



# *George Hotz: The Hacker Who Open-Sourced the Future*

**From iPhone jailbreaks to AI frameworks — how one hacker shaped open innovation**

# George Hotz – Geohot

“Curiosity should never be illegal.”

- **Hacker & Entrepreneur**
- **AI & Self-Driving:** Founded Comma.ai and created tinygrad
- **Values: curiosity, independence, and open access to knowledge**



# iPhone Jailbreak at Age 17

- First person to unlock the original iPhone in August 2007
- Allowed the iPhone to be used on networks other than AT&T
- Completed in just 500 hours of work
- Gained international media attention overnight
- Traded his unlocked iPhone to CertiCell for a Nissan 350Z and three new iPhones



# PlayStation 3 Hack (2010)

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- First to jailbreak the PlayStation 3 in January 2010
- Allowed users to run custom firmware and homebrew software
- Sony sued Hotz in 2011
- Case settled out of court with Hotz agreeing not to hack Sony products
- Controversial move that highlighted security vs. user rights debate



# Comma.ai

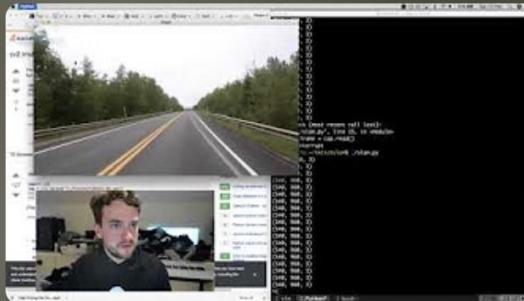
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comma.ai aims to democratize self-driving technology.

- \* Founded in 2015 after leaving Tesla Autopilot
- Created openpilot, an open-source driver-assist system
- Compatible with hundreds of car models (via comma 3X device)
- Community-driven development — users contribute car ports and AI training
- Emphasizes transparency and accessibility in self-driving tech
- Mission statement: “Make driving chill.”
- Example of how open collaboration can rival corporate systems



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# George Hotz programming archive ...

 by george hotz archive

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George Hotz also known as geohot twitch live-stream repository. George started occasionally streaming [...more](#)

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1

## George Hotz | Programming | Refactor twitchslam | Part2

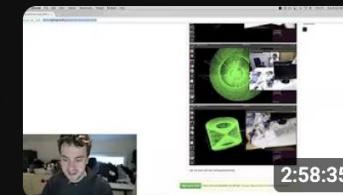
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2

## George Hotz | Programming | Testing twitchslam | Part3

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## George Hotz | Programming | Profiling twitchslam | Part4

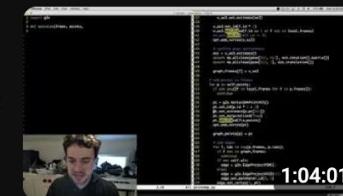
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## George Hotz | Programming | Profiling twitchslam | Part5

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## George Hotz | Programming | Optimize! twitchslam | Part6

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## George Hotz | Programming | Optimize twitchslam | Part7

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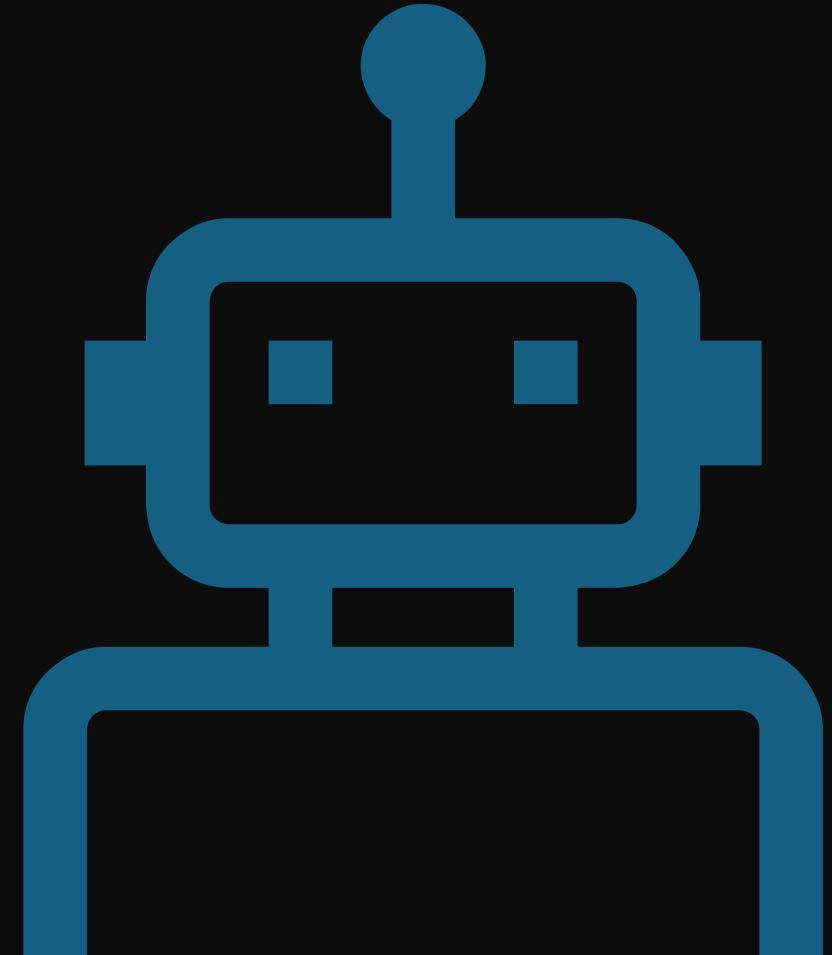
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# tinygrad — Minimal Deep Learning Framework

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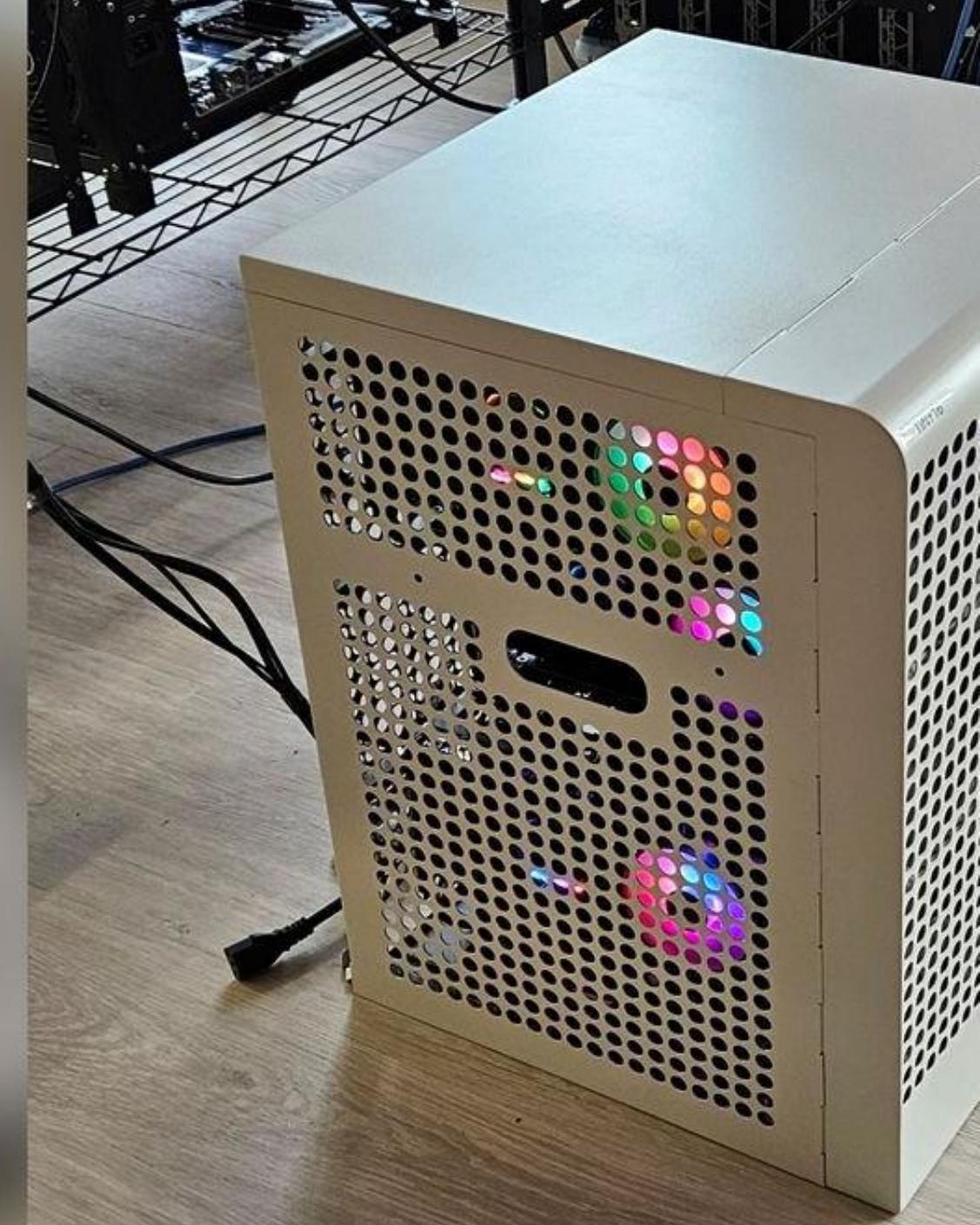
- Launched in **2020** as a tiny alternative to PyTorch
  - Written in **pure Python** — easy to read and modify
  - Focused on **simplicity, transparency, and learning**
  - Powers experiments in **AI, GPU kernels, and compilers**
  - Basis for his company **tinycorp**
  - Demonstrates how small, open projects can rival big frameworks
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# Tinycorp

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- Purpose: Build an open and efficient AI compute stack, both hardware and software
- Core idea: “If we can make hardware and software simple enough, anyone can understand and reproduce modern AI systems.”



# Open source Culture



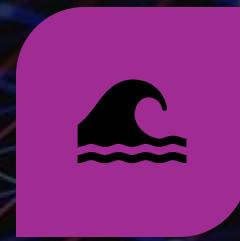
SYMBOL OF  
INDEPENDENT  
INNOVATION



PROMOTES **LEARNING**  
**IN PUBLIC** THROUGH  
LIVE CODING STREAMS



ENCOURAGES  
TRANSPARENCY OVER  
PERFECTION



INSPIRES A NEW WAVE  
OF **OPEN-SOURCE**  
DEVELOPERS



SHOWS THAT **ONE**  
**PERSON** CAN RIVAL BIG  
TECH