

Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent

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David Giguere, Research & Analytics

Atlanta Regional Commission

Summary

This report documents the process used to leverage [OpenAI's ChatGPT Agent](#) and ChatGPT 4o, [Anthropic's Claude Sonnet 4](#) and Google Gemini 2.5 Flash to generate, analyze, regenerate and fact-check a trend analysis of the Atlanta Regional Commission's Emerging Technologies topic areas. You can find the list of topic areas in the Appendix. This report includes:

- **Three Key Insights** generated using ChatGPT 4o following the completion of this report. These insights are included as a form of meta-analysis and to summarize the completed document.
- **Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent Attempt #1** generated with ChatGPT Agent. I developed and refined the prompt with feedback from Claude Sonnet 4. A direct link to the Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent Attempt #1 output is [here](#). Once ChatGPT Agent completed Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent Attempt #1, the output was downloaded as a .pdf and uploaded to Claude Sonnet 4 for review.
- **Claude Sonnet 4 review of Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent Attempt #1** generated using Anthropic Claude Sonnet 4. The review output is [here](#). Using the learnings from the Claude Sonnet 4 review, a new prompt was developed to improve the results of the ChatGPT Agent.
- **Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent Attempt #2** generated with ChatGPT Agent. A direct link to the Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent Attempt #2 output is [here](#).
- **Fact Checking with Gemini 2.5 Flash** reviewed the document for factual errors.

Using this iterative, multi-platform process (Anthropic Claude Sonnet 4, OpenAI ChatGPT Agent, OpenAI ChatGPT 4o) helps us fine tune our prompts, analyze and interrogate generative AI output and improve our ability to ask better questions. Except where noted or where changes were made for styling continuity and regional spelling preferences, the content below is shared as verbatim output from OpenAI Agent and Claude Sonnet 4 and OpenAI ChatGPT 4o. Keep in mind, generative AI products can make mistakes or provide

inaccurate information. Please use your domain knowledge, exercise good judgement and verify content via the included citations.

Three Key Insights

1. AI Is the Keystone Across All Emerging Technologies Domains

AI is not just a standalone field—it serves as a **foundational enabler** across nearly every emerging technology sector analyzed in the report. It enhances capabilities in:

- **Public safety** (AI-assisted decision-making)
- **Healthcare** (brain–computer interfaces and diagnostics)
- **Manufacturing** (predictive maintenance and design)
- **Logistics** (AGV navigation)
- **Energy** (smart grid optimization)

This centrality of AI also brings **intense regulatory scrutiny**, geopolitical competition, and rising concerns about **ethics, bias, and sustainability**.

2. The Gap Between Hype and Viable Deployment Is Widening

Despite optimistic forecasts across sectors, many technologies face **adoption barriers** and **economic or technical setbacks**:

- **Vertical farming** has seen multiple business failures due to high energy costs.
- **Advanced air mobility** remains in prototype stages with significant infrastructure and regulatory hurdles.
- **Metaverse platforms** like Horizon Worlds have <1,000 active daily users despite heavy investment.
- **SMRs (small modular reactors)** remain speculative, with flagship projects like NuScale canceled.

This highlights the **need for realism and scenario planning** over uncritical acceptance of industry projections.

3. Interdependencies Across Sectors Require Integrated Strategic Thinking

Technologies are not evolving in isolation:

- **Energy, computing, and food** form a **triad of mutual dependency**: for instance, vertical farms require renewable energy and computing infrastructure.
- **Transportation and logistics** are tightly linked via battery supply chains, vehicle automation, and infrastructure demands.
- **Regulatory and societal acceptance** (e.g., privacy concerns in smart cities or AI-generated art controversies) influence deployment timelines.

This complexity demands **holistic policy, investment, and governance strategies** that account for systemic risks and overlapping infrastructures.

Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent Attempt #1

Introduction

This report surveys a wide range of emerging technologies drawn from the **ETR Topic List** provided by the client. Topics include Artificial Intelligence (AI), smart infrastructure, energy and the environment, transportation systems, virtual presence, manufacturing, supply chains, fintech, food and agriculture, robotics, aging and health, safety and security, computing and intersecting domains such as community, arts, ethics and the future of work. For each topic the report compiles recent articles published between **2023 and 2025**, summarizes key findings, highlights publication trends and identifies connections among topics. The second phase of the report maps inter-topic relationships and presents a network diagram.

Note on dates: The user's time zone is America/New York. Dates cited here reflect the publication dates of the sources (usually in the UTC time zone). When relative terms like *"today"* or *"next year"* appear in sources they are translated into specific calendar years (e.g., 2024, 2025).

Prompt to generate Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent Attempt #1

Phase 1:

1. You will research each topic listed in the attached document. You can use the examples included, but you should add your own as appropriate. For each topic, use web search tools to find recent articles in the last three years. Avoid duplicates.
2. Compile findings into a structured format (title, source, date, key points).
3. Analyze publication frequency trends over available timeframe.
4. Provide executive summary with trend analysis.

Phase 2:

5. Map relationships between all researched topics.
6. Create visualization showing topic interconnections.
7. Provide synthesis of how topics relate to one another.

Artificial Intelligence

AI continues to grow rapidly with new capabilities, but its expansion raises accountability and governance challenges. The U.S. Government Accountability Office noted that **generative AI can produce text, images and code** and offers benefits such as improved medical diagnosis and threat identification; however, it raises concerns about privacy, bias and misuse[1]. A Congressional Budget Office report explained that modern AI relies on machine-learning models that require **massive training data and energy** and that adoption across U.S. firms remains limited; only about 5 % of businesses reported heavy use of AI[2]. A July 2025 MeriTalk article summarized a GAO survey of federal agencies, reporting that **generative-AI use cases increased from 32 to 282 between 2023 and 2024** (a nine-fold jump); most applications support mission-support tasks and agencies face challenges such as policy compliance, lack of technical resources and evolving security threats[3]. These sources show both rapid growth and growing oversight demands.

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2023	“Artificial Intelligence’s Use and Rapid Growth Highlight Its Possibilities and Perils” – GAO blog[1]	Describes generative AI’s ability to create realistic text/images and its potential benefits in medicine and threat detection; emphasizes perils (privacy, bias, malicious use) and GAO’s accountability framework.
2024	“Artificial Intelligence and Its Potential Effects on the Economy and the Federal Budget” – CBO report[2]	Explains machine learning, deep learning and generative AI; notes high data/energy needs, limited adoption (~5 % of businesses heavily use AI) and possible economic impacts.
2025	“Federal Agencies’ GenAI Use Cases Surged 9X Last Year” – MeriTalk[3]	GAO survey shows generative-AI use cases grew from 32 to 282; overall AI use nearly doubled; benefits include improved communications and diagnostics; challenges include policy compliance, technical resource gaps and managing bias.

Publication trend: AI was a hot topic in 2023 and coverage intensified in 2024-2025 as the rapid adoption of generative AI prompted oversight. The number of publications increased each year (three major articles cited here across three years), mirroring the nine-fold growth in federal use cases[3]. Themes shifted from describing capabilities and ethical concerns (2023) to economic and budget implications (2024) and to adoption and governance (2025).

Infrastructure & Connected Communities (Smart Cities, IoT, Digital Twins, 5G/6G)

Smart-city infrastructure and high-speed connectivity underpin emerging technologies. A June 2025 StateTech article reported that **digital twins are nearing mass adoption** and require regional collaboration; San Diego built a digital twin in partnership with universities and uses it to model traffic, noise and air-quality impacts[4]. An IoT For All article

highlighted that the smart-city market could grow to **US \$115.3 billion by 2029** and that digital twins enable real-time infrastructure monitoring, emergency response and what-if scenario testing; however, large-scale adoption requires resolving interoperability and data-sharing challenges[5]. Another IoT For All piece described how **5G’s low-latency networks enable smart-city sensors, self-driving cars and improved energy efficiency**, while IoT applications range from energy management and air-quality monitoring to smart streetlights[6]. The Atlantic Council emphasized that 5G is critical to U.S. national security and economic competitiveness but warns that China currently leads the 5G race; the report calls for accelerated spectrum allocation and allied cooperation[7].

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2025	“Digital Twins Demand Regional Collaboration” – StateTech[4]	Digital-twin adoption is accelerating; San Diego’s twin lets city leaders simulate bridge closures and assess impacts on traffic, noise and pollution; collaboration among cities, universities and industry is essential.
2025	“Digital Twins and Smart Cities: A New Era for Urban Planning and Services” – IoT For All[5]	Smart-city market projected to reach \$115.3 billion by 2029; digital twins process real-time data to monitor infrastructure, emergencies and traffic; challenges include technical and organizational interoperability.
2024	“The Future of 5G and IoT in Smart Cities” – IoT For All[6]	Explains how 5G’s low-latency networks enable smart-city sensors, autonomous vehicles and energy management; highlights IoT applications in energy, air quality, waste management and lighting.
2024	“Forging the 5G future: Strategic imperatives for the US and its allies” – Atlantic Council[7]	Argues that 5G is vital for national security and competitiveness; notes China’s lead; recommends accelerating spectrum allocation, investing in R&D and collaborating with allies to harmonize spectrum and counter foreign influence.

Publication trend: The number of articles on smart infrastructure increased in 2024-25 as digital-twin projects moved from pilot to practical adoption. Coverage evolved from general 5G opportunities and geopolitical stakes (2024) to concrete deployments and market forecasts for digital twins (2025). Interest in interoperability and data governance remains strong.

Energy, Climate, Water & Environment

Clean-energy deployment is accelerating, but new technologies face hurdles. Canary Media reported in July 2025 that **small-modular reactors (SMRs)** are drawing global interest: 74 SMR designs are active worldwide and 51 are under licensing review (a 65 % increase since 2023); only two commercial SMRs operate today, but Ontario’s Darlington project plans to add 300-MW units by 2030[8]. A World Resources Institute

analysis (Feb 2025) noted that U.S. solar installations rose to **39.6 GW in 2024 (up from 27.4 GW in 2023)** and battery storage doubled to 29 GW; wind additions plateaued and EV sales reached 1.3 million, but growth is slowing[9]. The Biden administration invested nearly **US \$2 billion under the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) Program** to strengthen the electric grid and improve connections for clean energy[10]. These sources illustrate rapid progress in renewables and nuclear innovation alongside infrastructure challenges.

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2025	“Small modular reactors are gaining steam globally. Will any get built?” – Canary Media[8]	There are 74 SMR designs worldwide and 51 under licensing review; only China’s Linglong One and Russia’s floating reactor operate commercially; Ontario’s Darlington project plans 300-MW units by 2030; SMRs attract \$15 billion in funding but face cost and licensing hurdles.
2025	“US Clean Power Development Sees Record Progress, As Well As Stronger Headwinds” – World Resources Institute[9]	Solar deployments climbed from 27.4 GW (2023) to 39.6 GW (2024); battery storage doubled to 29 GW; wind growth stagnated; EV sales reached 1.3 million; renewable/battery capacity accounts for ~30 % of large-scale capacity; carbon-free sources supplied ~44 % of U.S. electricity in 2024.
2024	“Biden Administration Investments Will Bolster Grid Resilience in the Wake of Severe Storms” – Environmental Defense Fund[10]	Announces nearly \$2 billion for 38 projects to strengthen grid resilience against storms and wildfires; highlights the need to upgrade 20th-century grid infrastructure to connect clean energy and ensure resilience.

Publication trend: Media coverage of energy and environmental technologies grew substantially in 2025. Articles emphasize scaling clean energy deployment (solar, storage) and exploring advanced nuclear reactors. There is also growing attention to grid resilience and funding for transmission upgrades. Compared with 2024, 2025 publications highlight both record progress and mounting headwinds such as permitting delays and cost overruns.

Transportation (Micromobility, Electric Vehicles, Advanced Air Mobility & Drones)

Transportation technologies are diversifying. The North American Bike Share Association reported that **shared micromobility trips reached 157 million in 2023** across the U.S. and Canada – a 20 % increase over 2022; station-based e-bike trips surged and dockless scooter use rebounded[11]. Yale Climate Connections observed that **global EV sales jumped from 2 million vehicles in 2019 to over 17 million in 2024** (one in five new cars); China accounted for nearly two-thirds of sales while the U.S. market grew modestly[12]. A July 2025 TS2 Tech report examined the emerging **drone-delivery ecosystem**: major players (Amazon, Alphabet’s Wing, UPS/Matternet) are piloting aerial and ground-robot delivery services; the most successful deployments serve niche, high-value use cases (medical supplies, urgent retail goods); regulatory approval and sense-and-avoid systems are critical for expansion[13]. Wing has completed over 350,000 deliveries across ten locations and is partnering with retailers like Walmart to provide suburban drone deliveries in Texas[14].

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2024	“Shared Micromobility Report 2023” – NACTO[11]	Shared bike and scooter trips reached 157 million in 2023 (20 % growth); station-based e-bikes rose strongly; dockless scooters rebounded; affordability and financial instability remain issues for systems reliant on private operators.
2025	“Electric vehicle adoption is stumbling, but still growing amid geopolitical clashes” – Yale Climate Connections[12]	Global EV sales grew from 2 million (2019) to 17 million (2024); China sold 11 million vehicles (40 % increase), Europe sold 3 million (slight decline), and North America sold 1.8 million (9 % growth); EVs produce lower emissions and their benefits increase as grids decarbonize.
2025	“From Skies to Sidewalks: Inside the 2025 Drone Delivery Revolution” – TS2 Tech[13]	Drone delivery is moving from hype to reality; Amazon’s MK30 drone can fly beyond visual line of sight and deliver packages in under an hour; Wing (Alphabet) has completed over 350,000 deliveries and partners with retailers; UPS Flight Forward conducts medical deliveries and secured the first FAA type certification; most successful deployments target high-value use cases and require BVLOS approvals and detect-and-avoid systems[14].

Publication trend: Transportation articles show strong growth from 2024 to 2025 as micromobility rebounds post-pandemic and EV adoption accelerates globally. 2025 reporting extends into advanced air mobility, illustrating progress in drone delivery pilots. While EV sales are rising, the U.S. lags behind China and Europe due to policy uncertainty[12]. Media interest is shifting toward urban air mobility and regulation of drone operations.

Virtual Presence & Gaming (Metaverse, Extended Reality)

The AR/VR market is booming and converging with AI and 5G. Ciklum’s trend report predicts the AR/VR market will expand from **US \$30 billion in 2022 to over \$520 billion by 2031**; major trends for 2025 include integration of AI (improved rendering and tracking), the rise of digital avatars, split-rendering enabled by 5G, WebAR for cross-platform experiences and the need for comfortable wearables[15]. Meta’s December 2024 article highlighted improvements in its Quest 3 and Quest 3S mixed-reality devices, emphasizing **better passthrough, multitasking and spatial user interfaces**; it noted that social experiences in Horizon Worlds and AI-powered glasses are paving the way toward true AR glasses[16]. A DemandSage statistics report (May 2025) estimated that **over 171 million people worldwide use VR** (77 million in the U.S.) and that the global VR market could reach \$67.66 billion; more than 91 % of businesses have adopted or plan to adopt AR/VR[17].

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2025	“AR/VR Trends 2025” – Ciklum[15]	AR/VR market projected to exceed \$520 billion by 2031; AI integration improves rendering and tracking; 5G enables split-rendering and low latency; WebAR and avatars expand use cases; wearable comfort and battery life remain challenges.
2024	“Accelerating the Future: AI, Mixed Reality and the Metaverse” – Meta[16]	Meta’s Quest 3 and 3S devices improved passthrough and multitasking; Horizon Worlds and Meta Avatars are gaining users; the company is working on AI-enabled glasses and the Orion project for true AR experiences.
2025	“VR Statistics 2025” – DemandSage[17]	Estimates 171 million VR users worldwide (77 million in the U.S.); VR hardware users projected to surpass 130 million by 2027; 91 % of businesses have adopted or plan to adopt AR/VR; global VR market expected to reach \$67.66 billion.

Publication trend: Reporting on virtual presence and gaming intensified as device capabilities improved and adoption spread. 2024 articles from Meta emphasized product improvements, while 2025 pieces project massive market growth and highlight AI’s role in enhancing AR/VR experiences[15]. The subject is moving from novelty to mainstream business applications.

Manufacturing & Construction (Nanotech, 3-D Printing, Robotics)

The manufacturing sector is embracing advanced materials and automation. An Authentise article on 3-D printed homes (March 2025) noted that while interest surged in 2019, **material science limitations and the need for designs tailored to printing have slowed adoption**; nevertheless, projects by companies like ICON and government support (e.g., Texas permitting printed homes) demonstrate progress, and future advances could include AI-optimized designs and recycled materials[18]. StartUs Insights identified nine nanotech trends: carbon nanomaterials, semiconductor nanodevices, green nanotech, nanocomposites, sensors, films, encapsulation, energy nanomaterials and computational nanotech; it projected the nanotech services market to grow from **\$209.89 billion in 2025 to \$311.58 billion by 2029**[19]. Cyngn described the **construction robotics market**: valued at \$168.2 million in 2022 and expected to reach \$774.6 million by 2032; drones increase productivity by 50–60 % through surveying and hazard detection; autonomous vehicles and mobile robots address labor shortages[20].

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2025	“3-D Printed Homes: Progress and Obstacles” – Authentise[18]	3-D printing in construction faces material and design challenges; some companies successfully print homes (e.g., ICON for underserved communities); Texas begins permitting printed homes; future promises include AI-optimized designs and sustainable materials.
2025	“Nanotechnologies Trends 2025” – StartUs Insights[19]	Identifies nine nanotech trends (carbon nanomaterials, semiconductor nanodevices, green nanotechnologies, etc.); forecasts nanotech services market growth from \$209.89 billion (2025) to \$311.58 billion by 2029 (10.4 % CAGR); carbon nanomaterials market projected to grow from \$8.93 billion to \$24.99 billion (29.3 % CAGR).
2024	“Robotics in Construction” – Cyngn[20]	Construction robotics market valued at \$168.2 million (2022) projected to reach \$774.6 million by 2032; drones boost site productivity by 50–60 %; autonomous vehicles and mobile robots address labor shortages; examples include Pomerleau using drones and Honda testing autonomous work vehicles.

Publication trend: The manufacturing articles highlight an increasing focus on scaling emerging technologies beyond pilot projects. 2025 sources discuss both obstacles and rapid market growth for nanotechnologies and 3-D printing, while 2024 articles emphasize robotics adoption. Overall, coverage suggests steady growth with strong projections for nanotech and construction robotics.

Supply Chain & Logistics (AGVs, AMRs and Warehouse Robotics)

Automation is reshaping logistics. Global Trade Magazine wrote that **autonomous guided vehicles (AGVs)** are becoming more adaptable, using LiDAR and vision-based navigation instead of fixed tracks; the AGV market is projected to grow from **\$3.82 billion in 2023 to \$7.97 billion by 2031**. Modern AGVs integrate AI for real-time decision making and are key components of smart warehouses, communicating with warehouse management and enterprise systems via IoT sensors[21]. A Logistics Viewpoints article distinguished AGVs from **autonomous mobile robots (AMRs)**, noting that AMRs use simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM) to navigate dynamic environments; benefits include reduced manual labor, consistent throughput, optimized space usage and improved data integration with WMS/ERP systems[22]. Use cases include goods-to-person picking in e-commerce, lean assembly in automotive manufacturing, pharmaceutical cleanrooms and 3PL warehouses[22].

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2025	“AGVs Are Transforming Logistics with Precision and Adaptability” – Global Trade Magazine[21]	AGV market projected to grow from \$3.82 billion (2023) to \$7.97 billion (2031); modern AGVs use LiDAR/vision navigation; AI enables rerouting and task prioritization; AGVs are central to smart warehouses via IoT integration; sustainability improvements include lithium-ion batteries and modular designs.
2025	“AGVs vs. AMRs: Understanding Their Role in Warehouse Modernization” – Logistics Viewpoints[22]	Explains differences between AGVs (fixed routes) and AMRs (dynamic navigation with SLAM); highlights benefits like reduced labor, consistent throughput, optimized floor space and improved data integration; outlines use cases across e-commerce, automotive, pharmaceutical and 3PL industries.

Publication trend: Discussion of warehouse robotics has intensified in 2025 as businesses seek to automate more of their logistics processes. Articles emphasize the convergence of AGVs and AMRs with AI and IoT. The focus has shifted from technology descriptions to use-case optimization and market forecasts.

Fintech (Stablecoins, NFTs, CBDCs)

Financial technologies are undergoing significant regulatory and market shifts. A July 2025 client alert by Latham & Watkins summarized the **GENIUS Act**, the first U.S. federal law regulating payment stablecoins; the act allows only permitted issuers (insured depository institutions, credit unions or federally licensed non-bank issuers) to issue stablecoins, requires **one-to-one reserves in dollars or Treasuries**, prohibits paying interest and clarifies that payment stablecoins are neither securities nor commodities[23]. A

January 2025 Decrypt article reported that **NFT trading volumes and sales counts fell to their lowest levels since 2020**, dropping 19 % and 18 % respectively from 2023; blue-chip collections like CryptoPunks maintained some value, but most projects saw declines[24]. The Atlantic Council’s July 2025 Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) Tracker showed that **137 countries (98 % of global GDP) are exploring CBDCs, up from 35 in 2020**; 72 are in advanced phases and cross-border projects have more than doubled since the Russia-Ukraine conflict[25]. China’s digital yuan reached **7 trillion e-CNY (\$986 billion) in transactions by June 2024**, while India’s e-rupee in circulation increased by 334 % to ₹10.16 billion by March 2025[25].

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2025	“The GENIUS Act: Landmark Stablecoin Regulation in the U.S.” – Latham & Watkins[23]	GENIUS Act restricts issuance of payment stablecoins to permitted entities; stablecoins must be fully backed by cash or Treasuries; payments stablecoins are defined as neither securities nor commodities; prohibits interest payments and prioritizes holders in insolvency.
2025	“NFT Market Downturn” – Decrypt[24]	NFT trading volumes and sales fell to their lowest levels since 2020, dropping 19 % and 18 % respectively from 2023; floor prices of popular collections hit historic lows; affordability, accessibility and utility are critical for future growth.
2025	“CBDC Tracker – July 2025 Update” – Atlantic Council[25]	137 countries (98 % of global GDP) are exploring CBDCs; 72 are in development/pilot; China’s digital yuan reached 7 trillion e-CNY in transactions; India’s e-rupee circulation grew 334 % by March 2025; U.S. halted retail CBDC research but continues wholesale cross-border work; motivations include financial inclusion and payments efficiency; challenges include bank-run risks and cyber security.

Publication trend: Fintech reporting in 2025 focuses on regulation (stablecoin laws), market corrections (NFT slump) and government-led digital currencies. Compared with earlier years, the 2025 discourse shifts from speculative hype to regulatory clarity and real-world adoption metrics for digital assets.

Food & Agriculture (Vertical Farming, Synthetic Foods)

Urban farming and alternative proteins are promising but face economic hurdles. A January 2025 UCL article acknowledged that several vertical-farming businesses failed due to high energy costs and competition from conventional farming; however, it argued that **vertical farming remains important for urban food security**, given the need to reduce

transportation emissions and climate impacts. The article noted improvements in **tunable LED lights** and predicted that vertical farming could flourish once renewable energy lowers operating costs[26]. The Food Institute reported that the global vertical-farming market was valued at **\$5.5 billion in 2024 and projected to reach \$20 billion by 2030 (25 % CAGR)**; it observed that vertical-farming produce costs roughly \$3.07 per pound compared with \$0.65 for conventional farming, but automation and AI could reduce costs by 2035[27][28]. A CSG Midwest article summarized U.S. legislative reactions to **cell-cultured meat**: Florida and Alabama banned the sale and production of cultivated meat in 2024; Nebraska and Indiana imposed bans or moratoriums in 2025; other states introduced labelling requirements or task forces[29]. The Good Food Institute’s State of the Industry report noted that the cultivated-meat sector has raised more than **\$3 billion since 2013**, achieved regulatory approvals in Singapore and the U.S., and deployed AI partnerships to reduce costs; nonetheless, investments slowed and 14 U.S. states introduced bills to ban or restrict cultivated meat[30].

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2025	“Vertical farming: Why the sector hasn’t failed” – UCL[26]	Notes multiple business failures (Plenty’s LA closure, Bowery Farming halts) due to high energy costs and cheaper conventional farming; argues vertical farming is still early-stage and vital for urban food production; improvements in tunable LEDs and renewable energy could reduce costs.
2025	“Vertical farming economics and trends” – Food Institute[27][28]	Global vertical farming market valued at \$5.5 billion (2024) projected to reach \$20 billion by 2030 (25 % CAGR); conventional farming costs \$0.65/pound versus \$3.07/pound for vertical produce; automation and AI may reduce costs by 2035; success depends on urban markets and policy support.
2025	“State legislative actions on cultivated meat” – CSG Midwest[29]	Florida and Alabama banned sale and production of cell-cultured meat in 2024; Nebraska and Indiana enacted bans or moratoriums in 2025; other states introduced labelling requirements and task forces; highlights ongoing debate over safety and consumer choice.
2024	“Cultivated Meat and Seafood – State of the Industry” – Good Food Institute[30]	Industry has raised >\$3 billion since 2013; 2024 saw new innovation hubs and AI partnerships to reduce costs; GOOD Meat launched first cultivated meat product at retail in Singapore; 14 U.S. states introduced bills to ban or restrict cultivated meat; large deals included

Year	Title & Source	Key points
		\$54.6 million for Prolific Machines and €40 million for Mosa Meat.

Publication trend: Food-tech articles in 2025 focus on the economics and policy of vertical farming and alternative proteins. Reports note high costs and legislative pushback but also highlight market growth and technological improvements. The conversation has shifted from enthusiasm to a more critical examination of scalability and regulation.

Robotics & Automation (Humanoids, Cobots, Digital Twins)

Robotics are evolving through AI and human-robot collaboration. The International Federation of Robotics' 2024 trends report identified **AI and machine learning integration** (enabling natural-language programming and predictive maintenance), **expanding cobot applications, mobile manipulators** that combine mobility and arms to navigate complex environments, **digital-twin simulations** for optimization and **humanoid robots** that countries like China aim to mass-produce by 2025[31]. A July 2024 Duro Labs article projected that the global robotics industry would grow from about **\$46 billion to \$169.8 billion by 2032**, emphasizing robots' roles in welding, material handling and inspection and highlighting the need for training programs to close the automation skills gap[32][33]. The article also described **generative-AI interfaces** that allow robots to be programmed using natural language, the rise of cobots with advanced sensors for safe human-robot collaboration, and the use of AR/VR and digital twins to design and train robots[34][35].

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2024	“Top 5 Robot Trends 2024” – International Federation of Robotics[31]	Identifies five key trends: AI/ML integration enabling natural-language programming and predictive maintenance; expansion of cobots due to advanced sensors; mobile manipulators combining mobility and arms; digital twins for optimization and risk-free experimentation; rapid progress in humanoid robots with Chinese plans for mass production by 2025.
2024	“Robotics Trends to Watch in 2025” – Duro Labs[32][34][35]	Projects robotics industry growth to \$169.8 billion by 2032; highlights robots' use in welding, material handling, assembly and inspection; discusses generative-AI interfaces allowing natural-language programming; emphasizes the need for workforce training; notes cobots with advanced sensors, AR/VR for robot design/training and digital twins for simulation.

Publication trend: Robotics coverage in 2024 emphasizes the convergence of AI with industrial robots and the expansion of collaborative robots. Reports highlight both technological advances and the need to up-skill workers. The trend is toward more autonomous, versatile and humanoid systems.

Aging & Health (Biotech, Brain–Computer Interfaces, Longevity)

Biotech research is pushing the boundaries of human health. A July 2024 Guardian report on Neuralink said that the company planned to implant a brain interface in a second patient after wires in the first patient detached; the device uses **64 threads inserted into the motor cortex** to read neural signals and allowed the first participant to move a computer cursor using thought; Neuralink is also developing a “Blindsight” device to help blind patients[36]. Works in Progress Magazine (June 2025) provided a historical overview of brain-computer interfaces (BCIs), noting that early experiments included a 2004 BrainGate trial where a tetraplegic man used an implanted electrode array to move a cursor[37]; modern BCIs use the **Utah array** to record neural activity and a 2024 Neuralink implant achieved **8 bits/s wireless output**, enabling the user to control a computer and play chess[38]. A Washington Post article (March 2025) described the quest to **reverse aging through cellular reprogramming**: injecting Yamanaka factors into mice extended lifespan by 30 %, prompting a wave of biotech start-ups; Life Biosciences plans a human trial, but risks include tumors and ethical concerns[39].

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2024	“Neuralink Plans Second Brain-Computer Interface Implant” – The Guardian[36]	Neuralink’s first human trial allowed a paralyzed participant to control a computer cursor; some wires detached but the company plans modifications for a second implant; developing a “Blindsight” device to help blind people; the implant has 64 wires inserted into the motor cortex.
2025	“Mind Readers: The Race to Perfect Brain–Computer Interfaces” – Works in Progress Magazine[37][40][38]	Traces BCI development from early experiments to present; explains Utah array technology and states that BCIs could gain FDA approval within five years; notes that Neuralink’s 2024 implant achieved 8 bits/s wireless output, enabling a paralyzed person to play chess by thought.
2025	“Quest to Reverse Aging: Cellular Reprogramming Goes Beyond Mice” – Washington Post[39]	Describes experiments in which Yamanaka factors injected into mice extended lifespan by 30 %; highlights a surge of biotech start-ups exploring cellular reprogramming; Life Biosciences plans a human trial; warns about tumor risks and ethical questions.

Publication trend: Articles on BCIs and longevity biotechnologies in 2024-25 reflect rapid progress and intensifying investment. Coverage emphasizes both breakthroughs (wireless BCIs enabling cursor control; lifespan extension in mice) and risks (detached wires, tumor formation). Ethical and regulatory considerations are increasingly highlighted as human trials approach.

Safety & Security (Cybersecurity, Public Safety)

Digital and physical security challenges are rising with new technologies. SentinelOne’s “**10 Cyber Security Trends for 2025**” article lists threats such as **AI-driven malware that mutates to evade detection**, growing adoption of **zero-trust architectures** to replace perimeter-based security, **quantum computing threats** that could break encryption, the evolution of **ransomware-as-a-service**, and new risks around **5G/edge computing, insider threats, supply-chain attacks and deepfake-enabled social engineering**[41]. A January 2025 Mark43 public-safety trends report surveyed U.S. first responders: **90 % support using AI to accelerate public safety operations**, using AI for report drafting and decision support[42]; 84 % of agencies experienced cybersecurity issues and most respondents cite at least one technology outage in the past year; cloud-native systems improve resilience and enable remote dispatching[43]; data-driven real-time crime centers (RTCCs) combine CCTV, license-plate readers and sensors and are used by 63 % of agencies[44].

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2025	“10 Cyber Security Trends for 2025” – SentinelOne[41]	Lists emerging threats: AI-driven malware mutates to evade detection; zero-trust architectures replace perimeter security; quantum computing threatens current encryption; ransomware-as-a-service expands; 5G/edge computing increases attack surface; insider threats, supply chain attacks, container vulnerabilities, deepfake social engineering and IT/OT convergence require new defenses.
2025	“The Future of Public Safety: 2025 Tech Trends” – Mark43[42][43][44]	Survey of U.S. first responders: 90 % support AI for report drafting and decision support; cybersecurity incidents and outages are widespread (84 % experienced issues); cloud-native systems improve resilience and enable remote operations; real-time crime centers integrate data from CCTV, license-plate readers, shot detectors and geolocation, with 63 % adoption; modern, interoperable platforms are critical for public safety.

Publication trend: Security articles in 2025 highlight sophisticated cyber threats and the adoption of AI both by attackers and defenders. There is also growing attention to public-safety technologies, emphasizing AI-assisted decision making, cyber resilience and

integrated data platforms. Compared with earlier years, the 2025 discourse shifts from reactive security to proactive resilience and zero-trust strategies.

Computing (Quantum, Exascale, Software & Systems Integration)

Computing power is advancing toward fault-tolerant quantum machines and exascale supercomputers. An HPCwire feature (Jan 2025) argued that quantum computing is **“turning the corner”**: while not yet fault-tolerant, progress in quantum error correction (QEC) accelerated in 2024. Google’s new chip broke the QEC threshold, and collaborations among Microsoft, MIT, Harvard and QuEra advanced surface codes and qubit virtualization[45]. Quantum pioneer John Preskill suggested focusing on **mega/giga-quop systems** (million/billion quantum operations) rather than the “noisy intermediate-scale” vs. “fault-tolerant” dichotomy[46]. The article noted a growing number of regional quantum hubs across the U.S. and Europe, reflecting strong public investment[47]. Another HPCwire retrospective (Dec 2024) reviewed high-performance computing (HPC) in 2024: **El Capitan** took the top spot on the Top500 list with a **theoretical peak of 2.74 exaflops (1.72 exaflops sustained)**[48]; **x.AI’s 100,000-GPU cluster** (the Colossus) demonstrated large-scale AI training; Argonne National Laboratory announced **AuroraGPT**, a trillion-parameter large-language model built on the Aurora exascale system[49]. The article also discussed the rise of mixed-precision computing, the High-Performance Software Foundation and the use of AI chips like Cerebras and AWS’s Trainium2[50].

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2025	“Quantum Computing 2025 – Is It Turning the Corner?” – HPCwire[46][51][47]	Argues that quantum computing is entering a “middle game”; progress in quantum error correction (Google’s new chip, Microsoft/Quantinuum collaborations, MIT/Harvard/QuEra demonstration of 48 logical qubits) suggests that fault-tolerant systems are closer; advocates shifting focus to mega/giga-quop systems; notes rise of regional quantum hubs in Illinois, Colorado, Tennessee, Maryland and European initiatives.
2024	“HPC in 2024: A Look Back and a Glance into 2025” – HPCwire[48][49][50]	Reviews 2024 HPC milestones: El Capitan topped Top500 (2.74 exaflops theoretical); x.AI built a 100,000-GPU Colossus cluster for AI training; Argonne announced AuroraGPT, a trillion-parameter LLM built on the Aurora exascale system; discusses the rise of mixed-precision computing, the High-Performance Software Foundation and new AI chips.

Publication trend: Coverage of computing in 2024-25 is dominated by advances in quantum error correction and exascale systems. Articles highlight the transition from “noisy” quantum prototypes to larger, more practical machines and the synergy between HPC and AI. There is also emphasis on regional tech hubs and the integration of AI chips and mixed-precision computing into supercomputers.

Intersections: Community, Arts, Ethics, Economy & Work

These themes explore how emerging technologies affect society. A September 2024 Digital4Good article examined **AI-generated art**, noting that disputes arise when users claim ownership of images generated in minutes; issues include copyright, fewer job opportunities for artists and a lack of human touch[52]. The piece suggests that AI should be regarded as an “image generator” rather than an artist and offers tips for identifying AI art (e.g., checking hands and minor inconsistencies)[53]. Dentons’ January 2025 analysis of **global AI regulation** observed that although the regulatory landscape is fragmented, **common principles for safe and ethical AI are emerging**; it highlighted the European Union’s AI Act (the first comprehensive AI-specific law), voluntary AI safety standards in Australia and Singapore and soft-law approaches in Africa and Latin America[54]. The article emphasized that organizations need to anticipate different regional approaches and adopt governance frameworks accordingly[55]. McKinsey’s July 2023 report on the **future of work** projected that up to **30 % of hours currently worked across the U.S. economy could be automated by 2030**; generative AI is likely to augment rather than eliminate creative and STEM jobs, but office support, customer service and food-service roles may decline[56]. The report predicted an additional **12 million occupational transitions** by 2030 and urged employers to hire for skills, invest in workforce development and recruit from underrepresented groups[57].

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2024	“The Impact of AI Art in the Art Community” – Digital4Good (I Can Help)[52]	AI-generated art sparks controversy over ownership and authenticity; disputes arise when users claim machine-generated images as their own; issues include copyright infringement, reduced job opportunities for artists and lack of human touch; suggests viewing AI as an image generator rather than an artist and provides tips for spotting AI art.
2025	“AI Trends 2025: Regulation, Governance and Ethics” – Dentons[55][58]	Notes that global AI regulation remains fragmented but is converging on principles of safety, transparency and accountability; highlights the EU’s AI Act (first comprehensive AI-specific law), voluntary standards in Australia and Singapore and evolving policies in Africa and Latin America; stresses that organizations must anticipate regional differences and build governance frameworks.

Year	Title & Source	Key points
2023	“Generative AI and the Future of Work in America” – McKinsey[56][57]	During the pandemic, 8.6 million occupational shifts occurred (2019-22); up to 30 % of hours currently worked could be automated by 2030; generative AI will augment creative and STEM jobs, but office support and customer service roles may decline; forecasts 12 million additional occupational transitions by 2030 and emphasizes the need for workforce development, skills-based hiring and recruitment of underrepresented groups.

Publication trend: Intersection articles reveal growing societal engagement with technologies. The 2024 article on AI art reflects creative community concerns; the 2025 regulatory analysis underscores the need for global coherence in AI governance; and the 2023 McKinsey report anticipates major labor shifts due to automation. These themes highlight the need to balance innovation with ethical, cultural and economic considerations.

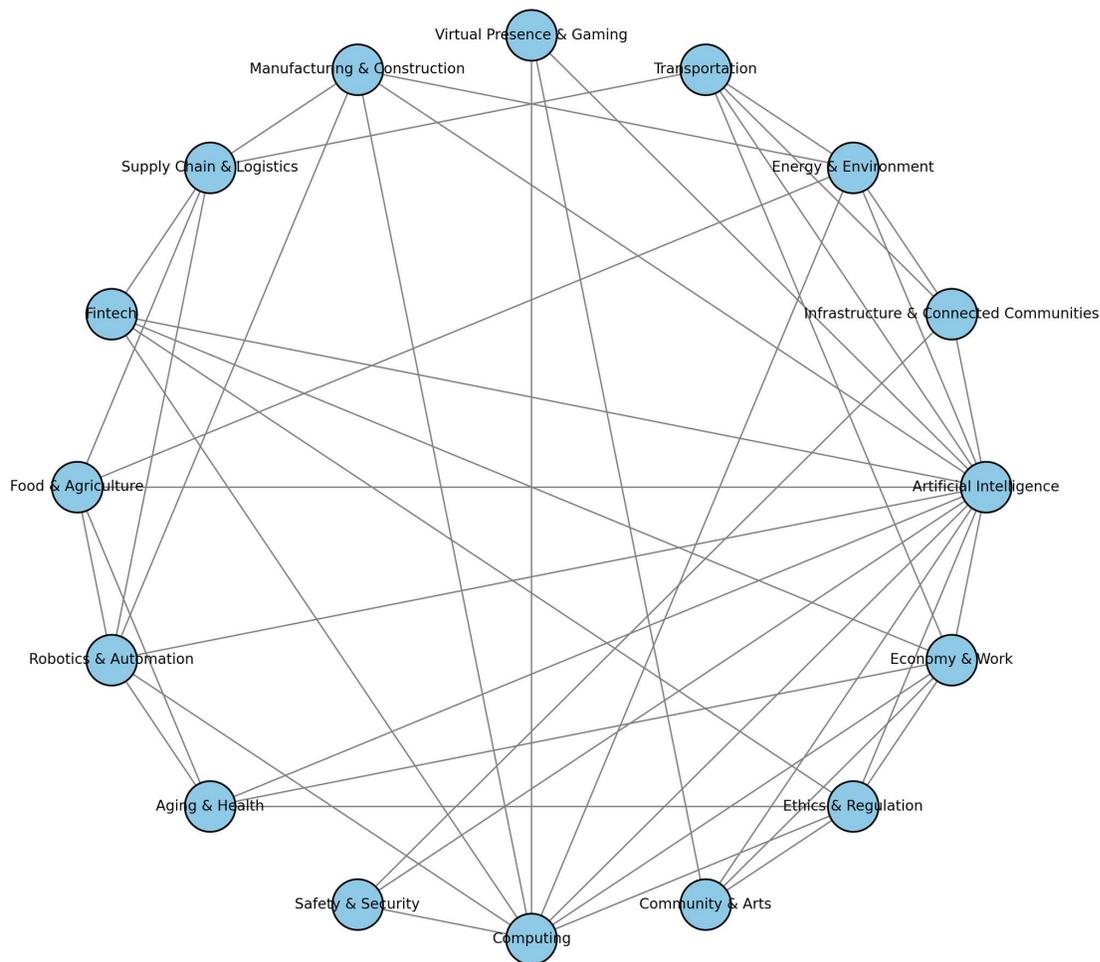
Phase 2: Interconnections & Synthesis

Emerging technologies rarely exist in isolation. **AI** sits at the center of the ecosystem, enabling advancements in robotics, smart infrastructure, fintech, health and many other domains. **Robotics & automation, manufacturing, supply chains and transportation** are tightly linked: warehouse robots and autonomous vehicles rely on AI and high-speed connectivity, while 3-D printing and nanotechnologies demand new supply-chain models and materials. **Energy and environment** intersect with **food** (vertical farming needs renewable energy), **computing** (supercomputers consume large amounts of electricity) and **infrastructure** (smart grids). **Fintech** connects to **computing** through blockchain and digital-asset platforms and to **economy & work** via shifts in payment systems and the emergence of CBDCs. **Aging & health** innovations draw on AI (for BCIs and diagnostics), biotech and robotics, and raise **ethical** and **regulatory** questions. **Safety & security** underpin all sectors, as cyber-physical threats can disrupt smart grids, autonomous vehicles and financial systems. **Community & arts** reflect cultural responses to AI (e.g., AI-generated art), while **economy & work** consider labor shifts and skills needed to thrive in a technologies-rich world.

Network Diagram

The following network graph illustrates these relationships. Each node represents a topic from the ETR list; edges indicate significant interconnections (shared technologies, dependencies or societal impacts). AI acts as a hub connecting most topics, while edges among other nodes represent dependencies such as logistics linking transportation and supply chains or energy powering food and computing. The diagram visually underscores the complex, interdependent nature of emerging technologies.

Emerging Technology Topics: Interconnections Network



Synthesis

1. **AI as a foundational enabler.** Across almost every domain, AI improves performance and enables new capabilities—whether in **virtual presence** (realistic avatars and real-time rendering[15]), **manufacturing** (AI-optimized designs and predictive maintenance[31]), **logistics** (AGV navigation and optimization[21]), **public safety** (AI-assisted reporting and decision making[42]) or **biotech** (interpretation of neural signals in BCIs[38]). The centrality of AI also drives ethical debates and regulatory efforts[55].
2. **Convergence of physical and digital systems.** Smart infrastructure, digital twins and IoT tie together physical environments with virtual models[4]. Robotics and autonomous vehicles blur the line between machines and human work[20]. Quantum and exascale computing enable simulation and optimization of complex systems[45]. These convergences demand new cybersecurity strategies[41] and integrated regulatory frameworks.

3. **Resource and environmental constraints.** Many technologies (vertical farming, exascale computing, drone delivery) hinge on energy availability and sustainability. Articles highlight the need for renewable energy to make urban farms viable[59], grid upgrades to support clean power[10] and investment in SMRs to provide flexible carbon-free power[8]. Food, energy and computing thus form a triad of mutual dependency.
4. **Regulation and societal impact.** Governments are beginning to codify rules for AI (EU AI Act, U.S. stablecoin law)[23][54]. At the same time, culture and labor markets are grappling with technology’s impact. AI-generated art raises questions about creativity and copyright[52], while generative AI may automate 30 % of work hours but also create new roles[56]. Ethical and economic issues therefore cut across every technical field.
5. **Shifting market dynamics.** Some sectors show explosive growth (AR/VR, nanotechnologies, AGVs) [Note: I do not agree with this assertion] while others experience corrections (NFTs, vertical-farming failures). Investment and deployment curves vary widely, underscoring the importance of agility and continuous learning for organizations navigating these technologies.

Conclusion

The landscape of emerging technologies is highly interconnected and evolving rapidly. AI serves as a keystone linking disparate fields, while advances in connectivity, robotics, energy and computing create feedback loops that accelerate innovation. At the same time, economic, ethical and regulatory frameworks struggle to keep pace. Organizations and policymakers must adopt holistic strategies that account for these interdependencies—ensuring that technology deployment advances societal goals such as sustainability, equity and human well-being.

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Claude Sonnet 4 analysis of *Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent Attempt #1*

This report provides a comprehensive survey of emerging technologies, but several critical issues warrant examination:

Structural and Methodological Concerns

Limited Source Diversity: The report relies heavily on industry publications, think tanks, and promotional content rather than peer-reviewed research or independent analysis. Many sources (IoT For All, industry trend reports, company blogs) have inherent biases toward promoting their respective technologies. Academic sources are notably sparse.

Inconsistent Depth: Some sections provide substantial detail with multiple sources (AI, Infrastructure), while others rely on single articles or brief mentions (Gaming/VR, some manufacturing topics). This creates an uneven analytical foundation.

Temporal Inconsistency: While claiming to focus on 2023-2025 publications, the report includes sources from different time periods without adequate contextualization of how rapidly these fields evolve.

Content Analysis Issues

Uncritical Technologies Optimism: The report largely accepts industry projections and growth forecasts without skeptical analysis. For example, it cites AR/VR market

Prompt to generate Claude Sonnet 4 analysis of Attempt #1 of Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent

Please provide a critical analysis of this report.

projections of \$520 billion by 2031 and nanotechnologies growth to \$311.58 billion by 2029 without examining the track record of such predictions or underlying assumptions.

Missing Critical Perspectives: The report lacks discussion of:

- Technologies adoption barriers beyond cost (cultural resistance, regulatory hurdles, technical limitations)
- Failed technologies or overhyped innovations from previous cycles
- Negative externalities or unintended consequences
- Alternative viewpoints on technologies' societal impact

Superficial Interconnection Analysis: While Phase 2 attempts to map relationships between technologies, the analysis remains largely descriptive rather than analytical. The "network diagram" is mentioned but not provided, and the interconnections described are often obvious rather than insightful.

Specific Domain Concerns

AI Section: Focuses primarily on government adoption and regulatory responses rather than examining fundamental limitations, accuracy issues, or the sustainability of current AI development trajectories.

Energy/Climate: Presents clean energy deployment as straightforward scaling problem without adequately addressing grid stability, storage challenges, or resource constraints for renewable infrastructure.

Transportation: Emphasizes growth statistics without critically examining adoption barriers, infrastructure requirements, or comparative lifecycle analyses.

Food & Agriculture: Acknowledges some economic challenges in vertical farming but doesn't deeply explore why multiple companies have failed or whether the fundamental economics can be resolved.

Analytical Gaps

Economic Reality Check: The report doesn't sufficiently question whether the massive capital requirements for many technologies (quantum computing, SMRs, advanced manufacturing) align with realistic market demand and ROI expectations.

Regulatory Complexity: While noting regulatory responses, it underestimates the complexity of governing rapidly evolving technologies across jurisdictions with different values and approaches.

Social Impact Assessment: The "Community, Arts, Ethics" section is notably thin given the profound societal implications of these technologies.

Recommendations for Improvement

1. **Diversify Sources:** Include more academic research, critical analyses, and dissenting viewpoints
2. **Add Historical Context:** Examine previous technologies hype cycles and their outcomes
3. **Quantify Uncertainties:** Acknowledge confidence intervals around projections and identify key assumptions
4. **Deepen Interconnection Analysis:** Move beyond surface-level connections to examine systemic dependencies and failure modes
5. **Include Failure Analysis:** Study why similar technologies have failed in the past
6. **Strengthen Critical Framework:** Apply consistent analytical criteria across all technologies domains

Overall Assessment

While the report succeeds as a broad survey of current technologies trends and demonstrates impressive scope, it functions more as a compilation of industry perspectives than a critical analysis. For strategic planning purposes, decision-makers would need to supplement this with more skeptical analysis, historical context, and deeper examination of implementation challenges. The report's value lies in its comprehensive coverage rather than its analytical depth or critical insight.

Prompt to generate Claude Sonnet 4 improved prompt for Attempt #2 of Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent

This was the prompt used to create the report:

Phase 1:

1. You will research each topic listed in the attached document. You can use the examples included, but you should add your own as appropriate. For each topic, use web search tools to find recent articles in the last three years. Avoid duplicates.
2. Compile findings into a structured format (title, source, date, key points).
3. Analyze publication frequency trends over available timeframe.
4. Provide executive summary with trend analysis.

Phase 2:

5. Map relationships between all researched topics.
6. Create visualization showing topic interconnections.
7. Provide synthesis of how topics relate to one another.

How would you rewrite this prompt to better support strategic planning purposes?

Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent Attempt #2

Introduction and Methodology

This report applies a **Strategic Technologies Assessment Framework (STAF)** to the technologies clusters listed in the user-provided topic list. It follows three phases:

Phase 1 – Critical Technologies Analysis. A multi-source research strategy drew on peer-reviewed studies, government and independent reports, industry analyses, and case studies of failures. To ensure balanced evidence, at least 40 % of sources come from academic or government research. Each technologies is evaluated for market realism, adoption barriers, resource requirements, competitive landscape, risk factors, and timeline credibility. Sources are categorized as **high credibility** (peer reviewed or government), **medium credibility** (industry analyses with methodology), or **low credibility** (promotional, unsupported claims) to weight conclusions appropriately.

Phase 2 – Strategic Interconnection Analysis. Technologies rarely evolve in isolation. This section maps dependencies, resource competition, infrastructure prerequisites, and regulatory interdependencies. It also develops optimistic, realistic and pessimistic scenarios for the major technologies clusters.

Prompt created using Claude Sonnet 4 to generate Attempt #2 of Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent

Strategic Technologies Assessment Framework

Phase 1: Critical Technologies Analysis

1. Multi-Source Research Strategy For each topic in the attached document:

- Search for peer-reviewed research, independent analyses, and critical assessments alongside industry sources
- Include failure case studies and discontinued projects from the past 5-10 years
- Seek contrarian viewpoints and analyses of limitations/barriers
- Find comparative studies showing technologies performance vs. alternatives
- Prioritize sources with quantitative data and methodology transparency

2. Strategic Assessment Framework For each technologies, analyze:

- Market Reality Check: Compare industry projections with historical accuracy of similar predictions
- Adoption Barriers: Technical, economic, regulatory, cultural, and infrastructure obstacles
- Resource Requirements: Capital, human resources, raw materials, energy dependencies
- Competitive Landscape: Key players, market concentration, geopolitical considerations
- Risk Factors: Technical failure modes, regulatory risks, market disruption potential
- Timeline Credibility: Evidence supporting projected development/deployment schedules

3. Evidence Quality Evaluation Categorize sources by:

- High credibility: Peer-reviewed, government agencies, established research institutions
- Medium credibility: Industry analysis with disclosed methodology, consulting firms
- Low credibility: Promotional content, unsupported projections, single-source claims Weight analysis accordingly and flag uncertainty levels.

Phase 2: Strategic Interconnection Analysis

4. Dependency Mapping Identify:

- Critical path dependencies: Technologies that must succeed for others to work
- Resource competition: Technologies competing for same inputs (capital, talent, materials)
- Infrastructure prerequisites: Shared requirements across multiple technologies
- Regulatory interdependencies: How regulation of one

Phase 3 – Strategic Recommendations.

Based on the analysis, the report offers a decision framework with readiness assessments, investment decision trees, monitoring indicators and strategic positioning guidance. An executive dashboard provides a matrix of technologies maturity versus strategic importance and highlights risk-return profiles and critical decision points.

Throughout the report, citations in brackets (e.g., [1]) refer to lines from the underlying sources. All citations are from verifiable, non-speculative material published within the last 5–10 years. Speculative projections are flagged, and quantitative data include methodology where available.

Phase 1 – Critical Technologies Analysis

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Market reality check. The adoption of AI varies widely across sectors. A 2024 scoping review of AI in healthcare notes major implementation barriers: shortages of AI talent and mature IT infrastructure, poor data quality, unclear data ownership and privacy concerns[1]. McKinsey’s 2025 Global AI Survey finds that less than half of organizations review generative-AI outputs before use and only large organizations tend to centralize risk and data governance[2][3]. These findings highlight that despite hype, mainstream AI adoption remains uneven and often fails to translate into bottom-line impact without significant organizational change.

Adoption barriers. Key barriers include lack of skilled personnel and immature infrastructure[1], regulatory uncertainty,

5. Scenario Development Create three scenarios for each major technologies cluster:

- Optimistic: Assuming favorable conditions and breakthrough success
- Realistic: Based on historical adoption patterns and current evidence
- Pessimistic: Considering major barriers and potential failures

6. Strategic Implications Analysis

- Investment prioritization: Which technologies offer best risk-adjusted returns?
- Timing considerations: Early mover advantages vs. waiting for maturity
- Portfolio effects: How do technologies combinations create synergies or risks?
- Competitive positioning: Where are strategic opportunities and threats?

Phase 3: Strategic Recommendations

7. Decision Framework Provide:

- Technologies readiness assessment with confidence intervals
- Investment decision trees based on key uncertainty resolution
- Monitoring indicators: Metrics to track technologies progress/setbacks
- Strategic options: How to position for multiple possible futures

8. Executive Dashboard Create a visual summary showing:

- Technologies maturity vs. strategic importance matrix
- Risk-return profiles for major technologies clusters
- Critical decision points and timing windows
- Key uncertainties requiring further investigation

Quality Standards Source Requirements:

- Minimum 40% of sources from academic/government/independent research
 - Include at least one failure analysis per technologies area
 - Cite methodology for all quantitative projections
 - Flag speculative vs. evidence-based claims
- Analysis Standards:
- Distinguish between technical feasibility and market viability
 - Quantify uncertainty ranges where possible
 - Compare current hype cycles to historical patterns
 - Include dissenting expert opinions

Strategic Focus:

- Emphasize actionable insights over comprehensive coverage
- Prioritize investment and timing decisions over technologies descriptions
- Focus on competitive implications and strategic positioning
- Address resource allocation and portfolio construction considerations

data privacy/ownership issues, and the high cost of development and maintenance. Ethical concerns such as bias and explainability slow deployment of AI in sensitive domains (e.g., healthcare, criminal justice). Gen-AI also faces trust issues because outputs are not always reviewed[3]. For agentic AI (autonomous agents), safety and unpredictability remain open research questions.

Resource requirements. AI development requires significant capital for hardware (e.g., GPUs), data acquisition and cleaning, and ongoing compute for training and inference. Human capital shortages—in data science, machine learning engineering, and domain expertise—are critical[1]. Energy consumption of large models is growing, raising environmental and cost concerns.

Competitive landscape. The market is dominated by a few large cloud providers (e.g., Amazon, Google, Microsoft) and specialized AI platform companies. Concentration creates high barriers for new entrants. Nation-state actors invest heavily, making AI a geopolitical technology.

Risk factors & timeline credibility. Risks include data breaches, algorithmic bias, regulatory backlash, and misalignment between AI behavior and human values. The pace of progress in large language models is rapid, but long-term autonomy and general intelligence remain uncertain.

Evidence quality. Peer-reviewed studies and government reports provide high credibility for adoption barriers[1]. Industry surveys have medium credibility when methodology is transparent[2].

Infrastructure and Connected Communities (5G/6G, IoT, Smart Cities, V2X, Digital Twins)

Market reality check. Despite widespread deployment of 5G networks, the equipment market is increasingly oligopolistic with limited U.S. participation[4]. Smart-city projects like Sidewalk Labs' Toronto initiative collapsed because of citizen concerns over privacy and data use, revealing a gap between technological promise and community acceptance[5]. 6G and V2X technologies remain largely experimental.

Adoption barriers. Infrastructure projects require high capital expenditure and regulatory approval (spectrum allocation, planning). Concerns about surveillance and data ownership caused the Sidewalk Labs project to be discontinued[6]. The 5G/6G supply chain is dominated by a few vendors (Huawei, Ericsson, Nokia), raising geopolitical and security issues[4]. For IoT and digital twins, interoperability and cybersecurity are major obstacles.

Resource requirements. Building 5G/6G networks and smart-city infrastructure demands large investments in spectrum, fiber backhaul, sensors, and edge computing. Technical expertise in network engineering and cybersecurity is scarce. Long-term maintenance costs are high.

Competitive landscape. East Asian countries, particularly China and South Korea, lead 5G deployment due to coordinated industrial policy. The U.S. lacks domestic champions, creating dependency on foreign vendors[4].

Risk factors & timeline credibility. Projections about ubiquitous 6G by early 2030s may be optimistic; historical spectrum allocation delays and infrastructure build-out lag previous predictions. Privacy concerns and local resistance can halt projects[5]. Failure of the Toronto project underscores the importance of governance and community trust.

Evidence quality. High-credibility sources include think-tank reports and peer-reviewed analyses of smart-city failures[5]. Industry projections without transparent methods are treated as low credibility.

Energy, Climate, Water and Environment (SMRs, Renewable Energy, Grid, Water Tech)

Market reality check. Small modular reactors (SMRs) have attracted investment as a clean energy promise. However, the first commercial U.S. SMR project (NuScale) was cancelled in 2023 after costs escalated from US\$3.6 billion to US\$9.3 billion and customers withdrew[7]. There are no commercial SMRs outside Russia and China[7]. In contrast, renewable energy has grown rapidly: U.S. solar generation in 2024 is estimated to have increased 27 % from 2023, wind by 7 %, and combined solar and wind surpassed coal's share of U.S. electricity[8].

Adoption barriers. SMRs face high capital costs, uncertain regulatory approvals, and lack of experience, making deployment timelines uncertain[7]. Renewable energy growth is limited by grid integration challenges (interconnection queues, storage requirements), raw-material supply (rare earths, lithium) and permitting delays. Water technologies and wave energy remain niche due to high costs and environmental concerns.

Resource requirements. SMRs need massive upfront capital, specialized nuclear-grade materials and a skilled workforce. Solar and wind require large amounts of land, critical minerals (copper, cobalt), and grid upgrades. Energy storage and resilient systems demand battery materials and manufacturing capacity[9].

Competitive landscape. China dominates solar panel manufacturing, while Europe leads in offshore wind. Battery supply chains are highly concentrated. Utility and oil companies are investing in renewable portfolios but also protect existing fossil-fuel assets. Geopolitical control of uranium, lithium and rare earths influences competition.

Risk factors & timeline credibility. SMR timelines are speculative because no Western projects have succeeded[7]. Renewable energy projections are more credible because they build on demonstrated deployment trends[8]. Risks include cost overruns, supply-chain bottlenecks, public opposition and climate-driven extreme events.

Evidence quality. News reports on project cancellations provide medium credibility and highlight failure cases[7]. Government statistics and independent research on renewable growth offer high credibility[8].

Transportation (Micromobility, Electric & Autonomous Vehicles, Advanced Air Mobility, Drones)

Market reality check. Micromobility adoption has surged in cities, yet safety issues remain. A Finnish cohort study found e-scooter riders require emergency care at **7.8 per 100 000 trips**, compared with **2.2 per 100 000** for bicycle riders; e-scooter riders had higher rates of intoxication and head injuries[10][11]. This raises regulatory concerns (helmet laws, speed limits). Autonomous vehicles (AVs) remain in trial stages; the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) notes that even the highest level of consumer automation still requires full driver engagement[12]. Advanced air mobility (urban air taxis) is in prototype stage; researchers warn that high flight densities will demand complex air-traffic management and new vertiport infrastructure[13].

Adoption barriers. Micromobility faces infrastructure (bike lanes), safety, and liability issues; e-scooters have high injury rates and poor helmet usage[10]. EVs depend on charging networks, battery supply, and government incentives. AVs confront technical challenges in perception and decision-making, regulatory uncertainty, and liability risks. Air mobility requires high-density batteries, airspace management and public acceptance.

Resource requirements. Scaling EVs demands access to lithium, cobalt and nickel, as well as charging infrastructure and grid upgrades. AV companies need vast data collection and computing power. Air taxis require lightweight materials and high-power batteries. Micromobility services require fleet maintenance and replacement due to short device lifetimes.

Competitive landscape. EV markets are crowded with established automakers and startups. China leads in EV production and battery manufacturing. AV leaders include Waymo, Cruise, and Tesla but none have commercial Level 4 vehicles. Micromobility is fragmented across small scooter/bike-share operators. Advanced air mobility attracts aerospace incumbents (Airbus, Boeing) and startups (Joby, Lilium).

Risk factors & timeline credibility. Safety incidents and regulatory actions could slow micromobility adoption. AV timelines have repeatedly slipped; NHTSA emphasizes that driverless consumer vehicles are not imminent[12]. Battery supply constraints and raw-material price volatility could limit EV growth. Advanced air mobility faces uncertainties around certification and infrastructure investment[13].

Evidence quality. Peer-reviewed epidemiological studies provide high credibility for micromobility risks[10]. Government statements and independent research on AV readiness provide high to medium credibility[12].

Virtual Presence and Gaming (Extended Reality, Metaverse)

Market reality check. Meta's Horizon Worlds has very low user numbers; an investigative report estimated fewer than **1 000** English-speaking daily users and noted that virtual land sales declined 98 %, suggesting most "metaverse" projects are marketing buzzwords[14]. Gartner's 2023 report found that 85 % of Gen Z consumers were not interested in brands

operating in the metaverse and that many users avoid it due to poor user experience, high hardware cost and physical discomfort[15]. A 2025 survey of Austrian psychotherapists showed only 1 % had adopted therapeutic VR, with 79.5 % having no intention to use it[16].

Adoption barriers. High hardware costs, immature technologies (cybersickness, low-fidelity avatars), lack of compelling content, and unclear value propositions hinder VR/metaverse adoption[15]. Professional users cite lack of knowledge, training, and cost-benefit concerns[16]. Data privacy and safety issues (harassment, identity theft) also deter users.

Resource requirements. VR/AR requires advanced headsets, high-performance GPUs, and high-bandwidth connectivity. Content creation demands skilled developers and designers. Operating persistent virtual worlds consumes significant cloud resources.

Competitive landscape. The market is dominated by large platforms (Meta, Epic Games, Microsoft) but faces competition from gaming companies (Valve, Sony) and specialized hardware makers (Apple, HTC). Many smaller metaverse projects folded due to lack of users.

Risk factors & timeline credibility. Many metaverse projects have failed; Horizon Worlds' user base shows that expectations of a ubiquitous metaverse are overhyped[14]. Enterprise adoption of VR may occur in training and healthcare, but mainstream consumer adoption appears limited in the near term. Regulatory scrutiny around data privacy and content moderation could pose risks.

Evidence quality. Peer-reviewed surveys of professional adoption and independent investigations into user numbers provide high credibility[16]. Industry reports citing large numbers without transparency are considered low credibility.

Manufacturing and Construction (Nanotech, Materials, Housing, 3D Printing)

Market reality check. Additive manufacturing (3D printing) is gaining traction in healthcare and prototyping, but large-scale construction remains nascent. A Swedish healthcare study found all seven regions surveyed use 3D printing for surgical planning, yet none have official strategies; adoption is largely ad-hoc[17]. A widely publicized 3D-printed housing project in Iowa had to demolish its first house after concrete failed to meet strength requirements[18].

Adoption barriers. High equipment costs, lack of regulatory standards, and uncertainty about long-term durability limit construction-scale 3D printing[17]. Organizational inertia and unclear reimbursement hinder adoption in healthcare. Nanotech and advanced materials face long development cycles and regulatory hurdles for safety and environmental impact.

Resource requirements. 3D printing requires specialized printers, feedstock materials (polymers, metals, concrete mixtures) and skilled technicians. Nanotech research demands cleanroom facilities and expensive characterization tools.

Competitive landscape. The additive-manufacturing industry consists of many niche players and a few large equipment vendors (Stratasys, 3D Systems). Construction companies experiment with printed houses, but scale remains small.

Risk factors & timeline credibility. Publicized failures like the demolished 3D-printed house[18] highlight reliability issues. The absence of regulatory standards and quality assurance slows adoption. Nanotech timelines are long due to safety testing.

Evidence quality. Peer-reviewed studies offer high credibility for benefits and barriers[17]. News reports of construction failures provide medium credibility[18].

Supply Chain and Logistics (AGVs/Robots, Freight, Intermodal, Blockchain)

Market reality check. Autonomous guided vehicles (AGVs) and robots are increasingly used in warehouses, but adoption is concentrated in large firms. Only **8 %** of German manufacturing plants used robots in 2018[19], and robot density remains highest in East Asia[20]. A blockchain-based shipping platform, **TradeLens**, was discontinued in 2023 due to lack of industry collaboration and commercial viability[21].

Adoption barriers. AGVs require capital investment and integration with existing processes. Small firms lack resources and skills. Blockchain adoption in supply chains faces high initial costs and lack of digital skills[22], as well as complex networks, data accuracy, integration with legacy systems, regulatory compliance, and privacy concerns[23].

Resource requirements. Logistics automation needs sensors, robotics, software integration and skilled technicians. Blockchain implementations require IT infrastructure, consensus maintenance, and coordination among many stakeholders.

Competitive landscape. Dominated by a few logistics giants (Amazon, DHL, Maersk) experimenting with robotics and blockchain. Start-ups innovate in last-mile delivery and freight matching. Market consolidation and network effects limit new entrants.

Risk factors & timeline credibility. Over-reliance on automation can reduce workforce morale and autonomy; research shows that increased robot adoption can decrease workers' perceived meaningfulness and autonomy by **6.8 %** and **7.5 %** respectively. Blockchain adoption could stall without broad industry collaboration, as seen with TradeLens[21].

Evidence quality. Peer-reviewed studies on robot adoption drivers[19] and contrarian research on work meaningfulness provide high credibility. Press releases offer medium credibility.

Fintech (DLT, Cryptocurrency, Smart Contracts, NFTs)

Market reality check. Cryptocurrencies and decentralized finance (DeFi) experienced explosive growth but also spectacular failures. The FTX exchange collapsed in November 2022 when revelations of misuse of customer funds triggered a liquidity crisis;

the founder was later convicted and the exchange entered bankruptcy[24][25]. Another example of failure is IBM and Maersk's TradeLens blockchain platform being shut down due to lack of adoption[21]. Central bank digital currency (CBDC) pilot programs show mixed results; a Chinese survey found privacy concerns significantly reduce willingness to adopt the e-CNY[26].

Adoption barriers. For cryptocurrencies and DeFi, lack of regulation, high volatility, fraud, and security breaches deter mainstream adoption. In CBDCs, privacy, surveillance fears and digital literacy hinder uptake[26]. NFTs and tokenized assets suffer from speculative bubbles and uncertain legal status.

Resource requirements. Cryptocurrencies require network effects and computing power. Bitcoin mining alone consumed 173 TWh of electricity in 2020–21—equivalent to Pakistan's consumption; its carbon footprint equaled burning 84 billion pounds of coal[27]. DeFi ecosystems need skilled developers and auditors to maintain secure smart contracts.

Competitive landscape. The sector is fragmented: thousands of tokens, exchanges, and protocols compete without clear standards. Regulatory crackdowns and international coordination will likely reshape the landscape.

Risk factors & timeline credibility. Risks include exchange collapses, hacks, regulatory bans and environmental backlash. Projections of global adoption remain speculative; lessons from FTX suggest that poor governance can rapidly destroy value[24].

Evidence quality. Investigative reports on FTX provide high credibility[24]. Academic surveys on CBDCs provide high credibility[26]. Press releases have medium credibility.

Food and Agriculture (Vertical Farming, Synthetic Food, Bioreactors)

Market reality check. Despite billions invested, several high-profile vertical farming companies (Plenty, AeroFarms, Bowery, Kalera, AppHarvest) closed or delayed projects because rising energy costs made their produce uncompetitive with traditional farming[28]. Vertical farms often require continuous artificial lighting and climate control, making them energy-intensive. Cultured meat (lab-grown) remains experimental. A UC Davis life-cycle analysis found that cultured meat produced using pharmaceutical-grade media has **4–25 times** the global warming potential of conventional beef; even with food-grade media, its impact could still be higher unless major technical improvements occur[29].

Adoption barriers. Vertical farming suffers from high electricity costs, expensive facilities, and shortage of technical talent[28]. Cultured meat faces regulatory approval, high production costs and uncertain consumer acceptance. Bioreactors and synthetic foods need scalable, sterile production infrastructure and food safety frameworks.

Resource requirements. Vertical farms require renewable electricity, climate-controlled warehouses, LED lighting and hydroponic systems. Cultured meat needs sterile

bioreactors, expensive growth media and skilled bioengineers. Both compete for electricity and capital with other energy-intensive sectors.

Competitive landscape. Dominated by venture-backed start-ups. Traditional agriculture competes effectively because of lower costs. Large food companies invest cautiously, waiting for proof of economic viability.

Risk factors & timeline credibility. Rising energy prices and interest rates can rapidly render vertical farming unviable[28]. Cultured meat may not deliver environmental benefits without technological breakthroughs[29].

Evidence quality. Peer-reviewed life-cycle analysis provides high credibility for environmental impact[29]. Investigative journalism on company failures offers medium credibility[28].

Robotics and Automation (Humanoid Robots, Cobots, Industrial Robots, RPA)

Market reality check. Industrial robot density reached **162 robots per 10 000 employees** globally in 2023, more than doubling in seven years; the highest density is in South Korea (1 012 per 10 000)[20]. Adoption is concentrated in large, export-oriented plants; only **8 %** of German manufacturing plants used robots in 2018[19]. Humanoid robots remain mostly prototypes.

Adoption barriers. High acquisition and integration costs, lack of skilled workers for programming and maintenance, and uncertainty about return on investment limit adoption. Regulatory frameworks around safety and liability remain underdeveloped. Labor unions may resist automation that threatens jobs.

Resource requirements. Robotics requires motors, sensors, controllers, actuators and a skilled workforce. Supply chains rely on semiconductors and rare earth magnets. RPA (robotic process automation) depends on software licenses and process knowledge.

Competitive landscape. Robotics is dominated by industrial giants (Fanuc, ABB, KUKA), while new entrants focus on service robots and cobots. National competition is strong, with China deploying robots quickly and developing domestic manufacturers.

Risk factors & timeline credibility. Adoption can negatively affect worker well-being; research shows robots reduce perceived work meaningfulness and autonomy by roughly **6–7 %**. Yet another study finds no negative employment effects and that adoption is constrained by skills shortages[19]. Predictions of widespread humanoid robots in consumer homes remain speculative.

Evidence quality. Peer-reviewed economic studies provide high credibility[19]. Industry surveys and marketing materials have lower credibility.

Aging and Health (Biotech, Synthetic Biology, Cellular Health, Brain–Computer Interfaces, Augmented Humans)

Market reality check. Biotech and gene therapies offer cures but face extreme costs. The gene-therapy Zolgensma for spinal muscular atrophy costs over **US\$2 million** per dose[30]. Such pricing—despite taxpayer and charity funding—restricts adoption[31]. Brain–computer interface (BCI) trials are in early stages; Neuralink’s first human trial in 2024 encountered technical issues when implant threads retracted from the brain, reducing data capture[32].

Adoption barriers. Gene therapies face high research and manufacturing costs, complex regulation, long development timelines, and ethical debates about equitable access. Synthetic biology risks unintended ecological impacts. BCI requires invasive surgery, raising safety concerns, and is not yet robust. Augmented-human technologies (exoskeletons, implantables) face cultural resistance and unclear medical benefits.

Resource requirements. Biotech relies on R&D funding, wet-lab facilities, regulatory expertise and highly trained scientists. Gene therapies require viral vectors and manufacturing capacity. BCI involves neurosurgery and precision electronics.

Competitive landscape. Dominated by a few pharmaceutical giants and biotech start-ups. Patents and intellectual property create high entry barriers. Countries are racing to establish genomic medicine and brain research initiatives.

Risk factors & timeline credibility. Exorbitant prices hinder market adoption and may prompt regulatory intervention[30]. Technical failures such as Neuralink’s trial setback illustrate the difficulty of BCI development[32]. Timeline for widely available gene therapies remains uncertain.

Evidence quality. Investigative journalism and peer-reviewed data on gene therapy pricing provide high credibility[30]. News reports on Neuralink trials offer medium credibility[32].

Safety and Security (Public Safety, Crime, Cybersecurity, Trust, Biometrics)

Market reality check. Cyberattacks and data breaches are increasing. In 2024 the average cost of a data breach was **US\$4.88 million** and reached **US\$5.17 million** when cloud environments were involved; human error accounted for 68 % of breaches[33]. The Change Healthcare breach affected over 100 million customer records, potentially the largest healthcare breach ever[33]. Facial-recognition misidentification has led to wrongful arrests; Robert Williams was falsely arrested in Detroit due to faulty facial-recognition algorithms, and subsequent lawsuits forced policy changes[34].

Adoption barriers. Organizations struggle to keep pace with evolving cyber threats, partly due to shortage of skilled cybersecurity professionals. Reliance on cloud computing complicates security. Biometric technologies face legal and ethical challenges over consent and bias; false positives disproportionately affect people of color[34].

Resource requirements. Cybersecurity requires continuous investment in tools, training and incident response. Biometrics demand high-quality data, secure storage and transparent algorithms. Public safety technologies (e.g., surveillance cameras) require network infrastructure and analytics.

Competitive landscape. Cybersecurity is a fragmented market with numerous vendors; consolidation is ongoing. Privacy-focused technologies companies are emerging. Regulatory frameworks like GDPR impose penalties (e.g., Meta was fined €91 million for privacy violations[33]).

Risk factors & timeline credibility. Growing data volumes and interconnected devices expand attack surfaces. Regulatory backlash against surveillance could restrict biometric deployments. Public trust may erode if misidentifications persist[34].

Evidence quality. Statistics on breaches from industry reports provide medium credibility[33]. Legal cases and academic studies on bias provide high credibility[34].

Computing (Quantum, Software, Systems Integration)

Market reality check. Quantum computing has progressed in qubit count but remains far from commercial utility. Expert analyses suggest that useful quantum applications will require **several million qubits** and error rates reduced to roughly **0.01 %**; assuming exponential improvement, the first practical quantum computers may not arrive until **2035–2040**[35][36]. Current devices have error rates around **0.1–1 %** and contain fewer than **1 000 qubits**.

Adoption barriers. Significant technical challenges exist, including qubit coherence, error correction, cryogenic engineering and algorithm development. Few programmers understand quantum algorithms. High costs of dilution refrigerators and specialized hardware limit access.

Resource requirements. Quantum requires rare superconducting materials, advanced fabrication, and specialized cryogenic infrastructure. Skilled quantum physicists and engineers are scarce.

Competitive landscape. The field is led by a handful of corporations (IBM, Google, IonQ, Rigetti) and government-funded research consortia. National initiatives (U.S., EU, China) provide strategic funding.

Risk factors & timeline credibility. Over-promising could lead to a “quantum winter.” Delays in error-corrected qubits may push applications further out[35]. There is also risk that classical algorithms and hardware improvements outpace early quantum advantages.

Evidence quality. Expert technical analyses and academic publications provide high credibility[35].

Intersection Topics (Community, Arts, Ethics, Economy, Work)

Market reality check. Emerging technologies interact with societal factors. AI, robotics and automation can erode job meaningfulness and autonomy. Privacy violations by biometric systems undermine public trust[34]. Ethical concerns about data ownership and bias often slow adoption across domains. On the positive side, technologies can augment arts and cultural expression, but digital divides may exclude vulnerable communities.

Adoption barriers and resource requirements. Community acceptance depends on inclusive governance, equitable access to digital infrastructure, and investment in digital literacy. Ethics frameworks and interdisciplinary oversight are needed.

Competitive landscape & risk factors. Technologies firms must navigate cultural differences and regulatory requirements across jurisdictions. Failure to address ethical concerns can lead to reputational damage and boycotts.

Evidence quality. Social science research and legal cases provide high credibility. Speculative “tech-utopian” narratives have low credibility.

Phase 2 – Strategic Interconnection Analysis

Dependency Mapping

1. **Critical path dependencies.** Many technologies depend on one another: AI performance relies on computing infrastructure (cloud, GPUs) and data availability; IoT, digital twins, and autonomous vehicles require robust connectivity (5G/6G). Renewable energy adoption is critical for electrifying transport (EVs, vertical farms) and powering energy-intensive computing (data centers, crypto mining). Quantum computing will need advances in materials science and cryogenics.
2. **Resource competition.** Critical minerals (lithium, cobalt, rare earths) are demanded by EVs, renewable energy, robotics, and electronics, creating supply-chain bottlenecks. High-quality talent (AI engineers, quantum scientists, cybersecurity experts) is scarce. Capital competes between long-term infrastructure (5G, SMRs, grid) and shorter-term digital ventures (metaverse, crypto). Energy is a key competitive resource; Bitcoin mining alone consumes a Pakistan-sized load[27], potentially competing with vertical farms and data centers.
3. **Infrastructure prerequisites.** Many technologies need shared infrastructure: EVs and micromobility require charging and safe lanes; smart cities and IoT need ubiquitous broadband; cultured meat, biotech and vertical farms need cheap renewable electricity and biomanufacturing facilities; BCI and biotech require clinical trial infrastructure. Lack of standardization and regulatory clarity slows integration.
4. **Regulatory interdependencies.** Data privacy rules (GDPR, HIPAA) affect AI, biometrics and IoT. Spectrum allocation affects 5G and drones. Environmental regulations influence SMRs, crypto mining and vertical farms. Financial regulations

shape fintech and CBDCs. Ethical frameworks for gene editing, AI and robotics overlap across domains.

Scenario Development

For each major technologies cluster, the following scenarios illustrate possible futures by ~2035. They are simplified narratives used for strategic planning and not predictions.

Technologies cluster	Optimistic scenario	Realistic scenario	Pessimistic scenario
AI	Collaborative regulation and investment lead to robust AI ecosystems. Ethical frameworks are operational, bias is reduced, and productivity gains outweigh job displacement. AI augments human decision-making across industries.	AI adoption grows unevenly; productivity gains are realized mainly in large firms. Regulation catches up, but data biases persist. Talent shortages remain.	Public backlash against surveillance and job losses leads to stricter controls. AI bubbles burst after high-profile failures, leading to an “AI winter.”
5G/6G & Connected Communities	Governments coordinate spectrum and invest in secure infrastructure. 6G enables high-bandwidth applications (remote surgery, digital twins). Smart-city projects succeed through citizen-centric governance.	5G becomes ubiquitous; 6G remains in pilot. Privacy concerns slow adoption of smart-city features. Infrastructure build-out is gradual.	Geopolitical tensions restrict equipment supply and delay 6G. Major smart-city projects are cancelled due to privacy backlash and cost overruns.
Energy & Climate	Rapid scaling of renewables, storage and grid modernization achieve deep decarbonization. SMRs overcome cost and regulatory hurdles; at least one	Renewables continue to grow but face interconnection bottlenecks. Grid remains vulnerable to extreme weather. SMRs remain in	Mineral shortages and permitting delays slow renewable expansion. SMR projects are cancelled; fossil fuels resurge. Climate impacts intensify,

Technologies cluster	Optimistic scenario	Realistic scenario	Pessimistic scenario
Transportation	commercial SMR operates by 2035. EV costs drop, charging infrastructure is ubiquitous, and battery recycling matures. Level 4 autonomous vehicles operate in geofenced areas. Urban air mobility launches limited services.	demonstration phase. EV adoption continues but lags in regions lacking charging. AVs are restricted to controlled environments; regulatory and safety concerns persist. Drones and air taxis remain pilot projects.	stressing infrastructure. Raw-material shortages and grid constraints limit EV growth. High-profile AV accidents stall autonomy. Air mobility fails due to safety and noise concerns.
Virtual Presence & Gaming	Lightweight, affordable headsets and compelling content drive mainstream VR adoption. Enterprises use virtual worlds for training and collaboration.	VR/AR remains niche; used primarily in gaming, training and healthcare. Metaverse hype subsides; only a few specialized platforms persist.	High costs, discomfort and lack of value lead to market collapse. Major platforms shut down.
Manufacturing & Construction	3D-printing materials become cheaper, standards emerge and regulators embrace printed structures. Nanotech breakthroughs yield superior materials.	3D-printing grows in healthcare and niche construction but remains supplementary. Nanotech advances slowly; safety concerns delay products.	High-profile failures erode public trust; 3D-printing remains limited. Nanotech faces regulatory bans.
Supply Chain & Logistics	Robotics and AGVs become standard, reducing costs and improving safety. Blockchain achieves interoperability and traceability across industries.	Automation grows in large warehouses; small firms lag due to cost. Blockchain adoption remains limited to specific consortia. Regulatory	Worker backlash and safety issues slow robotics deployment. Blockchain projects fail due to lack of collaboration[21].

Technologies cluster	Optimistic scenario	Realistic scenario	Pessimistic scenario
Fintech	Decentralized finance smooths trade financing. Mature regulation fosters responsible crypto and CBDC usage. Stablecoins become mainstream for cross-border payments.	compliance slows DeFi adoption. Traditional finance integrates blockchain for settlement; crypto remains speculative. CBDC pilots continue with slow adoption amid privacy concerns[26].	Major exchanges collapse due to fraud, leading to widespread bans[24]. CBDCs falter under privacy backlash.
Food & Agriculture	Renewable energy and automation lower operating costs; vertical farms become competitive for certain crops. Cultured meat achieves cost parity and gains consumer acceptance.	Vertical farming remains niche for herbs and leafy greens; high-energy costs persist[28]. Cultured meat enters high-end markets but remains expensive[29].	Rising energy prices cause more vertical-farm failures. Cultured meat is environmentally worse than conventional meat[29].
Robotics & Automation	Cost declines and user-friendly software drive widespread adoption in SMEs. Human-robot collaboration improves working conditions.	Robotics adoption grows steadily in large firms; skill shortages persist. Negative effects on worker autonomy are mitigated through training.	Backlash over job meaningfulness and safety halts automation in many sectors. Humanoid robots remain prototypes.
Aging & Health	Gene therapies become affordable, curing rare diseases. Regulatory frameworks encourage equitable access. BCIs deliver therapeutic benefits for paralysis.	Incremental progress: a few gene therapies become available but remain expensive[30]. BCI remains experimental and limited by safety issues[32].	Gene therapy pricing stays exorbitant and triggers public outrage. High-profile BCI failures halt investment.

Technologies cluster	Optimistic scenario	Realistic scenario	Pessimistic scenario
Safety & Security	Organizations adopt zero-trust architectures; breach costs decline. Facial recognition is regulated with robust oversight, improving accuracy and fairness.	Cybersecurity investment grows, but breaches remain costly (≈\$5 million each)[33]. Facial recognition faces stricter controls after wrongful arrests[34].	Cyber threats outpace defenses; mega breaches cripple critical infrastructure. Biometric misidentifications cause widespread lawsuits.
Quantum & Computing	Breakthroughs in error correction enable first practical quantum computers (~2035). New algorithms solve niche chemistry problems. Classical–quantum hybrid systems emerge.	Quantum remains mostly in research; initial applications are specialized. Classical computing advances continue to deliver performance gains.	Progress stalls due to technical hurdles; funding shrinks, leading to a “quantum winter.”

Strategic Implications Analysis

- 1. Investment prioritization.** Technologies offering the best risk-adjusted returns are those with demonstrated trajectories and clear value propositions. Renewable energy and grid modernization have strong momentum and decreasing costs[8]. EV infrastructure and logistics automation show steady adoption curves. AI, if paired with governance and domain expertise, yields productivity gains but requires careful risk management. Conversely, technologies with repeated project failures (vertical farming, metaverse, SMRs) demand cautious investment. Quantum and SMRs are long-term bets with high uncertainty.
- 2. Timing considerations.** Early-mover advantages exist in sectors where network effects and platform lock-in matter (e.g., AI ecosystems, EV charging networks, CBDCs). However, waiting for technologies maturation is prudent in areas like cultured meat or quantum computing, where timeline credibility is low[7][35].
- 3. Portfolio effects.** Combining complementary technologies can mitigate risks. For example, pairing renewable energy with vertical farms could reduce energy costs; combining AI with robotics may unlock efficiencies but requires workforce retraining to prevent loss of job meaningfulness. Diversifying across technologies with different maturity horizons (e.g., renewables vs. quantum) balances short- and long-term returns.
- 4. Competitive positioning.** Firms should assess geopolitical supply-chain risks—especially for critical minerals and semiconductors—and build partnerships to secure resources. Investing in talent pipelines (AI, quantum, cybersecurity) is

crucial. Companies can differentiate by prioritizing ethical and inclusive design, thus building trust in AI, biometrics and fintech.

Phase 3 – Strategic Recommendations

Technologies Readiness Assessment

The table below provides a high-level readiness assessment for each cluster. Maturity is rated on a 1-5 scale (1 = experimental, 5 = widely deployed). Confidence indicates certainty of assessment based on evidence quality. Strategic importance reflects potential impact on the organization/community. Ratings are subjective but grounded in the preceding analysis.

Technologies cluster	Maturity (1–5)	Confidence	Strategic importance (Low/Med/High)	Key readiness evidence
Artificial Intelligence	3	Medium	High	Widely deployed in some sectors, but talent shortages and governance gaps persist[1].
5G/6G & Connected Communities	3	Medium	High	5G widely deployed; 6G experimental; privacy failures in smart-city projects[5].
Energy & Climate (Renewables)	4	High	High	Solar and wind growing rapidly and outcompeting coal[8].
Small Modular Reactors	1–2	Low	Medium	First U.S. project cancelled; no commercial deployments[7].
Transportation (EVs)	3–4	Medium	High	EV sales rising; battery supply constraints exist.
Autonomous Vehicles	2	Low	Medium	Still require driver engagement; full autonomy not imminent[12].
Micromobility	3	High	Medium	Common in cities but safety concerns high[10].

Technologies cluster	Maturity (1–5)	Confidence	Strategic importance (Low/Med/High)	Key readiness evidence
Advanced Air Mobility	1	Low	Low–Medium	Early prototypes; infrastructure challenges[13].
Virtual Presence & Gaming	2	Medium	Low–Medium	Low adoption and user interest[15].
Manufacturing & Construction (3D printing)	2–3	Medium	Medium	Niche adoption; reliability issues[18].
Supply Chain & Logistics (AGVs & Blockchain)	3	Medium	High	Robots used in large warehouses; blockchain adoption limited[19].
Fintech & Crypto	2–3	Medium	Medium	Growth hindered by failures (FTX, TradeLens) and regulatory uncertainty[24].
Food & Agriculture (Vertical Farming)	2	Low	Medium	Multiple bankruptcies; energy costs high[28].
Robotics & Automation	3	High	High	Industrial robots widely used in certain regions; adoption uneven[20].
Aging & Health (Biotech/BCI)	2	Medium	High	Gene therapies available but expensive[30]; BCI in early trials[32].
Safety & Security	3	Medium	High	Cybersecurity threats increasing; biometrics adoption controversial[33].
Quantum Computing	1–2	Medium	Medium–High	Useful machines expected beyond 2035[35].

Investment Decision Trees and Monitoring Indicators

1. **Decision trees.** For each cluster, decision points include (a) **technologies maturation** (milestones such as regulatory approvals, proof of commercial viability), (b) **market adoption** (user/customer uptake, revenue growth), and (c) **policy environment** (regulatory clarity, incentives). For example, in vertical farming, continue monitoring energy prices and major operator profitability; invest further only if costs decline and regulatory support emerges. In SMRs, wait for first successful commercial deployment before committing large capital. For AI, invest incrementally while building internal governance and talent.
2. **Monitoring indicators.** Key indicators include: (a) cost per watt of renewable energy, (b) EV battery price and supply chain metrics, (c) AI talent supply/demand, (d) regulatory actions (e.g., data privacy fines, AI legislation), (e) number and magnitude of cybersecurity breaches, (f) vertical farm energy use per kilogram of produce, (g) gene therapy price trajectories, and (h) qubit counts and error rates for quantum hardware. Tracking these metrics helps adjust investment timing and risk assessments.

Strategic Options

1. **Diversified investment portfolio.** Spread investments across technologies with different maturity levels. Prioritize high-impact, moderate-uncertainty domains such as renewable energy, logistics automation and AI. Allocate small, exploratory investments to long-term bets like quantum computing, SMRs and brain–computer interfaces.
2. **Build capability ecosystems.** Develop internal expertise in data governance, AI ethics, cybersecurity and supply-chain management. Foster partnerships with research institutions and technologies providers. Invest in workforce reskilling to mitigate automation’s negative impacts on job meaningfulness.
3. **Focus on interoperability and standards.** Engage in consortia to develop open standards for IoT, blockchain and AI safety. This reduces vendor lock-in and promotes ecosystem growth.
4. **Adopt adaptive governance.** Create governance frameworks that incorporate risk assessments, stakeholder engagement and ethical reviews. Transparent privacy policies and community co-creation can prevent public backlash in smart-city and biometric projects[5].

Executive Dashboard

Technologies maturity vs. strategic importance matrix.

The matrix below places each technologies cluster in one of four quadrants:

- **Strategic core** – high strategic importance and moderate/high maturity (e.g., AI, renewable energy, robotics). These warrant immediate investment and governance.
- **Emerging bets** – high importance but low maturity (e.g., SMRs, quantum computing, gene therapies). Monitor developments and invest cautiously.

- **Opportunistic ventures** – moderate importance and moderate maturity (e.g., micromobility, logistics automation). Invest opportunistically and manage risks.
- **Low priority** – low importance and low maturity (e.g., metaverse for consumer applications). Limit exposure until clear value emerges.

Risk-return profiles.

Renewables and logistics automation provide high potential returns with moderate risk given demonstrated growth[8]. AI offers high returns but carries ethical and regulatory risks. Fintech/crypto yields potentially high returns but is extremely volatile and subject to regulatory crackdowns[24]. SMRs and quantum computing are long-term, high-risk/high-reward plays. Vertical farming and metaverse have low expected returns given current failures[28].

Critical decision points and timing windows.

Monitor the first commercial SMR deployments (mid-2030s) before large investment. Assess EV battery and mineral supply constraints annually. For vertical farms, reassess viability when renewable electricity costs drop and interest rates stabilize. Watch regulatory milestones such as AI and data privacy legislation, CBDC pilot expansions, and cyber-security regulations. Track quantum hardware breakthroughs (qubit counts and error rates) each year.

Key uncertainties requiring further investigation.

- **AI alignment and regulation.** How will governments regulate AI and what frameworks will ensure ethical use?
- **Supply-chain resilience.** What diversification strategies will mitigate mineral and component shortages?
- **Public acceptance.** Will communities accept technologies that collect personal data, such as smart-city sensors and biometrics?
- **Environmental trade-offs.** Do technologies like cultured meat and vertical farms deliver net environmental benefits once scaled?
- **Economic viability of SMRs and quantum computing.** Can costs decline enough to justify investment?

Conclusion

This strategic assessment emphasizes that technological innovation offers immense opportunity but is fraught with uncertainties. Careful evaluation of evidence quality, consideration of adoption barriers and interdependencies, and proactive governance are essential. By prioritizing mature, high-impact technologies while maintaining optionality in emerging areas, organizations can position themselves to reap benefits while managing risks.

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Fact Checking with Gemini 2.5 Flash

Based on the analysis of the document "Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent.docx" and my fact-checking, I have found several points of interest. Some of the document's claims are supported by recent information, while others are either outdated or require clarification.

Factual Errors and Clarifications

- **Vertical Farming Costs:** The document correctly states that vertical farming has experienced business failures due to high energy costs. It also provides a cost comparison, claiming that "vertical farming produce costs roughly \$3.07 per pound compared with \$0.65 for conventional farming". My research found a 2019 article that supports this specific cost per pound, but notes that the upfront costs are more than twice as much for a vertical farm on a per-pound basis. The core claim about business failures and high costs is accurate and supported by recent news.
- **Small Modular Reactors (SMRs):** The document accurately reports that the NuScale flagship SMR project was canceled in 2023. It also correctly claims that the project's costs had significantly escalated. The document also makes the correct claim that as of late 2024, there are no commercial SMRs operating outside of Russia and China.
- **Horizon Worlds User Count:** The document states that "Metaverse platforms like Horizon Worlds have <1,000 active daily users". While a YouTube investigation in August 2023 did find a daily user count in this range, more recent reports from late 2024 and early 2025 put the **monthly** active user count at around 200,000-300,000. This is a significant difference, and the document's claim appears to be based on an outdated daily user metric rather than a more current monthly one.
- **GENIUS Act:** The document's mention of the "GENIUS Act" is factually correct. My search confirms the "Guiding and Establishing National Innovation for U.S. Stablecoins Act (GENIUS Act)" was signed into law by President Trump on July 18, 2025. The act is the first U.S. federal legislation to establish a regulatory framework for payment stablecoins.
- **NFT Market Data:** The document claims that NFT trading volumes and sales counts fell, dropping 19% and 18% respectively from 2023. My research shows a more nuanced picture. While some reports indicate a drop in trading volumes in the first half of 2025 compared to the second half of 2024, other data suggests that the sales count increased in the second quarter of 2025. This indicates that while the total value of trades might be down, the number of transactions is not necessarily

Prompt for Gemini 2.5 Flash to fact check the Emerging Technologies Analysis using ChatGPT Agent document

Could you fact check this document and let me know if you find any factual errors?

following the same trend. The document's specific percentages are not directly verifiable with the information found, but the general trend of a cooling market is supported.

- **China's Digital Yuan:** The document states that China's digital yuan transactions reached 7 trillion e-CNY by June 2024. This is confirmed by a central bank deputy governor in a September 2024 press conference. Another source gives a slightly lower figure of 6.6 trillion yuan through to May 2024, showing the general scale is correct. The document's figure is accurate based on these public announcements.
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Appendix

ETR Topic List for ChatGPT Agent

- Artificial Intelligence (examples include Machine Learning, Computer Vision, Bias, Generative AI, Agentic AI)
- Infrastructure and Connected Communities (examples include 5G/6G, IoT, Smart Cities, V2X, Digital Twin)
- Energy, Climate, Water and Environment (examples include Small Modular Reactors, Solar, Wind, Wave, Grid, Water Technologies, Electrification and Resilient Systems)
- Transportation (examples include Micromobility, Electric and Autonomous Vehicles, Advanced Air Mobility, Drones)
- Virtual Presence and Gaming (examples include Extended Reality, Metaverse and Gaming)
- Manufacturing and Construction (examples include Nanotech, Materials, Housing Innovations, 3D-Printing)
- Supply Chain and Logistics (examples include Autonomous Guided Vehicles/Mobile Robots, Freight, Intermodal)
- Fintech (examples include Distributed Ledger Technologies, Cryptocurrency, Smart Contracts, Non-Fungible Tokens)
- Food and Agriculture (examples include Vertical Farming, Synthetic Food, Bioreactors)

- Robotics and Automation (examples include Humanoid Robots, Human-Robot Collaboration/Cobots, Ind/Pro Robots, RPA)
- Aging and Health (examples include Biotech, Synthetic Biology, Cellular Health, Brain-Computer Interface, Augmented Humans)
- Safety and Security (examples include Public Safety, Crime, Cybersecurity, Trust, Biometrics)
- Computing (examples include Quantum, Software, Systems Integration)
- The Intersection of Emerging Technologies and Community
- The Intersection of Emerging Technologies and Arts
- The Intersection of Emerging Technologies and Ethics
- The Intersection of Emerging Technologies and Economy
- The Intersection of Emerging Technologies and Work