

Gradium

Gradium Launches to Redefine Voice AI

Built by a powerhouse team from Google DeepMind, Meta FAIR and Jane Street

Raises \$70M seed to reinvent how the world speaks with AI

Generating revenue few weeks after founding

PARIS and SAN FRANCISCO, December 2, 2025 – Gradium, a Paris-based company developing the world’s most advanced real-time AI voice technology, launched today after 3 months of stealth. The company builds on more than a decade of frontier research by the founders of Kyutai, a leading non-profit AI research lab. Gradium has raised a \$70M seed round led by FirstMark Capital and Eurazeo, with significant participation from DST Global Partners, Eric Schmidt (former CEO and Chairman of Google), Xavier Niel (Iliad), Rodolphe Saadé (CMA CGM), Korelya Capital, Amplify Partners and other investors.



Gradium develops audio language models, an audio-native counterpart to large language models designed to deliver natural, expressive, ultra-low latency voice interactions at scale and capable of performing any voice task. Audio language models were originally invented by Gradium’s founders and have since become the dominant paradigm across the industry; today, the team continues to push the frontier of what these models can do. Gradium’s ambition is to become the technical backbone of global voice technology.

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Founded in September 2025 by Neil Zeghidour (Meta/Google DeepMind), Olivier Teboul (Google Brain), Laurent Mazaré (Google DeepMind/Jane Street) and Alexandre Défossez (Meta), Gradium represents one of the world's highest concentration of generative audio expertise ever assembled, translating more than a decade of open research into production-ready systems for developers and enterprises. The team has demonstrated exceptional execution velocity generating its first revenue within weeks, onboarding early adopters across gaming, AI agents, customer care, language learning and healthcare.

"Today, the potential of voice AI is still largely untapped: we're at the stage where chatbots were before LLMs" said Neil Zeghidour, Founder and CEO of Gradium. "Existing systems remain brittle, costly, and unable to deliver truly natural interactions. At Gradium, our goal is to make voice the primary interface between humans and machines. To achieve this, we're eliminating the long-standing trade-off between quality and scalability: combining ultra-realistic expressivity, accurate transcription, and ultra-low-latency interactions at a price point that finally makes high-quality voice ubiquitous."

The platform launches with multilingual support in English, French, German, Spanish, and Portuguese with additional languages in development, and offers flexible plans from developer access to enterprise-scale deployment.

Gradium's long-term collaboration with Kyutai provides ongoing access to frontier research in generative audio, allowing the team to rapidly transfer fundamental innovations into commercial-grade systems.

For more information, visit gradium.ai

(Please note: the link will be active starting December 2.)

About Gradium

Gradium builds foundational AI models to power all voice interactions. Founded in 2025 and building on a decade of research in frontier labs including Europe's first non-profit AI lab, Gradium is led by pioneers in generative audio from Google DeepMind, Meta FAIR, and Jane Street. The company has raised \$70 million in seed funding from

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FirstMark Capital, Eurazeo, DST Global, Eric Schmidt, Xavier Niel, Rodolphe Saadé, Korelya and Amplify Partners and already counts early customers across gaming, education, healthcare, and customer experience, with limitless applications ahead.

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