

Best of Last Week—Evidence of Beaufort Gyre stabilization, bias in OpenAI models and thoughts influencing senses

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It was a big week for Earth-based research as an international team of Earth scientists made [the first observational evidence of Beaufort Gyre stabilization](#)—a finding that suggests a huge freshwater release in the

Arctic Ocean could be imminent. Also, a team of environmental engineers at the University of Strathclyde in Scotland and Dalhousie University Halifax in Canada found that [recycling plastics might be increase environmental microplastics](#) as cleaning plastics during the recycling process sheds microplastics into water sources. And a combined team from the University of California, Irvine and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory discovered [a cause of rapid ice melting in Greenland](#)—shifting ice that allows warmer water to intrude into shelf interior areas.

In technology news, a team with members from TU Delft, LONGi Green Energy Technology Co., Ltd. and Sun Yat-Sen University developed [silicon heterojunction solar cells with up to 26.81% efficiency](#). And a team at the University of California, Berkeley found that ChatGPT has memorized a large amount of copyrighted material and that inclusion of such data [may introduce a bias to analytics conducted with OpenAI models](#). Also, a team at Columbia University created [a generative AI writing tutor system that produces personalized feedback for English learners](#)—called Scraff, the system is meant to support student learning, not assist with cheating. Another team, Stanford University's Human-Centered AI research group, found that [source validation issues hurt ChatGPT reliability results](#).

In other news, an international team of medical researchers working with computer scientists has found that [artificial intelligence applications could improve heart attack diagnosis](#) and reduce pressure on emergency department personnel. Also, a large group of medical researchers affiliated with a host of institutions across the U.S. warned that [the COVID-19 pandemic has led to an increase in the unnecessary use of antimicrobial chemicals](#) that have been linked to health problems, antimicrobial resistance and environmental harm. And finally, a team at Ruhr University Bochum showed via demonstrations that [human thoughts influence tactile perception](#)—when subjects were made to

believe, for example, that their index finger was bigger than it was, their sense of touch improved.

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