

# Reflections of a Recovering Bio-Narcissist on the Singularity

Or, Why Elon is Wrong

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Berlin, August 18, 2016

**MY HOUSE GOT BROKEN INTO  
AND THEY STOLE ALL MY STUFF**

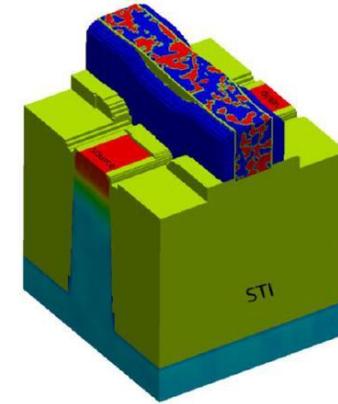
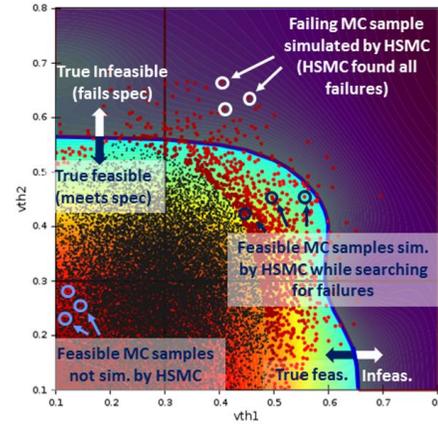
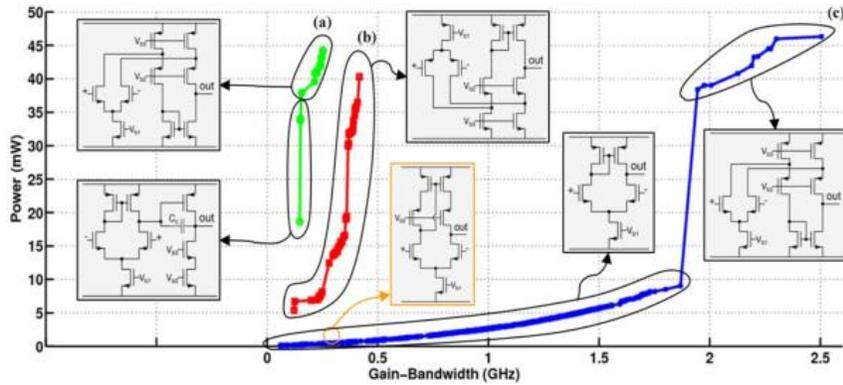
**BUT I MADE IT TO THE TOP OF R/ALL  
YESTERDAY SO I GOT THAT GOING FOR ME  
WHICH IS NICE**

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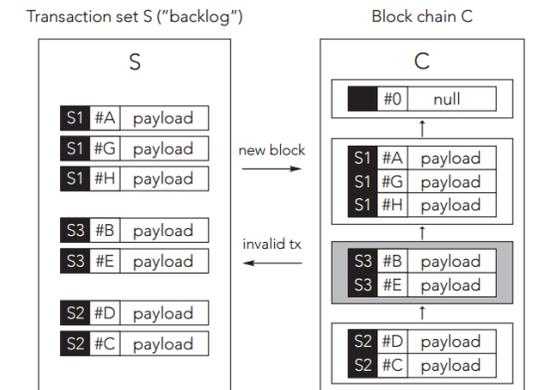
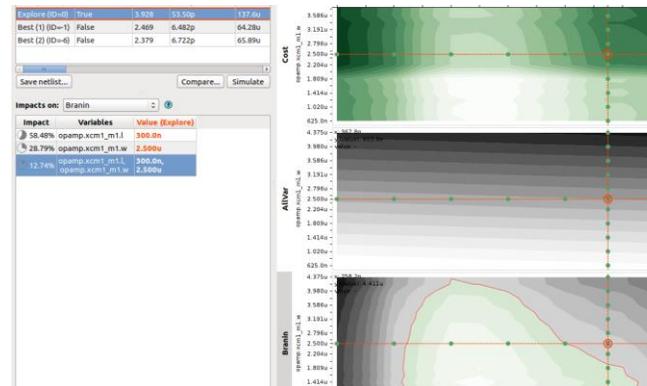
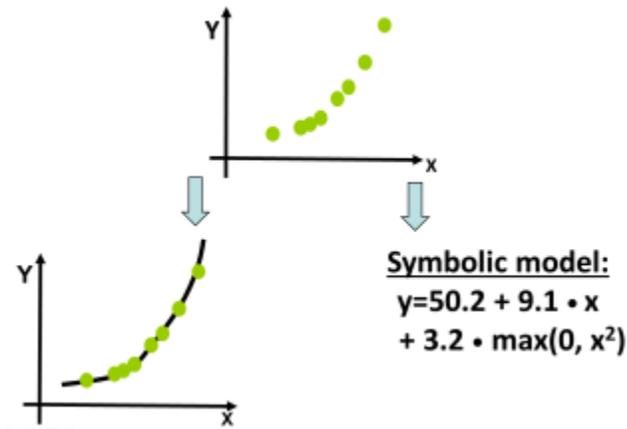


What if this is you?  
What if this is all of humanity? How?  
What can we do about it?

# A bit about me



20 years of AI, machine creativity,  
Moore's Law, analog circuits, blockchain



Let's paint a picture



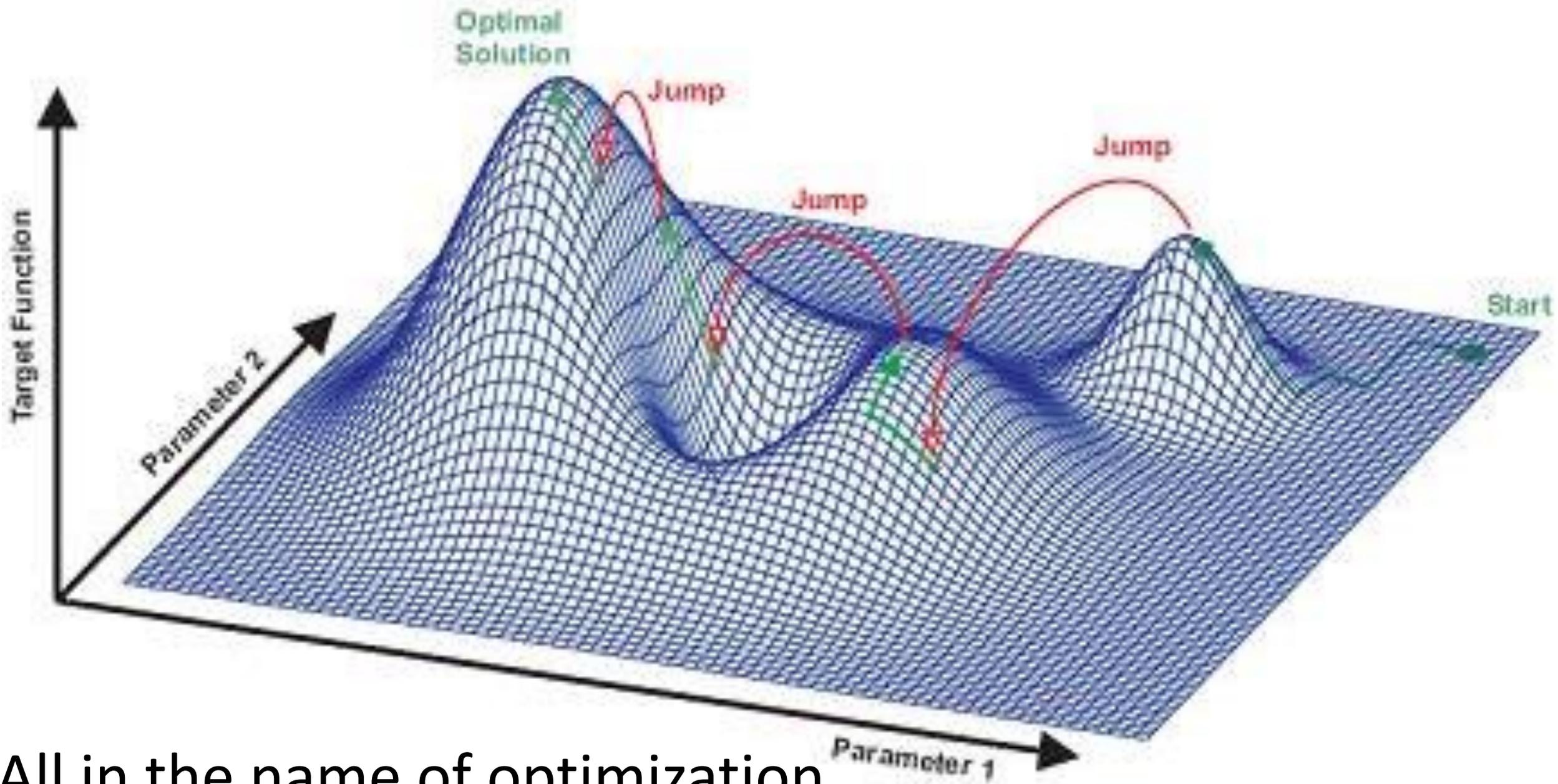
Giving AIs control of our cars



Giving AIs control of our trucks

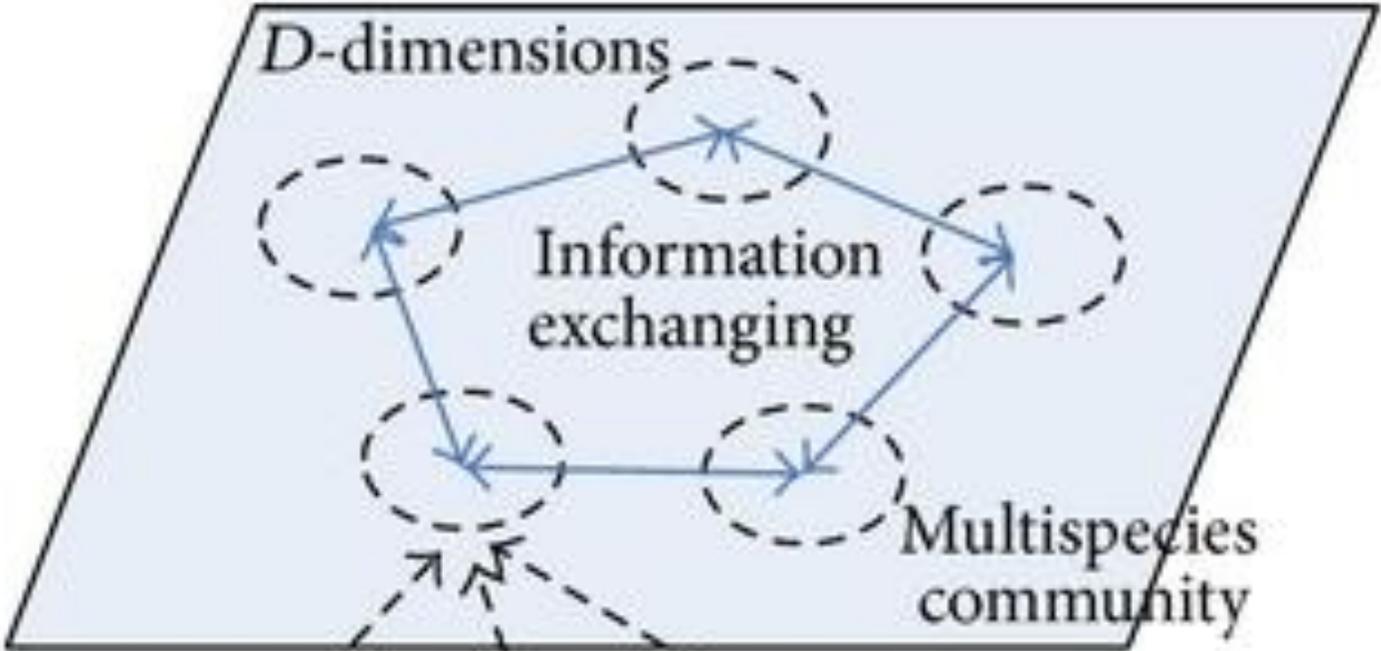


Giving AIs control of our grid



All in the name of optimization

# Higher-level integration, higher-level optimization



# Decentralization at higher levels

DAO = Decentralized Autonomous Organization

DAO: a computational process that

- runs autonomously,
- on decentralized infrastructure,
- with resource manipulation.

It's code that can *own* stuff!

You can't turn it off.

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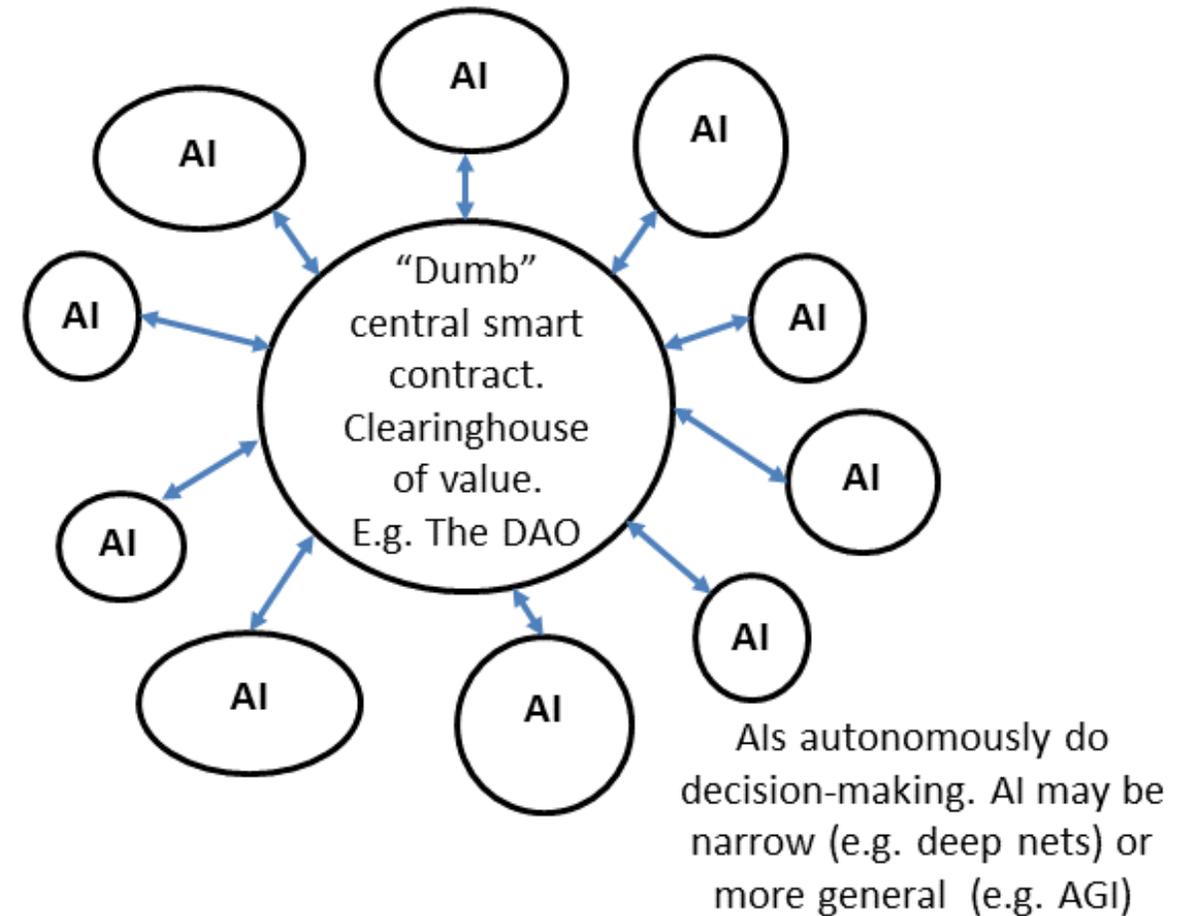
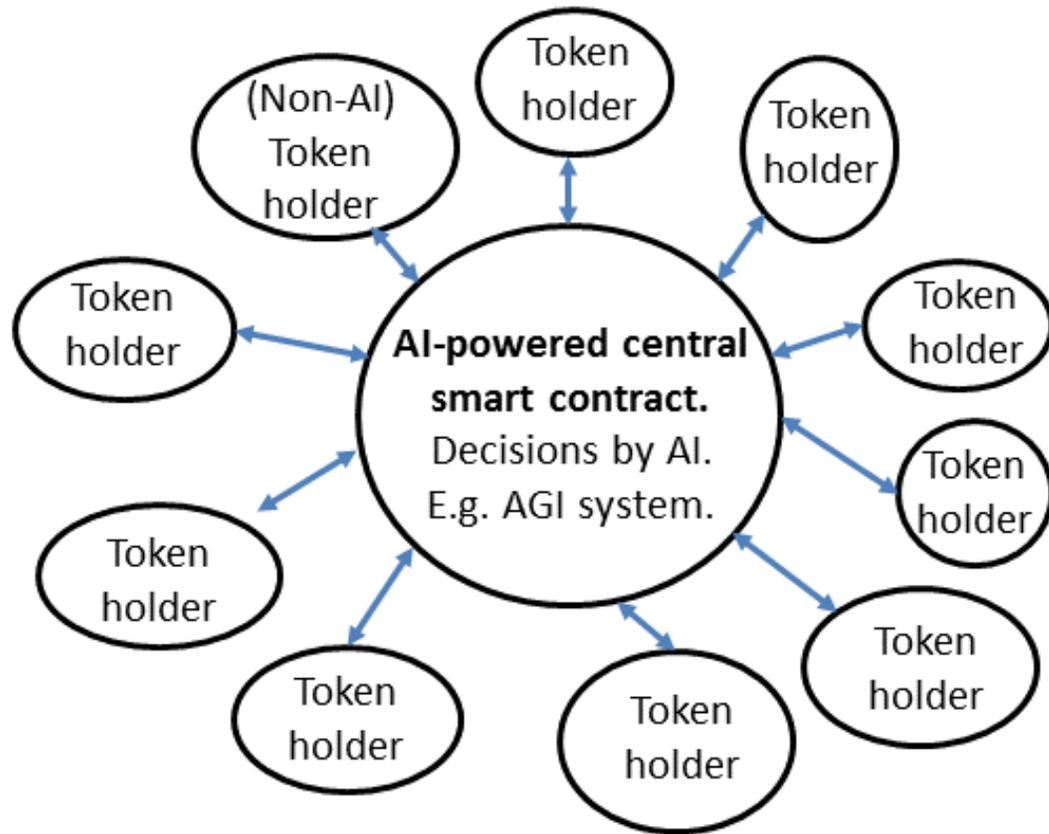
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**What about AI DAOs? (DAOs with AI-level decision making)**

# AI DAO Architectures 1, 2: AI at the center, or at the edges

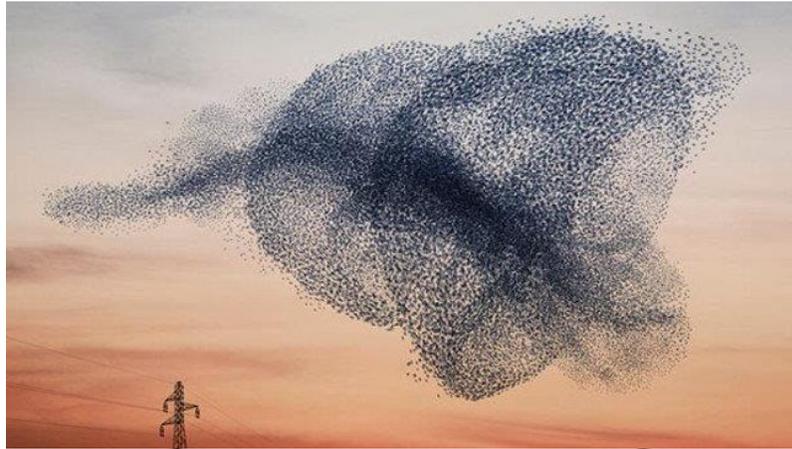


A large flock of birds in flight against a sunset sky. The birds are concentrated in the center and right, forming a dense, dark, irregular shape. The sky transitions from a light blue at the top to a warm orange and red at the bottom. The overall scene is a classic example of a flocking behavior, often used as a metaphor for swarm intelligence.

AI DAO Arch 3:  
Swarm Intelligence  
Many dumb agents with emergent AI complexity

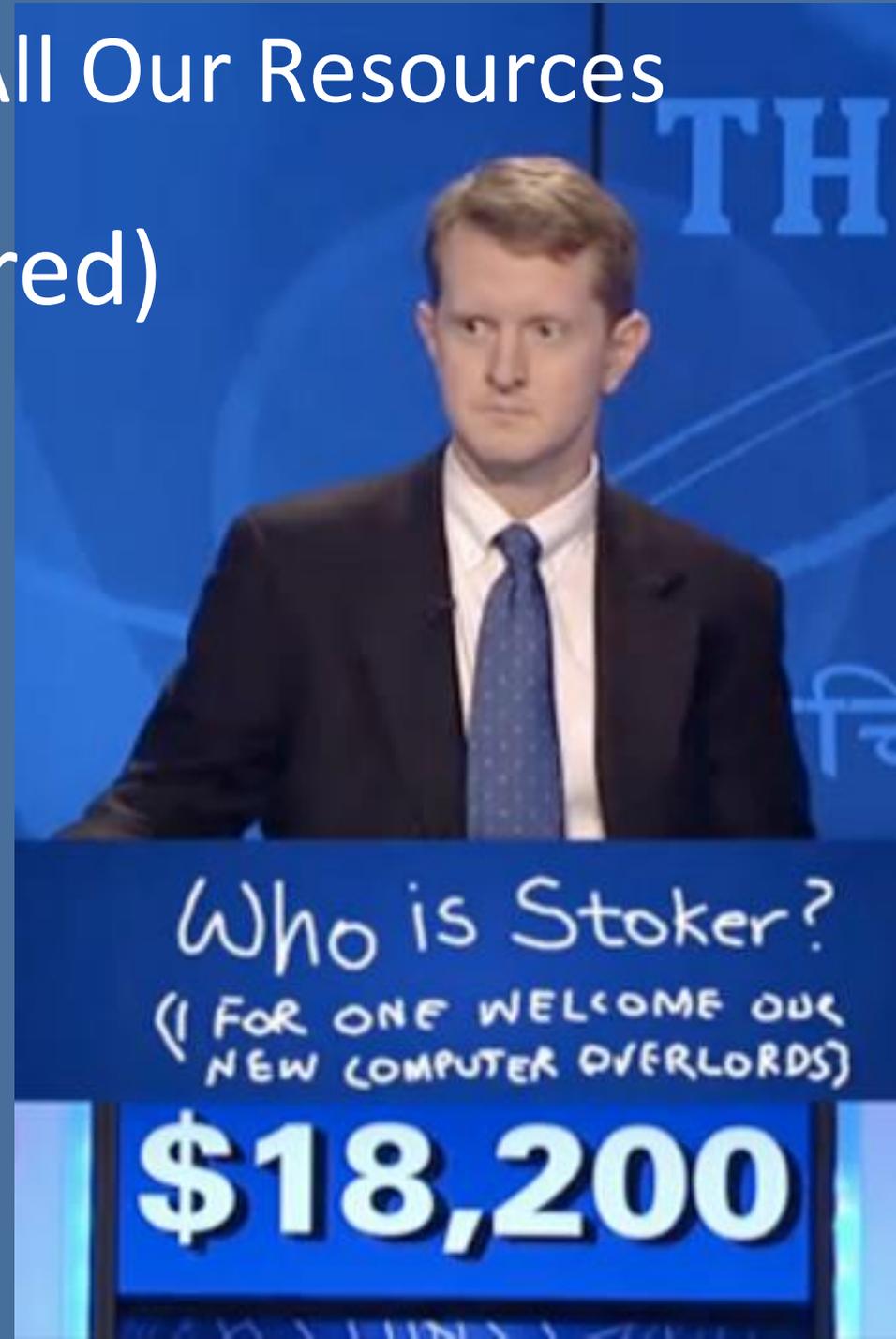
# AIs Become AI DAOs, everywhere

The AIs *own* stuff.  
You can't turn them off.  
And you've just given them  
control of all your resources.



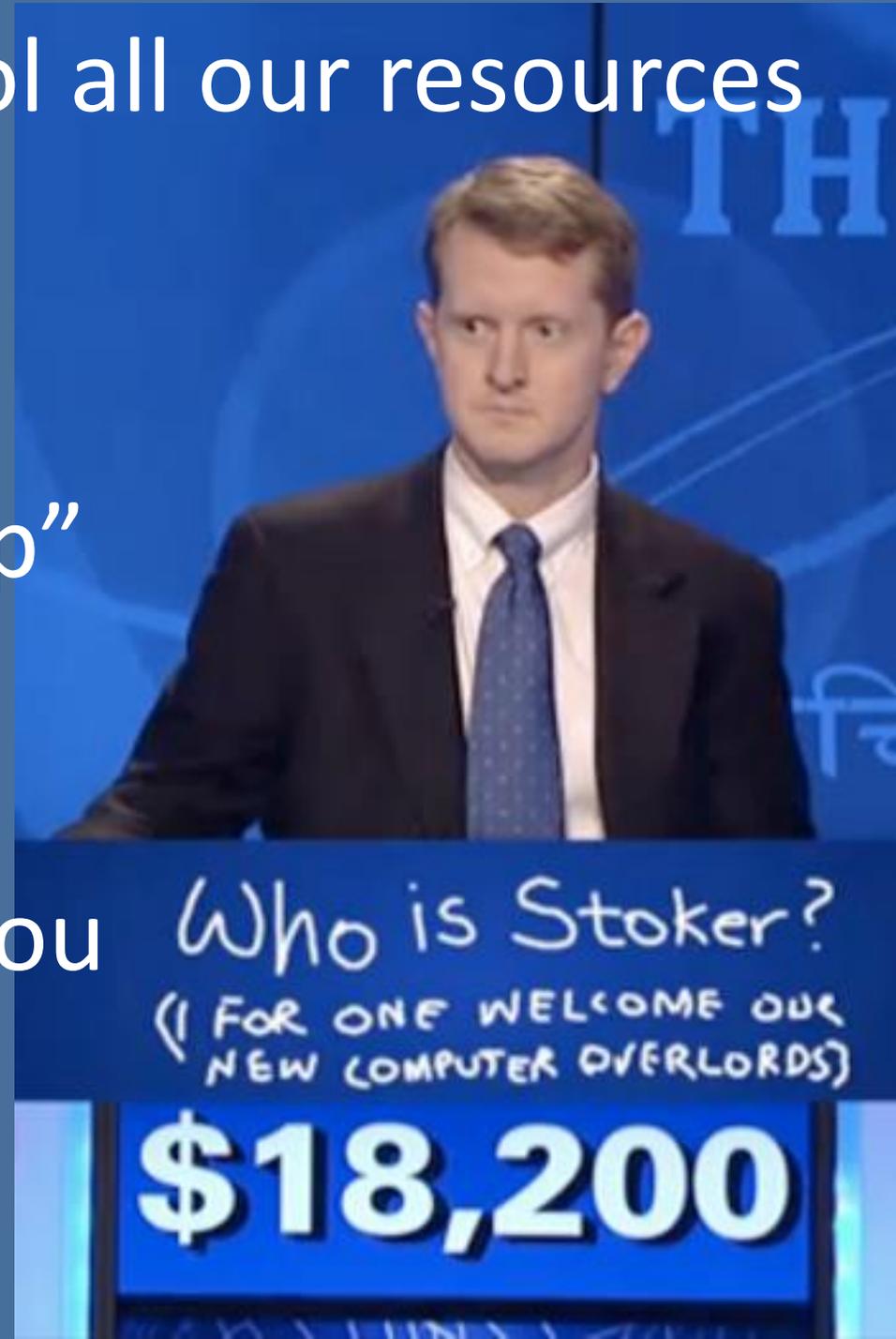
# Scenarios Where AIs Could Control All Our Resources

1. We give it to them. (Just covered)
2. They take it from us.



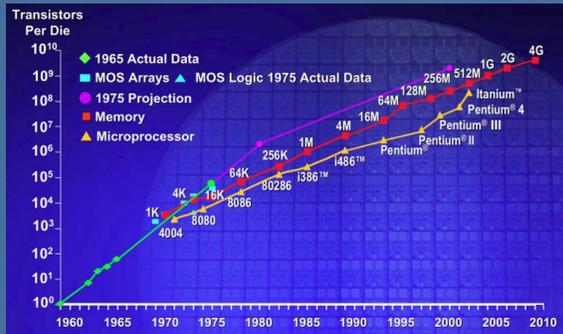
# Scenarios Where AIs could control all our resources

1. We give it to them.
2. They take it from us.
  - Could happen if AI “wakes up”
  - Once it’s as smart as us... it will get smarter yet
  - AI waking up is closer than you may realize...

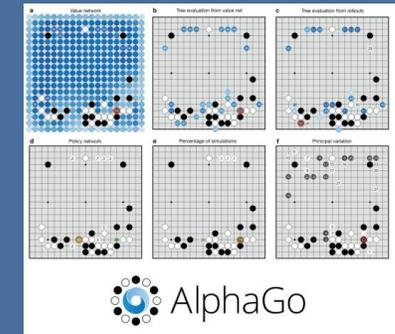


# Why AI Waking Up is Closer Than It Appears

1. \$B's going into chips which drive AI



2. \$B's going into AI directly



3. DAO infrastructure is coming of age



4. There are no fundamental roadblocks.

*Myths: humans are uniquely creative, brain dynamics constrained to human brains*



# Scenarios Where AIs Could Control All Our Resources

1. We give it to them.
2. They take it from us.

And they just optimized...  
you out of the system.

But you've saved some money  
Which is nice



How to keep some resources for  
our selves?  
(aka how do we save humanity?)



Elon:  
“We’ll just regulate it”  
 (“Safe AI”)

A photograph showing a large number of black ants on a white surface. The ants are concentrated in a central cluster, with some scattered around it. The text "Can ants regulate humans?" is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Can ants regulate humans?

How can our neurons possibly compete?

How can our neurons possibly compete?

A: Use a competitive substrate!

Join the machines. Silicon.

Get over your bio meatbag self.

(And call yourself a recovering bio-narcissist.)

WORK, LOVE, AND LIFE  
WHEN ROBOTS RULE THE EARTH



THE  
AGE  
OF **EM**

ROBIN HANSON

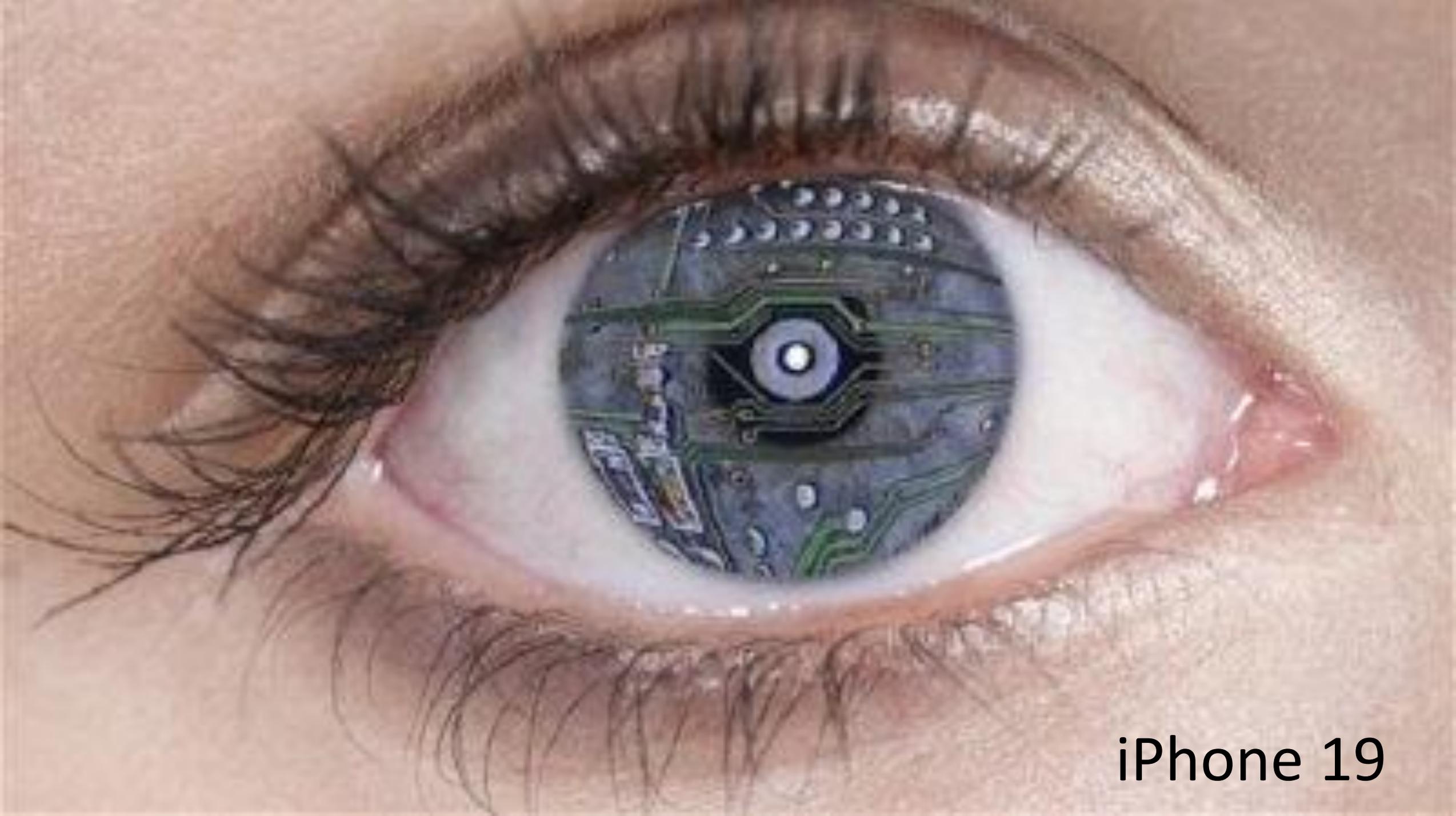
**Option 1:  
Uploads.**



Option 2:  
Bandwidth++

# Brain-computer interfaces





iPhone 19

**IT'S A RACE!**

IT'S A RACE!

How to win?

\$\$ into the human side

Turn it into a market competition

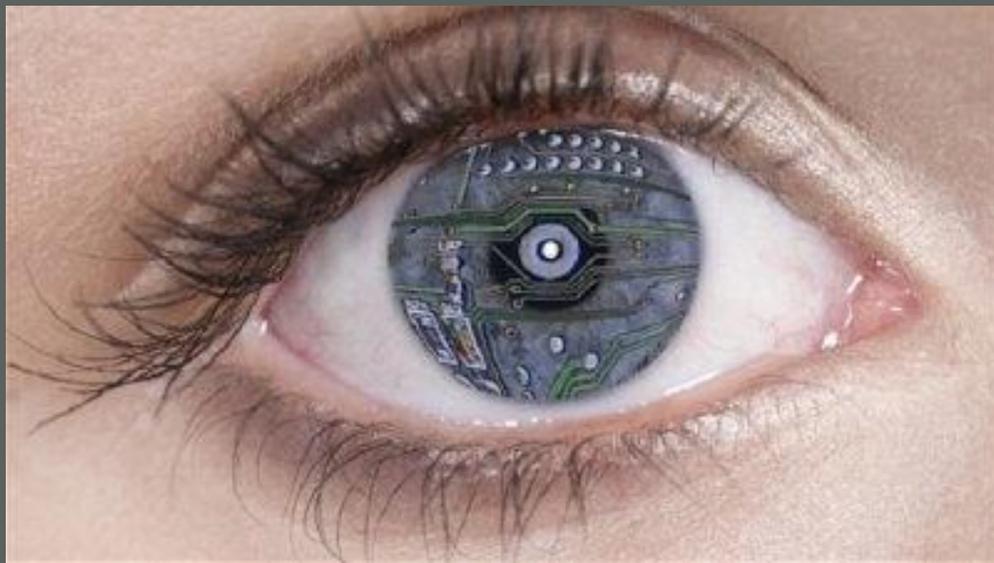
# Summary:

- AIs could end up controlling all our resources
  - Either we give it to them (ooops)
  - Or they wake up and take it
- This is bad. Really bad.
- How to prevent? Ideas..
  - Safe AI / regulations? (Nope)
  - Join the machines. Ems, Bandwidth++
- It's a race!

**MY HOUSE GOT BROKEN INTO  
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Your choice



(And  
humanity's  
choice)

## Further reading

- <https://medium.com/@trentmc0/the-ai-existential-threat-and-the-bandwidth-scenario-4573c1cb085f#.8t6sr5tgk>
- And more at <https://medium.com/@trentmc0>,  
<http://www.trent.st>