13.1 - The Singularity and The Future

Artificial Intelligence Policy

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S2026

Think:

- *What does the future hold? Is there an AI Singularity on the horizon?*
- *Are current AI paradigms, products, and tools sufficient to bring about substantial technological and societal change? Do we need a new paradigm for AI to continue to advance? Is there another AI winter on the horizon without substantial new scientific and technological invention?*
- *Is AI a greater or lesser exisential risk than other threats (nuclear, climate, disease, etc) facing humanity? Or is AI not really about threat at all, and more about promise? Can we build a better future for us all with technology?*

Read:

- Blili-Hamelin et al, 2025. "Stop Treating AGI as the North Star of AI research"

Watch:

- Mitchell, 2025. "The Past, Present, and Uncertain Future of AI"

Listen:

- *Optional:* Complexity* podcast, Season 2, Episode 6: "AI's Changing Seasons"

Browse:

*new FB guy venture - Wait But Why (Urban), 2015. "The AI Revolution: The Road to Superintelligence" - Part 1 - Part 2 - "AI 2027"

Additional Resources:

- Kurzweil, *The Singularity is Near* and *The Singularity is Nearer*

Submit:

- Discussion question to course chat

> 💡 Tip
>
> - " Read", " Listen", and/or " Watch" items are required content for the day, and should be read/heard/watched before class on that day.
> - " Browse" items should be briefly looked at but do not need to be read deeply unless you want to
> - " Additional Resources" do not need to be looked at; they are there to serve, if useful, as further references for your debates, final projects, and general edification later.