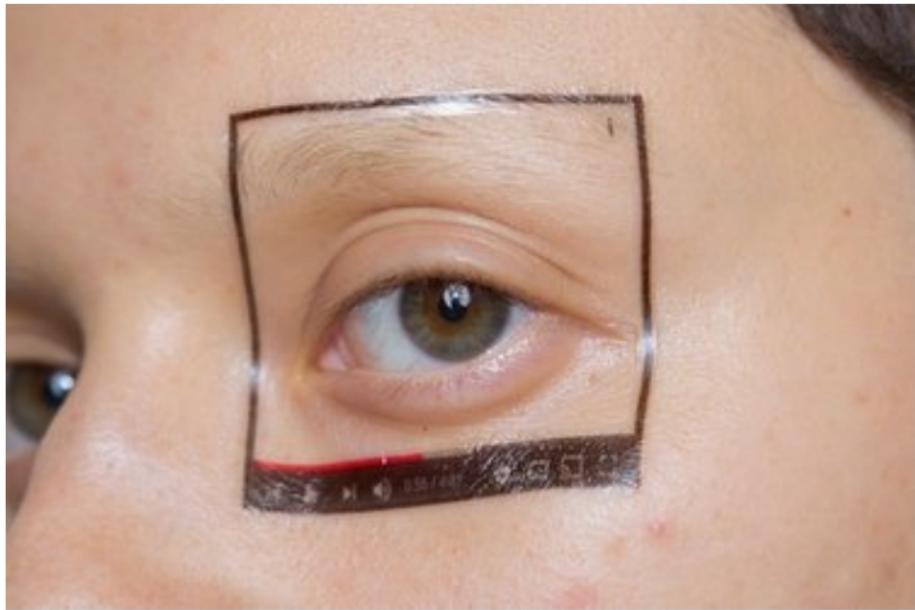


Hushme

Winner of the “gadget that looks most like a prop from a dystopian science fiction movie” award, the Hushme is designed to solve a problem endemic to today’s crowded spaces and open offices—having to listen to people’s phone conversations (or conversely, having other people eavesdropping on your private conversation). The HushMe is an ear-phone-equipped mask that you snap around your mouth. A microphone inside the mask transmits your voice to your phone, while the mask blocks the sound of your voice from being overheard by those nearby. It’s going into mass production in April, but you can pre-order it now for US \$179.



Photo: Stephen Cass



John Yuyi

Welcome to the Post-Text Future

The internet was born in text. Now, video and audio are ascendant, writing is being left behind, and everything will be different.

By FARHAD MANJOO

Several scientists working at a nuclear weapons facility in Russia were arrested this week on the suspicion that they used one of the country's most powerful supercomputers to mine bitcoins, the BBC reported.

The alleged infraction took place at the Federal Nuclear Center in Sarov, a top-secret area surrounded by barbed-wire fences where the Soviet Union's first nuclear bomb was produced during the Cold War.

6 Feb 2018 | 21:28 GMT

Why Ethical Robots Might Not Be Such a Good Idea After All

The risks that a robot's ethics might be compromised by unscrupulous actors raise doubts over the wisdom of embedding ethical decision making in real-world safety critical robots

By Alan Winfield

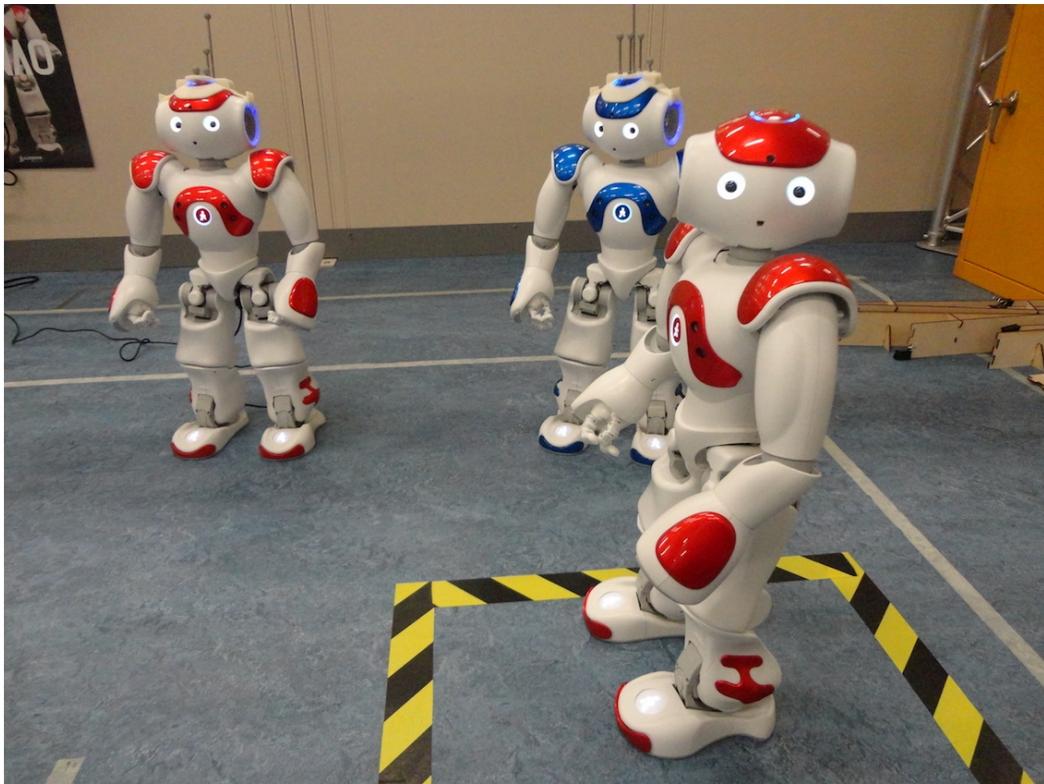
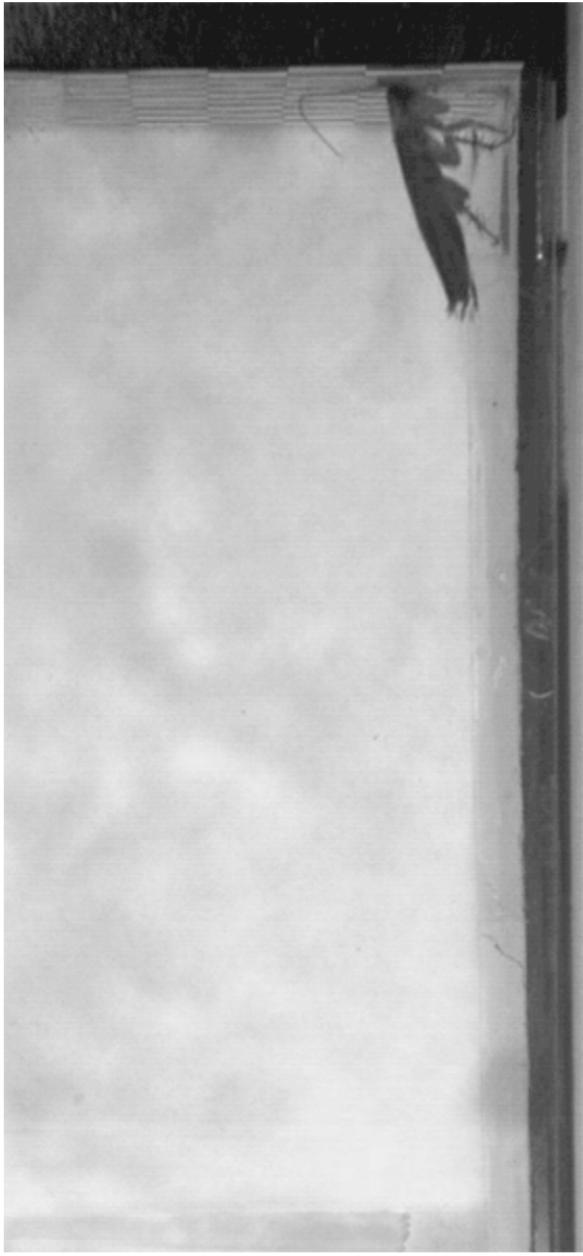


Photo: Bristol Robotics Lab



Slow-motion video of a cockroach running and bumping into a wall before quickly climbing up it.
Jayaram et al

Anyone who's tried to kill a cockroach knows that the ancient pests have some world-class evasive maneuvers. Or at least they appear to.

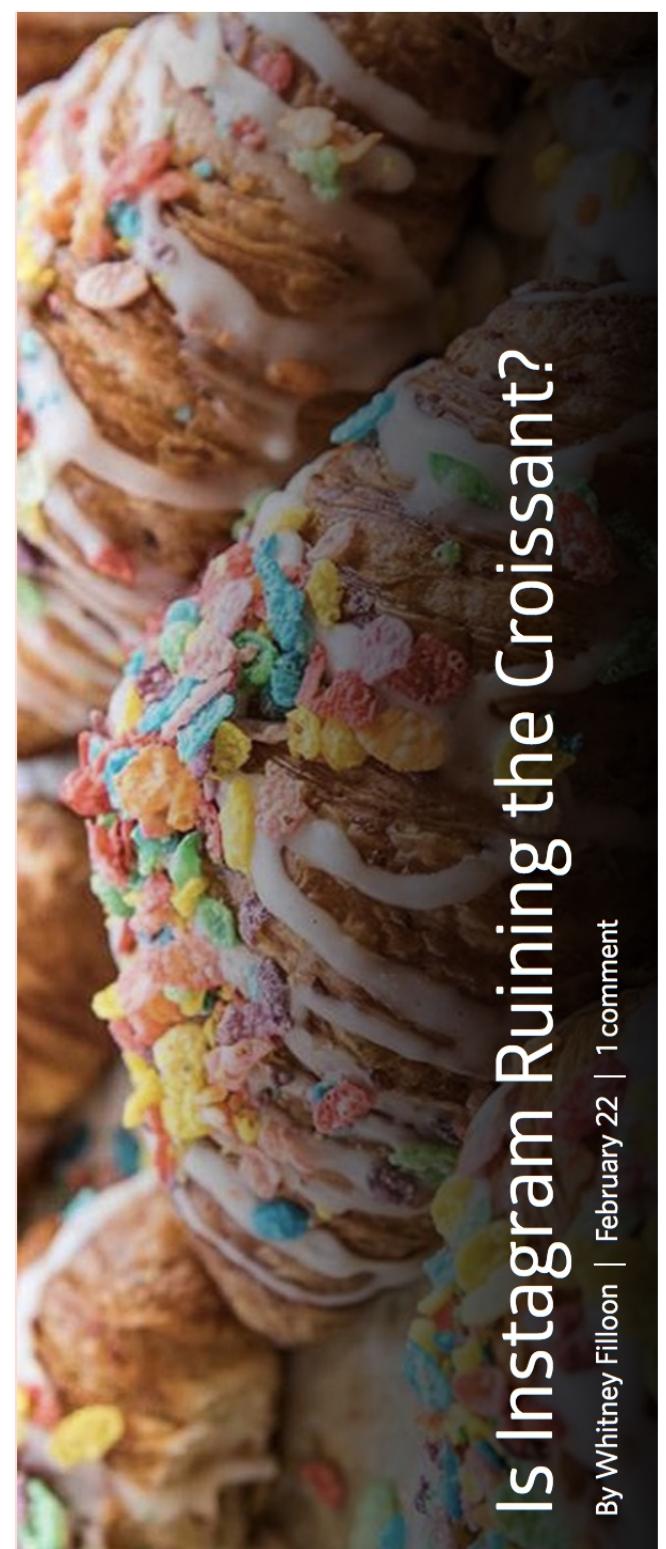
The agility of cockroaches may owe less to lightning-fast reflexes and fancy footwork than their tough, shock-absorbent bodies. According to a new study, American cockroaches can run full-speed into walls and other obstacles because their exoskeletons allow them to recover quickly with hardly any loss in momentum.

But adding new legs to the ISS Robonaut would be much more involved than simply shipping them up to the station and bolting them onto the Robonaut torso. The leg installation would require upgrading a significant amount of Robonaut's core hardware, including new computers and new wiring to interface the legs to the robot's main processor, not to mention a complex mechanical assembly process. Further complicating things was the fact that Robonaut was originally developed as a research robot for use on Earth. “Robonaut was not designed at all to be serviceable by astronauts,” Badger said. “It was designed to be a lab robot, and we jumped at the opportunity to send it to space.”



Photo: NASA

Robonaut's wiggly legs.



Is Instagram Ruining the Croissant?

By Whitney Filloon | February 22 | 1 comment



Sadie Van Horn and her father, Matt, feed birds in the coop below their deck.

Silicon Valley's elite are growing the finest eggs money can buy

Chickens are the new status symbol. Owners use the same approach as any savvy venture capitalist. They throw money at a promising flock, chart egg production and seek ways to optimize happiness — in the coop and in the home.

Story by Peter Holley | Photos by Christie Hemm Klok

- **Visual Story: Meet Queen Elizabeth and Bear, two luxury chickens**

**Cindy Sherman
Oops Phone Pool
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