Is AI-Generated Science Really Trustworthy?

An independent reanalysis confirms the iconic black hole image — but not without tension.

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THE DATA

ring-like shape

Image Consistency

The reanalysis of the Event Horizon Telescope data produced a result consistent with the original 2019 black hole image.

Despite initial skepticism about reconstruction artifacts, a new independent analysis using different assumptions still produced the same ring-like structure. This demonstrates that certain patterns in complex data can be robust across algorithmic variations — a critical insight for AI safety in scientific imaging and data interpretation.

Source: Nature · Published November 11, 2026
https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-026-03642-7

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Robustness Over Originality

The fact that a different algorithm with different assumptions still produced the same ring-like shape suggests that certain scientific outcomes are resilient to methodological variation. This challenges the notion that 'originality' in AI-driven science is synonymous with truth — instead, consistency across diverse systems may be a stronger proxy for validity in high-stakes domains like astrophysics.



02

The Illusion of Consensus

The very fact that a team questioned the original image’s circularity — and found a glob-like structure under different assumptions — reveals how easily consensus can be undermined by subtle shifts in algorithmic design. This mirrors the risk in AI governance: even when results align, the path to them may hide bias, overfitting, or hidden constraints. Trust must be earned through transparency, not just convergence.

George Arnold Alexander III, MPA

Partner, ALEX Companies
Associate Broker, Alexander Tiffany Southwest, LLC
Licensed Broker in TX, CO, NC, AL

george@alex.realestate · +1 713.918.9951

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