

Questions About Your World

AGI has existed for at least five years but the world is not dystopian and humans are still alive! Given the risks of very high-powered AI systems, how has your world ensured that AGI has at least so far remained safe and controlled?

Multiple AIs or AGIs were developed independently, nearly simultaneously. Each had inherent, sometimes unexpected, limitations. No one of them was able (or willing?) to become a world-ending AGI.

The dynamics of an AI-filled world may depend a lot on how AI capability is distributed. In your world, is there one AI system that is substantially more powerful than all others, or a few such systems, or are there many top-tier AI systems of comparable capability? Or something else?

There is no one super AGI, rather many. There are many AI types and "powers." In my time, there are people who still believe that AGI has not yet occurred, and others who claim that even the human-AI teams of your time constitute AGI. It is not clear.

How has your world avoided major arms races and wars, regarding AI/AGI or otherwise?

As of today there have been no major (hot) wars between superpowers. There has been a simmering cold war with China, but here in the US no one thinks about it much. If you want to stretch the word "war," I guess there are wars of attention. That is, different groups (with different AI) fight over "hearts and minds." Methods used in these wars of attention range from innocuous (or at least normal) to certainly cyber war. Who is doing what and for why? No one not in the know knows.

In the US, EU, and China, how and where is national decision-making power held, and how has the advent of advanced AI changed that?

The institutions of today are the same as in your time. I mean things haven't changed *that* much. In democratically organized societies, the elected try to meet the desires of their electors. Perhaps non-state powers, that of institutions and corporations, have more influence than

before. In China it is still men who decide, informed by AI. Some tinfoils say that their AI controls them, not the other way round, but, well, people talk you know.

Is the global distribution of wealth (as measured say by national or international gini coefficients) more, or less, unequal than 2021's, and by how much? How did it get that way?

When there is universal basic income (UBI) as there is here, this question, and the Gini coefficient is less clear. There is less inequality, certainly, because of the UBI. But if everyone has their basic needs met, does that still count towards inequality? I mean, minus UBI inequality in the US is high. Also, between countries, there are still large differences in wealth. Countries that have rejected AI are much less wealthy.

What is a major problem that AI has solved in your world, and how did it do so?

Healthcare has greatly improved. For one, because of better technology and skill. AI has improved the productivity of the healthcare system and driven down costs. But maybe more importantly, healthcare has figured out how to implement effective population health. New systems help people to better maintain their health.

What is a new social institution that has played an important role in the development of your world?

Not new, but copyright law has changed considerably. It has grown much more complex, but is better able to be managed with AI. We have finally embraced remixes and modifications, and addressed AI contributions to art. With ecurrency, the law now manages partial royalties based on contribution.

What is a new non-AI technology that has played an important role in the development of your world?

Fusion energy. It hasn't even been implemented yet, but the proof of concept has remade the energy sector in a short amount of time.

What changes to the way countries govern the development, deployment and/or use of emerging technologies (including AI) played an important role in the development of your world?

No changes. We got lucky. The world didn't end.

Pick a sector of your choice (education, transport, energy, healthcare, tourism, aerospace, materials etc.) and describe how that sector was transformed by AI in your world.

Manufacturing has some particularly interesting changes. AI-empowered generative design has had a surprisingly deep effect on manufacturing. Because every object is designed to the materials on hand, materials have less need to be standardized. Non-standardized means less effort and energy is expended in refinement, with less waste.

What is the life expectancy of the most wealthy 1% and of the least wealthy 20% of your world; how and why has this changed since 2021?

We all live like the Swiss here in the US now. Life expectancy at birth is 84.7 years. But longevity is still about the same. Maximum age is about 120 years. Russia is not so lucky. It's like the wild west there now. Life expectancy is maybe 70 years.

In the US, considering the human rights enumerated in the UN declaration, which rights are better respected and which rights are worse respected in your world than in 2022? Why? How?

In the US, there are more rights, and other rights are better respected. We now have the right to healthcare, and to health. Our safety and security is better provided for. We are better able to live lives free from violence. Some say this is at the cost of liberty, but we indeed still have the liberties of our forebearers. We choose now not to exercise those rights as often or as foolishly.

In one other country of your choice, which rights are better respected and which rights are worse respected in your world than in 2022? Why? How?

There is a strange irony in that people in the authoritarian Bloc now claim to have more liberty. Over there, people have an old-school liberty, without rights to health and personal security. They have chosen a world without the protection of AI.

What's been a notable trend in the way that people are finding fulfillment?

We are all artists now. AI has empowered us to realize our dreams. And we are consumers. We make art or "content" for each other. People from your time scorned consumption, but today we are fulfilled by it.