

Public note

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The most pragmatic position is to think of A.I. as a tool, not a creature. My attitude doesn't eliminate the possibility of peril: however we think about it, we can still design and operate our new tech badly, in ways that can hurt us or even lead to our extinction. Mythologizing the technology only makes it more likely that we'll fail to operate it well—and this kind of thinking limits our imaginations, tying them to yesterday's dreams. We can work better under the assumption that there is no such thing as A.I. The sooner we understand this, the sooner we'll start managing our new technology intelligently.

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