

IMPULSE — May 4, 2026: Ten Billion Miles, Zero Percent China

📌 IMPULSE 2026-05-04

2026-05-04 · 00:22:40

“Ten billion miles is not a safety claim — it is a number Tesla prints because it is allowed to.”

— JONAS VALE, TODAY'S NARRATION

Today on IMPULSE: the White House quietly weighs whether the federal government should vet frontier AI models before they ship; healthcare exchanges in the United States have been caught funneling citizenship and race data to ad tech; Tesla crosses ten billion miles of supervised autonomy without a public safety report; Nvidia's CEO declares the China market effectively closed to US chips; a Harvard study puts a frontier model ahead of emergency room physicians on a small diagnostic battery; IBM publishes a multimodal biological model aimed at drug discovery; and Anthropic's Jack Clark sketches a 2027 timeline for AI systems doing meaningful AI research on their own.

I'm Jonas Vale. This is the day's blast radius, not the day's release notes.

CHAPTERS

00:00:04 Cold open — the week the gatekeepers stirred

00:00:53 The White House thinks about pre-release vetting

00:03:47 Your citizenship status, sold to an ad network

00:06:50 Tesla crosses ten billion miles, alone

00:10:00 Zero percent China

00:13:26 A frontier model walks into an emergency room

00:16:37 A model that reads protein, DNA, and tissue at once

00:19:27 Jack Clark's 2027

CANONICAL

<https://braid.opentangle.com/impulse/episodes/2026-05-04.html>