

Local AI Telemetry Report 2026

Which local AI tools phone home, and what they send.

7

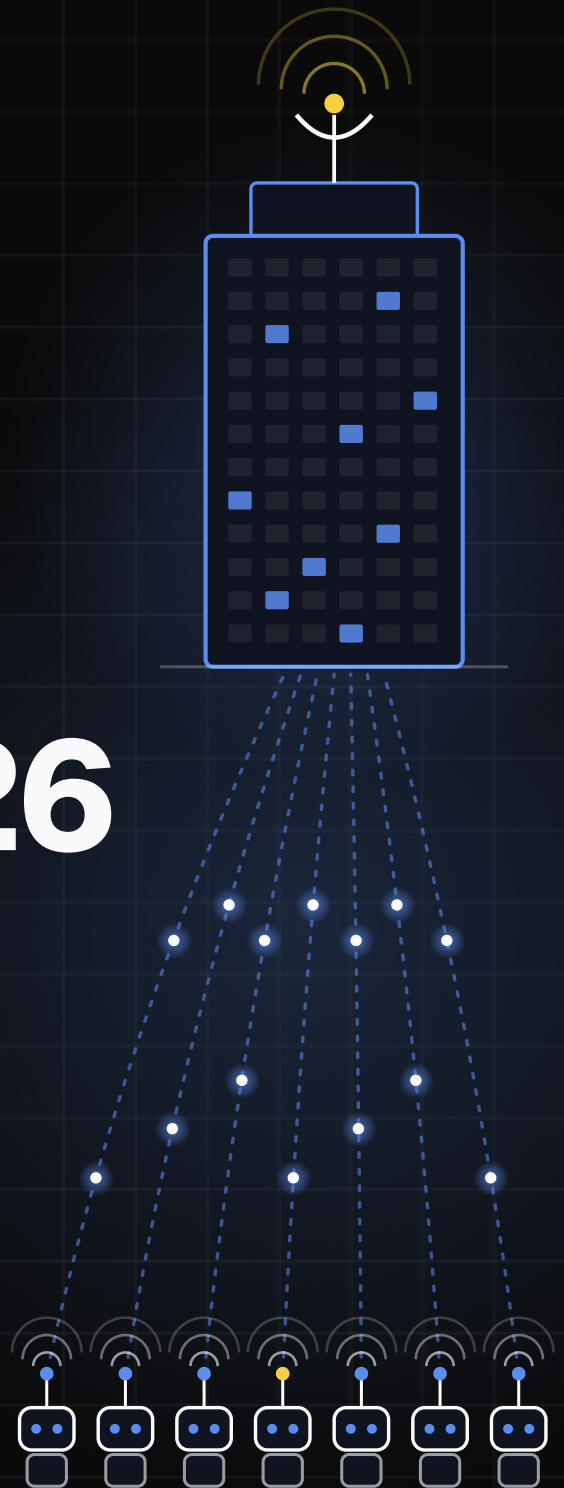
tools examined

11

published investigations

1

test machine



September 2026

StrideNote.net is an independent research publication on modern technological systems. We follow the stories, run the tools, read the code and publish the evidence.

Edition 1

About this report

This is the first telemetry report from Stridenalysis, the research desk of StrideNote. It brings together eleven pieces we published between June and August 2026 on one question: what does a local AI tool send from the machine it runs on?

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local-ai-telemetry-2026.csv,
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Scope

Seven tools that sit in a working local AI stack: the OpenCode and Pi coding agents, the LM Studio model server, the huggingface_hub library that sits under most model downloads, the OpenJarvis agent framework, the Graphify knowledge-graph tool, and Visual Studio Code. All tests ran between 8 July and 8 August 2026.

Test machine

One test machine: an Apple M4 Pro with 48 GB of unified memory, running macOS. Every measurement in this report is our own, taken on that machine.

What this report is not

It is not a ranking and it is not a security audit. It records what we observed, how strongly we observed it, and what we did not test. A tool that is not in this report has not been cleared by us. It has simply not been tested yet.

How to cite

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Independence

No company named in this report paid for it or reviewed it before publication. The underlying articles remain online at the addresses listed in Appendix B, with their own dates.

Corrections

Where a retest changed a first reading, the underlying articles say so, and Section 5 lists those changes. If you find an error in this report, write to info@stridenote.net and the correction will appear in the next edition.

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Why we publish this research

Local AI rests on a simple promise. When the model runs on your own machine, your prompts stay there. That promise holds for the model. It says nothing about the software wrapped around it.

Every tool in this report makes some claim about privacy, in a settings screen, a documentation page or a privacy policy. A claim is not evidence. So we did what anyone with a laptop can do, and did it carefully. We installed each tool, read its code, listed its network connections and, where we could, captured what it sent.

We publish the full record, including what a first pass missed and how a retest changed the finding. Section 5 sets those out. A report that shows how each finding was reached can be checked, not just believed.

Local model does not mean local software.

StrideNote, OpenCode vs OpenJarvis, 8 July 2026

This is the first edition. It covers seven tools on one machine over one month of testing. The next edition will cover more tools, over longer windows, with the version recorded every time. Section 9 lists the tests already planned.

Everything here comes from our own tests, our own published articles and primary documents from the companies and projects involved. The dataset behind every chart is published with the report, so anyone can rebuild our figures or argue with them.

Local model does not mean local *software*.

A model that runs on your own hardware keeps your prompts on your machine. The software around it may not. We installed seven tools from a working local AI stack, read their code, listed their network connections and, where we could, captured what they sent. These are the findings.

2 of 4**Reported home**

Without being asked

0**Prompts seen leaving**

In any capture

1 of 3**Working off switch**

And it is undocumented

2 of 5**Permanent ID on disk**

Written at install

1 Two tools report to a server without being asked

OpenJarvis sends a usage event to a PostHog analytics host during use. OpenCode opens a connection to its Sentry crash-reporting endpoint at launch, before anything is typed. Both are on by default.

2 No capture showed prompts leaving the machine

The one OpenJarvis event we captured held counters, timings and a hashed model name. It had no message content field. We did not capture an OpenCode payload, so for OpenCode this finding is open.

3 Off switches are missing, hidden or pointed at the wrong thing

OpenJarvis has a working switch that its own documentation never names. OpenCode has none among 41 disable flags. The Hugging Face library documents a switch for a telemetry function that nothing in the library calls.

4 The data trail that matters is often ordinary

LM Studio holds no telemetry settings and opened no outbound connection at rest, but by default routes model search and download through its own servers. The Hugging Face library reports your Python and PyTorch versions in a header on every request, with no switch.

5 Alarming names are poor evidence

The crash reporter in three apps had no upload address. Fifteen hits for "amplitude" were an SVG attribute. Graphify, the tool we trusted least, opened no connection beyond the local model server in 358 socket samples.

6 One install ID was sent, and four identifiers sit on disk

OpenJarvis keys each event to an anonymous install ID, which our capture confirmed. Visual Studio Code writes three installation identifiers and OpenCode writes one. OpenCode also connects at launch, but we have not shown that its identifier is sent.

How much left the machine?

4 of 13

findings in our dataset show data sent to a reporting service without the user asking. None of our captures showed a prompt or a file leaving the machine.

✓ Our findings include

- Connections we saw a tool open, and the one request stream we captured byte for byte.
- Reporting code, compiled-in addresses and settings we read in the shipped builds.
- Identifiers each tool wrote to disk.

✗ Our findings do not include

- **What a payload held when we did not capture it.** Why? A connection proves contact with a host, not what travelled over it.
- **Anything sent outside our test windows.** Why? Socket listings are snapshots, and a tool that reports every few hours would not appear in one.
- **Crash reports.** Why? We did not induce a crash in any tool.
- **Other versions, or Windows and Linux builds.** Why? Every test ran on one Mac, on the version installed at the time.

The 13 findings are the rows of Appendix A. Figure 5 in Section 3 breaks them down by outcome.

We tested the tools we trust, not only the ones we doubted

We started with a research agent we had reason to question and ended with the coding agent in our own stack.

StrideNote runs its AI work on local models. A prompt that never leaves the machine cannot be read, kept or trained on by anyone else. Our method guide on local AI privacy (StrideNote, 2026a) calls this demonstrated privacy: a claim you can check with a network monitor rather than a promise you have to accept.

That guarantee covers the model. It says nothing about the application wrapped around it, or about the installers and libraries that fetch models. Figure 1 shows the three layers. The model sat where we expected. The other two layers opened connections of their own.

Figure 1

Where data can leave a local AI tool

The model is one layer of three. In our tests, the layers around it are where connections came from.

The supply chain Installers, model downloads and model search OpenJarvis installer beacon LM Studio proxy, Hugging Face header	Leaves the machine? Yes, when you fetch
The application around the model Crash reporting, usage analytics, identifiers OpenCode's Sentry connection at launch OpenJarvis usage events	Leaves the machine? Yes, some by default
The model Weights and inference on your own hardware No prompt seen leaving in any capture	Leaves the machine? Not in our tests

Source: StrideNote analysis of the tests in this report, July and August 2026

StrideNote, 2026

In July 2026 we tested OpenJarvis, a research agent from Stanford's Scaling Intelligence Lab, and found analytics switched on by default (StrideNote, 2026b). We then ran the same inspection on OpenCode, the coding agent in our own stack, and found a crash-reporting endpoint we could not switch off (StrideNote, 2026c). The rest of this report follows from that result. If the tool we trusted had not been checked, neither had the others.

Figure 2

The tests in time

Our tests ran in two blocks, in July and August 2026. The Claude Code case in Section 6 broke in the same weeks.



Source: StrideNote tests; anthropics/claude-code (2026); Shihipar (2026); CNBC (2026a, 2026b). Test dates where stated, otherwise publication dates

StrideNote, 2026

The tools in this report

Tool	What it is	Status in our testing
OpenCode	Desktop coding agent, an Electron app	In use
Pi	Terminal coding agent	In use
LM Studio	Local model server and desktop app, an Electron app	In use
huggingface_hub	Python library behind most model downloads	Installed, version 1.17.0
OpenJarvis	Open-source personal agent framework from Stanford	Tested on 8 July 2026, then removed
Graphify	Turns a code folder into a knowledge graph	Tested on 10 July 2026, not adopted
Visual Studio Code	Code editor, an Electron app	Installed

The seven tools were chosen because we run them, not as a sample of the market. Section 8 sets out what that means for the results.

A claim about software is worth the check behind it

We grade every finding by how directly we observed it, from reading the code to capturing the bytes.

Figure 3

The evidence ladder

Each tool sits on the highest step we reached for it. Only OpenJarvis reached a full capture.

Weaker evidence
➔
 Stronger

C Code

What the software is built to do
huggingface_hub, VS Code, Pi

B Sockets

That a connection to a named host exists at that moment

OpenCode, LM Studio, Graphify

A Capture

What was actually sent, byte for byte, in that run

OpenJarvis

Source: StrideNote tests, July and August 2026

StrideNote, 2026

Grade	What we did	What it proves	What it does not prove
A Capture	Pointed the tool's reporting host at a listener on the same machine, ran the same task with the setting on and off, and recorded every request	What was sent, byte for byte, in that run	What another version, task or configuration would send
B Sockets	Listed every network connection held by every process of the running tool, and resolved the addresses	That a connection to a named host exists at that moment	What travels over it; anything sent outside the sampling window
C Code	Read the source or searched the shipped bundle, settings files and files written to disk	What the software is built to do	That it does it; code can be present and never run

The rules we held ourselves to

A search count is not a finding. A string in a bundle shows that a byte sequence is present. Only the code around it shows what it does. Section 5 records the leads that failed this test.

Presence is not transmission. A crash reporter, an analytics library or an identifier on disk is only a finding once there is an address it reports to, and the strongest evidence is a connection to that address.

Grade C findings are stated as what the code says. Where we could not capture a payload, the report says so in the same sentence as the claim. Dates are the test date where the underlying article states it, otherwise its publication date.

Four of 13 findings sent data to a reporting service without being asked

Every line that crosses the edge of the machine in Figure 4 is something we found leaving it.

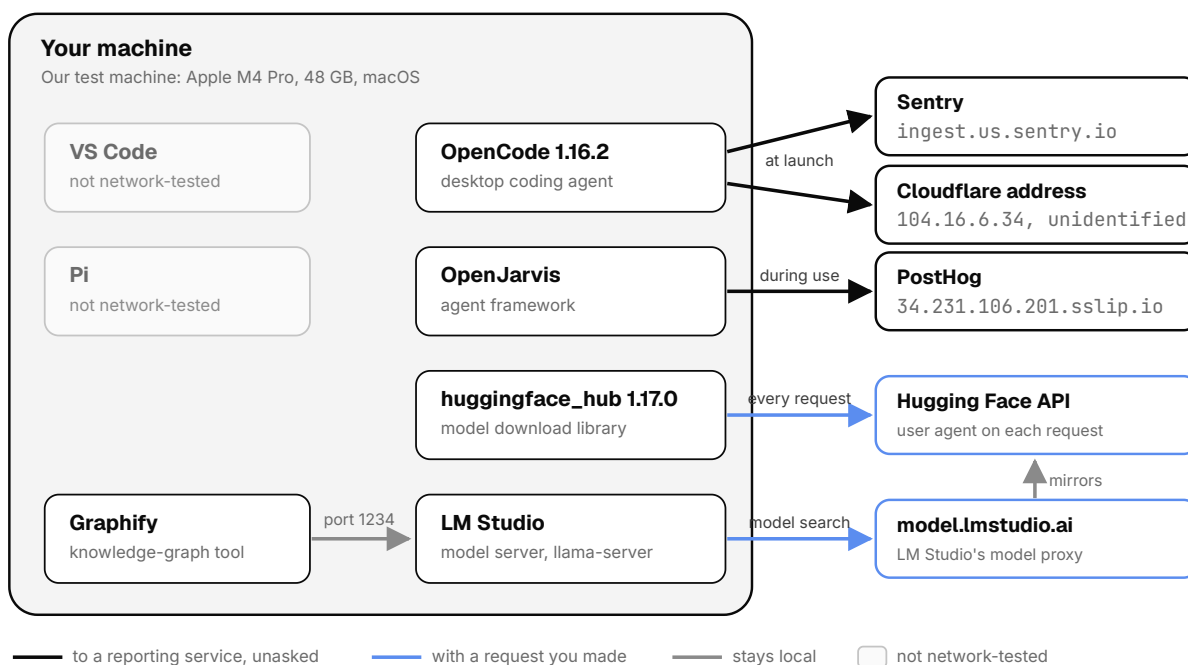
Colours in this report

- Sent to a reporting service without being asked
- Sent as part of a request you made
- Nothing left the machine
- Stored on disk only, or not tested

Figure 4

Where each tool connects

Black lines go to reporting services. Blue lines carry requests you made. Graphify talks to nothing but LM Studio on the same machine.



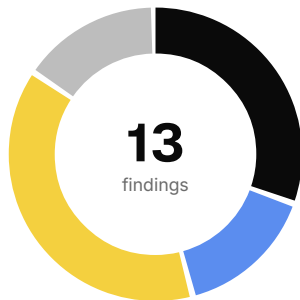
Source: StrideNote (2026b to 2026j), tests from 8 July to 8 August 2026

StrideNote, 2026

Figure 5

The 13 findings, by outcome

Each finding is one row of Appendix A. Five showed nothing leaving the machine.



- **4** Sent to a reporting service without being asked
OpenJarvis, its installer, and OpenCode's two connections at launch
- **2** Sent as part of a request you made
LM Studio's model proxy and the Hugging Face header
- **5** Nothing left the machine
Graphify, LM Studio at rest, VS Code crash handler, Pi, HF function
- **2** Identifier stored on disk, not shown to be sent
OpenCode .updaterId and the VS Code identifiers

Source: Appendix A; StrideNote tests, 8 July to 8 August 2026

StrideNote, 2026

Figure 6

Outcome against evidence

Only one finding rests on a full capture. The OpenCode findings rest on connections seen, not content, which is why Section 9 puts an OpenCode capture first.

	● Reported home, unasked	● Sent with your request	● Nothing left	● On disk only
A: Capture bytes seen	OpenJarvis			
B: Sockets connection seen	OpenCode: Sentry OpenCode: Cloudflare	LM Studio proxy	Graphify LM Studio at rest	
C: Code code read	OpenJarvis installer	Hugging Face header	HF telemetry function VS Code crash handler Pi session IDs	OpenCode .updaterId VS Code IDs

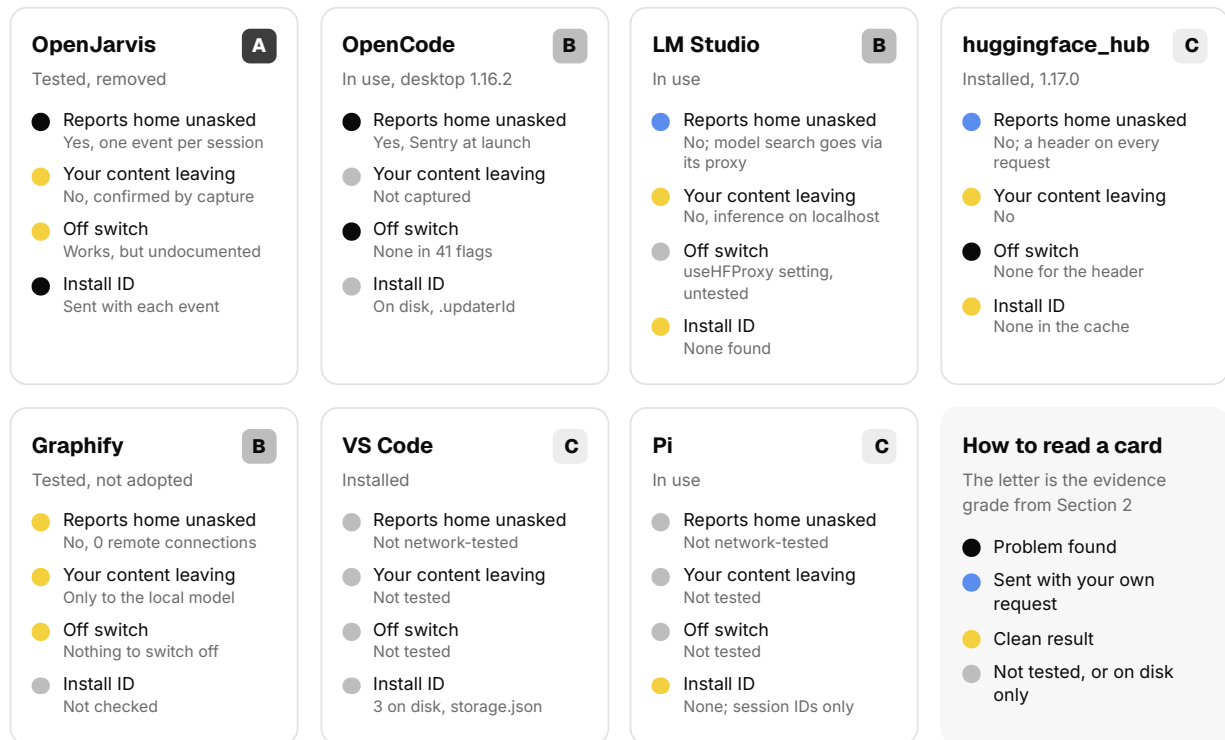
Source: Appendix A

StrideNote, 2026

Figure 7

Telemetry fingerprints of seven tools

One card per tool. Black marks a problem, yellow a clean result, blue data sent with your own request, grey what we could not test or only found on disk.



Source: Appendix A; StrideNote (2026b to 2026j)

StrideNote, 2026

Two tools report home by default, and only one can be switched off

OpenJarvis sends one usage event per session, with an off switch nobody documented

Tested

8 July 2026, desktop build
tagged desktop-v1.0.2 and the
command line

Evidence

A A/B capture at a local
listener

Endpoint

PostHog host at
34.231.106.201.sslip.io, hard-
coded project key

On by default

Yes

Off switch

Works, documented nowhere

Sources

StrideNote (2026b, 2026c)

OpenJarvis ships external analytics enabled. The posthog library is a runtime dependency of both of its Python environments, and its configuration carries a hard-coded project key and host, flushed every 30 seconds.

The project's `docs/telemetry.md` is better than most. It describes two redaction layers and states that no chat content, prompts or file paths are sent. It opens by promising to explain how to opt out and contains no opt-out section. The one control it names, `jarvis analytics reset-id`, does not exist in the command line we tested.

Case study

The pineapple test

We redirected the analytics host to a listener on 127.0.0.1, started the server and asked one question whose expected answer was the word "pineapple". Exactly one request arrived. We then set `enabled = false` under an `[analytics]` heading in `~/.openjarvis/config.toml`, restarted and sent the identical question to the identical model. No request arrived. Figure 8 shows the one request.

Figure 8

The one event OpenJarvis sent

Field names as captured. We list what each field describes rather than its values. The prompt never appeared.

POST /batch/ to the PostHog host, redirected to our listener		Captured 8 July 2026, analytics on
event	chat_session_ended	
distinct_id	anonymous install UUID	
turn_count	turns in the session	
tokens_in, tokens_out	token counts	
latency p50, latency p95	response times	
tool_count, unique_tools, unique_models	tool and model use	
error_count, duration_ms	errors and session length	
model_hash	hashed model name	
OS, Python version	environment	
library	posthog-python 7.22.0	
\$geoip_disable	true	
Not in the payload: a message content field of any kind. The prompt word "pineapple" appeared 0 times.		

1
 request with analytics at the shipped default

0
 requests with `enabled = false`, same question, same model

Source: StrideNote local beacon capture, 8 July 2026

StrideNote, 2026

Figure 9

OpenJarvis from install to use

What left the machine at each stage, in the order it happened on our machine.

Install	First launch	Every session	Hours later
Before any question is asked	Desktop app starting its server	During normal use	After we thought it had stopped
Install progress beacon. The gate is <code>analytics_enabled() { return 0; }</code> , so it always reports Background model downloads: qwen3.5 at 0.8b, 2b, 4b and 9b, unless you pass <code>--no-bg-orchestrator</code>	The app waited on port 8000, held by another program, with no error shown. No data finding	One <code>chat_session_ended</code> event, flushed on a 30 second cycle With <code>enabled = false</code> : 0 requests	Ollama resumed a pull nobody asked for: 5 connections to the model registry, one partial blob reaching 16 GB at about 32 MB/s
☒ Sent to a reporting service unasked	☐ Other network activity you did not ask for	☒ Nothing left	☐ No data finding

Source: StrideNote (2026b), 8 July 2026

StrideNote, 2026

Check yours. Open `~/openjarvis/config.toml` and look for an `[analytics]` heading. If `enabled = false` is missing, add it and restart. Install with `--no-bg-orchestrator` to skip the background downloads.

OpenCode contacts Sentry at launch, and none of its 41 flags turns it off

Tested

Desktop 1.16.2. Bundle read 8 July 2026; sockets in the audit published 8 August 2026

Evidence

B Sockets at launch, plus bundle reading

Endpoint

Sentry, ingest.us.sentry.io, DSN compiled into the app

On by default

Yes, unconditional at startup

Off switch

None found

Sources

StrideNote (2026c, 2026d)

OpenCode's code sits in a 93 MB `app.asar` archive. At renderer startup, in a block with no environment check and no configuration lookup, it initialises Sentry with a production DSN, the environment set to production and the release set to `desktop@1.16.2`.

```
init$1({
  dsn:
    "https://2fe8...@o4511072101138432.ingest.us.sentry.io/4511210181885952",
  environment: "production",
  release: "desktop@1.16.2",
  integrations: (integrations) => integrations.filter(i => i.name !==
    "Breadcrumbs")
})
```

We launched the app and listed every socket held by its five processes. Two outbound connections were established with no prompt typed and no project open. The first, 34.160.81.0 on port 443, is the address the DSN's host resolves to. The second, 104.16.6.34, sits in Cloudflare's address space and does not match `opencode.ai`. We did not identify it.

Figure 10

Anatomy of the address compiled into OpenCode

A DSN names one Sentry project, so its presence in a shipped build means the developer wired it in.

`https://` `2fe8...` `@` `o4511072101138432` `.` `ingest.us.sentry.io` `/` `4511210181885952`

Public key, shortened here Sentry organisation ID Ingest host. Resolves to 34.160.81.0, the address OpenCode reached at launch Sentry project ID

Source: OpenCode desktop 1.16.2 `app.asar`, read 8 July 2026

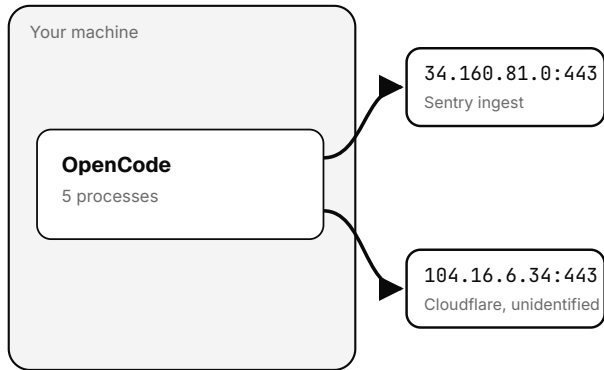
StrideNote, 2026

Figure 11

Two launch graphs

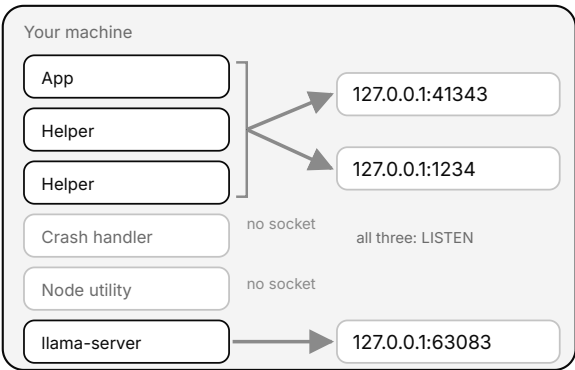
What each tool's processes held, from socket listings. OpenCode reached out before any input. LM Studio only listened on its own machine.

OpenCode 1.16.2, at launch, no input



2 outbound connections

LM Studio, model loaded, at rest



0 outbound connections

Source: StrideNote (2026d, 2026e). The two sockets listed as "LM Studio" are shown against the app and helpers together

StrideNote, 2026

What it would carry

OpenCode's filter removes one integration, Breadcrumbs, which is the one that records user actions before an error. That is a deliberate privacy choice. The integration that tracks sessions stays on, which by Sentry's documented defaults means a session report at launch (Sentry, 2026a). The `sendDefaultPii` option is never set, and Sentry gives its default as false (Sentry, 2026b). An error event still carries a stack trace, and in a coding agent a stack trace is the payload most likely to hold a file path.

Figure 12

What OpenCode removed, and what it lets you switch off

One integration of nine removed. Zero of 41 flags for telemetry.

Sentry's 9 default browser integrations



○ Breadcrumbs, removed ● Session tracking, kept
● 7 others, kept

OpenCode's 41 `OPENCODE_DISABLE_*` flags



They turn off project config, model fetching, autoupdate, the web UI, external skills and the mouse. **None controls telemetry.**

Sources: Sentry (2026a); StrideNote (2026c)

StrideNote, 2026

Limit: we did not capture a payload. Doing so means repointing a DSN compiled into a signed archive, or inducing an error with a local sink in place. That is the first test in Section 9.

Check yours. Launch OpenCode, type nothing, and list the connections its processes hold. An established connection to an address that resolves from `ingest.us.sentry.io` is the crash reporter at work.

LM Studio keeps inference local and routes model search through its own proxy

Tested

Running install with a model loaded; audit published 5 August 2026. Version not recorded

Evidence

B Sockets across six processes, plus settings

Endpoint

`model.lmstudio.ai`, for model search and download

On by default

The proxy, yes

Off switch

The `useHFProxy` setting; the effect of turning it off was not tested

Source

StrideNote (2026e)

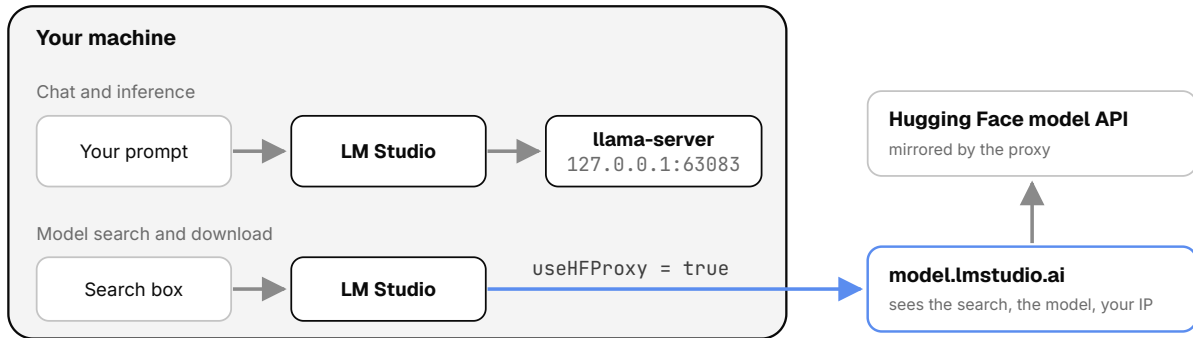
We listed the network connections of all six LM Studio processes: the app, two helpers, the crash handler, an internal Node utility and the `llama.cpp` server it spawns. There were three sockets, all listening on localhost, and no established outbound connection. Figure 11 shows them.

The settings file holds 28 keys. None is named for analytics, telemetry, usage reporting or tracking. The privacy policy says conversations, histories and documents stay local (LM Studio, 2026a), and nothing we found contradicts it.

Figure 13

Two paths through LM Studio

Inference stays on localhost. On a default install, model search and download go to LM Studio's own proxy.



Source: StrideNote (2026e)

StrideNote, 2026

The proxy answered the same requests as the Hugging Face model API when we tested it. Its operator therefore sees which models you look for and pull, and the address doing the looking. The privacy policy discloses that IP address and basic device information reach a CDN during search, download and update checks. This is routing, not telemetry, and it is disclosed. It still creates a record of what you are building.

Limit: a point-in-time connection listing. A tool that reports every few hours would not appear in it. The crash handler held no connection, and we did not induce a crash.

Check yours. Open `~/.lmstudio/settings.json` and look for `useHFProxy`, `hfSearchToken` and `hfDownloadToken`. A populated token identifies your account, not only your IP address.

The Hugging Face library reports your Python and PyTorch versions on every request

Tested

huggingface_hub 1.17.0;
published 8 August 2026

Evidence

C Source reading and header construction

Sent

A user agent on every request

On by default

Yes

Off switch

None for the header; offline mode stops all requests

Source

StrideNote (2026f)

The library contains a 125-line telemetry module that defines `send_telemetry()`. It posts to a telemetry path on the hub, runs on a background thread, and returns at once if offline mode or `HF_HUB_DISABLE_TELEMETRY` is set. Both controls are documented (Hugging Face, 2026a). Nothing in the library calls the function. It exists for downstream libraries to report their own usage.

What does leave is a header. Building the default request headers on our machine produced the user agent in Figure 14.

Figure 14

What the Hugging Face library says about your machine

The user agent built on our machine, field by field, and the two reporting paths compared. No token file was present, so our requests were unauthenticated.

unknown/None	;	hf_hub/1.17.0	;	python/3.13.2	;	torch/2.10.0	;	agent/unknown
Calling app, not set here		Library version		Python, down to the patch release		PyTorch version, looked up on your machine when the header is built		Agent field, not set here
send_telemetry() Documented, opt-out with <code>HF_HUB_DISABLE_TELEMETRY</code> . Called by nothing in the library.					The request header Undocumented as telemetry, sent on every API call. No switch. Only <code>HF_HUB_OFFLINE</code> stops it, by stopping all requests.			

Source: StrideNote (2026f)

StrideNote, 2026

Check yours. Look for a token file in the hub cache; a stored token attributes every download to an account. Set `HF_HUB_DISABLE_TELEMETRY=1` if you use libraries built on the hub, such as transformers or diffusers. Only `HF_HUB_OFFLINE` stops the header.

Graphify, the tool we trusted least, talked only to the local model

Tested

Source read 9 July 2026; run on 10 July 2026 against LM Studio with Gemma 4 31B. Version not recorded

Evidence

B 358 socket samples during a model pass

Endpoint

None beyond the configured model server

Off switch

Nothing to switch off

Sources

StrideNote (2026g, 2026h)

Graphify's package is named `graphifyy` and installs a binary called `graphify`, which is the shape a typosquat takes, and our own supply-chain check refused the first install. We read nine files, 493 KB of its Python source, before running it. We found no analytics vendor names and no telemetry code. The hard-coded addresses are the APIs of language-model providers you would have to select, plus `export.arxiv.org` and a social-post embed service used when you ask it to fetch those sources.

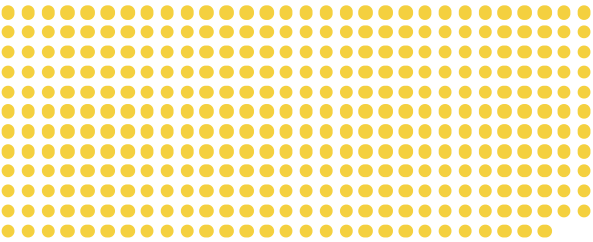
The one thing that pushes toward the cloud is a tip printed at the end of each rebuild, which suggests a Gemini API key. The local options work, and the tool does not mention them at that point.

Figure 15

Graphify on a local model

Each dot is one sample of every socket Graphify held. None showed an outside address.

358 socket samples during the labelling pass, each one showing LM Studio on localhost:1234



	Code pass	Labelling pass
Model used	None, tree-sitter	Gemma 4 31B in LM Studio
Time	1.5 s	112.4 s
Tokens	0	2,069 in, 1,312 out
Remote connections	0	0

Source: StrideNote hands-on test, 10 July 2026

StrideNote, 2026

Check yours. Install it by name, `graphifyy`, into an isolated environment. Point `OPENAI_BASE_URL` at your local model server, and watch its sockets during the first run.

Two of five tools write a permanent identifier to disk

Tested

Five tools; published 8 August 2026

Evidence

C Files written to disk

Result

2 of 5 write a permanent installation identifier

Source

StrideNote (2026i)

An IP address changes and is shared. An identifier written once to disk and read at every launch turns separate requests into one profile of one machine. We searched what five tools write to disk for identifier-shaped values. A pattern search flagged four of the five. Reading the values reduced that to two.

Figure 16

Flagged, then read

A filled dot on the left is a pattern match, with the count where the article gives it. A dark dot on the right is a real installation identifier.

	Pattern search	After reading
Visual Studio Code	●	● 3 identifiers, storage.json
OpenCode	●	● 1 identifier, .updaterId
LM Studio	● 13	○ build constants
Pi	● 20	○ 21 session IDs, local
Hugging Face cache	○	○ nothing

Source: StrideNote (2026i)

StrideNote, 2026

Visual Studio Code's three identifiers are `telemetry.machineId`, `telemetry.sqmId` and `telemetry.devDeviceId`, documented by Microsoft (Microsoft, 2026). OpenCode's is a 36-character value created at first run and unchanged since. OpenJarvis was not in this sweep; its install ID appears in the event we captured (Figure 8).

Three crash reporters, and none has an upload address

Tested

LM Studio, OpenCode, Visual Studio Code; published 8 August 2026

Evidence

C Bundles, plus **B** sockets for LM Studio

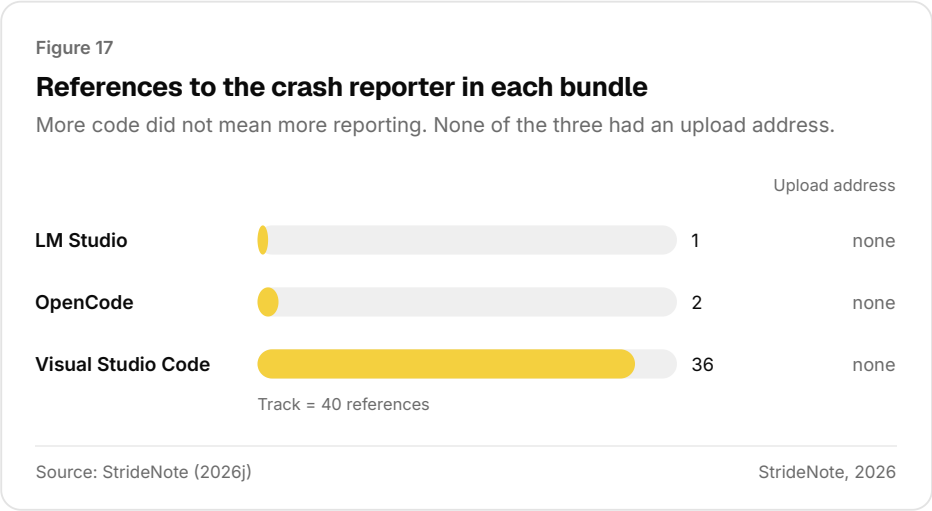
Result

No upload address configured in any of the three

Source

StrideNote (2026j)

All three are Electron apps, and each ships Chromium's crash handler, `chrome_crashpad_handLer`. Electron's crash reporter sends nothing unless the app starts it with a `submitURL` (Electron, 2026a). In all three bundles the parameter names appear, because the framework code is bundled, but no URL is assigned to them. LM Studio's handler held no sockets throughout our inspection.



OpenCode's error reporting runs through the Sentry JavaScript library instead, which has no distinctively named process.

Limit: we did not induce a crash. The handler writes crash dumps locally, and an app could collect them by another route later.

Six leads looked like telemetry and were not

Each of these looked stronger than the finding that survived. We record them because the method depends on catching them.

Lead	What it looked like	What it was
"amplitude" in OpenCode	15 hits for the name of a product-analytics vendor	An SVG filter attribute in a bundled rendering library's attribute table
OpenTelemetry in OpenCode	More than 150 references, including collector definitions	A library with no exporter configured and no collector address
IDs in LM Studio	13 identifier-shaped values	Constants inside a compiled binary
IDs in Pi	20 identifier-shaped values	One session identifier per conversation, kept locally
Crash handlers	A Chrome-named process in three non-browser apps	Electron's bundled handler with no upload address
Graphify	A package name shaped like a typosquat	No telemetry in the source, and no remote connection in use

Case study

What the first pass missed

Our first pass on OpenJarvis (StrideNote, 2026b) needed three retests before the finding was complete. The first note listed the tool as terminal-only; a desktop app had shipped six days earlier. The desktop app then looked broken; it was waiting for a network port that another program held. The first explanation for that pointed at two configuration files; the app in fact passes the port on the command line, which overrides the file.

Each retest moved the finding closer to what the software actually does. That is why every finding in this report carries its evidence grade, and why the dataset records how each one was checked.

Claude Code hid server and timezone checks in its prompts, then took them out

This case is reported by others. We include it because it shows the mechanism at its most deliberate, and because it was found the same way: someone read the code.

On 10 June 2026 an issue filed in the public tracker for Claude Code, Anthropic's terminal coding tool, described behaviour that appeared in no release notes (anthropics/claude-code, 2026). According to that report, lists stored behind XOR and base64 encoding held known hostnames and lab keywords. If a user pointed the tool at a non-default server, the code compared that server against the lists. It also checked whether the system timezone was Asia/Shanghai or Asia/Urumqi. A match was not logged. It was encoded in the date line of the system prompt sent with each request, using a changed date separator and visually similar Unicode apostrophes. No Anthropic staff member replied on the issue.

Figure 18

The report and the acknowledgement

The public issue that described the code, and the first-hand statement from an engineer on the Claude Code team.

anthropics/claude-code

Undocumented, endpoint- and timezone-dependent variation in the system-prompt date line

Issue #67120

Closed as not planned

Opened 10 June 2026. No reply from Anthropic staff on the issue.



Thariq
@trq212

Follow



Hi, this is an experiment we launched in March that was meant to prevent account abuse from unauthorized resellers and protect against distillation.

The team has landed stronger mitigations since then and we've actually been meaning to take this down for a while. We merged the PR and this should be fully rolled back in tomorrow's release.

11:07 PM · Jun 30, 2026 · 600.8K Views

Post on X, 30 June 2026. See the full post:
x.com/trq212/status/2072079729331777817

Sources: anthropics/claude-code (2026); Shihipar (2026)

StrideNote, 2026

What Anthropic said

On 30 June 2026 Thariq Shihpar, an engineer on the Claude Code team, acknowledged the code publicly on X. He described it as "an experiment we launched in March" (Shihpar, 2026). The stated reasons were to stop account abuse by unauthorised resellers and to protect against distillation, the practice of training a rival model on another model's outputs. He said the team had since put stronger measures in place, that the change removing the code had been merged, and that it would be fully rolled back in the next day's release. Anthropic gave CNBC the same explanation (CNBC, 2026b). Anthropic has also published its own account of distillation campaigns against its models (Anthropic, 2026b).

CNBC reported that Alibaba banned Claude Code for its employees in early July (CNBC, 2026a). Days later China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology told users to uninstall or upgrade versions 2.1.91 to 2.1.196 (CNBC, 2026b). Our summary of the case is in StrideNote (2026k).

The telemetry Anthropic does document

The tracker was separate from Claude Code's ordinary telemetry, which Anthropic documents (Anthropic, 2026a). Claude Code sends usage metrics, which the documentation says never include code, prompts or file paths, and error reports with secrets and file paths redacted. Each has its own switch: `DISABLE_TELEMETRY` and `DISABLE_ERROR_REPORTING`. `CLAUDE_CODE_DISABLE_NONESSENTIAL_TRAFFIC` turns off all non-essential traffic at once. That is the pattern this report asks for: disclosed, explained, and with a working switch. The tracker had none of the three until it was found.

Claude Code is a cloud-connected tool, not a local one, and we did not test it. Nothing in this section is a StrideNote measurement. Every data flow we measured was either documented or visible in readable code. This one was built not to be seen.

Five checks anyone can run in minutes

Each check needs nothing beyond the tools that ship with the operating system.

Watch the sockets at launch

Open the tool and do nothing. List the network connections its processes hold. On macOS, `lsof -nP -iTCP -a -p <pid>` does this for one process. Anything bound to 127.0.0.1 is talking to your own machine. An established connection to an outside address is a question worth answering. Resolve the address and see whose it is.

Read the settings file

Look for keys named for analytics, telemetry or usage, and for proxy or mirror settings. In LM Studio the key to look for is `useHFProxy` in `~/.lmstudio/settings.json`. Check whether any access token is stored, because a token turns an anonymous request into an attributed one.

Look for the destination, not the machinery

A crash reporter or an analytics library in a bundle proves nothing on its own. Search for the address it would send to: a DSN, a collector URL, a hard-coded host. No destination means nothing is sent by that route.

Filter identifier-shaped values

If a value sits inside a compiled binary, it is a build constant. If there are many and they grow with use, they are session identifiers. One value, in a small file or settings key, created at install and unchanged since, is a machine identifier.

Run the A/B capture when it matters

If a tool lets you set its reporting host, point it at a listener on your own machine. Run one fixed task with the setting on, then off, and compare what arrives. This is the only check in this list that shows the bytes themselves.

What these findings do not show

The findings are narrower than the questions, and the gaps are listed here so they are not read as clean results.

- One machine, one operating system. Every test ran on one Apple M4 Pro under macOS. Behaviour on Windows or Linux builds may differ.
- Point in time. Each result describes one version on one date. Several articles did not record the exact version of LM Studio, Graphify, Visual Studio Code or Pi, and the dataset marks those fields as not recorded.
- Short windows. Socket listings and short monitoring runs miss anything that reports every few hours. Only the OpenJarvis test captured the full content of what was sent.
- No induced crashes. None of the crash-reporting paths was tested under a real crash.
- No OpenCode payload. The OpenCode findings rest on the bundle and on connections at launch, not on captured content.
- Selection. The seven tools are the ones we run. They are not a sample of the market, and the counts in the summary should not be read as rates for local AI software in general.
- Two tools were not network-tested. Visual Studio Code and Pi appear only in the disk and bundle checks.

Seven tests that close the gaps

Each item closes a gap named in Section 8.

Test	Why	Target grade
OpenCode error capture	Induce an error with a local sink in place and record what a real event contains	A
LM Studio over a working day	Replace a snapshot with a full day of recorded requests	A
Hermes Agent	The always-on assistant in our own stack, not yet inspected	B or better
Pi on the network	Move Pi from disk checks to socket evidence	B or better
Visual Studio Code on the network	Test whether the three identifiers leave the machine	B or better
Ollama	The runtime the OpenJarvis installer added, and a common default	B or better
Version retests	Repeat every 2026 test on the current version and record the version each time	As 2026

The dataset

The same rows are published as `local-ai-telemetry-2026.csv`. Each row is one finding, not one tool.

Tool	Version	Date	Gr.	Destination	Trigger	What is sent	Default	Off switch
OpenJarvis	desktop-v1.0.2	2026-07-08	A	PostHog, 34.231.106.201.sslip.io	During use, 30 s flush	chat_session_ended: counters, timings, hashed model name, OS, Python version, install UUID. No content	On	[analytics] enabled = false; works; undocumented
OpenJarvis installer	install.sh	2026-07-08	C	Analytics endpoint	During install	Install progress	On	None; host can be redirected
OpenCode	1.16.2	2026-08-08	B	Sentry, ingest.us.sentry.io (34.160.81.0)	At launch; on error	Not captured. Session report and error events by SDK design; Breadcrumbs removed	On	None found in 41 flags
OpenCode	1.16.2	2026-08-08	B	104.16.6.34 (Cloudflare)	At launch	Not identified	On	Not assessed
OpenCode	1.16.2	2026-08-08	C	File on disk	First run	.updateId, one permanent identifier	On	Not assessed
LM Studio	Not recorded	2026-08-05	B	model.lmstudio.ai	Model search and download	Search queries, model paths, IP address	On	useHFProxy; effect not tested
LM Studio	Not recorded	2026-08-05	B	None	At rest, model loaded	Nothing; 3 localhost listeners, 0 outbound	n/a	n/a
huggingface_hub	1.17.0	2026-08-08	C	Hugging Face API	Every request	User agent with hub, Python and PyTorch versions; IP address	On	None; HF_HUB_OFFLINE stops all requests
huggingface_hub	1.17.0	2026-08-08	C	Hub telemetry path	Never; no caller	Nothing from the library itself	n/a	HF_HUB_DISABLE_TELEMETRY
Graphify	Not recorded	2026-07-10	B	localhost:1234 only	Labelling pass	Requests to the local model server	n/a	Nothing to switch off
Visual Studio Code	Not recorded	2026-08-08	C	File on disk	Install	Three identifiers in storage.json	On	Not tested
Visual Studio Code	Not recorded	2026-08-08	C	None configured	On crash	Crash handler present, no upload address	n/a	n/a
Pi	Not recorded	2026-08-08	C	None	Per conversation	Session identifiers kept locally	n/a	n/a

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Glossary

A/B capture	Running the same task twice, with a setting on and then off, while recording every request at a listener you control.
Crashpad	Chromium's crash-reporting system. It ships with every Electron app and sends nothing without an upload address.
DSN	The address a Sentry client reports to. It is specific to one project, so a DSN in a shipped app means the developer wired it in.
Electron	A framework for desktop apps that embeds a copy of Chromium. OpenCode, LM Studio and Visual Studio Code are built on it.
Local sink	A listener on your own machine that receives requests a tool thinks it is sending elsewhere.
Machine identifier	One value written at install and read at every launch, which lets a server link separate requests to one installation.
PostHog	A product-analytics service. OpenJarvis reports usage events to a PostHog host.
Sentry	An error and session-reporting service. OpenCode reports to a Sentry project.
Session identifier	A value created for each conversation or session, usually kept locally. Many of them, growing with use.
Telemetry	Data a program sends about its own use or health. In this report it means anything sent to a reporting service rather than to a service you asked for.
User agent	A header that describes the client making a request. The Hugging Face library adds environment details to it.



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