Artificial general intelligence (AGI) is a type of artificial intelligence (AI) that can perform as well or better than humans on a wide range of cognitive tasks.[1] This is in contrast to narrow AI, which is designed for specific tasks.[2] AGI is considered one of various definitions of strong AI.

Creating AGI is a primary goal of AI research and of companies such as OpenAI,[3] DeepMind, and Anthropic. A 2020 survey identified 72 active AGI R&D projects spread across 37 countries.[4]

The timeline for achieving AGI remains a subject of ongoing debate among researchers and experts. As of 2023, some argue that it may be possible in years or decades; others maintain it might take a century or longer; and a minority believe it may never be achieved.[5] There is debate on the exact definition of AGI, and regarding whether modern large language models (LLMs) such as GPT-4 are early, incomplete forms of AGI.[6] AGI is a common topic in science fiction and futures studies.

Contention exists over the potential for AGI to pose a threat to humanity;[7] for example, OpenAI claims to treat it as an existential risk, while others find the development of AGI to be too remote to present a risk.[8][5][9]

AGI is also known as strong AI,[10][11] full AI,[12] human-level AI[5] or general intelligent action.[13] However, some academic sources reserve the term "strong AI" for computer programs that experience sentience or consciousness.[a] In contrast, weak AI (or narrow AI) is able to solve one specific problem, but lacks general cognitive abilities.[14][11] Some academic sources use "weak AI" to refer more broadly to any programs that neither experience consciousness nor have a mind in the same sense as humans.[a]

Related concepts include artificial superintelligence and transformative AI. An artificial superintelligence (ASI) is a hypothetical type of AGI that is much more generally intelligent than humans,[15] while the notion of transformative AI relates to AI having a large impact on society, for example, similar to the agricultural or industrial revolution.[16]

A framework for classifying AGI in levels was proposed in 2023 by Google DeepMind researchers. They define five levels of AGI: emerging, competent, expert, virtuoso, and superhuman. For example, a competent AGI is defined as an AI that outperforms 50% of skilled adults in a wide range of non-physical tasks, and a superhuman AGI is similarly defined but with a threshold of 100%. They consider that large language models like ChatGPT or LLaMA 2 were instances or emerging AGI.[17]