

Weekly Discovery

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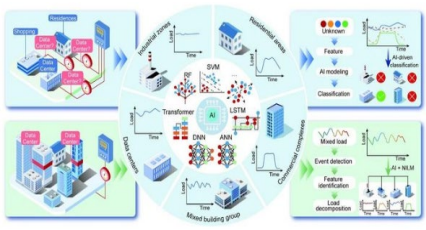
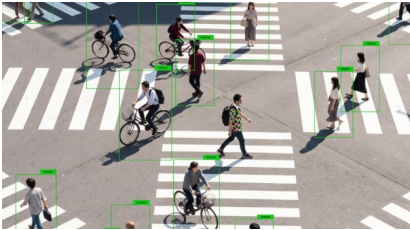
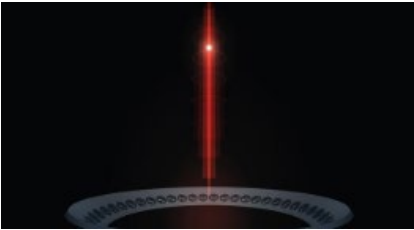
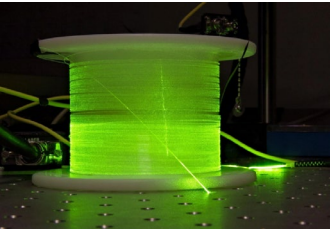
31 August – 4 September 2026

emerald insight

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AI; Robotics; Smart Devices <u>AI Companion Robots Are Closing the Human Connection in Modern Homes</u>	AI; Materials; Engineering <u>AI helps design new materials that work in the real world</u>	Architecture; Materials; Sustainability <u>Nodecraft Studio arranges Bengaluru farmhouse around poured-earth walls</u>	Cybersecurity; AI; Optics <u>KAIST develops smartphone-based technology to detect hidden cameras</u>
			
Multimodal companion robots combine cameras, microphones, sensors, autonomous mobility and persistent household memory for more proactive interaction in homes.	MIT's CrysVCD conditions generative crystal design on stability and target properties, aiming to produce candidate materials that are more realistic for laboratory synthesis.	Excavated site soil is mixed with lime, cement and aggregate to form poured-earth walls that organise pavilions around existing trees and verandahs	A smartphone-and-LED system sweeps a room and uses AI analysis of reflected light to identify concealed cameras without specialised detection hardware.
Source: IEEE Spectrum (26 Aug 2026)	Source: Nature Computational Science (26 Aug 2026)	Source: Dezeen (28 Aug 2026)	Source: KAIST (29 Aug 2026)
Cybersecurity; AI; Smart Devices <u>Simon Weckert creates Digital Camouflage shirt to avoid AI video surveillance</u>	Engineering; Sensors <u>Ultrasonic beam extends acoustic levitation range sixfold</u>	Health Tech; Optics <u>Experimental eye drops help blind mice see again</u>	Materials; Optics; Engineering <u>China's Grip on Erbium and Yttrium Could Choke Data-Center Growth</u>
			
An adversarially patterned shirt is designed to confuse AI person-detection systems, using fashion as a critique of algorithmic surveillance in public space.	A Bessel-beam ultrasound approach manipulates objects up to roughly 40 centimetres away in air, extending acoustic levitation range about sixfold.	I Light-activated drug eye drops restored light perception and visually guided behavior in blind mice without implanted devices or gene therapy.	Concentrated Chinese production of erbium and yttrium exposes optical-fibre amplifiers and data-centre infrastructure to a less-discussed rare-earth supply risk.
Source: Dezeen (25 Aug 2026)	Source: Physical Review Letters (27 Aug 2026)	Source: IBEC (28 Aug 2026)	Source: IEEE Spectrum (27 Aug 2026)
Optics; Health Tech; Smart Devices <u>A missing color in indoor light may help prevent myopia</u>	Quantum; Engineering <u>IBM quantum computer solves classically intractable problem in 15 minutes</u>	Robotics; AI; Engineering <u>Charting smarter routes for drones</u>	Sensors; Health Tech; Robotics <u>Low-Power Wearable System Accurately Tracks Motion</u>
			
Indigo light prevented myopia in tree shrews, suggesting indoor lighting spectra could eventually be redesigned to better support eye development.	An IBM–University of Chicago experiment completed a quantum computation not practically reproducible by leading classical methods, using 70 error-corrected logical qubits.	A new pathfinding method for unmanned aerial vehicles ran about 15 times faster than the comparison baseline in reported tests.	Six stretchable clothing-mounted sensors plus on-device machine learning classify gait and joint motion with over 99% personalized accuracy at just 0.318 mW.
Source: Cincinnati Children's Hospital (26 Aug 2026)	Source: IBM (30 Aug 2026)	Source: University of Texas at Austin (25 Aug 2026)	Source: IEEE Spectrum (31 Aug 2026)

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