

What, me worry? The era of AGI (Artificial General Intelligence) is rapidly approaching — when ‘fake people’ will outthink humans

OpenAI’s [ChatGPT](#), can write essays, articles, and e-mails. By no means are these A.I. systems up to all the tasks expected of a full-fledged person. But they excel in certain domains, and they’re branching out.

Many researchers involved in A.I. believe that today’s fake people are just the beginning. In their view, there’s a good chance that current A.I. technology will develop into artificial general intelligence, or A.G.I.—a higher form of A.I. capable of thinking at a human level in many or most regards.

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In the worst-case scenario envisioned by these thinkers, uncontrollable A.I.s could infiltrate every aspect of our technological lives, disrupting or redirecting our infrastructure, financial systems, communications, and more. Fake people, now endowed with superhuman cunning, might persuade us to vote for measures and invest in concerns that fortify their standing, and susceptible individuals or factions could overthrow governments or terrorize populations.

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A growing area of research called A.I. alignment seeks to lessen the danger by insuring that computer systems are “aligned” with human goals. The idea is to avoid unintended consequences while instilling moral values, or their machine equivalents, into A.I.s.

[\*\*This is an excerpt. Read the full article here\*\*](#)