NATEA Silicon Valley

NSTC 國家科學及技術委員會 National Science and Technology Council

2026 US-Taiwan High-Tech Forum

From Silicon to Sovereignty

AI Empowerment in the Age of Agents

11.14.2026 Sat.

Computer History Museum
Mountain View, CA

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2026 UTHF

Contents

03 Welcome

04 Organizer · NATEA Silicon Valley

05 Co-host · NSTC

06 Agenda

08 Speakers

16 Partner

17 Sponsors

18 Past forums, 1998–2025

19 Committee

20 Volunteers

21 Acknowledgments

WELCOME

From capability to control.

As we enter a new chapter of artificial intelligence in 2026, AI is moving beyond digital screens to write code, make decisions, and act in the physical world. While Taiwanese manufacturers produce roughly 90% of the world's AI servers, the next wave of value creation is expanding rapidly from hardware into autonomous agents and Physical AI.

At the same time, computing infrastructure, foundation models, and semiconductor supply chains have become central to economic competitiveness and national security. Taiwan's unmatched strength in advanced manufacturing and silicon, paired with Silicon Valley's leadership in frontier models and software, places the U.S.-Taiwan corridor at the heart of the global AI ecosystem. As nations pursue Sovereign AI and organizations hand real workflows over to AI agents, a critical question emerges: which models, data, and capabilities should stay in their own hands?

The theme of the 2026 U.S. Taiwan High-Tech Forum (UTHF) is "From Silicon to Sovereignty: AI Empowerment in the Age of Agents." Today's program brings together accomplished executives, policymakers, researchers, and investors to explore how Physical AI and robotics are entering the real world, how Taiwan, Europe, and the U.S. approach Sovereign AI governance, and what practical moves companies and engineers should make as the industry moves from chips to agents.

Now in its 29th edition, UTHF is proud to welcome you in person to the Computer History Museum in Mountain View. Thank you for joining us to shape the future of U.S.-Taiwan innovation together.

Mu-Ti Huang, Forum Chair



ORGANIZER

NATEA
Silicon Valley

NATEA Silicon Valley

NATEA (North America Taiwanese Engineering & Science Association) is a non-profit founded in 1991 by a group of scientists and engineers in Silicon Valley with the mission to promote science and technology research, development and leadership training opportunities. Since its founding, NATEA has grown to 14 regional chapters in North America and over 3,500 members.

In recent years, NATEA has gone through a transformational phase with a new website (natea.org), and growth in our membership is fueled by outreach to the next generation of young talent pursuing science and engineering careers, as well as strong community building with other like-minded non-profit organizations.

Throughout the year, the Silicon Valley Chapter hosts seminars and tech talks as well as major events, including our annual U.S.-Taiwan High-Tech Forum (uthf.net) and U.S.-Taiwan Startup Day, formerly Startup Forum (utstartup.net). As a science and technology non-profit, our mission is to promote high-tech innovation and advancement in the U.S., Taiwan and globally. To support this effort, we have assembled world-class industry advisors.

OUR FOCUS

01 **Community playground that is accessible to all**

02 **Cross-border connection of technology exchange between the U.S. and Taiwan**

03 **Career development for the next generation of leaders and entrepreneurs, in corporations and start-ups**

We believe the success of NATEA rests on our endowment, and especially on our sponsors, whose generous financial support lets us bring greater good to the communities and high-tech industries we are part of and serve.

CO-HOST

NSTC 國家科學及技術委員會
National Science and Technology Council

National Science and Technology Council

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), originally established as the National Science Council (NSC) under the Executive Yuan on February 1, 1959, is the primary government agency dedicated to scientific and technological advancement in Taiwan. In an era driven by the knowledge economy, science and technology (S&T) innovation has become the core driver of economic growth and national progress. Recognizing this, the NSC was reorganized as the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) on March 3, 2014, with a new mandate to foster academia-industry partnerships, promote innovation, and support startup incubation.

On July 27, 2022, MOST incorporated the Office of Science and Technology and restructured as the NSTC, in line with international best practice in planning and implementing national S&T policy. The NSTC continues MOST's four original missions: promoting national science and technology development, supporting academic research, advancing science parks, and incubating startups.

Moving forward, the NSTC will strengthen these missions by facilitating forward-looking S&T projects and linking basic research, applications and the private sector. It will also coordinate cross-government and cross-disciplinary S&T policy while optimizing resource allocation, with the aim of leading the development of Taiwan's key scientific and technological capabilities for the coming decade. Taiwan will leverage its strengths in semiconductors to support other strategic industries, including space technology, precision health, quantum computing, cybersecurity and smart technologies.

PROGRAM · SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Agenda

Computer History Museum, Mountain View. Times are tentative and may change.

12:30 Check-in

13:00 **Opening Remarks**

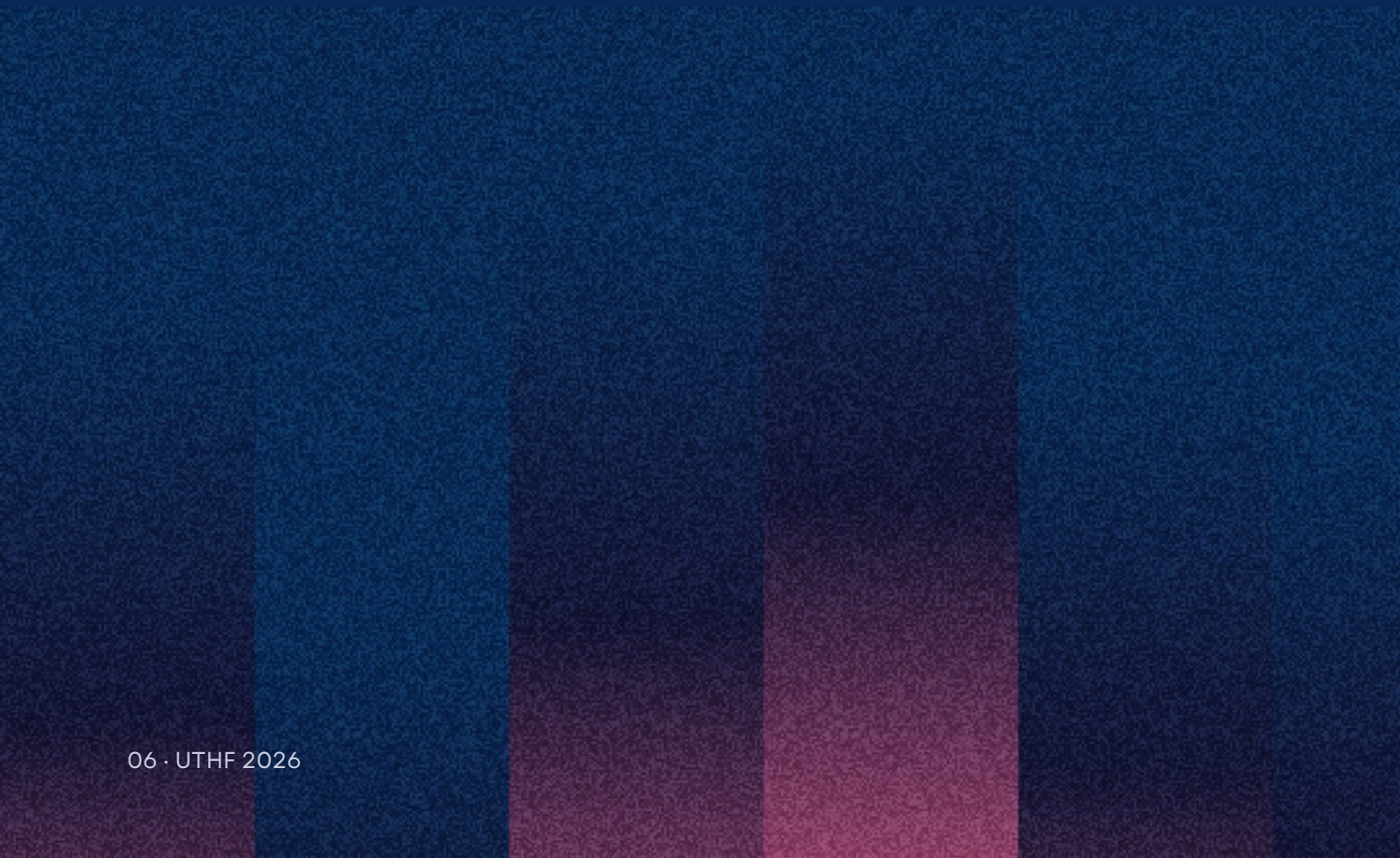
Professor Jenny Lin · President, NATEA Silicon Valley
Andrea Hsu · National Science and Technology Council

13:10 KEYNOTE

The Big Bang of Robotics: Physical AI Meets the Agentic Era

Deepu Talla · Vice President, Robotics and Edge AI · NVIDIA

13:55 Break



14:05 PANEL

Who Holds the Keys? Practical Moves in the Age of Agentic and Sovereign AI

Austin Yu · Playground Global
Ian Chen · APMIC
Yung-Sung Chuang · OpenAI
Sibyl Chen · Berkeley SkyDeck, moderator

15:05 Break

15:30 FIRESIDE CHAT

Sovereignty Without Isolation: How Democratic Partners Can Build Sovereign AI Together

Isabel Hou · Ministry of Digital Affairs, Taiwan
Professor Florence G'sell, Stanford Program on Geopolitics, Technology and Governance
Wesley Chu · Stanford Taiwan Center

16:20 **Closing**

16:25 Networking, with a raffle at the end

18:00 End

Deepu Talla

TITLE

Vice President, Robotics and Edge AI

ORGANIZATION

NVIDIA

SESSION

Keynote



Deepu Talla is the Vice President of Robotics and Edge AI at NVIDIA, where he is responsible for deploying AI technology in autonomous machines and intelligent devices, such as humanoids, industrial arms, mobile robots, intelligent video analytics, and factory automation. Previously, he was responsible for NVIDIA's mobile business unit. Talla holds a Ph.D. in Computer Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

Founded in 1993, NVIDIA is the world leader in accelerated computing and AI. Its invention of the GPU in 1999 sparked the growth of the PC gaming market, redefined computer graphics, and ignited the era of modern AI. Today NVIDIA is a full-stack AI infrastructure company powering the world's AI factories.

Isabel Hou

TITLE

Deputy Minister

ORGANIZATION

Ministry of Digital Affairs, Taiwan

SESSION

Fireside Chat



Isabel Hou is Deputy Minister of Taiwan's Ministry of Digital Affairs. She took office in September 2025 and works on AI policy, data governance, open data, and international digital cooperation, leading Taiwan's delegations to the APEC Digital and AI Ministerial Meeting and the Taiwan–EU Digital Economy Dialogue. A lawyer by training, she has worked where technology and law meet for more than two decades. She served on the steering committee of g0v, Taiwan's civic tech community, and helped found the Taiwan AI Academy. She holds an LL.B. from National Taiwan University.

Established in August 2022, MODA leads Taiwan's digital transformation, overseeing telecommunications, information technology, cybersecurity, and the internet. It works to build resilient digital infrastructure, advance trustworthy and sovereign AI, and strengthen Taiwan's role in the global digital economy.

Florence G'sell

TITLE

Visiting Researcher

ORGANIZATION

Program on Geopolitics, Technology and Governance, Stanford University

SESSION

Fireside Chat



Professor Florence G'sell is a Visiting Researcher with the Program on Geopolitics, Technology, and Governance at Stanford's Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. She joined Stanford in 2023 as a Visiting Professor at the Cyber Policy Center, where she led the Program on Governance of Emerging Technologies. She is a Professor of Private Law at the University of Lorraine (on secondment), a member of the AI and Society Institute at ENS-PSL in Paris, and a Research Affiliate at the Centre for Digital Law at Singapore Management University. Her research focuses on the regulation and governance of emerging technologies, especially AI. She chairs the Liability and Insurance Working Group of the International Association for Safe and Ethical AI, and held the Digital Governance and Sovereignty Chair at Sciences Po from 2019 to 2025.

The Program on Geopolitics, Technology, and Governance (GTG) examines how emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, quantum computing and smart devices, are redefining power, economies and policies worldwide. Its research addresses the challenges these advances pose for international security, and how governments, businesses and individuals adapt to shifting landscapes of risk and opportunity.

Wesley Chu

TITLE

Executive Director

ORGANIZATION

Stanford Taiwan Center, School of Engineering

SESSION

Fireside Chat



Chen-Tso (Wesley) Chu, Ph.D., is the Executive Director of the Stanford Taiwan Center for Science, Technology and Innovation at Stanford University's School of Engineering. He previously served as a Research Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School and held General Counsel positions at Foxconn Technology in Taiwan and Sharp Corporation in Japan. He also serves as Secretary-General of the International AI and Law Research Foundation. His work focuses on AI regulation and policy, global supply chains, and international collaboration in science, technology, AI, and advanced manufacturing.

The Stanford Taiwan Center for Science, Technology and Innovation, based at Stanford's School of Engineering, connects Stanford's research and innovation ecosystem with Taiwan's strengths in technology, advanced manufacturing, and talent, through research collaboration, talent development, and academic exchange.

Austin Yu

TITLE
Senior Associate

ORGANIZATION
Playground Global

SESSION
Panel



Austin Yu is an Investor at Playground Global, where he supports Seed and Series A deep tech founders building next-generation compute and semiconductors. Previously, he invested in early-stage hardtech and software infrastructure startups at Taiwania Capital and served his portfolio companies at the board level. He began his venture career as an Analyst at Mesh Ventures in Taipei, gaining a cross-border view of hardtech supply chains.

Playground Global leads Seed to Series A rounds in compute, infrastructure, and engineered biology, underwriting the technical risk that shapes industries. Its portfolio includes PsiQuantum, Ayar Labs, and Agility Robotics; it closed its $475M Fund IV this year.

Ian Chen

TITLE

CMO & US GM

ORGANIZATION

APMIC, Taiwan

SESSION

Panel



Ian Chen brings over 20 years of industry experience, having worked across NVIDIA's Santa Clara, Hong Kong, and Taiwan offices. With a background spanning engineering, sales, and management, he has deep, practical expertise ranging from GPU-accelerated computing to enterprise AI implementation. He holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from National Taiwan University and an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University.

Founded in 2017, APMIC is a Taiwan pioneer in large language models and enterprise-grade private AI. It helps organizations build their own intelligent knowledge systems without writing code, with secure private deployment.

Yung-Sung Chuang



TITLE
Research Scientist

ORGANIZATION
OpenAI

SESSION
Panel

Yung-Sung Chuang is a Research Scientist at OpenAI working on alignment post-training. He received his PhD in EECS from MIT CSAIL, where his research focused on making large language models more factual and trustworthy.

OpenAI is an AI research and deployment company dedicated to ensuring that general-purpose artificial intelligence benefits all of humanity.

Sibyl Chen

TITLE
General Manager

ORGANIZATION
Berkeley SkyDeck

SESSION
Panel · Moderator



Sibyl Chen is the General Manager of Berkeley SkyDeck, UC Berkeley's startup accelerator. She runs the program's day-to-day operations, advises early-stage founders, and leads SkyDeck's global network of more than 850 advisors and mentors. She began her career at Creative Artists Agency, brokering film financing and distribution deals, and later founded and led two companies. She joined SkyDeck as an advisor in 2018 and full-time in 2019. She holds a bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley and a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University.

Founded in 2012, Berkeley SkyDeck is UC Berkeley's premier startup accelerator, a partnership of Haas, the College of Engineering, and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research. It hosts more than 250 startups a year; its companies have raised more than $2.7 billion.

PARTNER

Startup Island Taiwan

Startup Island TAIWAN symbolizes a journey from a startup island to the international arena. It demonstrates to the world the strong ambition and capabilities of Taiwan's startup companies, as well as their intention and ability to contribute to other startup ecosystems around the world. The vision for the brand is to become the destination for innovation and entrepreneurship for startups all over the world, and a launchpad to expand globally.

The logo of Startup Island TAIWAN is of abstract mountains reflected in the ocean. The image also symbolizes infinity and DNA, reflecting the unlimited dynamism of Taiwan's startups and the entrepreneurship in the genes of Taiwan's people. In the auxiliary designs, which correspond to the four colors of the logo, the mountains and the ocean depict Taiwan's rugged terrain, representing leading-edge technology and the adventurous spirit of Taiwanese entrepreneurs. The dancing butterfly represents Taiwan's cultural diversity, while the light bulb stands for Taiwan's endless creativity.

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Zollner

Founded in 1965 in Zandt, Bavaria, and still family-owned, Zollner Elektronik is one of Europe's largest electronics manufacturing services (EMS) providers. With more than 13,000 employees at about two dozen sites across Europe, North America and Asia, it develops and builds electronic and mechatronic systems for customers in many industries.

Industrial Technology Research Institute

Founded in 1973, the Industrial Technology Research Institute is Taiwan's largest applied research organization, with more than 6,000 staff based in Hsinchu. It turns research into industry through technology transfer and spin-offs, and helped launch companies such as TSMC and UMC that built Taiwan's semiconductor industry.

National Chengchi University

National Chengchi University was founded in 1927 in Nanjing and re-established in Taipei in 1954. Its name, Chengchi, means governance, and it remains one of Taiwan's leading universities for public affairs, law, business, communication and international relations.

China Airlines

China Airlines is Taiwan's flag carrier. Founded in 1959 and based at Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport, it has served San Francisco since 1970 and flies across Asia, Oceania, Europe and North America. A member of the SkyTeam alliance, its group also includes Mandarin Airlines and Tigerair Taiwan.

PAST FORUMS

28 years of the U.S.-Taiwan High-Tech Forum

2025	Physical AI Live
2024	Generative AI + Conscious Technology
2023	Opportunities and Challenges in Electric Vehicles
2022	How Semiconductors, EVs, Blockchain and Web3 Shape Future Infrastructure
2021	Blockchain, Semiconductors and the Future of Finance, Work and Network
2020	Impact of Trade and Pandemic on the High-Tech Industry
2019	The Combination of 5G, AI and Massive IoT
2018	How Digital Twin Technology Will Further Digital Transformation
2017	The Future After Digital Transformation, AI & IoT
2016	Accelerating Digital Transformation with Real-World IoT
2015	Enabling Internet of Things
2014	The Ecosystems of Cloud Computing
2013	Cloud Computing and Taiwan
2012	Mobile, Social and Cloud
2011	Ubiquitous Sensors in the Intelligent Connected World
2010	Emerging Technologies for the Next Decade
2009	Clean Energy: High-Tech to Clean Tech
2008	Regulation in Medical Devices Development
2007	Trends of Wireless World
2006	The World with RFID
2005	E-Security: The Next Wave of Security Technology
2004	New Digital World
2003	Next Wireless Innovation: RF Integrated Circuits
2002	MEMS and Network Security
2001	High-Speed / High-Performance Computing Network
2000	Biotechnologies
1999	High-Speed LAN Technologies
1998	Green Technologies

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Senior Product Designer, ServiceNow

Volunteers

The forum runs on the people who arrive first and leave last. Thank you to this year's volunteers.

Anna Cheng
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FTMBA Student, Berkeley Haas

Betty (Hui Ching) Yang
CM Business Partner Enablement, NVIDIA

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PhD Candidate, National Chengchi University

Yilin Lou

Yu-Jhen Chuang
AI Engineer, Black Sesame

Zoe Chen
Student, UC Berkeley

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Thank you

We are grateful to the following people for their time and support in putting together UTHF 2026.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY DIVISION, TECO IN SF

Andrea Hsu
Director, TECO

Hong-Wen Yen
Former Director, TECO

Greg Lee
Officer, TECO

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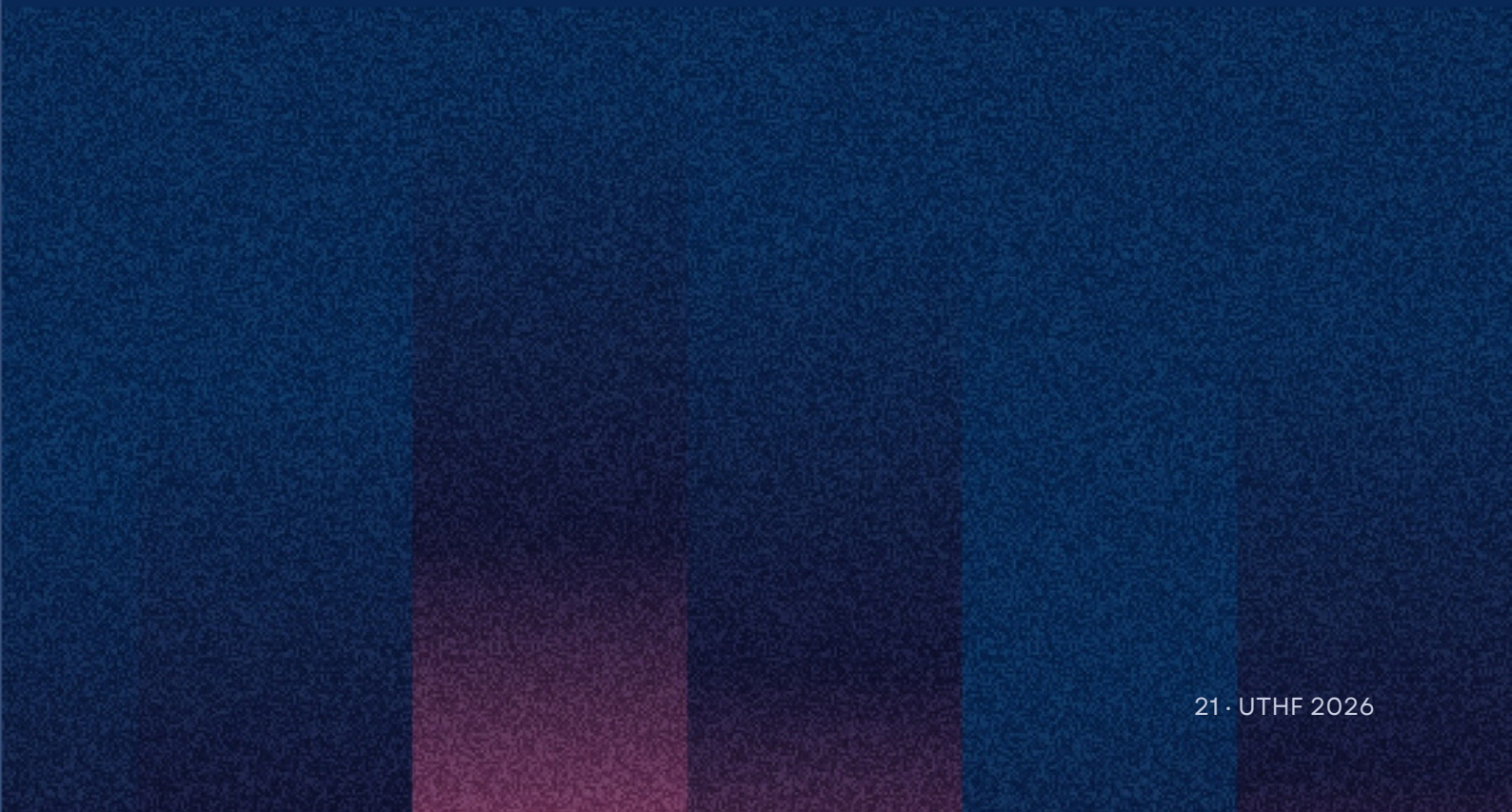
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