
Department of Data Science
Weekly Data Science Bytes

How is the U.S.-China tech war reshaping the future of AI and semiconductors?



The escalating technology conflict between United States and China is rapidly transforming the future of artificial intelligence, semiconductors, global supply chains, and the broader digital economy as the world's two largest powers compete for technological dominance in the twenty first century.

- What began years ago as trade tensions and disputes over intellectual property has evolved into a full scale strategic rivalry centered on advanced chips, artificial intelligence, quantum computing, cybersecurity, cloud infrastructure, telecommunications, and next generation industrial technologies.

Source: <https://news.az/news/how-is-the-us-china-tech-war-reshaping-the-future-of-ai-and-semiconductors>

China's tech companies are looking to rewrite the e-commerce playbook with AI agents



- For years, online shopping in China has followed a rigid, tedious ritual: typing precise keywords, squinting at endless rows of listings, and falling into a rabbit hole of product comparisons.
- But for a man surnamed Liu, a 30-something finance professional based in Hong Kong, that experience has recently evolved into something more akin to a casual conversation. Chatting with Alibaba Group Holding's Qwen artificial intelligence assistant, Liu found that he was being offered a few curated choices rather than just a wall of products.
- “It lowers the decision-making burden,” he said, highlighting the AI assistant’s ability to “refine recommendations through flowing conversation”.

Source: <https://www.scmp.com/tech/tech-trends/article/3353747/chinas-tech-companies-are-looking-rewrite-e-commerce-playbook-ai-agents>

Microsoft team creates ‘revolutionary’ data-storage system that lasts for millennia

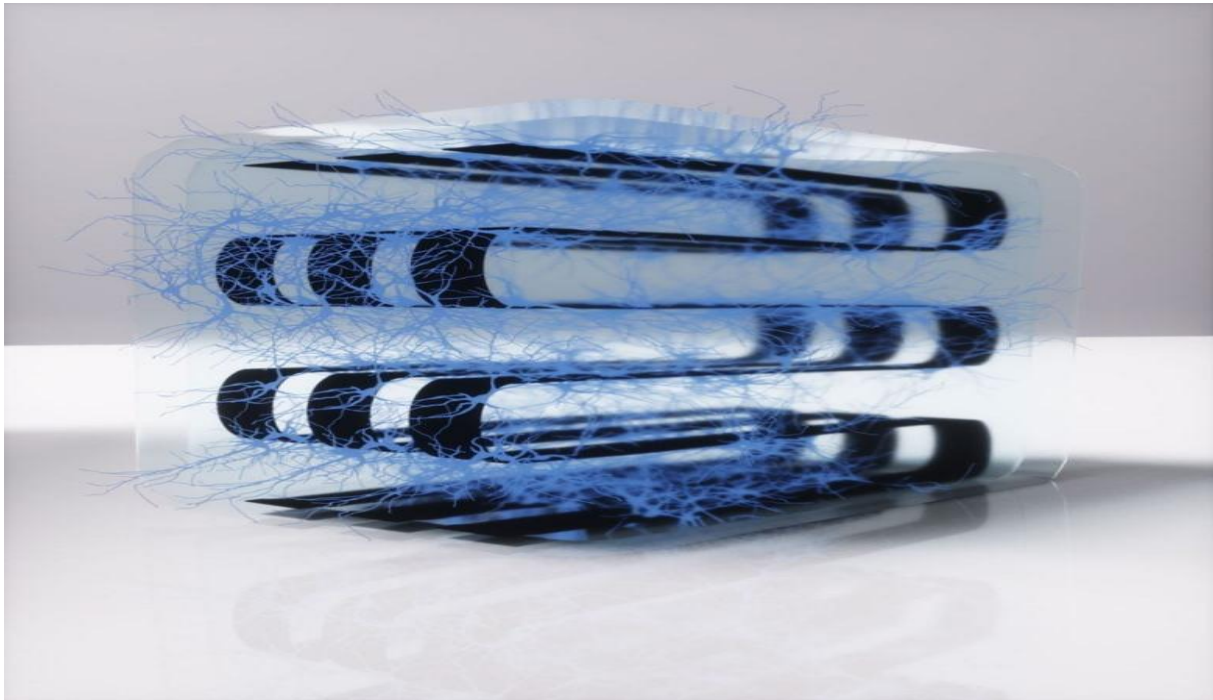
Stone, parchment or laser-written glass? Scientists find new way to preserve data



- Some cultures used stone, others used parchment. Some even, for a time, used floppy disks. Now scientists have come up with a new way to keep archived data safe that, they say, could endure for millennia: laser-writing in glass.
- From personal photos that are kept for a lifetime to business documents, medical information, data for scientific research, national records and heritage data, there is no shortage of information that needs to be preserved for very long periods of time.

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2026/feb/18/scientists-new-way-preserve-data-microsoft>

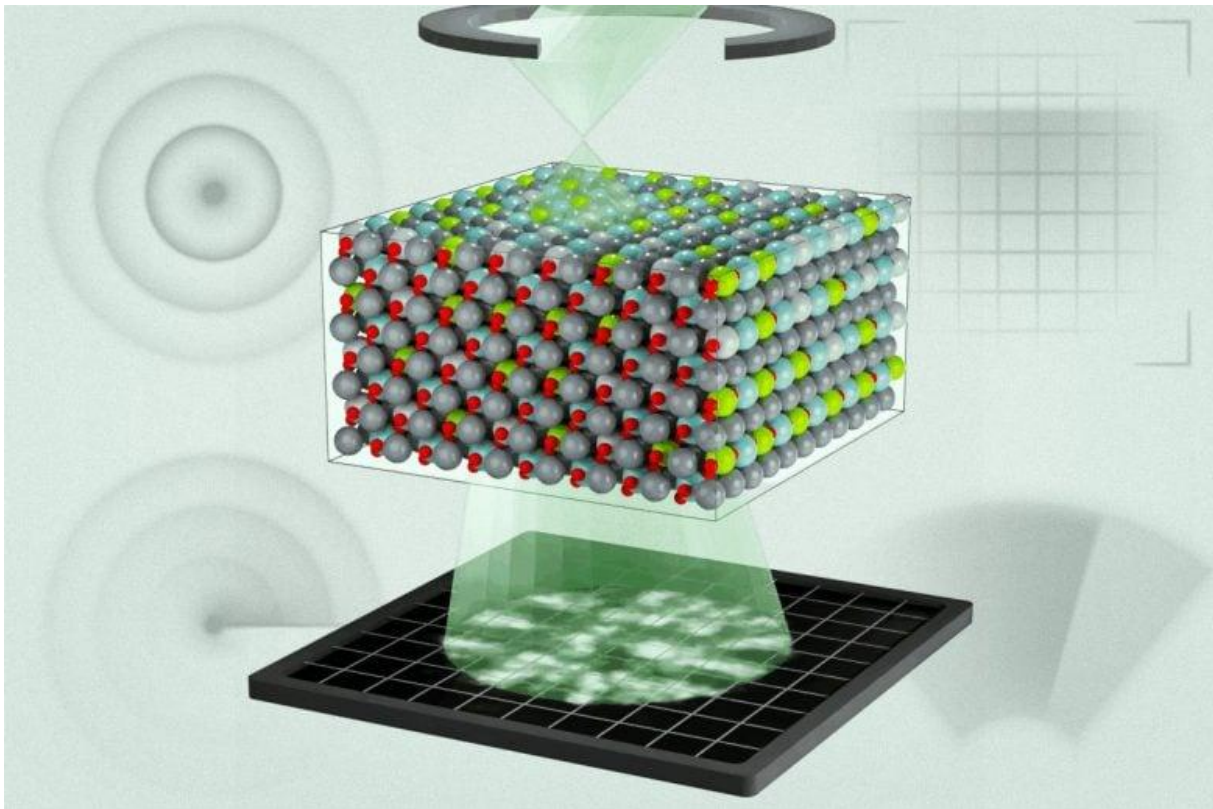
Scientists Build a Living AI Device Using Real Brain Cells



- **A 3D network of living neurons and electronics can recognize electrical patterns and may help researchers study both brain function and low-energy computing.**
- Princeton researchers have built a 3D device that brings living brain cells and advanced electronics together in one system. The device can be programmed with computational methods to recognize patterns.
- Earlier efforts to use brain cells for computation have typically depended on flat 2D cell cultures grown in petri dishes or 3D cell clusters that are monitored and stimulated from the outside. The Princeton system is different because it is designed to interact with the cells from within the network.

Source; <https://scitechdaily.com/scientists-build-a-living-ai-device-using-real-brain-cells/>

After Decades, MIT Researchers Capture the First 3D Atomic View of a Mysterious Material



- Relaxor ferroelectrics have been used for decades in technologies such as ultrasound equipment, microphones, and sonar systems. Their unusual behavior is rooted in their atomic structure, but researchers have long been unable to measure that structure directly.
- A research team from [MIT](#) and other institutions has now mapped the three-dimensional atomic structure of a relaxor ferroelectric for the first time. The results, published in *Science*, could help improve the models used to design future computing, energy, and sensing technologies.

Source: <https://scitechdaily.com/after-decades-mit-researchers-capture-the-first-3d-atomic-view-of-a-mysterious-material/>



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