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Department of Data Science

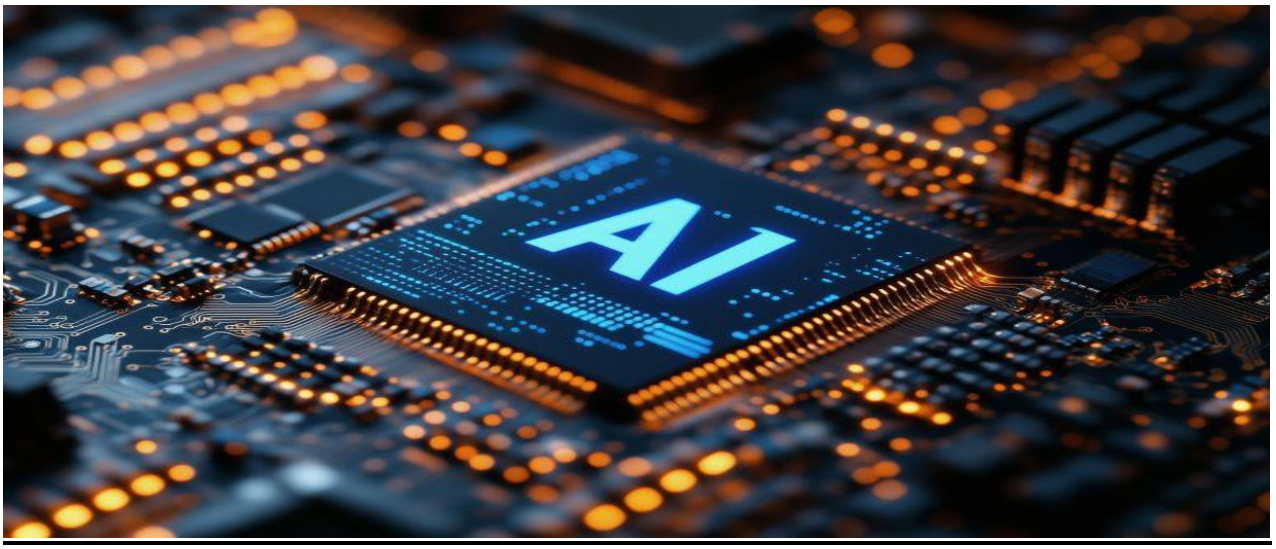
Weekly Data Science Bytes

Robotaxi, Optimus and then hopefully…': Elon Musk on what to expect from Tesla, SpaceX in 2026

- Musk provided a glimpse into what people can expect from his companies in 2026. Musk talked about goals that his companies Tesla and will try to achieve, and what he thinks about manufacturing on moon. According to Musk, 2026 will be the year Tesla aims to achieve the long-promised goal of widespread robotaxis, while SpaceX aims to perfect the spaceflight technology of full reusability. Musk identified two major aims for Tesla in 2026: the commercial rollout of its autonomous fleet and the next generation of its humanoid robot. "Tesla, we should have widespread robotaxi.
- That will be a big thing for Tesla in 2026. Optimus V3 will launch. Then hopefully SpaceX will achieve full reusability with . Those are the it's a pretty giant giant ones," Musk said in a X Spaces conversation this week. Musk also confirmed that 2026 will see "major shipments" via Starship which will primarily be the next generation of Starlink satellites. Elon Musk says manufacturing on Moon will be different Musk's SpaceX is partnering with NASA for upcoming Moon missions. When asked about 'what it's like to manufacture things on the moon because it can make different types of materials that you can't make on Earth', Musk said everything cannot be made on the Moon. "Well, I think the biggest option in the moon is to create is actually make silver cells and radiators.

Source: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/technology/tech-news/robotaxi-optimus-and-then-hopefully-elon-musk-on-what-to-expect-from-tesla-spacex-in-2026/articleshow/126289155.cms

This New 3D Chip Could Shatter the "Memory Wall" Holding Back AI



- Engineers from Stanford University, Carnegie Mellon University, the University of Pennsylvania, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have partnered with SkyWater Technology, the largest U.S.-based pure-play semiconductor foundry, to create a new type of multilayer computer chip. The design points toward major advances in artificial intelligence hardware and strengthens efforts to expand domestic semiconductor manufacturing.
- Unlike conventional 2D chips that spread components across a single flat surface, the new prototype stacks extremely thin layers of circuitry on top of one another. Vertical connections link these layers, allowing data to move quickly between memory and computing elements.

Source: https://scitechdaily.com/this-new-3d-chip-could-shatter-the-memory-wall-holding-back-ai/

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New AI Model Is Shockingly Good at "Reading" Human Minds

A new AI model is demonstrating an unprecedented ability to anticipate human actions by interpreting visual and contextual cues in real time. Rather than simply reacting to movement, the system reasons about what people are likely to do next.

- Researchers from the Texas A&M University College of Engineering and the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology have introduced a new artificial intelligence (AI) system called OmniPredict, designed to improve safety for self-driving cars.
- OmniPredict is the first system to use a Multimodal Large Language Model (MLLM) to forecast how pedestrians may behave. It draws on the same kind of underlying technology used in advanced chatbots and image recognition, but its goal is different. By pairing what it sees with contextual details, the system aims to predict, in real time, what a person is likely to do next.

Source: https://scitechdaily.com/new-ai-model-is-shockingly-good-at-reading-human-minds/

New Augmented Reality Tech Can Turn Any Surface into Keyboard

- Virtual keyboards are a frequent source of frustration for augmented reality (AR) users. The virtual surfaces are slow and error prone, and raising an arm to type on them can cause muscle strain known as "gorilla arm."
- To improve virtual-typing experiences, University of Texas at Dallas researchers have designed a unique interface that allows users to transform everyday objects into typing surfaces within an AR environment.
- The patent-pending technology, called PropType, overlays an augmented keyboard surface onto a handheld object and can adapt to curved surfaces.
- Student researchers have created a video demonstrating PropType being used on surfaces such as water bottles, coffee cups, books and soda cans.

source:https://news.utdallas.edu/science-technology/augmented-reality-tech-keyboard-2025/

India's First Cross-border Remote Robotic Surgeries Performed From Shanghai To Mumbai

- In a groundbreaking leap for surgical innovation and access, Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital has successfully performed India's first international remote robotic surgeries, connecting patients in Mumbai with operating surgeon Dr. T. B. Yuvaraja stationed in Shanghai more than 5,000 kilometres away. The achievement marks the first cross-border clinical application in India of the Toumai Remote Robotic Surgery System following approval by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), setting a new benchmark for telesurgery in the country.

- The milestone procedures involved a robot-assisted radical prostatectomy and a robot-assisted partial nephrectomy, both complex cancer surgeries requiring high precision. Remotely operated using the US FDA Study Approved Toumai platform, the interventions demonstrated the reliability, accuracy and safety of real-time robotic surgery conducted across international borders a feat previously considered futuristic.

Source: https://www.bwhealthcareworld.com/article/india-s-first-cross-border-remote-robotic-surgeries-performed-from-shanghai-to-mumbai-585486

Akshaye Khanna's FA9LA Fever Is Real: Humanoid Robot Dances To Dhurandhar Song At IIT Bombay

- Akshaye Khanna seems to have met his match with his viral entry on the sensational FA9LA song from the blockbuster film, Dhurandhar. At IIT Bombay's Techfest 2025, a humanoid robot has been spotted dancing flawlessly to the hit song and is now going viral.

- Videos of the performance went viral, impressing viewers with its precision and charm. Dhurandhar continues to maintain its craze among Indian audiences and has earned a record-breaking Rs 701 crore India net till December 29, according to industry tracker Sacnilk.

Source: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/technology/tech-news/video-of-robot-dancing-to-this-famous-dhurandhar-track-at-iit-bombay-techfest-goes-viral/articleshow/126255177.cms