What is AI?

It’s easy to think of AI as being ‘in the cloud’.

But it’s not: AI has a physical, material reality.

As does every tech - every business.

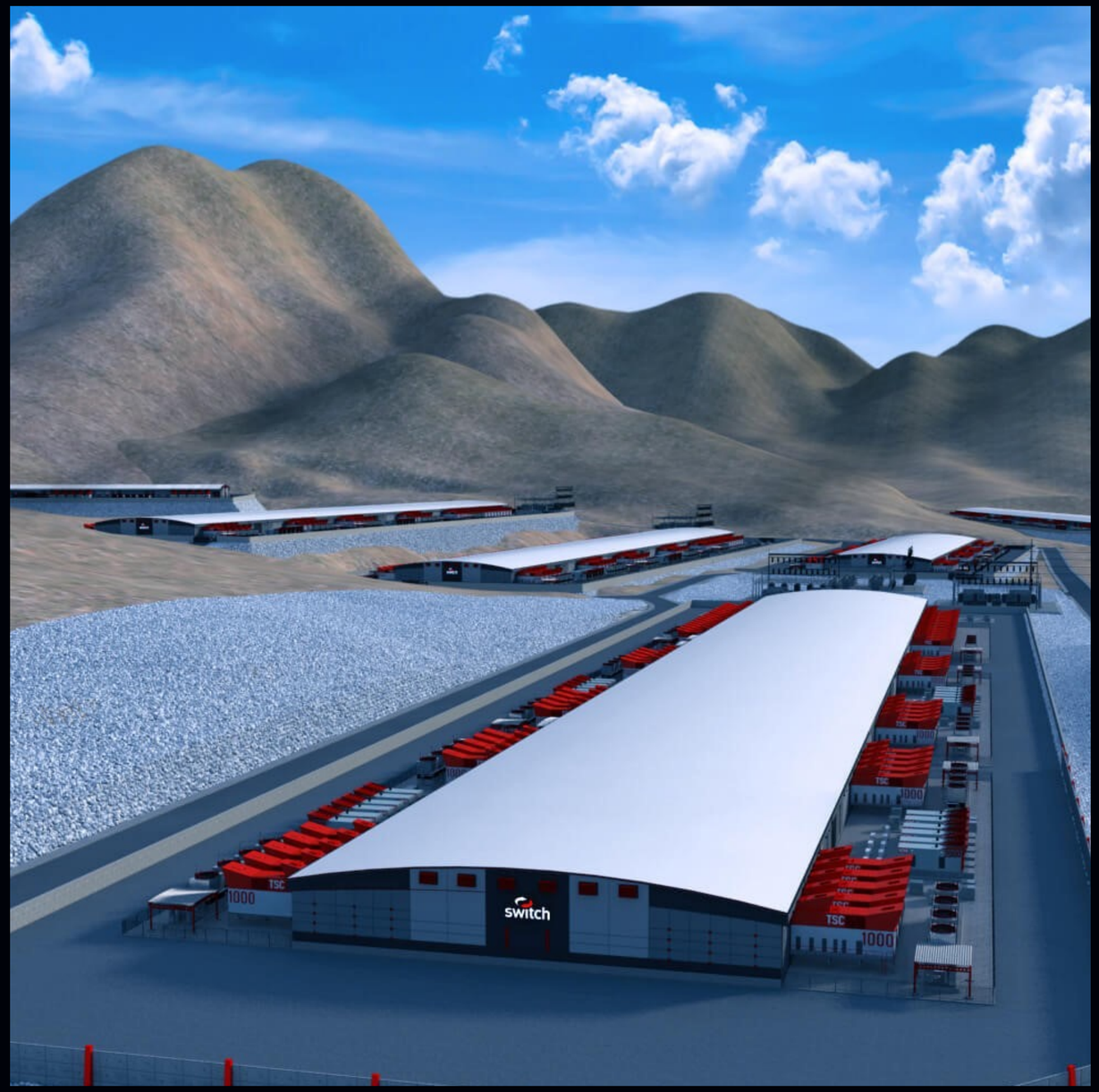
Nothing is separate from the world around us.



Switch Citadel Data Centre

AI relies on data centres.

This one needs 650 MW of electricity to run - about the same energy needed to power 500,000 homes.



TSMC

Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company

US has the data centres.

But 90% of ***all*** high end silicon chips used in those data centres are made at this factory, in Taiwan.

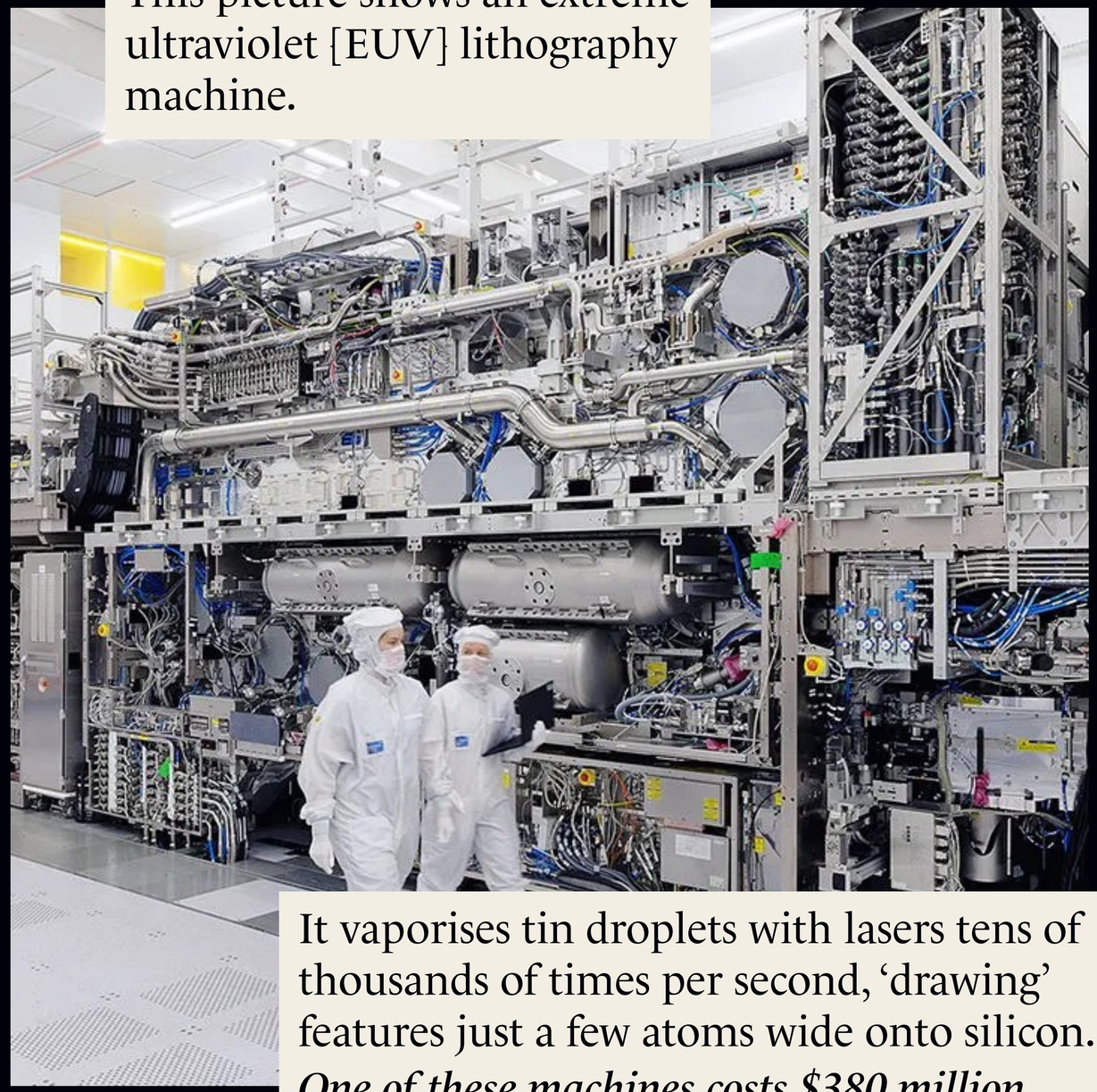


ASML

Advanced Semiconductor Materials Lithography

ASML is a Dutch company.

They are the *only supplier in the world* of the machines needed to make high end silicon chips.



This picture shows an extreme ultraviolet [EUV] lithography machine.

It vaporises tin droplets with lasers tens of thousands of times per second, ‘drawing’ features just a few atoms wide onto silicon. *One of these machines costs $380 million.*

Spruce Pine

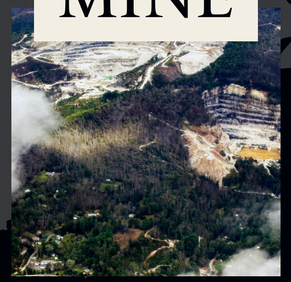
This mine is back in the US.

It is currently the *only supplier in the world* of the very high-purity quartz sand necessary to make silicon chips.





MINE



ASML







TSMC

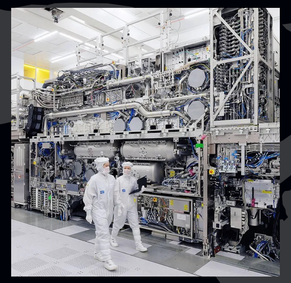


DATA CENTRE



This is the **superorganism** in action.
Potentially fragile supply chains crossing the entire planet.



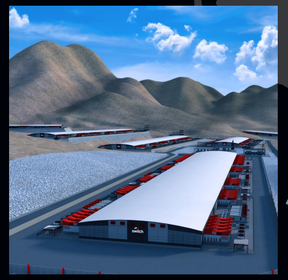






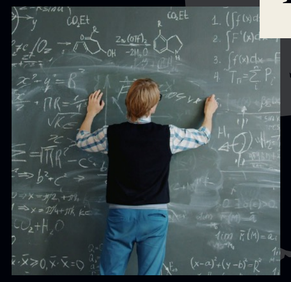






It also relies on transport, raw materials, innovation and invention, ***people*** …







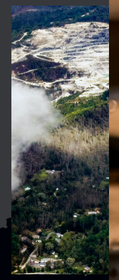


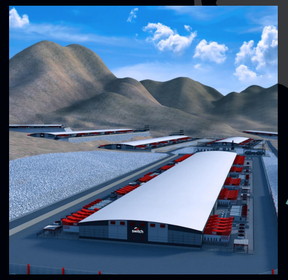


















And - of course - **energy.**













This is ‘AI’.
An entangled part of the superorganism.
A symptom of the metacrisis.



Metacrisis Diplomats

www.metacrisisdiplomats.com