



## SECTION 1 – TECH BUZZ

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



#### **Amazon brings conversational AI ‘Explore with Alexa’**

Amazon has introduced a new feature called "Explore with Alexa" that allows kids to engage in interactive conversations with the AI-powered assistant on Echo devices. This feature, part of the Amazon Kids+ content subscription, provides kid-friendly conversations with Alexa using generative AI while ensuring a safe and appropriate experience.

- Unlike some existing AI chatbots for children, Amazon's approach involves using generative AI to create a conversational experience tailored for kids under 13 years old. To address potential issues such as inappropriate questions or incorrect answers, Amazon has implemented several safety measures.
- The content provided through "Explore with Alexa" includes only kid-friendly fun facts and trivia questions, sourced from partners like the World Wildlife Fund and A-Z animals. Amazon's Alexa Kids science team, utilizing Alexa's large language model (LLM) technology, generates this content offline and reviews it both manually and with AI assistance. The content is pre-reviewed and drawn from a limited dataset focused on animal facts.
- To access the feature, kids can either initiate specific topics like "Alexa, let's explore animals" or engage in organic conversations where the topic might naturally arise. In this

interactive experience, Alexa not only answers questions but also poses trivia questions to the kids, encouraging active participation and learning.

- Amazon's cautious approach includes using AI to assist in reviewing materials and creating a safe environment for children. The company plans to expand the generative AI experience to cover various subjects like space, music, video games, and sports in the future.
- Regarding privacy, Amazon ensures that the AI is not trained on kids' answers. The data handling policies for "Explore with Alexa" align with the same standards as non-AI Alexa, with parents having control over their children's interactions and stored data.
- Although initially available in English, Amazon aims to internationalize "Explore with Alexa" in the future. The company is also working on integrating generative AI at runtime for both kids and adults, although this process requires careful planning and testing to maintain safety and appropriateness.
- Alongside the launch of "Explore with Alexa," Amazon has introduced the Echo Pop Kids speakers, featuring designs inspired by Marvel's Avengers and Disney Princess. These devices come with access to the Amazon Kids+ subscription service, offering a variety of kid-friendly content, including "Explore with Alexa." The feature works not only on designated "Kids" devices but also on any device set to kids mode or communal family devices with established voice IDs.

### **Viso eyes no-code for the future of computer vision**

Viso, a Swiss-based tech company, has recently secured \$9.2 million in seed funding to expand its groundbreaking computer vision platform. In a world saturated with computer vision models, Viso stands out by offering a user-friendly, end-to-end solution for businesses seeking to create and customize their own visual AI models without the need for extensive coding or technical expertise.

- Traditional options in the market often come in the form of pre-made computer vision systems, functioning essentially as models-as-a-service. However, these solutions frequently fall short of meeting specific use cases, security requirements, or budget constraints. Building custom models from scratch is an alternative, but it demands a considerable investment in time, money, and expertise, making it inaccessible for many businesses.
- Viso addresses this gap by providing a specialized platform where companies can develop enterprise-grade computer vision models tailored to their needs. According to Gaudenz Boesch, Viso's co-founder and co-CEO, many businesses initially adopt pre-made computer vision systems but eventually find the need to integrate and customize these systems deeply. This integration is crucial because the data involved is sensitive, and the technology holds strategic value. However, the lack of a specialized infrastructure for efficient development and deployment makes this process challenging and costly.
- Viso's approach involves a series of modules, both pre-built and customizable, allowing users to select, train, and deploy computer vision models seamlessly. While some level of expertise is still required, Viso simplifies the process by centralizing all the necessary components within a single platform. Users can handle tasks such as selecting object

recognition models, managing training data, and handling inference in one place, eliminating the need to juggle multiple tools, APIs, or code notebooks.

- The platform covers every step of the computer vision development process, from initial data analysis and storage to annotation, labelling, model training, product integration, deployment, analytics, updates, backups, access, and security. This comprehensive approach means that users can start with raw footage and, within a matter of weeks, have a fully functional product, all within the Viso platform.
- Viso's uniqueness lies in its ability to manage complex computer vision applications at scale and provide continuous maintenance and support. Unlike other platforms in the market, Viso is not limited to a few specific tasks; it aims to support various models, methods, hardware configurations, and use cases while ensuring that customers have full ownership of the end result.
- Despite the competitive landscape, investors have shown significant interest in Viso's approach. The company recently raised \$9.2 million in seed funding, led by Accel and supported by various angel investors. Notably, Viso has achieved substantial growth, with several major companies such as PricewaterhouseCooper, DHL, and Orange already adopting its platform. The company has experienced a sixfold increase in new customer growth since 2022, reflecting the market's demand for a comprehensive and user-friendly computer vision solution.

### **Eve plans to bring LLMs to the legal profession**

In 2020, Jay Madheswaran, Matt Noe, and David Zeng, experienced tech industry veterans, envisioned transforming the legal profession by harnessing the capabilities of large language models, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT. Their mission was to create a platform that would enhance lawyers' productivity by simplifying the processes involved in legal discovery and research.

- Madheswaran, the founder of Eve, explaining their motivation, pointed out the significant amount of time legal professionals spend manually sifting through documents to extract relevant insights.
- Eve is an AI-powered platform designed to handle various legal tasks such as document review, case analysis, client intake, and research.
- Eve recently emerged from stealth mode with \$14 million in funding from Lightspeed Ventures and Menlo Ventures.
- This tedious work not only becomes unmanageable but also costs law firms substantial amounts of money. A survey from 2012 indicated that legal professionals spend over 11 hours a week dealing with challenges related to document creation and management, with at least six hours wasted.
- This wasted time results in considerable financial losses for law firms, amounting to thousands of dollars per lawyer annually.
- To address these challenges, Madheswaran, formerly an early-stage investor at Lightspeed Venture Partners and previously the head of engineering at Rubrik, along with Noe and Zeng, founded Eve.

- Madheswaran emphasized Eve's ability to adapt to the evolving demands of different law firms.
- The platform comes pre-trained with skills and knowledge specific to the legal profession, allowing law professionals to derive value without the need for extensive engineering work.
- Eve offers a set of apps that automate what Madheswaran calls "low-value" use cases in litigation, transactional law, and specific practice areas. Customers can customize these apps for specific applications and embed Eve into their firm's daily tasks and workflows.
- To address concerns about the accuracy of AI-generated content, Madheswaran highlighted that Eve encourages full citations and direct quotes and prompts users to validate its results. Unlike other generative AI models prone to fabricating information, Eve is designed with a focus on accuracy and reliability.
- Eve is not the only AI assistant in the legal market. Competitors like Harvey, Zero Systems, and Casetex (acquired by Thomson Reuters) also aim to streamline legal processes. However, all these solutions face the challenge of convincing law firms to adopt AI technology. A recent poll indicated that only 64% of in-house counsel have used AI for legal tasks, with legal risks and ethical concerns cited as the main barriers to adoption.
- Despite these challenges, Eve has made notable progress, attracting over a dozen firms with several hundred lawyers in their employ.

## WEB DEVELOPMENT

### Node.js 21 Release Updates WebStreams Module, V8 Engine

The Node.js team has recently unveiled Node.js 21, a release packed with noteworthy changes aimed at improving developers' experience and enhancing overall performance. Here's a rundown of the key updates:

- **V8 JavaScript Engine Upgrade:** Node.js 21 introduces an update to the V8 JavaScript engine, now at version 11.8. This upgrade brings a host of improvements, including enhanced performance and new language features. Notable additions include Array grouping, ArrayBuffer.prototype.transfer, and extended-const expressions in WebAssembly. These enhancements reduce dependencies on external libraries, streamlining the development process.
- **Stable Fetch and WebStreams Modules:** The fetch and WebStreams modules have been promoted to stable within Node.js 21. This change has a significant impact on modules such as WebStreams, FormData, Headers, Request, Response, and fetch, ensuring stability and reliability in their usage.
- **Experimental WebSocket Client:** Node.js 21 introduces an experimental WebSocket client that aligns with browser-compatible standards. This client can be enabled with the `--experimental-websocket` flag. Its purpose is to simplify JavaScript development for applications running on both frontend and backend, enhancing compatibility and ease of use.

- **Enhanced Test Runner:** The test runner in Node.js has been upgraded to support glob expressions when specifying the --test parameter. This enhancement allows for more efficient and flexible test execution, enabling developers to run tests across multiple directories using powerful glob patterns.
- **Customizable Module System:** A new flag, --experimental-default-type, has been introduced. This flag empowers developers to customize the default module system, allowing them to specify whether input files should be interpreted as ES modules or CommonJS. This flexibility enhances developers' control over their projects, accommodating various module preferences.
- **Performance Improvements:** Node.js 21 includes several performance-focused enhancements, particularly in URL handling, fetch operations, streams, node:fs, and HTTP functionalities. These refinements are designed to boost the overall runtime performance of Node.js, ensuring smoother and faster execution of applications.
- **Web Interoperability:** The integration of the global navigator object in Node.js 21 enhances web interoperability. Developers can now access hardware concurrency information through navigator.hardwareConcurrency, enabling better utilization of system resources for improved application performance.
- Despite these exciting updates, it's important to note that Node.js 21 will not receive LTS (long-term support) status due to its odd version number. For users in active deployment or planning for it, Node.js 20 and 18 LTS versions are recommended for continued support and compatibility with the latest features.
- Rafael Gonzaga, a member of the Node.js Technical Steering Committee (TSC), encourages developers to explore Node.js 21, emphasizing its role as a testing ground for new features. The current release status of Node.js 21 will be maintained for six months until April 2024, giving developers ample time to experiment and adapt to these enhancements.
- Additionally, Node.js 16 (LTS) has reached its end of life (EOL), prompting developers to plan upgrades to Node.js 18 (LTS) or Node.js 20 (LTS) for ongoing support and access to the latest features.

## APPs

### X's Vision and Challenges

Elon Musk recently revealed the introduction of video and audio calling on X, the rebranded version of Twitter, marking a significant step toward his vision of transforming X into an all-encompassing app capable of handling diverse tasks like online payments, news delivery, and food services.

- However, this feature is not yet accessible to all users, and X has not provided a clear timeline for its widespread availability. Additionally, it remains uncertain whether this functionality will be limited to subscribers, as suggested by tech veteran Chris Messina's findings in X's code.
- The method for screening calls on this platform also raises questions. Early users can allow calls from verified users, people they follow, and contacts in their address book.

Despite the intriguing development, X has remained tight-lipped about the reasons behind this feature's introduction and its alignment with Musk's vision. X no longer responds to media inquiries, issuing only automated responses since Musk's takeover.

- Musk's ambition for X has always been to create a financial services app. He envisioned merging a social network with a payments platform, reminiscent of China's WeChat, a multifunctional messaging app facilitating digital transactions, shopping, and communications. X.com, which Musk rebranded as X, initially emerged in 1999 as a precursor to PayPal, with aspirations to serve as an all-in-one financial hub for banking, digital purchases, credit cards, investments, and loans. The recent addition of video and audio calling appears somewhat divergent from this original financial focus.
- However, Musk's strategy might be comparable to Uber and Amazon's approaches. Uber expanded from ride-hailing to include services like food delivery, boat charters, and package returns. Similarly, Amazon leveraged products like Alexa to boost core business revenue by offering additional services based on customer requests.
- Musk seems to be aiming for a similar strategy, enticing users with social features like live Spaces and engaging content while retaining them through the convenience of internet-enabled phone calls, long-form posts, videos, and high-yield savings accounts. Since these features could be limited to subscribers, this strategy might generate revenue for X, but its success depends on Musk's ability to execute his broader plans.
- However, this endeavour faces challenges in the U.S. regulatory landscape. Unlike China, where tech companies have more freedom, U.S. regulators closely monitor these firms to prevent any single entity from monopolizing the internet. Consequently, the success of Musk's vision hinges on not just technical solutions but also navigating complex regulatory frameworks.

## ROBOTICS

### Robots as future of rescue efforts

At the Japan Mobility Show, a glimpse into a possible future unfolded amidst the wreckage. A survivor, detected by a drone camera, lay trapped in the debris. A robot on tracks navigated the ruins to provide essential water, while rescuers donning exoskeletons painstakingly cleared a path.

- An autonomous stretcher, controlled remotely, stood ready to transport the survivor to safety. This striking display showcased Japan's vision of leveraging technology to assist and, in some cases, replace human efforts, especially in a nation grappling with a shrinking workforce and frequent disasters.
- Yet, this futuristic spectacle was set against an unusual backdrop: the catastrophic aftermath of Godzilla, a recurring theme in Japanese disaster cinema since the 1950s. The context was critical, given Japan's demographic reality, where nearly 30 percent of the population is aged 65 and above.
- "Due to population decline, there are fewer individuals available for perilous tasks," observed Tomoyuki Izu, the founder of Attractlab, a local startup specializing in

autonomous mobility. "My aim is to support professionals like firefighters with my machines," added the 61-year-old innovator.

- Attractlab played a pivotal role in the event, co-developing the nimble delivery robot adept at manoeuvring through cardboard rubble. They also designed a remote-controlled stretcher mounted on wheels or tracks, primed for emergency situations. Despite the cutting-edge innovations on display, Izu acknowledged that the Japanese government currently leans towards conventional relief methods. However, he firmly believes that a demand for advanced technology will inevitably emerge.
  - Japan's Kawasaki Heavy Industries (KHI) contributed to this futuristic landscape with Kaleido, a sturdy humanoid robot engineered to delicately lift and move injured individuals. Itsuki Goda, from KHI's robotics division, envisioned a future where Kaleido could venture into perilous zones like fires or disaster-stricken areas.
  - However, he conceded that further development in scanning capabilities was crucial, especially to navigate diverse terrains. Currently, Kaleido can handle loads up to 60 kilograms (132 pounds), but a new prototype, promising increased capacity, is in the pipeline. The stumbling block remains the price, with Goda noting that currently, this robot is significantly costlier than a human. However, mass production could substantially reduce costs, making these robots a viable option.
  - Post the Fukushima nuclear disaster in 2011, a specialized niche emerged: robots designed to tackle inaccessible or hazardous disaster sites. Sugino Machine, an engineering firm, presented a compact robotic arm mounted on crawlers, capable of operating in areas too perilous for emergency responders. This machine, created in 2018 for a national atomic research agency, has multifunctional capabilities.
  - Various tools, including image, temperature, or radioactivity sensors, and a high-pressure water lance, can be attached to its arm. Akira Inujima from Sugino Machine acknowledged the shortage of labour and emphasized the importance of offering solutions to augment human efforts, especially in post-disaster scenarios.
  - The pivotal point in this trajectory of technological advancement is not just innovation but also the continuation of this progress. The legacy of Fukushima has been instrumental in driving technological development, with government support fuelling projects like debris removal. As Japan grapples with an aging population and a decreasing workforce, the synergy between human ingenuity and cutting-edge technology could be the key to overcoming future challenges.
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## **SECTION 2 – GLOBAL INFO**

### **NORTH AMERICA**

#### **UNITED STATES**

The deadlock in the US House of Representatives was finally broken as a new speaker was elected, putting an end to weeks of intense Republican infighting that had paralyzed Congress during a critical period of international and domestic challenges.

- Mike Johnson, a relatively unknown ally of Donald Trump who had been actively involved in legal efforts to overturn the 2020 election results, secured unanimous support from his party to take charge of the lower chamber of Congress. This decision came after the removal of Kevin McCarthy in a right-wing coup on October 3, which had left the House in a state of standstill.
- In his acceptance speech, Johnson expressed the urgent need to restore faith in the American political system: "I think all the American people at one time had great pride in this institution, but right now, that's in jeopardy. And we have a challenge before us right now to rebuild and restore that trust," he remarked as he assumed the position of speaker.
- He reflected on the remarkable democratic essence of America, citing his own background as the child of a firefighter, and expressed his commitment to serving in the historic chamber where many distinguished individuals had served before him.
- It is noteworthy, however, that Johnson's appointment marks an unusual development in the post-Civil War era, as he is the least experienced speaker ever to hold the position. Unlike his predecessors, he has never chaired a committee or held a senior leadership role within the Congress.
- Moreover, Johnson faces an immediate challenge in the form of a looming government shutdown, which could jeopardize his newly acquired role, unless he can swiftly negotiate a budget deal for 2024.
- To navigate this complex task, he will have to engage with more seasoned political figures, including Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and President Joe Biden, in order to reach a resolution and avert a potential crisis. The outcome of these negotiations will undoubtedly shape Johnson's early days as speaker and set the tone for his leadership in the coming months.

### **MIDDLE EAST**

#### **ISRAEL**

In a recent televised address, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced that Israel is preparing for a ground war in Gaza, a move that has raised concerns among allies and exacerbated an already dire humanitarian situation. The decision comes after 19 days of intense bombing in the Hamas-controlled territory, which has drawn increasing international criticism.

- Netanyahu, addressing a grieving and angry Israeli population still reeling from Hamas's deadly attacks, emphasized the gravity of the situation, stating, "We are in the midst of a

campaign for our existence." He asserted Israel's determination to decide the course of the war on its own terms.

- The conflict escalated on October 7 when a large group of Hamas gunmen crossed into Israel from Gaza, resulting in the loss of 1,400 lives, predominantly civilians, and the abduction of 222 individuals, according to official figures.
- The international community, including US President Joe Biden, has publicly called on Israel to prioritize the safety of innocent civilians and adhere to the "laws of war" while targeting Hamas militants.
- The aerial assault by Israel has already claimed thousands of lives in Gaza, and there are fears that the death toll will significantly rise if tens of thousands of Israeli troops stationed around Gaza initiate a ground invasion.

## **SOUTH AMERICA**

### **BOLIVIA**

Massive forest fires in Bolivia have forced the closure of tens of thousands of schools, affecting a significant portion of the student population, the country's education minister announced.

- Approximately 3,650 schools, constituting around 15 percent of the national total, have been shut down until Friday, according to Minister Edgar Pary. The impact has been most severe in the Santa Cruz region, which serves as Bolivia's economic hub and is also the most densely populated area.
- The forest fires, primarily triggered by the practice of setting fires to clear land for agricultural purposes, have led to widespread air pollution. The environment ministry revealed that a staggering two million hectares (4.9 million acres) of forest and grassland have been consumed by the fires this year alone.
- The consequences of these fires have been visible in the skies over major cities like the capital, La Paz, and El Alto, which houses the international airport. Thick clouds of smoke have engulfed these urban areas, creating hazardous air quality conditions and prompting the closure of schools for the safety and well-being of the students.

## **AFRICA**

### **SOUTH AFRICA**

South African police successfully brought back over 500 miners who had been trapped underground for nearly three days due to a standoff between rival labour unions. According to police spokeswoman Brenda Muridili, a total of 455 workers, including paramedics and security guards, emerged from the mine into the daylight during the afternoon.

- The rescue operation began earlier in the day, with the first group of 107 miners making their way back to the surface in the morning.
- "The mine rescue team has confirmed that they have cleared the underground area," Muridili stated. She also mentioned that paramedics on the surface provided medical assistance, and four injured men, including a security officer, were taken to the hospital for further treatment.

- In addition to the successful rescue, authorities discovered sticks and screwdrivers in the mine lift. As a response, they plan to open a case of kidnapping and assault in connection with the incident.
  - The miners had been trapped in the Gold One mine, located in Springs, east of Johannesburg, after completing a night shift on Monday.
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## **SECTION 3 – MIXED BAG**

### **HEALTH**

#### **Precision Therapy Offers Hope For Cancer Patients**

A groundbreaking precision therapy has displayed promising outcomes for patients battling a traditionally challenging form of cancer. Scientists have unveiled a new molecular-targeted treatment that has the potential to significantly improve "progression-free survival" rates among individuals suffering from cancer of unknown primary (CUP). CUP refers to cases where secondary cancer, or cancer spread, is identified within a patient's body, yet medical professionals are unable to pinpoint its origin.

- This perplexing situation can arise due to rapid growth of secondary cancer while the initial cancer remains small, or, in rare instances, when the patient's immune system successfully combats the primary cancer, causing it to vanish while the secondary cancer persists. Traditional chemotherapy has been the primary method of treatment, but survival rates have historically been bleak. However, an international team of researchers has been diligently exploring the potential of a personalized treatment approach to enhance survival prospects.
- In a groundbreaking clinical trial named CUPISCO, participants undergo comprehensive genetic profiling, allowing scientists to scrutinize the genetic changes driving the cancer. This detailed genetic information empowers researchers to make personalized treatment decisions, offering a range of tailored therapies within the trial. Among the 436 individuals involved in the trial, all of whom had received at least one of three chemotherapy doses without worsening of their CUP, 326 received molecularly-guided therapy following genetic profiling.
- Data from this study, presented at the European Society for Medical Oncology conference in Spain, reveals that treatment decisions guided by comprehensive genomic profiling substantially extend the period before a patient's cancer worsens, compared to standard chemotherapy. Those who received personalized treatment experienced an average progression-free survival period of 6.1 months, contrasting with the average of 4.4 months among those who received conventional care. This study was sponsored by Roche, a pharmaceutical company.

- Although the participants are being monitored for longer-term survival, preliminary figures indicate that patients fare better with precision therapy. One such participant, Chris Russell, a 55-year-old father-of-four from Derbyshire, expressed gratitude for the opportunity to be part of the trial. Diagnosed with CUP in early 2022 after a year of medical investigations, Russell has been on the trial for a year and is thriving. He described the trial as a "second chance at life," enabling him to enjoy ordinary activities and express appreciation for the team at The Christie NHS Foundation Trust.
- Dr. Natalie Cook, consultant medical oncologist at The Christie NHS Foundation Trust and principal investigator of the trial, emphasized the significance of these results, especially given the traditionally grim prognosis associated with CUP. Dr. Kai-Keen Shiu, consultant medical oncologist at UCLH NHS Foundation Trust and UK chief investigator of the trial, echoed this sentiment, highlighting the trial's role in addressing a longstanding gap in early genomic profiling and testing novel targeted treatments.
- John Symons, director of the Cancer of Unknown Primary Foundation - Jo's Friends, acknowledged the fear accompanying a CUP diagnosis, where effective treatment options have historically been limited. He praised the CUPISCO trial for ushering in a new era for patients, where genomic profiling informs diagnoses and leads to more focused and effective treatment choices.
- According to Cancer Research UK, approximately 8,600 people receive a diagnosis of cancer of unknown primary in the UK each year. Diagnosis involves examining cells under a microscope, with the challenge arising when cancer cells from one organ resemble those from another, complicating the identification of the cancer's origin.

## SPACE

### Cert-1

United Launch Alliance's (ULA) new Vulcan Centaur rocket is scheduled to make its maiden flight on Christmas Eve with a payload that includes a private lunar lander and the cremated remains of several people associated with the original "Star Trek" series.

- The mission, called Cert-1, will launch from the US Space Force launch base at Cape Canaveral, Florida. The Vulcan Centaur is ULA's "next generation" rocket that will provide higher performance and greater affordability than its current lineup, which includes the Atlas V.
- The lunar lander, named Peregrine, was developed by Astrobotic and could become the first American robot on the Moon since the Apollo program ended in 1972. Astrobotic received funding from NASA for this mission, which will carry out research ahead of the space agency's Artemis flights to return humans to the Moon this decade.
- ULA has also signed a deal with Amazon for Vulcan Centaur to transport a large portion of the online shopping giant's forthcoming internet satellite constellation, called Kuiper.
- The Christmas Eve launch date was decided because of orbital mechanics and the availability of NASA's Deep Space Network for communications.
- **Other recent lunar missions:** Japanese start-up ispace attempted to become the first private company to land on the Moon this spring, but the mission ended in a crash. India

successfully touched down on the Moon in August during a government mission. The Japanese space agency Jaxa also launched a mission to the Moon in September, with the lander to attempt touchdown in early 2024.

- **Conclusion:** The launch of the Vulcan Centaur on Christmas Eve is a significant event for the US space industry. It marks the debut of a new rocket that is expected to play a major role in future lunar and deep space missions. The mission is also carrying a unique payload, including the remains of "Star Trek" icons Gene Rodenberry and Nichelle Nichols. The launch is sure to generate a lot of excitement and attention, and it will be a fitting way to celebrate the Christmas holiday.

## LANGUAGE

### Official Swedish dictionary completed after 140 years

After a meticulous 140-year endeavour, the Swedish Academy Dictionary (SAOB) has reached its completion, as confirmed by its editor, Christian Mattsson, on Wednesday. Comparable to the renowned Oxford English Dictionary, this monumental work, compiled by the institution responsible for awarding the Nobel Prize in Literature, spans 33,111 pages encompassed within 39 volumes.

- Initiated in the year 1883, this exhaustive lexicographical project recently achieved its culmination. A team of 137 dedicated full-time employees meticulously contributed to this comprehensive lexicon. Despite this significant achievement, the work is not entirely finished. The initial volumes, from A to R, are now considered antiquated and require revision to incorporate contemporary vocabulary.
- One noteworthy example is the term 'allergy,' which entered the Swedish language around the 1920s but was omitted from the A volume, published in 1893. Mattsson highlighted the necessity of updating the dictionary with words like 'Barbie doll,' 'app,' and 'computer,' totalling around 10,000 new entries to be incorporated over the next seven years.
- The SAOB serves as an invaluable historical repository of the Swedish language, chronicling its evolution from 1521 to the present day. Although this monumental work is primarily utilized by researchers and linguists, it is also accessible online. Limited to approximately 200 printed copies, the SAOB stands as a testament to the Academy's commitment to preserving the richness and diversity of the Swedish language.
- Established in 1786 by King Gustav III, the Swedish Academy was founded with a mission to champion the nation's language and literature. Its purpose was to ensure the "purity, vigour, and majesty" of the Swedish language, a commitment that continues to be upheld through initiatives such as the SAOB.

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