

IBM and NUS Announce Intent to Establish a Research and Innovation Center with Aim to Accelerate Advanced Research to Drive Adoption of AI Innovations within Singapore



Singapore, 15 August 2024 – At the annual IBM Think Singapore 2024, IBM (NYSE: IBM) and the National University of Singapore (NUS) announced an intention to engage in a strategic collaboration to establish a new AI research and innovation center. The center would aim to accelerate scientific research leveraging IBM’s full-stack AI infrastructure and a selection of open-source models, including IBM’s flagship series of Granite models. Based at the NUS School of Computing, the two envision that the center will feature the first such full-stack AI infrastructure system installed on a university campus in Asia-Pacific by IBM.

The intention to work together demonstrates the strong commitment by Singapore’s research and innovation ecosystem to collaborate with industry leaders, such as IBM, to realise Singapore’s National AI Strategy. Equipped with full AI infrastructure and supported by the strong research expertise of NUS and IBM, the center will aim to serve as an innovation platform for Singapore agencies, academic and research institutions, as well as companies to jointly conduct cutting-edge AI research with significant translational potential.

The parties envision that a cornerstone of the center will be to advance a sustainability focused “open innovation” approach to developing AI technologies across the stack, to have a much broader potential to improve the quality and pace of adoption of new AI technologies. Additionally, the parties hope to work together to develop tools and methodologies that help build trust in

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AI.

Powering the future of AI research with IBM's state-of-the-art AI accelerators and a full stack of open-source, cloud native, and end-to-end software

IBM and NUS propose to install a full-stack AI-optimized computing infrastructure at NUS that will include IBM AIU accelerators that are optimized for the efficient inferencing of AI workloads. The AI-optimized computing infrastructure would operate on the IBM watsonx data and AI platform and Red Hat hybrid cloud platform. The proposed collaboration would leverage NUS' expertise to drive technological progress in AI, enabling more powerful, efficient, and versatile AI systems that can tackle increasingly complex tasks.

Priya Nagpurkar, Vice President, Hybrid Cloud and AI Platform, IBM Research, said, "We are pleased to take this first step toward collaboration with NUS to power breakthrough AI research. IBM and NUS share a common goal to enable innovations in AI and sustainable computing, and we look forward to furthering this collaboration."

Professor Liu Bin, NUS Deputy President (Research and Technology), said, "We are very excited about this opportunity to collaborate with IBM. We envision a future where an open ecosystem is most vital to harness the best of collective intelligence. Building on the new NUS AI Institute announced earlier this year and the University's commitment to green computing and sustainability, we aim to be the leading force in addressing rising industry demand for AI intelligence, cultivating a robust talent pool and contributing to Singapore's decarbonization efforts."

Helping to grow local deep-tech startups

To provide a full stack solution, the proposed collaboration would enable the [NUS Graduate Research Innovation Programme \(GRIP\)](#), a deep tech entrepreneurship program, together with local startups as well as small and medium-sized enterprises, to gain access to the AI Innovation Platform with Red Hat OpenShift AI for management and runtime needs and IBM's watsonx platform.

About IBM

IBM is a leading provider of global hybrid cloud and AI, and consulting expertise. We help clients in more than 175 countries capitalize on insights from their data, streamline business processes, reduce costs and gain the competitive edge in their industries. More than 4,000 government and corporate entities in critical infrastructure areas such as financial services, telecommunications and healthcare rely on IBM's hybrid cloud platform and Red Hat OpenShift to affect their digital transformations quickly, efficiently and securely. IBM's breakthrough innovations in AI, quantum computing, industry-specific cloud solutions and consulting deliver open and flexible options to our clients. All of this is backed by IBM's long-standing commitment to trust, transparency, responsibility, inclusivity and service. Visit www.ibm.com for more information.

About NUS

The National University of Singapore (NUS) is Singapore's flagship university, which offers a global approach to education, research and entrepreneurship, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise. We have 16 colleges, faculties and schools across three campuses in Singapore, with more than 40,000 students from 100 countries enriching our vibrant and diverse

campus community. We have also established more than 20 NUS Overseas Colleges entrepreneurial hubs around the world.

Our multidisciplinary and real-world approach to education, research and entrepreneurship enables us to work closely with industry, governments and academia to address crucial and complex issues relevant to Asia and the world. Researchers in our faculties, research centres of excellence, corporate labs and more than 30 university-level research institutes focus on themes that include energy; environmental and urban sustainability; treatment and prevention of diseases; active ageing; advanced materials; risk management and resilience of financial systems; Asian studies; and Smart Nation capabilities such as artificial intelligence, data science, operations research and cybersecurity. For more information on NUS, please visit nus.edu.sg.

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