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Macro Roundup Artcile

Headline: Exploring How AI Will Impact the Economy

Article Link: https://www.bridgewater.com/_document/exploring-how-ai-will-impact-the-economy?id=0000018b-00e4-db27-a58b-33fe67120000

Author(s)	Karen Karniol-Tambour and Josh Moriarty
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Tweet: Bridgewater argues Al's impact will show up sooner than previous general-purpose technologies but their base case is "inflationary secular dynamics will be more dominant in the next few years than the deflationary impacts of Al."

Summary: Al will flow through to productivity faster than past general-purpose technologies, but the peak impacts remain far off. Al will likely proceed more quickly for a few reasons. First, the uses of Al typically require less capex, so the marginal cost per unit of labor saved is lower than for past technologies. Second, that capex is more concentrated among major software players and therefore easier to coordinate; much of the adoption will take the form of Al tools being rolled out to software-as-a-service platforms that businesses already use. Finally, secularly low unemployment and high wage growth today may also increase the incentive to automate, although temporary cyclical pressures are unlikely to have a major impact on this decades-long process. Much of the impact of Al could come from accelerating the highest-value research and development work. Related: Centaurs and Cyborgs on the Jagged Frontier and Generative Al at Work and Al, Mass Evolution, and Weickian Loops

Primary Topic: Innovation/Research

Topics: Innovation/Research, Investment, Other Source, Productivity

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