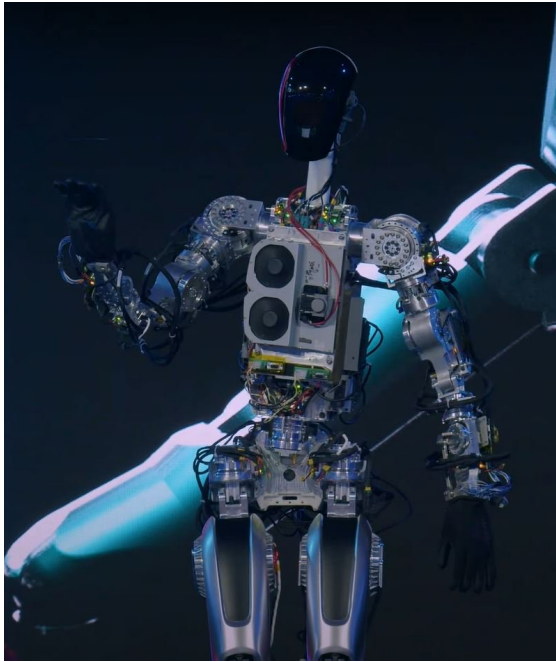


"Optimus": A Threat to Mankind?

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Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla, revealed his latest innovation, the humanoid robot “Optimus” on the 30th of September.

At Tesla’s AI day, a basic version of the robot made its first, wavering public appearance—



Optimus was pulled on stage by three Tesla employees and was barely able to wave to an audience. However, Elon Musk was unfazed by the robot's significant limitations, asserting that the robot's hardware was close to what his electric vehicle business would put into mass production. It included 28 specifically built actuators to control the robot's motions, a slender, gleaming metallic body, and a battery pack that could run the robot for an entire day. “Our goal is to make a usable

human-robot as quickly as possible,” Musk claims, additionally mentioning that the robot could cost up to \$20,000.

Humanoid robots are not a new concept, though. One of the most recent and popular humanoid robots released to the public this decade was Sophia, a robot that can mimic human motions and expressions, initiate conversations with people, and answer given questions.

However, Elon Musk’s robot can do more complex motor actions compared to Sophia.

According to Musk, the robot walked alone without assistance for the first time at the event. He further asserted that “Optimus” could perform more sophisticated jobs than what was exhibited

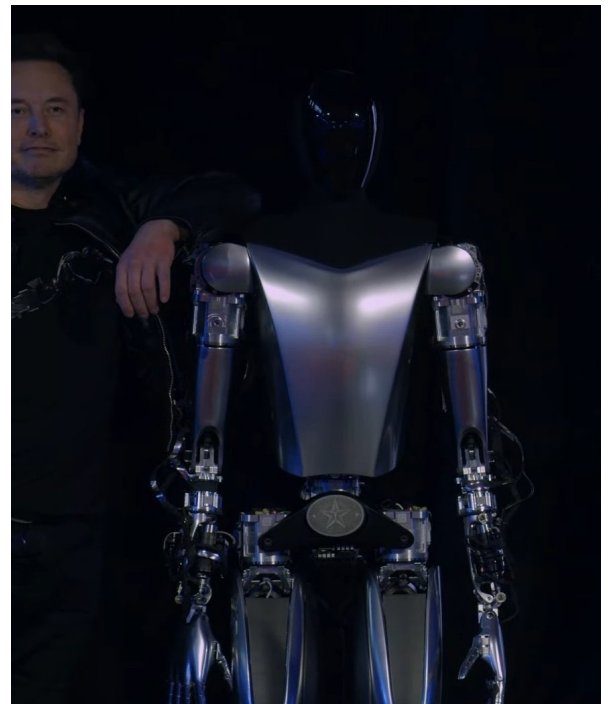
on stage. After that, he showed the audience videos of the robot being engaged in various activities, such as watering a plant, dragging crates, and moving metal bars.

A second prototype was subsequently pushed onto the stage by the Tesla team. It was equipped with a Tesla-designed power pack, control system, and actuators, but it "wasn't quite ready to walk," according to Musk. This prototype was more like the end product but with a more elegant aesthetic.

Optimus will employ the technology developed by Tesla software developers for the company's automobiles, which include an AI-powered driving aid system. Eventually, Musk envisions that these robots may be utilized to help with day-to-day work. He intends to put them to the test by having them work in his Tesla factories and eventually do errands for humans, such as grocery shopping. "It really is a fundamental transformation of civilization as we know it," Musk claims. However, the robot is only in its developmental stages and will take upwards of five years to be released for sale to the public.

However, Investors and financial analysts are skeptical about Tesla's pursuit of robot-making,

encouraging the company to focus on initiatives more closely related to its main business of electric vehicles. On the other hand, The multi-billionaire inventor stated that he aimed to tackle one of AI's most difficult problems: creating a robot that can replace a person. Musk, who previously warned that artificial intelligence threatened mankind, stated that Tesla intended to provide a peaceful transition to a society where robots performed the labor and humans benefited



from it. "We always want to be careful not to go down the Terminator road," he warned. He asserted that Tesla was putting precautions in place, such as a stop button that could not be meddled with.

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