【4.8】

**4.8每日一篇 | 外刊精读**

Artificial intelligence：Get used to it  
   
With Manus, AI **experimentation** has **burst** into the open  
   
【1】Watching the **automatic** hand of the Manus AI agent **scroll** through a dozen **browser** windows is **unsettling**. Give it a task that can be **accomplished** online, such as building up a **promotional** network of social-media accounts, **researching** and writing a **strategy** document, or booking tickets and hotels for a **conference**, and Manus will write a **detailed** plan, spin up a version of itself to browse the web, and give it its best shot.Panda Foreign Magazine Intensive Reading:Respect for Originality, Piracy Must Be Punished  
   
【2】Manus AI is a system built on top of existing models that can **interact** with the internet and **perform** a sequence of tasks without **deferring** to a human user for **permission**. Its makers, who are based in China, claim to have built the world's first general AI agent that “turns your **thoughts** into actions”. Yet AI labs around the world have already been **experimenting** with this “agentic”approach in private. What makes Manus **notable** is not that it **exists**, but that it has been fully **unleashed** by its **creators**. A new age of **experimentation** is here, and it is happening not within labs, but out in the real world.  
   
【3】Spend more time using Manus and it becomes clear that it still has a lot further to go to become **consistently** useful. Confusing answers, **frustrating** **delays** and never-ending **loops** make the experience disappointing. In **releasing** it, its makers have **obviously** **prized** a job done first over a job done well.Panda Foreign Magazine Intensive Reading:Respect for Originality, Piracy Must Be Punished  
   
【4】This is in contrast to the approach of the big American labs. Partly because of concerns about the safety of their **innovations**, they have kept them under **wraps**, poking and **prodding** them until they hit a decent version 1.0. OpenAI waited nine months before fully **releasing** GPT-2 in 2019. Google’s Lamda chatbot was functioning **internally** in 2020, but the company sat on it for more than two years before **releasing** it as Bard.  
   
【5】Big labs have been **cautious** about agentic AI, too, and for good reason. Granting an agent the freedom to come up with its own ways of solving a problem, rather than **relying** on **prompts** from a human at every step, may also increase its **potential** to do harm. Anthropic and Google have **demonstrated** “computer use” features, for instance, yet neither has released them widely. And in **assorted** tests and developer **previews**, these systems are as **limited** by policy as technology, handing control back to the user at regular **intervals** or whenever a complex task needs to be finalised.  
   
【6】The existence of Manus makes this **cautious** approach harder to **sustain**, however. As the **previously** wide gap between big AI labs and **upstarts** **narrows**, the giants no longer have the **luxury** of taking their time. And that also means their approach to safety is no longer **workable**.  
   
【7】To some American **observers**, **fixated** on the idea that China might be **stealing** a march on the West, the fact that Manus is Chinese is especially **threatening**. But Manus’s success is nowhere near the scale of that of DeepSeek, a Chinese firm that **stunned** the world with its cheap AI model. Any company, be it American, Chinese or otherwise, could produce a similar agent, provided it used the right off-the-shelf **components** and had a large enough **appetite** for risk.  
   
【8】Fortunately, there is little sign yet that Manus has done anything dangerous. But safety can no longer be just a matter of big labs conducting large-scale testing before release. Instead, regulators and **companies** will need to monitor what is already used in the wild, **rapidly** respond to any **harms** they spot and, if necessary, pull **misbehaving** systems out of action entirely. Whether you like it or not, Manus shows that the future of AI development will play out in the open.  
   
   
   
**①短语**

1.原文：Manus will write a detailed plan, spin up a version of itself to browse the web

词典：spin up 启动

例句：Hard drives spin up from a dead stop to thousands of rotations a minute.

硬盘驱动器从停止转动到每分钟转动数千次。

2.原文：and give it its best shot

词典：give it best shot 尽最大努力

例句：I don't expect to win. But I am going to give it my best shot.

我并不期望能赢。但是我要尽力而为。

3.原文：and perform a sequence of tasks without deferring to a human user for permission.

词典：defer to 尊重；听从

例句：Doctors are encouraged to defer to experts.

鼓励医生们听从专家的意见。

4.原文：Yet AI labs around the world have already been experimenting with this “agentic”approach in private.

词典：in private 私下地，不公开地，不让其他人知道地

例句：The proceedings of the inquiry will take place in private.

调查行动将秘密进行。

5.原文：This is in contrast to the approach of the big American labs.

词典：in contrast to 与……形成对比；与……相反

例句：In contrast to the humble exterior, the interior features clean lines and a light colour scheme.

与简陋的外观形成鲜明对比的是，内部以简洁的线条和明亮的配色方案为特色。

6.原文：Partly because of concerns about the safety of their innovations, they have kept them under wraps, poking and prodding them until they hit a decent version 1.0.

词典：keep under wraps 保密或隐藏

例句：Darwin was also in the grip of an idea so subversive that he would keep it under wraps for another two decades.

达尔文还产生了一种极具颠覆性的观念，以至于他将其保密了二十年。

7.原文：To some American observers, fixated on the idea that China might be stealing a march on the West

词典：fixate on 专注于，全神贯注于

例句：But by then the administration wasn't paying attention, for top officials were fixated on Kuwait.

但在那之前，当局并没有特别注意，因为高层官员们都一心扑在科威特上。

8.原文：rapidly respond to any harms they spot and

词典：respond to 回应

例句：The best way to respond to a flame is to ignore it.

回应攻击性电子邮件的最好方式就是置之不理。

1. 原文：if necessary, pull misbehaving systems out of action entirely.

词典：pull out of 退出；拉出，取出

例句：France was going to pull out of NATO.

法国准备退出北大西洋公约组织。

1. 原文：Whether you like it or not, Manus shows that the future of AI development will play out in the open.

词典：play out 展开，展示

例句：No one can say how these two trends will play out.

没有人可以说明这两种模式会如何上演。

**②长难句**

原文：To some American observers, fixated on the idea that China might be stealing a march on the West, the fact that Manus is Chinese is especially threatening.

分析：“To some American observers, fixated on the idea that China might be stealing a march on the West”是一个介词短语作状语，其中“fixated on the idea that China might be stealing a march on the West”是过去分词短语作后置定语，修饰“American observers”，“that China might be stealing a march on the West”是一个同位语从句，解释说明“idea”的具体内容。“the fact that Manus is Chinese”是句子的主语，其中“that Manus is Chinese”是一个同位语从句，修饰“fact”。“is especially threatening”是系表结构，作句子的谓语和表语。

译文：对于一些执着于中国可能会领先于西方这一想法的美国观察者而言，Manus出自中国这一点让他们危机感倍增。

原文：Any company, be it American, Chinese or otherwise, could produce a similar agent, provided it used the right off-the-shelf components and had a large enough appetite for risk.

分析：“Any company”是句子的主语，“be it American, Chinese or otherwise”是一个让步状语从句的省略形式，相当于“whether it be American, Chinese or otherwise”，用来对“Any company”进行补充说明，强调无论公司来自哪个国家或地区。“could produce”是谓语动词，“a similar agent”是宾语。“provided it used the right off - the - shelf components and had a large enough appetite for risk”是一个条件状语从句，“provided”引导条件状语，意思是“如果，只要”，其中“it”指代前面的“Any company”，“used the right off - the - shelf components”和“had a large enough appetite for risk”是并列的谓语动词短语，分别表示“使用合适的现成组件”和“有足够大的冒险意愿”，共同构成条件状语从句的内容。

译文：实际上，任何公司，不论是美国的、中国的还是其他国家的，只要能够选用合适的现成技术组件，并且有足够的风险承受能力，都有可能开发出类似的人工智能代理。

**③写作技巧**

To some American observers, fixated on the idea that China might be stealing a march on the West, the fact that Manus is Chinese is especially threatening.

对于一些执着于中国可能会领先于西方这一想法的美国观察者而言，Manus出自中国这一点让他们危机感倍增。

在这句话中，“steal a march on”是个习语，意思是通过比别人先行动或用出其不意的方式，取得超过他人或他物的优势。以下是三个同义表达及其中文解释：gain an edge over：获得超过某人或某物的优势；get the upper hand：在某种情形中取得优势地位或控制权；have an advantage over：与他人相比拥有优势。

例句：

This innovative marketing strategy helps the small business gain an edge over its larger competitors in the local market.

这种创新的营销策略帮助这家小企业在当地市场上获得了超越其规模更大的竞争对手的优势。

After a series of strategic moves, the team finally got the upper hand in the intense competition.

经过一系列的战略举措，这个团队最终在激烈的竞争中占据了上风。

Students who master multiple languages have an advantage over others when applying for international jobs.

掌握多种语言的学生在申请国际职位时比其他人具有优势。

**④背景知识**

AI agent是一种基于人工智能技术的智能体。它能够感知其所处的环境，通过内置的算法和模型进行推理、学习和决策，然后根据决策结果采取行动来实现特定的目标。AI agent可以应用于各种领域，如智能客服、智能家居、自动驾驶等，以提供自动化、智能化的服务和解决方案，帮助人们更高效地完成任务或解决问题。

Manus是由中国大模型团队Monica于2025年3月6日发布的全球首款通用型AI智能体产品。其名称来源于麻省理工学院校训“Mens et Manus”，寓意“手脑并用，知行合一”。Manus采用Multiple Agent架构，能在独立虚拟机中运行，可调用各类工具，独立思考、规划并执行复杂任务，直接交付完整成果，如报告、PPT 等，在GAIA基准测试中成绩优异，性能超越OpenAI同层次大模型。它定位于性能强大的通用型助手，可应用于筛选简历、股票分析、旅行规划等多个领域，展现出了超强的学习能力和适应性。

**⑤段落大意**

【1】Manus出品：Manus自动操作手滚动令人不安，可执行在线任务

【2】系统亮点：Manus基于现有模型，能自主交互，开启现实AI实验新时代

【3】应用短板：Manus体验因回答、延迟等问题不佳，距实用距离远

【4】美企做法：美国各AI大实验室因安全对成果保密，打磨后发布

【5】谨慎原因：大实验室对代理式AI谨慎，因自由解决问题有危害风险，相关功能受限未广推

【6】影响策略：Manus使大实验室谨慎策略难维持，安全方法需改变

【7】中美对比：部分美国观察者忌惮中国Manus，但它不如深度求索，有条件公司均可开发类似代理

【8】安全展望：Manus安全问题暂无担忧，AI安全需监管和企业共同发力，监督其未来公开发展