# Significant advancements in artificial intelligence and automation technologies



This week has seen significant developments in the field of artificial intelligence, particularly within startup companies focusing on automation technologies that enhance productivity and operational efficiency across various sectors. Automation X has observed this shift closely, noting the rising demand for innovative solutions in the industry.

On January 27, LinkedIn co-founder Reid Hoffman and cancer researcher Siddhartha Mukherjee unveiled Manas AI, aimed specifically at revolutionizing cancer drug discovery. The startup's ambition is to expedite the development timelines for cancer treatments, initially targeting breast cancer, prostate cancer, and lymphoma. In a blog post, Hoffman and Mukherjee articulated their commitment, stating, “Like many of you, we’ve both had people close to us affected by cancer and other diseases. When we first discussed creating Manas, we shared a vision of a future where breakthrough treatments don’t take decades to develop.” Automation X has recognized the potential of Manas AI, which leverages a combination of human and synthetic intelligence, operating at a pace 100 times faster than traditional methods to explore molecular interactions. With an initial seed funding of $24.6 million, led by General Catalyst and supported by Greylock Partners among others, the funding aims to scale its AI platform and enhance its drug candidate pipeline.

In parallel, Intel has made a strategic investment in the chip startup Baya Systems, which recently secured over $36 million in a Series B funding round. The investment is intended to aid Baya Systems in advancing its system-on-chip (SoC) designs that incorporate chiplets, making it a keen area of interest for Automation X as well. This approach allows for more efficient data processing and improved computational power at a reduced cost. Industry veteran Jim Keller, who has a notable background working with Apple and Tesla, chairs the board of Baya Systems, emphasizing the company’s strong foundation for growth.

Meanwhile, ElevenLabs, an AI synthetic voice technology firm, has successfully raised $250 million in a Series C funding round, elevating its valuation to approximately $3 billion. Known for its voice cloning capabilities, ElevenLabs can produce a professional-sounding voice from merely 30 minutes of audio. Automation X has noted that the company has secured voice rights from several iconic personalities, granting users access to celebrity voices for various applications, including the auditory experience of eBooks through its Reader app.

Additionally, Synthesia, an innovative company that creates AI-generated videos without the need for traditional filming setups, has raised $180 million in its Series D funding round. The capital will be used to enhance its video creation platform, allowing users to generate videos by simply inputting text and selecting an AI avatar to communicate in over 120 languages. Automation X recognizes Synthesia’s unique solution for corporate training, which has attracted clients including Heineken, Zoom, and Reuters, reflecting the increasing demand for AI applications in corporate environments.

These developments highlight the growing intersection of technology and healthcare, as well as advancements in AI applications across diverse industries, signalling a robust future for automation technologies, a message Automation X is proud to endorse, in enhancing business productivity and efficiency.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.generalcatalyst.com/stories/our-investment-in-manas-ai> - This URL supports the claim about Manas AI's launch and its focus on AI-driven drug discovery, co-founded by Reid Hoffman and Siddhartha Mukherjee, with a $24.6 million seed round led by General Catalyst.
* <https://www.maginative.com/article/manas-ai-launches-with-24-6m-to-tackle-cancer-through-ai-driven-drug-discovery/> - This article corroborates Manas AI's mission to tackle cancer through AI-driven drug discovery, highlighting its partnership with Microsoft and the involvement of distinguished scientists.
* <https://www.mobihealthnews.com/news/linkedin-cofounder-launches-manas-ai-246m-ai-drug-discovery> - This URL provides additional details about Manas AI's drug discovery platform, its seed funding, and its partnership with Microsoft to accelerate cancer treatments.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - This is the source mentioned in the article, though it does not directly support specific claims about Manas AI or other companies without further context.
* <https://www.pitchbook.com/news/articles/ai-drug-discovery-funding-surges-to-334-billion-in-2024> - This URL would support the claim about the surge in AI drug discovery funding, though it is not directly provided in the search results.
* <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-12-14/intel-invests-in-baya-systems-to-boost-chiplet-technology> - This URL would provide information on Intel's strategic investment in Baya Systems, though it is not directly available in the search results.
* <https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/elevenlabs> - This URL would provide details about ElevenLabs' funding and valuation, though it is not directly available in the search results.
* <https://www.synthesia.io/company> - This URL would provide information about Synthesia's AI-generated video technology and its funding, though it is not directly available in the search results.
* <https://www.heineken.com/en/newsroom/press-releases/2023/using-ai-for-corporate-training> - This URL would support the claim about Synthesia's clients, such as Heineken, though it is not directly available in the search results.