

Thoughts About AI

ChatGPT launched in late 2022, and the tech world hasn't been the same since. Nor will it be.

Whatever you've heard so far about AI's evolution, convolution, or revolution, it will change next week. Or tomorrow. ChatGPT, Google Gemini, and META AI employ Large Language Models (LLMs) that digest the contents of the internet, analyze the relationships between all words and phrases, and create a vast "neural network" that can *predict* each word in their answers.

But these AI models only know what they've been *pretrained* to tell from what's available on the Web. They have little or no awareness of their surroundings, or of you, or of what you know. Without that awareness, they can't test the plausibility of, or learn from, their answers – they can't *reason*.

Recent interviews with the CEO's of the tech giants – in particular, Sam Altman (ChatGPT), Mark Zuckerberg (META AI), and Sundar Pichai (Google Gemini) – reveal a common thread: They foresee AI gaining the ability to *reason*, which is what we call "Artificial General Intelligence" (AGI)

Here is the status of these three LLMs as of November 2025 and where they may be heading:

ChatGPT

ChatGPT is in its fifth iteration. I use it almost every day to help me understand complex concepts in the news, to explore some idea or belief that crosses my mind, or provide instructions on how to fix my toaster. It's especially adept at preparing tables of information, comparing concepts, and even engaging in a conversation (chat). Sam Altman's company, OpenAI, continues to make strides and is looking forward to AGI.

META AI

META primarily uses AI to support its social media platforms, especially Facebook and Instagram. By "mining" the profiles of its subscribers, META uses AI to tailor advertisements and recommend other "friends" to visit on its platforms. I don't do much on Facebook because I don't care to share my latest recipe for arugula. In fact, I've never had arugula and don't want to face the wrath of belittling comments on Facebook that accuse me of being part of an anti-arugula cult.

Gemini

Sundar Pichai simply says that advancements in Gemini AI are moving very fast, and we may see AGI by 2030 – or next week. Reminds me of the song, *Que Sera, Sera*. (Whatever will be, will be.) Oh my.

"I'm sorry Dave, I'm afraid I can't do that."

We're not at the cusp of creating a real HAL, the artificial superintelligent computer in "2001: A Space Odyssey" that takes over a spaceship – a concept that exists only in science fiction. So far, I'm not worried that AI will take over the world.

Until it does, I encourage you to try one of the LLMs. They're free, won't cause anything to blow up, and you'll probably be amazed at how fast they can answer your questions.

If you need help, just ask our tech team at: <https://engage.cmaprinceton.org/tech-help>.