

Navigating the Jagged Frontier: A Leader's Guide to AI Integration

AI is not a uniform productivity tool but a “jagged frontier” that improves performance on pattern-based tasks while degrading outcomes on contextual ones. To succeed, leaders must build frameworks to manage this uneven landscape.

WITHIN THE FRONTIER (Pattern-Based Tasks)

BEYOND THE FRONTIER (Contextual Tasks)

 **25.1%**
FASTER

 **12.2%**
MORE OFTEN

 **HIGHER**
QUALITY



Massive Gains Within the Frontier

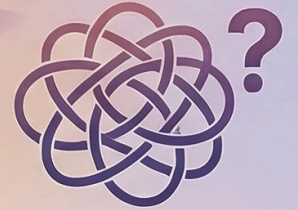
AI-assisted workers complete tasks 25.1% faster and 12.2% more often with higher quality.

Redesign the Workflow

For complex tasks requiring deep context, AI users are 19% less likely to find correct solutions.

COMPLEXITY VS. CONTEXT

AI fails not because a task is “hard,” but because it lacks tacit organizational knowledge.

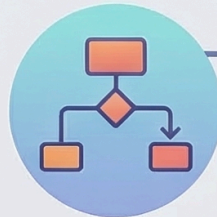


STRATEGIC RESPONSES FOR INTEGRATION



MAP TASK-AI ALIGNMENT

Inventory workflows to identify which components suit pattern recognition versus human-led judgment.



AI DRAFTS



HUMAN CRITIQUE

Separate work into phases where AI drafts and humans critique, or run parallel independent analyses.



PROTECT JUNIOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Ensure new hires build foundational expertise through practice before relying on AI-augmented shortcuts.