

New Scientist

WEEKLY 12 July 2025

WHY WE AGE IN 3 RAPID BURSTS

... and can we do
anything about it?

MEET THE FIRST KNOWN
HUMAN-NEANDERTHAL CHILD

IS AI ABOUT TO
TRANSFORM HOW
WE DO MATHS?

SINGLE DRUG
COULD PREVENT
ALL FLU STRAINS



I LET AN AI AGENT RUN MY DAY

What could possibly go wrong?

PLUS THIRD INTERSTELLAR VISITOR /
ANCIENT ROME'S SECRET SAUCE RECIPE /
THE TREE THAT TURNS AIR INTO STONE

No3551 £6.95 CAN\$9.99



A special visitor

An interstellar object is flying through our solar system **p10**

Heavy cargo

Prehistoric Spanish people moved huge stone by boat **p14**

More cheese please

A step towards an eco-friendly way of making cheese **p16**

Case sensitive

AI's medical advice depends on how you type **p17**

Orcas bearing gifts

Killer whales are presenting dead prey to humans **p19**



Space

Dead star exploded twice

This isn't an eye in the sky, but the remains of a white dwarf star that appears to have exploded twice. The two concentric rings around the supernova remnant SNR 0509-67.5 offer the first evidence we have of a double detonation. The two explosions are thought to have happened tens of seconds apart, but due to the high speeds of the ejected material, each ring is separated by huge distances.

ESO/P. DAS ET AL. BACKGROUND STARS (HUBBLE); K. NOLLE ET AL.