

I believe that AI, like all new technology, is a powerful tool that needs to be regulated. For example, STEM fields generate new chemicals, new genetically modified organisms and new machines that are regulated. For each of these developments, the government has rightfully sought to control their use, their safety and their efficacy. Without these safeguards, new chemicals could be disposed of improperly causing environmental catastrophe or pose an existential threat due to their teratogenic or carcinogenic nature. New genetically modified organisms can have disastrous effects on human health or environment without the regulations to prove safety and efficacy. New machines also pose similar threats, but these are often more focused on the effect to human physical and mental health. AI is in this category. It is harder to quantify safety and efficacy for these developments, but regulations in the IT industry would be a good starting point. We might think that AI is innocuous but when combined with physical technology, there is potential for major benefits and real harm. There is an article in Nature that shows that ChatGPT can help with organic synthesis but has no problem giving instructions for making dangerous chemicals regulated by the DEA. I believe that the government needs to a thorough study of these AI tools and put together guidelines and rules regarding their usage.