FELIX NASER

COO of Liquid.AI

Lucia Sinapi-Thomas, Executive Vice President – Capgemini Ventures Managing Director

To end this part, I would like to introduce you to Liquid.AI, which is a spin-off from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology created in early-2023 and it went public in October 2024 with GenAI models inspired by liquid neural networks. We have heard about the cognitive foundation model, this is a liquid foundation model mimicking, to some extent, how the way the brain works. Unfortunately, Felix Naser, the COO could not be with us because he is in Vancouver, and they just closed and announced a USD 250 million fundraising for their Series A, and they joined the unicorn space. Felix was kind enough to record a video for us to watch.

Felix Naser, COO of Liquid.AI

Hello everyone. I am happy to be here with you today, even though only through this recording. Thank you for inviting us to the World Policy Conference. What I want to share with you is 1) what we do at Liquid.AI, 2) the specific advantages of our technology, 3) how this translates to use cases and value creation for our partners.

Starting with our technology. Liquid AI is a foundation model company with our headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts, as you have already learned through the introduction. Our mission is to build capable and efficient general-purpose AI systems at every scale. We call our foundation models Liquid Foundation Models (LFMs) and from an architecture and innovation point of view, they enable three major advantages. One is efficiency compared to what was possible before, especially compared to transformer architectures we really are enabling a step function change in terms of efficiency. There is also increased explainability. We can look more into why the model makes which decision and, based on that, take the corresponding action, either improving data quality and/or alignment with human preference. We want to ensure as much as possible that the model is actually behaving in a way that is correct.

Last but not least, none of this comes with a quality disadvantage but actually with a quality advantage. With the latest introduction of our first series of foundation models we have released language LFMs at the size of 1B, 3B and 40B (to play around with via the playground.liquid.ai if you are curious). These models are the new state-of-the-art in their corresponding sizes. They not only unlock efficiency and ability gains but also outperform other models in their corresponding size. That is really exciting and that is why we are also looking forward to continuing to work with our design partners and customers to bring this technology to the world and enterprises.

You might wonder what use cases this enables and who these early customers are. As you can imagine, based on these quality and efficiency gains, especially if you look at on-device applications where all of a sudden GenAI on the edge is possible because of the efficiency gains we can enable through liquid foundation models. From our customers' perspective this is amazing for the following main reasons: latency is not dependent on any expensive cloud calls, but answers can be computed directly on the device and of course, this also allows complete local privacy.

In addition to these applications, for example, we are also looking into financial services and biotech applications our foundation models are not only focused on language, as we have shown recently. Basically, we can work with any multimodal sequential data and deploy state-of-the-art models in terms of accuracy, quality, efficiency, and explainability. Thank you, and we are looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Lucia Sinapi-Thomas

This solution is particularly relevant for industrial applications with business-critical aspects. For example, autonomous cars because you cannot afford to have a sudden risk of a computer being disrupted, off grid which creates safety issues. The beauty of what they are putting on the market is, in particular, that some of these applications can work on a laptop so there is no comparison with the compute level intensity of large language models. For applications that are off-grid, off-network, business-critical, when continuity of service is paramount it is very important to be able to rely on different models.

I think what we wanted to show you is that innovation on this front is moving very fast. There is ambition and, as you heard, and these start-ups are definitely in the race to bridge the intelligence gap. On the enterprise front, companies like Capgemini are helping clients to master these new technologies and adopt them, which is very important because we all want there to be no conflict of interest. It is absolutely converging that this can bring a lot of benefits in terms of productivity in particular, but it needs to be mastered in terms of adoption.