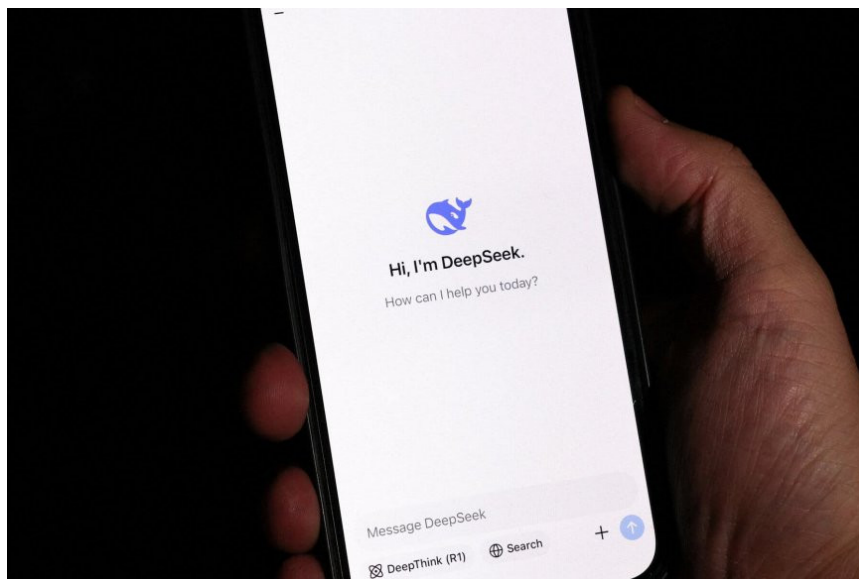




China's DeepSeek faces questions over claims after shaking up global tech



Deep seek pic file

Elon Musk and Palmer Luckey are among tech leaders to cast doubts on the Chinese startup's claimed budget and chip use

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After causing shockwaves with an AI model with capabilities rivalling the creations of Google and OpenAI, China's DeepSeek is facing questions about whether its bold claims stand up to scrutiny.

The Hangzhou-based startup's announcement that it developed R1 at a fraction of the cost of Silicon Valley's latest models immediately called into question assumptions about the United States's dominance in AI and the sky-high market valuations of its top tech firms. Some sceptics, however, have challenged DeepSeek's account of working on a shoestring budget, suggesting that the firm likely had access to more advanced chips and more funding than it has acknowledged.

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"It's very much an open question whether DeepSeek's claims can be taken at face value. The AI community will be digging into them and we'll find out," Pedro Domingos, professor emeritus of computer science and engineering at the University of Washington, told AI Jazeera.

"It's plausible to me that it's also quite possible that that's just the cost of fine-tuning and post-processing models that cost more, that DeepSeek couldn't have done it without building on more expensive models by others."

In a research paper released last week, the DeepSeek development team said they had used 2,000 Nvidia H800 GPUs – a less advanced chip originally designed to comply with US export controls – and spent \$5.6m to train R1's foundational model, V3.

OpenAI CEO Sam Altman has stated that it cost more than \$100m to train its chatbot GPT-4, while analysts have estimated that the model used as

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