

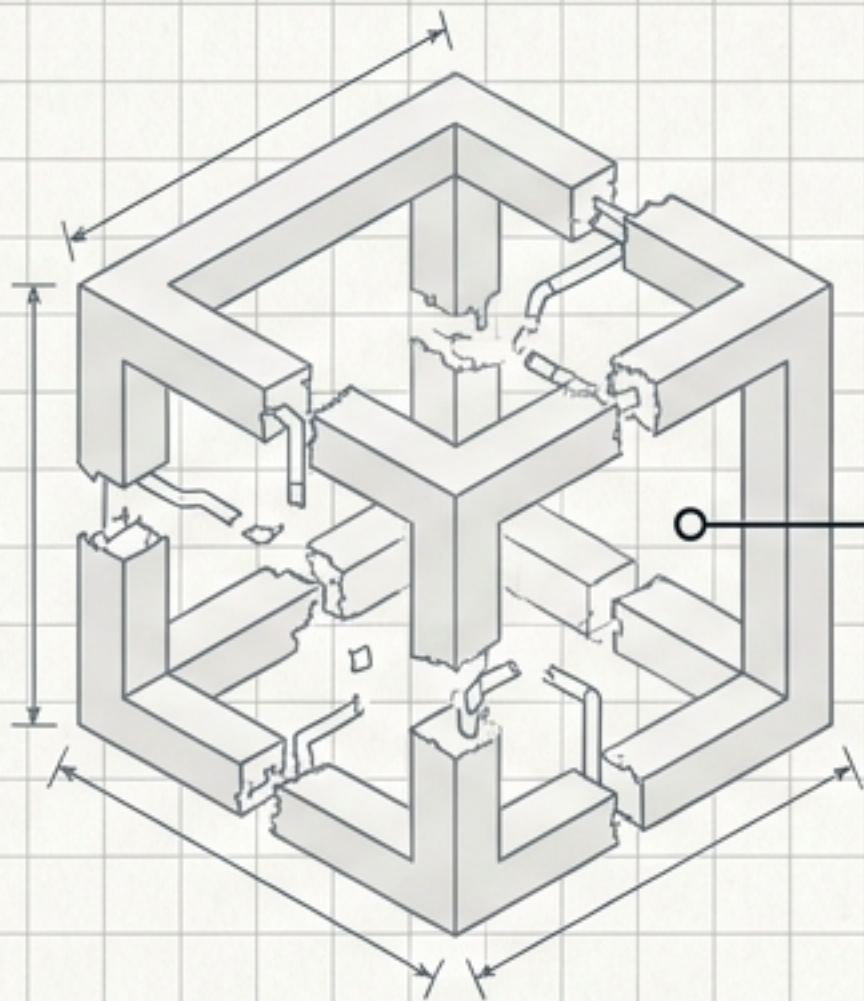
The Illusion of the AI Meeting Recorder

Deconstructing the stack, bypassing the \$200 SaaS tax, and mapping the open-source constellation.



The Canonical Problem: A Squeeze Play

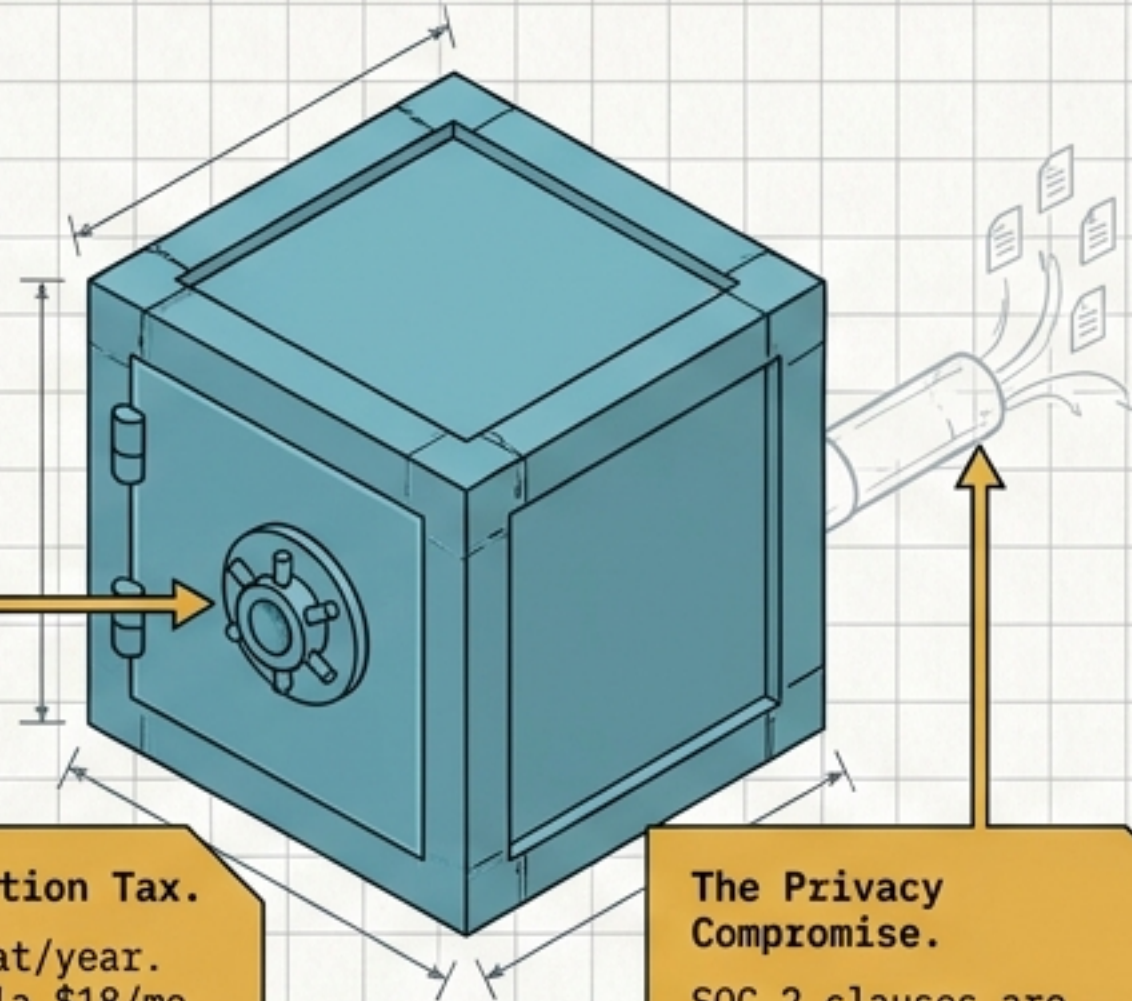
Zoom & Teams Native AI



Formulaic filler with no actual insight.

Bundled ecosystem tools (like Gemini for Workspace) are dead weight if you don't use their specific video platform.

The Polished SaaS Tier (Granola, Krisp, Otter, Fireflies)



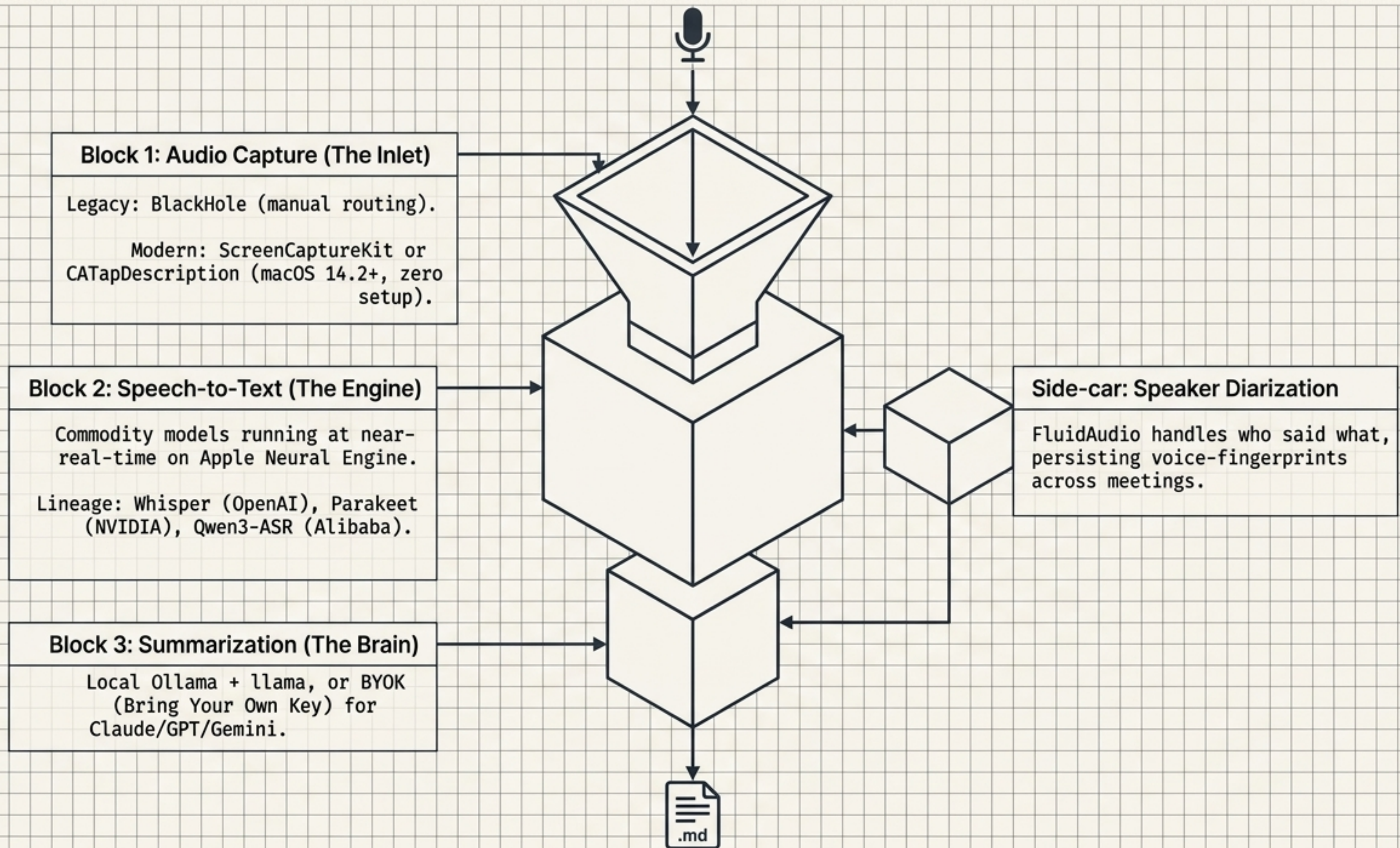
The Subscription Tax.

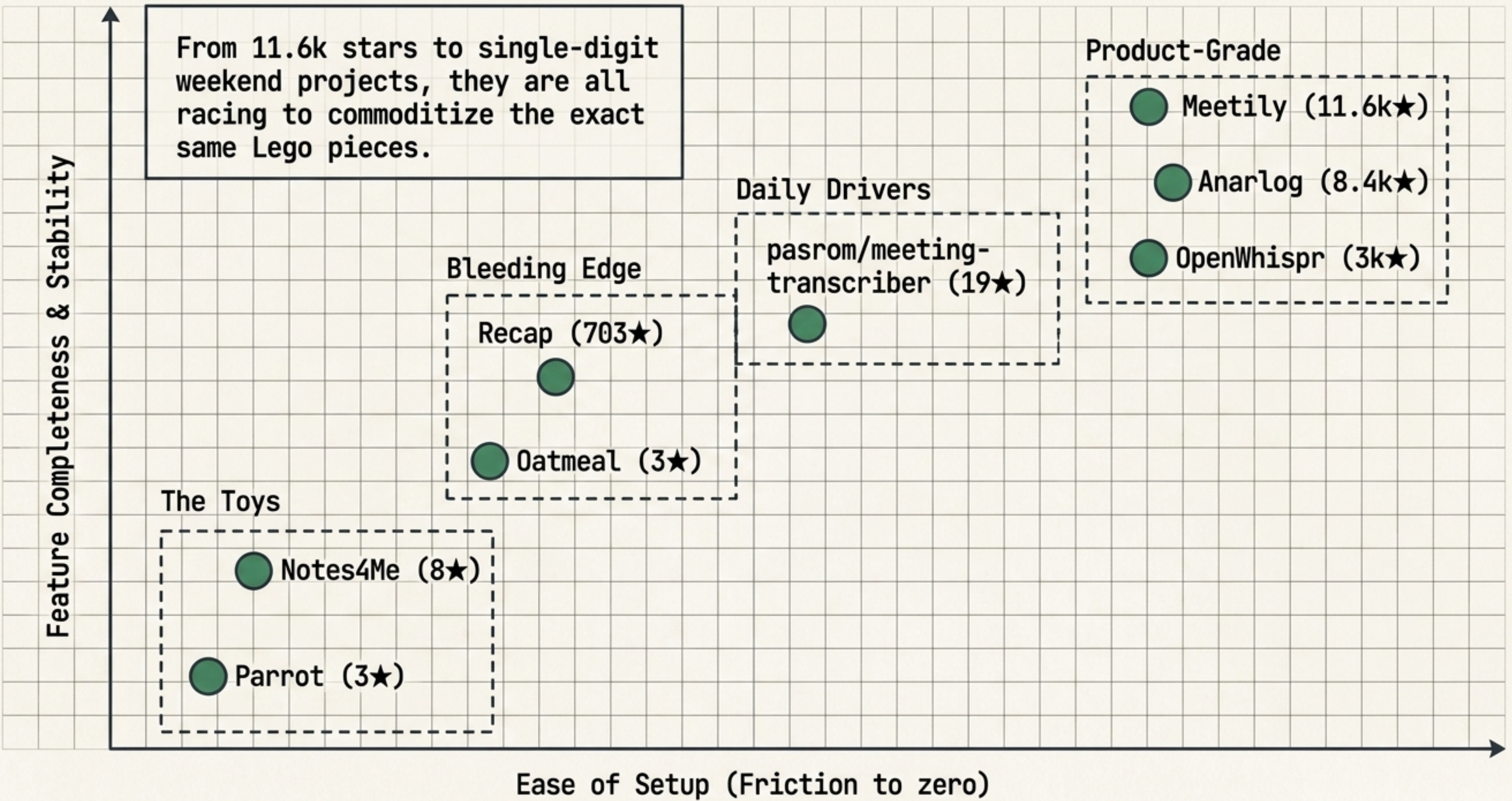
~\$200 per seat/year.
(e.g., Granola \$18/mo, Otter \$20/mo).

A massive burn rate for a 5-person team.

The Privacy Compromise.

SOC 2 clauses are nice, but your strategic conversations have permanently left your machine.





Notes4Me (8★)

The Textbook Reference

Electron shell +
mandatory BlackHole
audio routing +
whisper.cpp + Ollama.

Verdict: A wall for normal users, but the absolute cleanest code template template to learn how the pipeline is built.

Parrot (3★)

The Native Experiment

SwiftUI + WhisperKit
+ ScreenCaptureKit.

Verdict: A clean personal project, but diarization relies on basic silence-gaps. Falls apart with three speakers.

Recap (703★)

The Broken Pioneer

Validated
architecture (pure
Swift, native Core
Audio taps).

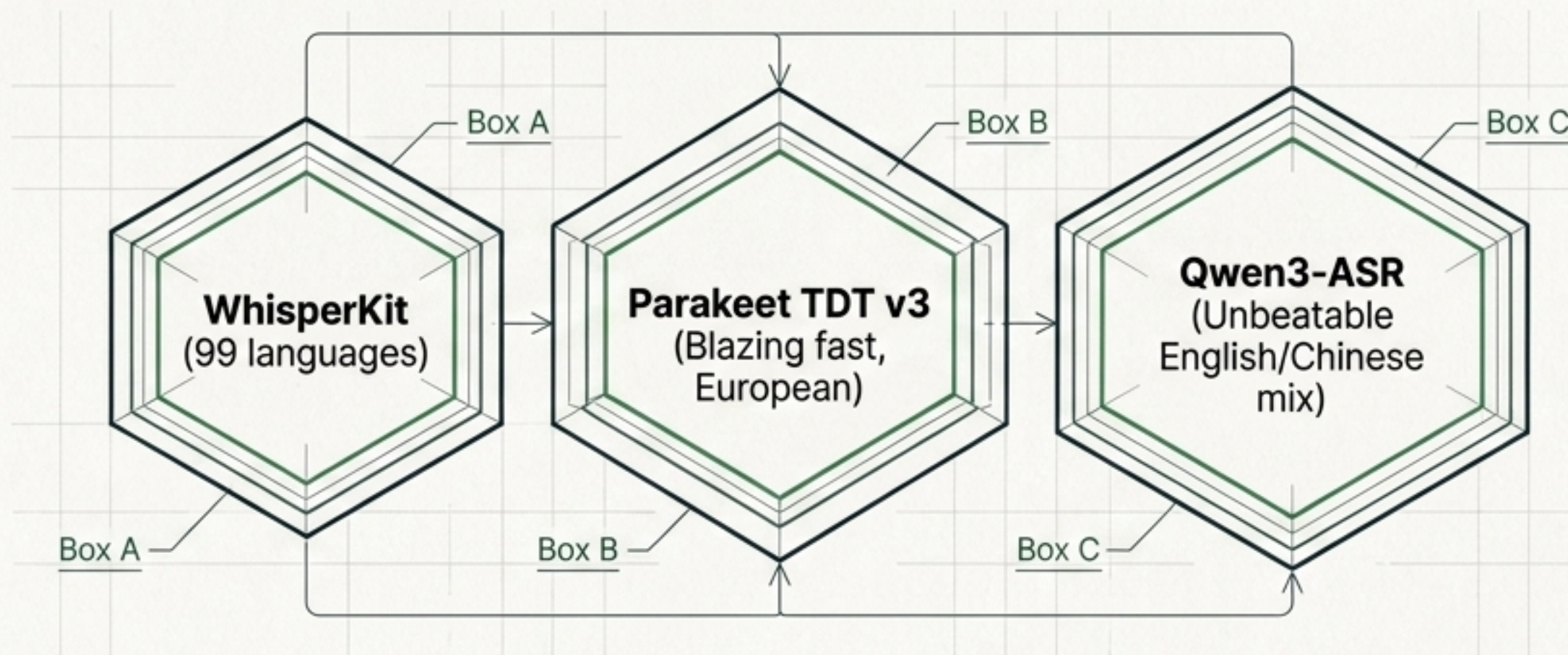
Verdict: The README warns: "Broken in current state." High High **potential**, but unstable.

pasrom/meeting-transcriber (19★)

The Author's Top Pick.

Architecture: Swift native, macOS 14.2+ CATapDescription (no BlackHole). Pipes structured Markdown to Claude Code CLI.

The Differentiator – Choice: Three STT engines at runtime.



Oatmeal (3★)

The Bleeding Edge.

Architecture: Order-of-magnitude faster Parakeet-TDT on **Apple Neural Engine** + **FluidAudio** + **OpenRouter** backend.



The Catch: Requires building the Xcode project yourself. macOS 14+ Apple Silicon only.

Meetily (11.6k★) — The Safest Bet



Rust + Tauri + GPU acceleration. Dual **Parakeet/Whisper** engine (**4x faster** than vanilla). “Install and go” UX without touching **Xcode**. Free Community edition.

Anarlog / Hyprnote (8.4k★) — The Granola Clone



Rust + Tauri. The closest open-source match to **Granola**’s “take notes during the meeting” format.  **Note:** Core team has **shifted focus**.

OpenWhispr (3k+★) — The Workflow Fusion



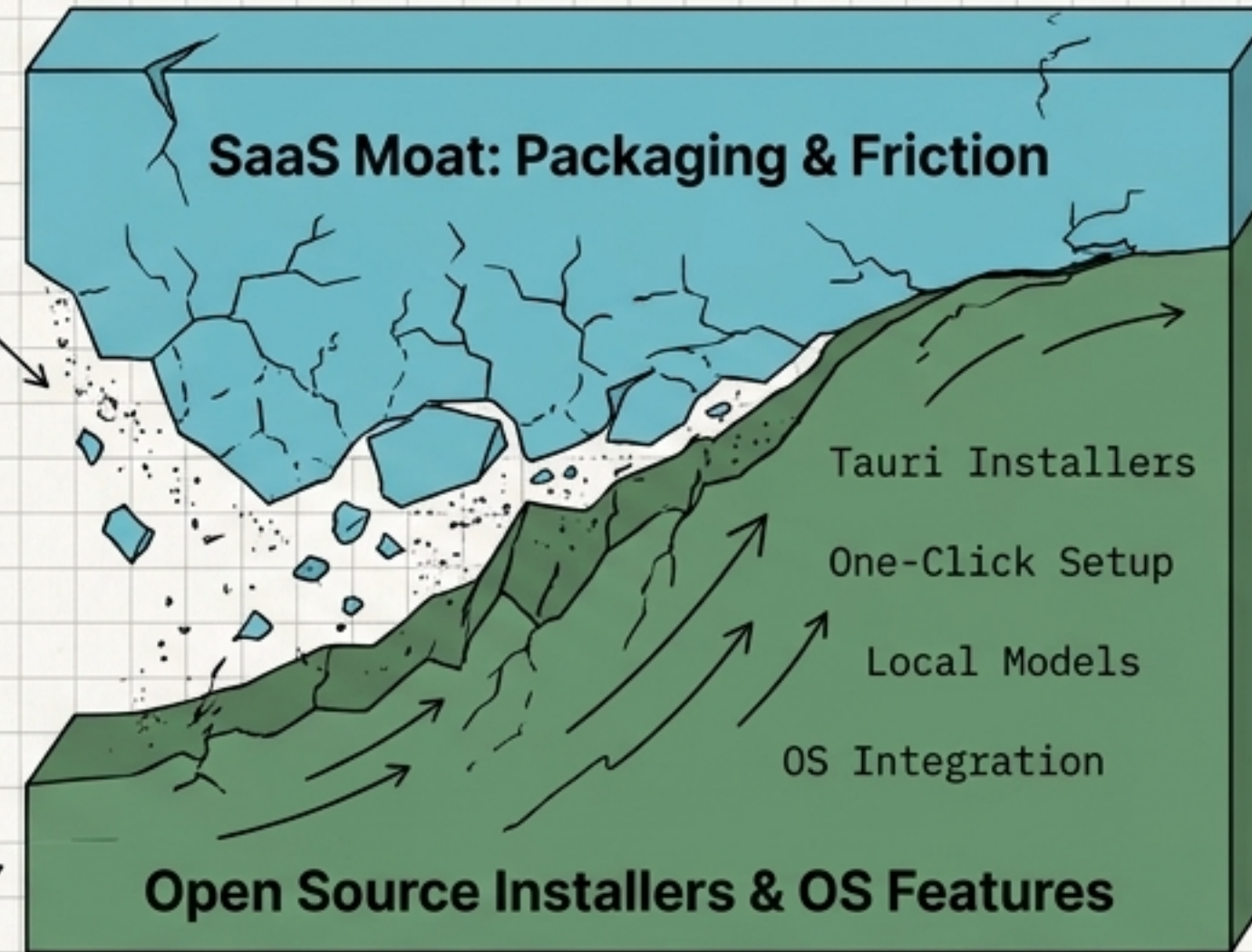
Fuses global hotkey dictation with meeting notes. Local voice-fingerprinting. Ships an **MCP server** to wire meeting notes directly into **agent workflows**.

Diagnostic Matrix: Pick Based on What You Actually Want

Profile	Recommendation
Profile: Product-grade experience, install and go	→ Meetily
Profile: Mac purist, Apple Silicon, no Electron bloat	→ pasrom/meeting-transcriber
Profile: Mixed English + Chinese transcription	→ pasrorom (w/ Qwen3-ASR)
Profile: Granola-style form factor, control your own data	→ Anarlog
Profile: Daily dictation + Meetings in one tool	→ OpenWhispr
Profile: Want to learn the raw pipeline architecture	→ Notes4Me

Synthesis: The Closed-Source Window is Shutting

Geological Cross-Section Friction Funnel



The Moat is an Illusion:
Granola and Krisp aren't selling technology; they are selling the configuration of open-source tools. Subscription fees are just friction fees.

The Open-Source Flattening:
From manual BlackHole routing to one-click Tauri installers, open source is erasing the setup friction.

The Inevitable Future: Any feature that is trivially simple to build and has universal demand gets eaten by open source, and eventually demoted to a free OS-level feature. Meeting recording was always supposed to look like this.