Packy McCormick's Neuralink Reading, Fred Wilson on a Pincus–Fomo Founder Talk, and Khosla on Continuation Vehicles

Recommended Reading from Tech Founders

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Today's picks: McCormick's suggested Neuralink reading and viewing, Wilson's pick of a Mark Pincus conversation, Khosla's FT link on continuation vehicles, and a few shorter recommendations from Rauch, Sweeney, Gerstner and others.

McCormick: where to learn more about Neuralink

In Not Boring's *Weekly Dose of Optimism #221*, **Packy McCormick** covers the FDA's approval for Neuralink to launch LINK, which the company calls "the first pivotal trial for an implantable brain-computer interface in the US" [1]. For readers who want more on Neuralink, he "highly recommend[s]" two pieces [1]:

- **Cleo Abram's** recent video (embed)
- **Ashlee Vance's** essay *The Merge* in the new LIFE Magazine, which McCormick calls "great"

Wilson: Mark Pincus interviews Fomo's founders

Fred Wilson recommended a video in which Zynga founder **Mark Pincus** talks with Fomo founders **Paul Erlanger** and **Seyong** about their social trading app. His reason: "Founders talking to each other about their companies is always fascinating." He sees "many similarities between the early days of social gaming and social trading" [2]. Matt Cynamon, who posted the video, says Pincus spent most of the conversation asking questions and "wasn't sold

on whether fomo was actually investing or just gambling." Chapters include "Facebook made Zynga. Then it undid it." and "Isn't this just gambling?" [3].

Khosla: the FT on continuation vehicles

Vinod Khosla linked a Financial Times article. His takeaway: continuation vehicles "are often a bad deal for investors and mostly self dealing unless priced externally" [4].

Social Capital and Chamath: their own research

- **Social Capital** promoted its Deep Dive on Anthropic, which looks at whether the lab can keep retaining talent [5]. The post says SignalFire tracked engineers moving between labs. Engineers were about 8x more likely to leave OpenAI for Anthropic than the reverse. SignalFire credits this to "mission, safety culture and researcher autonomy rather than pay" [5]. **Chamath Palihapitiya** shared it and asked why retention isn't close to 100% given "the astronomical pay" [6].
- Chamath also published "Will Bitcoin inevitably go to zero?" as "holiday reading." On the Moonshots podcast he had said crypto and Bitcoin are capped. After that comment drew strong reactions, he had his team review his reasoning and check it with experts [7].

Shorter picks

- **Guillermo Rauch** called unkernel.dev "absolutely unreal." It runs a full Linux kernel and distro in a browser tab, "can run coding agents," even "Chrome inside Chrome," and it's fast [8].
- **Tim Sweeney** shared a video of Vangelis improvising live in 1982 [9]. He pointed to the instrument, a Yamaha CS-80: "the iconic 'sound of the future' from 1977 and still unsurpassed" [10].
- **Brad Gerstner**: "Must Listen to the end!" He was recommending a clip in which **Gavin Newsom** urges people to claim their Trump Account. Gerstner says Newsom "rises above politics" [11].
- **Aaron Levie** quoted a post by @davis7 as "the diffusion challenge and opportunity in a nutshell." His view is that most people and organizations will get stuck at the AI uses that first impressed them. That, he says, creates "massive services and FDE opportunities" [12].
- **Jason Lemkin** promoted two SaaStr pieces:
  - Adtech as what's hot in B2B. It notes AppLovin grew 55% at 66% net margins while The Trade Desk shrank, and concludes "AI wins when you own the loop and price the outcome" [13].
  - Lessons from Databricks CRO Ron Gabrisko [14]. Lemkin's takeaway: "Find the unit that scales with customer value" [15].

Sources

1. Weekly Dose of Optimism #221
2. X post by @fredwilson
3. X post by @mattcynamon
4. X post by @vkhosla
5. X post by @socialcapital
6. X post by @chamath
7. X article by @chamath
8. X post by @rauchg
9. X post by @sovietsoleri
10. X post by @TimSweeneyEpic
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