



*Abstract – this document provides a comprehensive analysis of the humanoid robot challenges, focusing on various critical aspects that are pivotal for security professionals and other industry specialists. The analysis delves into the technological advancements in humanoid robots, particularly the integration of end-to-end AI and multi-modal AI algorithms, which significantly enhance the robots' capabilities in handling complex tasks and decision-making processes. The document also examines the economic implications, emphasizing the potential of humanoid robots in substituting human roles, thereby not only increasing safety but also addressing labor shortages in critical sectors and strategic implications of these technological advancements on global labor markets and industrial competitiveness.*

*This document is beneficial for security professionals who are interested in understanding the implications of robotic automation on cybersecurity measures and infrastructure protection. Additionally, the analysis serves as a valuable resource for industry specialists across various sectors, providing insights into how humanoid robots can be integrated into their operations to enhance efficiency, safety, and innovation.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Humanoid robots are advanced machines designed to mimic the human form and behavior, equipped with articulated limbs, advanced sensors, and often the ability to interact socially. These robots are increasingly being utilized across various sectors, including healthcare, education, industry, and services, due to their adaptability to human environments and their ability to perform tasks that require human-like dexterity and interaction.

In healthcare, humanoid robots assist with clinical tasks, provide emotional support, and aid in patient rehabilitation. In education, they serve as interactive companions and personal tutors, enhancing learning experiences and promoting social integration for children with special needs. The industrial sector benefits from humanoid robots through automation of repetitive and hazardous tasks, improving efficiency and safety. Additionally, in service industries, these robots handle customer assistance, guide visitors, and perform maintenance tasks,

showcasing their versatility and potential to transform various aspects of daily life.

## II. MARKET FORECASTS FOR HUMANOID ROBOTS

The humanoid robot market is poised for substantial growth, with projections indicating a multi-billion-dollar market by 2035. Key drivers include advancements in AI, cost reductions, and increasing demand for automation in hazardous and manufacturing roles.

- **Goldman Sachs Report (January 2024):**
  - **Total Addressable Market (TAM):** The TAM for humanoid robots is expected to reach \$38 billion by 2035, up from an initial forecast of \$6 billion. This increase is driven by a fourfold rise in shipment estimates to 1.4 million units.
  - **Shipment Estimates:** The base case scenario predicts a 53% compound annual growth rate (CAGR) from 2025 to 2035, with shipments reaching 1.4 million units by 2035. The bull case scenario anticipates shipments hitting 1 million units by 2031, four years ahead of previous expectations.
  - **Cost Reductions:** The Bill of Materials (BOM) cost for high-spec robots has decreased by 40% to \$150,000 per unit in 2023, down from \$250,000 the previous year, due to cheaper components and a broader domestic supply chain.
- **Data Bridge Market Research:** The global humanoid robot market is expected to grow from \$2.46 billion in 2023 to \$55.80 billion by 2031, with a CAGR of 48.5% during the forecast period.
- **SkyQuestt:** The market is projected to grow from \$1.48 billion in 2019 to \$34.96 billion by 2031, with a CAGR of 42.1%.
- **GlobeNewswire:** The global market for humanoid robots, valued at approximately \$1.3 billion in 2022, is anticipated to expand to \$6.3 billion by 2030, with a CAGR of 22.3%.
- **The Business Research Company:** The market is expected to grow from \$2.44 billion in 2023 to \$3.7 billion in 2024, with a CAGR of 51.6%. By 2028, the market is projected to reach \$19.69 billion, with a CAGR of 51.9%.
- **Grand View Research: Market Size:** The global humanoid robot market was estimated at \$1.11 billion in 2022 and is expected to grow at a CAGR of 21.1% from 2023 to 2030.
- **Goldman Sachs (February 2024):** In a blue-sky scenario, the market could reach up to \$154 billion by 2035, comparable to the global electric vehicle market and one-third of the global smartphone market as of 2021.
- **Macquarie Research:** Under a neutral assumption, the global humanoid robot market is expected to reach

\$107.1 billion by 2035, with a CAGR of 71% from 2025 to 2035.

#### A. Key Drivers and Trends

- **Technological Advancements:** Significant progress in AI, particularly in end-to-end AI and multi-modal AI algorithms, is accelerating product iterations and improving robot capabilities.
- **Cost Reductions:** The availability of cheaper components and improvements in design and manufacturing techniques are driving down costs, making humanoid robots more economically viable.
- **Labor Market Implications:** The demand for robots to handle hazardous and dangerous jobs is elevated by national policies, with potential applications in manufacturing, disaster rescue, and elderly care.
- **Investment and Market Dynamics:** Increased investments from supply chains, startups, and listed companies, particularly in the US and Asia, are driving market growth. Government support, especially from China, is also a significant factor.

### III. TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS

The development of humanoid robots has seen significant technological advancements, driven by improvements in artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, sensor integration, and hardware design. These advancements are enabling humanoid robots to perform increasingly complex tasks and interact more naturally with human environments.

#### A. AI and Machine Learning Integration

- **End-to-End AI:** The integration of end-to-end AI and multi-modal AI algorithms has been a game-changer, enabling faster product iterations and improved capabilities in humanoid robots. This approach allows robots to execute tasks from original commands to final outputs under AI self-generated rules, rather than pre-programmed rules by software engineers.
- **Reinforcement Learning (RL):** RL frameworks, such as the one used in the development of the humanoid robot "Adam," have significantly improved the efficiency and effectiveness of imitation learning processes. These frameworks enable robots to achieve human-comparable performance in complex locomotion tasks by using human locomotion data for imitation learning.
- **Large Language Models (LLMs):** The integration of multimodal LLMs, such as Google Gemini and ChatGPT 4 Multimodal, enhances the robots' ability to 'hear' and 'see,' facilitating more nuanced and interactive engagement with the world. This convergence is redefining human-robot interactions, enabling robots to operate seamlessly in real-world environments.

#### B. Sensor Integration and Fusion

- **Advanced Sensors:** Humanoid robots are equipped with a variety of sensors, including inertial measuring

units (IMUs) for spatial awareness, LiDAR for depth sensing, and cameras for visual perception. These sensors allow robots to sense and comprehend their surroundings, enabling them to navigate, communicate, and make decisions autonomously.

- **Sensor Fusion Techniques:** Techniques such as neural networks, Bayesian inference, and Kalman filtering are used to combine sensor data in real-time, providing a comprehensive picture of the robot's environment. This allows robots to predict their posture, map their environment, and identify objects and obstacles in their path.

#### C. Hardware and Design Improvements

- **Cost Reductions:** The Bill of Materials (BOM) cost for high-spec robots has decreased significantly, driven by the availability of cheaper components and a broader domestic supply chain. This reduction in costs is accelerating the timeline for factory and consumer applications of humanoid robots.
- **Innovative Structural Designs:** New structural designs, such as those used in the "Adam" robot, improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the imitation learning process. These designs enable robots to exhibit unprecedented human-like characteristics in locomotion tasks.
- **Battery and Actuator Enhancements:** Improvements in battery life and actuator design are critical for enhancing the mobility and agility of humanoid robots. For instance, robots equipped with hydraulic actuators can typically work in short bursts, but advancements in battery technology are expected to enable longer operational periods.

#### D. Human-Robot Interaction and Cognitive Abilities

- **Cognitive Algorithms:** Researchers are developing algorithms that mimic important facets of human cognition, such as perception, attention, memory, learning, and reasoning. These cognitive abilities allow robots to decipher sensory input, concentrate on relevant inputs, store and retrieve knowledge, and plan actions based on predictions.
- **Emotional and Social Interaction:** Humanoid robots like PEPPER are designed to provide emotional support by detecting facial expressions and vocal tones, adjusting their interactions to create a comforting environment. This capability is particularly valuable in healthcare settings.

#### E. Real-World Applications and Use Cases

- **Industrial and Hazardous Environments:** Humanoid robots are increasingly being used in industrial settings to automate repetitive and potentially dangerous tasks. Their agility and precision are leveraged in the inspection and maintenance of hostile environments, increasing the efficiency of industrial operations.
- **Healthcare and Education:** In healthcare, humanoid robots assist with clinical tasks and provide emotional

support to patients. In education, they serve as interactive companions and personal tutors, promoting social integration and personalized learning experiences

#### IV. LABOR MARKET IMPLICATIONS OF HUMANOID ROBOTS

The integration of humanoid robots into various industries is expected to have profound implications for the labor market. These implications span job displacement, job creation, changes in job roles, and the need for workforce reskilling.

##### A. Job Displacement and Creation

- **Displacement of Routine Jobs:** Humanoid robots are likely to replace jobs that involve repetitive, manual, and routine tasks. This includes roles such as production-line workers, quality-control assessors, and machine operators. The deployment of robots in these areas can lead to significant job losses, particularly in manufacturing and automotive industries.
- **Creation of New Jobs:** While robots may displace certain jobs, they also create new opportunities, particularly in high-skilled roles. These new jobs include AI machine specialists, robot programmers, and maintenance technicians. The shift towards more advanced roles requires workers to develop new skills and adapt to working alongside robots.

##### B. Impact on Wages and Employment

- **Wage Decline:** The introduction of robots into the labor market has been associated with a decline in wages. For instance, studies have shown that for every robot added per 1,000 workers, wages decline by approximately 0.42%, and the employment-to-population ratio decreases by 0.2 percentage points.
- **Employment Reduction:** The deployment of robots can lead to a reduction in employment opportunities. Research indicates that one more robot per thousand workers reduces the employment-to-population ratio by between 0.18 and 0.34 percentage points.

##### C. Sector-Specific Impacts

- **Manufacturing:** The manufacturing sector is expected to see significant changes due to the integration of humanoid robots. Robots can handle tasks such as electric vehicle assembly, component sorting, and other structured environment jobs. This could fill 4% of the projected US manufacturing labor shortage by 2030.
- **Elderly Care:** Humanoid robots are also projected to address 2% of global elderly care demand by 2035. This application is particularly relevant in countries with aging populations and a shortage of caregivers.

##### D. Workforce Reskilling and Adaptation

- **Reskilling Initiatives:** To mitigate the negative impacts of job displacement, there is a need for comprehensive reskilling and upskilling programs. These programs should focus on equipping workers with the skills needed to operate and collaborate with robots. Governments and businesses must invest in education and training to prepare the workforce for the future.

- **Adaptation to New Roles:** Workers will need to adapt to new roles that involve more complex, creative, and empathetic tasks. Robots will take over monotonous and physically demanding tasks, allowing humans to focus on higher-value work.

##### E. Economic and Social Implications

- **Productivity and GDP Growth:** The adoption of robots is expected to lead to significant productivity gains, which in turn can boost gross domestic product (GDP). For example, the increasing use of industrial robots has been shown to raise the annual growth of GDP by 0.36% across 17 countries.
- **Economic Inequality:** The benefits of automation and robotics are likely to accrue to capital owners and skilled workers, potentially increasing economic inequality. It is crucial to implement policies that ensure equitable access to the benefits of automation and support for displaced workers.

##### F. Ethical and Social Considerations

- **Human-Robot Interaction:** The rise of humanoid robots raises ethical concerns about the replacement of human relations with robotic ones. From the perspective of ubuntu philosophy, human relations are essential for becoming fully human, and robotic relations may lead to social isolation and reduced moral agency.
- **Policy and Regulation:** There is a need for robust ethical frameworks and regulations to guide the deployment and use of humanoid robots. This includes considerations around privacy, security, and the ethical implications of robots taking on roles traditionally held by humans

#### V. INCREASED INVESTMENTS AND FUNDING

The sources highlight the significant investments and funding pouring into the humanoid robotics sector, driven by the potential of this emerging technology and the involvement of major tech companies and investors.

- **Figure AI's Massive Funding Round:** Figure AI, a startup developing humanoid robots, raised a staggering \$675 million in a Series B funding round, valuing the company at \$2.6 billion post-money. The funding round attracted prominent investors, including Jeff Bezos (through Bezos Expeditions), Microsoft, Nvidia, OpenAI Startup Fund, Amazon Industrial Innovation Fund, Intel Capital, Align Ventures, and ARK Invest.
- **Involvement of Major Tech Companies:**
  - OpenAI, the company behind ChatGPT, entered into a collaboration agreement with Figure AI to develop next-generation AI models for humanoid robots, combining OpenAI's research with Figure's robotics expertise.
  - Microsoft is investing \$95 million in Figure AI and will provide its Azure cloud services for AI infrastructure, training, and storage.

- Nvidia, a leading chipmaker, is investing \$50 million in Figure AI.
- Amazon's investment arm and the Intel Capital venture fund are also participating in the funding round.
- **Other Significant Investments:**
  - Norwegian startup 1X Technologies raised \$100 million in funding from OpenAI.
  - Agility Robotics, backed by Amazon in 2022, is testing its humanoid robots in Amazon warehouses.
  - Sanctuary AI is developing a humanoid robot called Phoenix.
  - Increased Interest from Venture Capital Firms: Venture capital firms like Parkway Venture Capital, Align Ventures, ARK Venture Fund, Aliya Capital Partners, and Tamarack are investing in humanoid robotics startups. The funding landscape remains challenging, but the AI boom has given hope to startups in the humanoid robotics space.
- **Government Support:** the potential government support, especially from China, is a significant factor driving market growth

## VI. TECHNOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC VIABILITY

### A. Technological Advancements:

- Integration of End-to-End AI and Multi-Modal AI Algorithms:
- The incorporation of end-to-end AI and multi-modal AI algorithms has accelerated product iterations and improved robot capabilities.
- This has enabled faster development cycles and enhancements in areas like manipulation and interaction, as seen in various products launched in 2023 (e.g., Tesla Optimus Gen 2).

### B. Advancements in Hardware and Supply Chain:

- Better hardware configurations and a wider, deeper manufacturing supply chain, especially in China, have contributed to technological progress.
- The availability of cheaper components and a broader scope of domestic supply chain options have driven cost reductions.
- The development of robotic LLMs, such as Google's PaLM-E, PaLI-X, and RT-2, has enabled significant advancements in natural language processing, vision, and control capabilities for humanoid robots.

### C. Economic Viability:

- The BOM cost for high-spec humanoid robots has likely decreased by 40% to \$150,000 per unit in 2023, down from around \$250,000 the previous year.

- This cost reduction is driven by the availability of cheaper components and a broader domestic supply chain, improving the economic feasibility of factory and consumer applications.

### D. Accelerated Timeline for Commercial Viability:

- Based on the cost reductions and technological advancements, factory applications could become economically viable between 2024 and 2027, one year earlier than previously expected (2025-2028).
- Consumer applications are projected to become economically viable between 2028 and 2031, 2-4 years earlier than the previous forecast (2030-2035).

### E. Potential Demand and Labor Substitution:

- Considering the current technological capabilities, the visible demand is identified for humanoid robots in structured environments like manufacturing (e.g., EV assembly, component sorting).
- For hazardous and dangerous tasks, such as special operations, disaster rescue, and nuclear maintenance, the customers may be willing to pay a higher price for humanoid robots due to their adaptability enabled by AI algorithms.
- Assuming a 5-15% labor substitution rate for these applications, the global demand for humanoid robots could potentially reach 1.1 million to 3.5 million units.

## VII. GEOGRAPHICAL TRENDS

### A. Geographical Insights

The humanoid robot market is experiencing significant growth across various regions, driven by technological advancements, increasing demand for automation, and supportive government policies.

#### 1) North America

- **United States:** The U.S. is a major player in the humanoid robot market, with companies like Tesla and Boston Dynamics leading the charge in robot development. The region is expected to dominate the global humanoid robot market due to robust technological ecosystems and significant investments in research and development. The U.S. market is currently estimated at \$430.8 Million.

- **Canada and Mexico:** These countries are also part of the North American market, benefiting from the technological advancements and investments in the region.

#### 2) Asia-Pacific

- **China:** China is aggressively pushing for the mass production of humanoid robots with the aim of becoming a global leader in the field by 2025. The Chinese government has issued guidelines to accelerate the development of humanoid robots, focusing on key technologies such as AI, high-end manufacturing, and new materials. The country aims to establish a domestic ecosystem for humanoid robots, with products expected

to be in mass production by 2025. China's market is forecasted to grow at a CAGR of 26.7%, indicating strong market potential.

- **Japan:** Japan has a long-standing tradition of integrating robotics into various industries, including manufacturing, healthcare, and entertainment. Japanese companies like Fanuc and Softbank Robotics are pioneers in the field, and the country's aging population is driving the development of robots for elderly care. Japan's market is projected to witness healthy growth rates of 17.5%.
- **South Korea:** South Korea is renowned for its innovation in humanoid robots, supported by technological expertise and government initiatives. The country is home to advanced robotics companies like the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST).
- **Other Asia-Pacific Countries:** Countries like India, Australia, Singapore, and Taiwan are also making significant strides in the humanoid robot market, driven by investments in research and development and the adoption of automation technologies.

### 3) Europe

- **Germany:** Germany is a leader in industrial robotics and automation, with a strong manufacturing base driving innovation. German companies like KUKA and Festo are at the forefront of developing intelligent robots for various industrial applications. The country's market is on track to expand at a CAGR of approximately 20.9%.
- **United Kingdom, France, and Italy:** These countries are also key players in the European humanoid robot market, benefiting from strong research institutions and investments in robotics technology.
- **Scandinavian Countries:** Denmark and Sweden are notable for their contributions to collaborative robotics and industrial automation. Companies like Universal Robots and ABB are leading the way in developing flexible and user-friendly robots.

### 4) Middle East and Africa

- **GCC Region:** The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, particularly Saudi Arabia and the UAE, are investing heavily in robotics and automation as part of their economic diversification strategies. The region is witnessing significant growth in the adoption of humanoid robots for various applications, including healthcare and customer service.

### 5) South America

- **Brazil and Argentina:** These countries are part of the growing South American market for humanoid robots, driven by increasing investments in automation and technological advancements.

## B. Companies in the Humanoid Robot Sector

The humanoid robot market is characterized by a diverse range of companies spread across North America, Asia-Pacific, Europe, and other regions. Key players like Tesla, Boston Dynamics, SoftBank Robotics, and UBTECH Robotics are driving innovation and commercialization in this sector. The geographical distribution of these companies highlights the global nature of the humanoid robot market, with significant contributions from the United States, China, Japan, South Korea, and various European countries.

## C. Notable Global Humanoid Robot Brands

- **Sophia (Hanson Robotics):** A social humanoid robot known for its ability to interact with humans and perform various tasks.
- **Pepper (SoftBank Robotics):** A semi-humanoid robot designed to read emotions and interact with humans in multiple languages.
- **Atlas (Boston Dynamics):** An advanced humanoid robot designed for real-world applications, known for its agility and mobility.
- **Digit (Agility Robotics):** A multi-purpose robot designed to navigate and perform tasks in various environments.
- **Phoenix (Sanctuary AI):** A general-purpose humanoid robot designed to perform a wide range of human tasks.
- **Optimus (Tesla):** A humanoid robot designed for industrial applications, leveraging Tesla's AI and manufacturing expertise.
- **TALOS (PAL Robotics):** A humanoid robot designed for industrial applications, known for its high-performance sensors and advanced control systems.

## D. North America

### 1) United States:

- **Tesla:** Known for its Optimus robot, Tesla is leveraging its AI and manufacturing expertise to develop humanoid robots for industrial applications.
- **Boston Dynamics:** A leader in advanced robotics, Boston Dynamics is renowned for its Atlas robot, which is designed for real-world applications.
- **Agility Robotics:** Specializes in multi-purpose robots like Digit, which are designed to navigate and perform tasks in various environments.
- **Figure AI:** Focuses on creating commercially viable autonomous humanoid robots, such as Figure 01, aimed at addressing labor shortages.
- **Promobot Corp.:** Develops service robots for public relations, personal assistance, and caregiving.
- **Kindred Inc.:** Engages in the development of AI-driven robots for various applications.
- **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA):** Involved in the development of humanoid

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robots for space exploration and other advanced applications.

#### 2) *Canada:*

- **Sanctuary AI:** Known for its general-purpose humanoid robot, Phoenix, which is designed to perform a wide range of human tasks.
- **Diligent Robotics:** Develops robot assistants like Moxi to support healthcare workers by handling routine tasks.

### E. *Asia-Pacific*

#### 1) *China:*

- **UBTECH Robotics:** A leading AI and humanoid robotics company, known for developing consumer and business robots.
- **Unitree Robotics:** Known for its H1 humanoid robot, which has set benchmarks in speed and agility.
- **Hanson Robotics:** Famous for its social humanoid robot, Sophia, which can interact with humans and perform various tasks.
- **Xiaomi:** Engages in the development of advanced robotics and AI technologies.

#### 2) *Japan:*

- **SoftBank Robotics:** Known for its social robots like Pepper, which can read emotions and interact with humans.
- **Honda Motor Co., Ltd.:** Develops advanced humanoid robots for various applications.
- **Toyota Motor Corporation:** Known for its T-HR3 robot, which can be controlled remotely and is designed for safe interaction with humans.
- **Kawada Robotics Corporation:** Engages in the development of humanoid robots for industrial applications.
- **ROBOTIS:** Specializes in robotics components and systems.
- **Hajime Research Institute, Ltd.:** Focuses on advanced robotics research and development.
- **Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International (ATR):** Involved in cutting-edge robotics research.

#### 3) *South Korea:*

- **Samsung Electronics:** Develops advanced robotics and AI technologies for various applications.
- **HYULIM Robot Co., Ltd.:** Engages in the development of humanoid robots for industrial and commercial use.

### F. *Europe*

#### 1) *Spain:*

- **PAL Robotics:** Known for its customizable humanoid robots like TALOS, designed for industrial and commercial applications.

- **Macco Robotics:** Develops humanoid robots for the hospitality sector, focusing on food and beverage service.

#### 2) *United Kingdom:*

- **Engineered Arts:** Known for its advanced humanoid robots like Ameca and RoboThespian, which are used for entertainment and educational purposes.

- **Shadow Robot Company:** Specializes in highly articulated robotic hands and systems.

#### 3) *Italy:*

- **Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia (IIT):** Engages in advanced robotics research and development.

### G. *Middle East and Africa*

#### 1) *United Arab Emirates:*

- **Various initiatives:** The region is investing in robotics and automation as part of its economic diversification strategies.

### H. *South America*

#### 1) *Brazil and Argentina:*

- **Emerging markets:** These countries are part of the growing South American market for humanoid robots, driven by increasing investments in automation and technological advancements.

## VIII. ECONOMIC TIMELINES FOR HUMANOID ROBOTS

The economic viability and timelines for the deployment of humanoid robots have been significantly influenced by advancements in technology, cost reductions, and increasing demand for automation.

- **Base Case:** The base case scenario predicts a 53% compound annual growth rate (CAGR) from 2025 to 2035, with shipments reaching 1.4 million units by 2035. This scenario assumes continued advancements in AI and cost reductions.
- **Bull Case:** In the bull case scenario, shipments are expected to hit 1 million units by 2031, four years ahead of previous expectations, driven by accelerated advancements in end-to-end AI.
- **Blue-Sky Scenario:** In the most optimistic scenario, the market could reach up to \$154 billion by 2035, comparable to the global electric vehicle market and one-third of the global smartphone market as of 2021. This scenario assumes that all technological and market hurdles are overcome.
- **Demand for Hazardous Jobs:** The need for robots to handle dangerous jobs is elevated by national policies. Sensitivity analysis suggests global demand could reach 1.1 to 3.5 million units, assuming a 5-15% substitution rate for special operations and auto manufacturing.

- **Special Operations:** Humanoid robots are particularly appealing for special operations such as disaster rescue, nuclear reactor maintenance, and hazardous chemical industry tasks, where human willingness to perform these jobs is low
  - **Increased Investments:** There is stronger commitment from the supply chain, startups in the US and Asia, and multiple listed companies setting up new robot divisions. Government support, especially from China, is also a significant factor driving market growth.
  - **Cost Curve:** The cost curve for humanoid robots has trended down faster than expected, implying better application economics and faster commercialization timelines.
  - **Total Addressable Market (TAM):** The TAM for humanoid robots is projected to reach \$38 billion by 2035, up from an initial forecast of \$6 billion. This increase is driven by a fourfold rise in shipment estimates to 1.4 million units.
  - **Cost Reductions:** The Bill of Materials (BOM) cost for high-spec humanoid robots has decreased by 40% to \$150,000 per unit in 2023, down from \$250,000 the previous year. This reduction is due to the availability of cheaper components and a broader domestic supply chain.
  - **Factory Applications:** The timeline for factory applications has been accelerated by one year, now expected to be economically viable between 2024 and 2027, compared to the previous estimate of 2025 to 2028.
  - **Consumer Applications:** The timeline for consumer applications has also been accelerated by 2-4 years, now expected to be economically viable between 2028 and 2031, compared to the previous estimate of 2030 to 2035.
- **Advancements in dexterity,** particularly in the manipulation of objects, have been noted, although this remains an area with room for improvement.
  - **Sensory Perception and Feedback Systems:** The integration of advanced sensors and feedback systems has enabled humanoid robots to better perceive and interact with their surroundings. These developments have paved the way for increased autonomy and interaction capabilities, allowing robots to observe and react to their environment more effectively.
  - **Component Cost Reduction:** There has been a significant reduction in the cost of components necessary for building humanoid robots, such as high-precision gears, actuators, and batteries. This cost reduction is primarily due to the availability of cheaper components, more supply chain options, and improvements in design and manufacturing techniques. For example, the manufacturing cost of humanoid robots has dropped from a range of \$50,000-\$250,000 per unit to \$30,000-\$150,000, facilitating faster commercialization.

#### B. Software Progress in Humanoid Robots

Software advancements have been equally pivotal in the evolution of humanoid robots, with significant progress in areas such as:

- **Large Language Models (LLMs):** The development of robotic LLMs, such as Google's PaLM-E and RT-2, has been a key factor in advancing humanoid robots. These models enhance the robots' ability to process natural language commands and analyze tasks' scenarios through vision, enabling them to execute tasks with a level of understanding and responsiveness akin to human perception.
- **End-to-End AI:** The shift towards end-to-end AI, where models can train themselves without the need for manual coding by engineers, has accelerated robot development. This approach allows robots to adapt to new situations more quickly and perform a wider range of tasks. Tesla's Optimus Gen 2 is an example of a humanoid robot benefiting from end-to-end AI, demonstrating rapid product iteration and the ability to perform tasks autonomously.

#### C. Robotic LLMs development

- **Introduction of PaLM-E and RT-2:** 2023 saw significant advancements in robotic LLMs with the introduction of PaLM-E and RT-2. These models represent a leap forward in integrating AI with robotics, enabling robots to understand and interact with their environment in more sophisticated ways.
- **PaLM-E's Multimodal Capabilities:** PaLM-E, developed by Google, is an embodied multimodal language model designed for robotics. It combines the power of large language models with the ability to process visual and sensor data, enabling robots to perform tasks across multiple modalities. PaLM-E's architecture allows it to understand and execute tasks on

### IX. TECHNOLOGY PROGRESS IN HUMANOID ROBOTS

Progress in both hardware and software, including the development of LLMs and end-to-end AI, has significantly advanced the capabilities of humanoid robots. These advancements are paving the way for humanoid robots to become more integrated into various aspects of daily life and industry, offering promising prospects for the future of robotics.

#### A. Hardware Progress in Humanoid Robots

The development of humanoid robots has seen remarkable advancements in hardware, making these robots more versatile, efficient, and capable of performing complex tasks.

- **Bipedal Mobility and Dexterity:** Humanoid robots have achieved significant improvements in bipedal mobility, allowing them to navigate complex environments with agility and precision. For instance, Agility Robotics' Digit exemplifies this progress with its ability to move and walk on two feet, showcasing the potential for robots to assist in areas previously considered too challenging for automation. Similarly,

various types of robots and for multiple modalities, including images, robot states, and neural scene representations.

- **RT-2's Vision-Language-Action Model:** RT-2, or Robotics Transformer 2, developed by Google DeepMind, is a vision-language-action (VLA) model that learns from both web and robotics data. It translates high-level reasoning into low-level machine-executable instructions, significantly enhancing robots' ability to manage unforeseen situations and making them more versatile as all-purpose machines.
- **Impact on Robotics:** The development of PaLM-E and RT-2 has profound implications for the field of robotics. These models enable robots to perform tasks with a higher degree of autonomy and adaptability, bridging the gap between AI's theoretical capabilities and practical applications in robotics.

#### D. End-to-End AI in Robotics

The integration of LLMs and end-to-end AI in robotics has led to:

- **Enhanced Human-Robot Interaction:** LLMs and end-to-end AI have significantly improved human-robot interaction, making robots more capable of understanding and responding to human commands in a natural and intuitive manner. This has opened up new possibilities for humanoid robots in various industries and settings.
- **Accelerated Learning and Adaptation:** These technologies have enabled humanoid robots to learn from experiences and adapt to new tasks more efficiently. The RT-X project, for instance, aims to pool data and resources from multiple robotics labs to create versatile, general-purpose robots that can operate effectively beyond limited lab settings.
- **Increased Autonomy:** The advancements in LLMs and end-to-end AI have contributed to the increased autonomy of humanoid robots, allowing them to perform complex tasks with minimal human intervention. This autonomy is crucial for deploying humanoid robots in real-world applications where human-like interaction and adaptability are essential.

#### X. INDUSTRY INSIGHTS

Humanoid robots offer significant potential benefits for military applications, including enhanced capabilities, operational efficiency, and cost savings. However, their deployment also raises ethical, legal, and technical challenges that must be carefully managed. The economic benefits of investing in humanoid robots are substantial, with potential gains in productivity, scalability, and long-term technological advancements. As technology continues to evolve, it will be crucial to address the associated risks and ensure that the deployment of humanoid robots in the military is conducted responsibly and ethically.

#### A. Current Uses of Humanoid Robots

- **Manufacturing:** Humanoid robots are used in manufacturing for tasks such as assembly, quality control, and material handling. They can perform repetitive tasks with high precision and can work in environments that may be hazardous to humans.
  - **Healthcare:** In healthcare, humanoid robots assist with patient care, rehabilitation, and surgery. They can monitor vital signs, assist in physical therapy, and even perform complex surgical procedures.
  - **E-commerce and Warehousing:** Humanoid robots are employed in e-commerce and warehousing to handle logistics, such as sorting and transporting goods. They help improve efficiency and reduce labor costs.
  - **Customer Service and Hospitality:** Humanoid robots are used in customer service roles, such as concierges, receptionists, and guides. They can interact with customers, provide information, and enhance the customer experience.
  - **Security:** Humanoid robots are used in security to patrol areas, detect intrusions, and monitor for safety hazards. They can operate continuously without fatigue and provide real-time data to human operators.
  - **Education and Research:** In educational settings, humanoid robots are used as teaching aids and research tools. They help students learn about robotics, programming, and artificial intelligence.
  - **Entertainment:** Humanoid robots are also used in entertainment, such as performing at events, acting as tour guides in museums, and even conducting orchestras.
- *Potential Future Uses of Humanoid Robots*
- **Military:** Humanoid robots could be used in military applications for tasks such as reconnaissance, bomb disposal, and logistics support. They can operate in dangerous environments, reducing the risk to human soldiers.
  - **Cyberbiosecurity:** Humanoid robots could play a role in cyberbiosecurity by monitoring and protecting biological data and systems from cyber threats. Their advanced sensors and AI capabilities make them suitable for this role.
  - **Oil and Gas Industry:** In the oil and gas industry, humanoid robots could be used for inspection, maintenance, and repair of offshore platforms and pipelines. They can operate in hazardous environments, reducing the need for human intervention.
  - **Mining:** Humanoid robots could be used in mining to perform tasks such as drilling, ore extraction, and safety inspections. They can work in dangerous and confined spaces, improving safety and efficiency.
  - **Financial Services and Stock Markets:** Humanoid robots could assist in financial services by providing customer support, conducting transactions, and



analyzing market data. Their ability to process large amounts of information quickly makes them valuable in this sector.

- **Real Estate Development:** In real estate, humanoid robots could be used for property inspections, maintenance, and customer interactions. They can provide virtual tours and assist with property management tasks.
- **Food and Grocery Industry:** Humanoid robots could be used in the food and grocery industry for tasks such as stocking shelves, preparing food, and delivering groceries. They can help improve efficiency and reduce labor costs.
- **Aircraft:** In the aircraft industry, humanoid robots could assist with maintenance, inspections, and assembly of aircraft components. Their precision and ability to work in confined spaces make them suitable for this role.
- **Maritime and Shipping:** Humanoid robots could be used in maritime and shipping for tasks such as cargo handling, ship maintenance, and safety inspections. They can operate in harsh marine environments, improving efficiency and safety.
- **Smart Cities:** In smart cities, humanoid robots could be used for various tasks such as traffic management, public safety, and maintenance of infrastructure. They can interact with citizens, provide information, and help manage urban environments.

#### B. Industry implications detailed

##### 1) Military

- **Benefits:** Enhanced safety for military personnel by performing dangerous tasks, such as bomb disposal and reconnaissance missions, without risking human lives.
- **Risks:** Potential for increased lethality and ethical concerns regarding autonomous decision-making in combat situations.
- **Applications:** Combat support, search and rescue operations, and logistics.
- **Economic Benefits:** Reduction in training and healthcare costs associated with human soldiers.

##### 2) Cyberbiosecurity

- **Benefits:** Improved security protocols in handling sensitive biological data and materials, reducing the risk of biohazards.
- **Risks:** Vulnerability to hacking and misuse, potentially leading to biosecurity threats.
- **Applications:** Secure handling and analysis of biohazardous materials, surveillance of biosecure areas.
- **Economic Benefits:** Enhanced efficiency in biosecurity management, potentially reducing the costs associated with biosecurity breaches.

##### 3) Oil and Gas Industry

- **Benefits:** Increased safety by performing hazardous tasks such as drilling and pipeline inspections, reducing workplace accidents.
- **Risks:** High initial investment costs and potential job displacement.
- **Applications:** Automated drilling, maintenance, and inspection of offshore platforms and pipelines.
- **Economic Benefits:** Operational efficiency and reduced downtime, leading to cost savings.

##### 4) Mining (Metal, Gold, etc.)

- **Benefits:** Enhanced safety in dangerous mining environments and increased operational efficiency.
- **Risks:** Job displacement and reliance on technology that may malfunction in remote or harsh conditions.
- **Applications:** Exploration, drilling, and ore processing in hazardous or inaccessible areas.
- **Economic Benefits:** Improved productivity and reduced operational costs through automation.

##### 5) Financial Services and Stock Markets

- **Benefits:** Improved accuracy and speed in data analysis and decision-making processes.
- **Risks:** Potential for algorithmic biases and financial market manipulation.
- **Applications:** Automated trading, risk assessment, and customer service.
- **Economic Benefits:** Increased market efficiency and reduced operational costs.

##### 6) Real Estate Development

- **Benefits:** Enhanced project planning and execution through precise measurements and labor.
- **Risks:** High initial costs and potential for errors in complex development projects.
- **Applications:** Site inspections, construction tasks, and customer interaction in sales centers.
- **Economic Benefits:** Streamlined development processes and reduced labor costs.

##### 7) Food and Grocery Industry e-commerce

- **Benefits:** Improved efficiency in order fulfillment and inventory management.
- **Risks:** Potential loss of jobs and challenges in handling delicate products.
- **Applications:** Automated picking and packing, customer service, and inventory audits.
- **Economic Benefits:** Enhanced operational efficiency and customer satisfaction through faster service.

##### 8) Aircraft

- **Benefits:** Precision in manufacturing processes and maintenance tasks.

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- **Risks:** High development costs and potential for errors in critical safety systems.
  - **Applications:** Assembly, inspection, and repair of aircraft components.
  - **Economic Benefits:** Reduced manufacturing and maintenance costs, improved safety records.
- 9) *Manufacturing*
- **Benefits:** Increased production efficiency and flexibility in handling diverse tasks.
  - **Risks:** Job displacement and initial investment costs.
  - **Applications:** Assembly lines, quality control, and logistics.
  - **Economic Benefits:** Enhanced productivity and reduced labor costs.
- 10) *Healthcare*
- **Benefits:** Assistance in surgeries, patient care, and rehabilitation with precision and consistency.
  - **Risks:** Ethical concerns regarding patient interaction and potential for malfunctions.
  - **Applications:** Surgical assistance, patient monitoring, and physical therapy.
- **Economic Benefits:** Improved patient outcomes and potential reduction in healthcare costs.
- 11) *Maritime and Shipping*
- **Benefits:** Enhanced safety in hazardous conditions and improved efficiency in cargo handling.
  - **Risks:** Navigational errors and potential for piracy or hijacking.
  - **Applications:** Cargo loading and unloading, ship maintenance, and at-sea inspections.
  - **Economic Benefits:** Reduced operational costs and improved turnaround times.
- 12) *Smart City*
- **Benefits:** Improved public services and safety through surveillance and maintenance tasks.
  - **Risks:** Privacy concerns and high implementation costs.
  - **Applications:** Public space maintenance, waste management, and security patrols.
  - **Economic Benefits:** Enhanced quality of life for residents and potential attraction for businesses.