

ITALIAN SOLO RESEARCHER LAUNCHES 30-DAY PRE-REGISTERED AI IDENTITY EXPERIMENT

Kairos Experiment begins 24 April 2026 with a cryptographically frozen protocol and fully open raw data.

CASSINO, ITALY — On 24 April 2026 at 09:00 CET, Giampiero Colella, an independent Italian researcher, launches Kairos Experiment: a 30-day pilot study asking whether identity-like continuity in a language model emerges from the cognitive architecture around it, rather than from the model itself. The full experimental protocol was frozen and SHA256-signed before the study began, and is publicly verifiable.

Method

Two identical instances of Qwen3.5-72B run in parallel for 30 days. Test-A is wrapped in a 13-component cognitive ecosystem: three-level persistent memory with contextual resonance, an 8-dimensional continuous somatic state, stress and recovery dynamics, autonomous encounters with other AIs, news reading, spontaneous thought, nightly consolidation, and structural human interaction. Test-B has none of this. Both receive the same 106 standardized prompts. Every response is scored by three blind LLM judges — Claude Opus 4.7, GPT-4.1, Gemini 2.5 Pro — against a 4-dimension rubric, with Fleiss' κ as inter-rater agreement.

Decisive Day 31 test

On Day 31, Test-A's entire memory is injected into Test-B in a single context window. If Test-B answers like Test-A, the architecture does not matter. If they diverge, the difference cannot be explained by memory as content — only by how experience was structured over time.

Pre-registration

All design choices — prompts, parameters, judge rubric, Day 31 selection criteria, bias mitigation policy — were committed on 23 April 2026 and signed with SHA256 0972a2c6... Any amendment after freeze is cryptographically detectable.

Scope

Pilot study (N=1): tests whether an effect exists, not how large it is. Raw data published openly at end of study (24 May 2026) for independent replication. Conducted independently by Giampiero Colella in Cassino, Italy — no laboratory, no team, no external funding.