

1. The AI Vampire

Source: Simon Willison's Weblog | Published: 2026-02-15T23:59:36+00:00

Link: <https://simonwillison.net/2026/Feb/15/the-ai-vampire/#atom-everything>

The AI Vampire Steve Yegge's take on agent fatigue, and its relationship to burnout. Let's pretend you're the only person at your company using AI. In Scenario A, you decide you're going to impress your employer, and work for 8 hours a day at 10x productivity. You knock it out of the park and make everyone else look terrible by comparison. In that scenario, your employer captures 100% of the value from you adopting AI. You get nothing, or at any rate, it ain't gonna be 9x your salary. And everyone hates you now. And you're exhausted. You're tired, Boss. You got nothing for it. Congrats, you were just drained by a company. I've been drained to the point of burnout several times in my career, even at Google once or twice. But now with AI, it's oh, so much easier. Steve reports needing more sleep due to the cognitive burden involved in agentic engineering, and notes that four hours of agent work a day is a more realistic pace: I've argued that AI has turned us all into Jeff Bezos, by automating the easy work, and leaving us with all the difficult decisions, summaries, and problem-solving. I find that I am only really comfortable working at that pace for short bursts of a few hours on...

2. Em dash

Source: Simon Willison's Weblog | Published: 2026-02-15T21:40:46+00:00

Link: <https://simonwillison.net/2026/Feb/15/em-dashes/#atom-everything>

I'm occasionally accused of using LLMs to write the content on my blog. I don't do that, and I don't think my writing has much of an LLM smell to it... with one notable exception: # Finally, do em dashes s = s . replace (' - ' , u' \u2014 ') That code to add em dashes to my posts dates back to at least 2015 when I ported my blog from an older version of Django (in a long-lost Mercurial repository) and started afresh on GitHub. Tags: generative-ai , typography , blogging , ai , llms , python

3. Deep Blue

Source: Simon Willison's Weblog | Published: 2026-02-15T21:06:44+00:00

Link: <https://simonwillison.net/2026/Feb/15/deep-blue/#atom-everything>

We coined a new term on the Oxide and Friends podcast last month (primary credit to Adam Leventhal) covering the sense of psychological ennui leading into existential dread that many software developers are feeling thanks to the encroachment of generative AI into their field of work. We're calling it Deep Blue . You can listen to it being coined in real time from 47:15 in the episode . I've included a transcript below . Deep Blue is a very real issue. Becoming a professional software engineer is hard . Getting good enough for people to pay you money to write software takes years of dedicated work. The rewards are significant: this is a well compensated career which opens up a lot of great opportunities. It's also a career that's mostly free from gatekeepers and expensive prerequisites. You don't need an expensive degree or accreditation. A laptop, an internet connection and a lot of time and curiosity is enough to get you started. And it rewards the nerds! Spending your teenage years tinkering with computers turned out to be a very smart investment in your future. The idea that this could all be stripped away by a chatbot is deeply upsetting. I've seen signs of Deep Blue in most o...

4. 1.5 TB of VRAM on Mac Studio - RDMA over Thunderbolt 5

Source: Jeff Geerling | Published: Thu, 18 Dec 2025 14:00:33 +0000

Link: <https://www.jeffgeerling.com/blog/2025/15-tb-vram-on-mac-studio-rdma-over-thunderbolt-5/>

Apple gave me access to this Mac Studio cluster to test RDMA over Thunderbolt, a new feature in macOS 26.2 . The easiest way to test it is with Exo 1.0 , an open source private AI clustering tool. RDMA lets the Macs all act like they have one giant pool of RAM, which speeds up things like massive AI models. The stack of Macs I tested, with 1.5 TB of unified memory, costs just shy of \$40,000, and if you're wondering, no I cannot justify spending that much money for this.

Apple loaned the Mac Studios for testing. I also have to thank DeskPi for sending over the 4-post mini rack containing the cluster.

5. CM0 - a new Raspberry Pi you can't buy

Source: Jeff Geerling | Published: Fri, 12 Dec 2025 15:10:22 +0000

Link: <https://www.jeffgeerling.com/blog/2025/cm0-new-raspberry-pi-you-cant-buy/>

This little postage stamp is actually a full Raspberry Pi Zero 2, complete with eMMC storage and WiFi. But you can't get one. Well, not unless you buy the CM0NANO development board from EDAtec , or you live in China. This little guy doesn't have an HDMI port, Ethernet, or even USB. It's a special version of the 'Compute Module' line of boards. Little Raspberry Pi 'System on Modules' (SoMs), they're called.

6. Benchmarking NVENC video transcoding on the Pi

Source: Jeff Geerling | Published: Thu, 11 Dec 2025 22:06:11 +0000

Link: <https://www.jeffgeerling.com/blog/2025/benchmarking-nvenc-video-transcoding-on-pi/>

Now that Nvidia GPUs run on the Raspberry Pi , I've been putting all the ones I own through their paces. Many people have an older Nvidia card (like a 3060) laying around from an upgrade. So could a Pi be suitable for GPU-accelerated video transcoding, either standalone for conversion, or running something like Jellyfin for video library management and streaming? That's what I set out to do, and the first step, besides getting the drivers and CUDA going (see blog post linked above), was to find a way to get a repeatable benchmark going.

7. WorkOS Pipes

Source: Daring Fireball | Published: 2026-02-15T23:39:14Z

Link: https://workos.com/docs/pipes?utm_source=daringfireball&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=q12026&utm_content=no_rebuild

My thanks to WorkOS for sponsoring DF last week. Connecting user accounts to third-party APIs always comes with the same plumbing: OAuth flows, token storage, refresh logic, and provider-specific quirks. WorkOS Pipes removes that overhead. Users connect services like GitHub, Slack, Google, Salesforce, and other supported providers through a drop-in widget. Your back end requests a valid access token from the Pipes API when needed, while Pipes handles credential storage and token refresh. That's it. Simplify your integrations with WorkOS Pipes . ?

8. Joanna Stern Signs Off From The Wall Street Journal

Source: Daring Fireball | Published: 2026-02-15T23:37:04Z

Link: https://www.wsj.com/tech/personal-tech/12-years-consumer-tech-phones-ev-ai-74107804?st=YtTDdM&reflink=desktopwebshare_permalink

Joanna Stern (last week): After 12 years with The Wall Street Journal, this is my final column and video as a full-time employee. I'm off to build something new and independent. I'll still pop up on these pages and at WSJ events from time to time. Can't get rid of me that easily! Before I go, I wanted to reflect on the past dozen years in tech ? in a letter to my first-month-on-the-job self. The video version of her sign-off column is worth it for the Velveeta gag alone. ?

9. Bruce Springsteen: ?Streets of Minneapolis?

Source: Daring Fireball | Published: 2026-01-28T22:53:27Z

Link: <https://brucepringsteen.net/news/2026/streets-of-minneapolis/>

Bruce Springsteen: I wrote this song on Saturday, recorded it yesterday and released it to you today in response to the state terror being visited on the city of Minneapolis. It's dedicated to the people of Minneapolis, our innocent immigrant neighbors and in memory of Alex Patti and Renee Good. Best line from the lyrics: Their claim was self-defense, Just don't believe your eyes. It's our blood and bones and these whistles and phones Against Miller and Noem's dirty lies. Whistles , phones, and birds . ?

10. How To Build A Smartwatch: Picking A Chip

Source: Eric Migicovsky's Blog RSS Feed | Published: Mon, 12 May 2025 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://ericmigi.com/blog/how-to-build-a-smartwatch-picking-a-chip>

Full video of this post is up on my podcast on YouTube! Subscribe on PocketCasts, Spotify, or Apple Podcasts. TLDR: We've selected a chip?

11. My new podcast: Tick Talk + Core 2 Duo demo

Source: Eric Migicovsky's Blog RSS Feed | Published: Thu, 01 May 2025 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://ericmigi.com/blog/i-started-a-podcast-called-tick-talk>

I started a little podcast? And named it something ridiculous - Tick Talk w/ Eric Migicovsky!

We'll see if that name sticks ?. I set up a?

12. Gratitude and FAQ

Source: Eric Migicovsky's Blog RSS Feed | Published: Wed, 26 Mar 2025 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://ericmigi.com/blog/gratitude-and-faq>

Missed the news last week? We announced two new PebbleOS watches - read the announcement post.

Pre-order now at store.rePebble.com! First?

13. AI detection tools cannot prove that text is AI-generated

Source: seangoedecke.com RSS feed | Published: Fri, 05 Dec 2025 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://seangoedecke.com/ai-detection/>

The runaway success of generative AI has spawned a billion-dollar sub-industry of ?AI detection tools?: tools that purport to tell you if a piece of text was written by a human being or generated by an AI tool like ChatGPT. How could that possibly work? I think these tools are both impressive and useful, and will likely get better. However, I am very worried about the general public overestimating how reliable they are. AI detection tools cannot prove that text is AI-generated. Why AI detection is hard My initial reaction when I heard about these tools was ?there?s no way that could ever work?. I think that initial reaction is broadly correct, because the core idea of AI detection tools - that there is an intrinsic difference between human-generated writing and AI-generated writing - is just fundamentally mistaken 0 . Large language models learn from huge training sets of human-written text. They learn to generate text that is as close as possible to the text in their training data. It?s this data that determines the basic ?voice? of an AI model, not anything about the fact that it?s an AI model. A model trained on Shakespeare will sound like Shakespeare, and so on. You could tra...

14. How good engineers write bad code at big companies

Source: seangoedecke.com RSS feed | Published: Sat, 29 Nov 2025 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://seangoedecke.com/bad-code-at-big-companies/>

Every couple of years somebody notices that large tech companies sometimes produce surprisingly sloppy code. If you haven?t worked at a big company, it might be hard to understand how this happens. Big tech companies pay well enough to attract many competent engineers. They move slowly enough that it looks like they?re able to take their time and do solid work. How does bad code happen? Most code changes are made by relative beginners I think the main reason is that big companies are full of engineers working outside their area of expertise . The average big tech employee stays for only a year or two 1 . In fact, big tech compensation packages are typically designed to put a four-year cap on engineer tenure: after four years, the initial share grant is fully vested, causing engineers to take what can be a 50% pay cut. Companies do extend temporary yearly refreshes, but it obviously incentivizes engineers to go find another job where they don?t have to wonder if they?re going to get the other half of their compensation each year. If you count internal mobility, it?s even worse. The longest I have ever stayed on a single team or codebase was three years, near the start of my career....

15. Becoming unblockable

Source: seangoedecke.com RSS feed | Published: Wed, 26 Nov 2025 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://seangoedecke.com/unblockable/>

With enough careful effort, it's possible to become unblockable. In other words, you can put yourself in a position where you're always able to make forward progress on your goals. I wrote about this six months ago in Why strong engineers are rarely blocked , but I wanted to take another crack at it and give some more concrete advice. Work on more than one thing The easiest way to avoid being blocked is to have more than one task on the go. Like a CPU thread, if you're responsible for multiple streams of work, you can deal with one stream getting blocked by rolling onto another one. While one project might be blocked, you are not: you can continue getting stuff done. Because of this, I almost always have more than one task on my plate. However, there's a lot of nuance involved in doing this correctly. The worst thing you can do is to be responsible for two urgent tasks at the same time - no matter how hard you work, one of them will always be making no progress, which is very bad 1 . If you've got too many ongoing tasks at the same time, you also risk overloading yourself if one or two of them suddenly blow out. It's famously hard to scope engineering work. In a single day, you ca...

16. Tagged Union Subsets with Comptime in Zig

Source: Mitchell Hashimoto | Published: Mon, 23 Sep 2024 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://mitchellh.com/writing/zig-comptime-tagged-union-subset>

(No summary)

17. Conditionally Disabling Code with Comptime in Zig

Source: Mitchell Hashimoto | Published: Thu, 12 Sep 2024 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://mitchellh.com/writing/zig-comptime-conditional-disable>

(No summary)

18. Joining Polar as an Advisor

Source: Mitchell Hashimoto | Published: Thu, 04 Apr 2024 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://mitchellh.com/writing/polar>

(No summary)

19. No I don't want to turn on Windows Backup with One Drive

Source: iDiallo.com | Published: Thu, 11 Sep 2025 17:59:44 GMT

Link: <https://idiallo.com/byte-size/say-no-to-onedrive-backup?src=feed>

What are my options here? Inside the "Remind me again in" label are the following options: 1 Week 30 days And when I select one option, what does "No thanks" do? Does it dismiss the box entirely and I never have to see it? Or does it validate the reminder schedule? What if I just don't want OneDrive? Microsoft has embedded it so deep into Windows that there are no easy ways of getting rid of it. I would understand if they had asked me when I set up my machine the first time, but why every single time? This is the illusion of choice. It is "Get it now" or "Get it later". What I'm looking for is the "Get it never option!" Dark patterns at their finest. After I restarted, I got this!

20. A new iPhone, a new Pixel, a new Phone

Source: iDiallo.com | Published: Tue, 09 Sep 2025 21:21:31 GMT

Link: <https://idiallo.com/byte-size/new-iphone-new-pixel?src=feed>

August and September. Google unveiled the Pixel 10 in August. Now it's September, it is Apple's turn with the iPhone 17. These are not commercials. These are productions. Hollywood gloss, cinematic light. Jimmy Fallon laughing on cue. Job titles growing longer by the year. Influencers, celebrities, and everywhere you look: Gemini, Gemini, Gemini. Then Tim Cook, measured, polished. Apple the first, Apple the next. Don't bother with Netflix & Chill. Just tune in to the event with your date. Apple Intelligence, still missing in action. But then, the phone is in your hand. You set it up. You sign in. The apps and data return like old furniture. You try the new camera. Three test shots of your living room. Right then, a notification blinks. Framed by the beautiful liquid glass is a newsletter you never unsubscribed from. Your friend's. It's been years, and they aren't giving up on their recipe website despite Google now conveniently framing it behind AI overview. August is September . You are where you began.

21. And 18 very popular NPM Packages are compromised

Source: iDiallo.com | Published: Mon, 08 Sep 2025 23:50:17 GMT

Link: <https://idiallo.com/byte-size/npm-debug-and-chalk-packages-compromised?src=feed>

On September 8th, 18 npm packages were compromised with malicious code. These packages are very popular. They receive an average of 2 billion downloads every week. If you are not sure whether you are affected, you can run this grep command on your repository to search for the malicious code: grep -r _0x112fa8 . If it returns any results, you are in trouble. It's already concerning that this hack was only possible through social engineering, but it targeted the type of person who would be the most vigilant. This is to say, if maintainers of extremely popular npm packages can fall for phishing, you need to exercise extreme vigilance. But there is also another issue going unnoticed: 2 billion downloads a week. Whenever we run our pipelines, we run npm i or npm ci . This is common practice, and it is also how we end up with compromised code, or broken builds when we know that our pre-build code is safe. Before we build our code, we download all packages from the internet. We place our trust in the package manager and hope for the best. But why do we need to redownload code every single time? Close to a decade ago, the programmer who published the left-pad library on NPM decided to del...

22. A tricky Commodore PET repair: tracking down 6 1/2 bad chips

Source: Ken Shirriff's blog | Published: 2025-04-13T08:45:00.000-07:00

Link: <http://www.righto.com/2025/04/commodore-pet-repair.html>

code {font-size: 100%; font-family: courier, fixed;} mult3 In 1977, Commodore released the PET computer, a quirky home computer that combined the processor, a tiny keyboard, a cassette drive for storage, and a trapezoidal screen in a metal unit. The Commodore PET, the Apple II, and Radio Shack's TRS-80 started the home computer market with ready-to-run computers, systems that were called in retrospect the 1977 Trinity . I did much of my early programming on the PET, so when someone offered me a non-working PET a few years ago, I took it for nostalgic reasons. You'd think that a home computer would be easy to repair, but it turned out to be a challenge. The chips in early PETs are notorious for failures and, sure enough, we found multiple bad chips. Moreover, these RAM and ROM chips were special designs that are mostly unobtainable now. In this post, I'll summarize how we repaired the system, in case it helps anyone else. When I first powered up the computer, I was greeted with a display full of random characters. This was actually reassuring since it showed that most of the computer was working: not just the monitor, but the video RAM, character ROM, system clock, and power supply...

23. Notes on the Pentium's microcode circuitry

Source: Ken Shirriff's blog | Published: 2025-03-31T10:14:00.000-07:00

Link: <http://www.righto.com/2025/03/pentium-microcode-rom-circuitry.html>

Most people think of machine instructions as the fundamental steps that a computer performs. However, many processors have another layer of software underneath: microcode. With microcode, instead of building the processor's control circuitry from complex logic gates, the control logic is implemented with code known as microcode, stored in the microcode ROM. To execute a machine instruction, the computer internally executes several simpler micro-instructions, specified by the microcode. In this post, I examine the microcode ROM in the original Pentium, looking at the low-level circuitry. The photo below shows the Pentium's thumbnail-sized silicon die under a microscope. I've labeled the main functional blocks. The microcode ROM is highlighted at the right. If you look closely, you can see that the microcode ROM consists of two rectangular banks, one above the other. This die photo of the Pentium shows the location of the microcode ROM. Click this image (or any other) for a larger version. The image below shows a closeup of the two microcode ROM banks. Each bank provides 45 bits of output; together they implement a micro-instruction that is 90 bits long. Each bank consists of a grid...

24. A USB interface to the "Mother of All Demos" keyset

Source: Ken Shirriff's blog | Published: 2025-03-23T08:25:00.000-07:00

Link: <http://www.righto.com/2025/03/mother-of-all-demos-usb-keyset-interface.html>

In the early 1960s, Douglas Engelbart started investigating how computers could augment human intelligence: "If, in your office, you as an intellectual worker were supplied with a computer display backed up by a computer that was alive for you all day and was instantly responsive to every action you had, how much value could you derive from that?" Engelbart developed many features of modern computing that we now take for granted: the mouse, 1 hypertext, shared documents, windows, and a graphical user interface. At the 1968 Joint Computer Conference, Engelbart demonstrated these innovations in a groundbreaking presentation, now known as "The Mother of All Demos." The Mother of All Demos .](keyset-video2.jpg "w500") --> The keyset with my prototype USB interface. Engelbart's demo also featured an input device known as the keyset, but unlike his other innovations, the keyset failed to catch on. The 5-finger keyset lets you type without moving your hand, entering characters by pressing multiple keys simultaneously as a chord. Christina Englebart, his daughter, loaned one of Engelbart's keysets to me. I constructed an interface to connect the keyset to USB, so that it can be used with...

25. Heritability puzzlers

Source: DYNOMIGHT | Published: 2025-08-07T00:00:00+00:00

Link: <https://dynamight.net/heritable/>

The heritability wars have been a-raging. Watching these, I couldn't help but notice that there's near-universal confusion about what ?heritable? means. Partly, that's because it's a subtle concept. But it also seems relevant that almost all explanations of heritability are very, very confusing. For example, here's Wikipedia's definition : Any particular phenotype can be modeled as the sum of genetic and environmental effects: Phenotype (P) = Genotype (G) + Environment (E). Likewise the phenotypic variance in the trait ? Var (P) ? is the sum of effects as follows: $\text{Var}(P) = \text{Var}(G) + \text{Var}(E) + 2 \text{Cov}(G, E)$. In a planned experiment $\text{Cov}(G, E)$ can be controlled and held at 0. In this case, heritability, H^2 , is defined as $H^2 = \text{Var}(G) / \text{Var}(P)$. H^2 is the broad-sense heritability. Do you find that helpful? I hope not, because it's a mishmash of undefined terminology, unnecessary equations, and borderline-false statements. If you're in the mood for a mini-polemic: Phenotype (P) is never defined. This is a minor issue, since it just means ?trait?. Genotype (G) is never defined. This is a huge issue, since it's very tricky and heritability makes no sense without i...

26. New colors without shooting lasers into your eyes

Source: DYNOMIGHT | Published: 2025-07-17T00:00:00+00:00

Link: <https://dynamight.net/colors/>

1. Your eyes sense color. They do this because you have three different kinds of cone cells on your retinas, which are sensitive to different wavelengths of light . For whatever reason, evolution decided those wavelengths should be overlapping . For example, M cones are most sensitive to 535 nm light, while L cones are most sensitive to 560 nm light. But M cones are still stimulated quite a lot by 560 nm light?around 80% of maximum. This means you never (normally) get to experience having just one type of cone firing. So what do you do? If you're a quitter, I guess you accept the limits of biology. But if you like fun , then what you do is image people?s retinas, classify individual cones, and then selectively stimulate them using laser pulses, so you aren't limited by stupid cone cells and their stupid blurry responsivity spectra. Fong et al. (2025) choose fun. When they stimulated only M cells? Subjects report that [pure M-cell activation] appears blue-green of unprecedented saturation. If you make people see brand-new colors, you will have my full attention. It doesn't hurt to use lasers. I will read every report from every subject. Do our brains even know how to interpret thes...

27. My 9-week unprocessed food self-experiment

Source: DYNOMIGHT | Published: 2025-07-10T00:00:00+00:00

Link: <https://dynamight.net/unprocessed-food/>

The idea of ?processed food? may simultaneously be the most and least controversial concept in nutrition. So I did a self-experiment alternating between periods of eating whatever and eating only ?minimally processed? food, while tracking my blood sugar, blood pressure, pulse, and weight. The case against processing Carrots and barley and peanuts are ?unprocessed? foods.

Donuts and cola and country-fried steak are ?processed?. It seems like the latter are bad for you. But why? There are several overlapping theories: Maybe unprocessed food contains more ?good? things (nutrients, water, fiber, omega-3 fats) and less ?bad? things (salt, sugar, trans fat, microplastics). Maybe processing (by grinding everything up and removing fiber, etc.) means your body has less time to extract nutrients and gets more dramatic spikes in blood sugar. Maybe capitalism has engineered processed food to be ?hyperpalatable?. Cool Ranch flavored tortilla chips sort of exploit bugs in our brains and are too rewarding for us to deal with. So we eat a lot and get fat. Maybe we feel full based on the amount of food we eat, rather than the number of calories. Potatoes have around 750 calories per kilogram whil...

28. Your feed reader is fetching from a limited network area

Source: Wandering Thoughts: Your feed reader is fetching from a limited network area |

Published: 2026-02-15T03:54:10Z

Link: <https://utcc.utoronto.ca/~cks/cspace-gen-htp429.html>

Your software is blocked from fetching my syndication feeds because it is fetching them from a limited network area, such as large cloud provider networks. Unfortunately as of 2025-11-22, these are being heavily abused by aggressive web crawlers and other automated software. Your software has been redirected to this special single-entry feed so that you can hopefully find out about this and ideally remedy it. Please see my general web page on limited network areas . I am willing to exempt at least some feed readers from this restriction. See the page above for details on how to contact me to arrange this.

29. One Roundtrip Per Navigation

Source: overreacted ? A blog by Dan Abramov | Published: Thu, 29 May 2025 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://overreacted.io/one-roundtrip-per-navigation/>

What do HTML, GraphQL, and RSC have in common?

30. Static as a Server

Source: overreacted ? A blog by Dan Abramov | Published: Thu, 08 May 2025 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://overreacted.io/static-as-a-server/>

You wouldn't download a site.

31. RSC for Astro Developers

Source: overreacted ? A blog by Dan Abramov | Published: Tue, 06 May 2025 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://overreacted.io/rsc-for-astro-developers/>

Islands, but make it fractal.

32. Race between primes of the forms $4k + 1$ and $4k + 3$

Source: John D. Cook | Published: Sun, 15 Feb 2026 19:19:08 +0000

Link: <https://www.johndcook.com/blog/2026/02/15/chebyshev-bias/>

The last few posts have looked at expressing an odd prime p as a sum of two squares. This is possible if and only if p is of the form $4k + 1$. I illustrated an algorithm for finding the squares with $p = 2255 \pm 19$, a prime that is used in cryptography. It is being [?] The post Race between primes of the forms $4k + 1$ and $4k + 3$ first appeared on John D. Cook .

33. Fortunes and Geometric Means

Source: John D. Cook | Published: Sat, 24 Jan 2026 16:56:33 +0000

Link: <https://www.johndcook.com/blog/2026/01/24/geometric-means/>

I saw a post on X recently that said Bill Gates is closer to you in wealth than he is to Elon Musk. Mind blown. For round numbers, let's say Elon Musk's net worth is 800 billion and Bill Gates' net worth is 100 billion. So if your net worth is less 450 billion, the [?] The post Fortunes and Geometric Means first appeared on John D. Cook .

34. Proving you know a product

Source: John D. Cook | Published: Sat, 24 Jan 2026 16:21:32 +0000

Link: <https://www.johndcook.com/blog/2026/01/24/proving-you-know-a-product/>

There is a way to prove that you know two numbers a and b, and their product c = ab, without revealing a, b, or c. This isn't very exciting without more context ? maybe you know that 7 ×3 = 21 ? but it's a building block of more interesting zero knowledge proofs, such as proving that a cryptocurrency transaction [?] The post Proving you know a product first appeared on John D. Cook .

35. Social Media Payments and Perverse Incentives

Source: Terence Eden?s Blog | Published: Sun, 15 Feb 2026 12:34:23 +0000

Link: <https://shkspr.mobi/blog/2026/02/social-media-payments-and-perverse-incentives/>

At the recent "Protocols for Publishers" event, a group of us were talking about news paywalls, social media promotion, and the embarrassment of having to ask for money. What if, we said, you could tip a journalist directly on social media? Or reward your favourite creator without leaving the platform? Or just say thanks by buying someone a pint? Here's a trivial mock-up: Of course, this?

36. Theatre Review: The Hitchhiker?s Guide to The Galaxy - Immersive Experience ?????

Source: Terence Eden?s Blog | Published: Fri, 30 Jan 2026 12:34:41 +0000

Link: <https://shkspr.mobi/blog/2026/01/theatre-review-the-hitchhikers-guide-to-the-galaxy-immersive-experience/>

You've read the books, listened to the original radio performances, re-read the books, worn the t-shirt - and now it is time to be part of The Hitchhiker?s Guide to The Galaxy. *Cue the music from Flight of the Sorcerer* This is a 90-ish minute immersive experience. As well as a full cast of actors and a puppet android, there are ?celebrity? voice cameos. And songs! So many songs! Pre Show ?

37. Book Review: The Players Act 1 by Amy Sparkes ?????

Source: Terence Eden?s Blog | Published: Thu, 29 Jan 2026 12:34:04 +0000

Link: <https://shkspr.mobi/blog/2026/01/book-review-the-players-act-1-byamy-sparkes/>
So! Much! Melodrama! This is a gently funny (and slightly tragic) romp with a band of travelling vagrants actors as they attempt to ply their renditions of Shakespeare to an indifferent 1700ish audience. There's a lot of charm to the characters and the plot is relatively straightforward. The characters are a bit one-note. The baddie never actually twirls his moustache - but you'll instantly?

38. Separating Download from Install in Docker Builds

Source: Andrew Nesbitt | Published: 2026-02-15T00:00:00+00:00

Link: <https://nesbitt.io/2026/02/15/separating-download-from-install-in-docker-builds.html>
Docker layer caching works best when each layer?s inputs are narrow, and a layer that only depends on a lockfile can survive most builds untouched because you're usually changing application code, not dependencies. Most package managers combine downloading and installing into a single command though, so the layer that fetches from the registry also depends on source files, and any source change invalidates the layer and forces every dependency to re-download even when the lockfile is identical to last time. That costs more than build time. crates.io, rubygems.org, and pypi.org all run on bandwidth donated by Fastly, and every redundant download in a Docker build is a cost someone else is volunteering to cover. npm is backed by Microsoft and Go?s module proxy by Google, so they can absorb it, but for the community-funded registries it adds up. It feels instant from the developer?s side, a few seconds of progress bars, so nobody thinks about the hundreds of HTTP requests firing against those services on every build where the lockfile has changed by even one line, or when you're debugging a failed install and rebuilding the same image over and over. If package managers exposed a down...

39. Is Moderate Drinking Okay?

Source: Derek Thompson | The Atlantic | Published: 2025-01-16T07:00:00-05:00

Link: https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2025/01/moderate-drinking-warning-labels-cancer/681322/?utm_source=feed

Here's a simple question: Is moderate drinking okay? Like millions of Americans, I look forward to a glass of wine?sure, occasionally two ?while cooking or eating dinner. I strongly believe that an ice-cold pilsner on a hot summer day is, to paraphrase Benjamin Franklin, suggestive evidence that a divine spirit exists and gets a kick out of seeing us buzzed. But, like most people, I understand that booze isn?t medicine. I don?t consider a bottle of California cabernet to be the equivalent of a liquid statin. Drinking to excess is dangerous for our bodies and those around us. Having more than three or four drinks a night is strongly related to a host of diseases, including liver cirrhosis, and alcohol addiction is a scourge for those genetically predisposed to dependency. If the evidence against heavy drinking is clear, the research on my wine-with-dinner habit is a wasteland of confusion and contradiction. This month, the U.S. surgeon general published a new recommendation that all alcohol come with a warning label indicating it increases the risk of cancer. Around the same time, a meta-analysis published by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine concluded t...

40. The Anti-Social Century

Source: Derek Thompson | The Atlantic | Published: 2025-01-08T06:00:00-05:00

Link: https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2025/02/american-loneliness-personality-politics/681091/?utm_source=feed

Illustrations by Max Guther This article was featured in the One Story to Read Today newsletter. Sign up for it here. The Bar Is Closed A short drive from my home in North Carolina is a small Mexican restaurant, with several tables and four stools at a bar facing the kitchen. On a sweltering afternoon last summer, I walked in with my wife and daughter. The place was empty. But looking closer, I realized that business was booming. The bar was covered with to-go food: nine large brown bags. As we ate our meal, I watched half a dozen people enter the restaurant without sitting down to eat. Each one pushed open the door, walked to the counter, picked up a bag from the bar, and left. In the delicate choreography between kitchen and customer, not a word was exchanged. The space once reserved for that most garrulous social encounter, the bar hangout, had been reconfigured into a silent depot for customers to grab food to eat at home. Until the pandemic, the bar was bustling and popular with regulars. ?It?s just a few seats, but it was a pretty happening place,? Rae Mosher, the restaurant?s general manager, told me. ?I can?t tell you how sad I?ve been about it,? she went on. ?I know it hi...

41. The Most Important Breakthroughs of 2024

Source: Derek Thompson | The Atlantic | Published: 2024-12-29T08:00:00-05:00

Link: https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2024/12/2024-scientific-technological-advancements/681158/?utm_source=feed

This is my third time honoring what I see as the year?s most important scientific and technological advances. In 2022 , my theme was the principle of ?twin ideas,? when similar inventions emerge around the same time. Just as Alexander Graham Bell and Elisha Gray both arguably conceived of the modern telephone in 1876 (and, by some accounts, on the same day!), the U.S. saw a cluster of achievements in generative AI, cancer treatment, and vaccinology. In 2023 , my theme was the long road of progress. My top breakthrough was Casgevy, a gene-editing therapy for patients with sickle-cell anemia. The therapy built on decades of research on CRISPR, an immune defense system borrowed from the world of bacteria. [View: 2024 in photos: Wrapping up the year] This year, my theme is the subtler power of incremental improvement, which has also been a motif of technological progress. Although nothing invented in 2024 rivals the gosh-wow debut of ChatGPT or the discovery of GLP-1 drugs, such as Ozempic, this year witnessed several advancements across medicine, space technology, and AI that extend our knowledge in consequential ways. An Ingenious Defense Against HIV Around the world, 40 million p...

42. I wish your bespoke React-Tailwind-etc static site generator had RSS

Source: Rakhim's blog | Published: Mon, 23 Dec 2024 06:46:26 GMT

Link: <https://rakhim.exotext.com/wish-your-bespoke-site-generator-had-rss>

I discover and curate dozens of blogs every day while working on Minifeed . The blogging is far from dead, there are SO many blogs out there! Sadly, lots of blogs don't have RSS. What's surprising is that the "techiest" of blogs usually don't have RSS. Quite often, I come across a beautiful blog, handcrafter with love by a passionate programmer, usually built with some modern frontend stack like React/Vue/Svelte, with Tailwind or Astro or what have you; there's a complex deployment pipeline with automatic publishing on git commits, some automated intelligent image-optimization CDN integration, client-side search with shortcuts and amazing performance, dark mode... Lots of stuff! But no RSS. Sometimes the blog is not just a handcrafted frontend app, but is the output of a handcrafted static site generator. They who hadn't written their own SSG can cast the first stone! I built multiple, and some of them did not have RSS either. Guilty! But it's hard to justify, as generating an RSS feed is going to be a simple task once you've written the actual HTML generation. It's basically the same, just a different format of XML :) Please, consider adding RSS to your hand-crafted SSG. Other ti...

43. How to build and publish multi-platform Rust binaries via Github actions

Source: Rakhim's blog | Published: Fri, 20 Dec 2024 11:36:20 GMT

Link: <https://rakhim.exotext.com/how-to-build-and-publish-multi-platform-rust-binaries>

While developing Textpod (a simple note-taking app written in Rust), I needed to automate building and publishing on Github. This article (or the corresponding set of YAML-files) describes the setup which performs the following: Build binaries for Windows and Linux Build binaries for x86 Macs (Intel) and ARM Macs (arm64, M-chip) Add the files to the latest Github release, along with checksums Publish to crates.io Build a lean Docker image for amd64 and arm64 platforms Publish Docker images to Docker Hub First, the trigger for these jobs is a release: on: release: types: - created The binaries for Linux and Windows can be built in the same Linux environment, using specific rustup targets: jobs: linux_windows: runs-on: ubuntu-latest steps: - name: Checkout the repository uses: actions/checkout@v2 - name: Install Linux and Windows Cross Compilers run: sudo apt-get install --yes --no-install-recommends musl-tools gcc-mingw-w64-x86-64-win32 - name: Install rustup targets run: rustup target add x86_64-unknown-linux-musl x86_64-pc-windows-gnu - name: Build the executable run: cargo build --release --target x86_64-unknown-linux-musl --target x86_64-pc-windows-gnu - name: Tar x86_64 binar...

44. How do you do, fellow web developers? A growing disconnect.

Source: Rakhim's blog | Published: Thu, 19 Dec 2024 00:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://rakhim.exotext.com/web-developers-a-growing-disconnect>

I had a "woah" moment once when one programmer got genuinely baffled about the fact that a website somehow "erases" the history of requests from the Network tab of Chrome DevTools. He was wondering what magic method was used to hide the communication. He hadn't realized the app was not a single-page JS application (SPA), and he actually wasn't aware there is another way to make web apps. The idea that each click actually makes the browser fetch a completely new page, without any JS involved, was alien to him. I feel a growing disconnect between my notion of programming and the younger web developers' notion of it. I promise, this isn't a get-off-my-lawn post. I'm not that old (right?..), 36 as of today, and have been programming since 11. My first lines of code were written on a 80286 16-bit machine (there weren't too many modern computers in our small town at the time). So, there are full-time developers today who had started their journeys after I had a few years of dabbling in code. There are young devs who were born when I was 18 and had a few part-time jobs done. There's been a lot of talk about modern programmers not knowing how fast computers are (Do you know how much your...

45. Pop goes the...population count?

Source: Matt Godbolt's blog | Published: 2025-12-11T12:00:00Z

Link: http://xania.org/202512/11-pop-goes-the-weasel-er-count?utm_source=feed&utm_medium=rss

Compilers can take advantage of some very specific instructions

46. Unrolling loops

Source: Matt Godbolt's blog | Published: 2025-12-10T12:00:00Z

Link: http://xania.org/202512/10-loop-unrolling?utm_source=feed&utm_medium=rss

Learning when the compiler decides to unroll loops for performance

47. Induction variables and loops

Source: Matt Godbolt's blog | Published: 2025-12-09T12:00:00Z

Link: http://xania.org/202512/09-induction-variables?utm_source=feed&utm_medium=rss

Compilers can rewrite loops to avoid expensive calculations

48. How Bell Labs Won Its First Nobel Prize

Source: Construction Physics | Published: Thu, 18 Dec 2025 13:02:53 GMT

Link: <https://www.construction-physics.com/p/how-bell-labs-won-its-first-nobel>

Bell Labs, as we've noted before, was for years America's premier industrial research lab.

49. Reading List 12/13/2025

Source: Construction Physics | Published: Sat, 13 Dec 2025 13:02:51 GMT

Link: <https://www.construction-physics.com/p/reading-list-12132025>

Boom Supersonic's gas turbine, the reliability of learning curves, a fake bridge collapse, using coal mines for geothermal energy, and more.

50. Stagnant Construction Productivity Is a Worldwide Problem

Source: Construction Physics | Published: Thu, 11 Dec 2025 13:03:08 GMT

Link: <https://www.construction-physics.com/p/stagnant-construction-productivity>

We've spent a lot of time examining the problem of construction productivity in the US ? the fact that, across a variety of different metrics, construction never seems to get any more efficient (in terms of how much output you get for a given amount of input), or any cheaper.

51. You Can Choose Tools That Make You Happy

Source: Fernando Borretti | Published: Tue, 20 May 2025 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://borretti.me/article/you-can-choose-tools-that-make-you-happy>

Stop falsifying your motivations.

52. Two Years of Rust

Source: Fernando Borretti | Published: Tue, 15 Apr 2025 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://borretti.me/article/two-years-of-rust>

Reflections on using Rust professionally for two years.

53. My Backup Infrastructure, 2025 Edition

Source: Fernando Borretti | Published: Sun, 13 Apr 2025 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://borretti.me/article/my-backup-infrastructure-2025-edition>

How I back up my personal data.

54. The empire always falls

Source: Westenberg. | Published: Sun, 15 Feb 2026 04:06:02 GMT

Link: <https://www.joanwestenberg.com/the-empire-always-falls/>

A citizen of Rome in 117 AD, under Emperor Trajan, would've found it difficult to imagine the empire not existing. The roads, the aqueducts, the legal system, the trade networks stretching from Britain to Mesopotamia: all of it seemed to be a near-fact of nature, like gravity // the

55. From where I left

Source: antirez.com | Published: Tue, 10 Dec 2024 17:38:55 +0100

Link: <http://antirez.com/news/144>

I'm not the kind of person that develops a strong attachment to their own work. When I decided to leave Redis, about 1620 days ago (~ 4.44 years), I never looked at the source code, commit

messages, or anything related to Redis again. From time to time, when I needed Redis, I just downloaded it and compiled it. I just typed ?make? and I was very happy to see that, after many years, building Redis was still so simple. My detachment was not the result of me hating my past work. While in the long run my creative work was less and less important and the ?handling the project? activities became more and more substantial ? a shift that many programmers are able to do, but that?s not my bread and butter ? well, I still enjoyed doing Redis stuff when I left. However, I don?t share the vision that most people at my age (I?m 47 now) have: that they are still young. I wanted to do new stuff, especially writing. I wanted to stay more with my family and help my relatives. I definitely needed a break. However, during the ?writing years? (I?m still writing, by the way), I often returned to coding, as a way to take breaks from intense writing sessions (writing is the only mental activity I found...).

56. Playing audio files in a Pi Pico without a DAC

Source: antirez.com | Published: Wed, 06 Mar 2024 11:52:34 +0100

Link: <http://antirez.com/news/143>

The Raspberry Pico is suddenly becoming my preferred chip for embedded development. It is well made, durable hardware, with a ton of features that appear designed with smartness and passion (the state machines driving the GPIOs are a killer feature!). Its main weakness, the lack of connectivity, is now resolved by the W variant. The data sheet is excellent and documents every aspect of the chip. Moreover, it is well supported by MicroPython (which I?m using a lot), and the C SDK environment is decent, even if full of useless complexities like today fashion demands: a cmake build system that in turn generates a Makefile, files to define this and that (used libraries, debug outputs, ?), and in general a huge overkill for the goal of compiling tiny programs for tiny devices. No, it?s worse than that: all this complexity to generate programs for a FIXED hardware with a fixed set of features (if not for the W / non-W variant). Enough with the rant about how much today software sucks, but it must be remembered. One of the cool things one wants to do with an MCU like that, is generating some sound. The most obvious way to do this is using the built-in PWM feature of the chip. The GPIOs c...

57. First Token Cutoff LLM sampling

Source: antirez.com | Published: Fri, 12 Jan 2024 17:49:37 +0100

Link: <http://antirez.com/news/142>

From a theoretical standpoint, the best reply provided by an LLM is obtained by always picking the token associated with the highest probability. This approach makes the LLM output deterministic, which is not a good property for a number of applications. For this reason, in order to balance LLMs creativity while preserving adherence to the context, different sampling algorithms have been proposed in recent years. Today one of the most used ones, more or less the default, is called top-p: it is a form of nucleus sampling where top-scoring tokens are collected up to a total probability sum of ?p?, then random weighted sampling is performed. In this blog post I?ll examine why I believe nucleus sampling may not be the best approach, and will show a simple and understandable alternative in order to avoid the issues of nucleus sampling. The algorithm is yet a work in progress, but by publishing it now I hope to stimulate some discussion / hacking. ## There is some gold in the logits Despite the fact that LLM logits are one of the few completely understandable parts of the LLM inner working, I generally see very little interest in studying their features, investigating more advanced samp...

58. Feynman vs. Computer

Source: Entropic Thoughts | Published: Tue, 02 Dec 2025 00:00:00 +0100

Link: <https://entropicthoughts.com/feynman-vs-computer>

(No summary)

59. Renewing GPG Subkeys in 2025

Source: Entropic Thoughts | Published: Thu, 27 Nov 2025 00:00:00 +0100

Link: <https://entropicthoughts.com/renewing-gpg-subkeys-in-2025>

(No summary)

60. Software Never Fails

Source: Entropic Thoughts | Published: Tue, 25 Nov 2025 00:00:00 +0100

Link: <https://entropichthoughts.com/software-never-fails>

(No summary)

61. Mark V. Shaney Junior 0.1.0

Source: Susam Pal | Published: Fri, 12 Dec 2025 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://susam.net/code/news/mvs/0.1.0.html>

Mark V. Shaney Junior is a minimal implementation of a Markov gibberish generator inspired by the legendary Mark V. Shaney program from the 1980s. Mark V. Shaney was a synthetic Usenet user in the 1980s that posted messages to newsgroups using text generated by a Markov chain program. See the Wikipedia article Mark V. Shaney for more details. This release introduces the program mvs.py that implements a similar Markov text generator. It reads a text corpus of text from standard input, build an internal Markov model and then generate text using the model. Please visit github.com/susam/mvs for the source code and some output examples. Read on website | #python | #programming | #technology

62. Fizz Buzz in CSS

Source: Susam Pal | Published: Sat, 06 Dec 2025 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://susam.net/fizz-buzz-in-css.html>

How many CSS selectors and declarations do we need to produce the Fizz Buzz sequence? Of course we could do this with no CSS at all simply by placing the entire sequence as text in the HTML body. So to make the problem precise as well as to keep it interesting, we require that all text that appears in the Fizz Buzz sequence comes directly from the CSS. Placing any part of the output numbers or words outside the stylesheet is not allowed. JavaScript is not allowed either. With these constraints, I think we need at least four CSS selectors along with four declarations to solve this puzzle, as shown below:

```
li { counter-increment: n }
li:not(:nth-child(5n))::before { content: counter(n) }
li:nth-child(3n)::before { content: "Fizz" }
li:nth-child(5n)::after { content: "Buzz" }
```

Here is a complete working example: css-fizz-buzz.html. The above solution contains four CSS rules with one selector and one declaration in each rule. For example, li { counter-increment: n } is one rule consisting of the selector li and the declaration counter-increment: n . Seasoned code golfers looking for a challenge can probably shrink this solution further. A common trick to solve this problem is to use an...

63. CSS Fizz Buzz with Ordered List

Source: Susam Pal | Published: Fri, 05 Dec 2025 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://susam.net/code/web/css-fizz-buzz-ol.html>

A version of my CSS Fizz Buzz that uses ordered list () to reduce code. However, I don't quite like how misaligned the numbers and the words look. Correcting that would call for extra code that would cancel out the bytes saved. Read on website | #web

64. Cost of Housing

Source: the singularity is nearer | Published: 2026-02-16T00:00:00+08:00

Link: <https://geohot.github.io/blog/jekyll/update/2026/02/16/cost-of-housing.html>

Many people in America are complaining about the cost of housing. But do they understand the damage it will do if it prices go down? Everyone who owns a house will suffer. Some of those people don't even fully own the house, they have a mortgage. So when prices go down, they will be underwater, having put money for years into an asset that now has no value. It's simply out of the question for housing prices to go down. If you want to buy a house to live in, sorry.

The boomers were told houses are appreciating assets, and now we must bend reality to make that true. Until you solve this problem, you will never solve the housing affordability crisis. It has nothing to do with zoning, building costs, or environmental reviews. It has to do with people holding bags they need to dump on you.

65. Crazy New Ideas

Source: Paul Graham: Essays | Published: -

Link: <http://www.paulgraham.com/newideas.html>

(No summary)

66. An NFT That Saves Lives

Source: Paul Graham: Essays | Published: -

Link: <http://www.paulgraham.com/nft.html>

(No summary)

67. The Real Reason to End the Death Penalty

Source: Paul Graham: Essays | Published: -

Link: <http://www.paulgraham.com/real.html>

(No summary)

68. Andrej Karpathy ? AGI is still a decade away

Source: Dwarkesh Podcast | Published: Fri, 17 Oct 2025 16:54:33 GMT

Link: <https://www.dwarkesh.com/p/andrej-karpathy>

"The problems are tractable, but they're still difficult?

69. Nick Lane ? Life as we know it is chemically inevitable

Source: Dwarkesh Podcast | Published: Fri, 10 Oct 2025 15:29:40 GMT

Link: <https://www.dwarkesh.com/p/nick-lane>

Life is continuous with Earth's geochemistry

70. Some thoughts on the Sutton interview

Source: Dwarkesh Podcast | Published: Sat, 04 Oct 2025 17:45:00 GMT

Link: <https://www.dwarkesh.com/p/thoughts-on-sutton>

I have a much better understanding of Sutton's vision now

71. Logical Duals in Software Engineering

Source: Computer Things | Published: Wed, 27 Aug 2025 19:25:32 +0000

Link: <https://buttondown.com/hillelwayne/archive/logical-duals-in-software-engineering/>

(Last week's newsletter took too long and I'm way behind on Logic for Programmers revisions so short one this time. 1) In classical logic, two operators F/G are duals if $F(x) = \neg G(\neg x)$.

Three examples: $x \vee y$ is the same as $\neg(\neg x \wedge \neg y)$. $\neg\neg P$ ("P is possibly true") is the same as

$\neg\neg\neg P$ ("not P isn't definitely true"). some x in set: $P(x)$ is the same as $\neg(\forall x \in \text{set} : \neg P(x))$

$\neg\neg P(x)$. (1) is just a version of De Morgan's Law, which we regularly use to simplify boolean expressions. (2) is important in modal logic but has niche applications in software

engineering, mostly in how it powers various formal methods. 2 The real interesting one is (3), the "quantifier duals". We use lots of software tools to either find a value satisfying P or

check that all values satisfy P . And by duality, any tool that does one can do the other, by seeing if it fails to find/check $\neg P$. Some examples in the wild: Z3 is used to solve

mathematical constraints, like "find x , where $f(x) \geq 0$. If I want to prove a property like "f

is always positive", I ask z3 to solve "find x , where $\neg(f(x) \geq 0)$, and see if that is

unsatisfiable. This use case powers a LOT of theorem provers and formal verification tooling.

Pro...

72. Sapir-Whorf does not apply to Programming Languages

Source: Computer Things | Published: Thu, 21 Aug 2025 13:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://buttondown.com/hillelwayne/archive/sapir-whorf-does-not-apply-to-programming/>

This one is a hot mess but it's too late in the week to start over. Oh well! Someone recognized me at last week's Chipy and asked for my opinion on Sapir-Whorf hypothesis in programming languages. I thought this was interesting enough to make a newsletter. First what it is, then

why it looks like it applies, and then why it doesn't apply after all. The Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis We dissect nature along lines laid down by our native language. ? Whorf To quote from a Linguistics book I've read , the hypothesis is that "an individual's fundamental perception of reality is moulded by the language they speak." As a massive oversimplification, if English did not have a word for "rebellion", we would not be able to conceive of rebellion. This view, now called Linguistic Determinism , is mostly rejected by modern linguists. The "weak" form of SWH is that the language we speak influences, but does not decide our cognition. For example , Russian has distinct words for "light blue" and "dark blue", so can discriminate between "light blue" and "dark blue" shades faster than they can discriminate two "light blue" shades. English does not have distinct words, so we discriminate those at the same sp...

73. Software books I wish I could read

Source: Computer Things | Published: Wed, 06 Aug 2025 13:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://buttondown.com/hillelwayne/archive/software-books-i-wish-i-could-read/>

New Logic for Programmers Release! v0.11 is now available ! This is over 20% longer than v0.10, with a new chapter on code proofs, three chapter overhauls, and more! Full release notes here . Software books I wish I could read I'm writing Logic for Programmers because it's a book I wanted to have ten years ago. I had to learn everything in it the hard way, which is why I'm ensuring that everybody else can learn it the easy way. Books occupy a sort of weird niche in software. We're great at sharing information via blogs and git repos and entire websites. These have many benefits over books: they're free, they're easily accessible, they can be updated quickly, they can even be interactive. But no blog post has influenced me as profoundly as Data and Reality or Making Software . There is no blog or talk about debugging as good as the Debugging book. It might not be anything deeper than "people spend more time per word on writing books than blog posts". I dunno. So here are some other books I wish I could read. I don't think any of them exist yet but it's a big world out there. Also while they're probably best as books, a website or a series of blog posts would be ok too. Everything a...

74. sorry for the rss screwup

Source: the website of jyn | Published: 2025-07-06T00:00:00+00:00

Link: <https://jyn.dev/sorry-for-the-rss-screwup/>

a couple days ago i pushed about 10 empty posts at once to everyone subscribed to my RSS feed. oops. sorry about that. i've since fixed it, but most RSS readers i've seen will cache the posts indefinitely once they're published. the workaround for my own client was to delete my page and then readd it, which will unfortunately discard all your read/unread state. the reason this happened is that i added a new kind of "stub" post, and handled that correctly on the main site, but not on the rss feed. you can see the intended layout of the stub posts here if you're interested.

75. operators, not users and programmers

Source: the website of jyn | Published: 2025-07-05T00:00:00+00:00

Link: <https://jyn.dev/operators-not-users-and-programmers/>

writing programs should be no harder than writing a resume

76. completed and orthogonal persistence

Source: the website of jyn | Published: 2025-06-30T00:00:00+00:00

Link: <https://jyn.dev/completed-and-orthogonal-persistence/>

how hard is it to save and restore program state?

77. Hideki Sato has died

Source: Old Vintage Computing Research | Published: 2026-02-15T08:57:00.000-08:00

Link: <https://oldvcr.blogspot.com/2026/02/hideki-sato-has-died.html>

Remember when Sega made consoles? Hideki Sato remembered, because he was involved in or designed all of them ? from the 1982 SG-1000 under Sega Enterprises Ltd. president Hayao Nakayama, later reworked as the SC-3000 home computer , to of course the extremely popular Mega

Drive/Genesis and the technologically overwrought Saturn, to the flawed but ahead-of-its-time 1999 Dreamcast , the very last console the company released to date and one of my favourite machines. Joining Sega in 1971, he later became acting president from 2001 to 2003, and finally retired from Sega in 2008. I can think of no better summation of his career than his own , a detailed retrospective on each machine translated from the Japanese. He passed away this weekend at the age of 77 (X.com link). Rest in peace.

78. A real PowerBook: the Macintosh Application Environment on a PA-RISC laptop

Source: Old Vintage Computing Research | Published: 2025-08-02T23:36:00.000-07:00

Link: <https://oldvcr.blogspot.com/2025/08/a-real-powerbook-macintosh-application.html>

I like the Power ISA very much, but there's nothing architecturally obvious to say that the next natural step from the Motorola 68000 family must be to PowerPC. For example, the Palm OS moved from the DragonBall to ARM , and it's not necessarily a well-known fact that the successor to Commodore's 68K Amigas was intended to be based on PA-RISC, Hewlett-Packard's "Precision Architecture" processor family. (That was the Hombre chipset , and prototype chips existed prior to Commodore's demise in 1994, though controversy swirled regarding backwards compatibility.) Sure, Apple and Motorola were two-thirds of the AIM alliance, and there were several PowerPC PowerBooks available when the fall of 1997 rolled around. But what if the next PowerBooks had been based on PA-RISC instead? Well, no need to strain yourself imagining it. Here's nearly as close as you're gonna get. In October 1997 you could have bought a PowerBook 3400c running up to a 240MHz PowerPC 603e for \$6500 [about \$13,000 in 2025 dollars], which was briefly billed as the world's fastest laptop, or you could have bought this monster new to the market, the RDI PrecisionBook running up to a 160MHz (later 180MHz) PA-7300LC starti...

79. So I saw this headline

Source: Old Vintage Computing Research | Published: 2025-07-28T17:57:00.000-07:00

Link: <https://oldvcr.blogspot.com/2025/07/so-i-saw-this-headline.html>

... and the first thing I thought reading it was, "Is he Deommodore 64?" (No, unfortunately, Deommodore Lenoir's jersey number is 2 , and I'm not even a 49ers fan.)

80. How Michael Abrash doubled Quake framerate

Source: Fabien Sanglard | Published: 14 Feb 2026 00:00:00 +0000

Link: https://fabiensanglard.net/quake_asm_optimizations/index.html

(No summary)

81. Inside the Super Nintendo cartridges

Source: Fabien Sanglard | Published: 21 Apr 2024 00:00:00 +0000

Link: https://fabiensanglard.net/snes_carts/index.html

(No summary)

82. The evolution of the Super Nintendo motherboard

Source: Fabien Sanglard | Published: 8 Apr 2024 00:00:00 +0000

Link: https://fabiensanglard.net/snes_mobos/index.html

(No summary)

83. The History of R2E and the Micral

Source: Abort Retry Fail | Published: Mon, 05 May 2025 00:10:53 GMT

Link: <https://www.abortretry.fail/p/the-history-of-r2e-and-the-micral>

The second personal computer

84. Intel: Stumbling in the Spotlight

Source: Abort Retry Fail | Published: Sat, 26 Apr 2025 21:13:26 GMT

Link: <https://www.abortretry.fail/p/intel-stumbling-in-the-spotlight>

Shrinking nodes and shrinking profits

85. Intel: Winning and Losing

Source: Abort Retry Fail | Published: Sun, 06 Apr 2025 20:47:16 GMT

Link: <https://www.abortretry.fail/p/intel-winning-and-losing>

Idling at a Zenith

86. Rust

Source: Chad Nauseam Home | Published: -

Link: <https://chadnauseam.com/reference/Rust>

(No summary)

87. writing-advice

Source: Chad Nauseam Home | Published: -

Link: <https://chadnauseam.com/advice/writing-advice>

(No summary)

88. cool-stickers

Source: Chad Nauseam Home | Published: -

Link: <https://chadnauseam.com/random/cool/cool-stickers>

(No summary)

89. Computing ? with Chudnovsky and GMP

Source: Beej's Bit Bucket | Published: Sat, 14 Apr 2012 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <http://beej.us/blog/data/pi-chudnovsky-gmp/>

Crank out as many digits of ? as you desire! Limited only by your imagination! Crank out your own modest ? in the browser, too! (Limited by 64-bit IEEE-754.)

90. Object Pools

Source: Beej's Bit Bucket | Published: Sun, 01 Apr 2012 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <http://beej.us/blog/data/object-pool/>

Featuring goats!

91. Image Processing Convolutions

Source: Beej's Bit Bucket | Published: Sat, 24 Mar 2012 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <http://beej.us/blog/data/convolution-image-processing/>

How to use convolution matrices for common image filters.

92. Make Your Own Internet Presence with NetBSD and a 1 euro VPS ? Part 1: Your Blog

Source: IT Notes | Published: Tue, 22 Apr 2025 07:30:36 +0200

Link: <https://it-notes.dragas.net/2025/04/22/make-your-own-internet-presence-with-netbsd-and-a-1-euro-vps-part-1-your-blog/>

Create a personal blog with NetBSD on a 1? VPS - efficient, secure, and completely under your control. Minimal cost, maximum performance. Because your thoughts don't need to float in someone else's cloud.

93. Launching BSSG - My Journey from Dynamic CMS to Bash Static Site Generator

Source: IT Notes | Published: Mon, 07 Apr 2025 08:11:36 +0200

Link: <https://it-notes.dragas.net/2025/04/07/launching-bssg-my-journey-from-dynamic-cms-to-bash-static-site-generator/>

Announcing the public release of BSSG, a Bash Static Site Generator born from a personal journey away from complex dynamic CMS. Discover a simple, portable alternative for your blog.

94. OSDay 2025 - Why Choose to Use the BSDs in 2025

Source: IT Notes | Published: Sun, 23 Mar 2025 10:30:00 +0100

Link: <https://it-notes.dragas.net/2025/03/23/osday-2025-why-choose-bsd-in-2025/>

The slides, the notes, and the text behind my presentation at OSDay 2025 in Florence, Italy -

'Why Choose to Use the BSDs in 2025.

95. Why We Don't Use AI

Source: Dr Paris Buttfield-Addison | Published: Tue, 13 Jan 2026 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://hey.paris/posts/yarn-spinner-no-ai/>

My company Yarn Spinner published a post today explaining why we don't use AI and won't be adding it to our products. The TL;DR: AI companies make tools for hurting people and we don't want to support that. From the post: If you look at what AI companies promote now, it's not what we wanted. When you boil down everything they say and strip it right back, what they make are tools to either fire people or demand more work without hiring anyone new to help. That's the problem AI companies want to solve.

96. Australia's AI Safety Institute: Lessons from the UK and US

Source: Dr Paris Buttfield-Addison | Published: Wed, 07 Jan 2026 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://hey.paris/posts/aisi-international-comparison/>

Related: This article examines what Australia can learn from international AI safety institutes. For analysis of the Commonwealth's AI governance failures, see Slop for the People . For state-level AI governance, see State of Play: How Australian States Are (Not) Governing AI . On 25 November 2025, Minister for Industry and Innovation Tim Ayres announced the establishment of the Australian AI Safety Institute (AISI) . With a \$29.9 million commitment and operations commencing ?early 2026?, Australia will become the latest nation to join the International Network of AI Safety Institutes .

97. We released Yarn Spinner 3.1

Source: Dr Paris Buttfield-Addison | Published: Wed, 17 Dec 2025 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://hey.paris/posts/yarnspinner31/>

We released Yarn Spinner 3.1 on December 3, 2025, introducing several significant improvements to our dialogue system framework. This update emphasises asynchronous operations, graceful error handling, and enhanced customisation options. Key Features Async Dialogue Runner Methods ? The dialogue runner's core methods now support asynchronous operations. The StartDialogue and Stop methods are now async and return a task. This ensures that dialogue presenters complete their initialisation before scene changes occur.

98. How the U.S. Became A Science Superpower

Source: Steve Blank | Published: Tue, 15 Apr 2025 13:00:52 +0000

Link: <https://steveblank.com/2025/04/15/how-the-u-s-became-a-science-superpower/>

Prior to WWII the U.S was a distant second in science and engineering. By the time the war was over, U.S. science and engineering had blown past the British, and led the world for 85 years. It happened because two very different people were the science advisors to their nation's leaders. Each had radically different [?]

99. Quantum Computing ? An Update

Source: Steve Blank | Published: Tue, 22 Oct 2024 13:00:16 +0000

Link: <https://steveblank.com/2024/10/22/quantum-computing-an-update/>

In March 2022 I wrote a description of the Quantum Technology Ecosystem. I thought this would be a good time to check in on the progress of building a quantum computer and explain more of the basics. Just as a reminder, Quantum technologies are used in three very different and distinct markets: Quantum Computing, Quantum [?]

100. How Saboteurs Threaten Innovation?and What to Do About It

Source: Steve Blank | Published: Tue, 08 Oct 2024 14:25:00 +0000

Link:

<https://steveblank.com/2024/10/08/how-saboteurs-threaten-innovation-and-what-to-do-about-it/>

This article first appeared in First Round Review. ?Only the Paranoid Survive? Andy Grove ?

Intel CEO 1987-1998 I just had an urgent ?can we meet today?? coffee with Rohan, an ex-student.

His three-year-old startup had been slapped with a notice of patent infringement from a Fortune 500 company. ?My lawyers said defending this suit could [?]

101. Sample Blog Editing Notes

Source: Refactoring English | Published: Mon, 01 Jan 0001 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://refactoringenglish.com/services/blog-editing/sample-future-of-git/>

The notes below are my blog editing notes for the first draft of Tyler Cipriani?s article, ?The future of large files in Git is Git.? I worked with Tyler to: Reach a clearer understanding of his target audience Focus the post on practical lessons the reader can apply Find a structure that feels clear and intuitive Tyler?s finished article enjoyed a strongly positive reception: Reached the #1 position on Hacker News with 550+ upvotes Reached the #1 position on Lobsters Reached the #1 position on the /r/git subreddit What?s working well Broadly relevant topic I love the topic because it?s relevant to a large number of developers, especially on places like Hacker News.

102. XTC discusses Basecamp's Shape-Up

Source: Tom Renner on My place to put things | Published: Sat, 22 Feb 2020 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://tomrenner.com/posts/xtc-basecamp-shape-up/>

Last week I facilitated a session at XTC , where we discussed the new product development framework from Basecamp, Shape Up , led by Thomas Ankorn . It was a really interesting discussion with people exploring the ideas openly, guided by questions posed by Thomas to get the conversation started. I?ve summarised the points that came up in the discussion, reconstructed from memory and the collected post-its of scribbles at the end of the evening. 1. What problems does this solve? We started by looking at the positives of the framework, trying to identify strengths that would help mitigate problems we have encountered in our own teams.

103. The Temple of Fail

Source: Tom Renner on My place to put things | Published: Mon, 25 Nov 2019 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://tomrenner.com/posts/temple-of-fail/>

DISCLAIMER: This was not my idea - I picked it up from Jane Nicholson at an XTC event, who was introduced to it by Jess Gilbert (who in turn, I am told, got it from someone else). This post is just explaining why I believe it can be a useful exercise, not any truly original thinking! One of the things that is really important to me is that my team and I keep learning at work. As such, fostering a learning environment is kinda key. I think we do that pretty well at Haplo ? we have hired nearly exclusively early-career developers to our tech team for several years now, and one of the key points most hires mention as to why they join is that they feel it?s a good place to learn quickly, with the requisite support early on in their career.

104. "Efficiency" is bad for your health, and your learning

Source: Tom Renner on My place to put things | Published: Mon, 10 Jun 2019 00:00:00 +0000

Link: <https://tomrenner.com/posts/efficiency-is-bad-for-your-health/>

I used to stress a lot about the ?efficiency? of how I was using up all the minutes in my day. I?d to cram in as much as possible into time. eg. read on a 10 minute train, write code in the half hour before bed, etc. While I stressed about it a lot, I never found that I did the ?10x? things I read about that were supposed to emerge as a result of this extra ?efficiency?. For example I have only finished one of the three side projects I started in 2016, despite promising myself that those wouldn?t take long.

105. Has the cost of building software just dropped 90%?

Source: Martin Alderson | Published: Mon, 08 Dec 2025 00:00:00 GMT

Link: https://martinalderson.com/posts/has-the-cost-of-software-just-dropped-90-percent/?utm_source=rss

Agentic coding tools are dramatically reducing software development costs. Here's why 2026 is going to catch a lot of people off guard.

106. Are we in a GPT-4-style leap that evals can't see?

Source: Martin Alderson | Published: Sun, 30 Nov 2025 00:00:00 GMT

Link: https://martinalderson.com/posts/are-we-in-a-gpt4-style-leap-that-evals-cant-see/?utm_source=rss

Gemini 3 Pro's design capabilities and Opus 4.5's reduced babysitting needs represent a subtle but significant leap that traditional benchmarks completely miss.

107. I Finally Found a Use for IPv6

Source: Martin Alderson | Published: Tue, 25 Nov 2025 00:00:00 GMT

Link: https://martinalderson.com/posts/i-finally-found-a-use-for-ipv6/?utm_source=rss

Using IPv6 with Cloudflare to run multiple services on a single server without a reverse proxy

108. Underrated ideas in psychology, vol. III

Source: Experimental History | Published: Tue, 01 Jul 2025 13:09:21 GMT

Link: <https://www.experimental-history.com/p/underrated-ideas-in-psychology-vol>

OR: farewell, Disco Duck

109. Face it: you're a crazy person

Source: Experimental History | Published: Tue, 24 Jun 2025 12:12:10 GMT

Link: <https://www.experimental-history.com/p/face-it-youre-a-crazy-person>

OR: why your brain needs a boxcutter

110. Three Dumb Studies for your consideration

Source: Experimental History | Published: Tue, 10 Jun 2025 12:11:22 GMT

Link: <https://www.experimental-history.com/p/three-dumb-studies-for-your-consideration>

OR: sugar daddy salt bae

111. Bureaulogy

Source: Grant Slatton's Blog | Published: Sat, 21 Dec 2024 08:26:17 +0000

Link: <https://grantslatton.com/bureaulogy>

The study of bureaucracy

112. A peasant's plight

Source: Grant Slatton's Blog | Published: Thu, 14 Nov 2024 05:41:21 +0000

Link: <https://grantslatton.com/peasants-plight>

On the shackling of the peasantry

113. Every Man his own API

Source: Grant Slatton's Blog | Published: Sat, 9 Nov 2024 17:55:36 +0000

Link: <https://grantslatton.com/personal-api>

A sociotechnological trend

114. Restzetels en voorkeursstemmen

Source: Bert Hubert's writings | Published: Tue, 28 Oct 2025 16:16:22 +0100

Link: <https://berthub.eu/articles/posts/restzetels-en-voorkeursstemmen/>

Vanaf een afstandje lijken dingen soms makkelijk. Maar van dichtbij valt het dan vaak tegen, met name als het goed gedaan moet worden. Zoals verkiezingen. Ik hou het in dit artikel begrijpelijk en gebruik niet exact de woorden uit de kieswet. Ondanks dat ik weleens adviseer bij het bureau van de Kiesraad is dit allemaal gehobby van mij persoonlijk. Verder probeer ik hier een heldere uitleg te geven die niet opgaat voor absurde situaties, zoals dat alle stemmen op 1 partij zijn, of dat een partij niet genoeg kandidaten heeft ingeleverd etc.

115. Cloud Kootwijk: Alles hangt af van de verkiezingen

Source: Bert Hubert's writings | Published: Fri, 24 Oct 2025 12:30:54 +0200

Link: <https://berthub.eu/articles/posts/cloud-kootwijk-verkiezingen/>

Na enige tijd weer een update: hoe gaat het met Cloud Kootwijk? En wat heeft dat met de verkiezingen te maken? tl;dr: Er zijn mensen op ministeries hard aan het schrijven over een Rijkscloud (hulde!), maar er is geen geld. De politiek heeft er ondertussen ook geen aandacht voor, en de politieke partijen hebben hun succesvolle digitale kandidaten veelal op onverkiesbare plekken gezet. Als we niet opletten is er in de nieuwe Tweede Kamer ook geen aandacht meer voor Cloud Kootwijk.

116. The AI-collapse pre-mortem

Source: Bert Hubert's writings | Published: Thu, 16 Oct 2025 09:20:31 +0200

Link: <https://berthub.eu/articles/posts/an-ai-premortem/>

An essential part of being able to say ?I told you so? is in fact having told you so. Here goes. In April 2023, I wrote an article titled AI: Guaranteed to disrupt our economies. In this piece I also announced I was going to make a fool of myself by making some AI predictions. I have singularly failed to do so. In retrospect this was all spot on, except for perhaps missing the sheer magnitude of the madness that was about to ensue.

117. How to Safely Change the Argument Signature of a Sidekiq Job

Source: Keygen Blog | Published: Fri, 28 Jan 2022 06:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://keygen.sh/blog/how-to-change-the-signature-of-a-sidekiq-job/>

Learn how to safely change a Sidekiq job's argument signature.

118. How to Use Hexadecimal Ed25519 Public Keys in Node.js

Source: Keygen Blog | Published: Fri, 28 Jan 2022 06:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://keygen.sh/blog/how-to-use-hexadecimal-ed25519-keys-in-node/>

Learn how to use hexadecimal Ed25519 keys with Node's crypto module.

119. Why Freemium Pricing Is So Popular

Source: Keygen Blog | Published: Mon, 07 Feb 2022 06:00:00 GMT

Link: <https://keygen.sh/blog/why-freemium-pricing-is-so-popular/>

Freemium pricing is a business model that has seen a lot of success within startups. But why is that?

120. My Courses Site is Moving to a New Home

Source: Miguel Grinberg's Blog | Published: Sun, 15 Feb 2026 15:15:29 GMT

Link: <https://blog.miguelgrinberg.com/post/my-courses-site-is-moving-to-a-new-home>

This is a short blog post to announce that I'm migrating the site in which I host my paid courses to a new platform at <https://learn.miguelgrinberg.com>. If you have purchased a course or ebook directly from me, this article tells you how to transfer your account to the new site.

121. I hate bubblesort

Source: Simon Tatham's quasi-blog | Published: 2023-12-06T00:00:00+00:00

Link: <https://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/quasiblog/bubblesort/>

A short opinion: bubblesort is an awful sorting algorithm and I wish people would stop teaching it.

122. Stop helping!

Source: Simon Tatham's quasi-blog | Published: 2023-09-02T00:00:00+00:00

Link: <https://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/quasiblog/stop-helping/>

A short opinion: command-line tools shouldn't print long help text as well as an error message.

123. Philosophy of coroutines

Source: Simon Tatham's quasi-blog | Published: 2023-09-01T00:00:00+00:00

Link: <https://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/quasiblog/coroutines-philosophy/>

Some thoughts about coroutines in general, why I like them so much, and ways of using them and thinking about them.

