

♦ DISPATCH 007 · 2026-05-08

The Co-Mathematician, The Economist, And The Watermark

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“Once you accept that agents convert compute into cognitive labor, the price-setter for white-collar wages stops being the labor market and becomes the rental rate of a GPU.”

— Jonas Vale, today's narration

Friday, May 8th. Google DeepMind announces a co-mathematician that scored 48 percent on FrontierMath Tier 4 in autonomous mode, and stands up an AGI Economics team under Shane Legg. Brussels opens its consultation on Article 50 of the AI Act — chatbot disclosure, watermarks, deepfake labeling — with the rules going live August 2nd. A new arXiv paper proposes Compute-Anchored Wages as the theoretical replacement for wage-setting in cognitive labor, while another from the UK AI Safety Institute argues automated alignment is more fragile than its proponents claim. Plus a Yale-Duke rare-disease diagnostic agent reports a 12 to 60 percent improvement over physicians, the FDA hands out its seventh priority voucher, and a causal audit catches Western and Eastern models doing geopolitics through their refusal rates.

Hosted by Jonas Vale.

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00:01:16 DeepMind Builds A Co-Mathematician

00:04:33 DeepMind Hires An Economist

00:07:41 Mollick And The Wage Anchored In Compute

00:11:35 Brussels Asks How To Spot The Bot

00:14:58 An Agent Named Hygieia, And A Voucher For A Bile Duct

00:18:36 Automated Alignment Is Harder Than They Said

00:22:17 Refusal As A Border, And A Camera On Every Corner

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