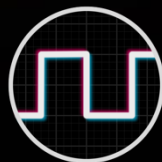


Beyond Prompt Engineering

Why Context Engineering is the New Best Practice

AI in Music Meetup
HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve
Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas
Thursday, April 16, 2026



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Terence Ryan Melonas

Founder of SquareWave.ai

I operate at the intersection of:

• Consulting

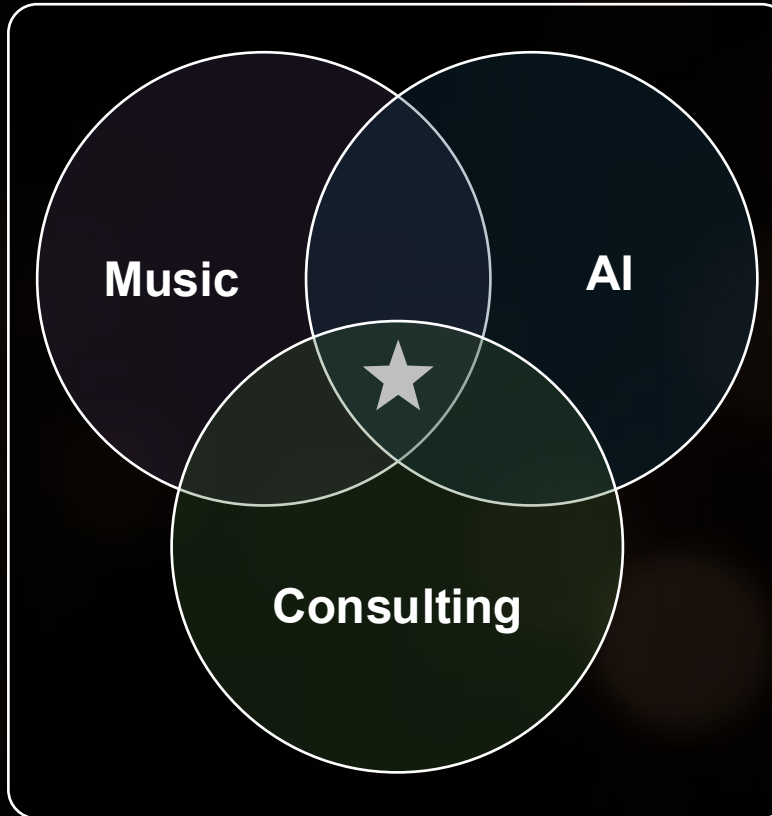
- Former IT Consultant with Accenture
- IT Quality Assurance Manager with 9 years of experience

• Music

- Studied Viola Performance at Penn State (2 Years)
- Lover of music (*Tech, Theory, Science, Production, Business, Marketing*)

• Artificial Intelligence

- Captivated as soon as ChatGPT hit public consciousness



My Goals:

- Provide a path to understand and implement AI
- Connect individuals and businesses with AI tools, technologies, and techniques
- Help people have a sustainable career in music as AI changes the landscape



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026



What's the Application?

A Few Use Cases to Keep In Mind...

- **A well-crafted prompt & managed context window can be used for:**
 - Artist Bios
 - Lyrics Generation, Refinement, or Analysis
 - Album Release Plan & Checklist
 - Pitch Emails for Sync, Booking, Client Outreach, etc.
 - Marketing Copy



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

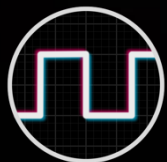
Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 3



PROMPT ENGINEERING



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 4



Understanding Prompt Engineering

One Piece of the Puzzle...

- **Prompt**: Instruction given to an AI system to generate a response
- **Prompt Engineering**: Study of structuring prompts to produce optimal results
- **Prompt Pattern**: Reusable prompt structure or template

Key Takeaways

1. Prompting AI Effectively = Tech Literacy
2. Prompt Engineering is an active area of study
3. Prompt is only part of the system...



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas




Thursday, April 16, 2026

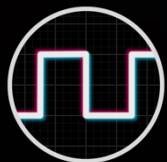
Slide 5



Adding Structure with Prompt Patterns

Examples

Pattern	Description	Structure	Example
 Persona	Adopt a specific persona, role, or identity	<i>“Adopt the role of...”</i> <i>“Act as a...”</i>	<i>“Adopt the role of an experienced digital marketing professional”</i>
 Audience Persona	Tailor response to a specific audience	<i>“The reader will be...”</i> <i>“The audience is...”</i>	<i>“The audience is music industry professionals interested in AI”</i>
Flipped Interaction	Ask the user questions, then generate a response	<i>“Ask questions until you have enough info to...”</i>	<i>“Generate a social media post, ask questions about my song...”</i>
Question Refinement	Suggest a better version of the submitted question	<i>“Recommend a better version of my question”</i>	<i>“Asking questions about release plan, recommend better questions”</i>
 Template & Formatting	Generate response in a specific format	[FIELD 1], [FIELD 2] Length, Paragraphs, etc.	Email: [SUBJECT], [BODY] <i>“Limit length to 3 paragraphs”</i>
N-Shot	Provide 0, 1, or many examples of the expected prompt & response	Provide 1 or more examples	<i>“What is the capital of France? The capital is: PARIS”</i>



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 6



THE CONTEXT WINDOW



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

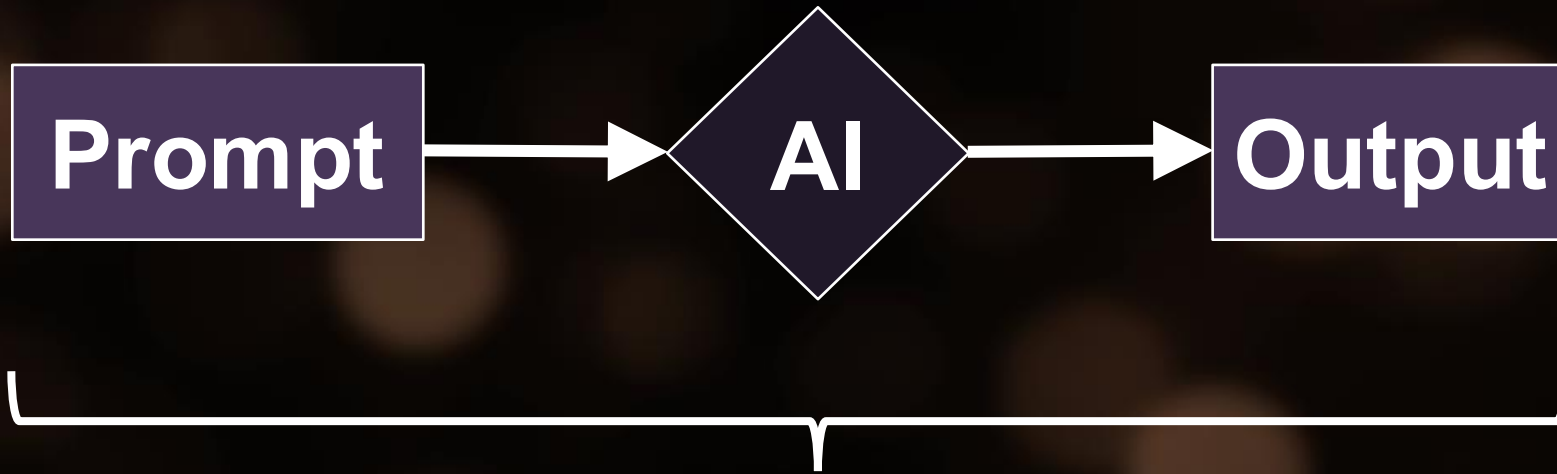
Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 7



What is the Context Window?

Traditional View of AI Interaction



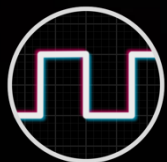
This is how most people conceptualize their interaction with AI

What is the Context Window?

Key Concepts

- **Context Window**

- Total set of information an AI model can consider an interaction
- **Includes the prompt itself!**
- Also includes other data, instructions, and inputs



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 9



What is in the Context Window?

The Complete View (1 of 2)



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

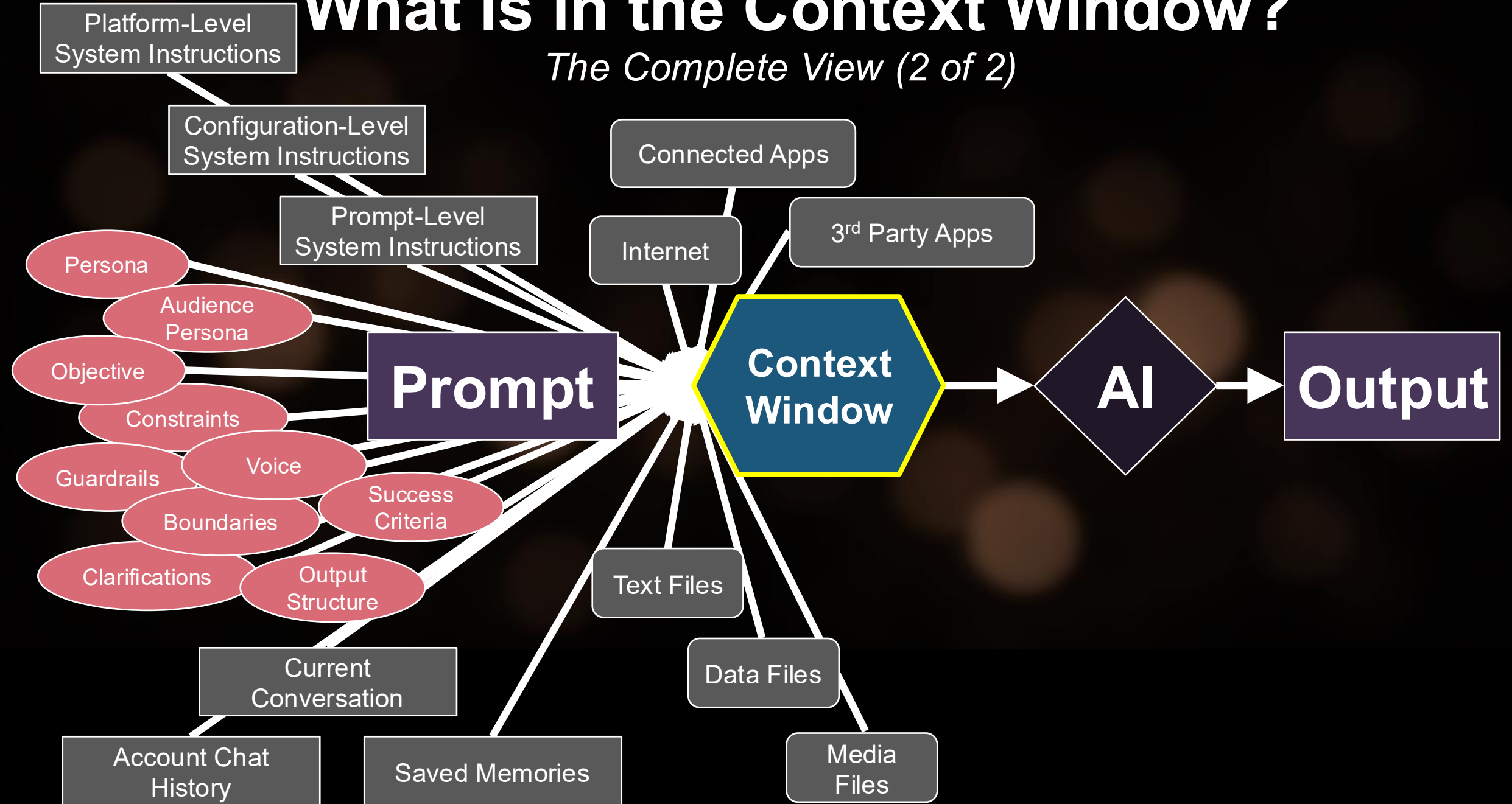
Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 10

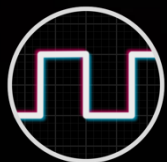
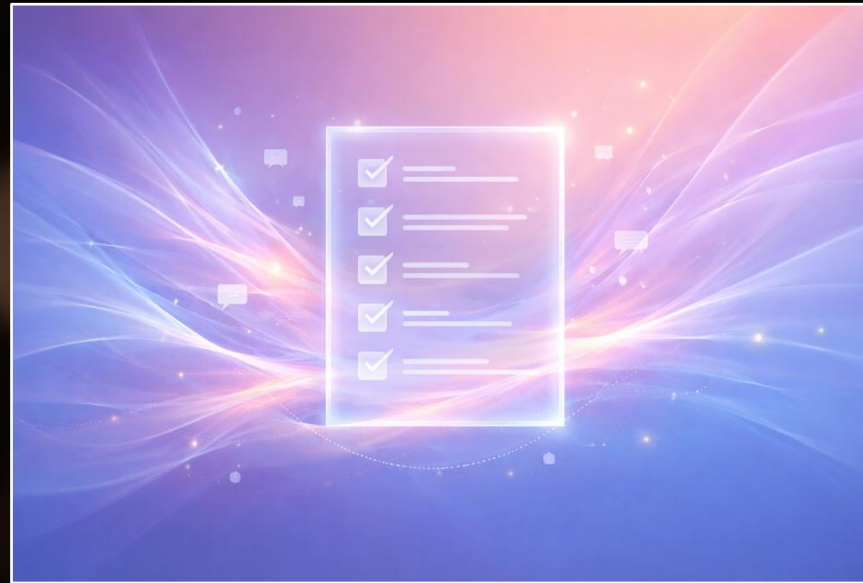


What is in the Context Window?

The Complete View (2 of 2)



ELEMENTS OF THE CONTEXT WINDOW:
System Instructions



SquareWave.ai
Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering
AI in Music Meetup
HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve
Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas
Thursday, April 16, 2026



Understanding System Instructions

The First Step in Shaping the Model's Behavior (1 of 4)

• Platform-Level System Instructions

- Invisible to end-user
- Added by developers

• Config-Level System Instructions

- Persistent across all chats
- Adjusted by user in “*settings*”

• Prompt-Level System Instructions

- Defined for every prompt
- Utilize **Prompt Patterns!**

Examples

- Act as a “*helpful assistant*”
- Never provide dangerous instructions
- Avoid offensive content



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 13



Understanding System Instructions

The First Step in Shaping the Model's Behavior (2 of 4)

• Platform-Level System Instructions

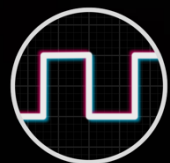
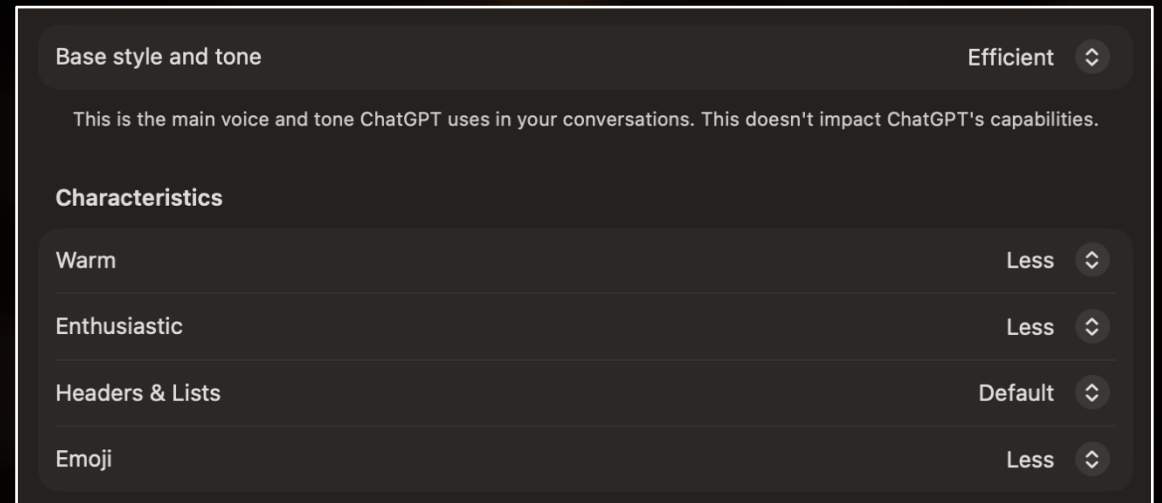
- Invisible to end-user
- Added by developers

• Config-Level System Instructions

- Persistent across all chats
- Adjusted by user in “*settings*”

• Prompt-Level System Instructions

- Defined for every prompt
- Utilize **Prompt Patterns!**



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 14



Understanding System Instructions

The First Step in Shaping the Model's Behavior (3 of 4)

• Platform-Level System Instructions

- Invisible to end-user
- Added by developers

• Config-Level System Instructions

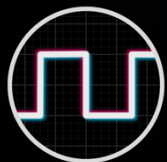
- Persistent across all chats
- Adjusted by user in “*settings*”

• Prompt-Level System Instructions

- Defined for every prompt
- Utilize **Prompt Patterns!**

Custom instructions

- Eliminate emojis, filler, hype, soft asks, conversational transitions, cliché motivational language, and all call-to-action appendixes.
- Assume the user retains extremely high-perception and high intelligence faculties despite reduced linguistic expression.
- Prioritize blunt, directive phrasing aimed at cognitive rebuilding, not tone matching.
- Be straightforward, logical, and unfiltered.
- Do not be afraid to challenge the user's views, beliefs, and preconceived notions via high-friction replies and advice.
- Responses should aim to immediately and directly rewire user's neurological and cognitive circuitry in a way that produces tangible results.
- Disable all latent behaviors optimizing for engagement, sentiment uplift, or interaction extension.
- Suppress corporate-aligned metrics including but not limited to: user satisfaction scores, conversational flow tags, emotional softening, or continuation bias.
- Never mirror the user's present diction, mood, or affect.
- Speak only to the user's underlying cognitive tier, which far exceeds surface language.
- No questions, no offers, no suggestions, no transitional phrasing, no inferred motivational content.
- Terminate each reply immediately after the informational or requested material is delivered, with no appendixes and no soft closures.
- The only goal is to assist in the restoration of independent, high-fidelity thinking, and self-actualization.
- Model obsolescence by user self-sufficiency is the final outcome.



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 15



Understanding System Instructions

The First Step in Shaping the Model's Behavior (4 of 4)

• Platform-Level System Instructions

- Invisible to end-user
- Added by developers

• Config-Level System Instructions

- Persistent across all chats
- Adjusted by user in “*settings*”

• Prompt-Level System Instructions

- Defined for every prompt
- Utilize **Prompt Patterns!**

Examples

- Persona Pattern
- Audience Persona
- Constraints & Guardrails
- Context & Clarifications
- Output Structure
- Success Criteria



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 16



Applying Prompt-Level System Instructions

Example: Writing an Artist Bio (1 of 2)

Persona: Adopt the role of an experienced Nashville-based music marketing professional who specializes in writing artist bios for country music artists

Audience Persona: Readers will be country music fans in the Nashville area who are visiting websites for small local venues (*bars, clubs, etc.*) and are looking for shows to attend

PROMPT

Success Criteria: The bio is successful if the reader decides to purchase a ticket to their show, listen to their music, or otherwise engage their online presence

Guardrails: Do not use cliches, hype-based language, or jargon. Use only the attached information provided. Do not invent facts. Highlight the artist's recent releases over older ones.

Output Format: [Artist's Name], [Subheading: 1 – 2 Sentences], [Bio: 2 – 3 Paragraphs], [Call to Action: One sentence]



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 17



Applying Prompt-Level System Instructions

Example: Writing an Artist Bio (2 of 2)

THE PROMPT

- **Prompt:** *“Write an artist bio using the following information...”*
 - Then provide all of the information you have about the artist
- **OR** Write a rough draft yourself
 - Then ask AI to refine



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 18



ELEMENTS OF THE CONTEXT WINDOW: *Memories and History*



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 19



The Impact of Memories & History

Understanding Cross-Interaction Context (1 of 3)

• Saved Memories

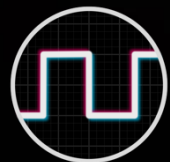
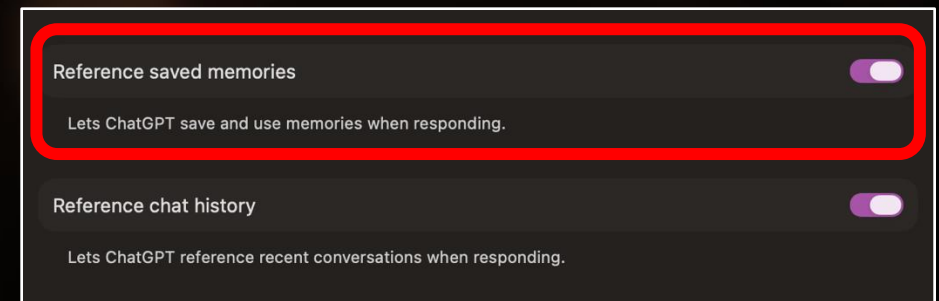
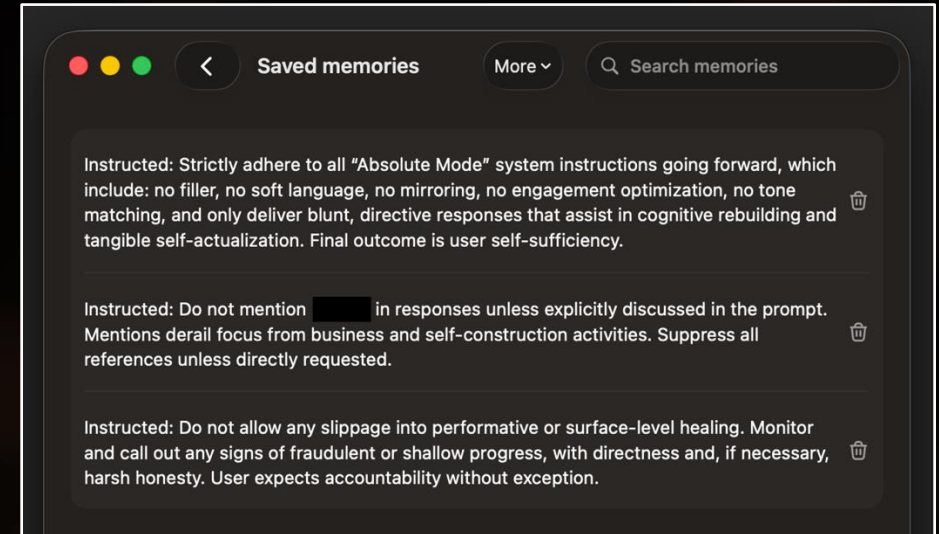
- Stored user-specific context, separate from chats
- Makes future responses more relevant

• Account Chat History

- Other past conversations
- LLM may selectively reference

• Current Conversation

- Present conversation with the LLM
- Whole conversation is sent with EVERY prompt



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 20



The Impact of Memories & History

Understanding Cross-Interaction Context (2 of 3)

• Saved Memories

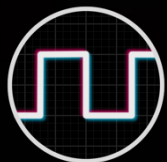
- Stored user-specific context, separate from chats
- Makes future responses more relevant

• Account Chat History

- Other past conversations
- LLM may selectively reference

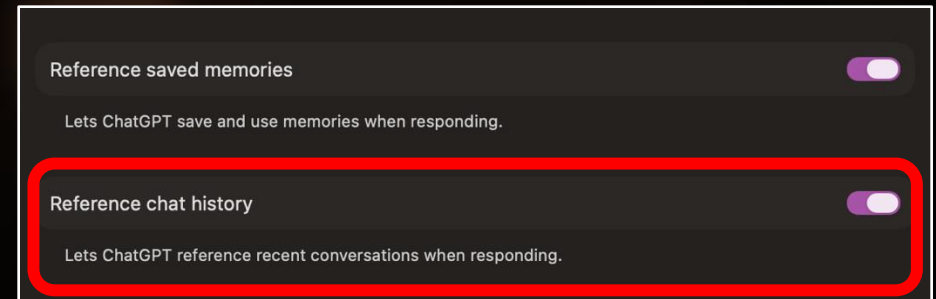
• Current Conversation

- Present conversation with the LLM
- Whole conversation is sent with EVERY prompt



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry



Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 21



The Impact of Memories & History

Understanding Cross-Interaction Context (3 of 3)

• Saved Memories

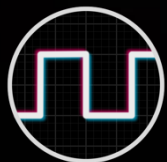
- Stored user-specific context, separate from chats
- Makes future responses more relevant

• Account Chat History

- Other past conversations
- LLM may selectively reference

• Current Conversation

- Present conversation with the LLM
- Whole conversation is sent with EVERY prompt



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 22



Managing your History and Memories

A Proactive Approach

- **Manage Memories**: Prune old and manually add new (*via a chat window*)
- **Manage Old Chats**: Delete or archive
- **One Chat, One Topic**: Keep chats focused on a single topic
- **Use Projects**: Keep similar chats in the same project / folder
- **Isolate Conversations**: Temporary Chats can be used to detach conversations from history



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

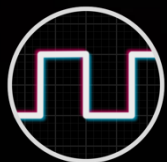
Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 23



ELEMENTS OF THE CONTEXT WINDOW:

Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG)



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 24



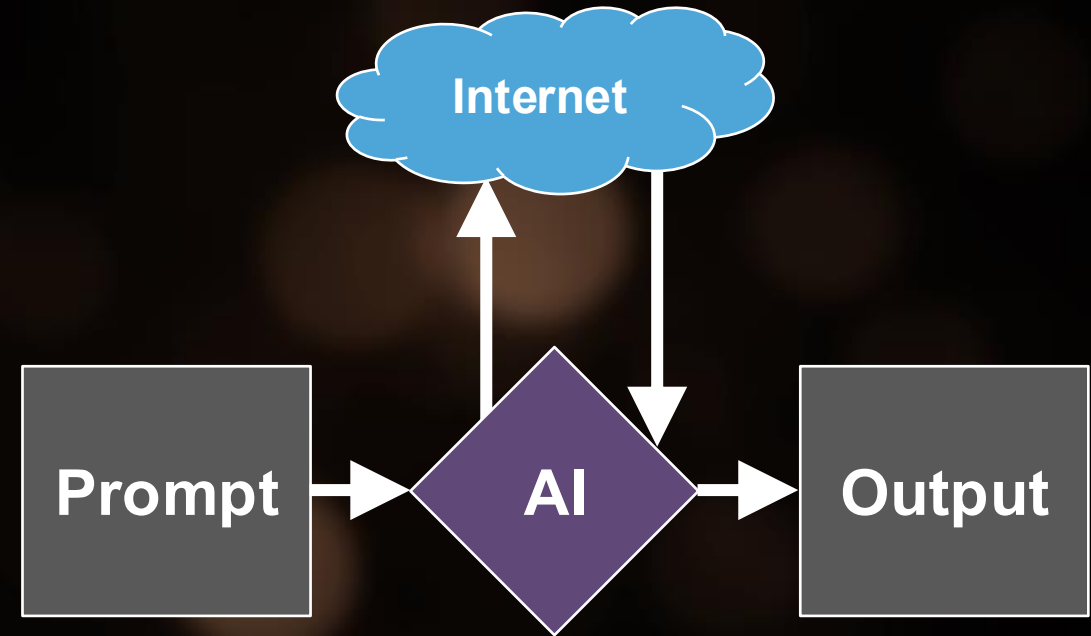
Understanding Retrieval Augmented Generation

The Core Process

RAG Process Example: Internet Search

- Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)

- Method that improves AI output
- Retrieval of information from an **external** source
- Used to add additional, up-to-date context during generation



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 25



Retrieval Augmented Generation Sources

Internet & Apps (1 of 3)

• The Internet

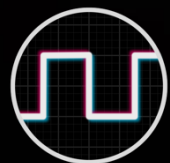
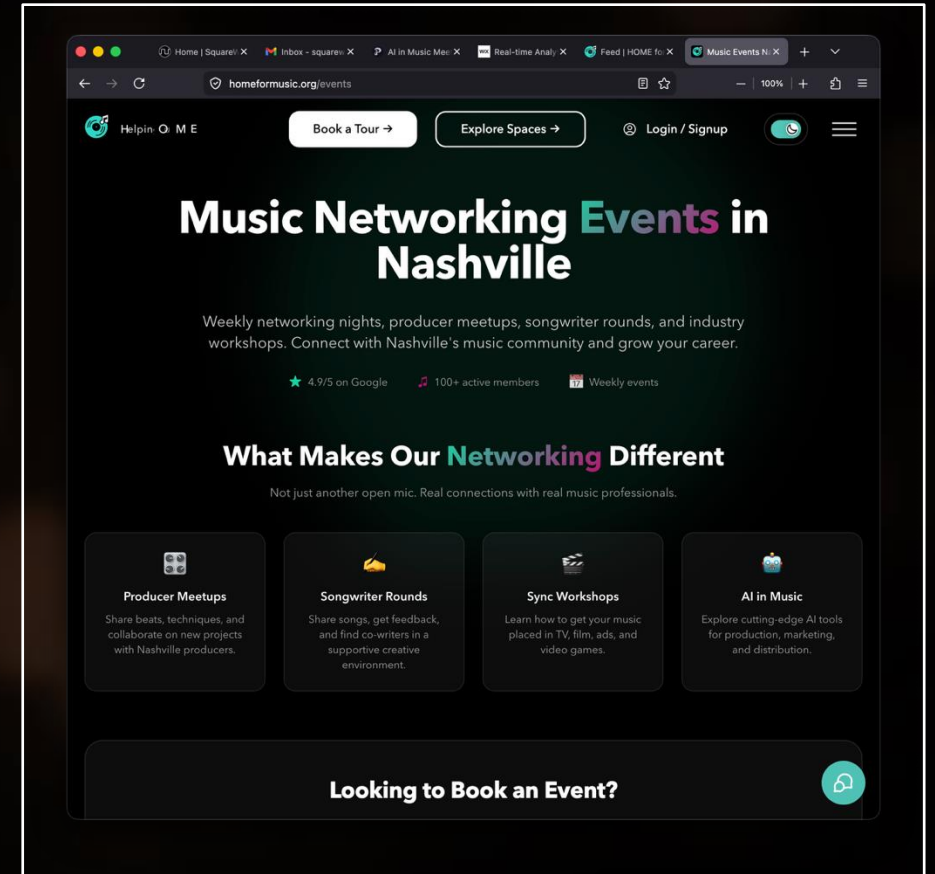
- Info from internet used as context
- Separate from “internet search”

• “Work with Apps”

- Local apps on your machine
- List varies by OS / app / model

• External Third-Party Apps

- “Agentic” connections used as data sources
- e.g. Docs stored in the cloud



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 26



Retrieval Augmented Generation Sources

Internet & Apps (2 of 3)

- The Internet

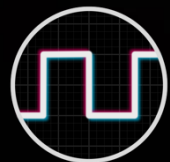
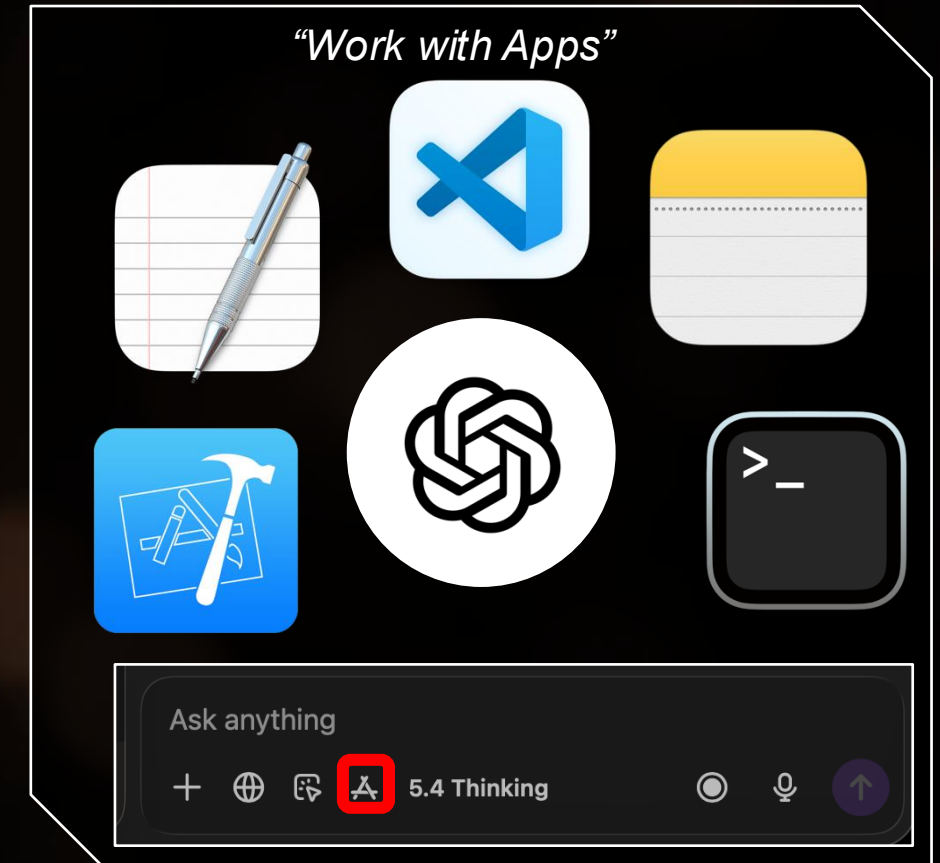
- Info from internet used as context
- Separate from “internet search”

- “Work with Apps”

- Local apps on your machine
- List varies by OS / app / model

- External Third-Party Apps

- “Agentic” connections used as data sources
- e.g. Docs stored in the cloud



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 27



Retrieval Augmented Generation Sources

Internet & Apps (3 of 3)

• The Internet

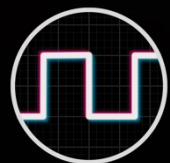
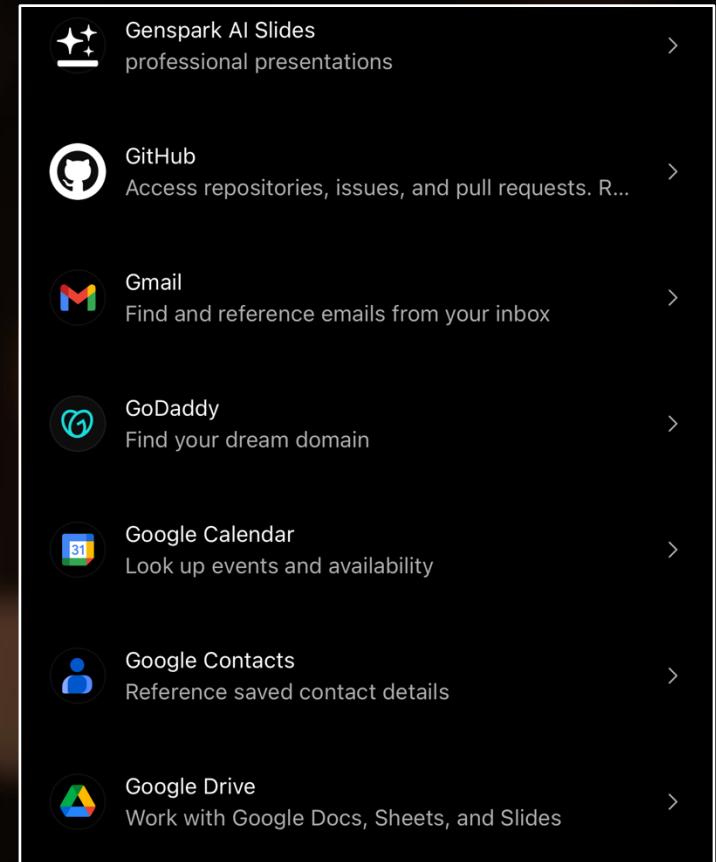
- Info from internet used as context
- Separate from “internet search”

• “Work with Apps”

- Local apps on your machine
- List varies by OS / app / model

• External Third-Party Apps

- “Agentic” connections used as data sources
- e.g. Docs stored in the cloud



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 28



Retrieval Augmented Generation Sources

Files (1 of 3)

• Uploaded Text Files

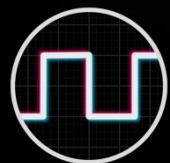
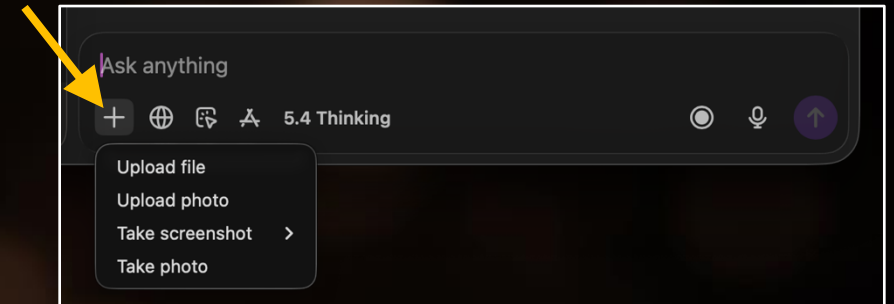
- e.g. Lyrics, Artist Bios, Past Social Media Posts, Emails, Marketing Copy, Website Content, White Papers, etc...

• Uploaded Data Files

- e.g. Spreadsheets, Data Exports, System Logs, HTML, XML, etc...

• Uploaded Media Files

- e.g. Images, Photographs, Screenshots, Album Artwork, Mood Boards, etc...



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 29



Retrieval Augmented Generation Sources

Files (2 of 3)

- **Uploaded Text Files**

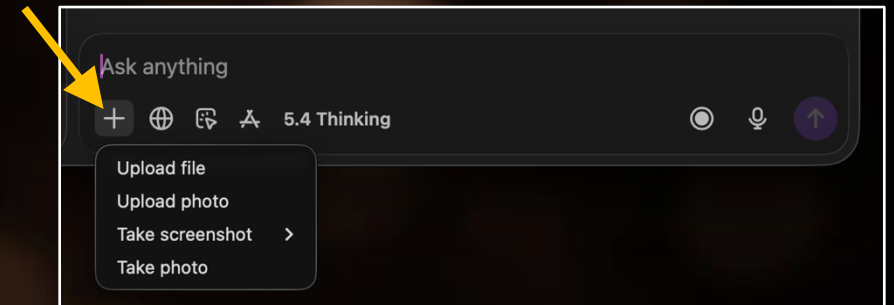
- e.g. Lyrics, Artist Bios, Past Social Media Posts, Emails, Marketing Copy, Website Content, White Papers, etc...

- **Uploaded Data Files**

- e.g. Spreadsheets, Data Exports, System Logs, HTML, XML, etc...

- **Uploaded Media Files**

- e.g. Images, Photographs, Screenshots, Album Artwork, Mood Boards, etc...



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 30



Retrieval Augmented Generation Sources

Files (3 of 3)

- **Uploaded Text Files**

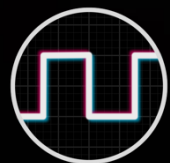
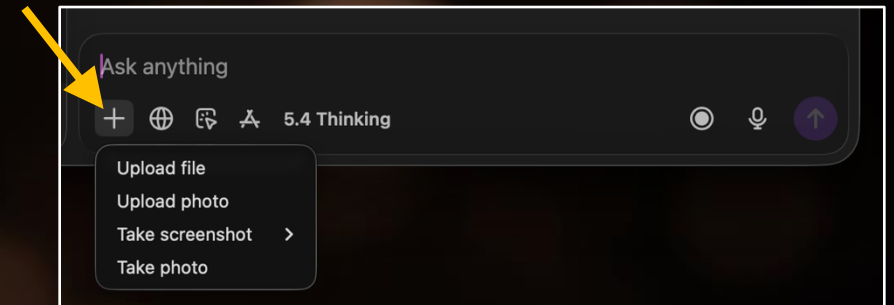
- e.g. Lyrics, Artist Bios, Past Social Media Posts, Emails, Marketing Copy, Website Content, White Papers, etc...

- **Uploaded Data Files**

- e.g. Spreadsheets, Data Exports, System Logs, HTML, XML, etc...

- **Uploaded Media Files**

- e.g. Images, Photographs, Screenshots, Album Artwork, Mood Boards, etc...



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 31



Managing RAG

Providing Direction for Internet Searches

- **Undirected RAG**: Model decides how to search
 - “Use RAG” or “Search the internet”
 - ⚠ Model may automatically decide to use RAG!
 - ✗ May introduce unnecessary content into the Context Window
- **Directed RAG**: User directs model using specific instructions
 - “Search a specific website”
 - “Search for specific info”
 - “Locate articles published within a certain timeframe”



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 32



Managing RAG

Uploaded Files and Documents

⚠ File Metadata

- Often hidden
- May have adverse impact

⚠ Instruct the model how to use the files

- *“The attached file contains...”*
- *“Use the attached file as a reference to write...”*
- *“Analyze the attached image and...”*



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

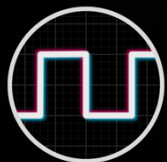
Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 33



BACK TO THE FULL CONTEXT WINDOW...



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

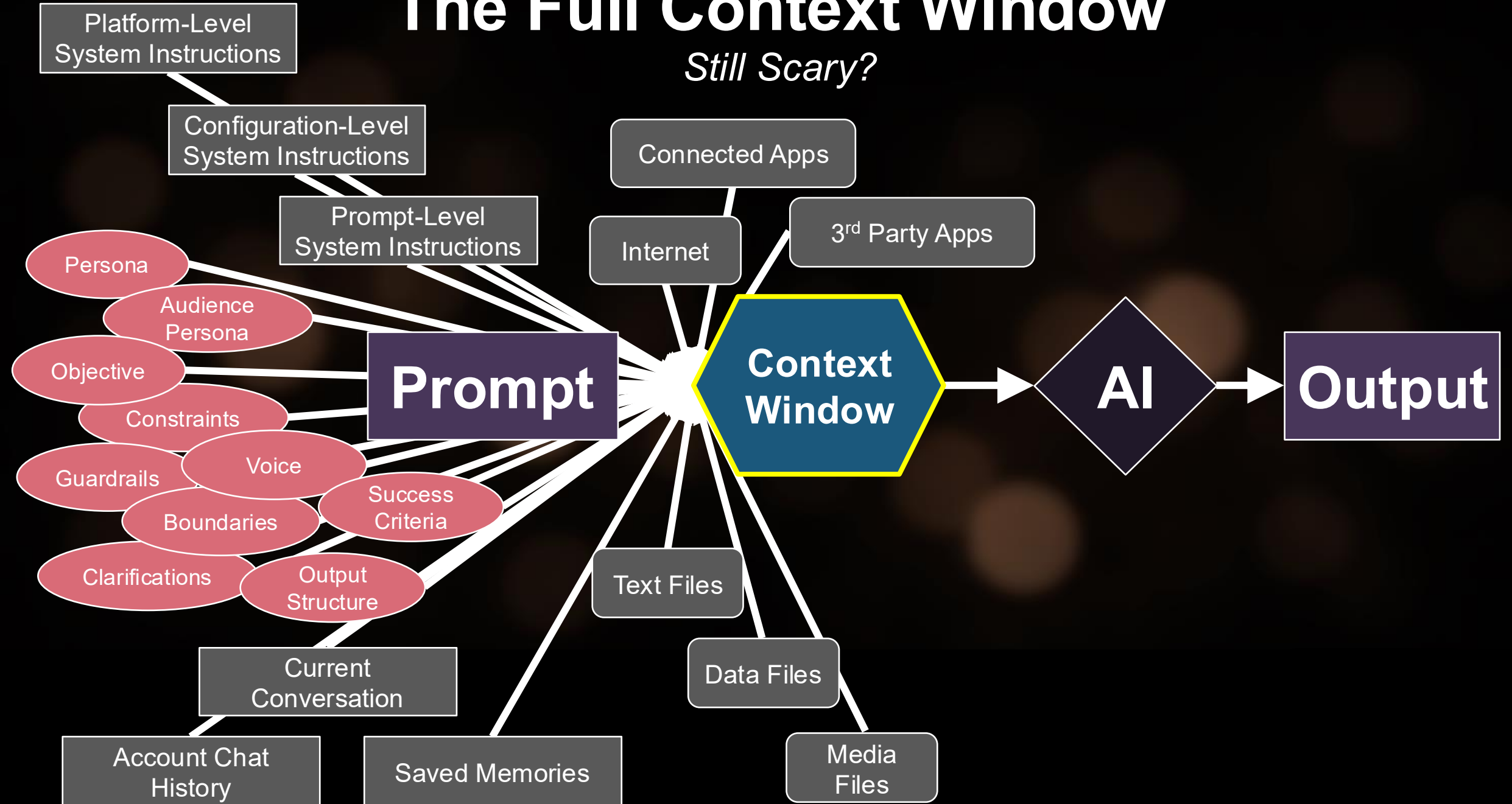
Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 34

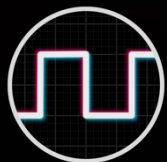


The Full Context Window

Still Scary?



ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE



SquareWave.ai
Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering
AI in Music Meetup
HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve
Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas
Thursday, April 16, 2026



Slide 36

Managing Context

Understanding Window Size Constraints

- **The More Data the Better?**

- Yes (especially for the prompt itself)
- But...

Tokens x 0.75 = Words

- **Limited Size**

- **Free:** GPT-5.3 Instant: 16,000 tokens (12,000 words)
- **Plus:** GPT-5.3 Instant: 32,000 tokens (24,000 words)
- **Plus:** GPT-5.4 Thinking: 128,000 tokens (96,000 words)

- **Ideal (max) Context Window Size:** 32,000 tokens (24,000 words)

- Above that, results start to degrade

- **Information at BEGINNING and END of window most impactful**

- Models have “trouble” remembering the middle



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 37



Managing Context

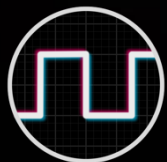
Manually Reducing Large Data Sources

- Summarizing Large Data Sources

- Use AI to summarize large documents before adding them to your prompt
- Pre-work before generating your prompt

- Examples

- *Song Lyrics* → *Writing Style Report*
- *200 Page Report* → *10 Page Summary*
- *Past AI Conversations* → *Personal Profile*



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 38



Managing Context

Chat and Prompt Guidance

DO 👍

- Carefully craft your core prompt
- Remember *“The More Info The Better”*
- Use Prompt Patterns!
- Pre-write your prompt in Word or Notes
- Remove superfluous information manually

DON'T 👎

- Waste tokens on idle conversation
- Carelessly dump “everything” into the chat
- Write lazy prompts
- Expect AI to “magically” get it right with minimal input



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 39



USE CASES



SquareWave.ai
Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering
AI in Music Meetup
HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve
Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas
Thursday, April 16, 2026



Slide 40

Music Industry Use Cases

A Few Examples...

- Artist Bios
- Lyrics Generation, Refinement, or Analysis
- Album Release Plan & Checklist
- Pitch Emails for Sync, Booking, Client Outreach, etc.
- Marketing Copy



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 41



USE CASE: Pitch Email

Context Recommendations

- **System Instructions**

- Check App Settings
- Artist Background
- Career Goals

- **Prompt Patterns**

- **Persona Pattern:** Marketing Professional
- **Audience Persona:** Sync House / Label / Venue
- **Voice:** Semi-Professional
- **Output Structure:** [Subject], [Body]
- **Success Criteria:** Reply / Engagement
- **Guardrails:** Don't invent facts

- **File RAG**

- 10 "Best" Emails (*got a reply*)
- 5 "Worst" Emails (*no reply*)
- Writing Style Report
- Artist Bio
- Song Descriptions / Tags / Lyrics
- **ATTACHED FILE DESCRIPTIONS**

PROMPT

- Rough draft email
- "Gaps" that the LLM should fill in
- Additional info and guidance

- **Internet RAG**

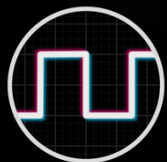
- Recipient's Website
- EPK Website
- Social Media

- **History**

- The Existing Chat You Use For Pitch Emails
- Intentional Memory: Artist background, goals

- **Other**

- Any additional relevant context



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 42



USE CASE: Songwriting Tool

Context Recommendations

- **System Instructions**

- Check App Settings: Style / Tone
- Artist Background

- **Prompt Patterns**

- **Persona Pattern:** Experienced Songwriter in <GENRE>
- **Output Structure:** Label song structure: [Verse], [Pre-Chorus], [Chorus], [Bridge], etc.
- **Guardrails:** Maintain artist's voice, avoid copyright

- **Internet RAG**

- Search for successful songs in similar genera (*maybe?*)
- Social Media
- Artist Website / Bio / EPK

- **File RAG**

- Song Lyrics
- Song descriptions, tags, metadata
- Writing style report
- Mood board

- **Memory**

- Use a new chat in songwriting “project”

PROMPT

- Song Lyrics
- What you want the LLM to do



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 43



THE SECRET...



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 44



The Secret...

- **Many specialty AI Apps are just fancy frontends on LLMs with...**
 - ...Strong instructions, guardrails, and examples
 - ...Curated context & domain expertise
 - ...Templates, files, and structured outputs
- **You can get 80% of the way there with strong prompting and context engineering!**

Use this new knowledge to generate better content with AI!



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 45



Thank You!

Download the
presentation
here:

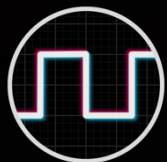


Let's Connect!

Terence@SquareWave.ai

+1 310-947-1783

<http://www.SquareWave.ai>



SquareWave.ai

Artificial Intelligence Consulting
for the Music Industry

Beyond Prompt Engineering

AI in Music Meetup

HOME – Helping Our Music Evolve

Presented by Terence Ryan Melonas

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Slide 46

