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Recommended Reading from Tech Founders

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This round's picks: a podcast Shaan Puri recommends, Packy McCormick's push to watch the Roadster reveal, and Satya Nadella's link to Microsoft's forecasting research. Also: shorter endorsements from Altman, Masad, Levie, Lemkin and Chamath.

Shaan Puri: a podcast for an hour-long drive

"If you've got an hour drive this week, listen to this podcast," Puri wrote, linking the episode on YouTube. His post doesn't name the show's creator. He gives three reasons to listen: - "The A-B-Z framework to stop overthinking" - "Why your hometown might be holding you back" - "The story of 'Iron John'" [1]

Packy McCormick: watch the Tesla Roadster reveal

In *Not Boring's* Weekly Dose of Optimism #215, McCormick says the second-gen Roadster reveal at a SpaceX test site near Waco "was worth the wait" [2]. He describes a 0-60 time of about one second. Using 10 nozzles fed by a 600-liter compressed-air tank, the car drove up an upside-down ramp, spun around and set itself back down, then hopped over other Tesla vehicles [2]. He adds that Musk said production starts in 2028. His advice: "Just... watch the video if you haven't." [2]

Satya Nadella: Microsoft Research on mid-range weather forecasts

Nadella pointed to his company’s own work, published in *Nature*, so this is self-promotion. The research shows machine learning can improve forecasts two to six weeks out, a range that has been “historically been very difficult to predict.” He cites uses in extreme-weather preparation, managing natural resources and farming decisions [3]. His broader lesson: the future may depend on “intelligent verification systems” around models that “learn where models are systematically wrong” and keep checking predictions against reality. He links to Microsoft Research’s write-up [3].

Shorter mentions

- **Sam Altman** shared Nick Cammarata’s interpretability post: “Very happy to see this from Nick!” [4]. The previous brief covered this post when Sarah Guo shared it. Cammarata says modern agentic tools make “the vast majority” of neurons legible in models up to trillions of parameters [5].
- **Amjad Masad** shared Haider’s clip of Terence Tao. In it, Tao describes “the end of the romantic era of mathematics” and a move to an industrial era of large teams [6]. Masad calls it “fascinating” to watch mathematicians go through the stages of grief, and says they are now “entering acceptance” [7].
- **Aaron Levie** shared an @MTSlive post. It reports that Anthropic’s Michael Sellitto told the IMF that Claude could lead 80–90% of frontier model training by next year, up from 3% in April [8]. Levie sees “an incredible flywheel” and says “If you aren’t pricing in what RSI will lead to, that’s probably a mistake.” RSI is recursive self-improvement [9].
- **Jason Lemkin** promoted his own *The Agents* #016, “Going Headless: Claudeforce vs. Replit vs. Lovable.” On the same data and prompts, the bills ranged from \$2 to \$15 (read) [10]. Separately, he praised TBPN, saying Jordi Hays and John Coogan seem “back and in rare form” [11]. He linked TBPN’s clip of Jordi predicting a stunt-heavy Roadster launch [12].
- **Chamath Palihapitiya** promoted the new All-In episode with “Pod!!!!” [13]. Ben Horowitz fills in for Friedberg. Topics include the CoreWeave debt selloff, AI’s deflationary effect on software, Anthropic’s IPO and Bill Gates’s AI warnings [14].

Sources

1. X post by @ShaanVP
2. Weekly Dose of Optimism #215
3. X post by @satyanadella

4. X post by @sama
5. X post by @nickcammarata
6. X post by @haider1
7. X post by @amasad
8. X post by @MTSlive
9. X post by @levie
10. X post by @jasonlk
11. X post by @jasonlk
12. X post by @tbpn
13. X post by @chamath
14. X post by @theallinpod