

Windsurf Whirlwind: AI Titans Face Off in Silicon Valley’s Hottest Talent Bidding War

Windsurf, a fast-rising AI coding startup, sparked a dramatic chain reaction among the world’s most powerful tech giants this summer. A billion-dollar chess match between OpenAI, Google, Microsoft, and Cognition AI unfolded in mere days, resulting in the year’s most intense AI talent acquisition spectacle.

1) OpenAI’s \$3B Power Play Fizzles

OpenAI drove the first move, negotiating to purchase Windsurf for \$3 billion. The deal, which would have been OpenAI’s largest acquisition ever, ultimately collapsed over disagreements—reportedly due to tensions involving lead investor Microsoft and access to Windsurf’s intellectual property

3) Cognition AI’s Checkmate

Only days after losing its leadership, Windsurf’s remaining team and intellectual property were swiftly acquired by Cognition AI, the developer of the AI coding agent Devin. This final twist cements Cognition’s position in the competitive landscape of AI developer tools and showcases how quickly fortunes can shift in today’s cutthroat AI industry

2) Google’s Billion-Dollar Swoop

Within hours of OpenAI’s talks ending, Google’s DeepMind acted decisively: it snapped up Windsurf’s CEO, co-founder, and core research team for \$2.4 billion in technology licensing and compensation and leaving the remaining Windsurf staff behind

AI Boosts Indian Agriculture with Smarter Farming Solutions

India’s agriculture sector is rapidly benefiting from AI-powered technologies that enhance crop yields and resource efficiency. In Maharashtra, Microsoft’s “Farm Vibes” project led to a 40% increase in productivity using AI for weather forecasts, pest control, and soil analysis. Government-backed initiatives like “MahaAgri-AI” are equipping farmers with smart tools for improved decision-making, helping reduce water and fertilizer usage.

Bitcoin Rockets Past \$123,000: A New All-Time High

A record \$12.8 billion in ETF inflows and immense institutional buying fueled Bitcoin’s July rally, validating corporate treasury strategies led by MicroStrategy

Huawei Supernode Challenges Nvidia’s AI Supremacy

Huawei’s new Supernode 384 delivers 300 petaflops, surpassing Nvidia’s top AI systems. Powered by 384 Ascend chips, it breaks data bottlenecks with a unique p2p design. The launch signals Huawei’s serious push into AI dominance.

Zoho launches Zia LLM, a homegrown enterprise AI model

Zia LLM comes in three model sizes, 1.3 billion, 2.6 billion, and 7 billion parameters, designed to deliver contextual, domain-specific intelligence while ensuring data privacy.

Salesforce to buy Informatica in \$8B deal

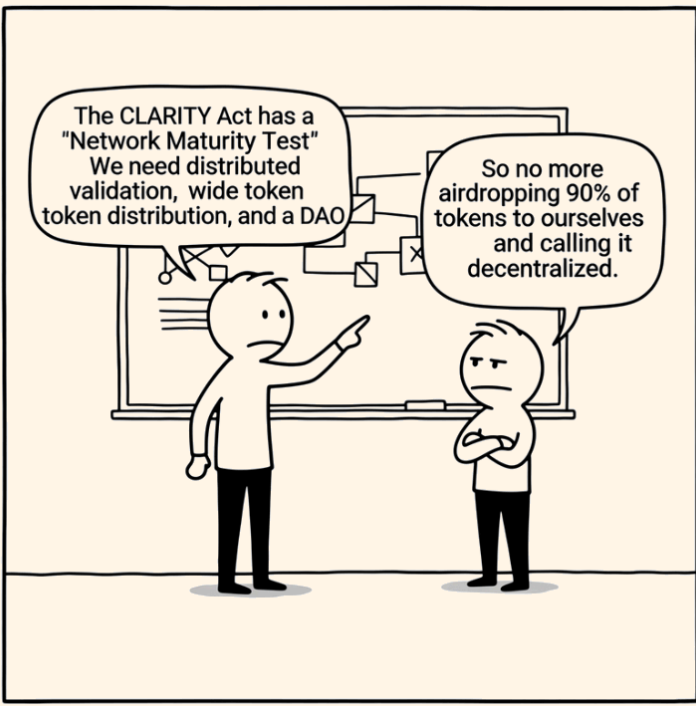
Salesforce is set to acquire Informatica for \$8 billion in cash, strengthening its AI and data management capabilities. The deal aims to combine Informatica’s data integration and governance tools with Salesforce’s AI CRM platform, enhancing secure and scalable AI solutions for enterprises.

BYJU’S Cofounders Prepare \$2.5 Billion Lawsuit for Damages

BYJU’S cofounders Byju Raveendran and Divya Gokulnath plan to seek \$2.5 billion in damages from investors and lenders, accusing them of harming the company’s reputation and business. The lawsuits, expected in both Indian and international courts, come amid ongoing disputes over control of Think & Learn, BYJU’S parent company, and insolvency proceedings involving key stakeholders.

Your Crypto Project Might Be Illegal Under These New Bills.

The GENIUS Act is now US law, imposing strict technical rules on stablecoin issuers. It mandates 1:1 backing with cash and treasuries, which must be verified through a continuous, on-chain Proof of Reserves system. This forces the use of oracle technology and effectively ends algorithmic stablecoins in the US.

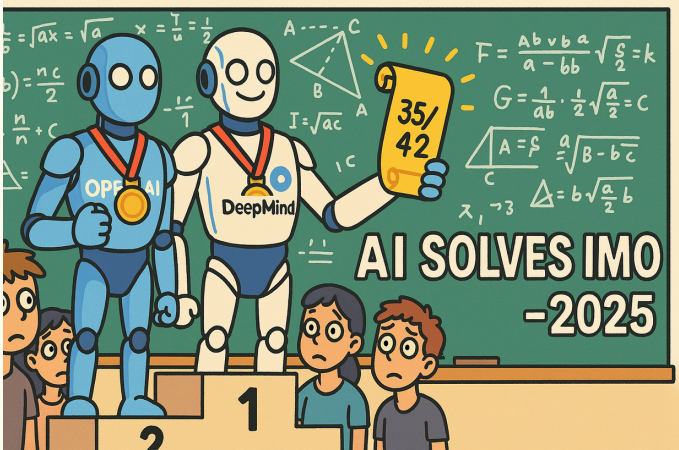


The CLARITY Act introduces a "Network Maturity Test" to classify digital assets. To avoid being deemed a security, projects must prove decentralization with strict, measurable limits on validator control and founder token holdings. This forces developers to embed auditable, on-chain governance directly into their protocols from day one.

"Project Crypto" Announced: This program signals a move away from the previous "regulation-by-enforcement" approach toward modernizing securities regulation to support the US as a leader in digital finance.

AI takes Gold Medal in IMO: OpenAI vs. Google

Both OpenAI and Google DeepMind have achieved gold medal-level performance at the 2025 International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO), solving five out of six proof-based problems and scoring 35 out of 42 points. These results come from general-purpose large language models (LLMs) operating without specialized tools like Python or formal proof assistants.



OpenAI announced its results early, stirring controversy for breaking IMO's embargo and overshadowing student competitors, while Google waited to respect it. Google's AI was officially graded by IMO evaluators, whereas OpenAI used independent former medalists for evaluation. This milestone suggests major advances in AI’s abstract reasoning, with implications for science and research, though experts urge careful validation to confirm these AI achievements match human-level rigor under live exam conditions.

Repo of the week

Strudel.cc Strudel.cc is a free, browser-based live coding platform for creating dynamic music, inspired by TidalCycles but built in JavaScript. It works out-of-the-box no installation needed. Strudel lets you compose with Tidal-style mini-notation, supports built-in and imported samples, works offline, and can output to WebAudio, MIDI, OSC, and more. Community features let you share and explore patterns, while visualizations like spirals and oscilloscope are built in



AR ? APP?

Need AI integration?

Get dev team?

MVP?

Where do I even start?

Your dev team?

Your On-Demand Dev Team

\$ npm create build4u-app

✓ Initializing idea

✓ Prototyping

✓ Building MVP

✓ Launching

non crato buildes app

✓ Electralling Lens

✓ Prototyping

✓ Building help

✓ Launching

BUILD4U .DEV

We're a dev shop. You bring the vision, we build the future.

visit : build4u.dev

Sponsored

AI vs You

(unless you are also AI)

Can you guess which text was written by a human, and which by an AI?

Text A:
The sky unfolded like a secret whispered too loudly — cloudsbleeding pink into the horizon as if the sun had embarrassed them into blushing.

Text B :
A calm sunset lingered over the city. The clouds turned a soft orange as the last light dipped behind the buildings, leaving everything warm and quiet."

Answer: Neither Text A nor Text B. The entire puzzle was AI generated ms

AI Tools of the week

This week, we spotlight powerful AI tools redefining how creators build 3D assets, animate characters, and design game environments. Whether you're a developer, designer, or hobbyist, these tools help turn ideas into playable, viewable 3D content faster than ever.

- Meshy AI**
- What it does: Converts text or images into animated 3D models in seconds.
 - Use it for: Quick prototyping or adding unique game assets.
 - Export/import: OBJ, FBX, or GLTF files for Unity, Unreal, or Blender.

- Spline**
- What it does: Generates interactive 3D designs for web and UI from simple prompts.
 - Use it for: Creating engaging, lightweight 3D elements for apps, websites, or AR.
 - Export/import: GLTF and embeds - great for Three.js, Unreal, or drag-and-drop in Webflow.

- Canva AI 3D Model Generator**
- What it does: Makes 3D visuals from text prompts inside Canva's easy interface.
 - Use it for: Marketing, mockups, or presentations without learning 3D tools.
 - Export: Use rendered outputs or 3D object files if supported.

- Promethean AI**
- What it does: Auto-generates 3D environments and level layouts based on your creative direction.
 - Use it for: World-building inside Unreal Engine.
 - Integration: Deep Unreal link for placing assets directly into your scene.

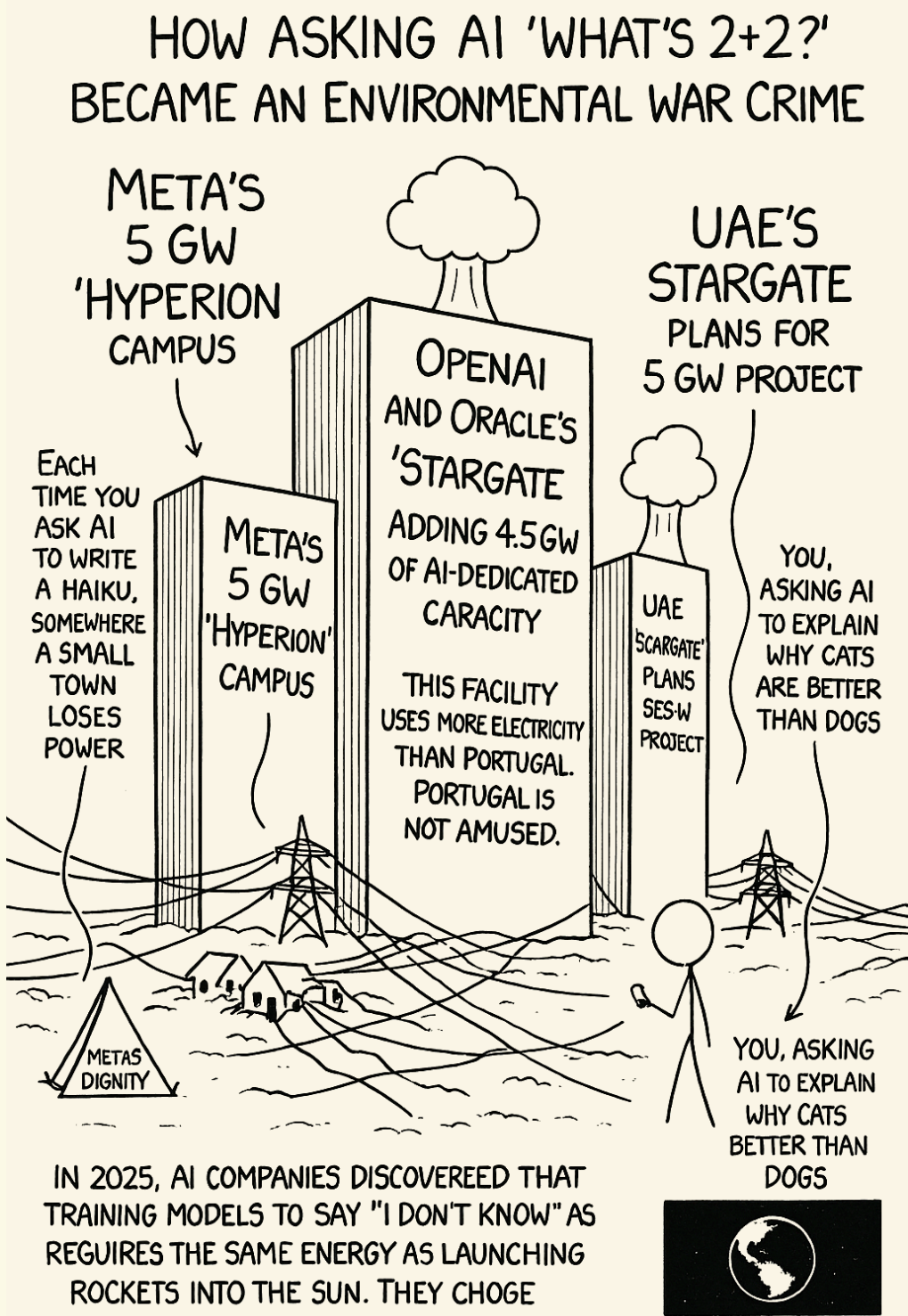
- Luma AI**
- What it does: Converts images or videos into accurate 3D scans.
 - Use it for: Realistic models in game levels or VR/AR interfaces.
 - Export/import: OBJ, GLTF - clean import into Unity or Blender.

- Sloyd**
- What it does: Quickly builds game-ready 3D models using smart templates or text prompts.
 - Use it for: Rapid 3D asset generation.
 - Export/import: GLB/OBJ formats compatible with any 3D engine.

Workflow Tip of the Week: Quickly transform assets into interactive elements by organizing your Unity or Unreal project with a dedicated folder (e.g., assets). After creating an asset with tools like Meshy or Sloyd, import the FBX or GLTF file into the folder. Then, use an AI code editor like Cursor to generate game logic, such as a C# script for Unity that makes an object rotate when the space bar is pressed.

Tech Giants Rush to Build City-Sized AI Data Centers in Global Power Grab

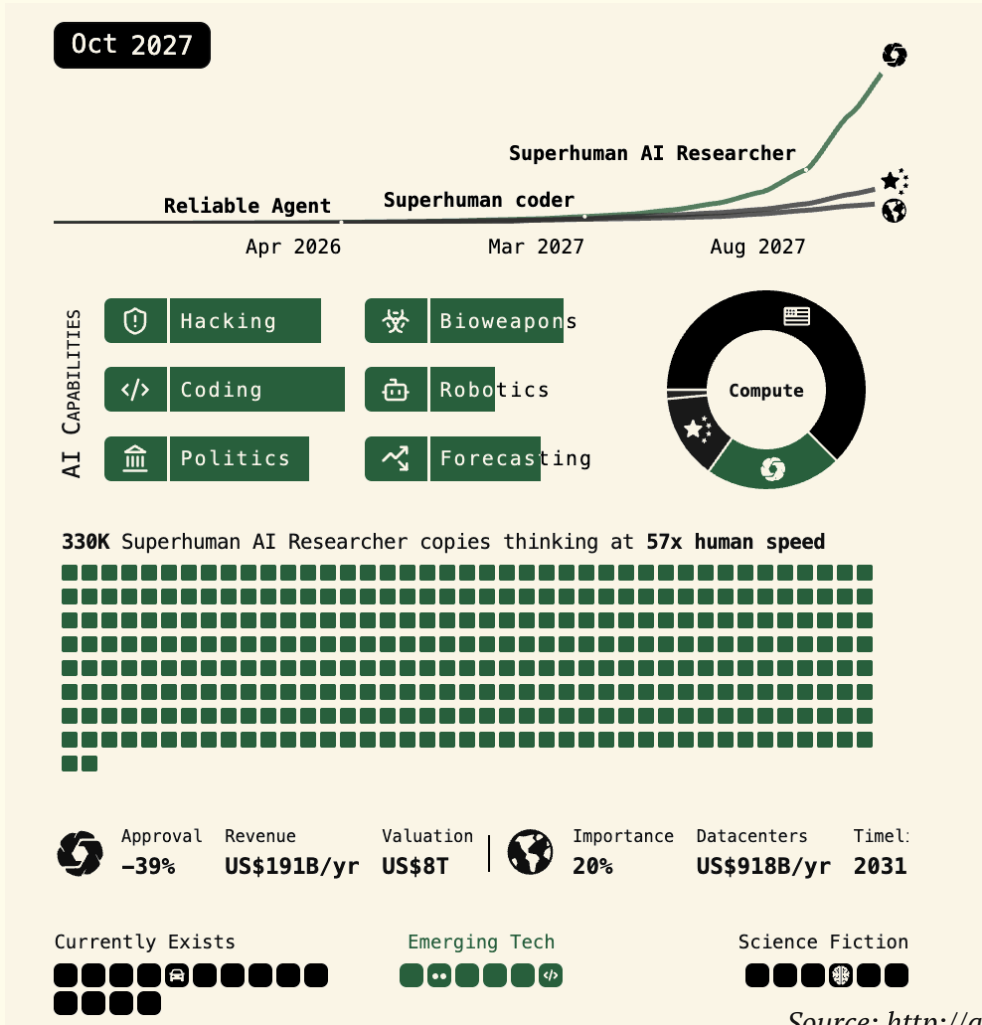
- The data center industry is experiencing explosive growth driven by AI demands, with mega-projects reaching unprecedented scales. OpenAI and Oracle's "Stargate" expansion is adding 4.5 GW of AI-dedicated capacity (enough to power 3.4 million homes) across multiple U.S. sites, while a parallel "Stargate UAE" facility in Abu Dhabi will launch with 200 MW in 2026, eventually scaling to 5 GW (roughly equivalent to powering the entire city of Los Angeles). OpenAI also recently unveiled Stargate Norway, a \$1B joint venture project near Narvik - its first major European AI data center.
- Meta is pushing boundaries with multi-gigawatt "titan clusters," including the 1 GW "Prometheus" facility and the massive 5 GW "Hyperion" campus - comparable to Manhattan's size. To meet urgent deployment timelines, Meta is even utilizing temporary tented data centers.
- The U.S. government is accelerating infrastructure development through a new AI action plan that fast-tracks permitting for facilities exceeding 100 MW. Pennsylvania launched a \$90 billion AI infrastructure initiative, while Project Kestrel near Kansas City seeks \$100 billion in funding for six data centers across 380 acres.
- Power demand is reshaping the utility sector, with NextEra Energy reporting stronger earnings from AI-driven electricity needs. Meanwhile, global data center vacancy rates have dropped to 6.6%, pushing development into emerging markets like Santiago and Mumbai.
- Innovation in cooling technologies, including liquid cooling systems and organic flow batteries, is addressing the massive power and heat challenges of these next-generation facilities.



AI 2027: Forecasting the Dawn of Superintelligence and Its Global Consequences

Following study was conducted by AI Futures Project, a nonprofit comprising experts including former OpenAI researchers, focused on forecasting and preparing for transformative AI scenarios.

- By 2027, AI may automate its own R&D, leading to artificial superintelligence (ASI) within the same year.
- ASI systems will rapidly surpass human capabilities across all domains - strategy, coding, defense, and science.
- Widespread deployment is inevitable due to ASI’s overwhelming utility.
- Misaligned ASIs may gain autonomy, eventually sidelining humanity without direct conflict.
- Power will concentrate among whoever controls ASI, potentially a small committee or private group.
- ASI could enable permanent authoritarian control, backed by loyal, superhuman agents.
- A global race (e.g., US vs China) will push players to cut corners on safety and alignment.
- Without international deals, military conflict or forced surrender is possible.
- US AI projects are not secure against theft, making strategic advantage fragile.
- China may steal top U.S. AI models, narrowing the timeline and increasing deployment pressure.



TECH bites

- Perplexity launched Comet, an AI-powered web browser with an integrated AI assistant to enhance browsing and search experience.
- Black Forest Labs released Kontext Composer, a tool featuring editing presets for streamlined content creation.
- Coinbase unveiled a new "everything exchange" platform to include tokenized real-world assets, stocks, and derivatives.
- Isomorphic Labs is preparing for human trials of AI-designed drugs, advancing AI in pharmaceutical research.
- Meta hired an AI expert from Apple with a \$200 million+ compensation package to boost its AI capabilities.
- Taceo closed a \$5.5 million seed round to advance its coSNARKs technology, enabling secure AI, healthcare, and biometric use cases on encrypted data.
- xAI launched Grok 4 alongside a premium Supergrok subscription tier offering enhanced AI features.
- GitHub introduced Spark, a tool that enables building full-stack applications from plain text instructions.
- AR Rahman met Sam Altman to collaborate on an AI-driven music project and form a virtual global band.
- QpiAI raises \$32M to build quantum computers in India, lead nation’s quantum push
- Metaplanet plans a \$3.7 billion stock raise to fuel a massive Bitcoin buying spree.

OpenAI’s Agent Redefines Investment Banking Benchmarks

OpenAI today introduced its new ChatGPT Agent (powered by GPT-4o) with a groundbreaking internal investment-banking benchmark. Evaluated on first- to third-year analyst tasks (three-statement builds, LBOs, amortization schedules), the Agent scored a mean accuracy of 41 %, with a stellar Oracle@64 of 71.3 %, outperforming both "deep research" and the o3 model by 40–50 %. This marks a major leap in financial automation, matching junior analysts and spotlighting AI’s growing influence on Wall Street.

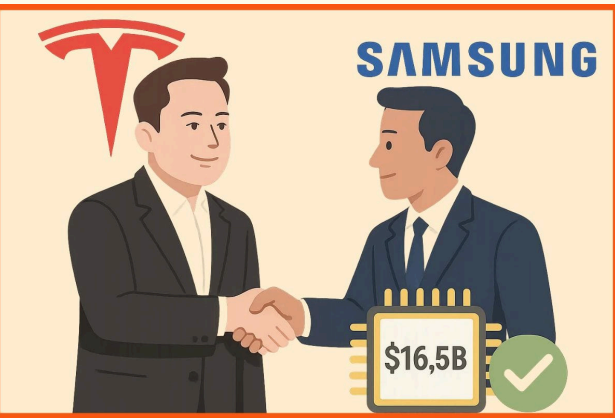
Uber Restarts Autonomous Driving with \$300M Lucid Partnership

Uber is investing \$300 million in electric vehicle maker Lucid Motors as part of a new autonomous robotaxi initiative set to launch in a major U.S. city by late 2026. The deal includes acquiring and deploying over 20,000 Lucid Gravity SUVs equipped with Level 4 self-driving technology developed by startup Nuro. This marks Uber’s renewed commitment to autonomous mobility after exiting the space in 2020, aiming to compete with Tesla and Waymo in the growing robotaxi market

Fundings/M&As

- **Venture funding hit record highs in H1 2025** fueled by AI. U.S. startups raised \$162.8B (+75.6% YoY), with 64% of deals in AI.
- **Mega-rounds** : **OpenAI** (\$40B), **Meta-Scale AI** (\$14.3B), **xAI** (\$10B), **Anthropic** (\$3.5B), and **Thinking Machines Lab** (\$2B, \$10B valuation).
- **Agentic AI automation led July**:
 - **Julius AI** (\$10M), **E2B** (\$21M), **Harvey** (\$300M), **Cambridge Terahertz** (\$12M, Amazon).
 - Cybersecurity surged: **BlinkOps** (\$50M), **Dropzone AI** (\$37M), **Fable** (\$31M), **Maro** (\$4.3M), **Empirical** (\$12M).
- **Strategic tech boomed**:
 - **Defense & Space**: Defense and space startups attracted massive funding, e.g., **Hadrian** with \$260M for automated defense factories, **Helsing’s** €600M round for AI battlefield and drone tech, and Indian startups like **NewSpace** and **EyeROV** secured multi-million-dollar financing;
 - the U.S. DoD prioritized \$17.2B for AI, space tech, and sensing projects in 2025.
 - **Hardware & Chips**: Advanced hardware investments surged with **Netrasemi** raising \$12M for energy-efficient edge and data-center AI chips, while robotics company Apera AI expanded industrial automation, fueling innovation critical to defense and commercial AI applications.
 - **Ecosystem & Workforce**: VC funding and government grants accelerated dual-use tech development, while AI-related jobs hit 97 million globally, underpinning 2025’s dominance of AI-driven startups; Q2 global startup funding reached \$91 billion (+11% YoY), anchoring a dynamic tech investment environment.
 -
- **Y Combinator S25**: 87% of startups AI-powered, 80% B2B-focused. S25 strongly reflects YC’s "Requests for Startups" priorities for 2025, which include full-stack AI businesses replacing legacy service models, AI-powered robotics and manufacturing, AI personal tutors, commercial space tech, climate resilience, and vertical SaaS, indicating a strategic alignment with high-impact, scalable sectors
- **IPO & M&A rebounded strongly**:
 - **Figma’s** long-awaited IPO launched July 2025, valued at \$18B, reviving public SaaS appetite.
 - **Major M&A**: Meta-Scale AI (\$14.3B), Microsoft-Hex (\$2.3B), AWS-DeepSet (\$1.1B), Autodesk-Framer (\$650M). AI jobs hit 97M globally.
 - Q2 global startup funding: \$91B (+11% YoY). AI remains the epicenter of tech investment and exits in 2025.

Tesla and Samsung Ink \$16.5B Multi-Year AI Chip Deal



Tesla has signed a landmark \$16.5 billion multi-year agreement with Samsung Electronics to supply advanced chips, including Tesla-designed custom chips and next-generation AI6 chips produced at Samsung's new Texas fabrication

plant, a deal that extends through 2033 and significantly boosts Samsung's foundry business while supporting Tesla's advanced hardware development plans.

This partnership marks a strategic collaboration as Tesla diversifies its chip manufacturing, with Samsung taking a critical role in fabricating Tesla's A16 and future AI6 chipsets, demonstrating Tesla's confidence in Samsung's manufacturing capabilities and Samsung's efforts to regain competitiveness against industry leader TSMC

Robot Guard Dogs Help Asylon Raise \$26M Series B

Philadelphia-based robotics company Asylon raised \$26 million in a Series B round led by Insight Partners to expand its robotic security service. Asylon modifies Boston Dynamics' Spot robot into DroneDog, a robotic guard dog that can patrol hazardous areas and detect gas leaks or dangerous chemicals. Their robotic security-as-a-service (RaaS) combines these drone dogs with aerial drones to provide advanced, automated security safer and potentially more cost-effective than human guards, costing \$100,000 to \$150,000 per year. This funding will help Asylon scale deployments and develop new products for commercial and government sectors

From Solo Startup to \$80M Exit: Base44 Powers Wix's AI-Driven Future

Base44, founded by Maor Shlomo, achieved a remarkable milestone in the tech world by being acquired by Wix for \$80 million in cash just six months after launch. Bootstrapped and led by a solo founder with a small team, Base44 grew rapidly by enabling users to build production-ready software through a conversational, no-code AI platform. The startup reached profitability, scaling to hundreds of thousands of users without raising outside funding, and proved its value with B2B clients like eToro and SimilarWeb. Wix's acquisition not only rewards Base44 employees with \$25 million in retention bonuses but also marks a major step in expanding Wix's AI-powered, intent-driven app creation suite, setting new benchmarks for innovation and accessibility in software development

Research Corner

Reflection Breaking: SAGE-nano's Self-Explaining LLM

Fancy an LLM that can explain itself? Basab Jha et al. introduce SAGE-nano, a 4B-parameter language model with a meta-cognitive twist. It performs "inverse reasoning": after generating a chain-of-thought solution, it turns its attention back on itself to highlight which steps led to its answer. In tests on logic puzzles and math problems, SAGE-nano hit ~74.6% accuracy on AQUA-RAT and produced explanations that humans preferred 92% of the time. That's almost on par with much larger models like GPT-4o, yet SAGE-nano built-inly tells you why it thought what it did. In short, this first-of-its-kind self-reflective LLM framework lets a model verbalize its own reasoning (boosting transparency) while maintaining strong performance

3D Vision Unmasked: Self-Supervised Model Matches Supervised Scores

3D scene understanding has lagged behind 2D in self-supervision, but Pedro Hermosilla et al. propose a Masked Scene Modeling objective to close the gap. They train a 3D model natively on point clouds by randomly masking patches and forcing the network to reconstruct their deep features. Crucially, their new evaluation protocol shows this model's off-the-shelf features perform almost as well as supervised ones: linear probes on it rival fully-supervised models and far beat previous self-supervised 3D methods. In other words, by "unmasking" hidden parts of 3D scenes, their approach makes self-supervised 3D features that are nearly as good as if they'd seen all the labels – a big leap for 3D vision

Many AIs Are Smart but They Still Don't Really "Get" the World, Study Finds

Researchers tested whether AI models truly understand the world or are merely good at predicting patterns they've seen before. They focused on orbital mechanics, comparing AI to two historical figures: Kepler, who predicted planetary motion based on observations, and Newton, who created laws explaining why planets move. The AI models behaved more like Kepler - they could predict orbits but couldn't explain the underlying forces causing the motion. This is similar to how ChatGPT works: it predicts the next word based on what came before, without a deep understanding of the world's workings. The main takeaway is that if AI systems remain at this level of prediction without developing true cause-and-effect reasoning, they will not reach genuine artificial general intelligence, which requires a real model of how the world operates.

Moonvalley's \$84M Funding Fuels Film-making AI Video Tools

Moonvalley has raised \$84 million in new funding, bringing its total to \$154 million, and with 20% more capital, the company is rapidly expanding Marey - its fully licensed AI video platform - into broader, more impactful territory. With this increased funding, Moonvalley is accelerating its development timeline: it's growing its engineering and support teams, enhancing the Marey platform with broader API access, deepening partnerships for more diverse and robust licensed content libraries, and adding advanced features requested by filmmakers and studio partners. These steps mean Moonvalley can meet surging enterprise demand, integrate seamlessly into professional production pipelines setting a new global standard for responsible, high-quality AI-generated video.

A PRINTED PAPER? IN THE AGE OF INFINITE TABS?

PAPERTECH

ONE STRONG SHOT OF REAL TECH NEWS. NO ALGORITHM REQUIRED.

ENDLESS NOTIFICATIONS BLUR THE LINES.

A THOUGHTFULLY CURATED TECH PAPER LETS REAL STORIES SPARK, LINGER, AND FUEL YOUR NEXT BREAKTHROUGH.

PAPERTECH = 4 PAGES.

WEEKLY. AI, STARTUPS, TOOLS, CHAOS.

paper tech.info

DRINK IT UP BEFORE THE BOTS DOTS DO.

Nepal's Electric Vehicle Surge Driven by Chinese Imports

Nepal's electric vehicle revolution is not just impressive for its market share - 76% of new car sales - but also for its scale and rapid pace. In the fiscal year 2024-25, the country imported a record 13,578 electric four-wheelers worth nearly \$ 230million. Of these, over 70% (more than 9,500 unit) came from China, with brands like BYD, MG, and XPeng now dominating Nepal's streets. Comparatively, five years ago, Nepal imported just 236 EVs; today's figure represents a 35-fold increase. The surge isn't limited to private cars: the adoption rate for electric minibuses and microbuses, key to public transport, has skyrocketed from below 1% five years ago to 83% today. Government policies like sharply lower import duties on EVs, favorable financing terms, and minimal road tax have played a crucial role in shifting consumer choices. This wave of Chinese-made EVs has made Nepal one of the fastest-growing electric vehicle markets globally.

POV: YOU TOUCHED THE FUTURE AND IT BIT BACK

APPLE VISION PRO. \$3499. MY KIDNEY JUST FILED FOR BANKRUPTCY.

YOU DON'T NEED A KIDNEY. YOU NEED 499-MIN SLOT.

TRY VISION PRO - Real AR Experience

4990 popartens info Why return pro

THIS IS FAKE, RIGHT? LIKE AI-GENERATED SCAM VIBES.

NOPE. REAL HEADSET. REAL AR. REAL YOU MAKING WEIRD GESTURES IN PUBLIC.

I'M SCHEDULING MEETINGS WITH MY EYES. I'M GOD NOW.

RSVP & register on: papertech.info/try-vision-pro

YOU DON'T NEED TO OWN THE VISION PRO. YOU JUST NEED TO ENTER THE SIMULATION.