

Open Threads

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Open & Welcome Thread - July 2020

If it's worth saying, but not worth its own post, here's a place to put it. (You can also make a [shortform post](#))

And, if you are new to LessWrong, here's the place to introduce yourself. Personal stories, anecdotes, or just general comments on how you found us and what you hope to get from the site and community are welcome.

If you want to explore the community more, I recommend [reading the Library](#), [checking recent Curated posts](#), [seeing if there are any meetups in your area](#), and checking out the [Getting Started](#) section of the [LessWrong FAQ](#).

The Open Thread sequence is [here](#).

Open & Welcome Thread - June 2020

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Open & Welcome Thread—May 2020

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Open & Welcome Thread - March 2020

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Open & Welcome Thread - February 2020

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Open & Welcome Thread - January 2020

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Open & Welcome Thread - December 2019

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Open & Welcome Thread - November 2019

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Open & Welcome Thread - October 2019

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Open & Welcome Thread - September 2019

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Open & Welcome Thread - August 2019

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Open Thread July 2019

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Welcome and Open Thread June 2019

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Open Thread May 2019

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Open Thread April 2019

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Open Thread March 2019

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Open Thread February 2019

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Open Thread January 2019

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Open and Welcome Thread December 2018

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As well as trying out combining welcome threads and open threads, I thought I'd try highlighting some frontpage comments I found especially insightful in the last month, for further discussion:

- Scott Garrabrant wrote a [comment](#) on how Embedded Agency and Agent Foundations research are like science in relation to ML approaches to AI alignment which are more like engineering. The comment helped me think about how I go about formalising and solving problems more generally.
- Rohin Shah wrote a [comment](#) on basic definitions of the alignment problem, contrasting a motivation-competence split versus a definition-optimization split. (It is then followed by a convo on definitions between Paul and Wei which gets pretty deep into the weeds - I'd love to read a summary here from anyone else who followed along.)

Open Thread November 2018

If it's worth saying, but not worth its own post, then it goes here.

Open Thread September 2018

If it's worth saying, but not worth its own post, then it goes here.

Notes for future OT posters:

2. What accomplishments are you celebrating from the last month?
3. What are you reading?
4. What reflections do you have for yourself or others from the last month?
5. What have you tried out this month?
6. (Teaser for my next post) What is your relationship with yourself?

Open Thread August 2018

If it's worth saying, but not worth its own post, then it goes here.

Notes for future OT posters:

1. Check if there is an active Open Thread before posting a new one (use search for Open Thread).
2. What accomplishments are you celebrating from the last month?
3. What are you reading?
4. What reflections do you have for yourself or others from the last month?

Open Thread July 2018

For those low-effort ideas that are worth a little attention but perhaps not a lot (yet).

(shouldn't a bot be posting these?)

Prompts for things to say:

- What accomplishments are you celebrating from the last month?
- What are you reading?
- What subject has taken up most of your thoughts lately?
- What is something your fellow rationalists don't understand, but should?

Open Thread June 2018

If it's worth saying, but not worth its own post, then it goes here.

Notes for future OT posters:

1. Check if there is an active Open Thread before posting a new one (use search for Open Thread).
2. Monthly open threads seem to get lost and maybe we should switch to fortnightly.
3. What accomplishments are you celebrating from the last month?
4. What are you reading?

Open Thread May 2018

If it's worth saying, but not worth its own post, then it goes here.

Notes for future OT posters:

1. Check if there is an active Open Thread before posting a new one (use search for Open Thread).
2. Monthly open threads seem to get lost and maybe we should switch to fortnightly.
3. what accomplishments are you celebrating from the last month?

Open Thread April 2018

If it's worth saying, but not worth its own post, then it goes here.

Notes for future OT posters:

1. Check if there is an active Open Thread before posting a new one (use search for Open Thread <year>).
2. Let's discuss further installments in a separate comment thread.

Open thread, February 2018

Apologies if it's already there, but I just can't find the open thread.

In case it's not there, open thread for February 2018! Hurray!

In case it is, would it be difficult to check the title string for "open thread" and show a link to the current month's open thread, ask if that's what the person was looking for, and still have an option to post if not?

Open Thread - January 2018

Given that the last Open Thread that was intended to be weekly didn't get much traffic, let's try a monthly version.