BUDDY WILLIAMS

APPLIED AI STRATEGY | FRONTIER APPLICATIONS | EMERGING TECHNOLOGY

First-principles strategist who helps organizations determine where frontier AI can matter most.

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PROFILE

Applied AI strategist and technologist with 25 years of experience spanning software, entrepreneurship, enterprise consulting, organizational change, and emerging technology. Combines first-principles reasoning, cross-disciplinary synthesis, and hands-on technical fluency to identify consequential uses of frontier AI, frame strategic choices, and help leaders decide which opportunities merit attention and investment. Founded four companies, advised senior stakeholders, closed more than $2.3M in software engagements over four years, and developed production AI systems - grounding strategic judgment in the realities of customers, technology, institutions, and execution. Best suited to high-leverage principal, director, senior director, or senior individual-contributor roles centered on AI strategy, emerging technology, strategic foresight, advanced concepts, or research translation.

STRATEGIC CONTRIBUTION

- Identify non-obvious applications by connecting capability shifts with domain constraints, economics, incentives, and human behavior.
- Convert ambiguity into decision-ready opportunity maps, strategic theses, scenarios, learning agendas, and concise executive memos.
- Challenge inherited assumptions and distinguish durable capability changes from persuasive demos or short-lived hype.
- Use technical analysis and bounded prototypes selectively to resolve high-value uncertainties and improve strategic confidence.

CORE AREAS

Applied AI Strategy | Frontier Application Discovery | Emerging Technology Assessment | Strategic Foresight | First-Principles Analysis | Cross-Disciplinary Synthesis | Scenario and Thesis Development | Advanced Concepts | Research Translation | Executive Decision Support | Human-AI Systems | AI Economics

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CHIEF AI INNOVATION OFFICER | Nevo Technologies | Atlanta, GA / Remote **Mar 2025 - Present**

- Interpret frontier AI capability shifts for leaders and clients across healthcare, insurance, staffing, and logistics; frame implications for strategy, operating models, workforce design, and customer value.
- Develop first-principles analyses and strategic narratives that clarify where AI creates durable leverage, which assumptions have changed, and which uncertainties should be tested before major investment.
- Led discovery across 50+ stakeholders within a 14,000-employee enterprise, synthesizing fragmented needs into a coherent thesis for human-AI work orchestration and guiding a bounded real-world validation.
- Use targeted systems and original frameworks to investigate agent coordination, durable intent, independent verification, grounded deliberation, human oversight, AI economics, and organizational change.

PRINCIPAL & ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE | Nevo Technologies | Atlanta, GA / Remote **Aug 2021 - Mar 2025**

- Served as principal advisor on complex modernization initiatives, reframing ambiguous problems and aligning technical investment with business outcomes across insurance, healthcare, and logistics.
- Closed more than $2.3M in software engagements over four years by building trusted executive relationships and clear narratives connecting business problems, technical options, and measurable outcomes.
- Carried recommendations through implementation, training, and adoption, gaining direct insight into incentives, governance, organizational friction, and why sound strategies fail in practice.

TECHNICAL LEAD & PRODUCT ARCHITECT | Workstorm | Remote **2018 - 2021**

- Architected privacy-focused enterprise collaboration experiences across web, desktop, and mobile, including a unified design system and reusable component architecture.
- Advised product and technical direction at the intersection of user behavior, security, architecture, and emerging platform constraints.

FOUNDER, TECHNOLOGIST & STRATEGIC PRODUCT LEAD | Ventures + Enterprise Engagements **2002 - 2021**

- Founded or co-founded four software companies and identified emerging categories before established playbooks existed, including radiology follow-up workflows and visual low-code application development.
- Built and advised mission-critical systems across healthcare, analytics, logistics, insurance, media, collaboration, and developer tools.
- Worked with organizations including WebMD, Turner Broadcasting, Markel, and Datatrac, moving between customer discovery, architecture, product thinking, and delivery.

SELECTED STRATEGIC RESEARCH & WRITING

The Moving Line (2026) - Models the race between AI capability advancing at research speed and organizations adapting what they sell at identity speed; examines repricing, displacement, and residual value capture.

The Metrics That Contain Their Causes / Success Compression Metric (2026) - A forecasting method that looks for observable variables whose success certifies that many hidden causal dependencies have already been satisfied.

State of AI / Current AI Causes Societal Phase Change (2026) - Synthesizes capability evidence and competing theories of intelligence, separates commonly conflated questions, and develops strategic implications.

The Outcome Economy / Economics in the Intelligence Age (2025) - First-principles models of how abundant machine reasoning changes work, scarcity, pricing, power, and value capture.

Cyclic Rationality (2025) - A method that combines imaginative conjecture with falsifiable reasoning to preserve openness without abandoning evidence.

Full writing portfolio: buddy-williams.com/writings

SELECTED APPLIED INQUIRIES

Refine + Forge (2026 - Present) - Explore how specifications, persistent intent, independent verification, and human review can govern fleets of coding agents across repositories and long-running work.

HarmonicWork (2025) - Examines organizational design when AI workers participate alongside humans in intake, prioritization, delegation, and execution.

Corpus Council (2026) - Tests grounded deliberation among specialized agents operating over explicit corpora, reusable goals, personas, and authority structures.

BlissUI (2015 - 2021) - Explored software creation as visual composition through a custom data structure, compiler, and editor before low-code became an established category.

PhyQuest (2002 - 2006) - Applied workflow and accountability design to the patient-safety problem of significant radiology findings disappearing between systems and people.

FRONTIER APPLICATION INTERESTS

Consequential uses of AI in medicine and longevity; scientific discovery and materials; robotics and embodied systems; aerospace and autonomy; education and human development; and human-machine interfaces.

REPRESENTATIVE STRATEGIC QUESTIONS

- Where can AI compress the time and cost of discovery in medicine, longevity, materials science, robotics, aerospace, and education?
- How should agency, authority, responsibility, and evaluation be divided across human-machine systems?
- What evidence distinguishes a genuine capability transition from a persuasive demo - and justifies a consequential strategic bet?

TECHNICAL & STRATEGIC FLUENCY

STRATEGY & RESEARCH: Capability assessment, first-principles analysis, scenario and thesis development, systems thinking, organizational design, business-model change, strategic writing, and executive facilitation.

AI SYSTEMS: LLM application architecture, agentic and multi-agent systems, retrieval and grounding, context and specification engineering, evaluation and verifier systems, and human-in-the-loop governance.

TECHNICAL: Full-stack and distributed systems, APIs, cloud platforms, and data modeling; working fluency with Rust, Python, TypeScript/JavaScript, and SQL.

SECTOR EXPERIENCE: Healthcare and healthtech, insurance, enterprise software, logistics, future of work, developer tools, media, and education technology.