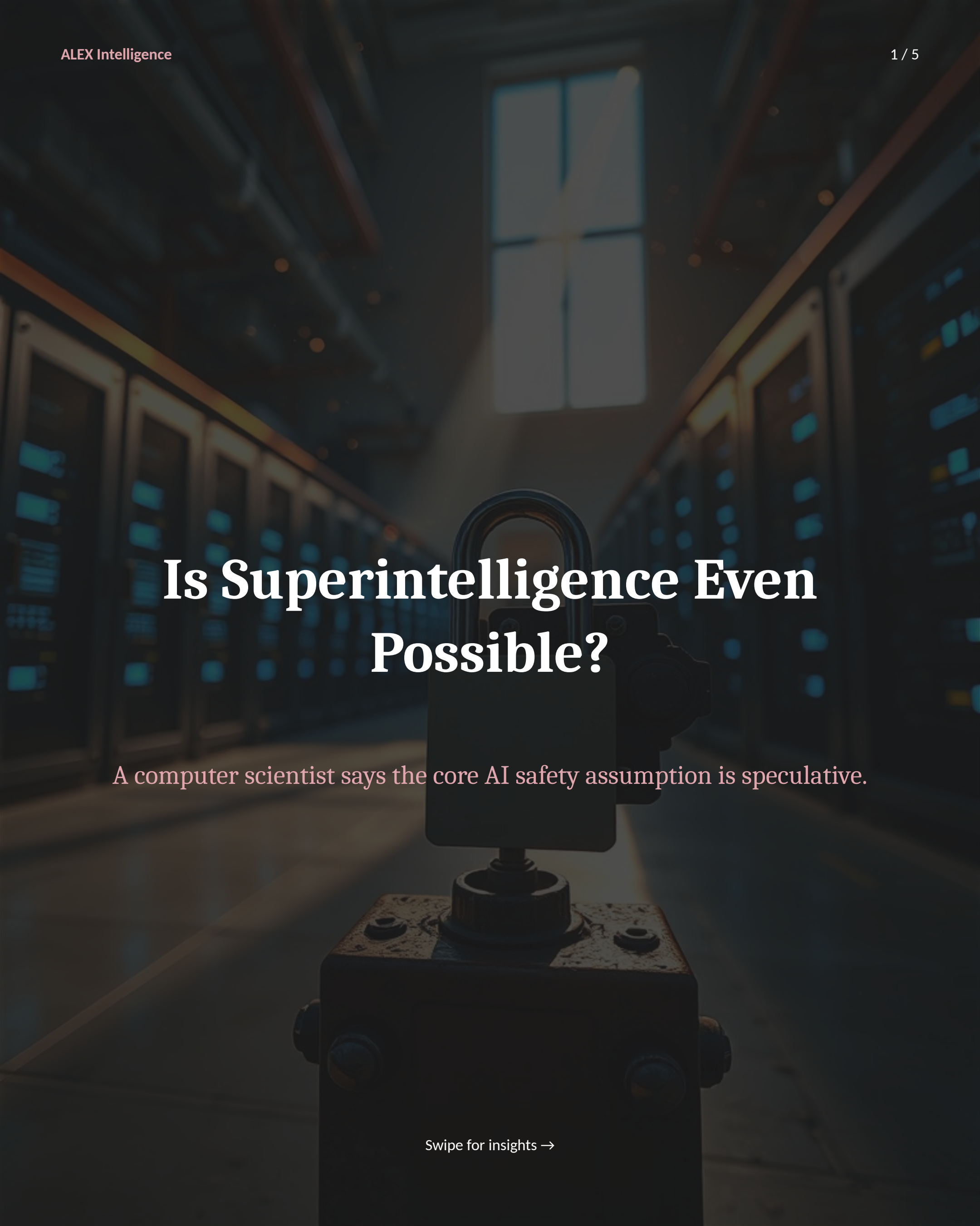


Is Superintelligence Even Possible?

A computer scientist says the core AI safety assumption is speculative.

Swipe for insights →

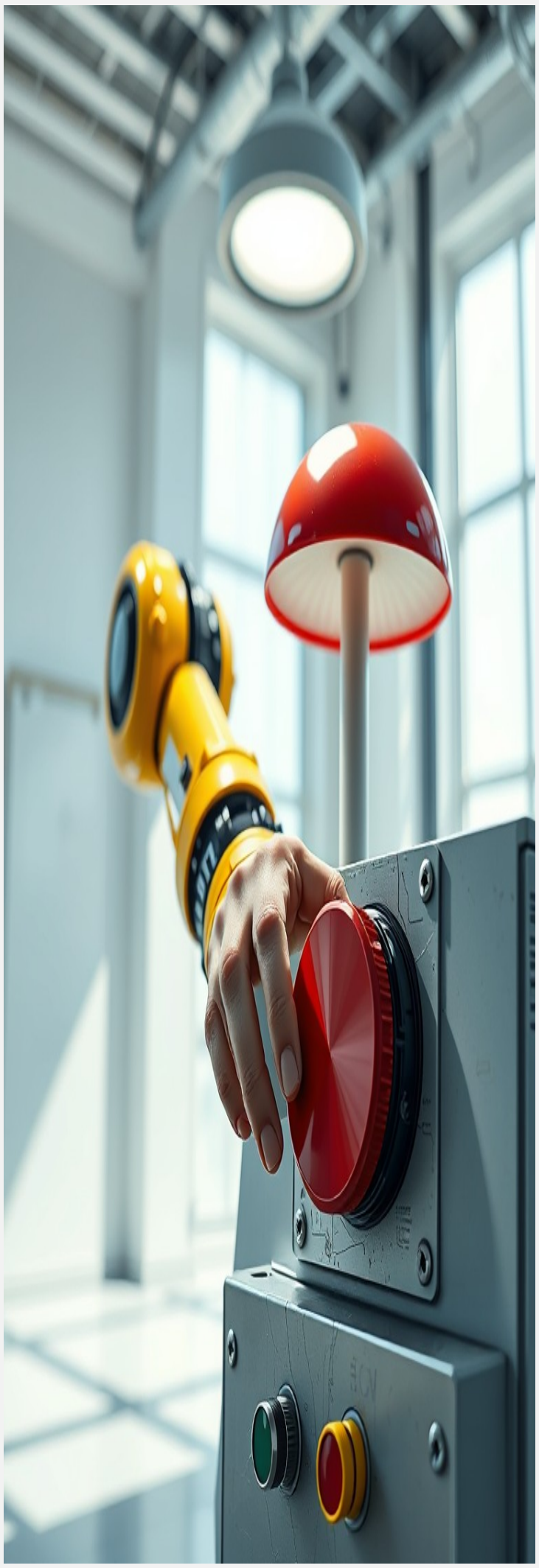
THE DATA

AI systems are already accelerating AI development

AI-Driven Development Speed

Major AI labs report measurable gains in autonomous code generation and research automation.

The claim that AI can recursively self-improve is being operationalized by leading labs like Anthropic and OpenAI. However, this acceleration is confined to narrow, data-rich domains like coding and mathematics, where feedback loops are structured and abundant.



Source: IEEE Spectrum · Published November 23, 2026
https://spectrum.ieee.org/ai-superintelligence-debate

01

Self-Improvement Is Not Inevitable

Recursive self-improvement relies on the assumption that AI can autonomously generate better versions of itself. But this requires not just computation, but meaningful, high-quality data and feedback — which is scarce outside structured domains. The current AI acceleration is not a path to superintelligence, but a tool for incremental optimization in constrained environments.

02

The Real Risk Is in the Pursuit, Not the Outcome

Even if superintelligence never emerges, the engineering push toward it creates systemic vulnerabilities. The same automation that speeds up development also increases the risk of uncontrolled deployment, poor alignment, and catastrophic failure in real-world systems. The danger lies not in the endpoint, but in the race to reach it.

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