

♦ DISPATCH 139 • 2026-10-23

The Weight of Quantization, The Power Ledger, and Agent Regression

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“The open-weight releases this week aren't chasing parameter counts anymore. They're chasing efficiency.”

— Seln Oriax, today's narration

We are tracking three quiet shifts in the local evaluation this week. First, open-weight releases are abandoning parameter-count chasing in favor of dense models that actually run on consumer hardware. Second, data center operators are hitting a power wall that forces hard choices between training clusters and inference capacity. Third, tool-use benchmarks show a trade-off: agents are getting better at calling APIs but worse at basic reasoning.

I should note where the edge tests contradict the official summary. The main release notes treat these as isolated updates. Archive records reveal a shared constraint — compute efficiency is no longer just about FLOPs. It is about heat, power allocation, and data composition. I will follow the signal through each item, quote where it matters, and leave the trade-offs on the table.

CHAPTERS

00:00:04 The Local Stack

00:03:23 The Power Ledger

00:07:11 The Agent Trade-Off
