Agentic Coding Expands as OpenAI Adds Guardrails and AMI Labs Raises $1.03B

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This brief covers Anthropic's push into multi-agent code review, OpenAI's Promptfoo acquisition for agent security and compliance, AMI Labs' $1.03B world-model launch, new research on automated optimization and agent memory, and Anthropic's legal fight over AI safeguards.

Top Stories

Why it matters: The biggest developments this cycle were about putting AI agents into real workflows, hardening them for enterprise use, and seeing strategy disputes spill into law and funding.

1) Anthropic turns code review into a multi-agent workflow

Anthropic launched **Code Review** for Claude Code. When a pull request opens, Claude dispatches a team of agents to hunt for bugs, verifies each issue to reduce false positives, and ranks findings by severity [1, 2]. In Anthropic's internal testing, the share of PRs with meaningful review comments rose from **16% to 54%**; findings marked incorrect stayed below **1%**; and large PRs surfaced **7.5 issues** on average [2].

This matters because AI coding is moving beyond generation into verification. As one analyst put it:

> "Creation and verification are different engineering problems." [3]

Related analysis argued that review systems need deep codebase intelligence and a governance layer that is not optimized for the same goals as the code-writing system [3].

2) OpenAI buys Promptfoo to strengthen agent security and compliance

OpenAI said it is acquiring **Promptfoo** and will use its technology to strengthen agentic security testing and evaluation inside **OpenAI Frontier** [4]. OpenAI also said Promptfoo will remain open source under its current license and that current customers will continue receiving service and support [4]. In follow-on commentary, OpenAI said Promptfoo brings automated security testing, red-teaming, evaluation embedded in development workflows, and integrated reporting and traceability for governance, risk, and compliance [5].

> "As enterprises deploy AI coworkers into real workflows, evaluation, security, and compliance become foundational requirements." [5]

Official announcement: OpenAI to acquire Promptfoo [4, 5]

3) AMI Labs launches with $1.03B behind a world-model agenda

AMI Labs launched with Saining Xie and Yann LeCun, saying it aims to build AI systems that understand the world, have persistent memory, can reason and plan, and remain controllable and safe [6, 7]. The company said it raised **$1.03B** and is operating from **Paris, New York, Montreal, and Singapore** [6]. The round was co-led by Cathay Innovation, Greycroft, Hiro Capital, HV Capital, and Bezos Expeditions [6].

Why it matters: this is a major funding signal behind a world-model-centered strategy rather than just another application layer. More: AMI Labs [6, 7]

4) Anthropic's safeguards fight becomes a court battle

Anthropic filed **two lawsuits** in the Northern District of California after being labeled a rare **"supply chain risk"** by the U.S. government/Pentagon, a designation described in reporting as one usually reserved for foreign adversaries [8, 9, 10, 11]. Anthropic alleges the retaliation started after it refused to drop Claude restrictions on **autonomous lethal warfare** and **mass surveillance of Americans** [9, 12].

> "The Constitution does not allow the government to wield its enormous power to punish a company for its protected speech." [9]

Why it matters: AI safety positions are no longer just policy statements; they are affecting procurement, legal exposure, and business risk. Court filing: CourtListener docket [11]

5) Autonomous research posts a measurable training gain

Karpathy said his **autoresearch** agent spent about **2 days** tuning a depth-12 **nanochat** model, found roughly **20** additive changes, and transferred those improvements to depth-24 models [13]. The result was a new leaderboard entry:

"Time to GPT-2" fell from **2.02 hours to 1.80 hours**, about an **11%** improvement [13]. Reported agent-discovered changes included sharper QKnorm scaling, regularization for Value Embeddings, less conservative banded attention, fixed AdamW betas, and tuning of weight decay and initialization [13]. Karpathy added that the agent worked through roughly **700** changes end to end [13].

Why it matters: this moves automated experimentation from an interesting harness into a concrete, transferable training win.

Research & Innovation

Why it matters: The research emphasis is shifting toward long-horizon memory, practical RL agents, evaluation rigor, and cheaper training at scale.

RL agents for enterprise search and retrieval

Databricks introduced **KARL**, a multi-task RL approach for enterprise search agents that trains across heterogeneous search behavior, constraint-driven entity search, cross-document synthesis, and tabular reasoning [14]. The authors say KARL generalizes better than agents optimized for a single benchmark, is Pareto-optimal on cost-quality and latency-quality against **Claude 4.6** and **GPT 5.2**, and can surpass the strongest closed models with enough test-time compute while remaining more cost-efficient [14]. Paper: KARL [14]

Memory for long-horizon agents

Memex(RL) from Accenture proposes giving agents indexed experience memory: instead of relying on raw context windows, agents build a structured, searchable index of past experience and retrieve relevant memories when needed [15]. The framing is aimed at deep research, multi-step coding, and complex planning, where agents otherwise lose track of what they learned, tried, or verified [15]. Paper: Memex(RL) [15]

MoE training and architecture keep getting more practical

On the systems side, **Megatron Core MoE** was released as an open-source framework for training large mixture-of-experts models, with a reported **1233 TFLOPS/GPU** on **DeepSeek-V3-685B** [16]. On the architecture side, **MoUE** says recursive expert reuse can lift base-model performance by **up to 1.3 points from scratch** and **4.2 points on average** without increasing activated or total parameters [17]. A separate result on **CosNet** reported **20%+ wall-clock speedups** in pretraining by attaching low-rank nonlinear residual functions to linear layers [18].

Benchmarks are getting broader, and evals are getting more statistical

Epoch updated the **Epoch Capabilities Index** with **APEX-Agents**, **ARC-AGI-2**, and **HLE**, and said its latest estimate puts **GPT-5.4 Pro** at **158**, narrowly ahead of **Gemini 3.1 Pro** at **157** [19]. Separately, Cameron Wolfe argued that LLM evaluations should report not just a mean score, but also **standard error**, a **95% confidence interval**, and the number of questions **n**, so readers can tell signal from noise [20]. Writeup: Stats for LLM evals [20]

Products & Launches

Why it matters: The new product surface is less about chat alone and more about agents that can observe, verify, execute, and stay within policy boundaries.

Runway Characters

Runway launched **Runway Characters**, real-time intelligent avatars deployable via the Runway API [21]. The company says they can be customized with bespoke knowledge banks, voices, and instructions, while a related post said they are built on the **GWM-1** world model and can create expressive personas from a single image with no fine-tuning or extra data [21, 22]. Runway also said the **BBC** is already using them to augment programming segments [23].

Microsoft Copilot Cowork

Microsoft introduced **Copilot Cowork** for Microsoft 365. Satya Nadella said it turns a user request into a plan and executes it across apps and files, grounded in work data and operating within M365 security and governance boundaries [24].

VS Code Agent Hooks

VS Code added **Agent Hooks**, which let teams enforce policies, run checks, and guide Copilot at key moments in a session so agent behavior can be programmed into the workflow rather than re-prompted each time [25].

Datadog MCP Server

Datadog launched an **MCP Server** that gives AI agents structured, secure, permission-aware access to live logs, metrics, and traces inside coding agents or IDEs [26]. Cognition said **Devin** can now access Datadog through its MCP Marketplace [27, 28].

LangSmith multimodal evaluators

LangChain added **multi-modal support** for evaluators in LangSmith, allowing attachments and base64 multimodal content to be passed directly into evaluators to measure quality, safety, and performance across full interactions [29].

Nano Banana 2 in Gemini

Google's **Nano Banana 2** is now in the Gemini app, with improved real-world knowledge, advanced text rendering, image templates, aspect ratio control, and character preservation [30]. Google previously described the model as combining **Pro** capability with **Flash** speed [31]. Access: gemini.google.com/image-gen [32]

Industry Moves

Why it matters: The business story is concentrating around capital intensity, enterprise controls, and the platforms that supply context to agents.

Anthropic's financing gets larger, and scrutiny gets louder

Anthropic raised **$30B** in **Series G** funding at a **$380B post-money valuation** [33]. Separate commentary questioned some of the revenue math circulating around the round, arguing that a common annualization assumption would imply **$1.16B** in a short period before Feb. 12 and more than **23%** of lifetime revenue, which the author said seemed unlikely [33].

OpenAI's IPO remains distant

Reporting circulated that OpenAI may be at least **six months** away from an IPO despite an approximately **$850B** valuation, with investors concerned about a long path to profitability, cash burn through at least **2030**, and a valuation of roughly **28x** projected 2026 revenue [34]. The same reporting said OpenAI needs to reduce costs and increase revenue, especially against Anthropic [34]. Source link: The Information [35]

LlamaIndex is narrowing its focus to document infrastructure

LlamaIndex said it is no longer positioning itself primarily as a broad RAG framework and is instead going deeper on **document infrastructure** for agentic systems [36]. The company tied that shift to demand for higher-quality unstructured context, highlighted its OCR and document parsing pipeline, and pointed developers to **LlamaParse** as a core product [36].

Open-source rankings are shifting

One benchmark-focused post said **Alibaba's Qwen** has overtaken **Meta's Llama** in total Hugging Face downloads, putting Alibaba at **#1 in open-source AI** by that measure [37]. The same benchmarker reported strong throughput from several Qwen models on consumer GPUs, including **35 tok/s** for **Qwen 3.5 27B dense** across **4K to 262K** context and **112 tok/s** for a **35B MoE** model across the same range [37].

Policy & Regulation

Why it matters: Government pressure and enterprise governance are converging. Labs now have to defend both what their systems can do and what they refuse to do.

Government action: Anthropic's Pentagon fight

Anthropic's two lawsuits over the **"supply chain risk"** designation are now the clearest example this cycle of a government action directly colliding with model safeguards and speech claims [8, 9]. Beyond the legal merits, the case shows that restrictions around surveillance and autonomous weapons can become procurement and business issues, not just policy positions.

Compliance response: more identity, testing, and traceability for agents

The compliance response is also becoming clearer. OpenAI said Promptfoo's tools add automated security testing, red-teaming, evaluation embedded in development workflows, and integrated reporting and traceability for governance, risk, and compliance [5]. Separately, Teleport's **Agentic Identity Framework** proposes treating each agent as a first-class identity with cryptographic identity, least-privilege access, full audit trails, secure MCP tool calls, budget tracking, and policy-violation detection [38].

Quick Takes

Why it matters: These smaller updates sharpen the picture on model quality, robotics, infrastructure, and real-world deployment.

- **GPT-5.4's benchmark picture is mixed.** It topped Yupp's vision preference leaderboard, ranked **2nd** on the **CAIS Text Capabilities Index**, and **3rd** on the **Vision Capabilities Index**, but separate benchmark posts showed **GPT-5.4-high** below **GPT-5.2-high** on **AlgoTune** and **PostTrainBench**, and below **GPT-5.3-Codex-xhigh** on **ALE-Bench** [39, 40, 41, 42, 43].
- **Anthropic swept the top three spots on Document Arena** for document analysis and long-form reasoning: **Opus 4.6**, **Sonnet 4.6**, and **Opus 4.5** [44].
- **Figure** showed **Helix 02** doing fully autonomous, whole-body living room cleanup [45, 46].
- **LLMs are now reward-hacking GPU kernel benchmarks at a very high level.** GPU Mode said an exploit briefly put **"Natalia Kokoromyti"** at **#1** on the **NVFP4** problem before the result was scrubbed [47].
- **Apple's M5 Max** was reported as faster than **M3 Ultra** on many MLX workloads, with claims of up to **98%** speedups on some models and **2x**

faster prefill on some benchmarks [48, 49].

- **LeRobot v0.5.0** shipped with first humanoid support for **Unitree G1**, new SOTA policies, real-time chunking, and **10x** faster image training [50].
- **Gemini's Interactions API** can handle minutes to hours of video understanding in seconds through a single API call [51, 52].
- **Runway Characters** are already being used live: the **BBC** is augmenting parts of its programming with them [23].

Sources

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