

Best of Last Week – Reversing time, curing blindness with genes and the health dangers of eating eggs

March 18 2019, by Bob Yirka

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It was a good week for space news as an international team reported on how they had [observed the formation sites of solar-system-like planets](#). Using data from the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array the

team found two rings of dust around a star, at distances comparable to the asteroid belt and the orbit of Neptune. And a team with members from institutions in Japan, Taiwan and the U.S. announced that they had found [evidence of 83 supermassive black holes in the early universe](#).

It was also a big week for technology advancement as an international team reported that they had measured [near-perfect performance in low-cost semiconductors](#) using quantum dots. Also, a team with members from Swisscom and EPFL outlined [a new approach to overcoming multi-model forgetting in deep neural networks](#), possibly paving the way for [natural language](#) processing applications that can work well on more than one type of task. In related research, a team at SRI international outlined [a generative memory approach to enabling lifelong reinforcement learning](#). And a team at USC Viterbi School of Engineering showed off [a robotic leg that was born without prior knowledge as it learned to walk](#). Also, a team at the Imperial College of London demonstrated an ability to [4-D print multi-metal products with a desktop electrochemical 3-D printer](#). 4-D printing adds the dimension of transformation over time.

In other news, a team from the Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology along with partners in Switzerland and the U.S., made headlines when they announced that they had [reversed time using a quantum computer](#). They returned the state of a quantum computer a fraction of a second into the past. And a team at the University of California announced that [with a single gene insertion, blind mice had regained sight](#) that they had lost due to retinal degeneration.

And finally, for those who have begun to feel comfortable eating [eggs](#) again after much waffling by scientists regarding the health dangers of eating them—you might want to put down that fork as a team at Northwestern University found that [higher egg and cholesterol consumption hikes heart disease and death risk](#)

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