

WEEKLY 19 October 2024

WHY THERE MAY BE NO GOING BACK AFTER 1.5°C OF WARMING

Can this sweeping idea from neuroscience explain the entire universe?



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Delivery problem?

Why Tesla's Cybercab is a hollow promise of a robotaxi future **p9**

Odd behaviour

Clever test could show if gravity bows to quantum rules **p12**

Microbe habitat

Toothbrushes teem with hundreds of viruses **p13**

Quick consensus

AI's can cooperate even better than humans can **p16**

Reaching the limit?

Growth in life expectancy is slowing down **p17**



SERGIO FLORES/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Space

Starship plucked out of the sky

A space rocket has been caught on its return to Earth for the first time. SpaceX's Starship powered into the sky from Boca Chica, Texas, on 13 October. The bottom part, or booster, then separated from the rest and returned to the launch pad. It was caught in mid-air just 7 minutes after takeoff by the launch tower's mechanical arms. SpaceX hopes this feat will make its largest rockets reusable.