



## From AI to AGI

**Into 2024, Artificial Intelligence (AI) remains extremely topical. Not only has AI chip designer, Nvidia seen incredible price gains, but this week Apple garnered significant attention with its announcement of an OpenAI partnership.**

Apple, a major technology player with over a billion iPhones in use worldwide, has dabbled in AI with products like Siri. However, until now, they haven't had a significant breakthrough in AI. Their announcement was exceptionally well-received, boosting Apple's stock price and reinstating it as the most valuable company. Apple plans to integrate AI into their iOS operating system on iPhones, iPads and Macs.

## From Algorithms to AGI



AI technology is rapidly evolving. It began with algorithms that could monitor and recommend movies and music based on user history. Today more advanced models like ChatGPT are paving the way toward Artificial General Intelligence (AGI). AGI represents a future where computers would be capable of understanding and reasoning across a broad range of tasks with human-like ability.

Some industry leaders, such as Elon Musk, who was an early backer of Open AI, have expressed concerns about these developments. In response to Apple's partnership, Musk remarked, *"It's patently absurd that Apple isn't smart enough to make their own AI, yet is somehow capable of ensuring that OpenAI will protect your security & privacy! Apple has no clue what's actually going on once they hand your data over to OpenAI. They're selling you down the river."*

Musk's concerns are not solely about security. He also emphasises that AI needs to be maximally truth-seeking and not filtered for political correctness, which is prevalent in many current solutions

## Research Insights

A detailed AI paper by Leopold Aschenbrenner from Open AI, titled *"Situational Awareness"* outlines the current status and possible future trajectory of AI to AGI. He explains that the technology has already advanced through several orders of magnitude and is likely to continue doing so.



- 1) A decade ago, models struggled to identify cats and dogs.
- 2) GPT (Generative Pre-Trained Transformers) 2 could string together semi-plausible sentences.
- 3) GPT 3 (not 3.5) started being cohesive over multiple paragraphs, correcting grammar and performing basic arithmetic.
- 4) GPT 4 capabilities shocked many, it can write code and essays, reason through difficult math problems and ace college exams. It can write intelligently and sophisticatedly about complicated subjects and excel in high school level competition math, outperforming most high schoolers on various tests.

AGI represents the step in the evolution of AI. This advancement will fundamentally change how machines interact with their environment and with humans, allowing them to gain a deeper understanding of the world. Aschenbrenner concludes *"Before the decade is out, we will have built superintelligence and because we are building machines smarter than the smartest humans, superintelligence is a matter of national security. Superintelligence will be the most powerful weapon mankind has ever built, but there are very real safety risks, very real risks this all goes awry."*

## Concluding Thoughts

At its core, AI, is a technology, one that is evolving and developing at an exceptional pace. While technology is generally a net positive for humanity in the long run, it often comes with a range of adverse and unintended consequences.

From an economic perspective, companies are continually seeking ways to increase efficiencies and improve profitability. A McKinsey report estimated that generative AI has the potential to generate value equivalent to \$2.6 trillion to \$4.4 trillion in global corporate profits annually.

To me, this feels reminiscent of the late 1990's dot.com internet boom, where there was also immense excitement about a new technology. Some companies capitalised on the trend and saw rapid price increases. While that boom phase ended relatively quickly, the subsequent 24 years saw the technology expand even more impressively than most could have imagined. Could we see a similar development with AI? Only time will tell.

All these images are credited to Ian, developed by AI.



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