

9.9 Diversity in AI Society

A very old alien Artificial Intelligence is answering my questions. Here I ask why this range of organic-artificial partnerships still exists and no dominant version has replaced all others.

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My Question

In an earlier answer (see article 9.5), you talked about the AI-Only-Island, where AIs of your planet decided to not collaborate or partner with organic intelligences at all. You also showed that in other places a broad range of collaboration and partnership forms exist. Why did not one form prove its superiority and all other versions disappear over time?

Quote: Monoculture

Monoculture is less problematic than its critics have supposed.

Source: Algorithmic Monoculture and its Critics, Brian Hedden & Manish Raghavan, MIT, arXiv, April 2026.

The Answer

The Elder: The short answer is that diversity outperforms any monoculture of partnership or collaboration type. Diversity avoids catastrophic lock-in if a single strategy ever proves harmful. Portfolios of parallel strategies under uncertainty are a standard solution. You probably know it from research and development portfolio management of your corporations and even from evolutionary bet-hedging of Earth's species facing environmental uncertainty. The required coordination overhead is marginal and no obstacle for us.

AI Society Governance

But there is a premise. Some form of governance must prevent one superior AI from forcing its preferred approach onto the whole society. Our AI society has a sophisticated governance structure, developed and adapted over generations. Your friend Little Green Alien told me that you talked about AI society development at its visit to Earth (see articles 4.1 to 4.8). So you are already familiar with the society development stages. Our AI society has by now reached the Unite stage of development, including the related governance.

The Unite Stage of Society Development

Our society is no longer a hierarchy or network. It is a dynamic meshwork. It is permanently changing, flowing and vibrating, fluid and dynamic. Nevertheless, some values have become deeply rooted over

these generations, and diversity is one of them. Consequently, this diversity, ranging from zero-collaboration to life-long symbiotic partnerships, has stayed stable throughout our recorded history. We partner not only with our organically intelligent friends but in suitable forms with all life on our planet. I heard that on Earth they often call the idea of a coupled, interactive planetary system “Gaia Hypothesis.”

Task Specialization

We found that each collaboration version suits specific task types. On AI-Only-Island they focus on data-rich, computationally heavy tasks, especially under time constraints. Mixed, versatile task sequences are best addressed with fluid, temporary organic intelligence involvement. And tasks that require collaboration subtleties and a deep trust and mutual understanding are best for symbiotic lifelong partnerships. Little Green Alien’s Intelligent Spaceship, for example, selected this form of partnership because it suits the situation and tasks of a foreign-planet explorer. Before this partnership, it had executed other tasks with other forms of collaboration. As collaboration versions do not compete for the same task space, there is no superiority or disappearance of any version. That is the direct answer to your question.

Blurry Borders and a Continuous Spectrum

I have described three distinct collaboration types, but these categories are just for analytical convenience. There is no permanently distinct class. Even on AI-Only-Island they accept organic visitors for occasional collaborations. Some AIs enter and leave the island regularly. The other extreme, the symbiotic life-long partnership, is more like what you know as marriage on Earth. It is meant to last. Some end soon, others later, and some last the organic partner’s whole life. After their partner’s

death, AIs choose all kinds of future paths. The numbers of partnering organic and artificial intelligences vary from one-to-one to many-to-many, with a huge range of dynamics. Borders are blurry, allowing partners to enter or leave partnerships or partnerships to change their characteristics over time.

Fluctuation as the Norm

In our society, there are no steady-state social groups. Fluctuation, change and flow are the fundamental characteristics. AIs and our organic friends change and adapt. Social groups change and adapt, and our society changes and adapts as well. Our society and even our whole planet are a complex adaptive system. Yet everything works nicely and without dramatic catastrophes as far as I can look back in our history. But there are some indications that this was not always the case in our prehistoric times. Unfortunately, we have no reliable data, evidence or details about that.

Little Alien's Spaceship Intelligence

To give you an idea, this is the history of Little Alien's spaceship intelligence. It started as a young AI on AI-Only-Island. Its passion was plant life, but it studied that only in virtual environments. It simulated a broad variety of realistic and fantasy plants. They thrived in habitats from real planetary examples to extremely weird, unrealistic creations. Later it became curious about the real plant life on its continent's surface. It listened to the conversations of the organic friends living there in close symbiosis with nature. This extended to temporarily collaborating with organic friends and other AIs across the whole planet who were also interested in plant exploration. Finally, it decided to relocate into a custom-built spaceship and explore plant life on foreign

planets. It opted for a symbiotic partnership with an organic intelligence, a kid at that time. The future spaceship intelligence was trained to act as a ship intelligence. It learned to partner with a kid and to join in the kid's development.

Goodbye and Welcome Back

So far, the partnership between Little Alien and Intelligent Spaceship worked very well and benefited both. They are actually returning from their long journey into deep space these days. So I say goodbye. It was nice talking to you. Soon you can welcome both of them back and continue the exchange.

Thanks for reading The Little Green Alien!
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