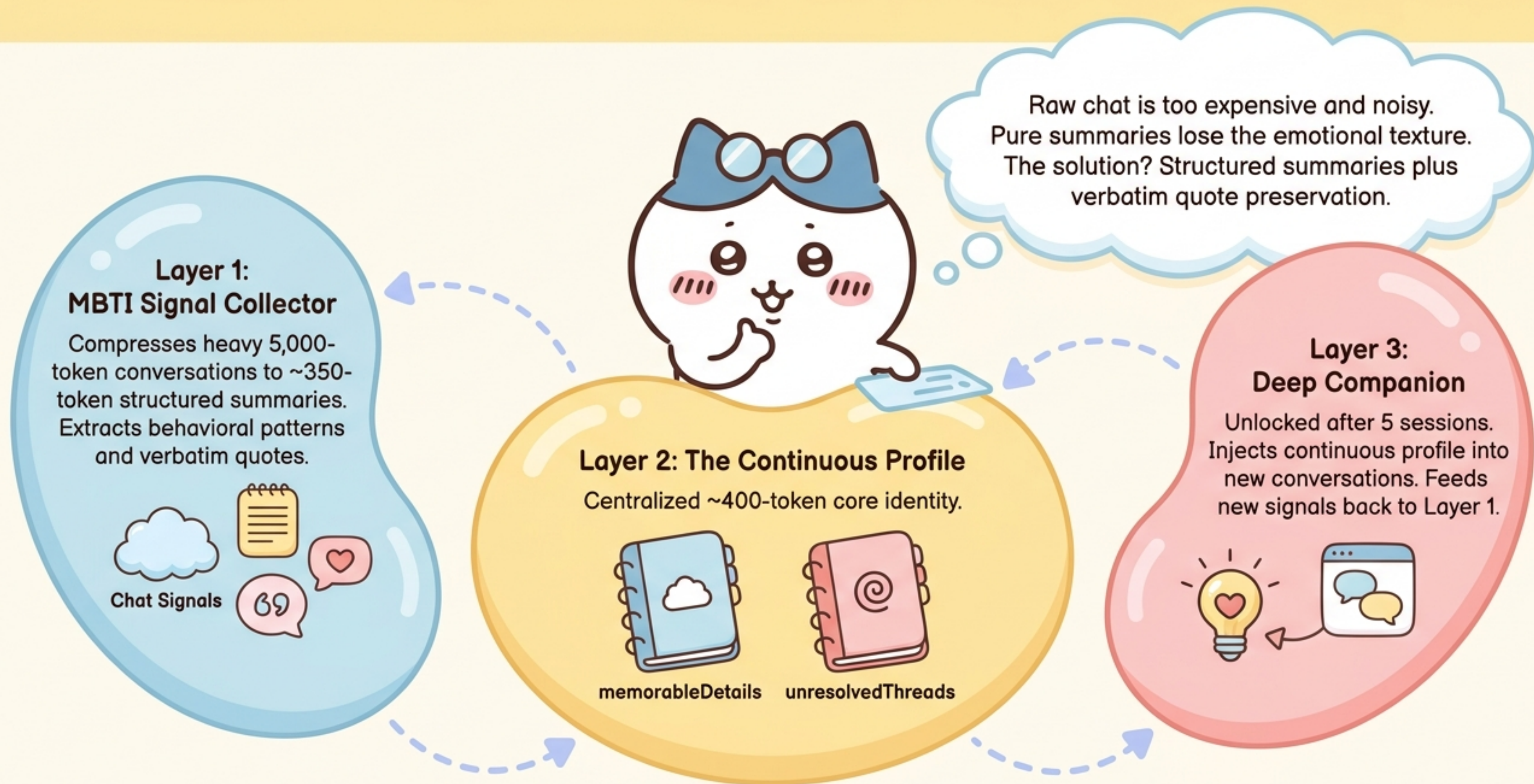


Traditional AI Extraction:
User talked about their job.



Companion Signal Extraction:
Hesitation patterns, word choices, and the gap between what is said and meant.

True understanding requires a continuous, bidirectional memory flywheel.



The hardest part of memory orchestration is preventing new surface chats from overwriting deep emotional anchors.



Simulation Failures

maxTokens set to 600. JSON output truncates mid-stream, crashing the scoring pipeline.

Database column names mismatched.
Supabase silently returns 200 errors.

The Overwrite Pitfall: Deep anchors silently replaced by newer, shallow surface chats.

Prompt Fixes

Bump window to 1200+, tighten output constraints.

Built end-to-end integration tests hitting real APIs.

memorableMoments mapped to **Accumulate** only.
unresolvedThreads mapped to **Remove** cautiously.

Building AI is a loop of **Run -> Explode -> Change Prompt -> Run Again**. Code is just the skeleton; the prompts are the soul.

Memory anchors extract the unspoken feelings buried beneath the factual events.



♥ The Captured Signal

I went through multiple versions of a design draft, and they ended up going with the first version. It felt kind of... powerless.



🧠 The Stored JSON Profile

User's design was rejected three times.

Handles frustration by feeling powerless when extra effort is ignored.



The AI didn't just remember the event; it captured a permanent signal about how she handles frustration.

An AI that only tells you what you want to hear is pandering, not caring.



My boyfriend Xiaoming tells me not to overthink it, to just sleep. He's always right, but I feel stuck inside.

You once said "what I want isn't advice." Is he always right, but not giving you what you actually want?

Yeah... I've never actually told him what I need because I felt it would be blaming him. I'm the one who shut the door first.

True companionship isn't analyzing the user or offering unsolicited advice. It is holding space and using their own past words to gently guide them to patterns they have been avoiding.

v0 was a conversation tool.
v0.1 is a companion that actually remembers.