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What is the difference between AI Agents and Agentic AI ?

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AI Agents

AI agents are software systems designed to perceive their environment, make decisions, and take actions to achieve specific goals.

They operate within predefined rules, models, or learning paradigms and can be reactive (responding to stimuli) or proactive (planning actions).

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Examples of AI Agents

- Chatbots like ChatGPT that respond to user queries.
- Autonomous vehicles that navigate based on sensor inputs.
- Game AI that plays against human or AI opponents.
- Robotic process automation (RPA) that automates business workflows.

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Agentic AI

Agentic AI refers to AI systems with a high degree of autonomy, proactivity, and adaptability.

Unlike standard AI agents, which typically follow predefined instructions or respond passively, agentic AI can self-direct its goals, plan long-term strategies, and adapt dynamically to new situations.

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Key Characteristics of Agentic AI

- **Autonomy**: Can operate independently without constant human intervention
- **Goal-Oriented Behavior**: Sets and adjusts its objectives based on context.
- **Planning & Reasoning**: Can develop strategies and make complex decisions.
- **Adaptability**: Learns from its environment and experiences to improve performance over time.

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Examples of Agentic AI

- AutoGPT & BabyAGI: AI systems that autonomously generate and execute tasks.

- AI-powered personal assistants that manage schedules, make purchases, and optimize workflows.

- Autonomous research AI that formulates hypotheses and conducts experiments.

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In Summary

- **AI agents** typically follow a preset structure and perform specific tasks based on programmed rules or machine learning.

- **Agentic AI** exhibits higher autonomy, long-term planning, and goal-setting, making it more adaptable and proactive.

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