OpenAI

1 - Elon Musk is the co-founder of OpenAI, a non-profit research company working to build safe artificial intelligence and to ensure that AI's benefits are as widely and evenly distributed as possible.

It was founded on December 11, 2015, in San Francisco, California. Some scientists, such as Stephen Hawking and Stuart Russell, believe that if advanced AI someday gains the ability to re-design itself, an unstoppable "intelligence explosion" could lead to human extinction.

2 - Sophia is a humanoid robot developed by Hong Kong-based company Hanson Robotics. On October 25, the robot was granted Saudi Arabian citizenship, becoming the first robot ever to have a nationality. Musk explained that his ultimate goal at SpaceX was the most important project in the world: interplanetary colonization, because he thinks that A.I. is a threat and we are at risk. Elon Musk began warning about the possibility of A.I. behave uncontrollably three years ago. He countered that this was one reason we needed to colonize Mars — so that we’ll have a place where we can escape if A.I. turns against humanity.

The field of A.I. is rapidly developing but still far from the powerful, self-evolving software that haunts Musk.

Facebook uses A.I. for targeted advertising, photo tagging, and news feeds. Microsoft and Apple use A.I. to power their digital assistants, Cortana and Siri.

3 - He noted that “sometimes what will happen is a scientist will get so engrossed in their work that they don’t really realize the ramifications of what they’re doing.”

Musk’s alarming views on the dangers of A.I. first went viral after he spoke at M.I.T. in 2014 — speculating that A.I. was probably humanity’s “biggest existential threat.” He added that he was increasingly inclined to think there should be some national or international regulatory oversight “to make sure that we don’t do something very foolish.” He went on: “With artificial intelligence, we are summoning the demon.”