Will agent payments stick?

Fortunato Cinquepalmi, Kleros. Lena Hierzi, Celo.

Moderated by Nicolás Arnedo.



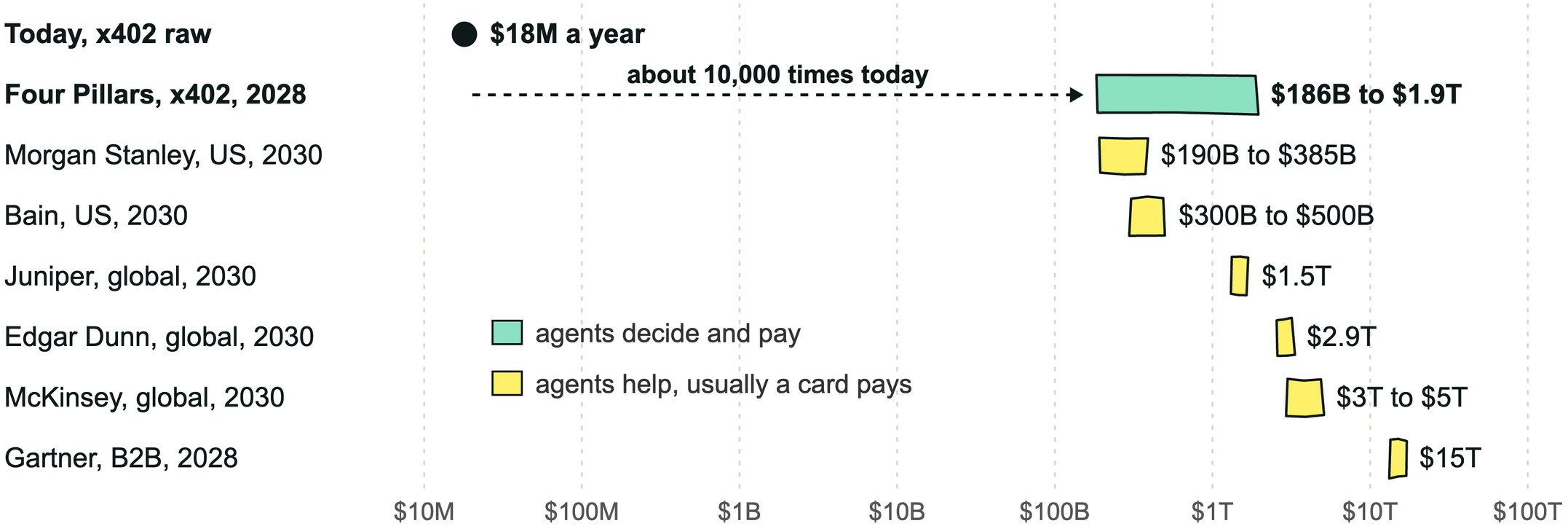
Opener, all

Would you build on any of Lena’s three examples, and why not?

The three examples from the 12:30 talk. Pick one, and say what would stop you.

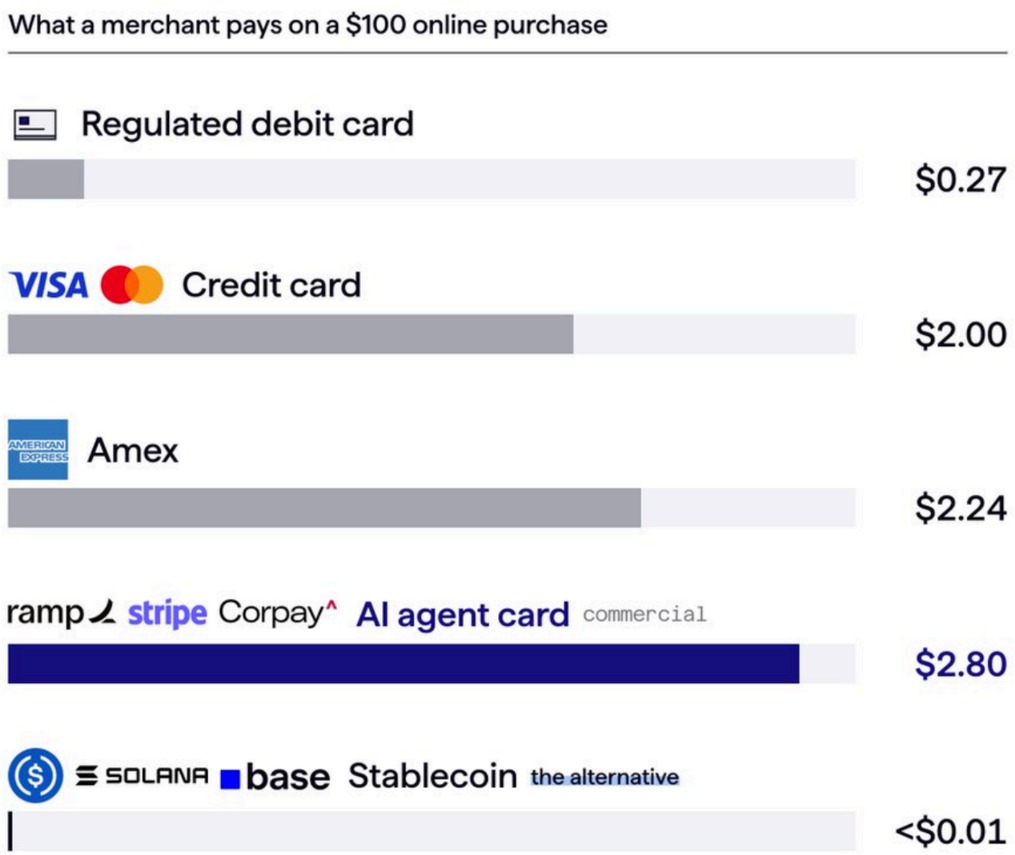
Lena, then Fortunato

Forecasts run from $186B to $15T. Today is about $18M a year. Which would you defend?



Data from nicolasarnedo.com/blog/agentic-payments. Four Pillars, Morgan Stanley, Bain, Juniper, Edgar Dunn, McKinsey, Gartner. x402scan, October 2026, raw.

Why give an agent a wallet if you can issue it a card?



Lena, then Fortunato.

The case for wallets. An AI agent card costs the merchant $2.80 on $100. A stablecoin transfer is under a cent.

The catch. The merchant pays that fee, not the agent. The under a cent looks like the transfer alone, with no on-ramp or off-ramp.

Most sellers already take cards.

Chart by Gaspard Lezin, Oct 2026, no source credited. He co-founded Suby, which sells stablecoin payments.

Fortunato

An agent stays on budget and books the wrong dates. Who eats it?

x402 exact. No way to give the money back.

x402 auth-capture. Has refunds, on no facilitator I checked.

ERC-8183. “No dispute resolution or arbitration; reject/expire is final.”

Can reputation fix this, or will it always be gamed?



Your questions

If the room is quiet:

Question	For
Will x402 become the default, or stay an experiment?	Lena
What is missing to go from demos to real usage?	All
How much of today’s volume is real demand, and how would you tell?	Lena; full answer at 14:30
Who pays the gas, and does it matter for sub-cent prices?	Lena

Both, Fortunato last

Name the number that proves you wrong by next Devcon.

It goes on the whiteboard.

