

INCREMENTAL KNOWLEDGE VS BOIL THE OCEAN — AND WHAT AI WEIGHTING ACTUALLY WEIGHS

boiling the ocean changes model weights with GPUs; incremental knowledge changes evidence weights with rows, and climbs to a GPU only when it must

Red dashed = the costly path. Heavy box = the record, and the answer it can prove.

	BOIL THE OCEAN · GENERAL PURPOSE	INCREMENTAL KNOWLEDGE
Starting point	a model trained or tuned on everything you have	a general model that reads only what is retrieved for this question
Adding knowledge	retrain or fine-tune: GPU hours, weeks, a new model version	add one document to the index: one row, minutes, no GPU
Fixing a wrong answer	retrain, or prompt around it and hope	correct or demote the source; the next answer changes
Erasure	the fact stays in the weights until the next retrain	delete the row; it is gone from the next answer
Citations and audit	the model can't say where a fact came from	every answer cites the rows it used, with their weights
GPU need	up front, before the first answer	only for the cases weighting can't settle

AI WEIGHTING · EVIDENCE, NOT PARAMETERS

score = authority × freshness × eligibility × relevance

eligibility is 0 when consent or rights don't allow this use · answer when the top score clears the threshold; otherwise climb one AI rung

System of record · 1.0 the Xano record and its ledger; the truth, when it answers	Reviewed spec · 0.8 signed-off docs, the book; true when last reviewed	Knowledge base · 0.6 articles and FAQs; useful, may lag the record	Inbox and tickets · 0.4 what people said; unverified until joined	Open web · 0.2 context only; never the sole source
--	---	---	--	---

authority values are illustrative; freshness decays at a half-life set per tier (a price in hours, a policy in months)

RANK FIRST, FALL BACK LAST · ERROR RISK GROWS LEFT TO RIGHT AND TOP TO BOTTOM

