DeepSeek's V4 Flash Turns Model Efficiency into the New Frontier

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DeepSeek's V4 Flash 0731 combines a major agentic capability jump with open weights and unusually low cost, while MiniMax H3 pushes the open-model challenge into production video.

Top Stories

Why it matters: Capability, price, and openness are now moving together rather than sequentially. [1]

DeepSeek V4 Flash 0731 resets the low-cost frontier. DeepSeek published the weights, a technical report, and an MIT license; the release describes substantially stronger agentic capabilities and says it outperforms V4-Pro Preview despite a much smaller activated parameter count. [2] A monitored analysis attributes the jump to post-training rather than a larger model: architecture and parameter scale remain unchanged, while Terminal-Bench rises from 61.8 to 82.7 and DeepSWE from 7.3 to 54.4. [3] Artificial Analysis scores it 50—10 points above the previous Flash and one behind GPT-5.6 Luna—with GDPval-AA v2 rising from 1189 to 1559 and Terminal-Bench reaching 79%. [1] At \$0.14/\$0.28 per million input/output tokens, with a 1M-token context, Artificial Analysis estimates roughly 60% lower cost per task than Luna even after OpenAI's 80% price cut. [1]

MiniMax H3 extends the open-model challenge into video. A monitored launch summary reports H3 at #1 in video editing, #2 in text-to-video, and #3 in image-to-video, with 5–15-second native-2K, 24fps clips and stereo audio at \$7.80 per minute versus \$22.45 for Seedance 2.0 and \$20.16 for Kling 3.0. [4] MiniMax says the model is priced for production and will be open for anyone to build on within days. [5]

Research & Innovation

Why it matters: The strongest new signals test provenance, scaffolding, and repeatability—not just headline scores. [6]

ConjectureBench makes frontier-math claims easier to check. Bespoke Labs lists a Jacobian-conjecture disproof attributed to Claude Fable 5, a Maxwell-conjecture disproof assisted by GPT-5.6 Sol, and an independently verified cycle-double-cover proof from GPT-5.6; its new repository collects 15,000 source-linked open problems for model-and-human investigation. [7]

ReviewBench shows that agent design can dominate model choice. LangChain converted real reviewer comments from merged PRs into 59 Harbor tasks covering 64 issues. Basic harnesses recover only about 30% of curated findings, but a structured review prompt—without new tools—raised Luna to 0.32 on a 20-task slice, above static Kimi and Opus runs. [6]

Products & Launches

Why it matters: Assistants are moving from chat windows into persistent workflows and the browser. [8, 9]

Google expanded Gemini's workflow layer. Gemini 3.6 Flash and 3.5 Flash-Lite are available with claimed reasoning and speed improvements; Spark is rolling out to more countries and languages as a 24/7 personal agent, while Gemini gains Dropbox, Viator, and Zillow connections. [10, 8, 11]

ChatGPT is becoming more web-native. Its Chrome extension can discuss YouTube videos, open tabs, and highlighted page text; the desktop app adds URL suggestions and browser-history controls. [9]

Industry Moves

Why it matters: Deployment economics are translating into both massive infrastructure commitments and new access rules. [12]

Amazon raised its 2026 capex guidance to $220 billion. Andy Jassy's reported case is that data centers are two-year builds with decades of revenue, while equipment pays back in about three years and lasts five to six; he said demand will exceed capacity in 2026 and 2027, with 2028 reservations already arriving. [12]

Efficiency is not replacing scale. A Bloomberg-sourced report says DeepSeek is seeking 1 GW of compute in Ulanqab, alongside its aggressive model efficiency push. [13] Meanwhile, Thinking Machines argues that neither indiscriminate weight release nor keeping capable models inside a few labs is safe, proposing staged access for Inkling. [14]

Quick Takes

Why it matters: The edge is spreading across agent loops, professional reliability, speech, and video.

- **OpenMLE** released a full-stack recursive-self-improvement testbed; its Frontis-MA1 agent raised MLE-Bench Lite Medal Average from 39.39% to 60.61%, reaching 71.21% with asynchronous search. [15]
- **APEX-Accounting** found no tested model can reliably close the books: the leader scored 56.4%, 58% of tasks were never solved, and all-eight-run success reached only 2.6%. [16]
- **Qwen-Audio-3.0-ASR-Flash** reports internal medical-term recall of 95.36% and industrial-term recall of 93.24%, with hotwords and structured transcript polishing. [17]
- **Grok Imagine Video 1.5** added text-to-video, image and voice references, and native 1080p to its API and consumer products. [18]

Sources

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2. X post by @kimmonismus
3. X post by @ZhihuFrontier
4. X post by @MTSlive
5. X post by @MiniMax__AI
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