RAY KURZWEIL

Pioneering Inventor and Futurist; Principal Researcher and AI Visionary, Google

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- TIME100 most influential people in AI in 2024
- Kurzweil is one of the world's leading inventors, thinkers, and futurists, with a thirty-year track record of accurate predictions
- He is a Principal Researcher and AI Visionary at Google, looking at the long-term implications of technology and society
- Ray received a Grammy Award for outstanding achievements in music technology; he is the recipient of the National Medal of Technology, was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame, holds twenty-one honorary Doctorates, and honors from three U.S. presidents
- Ray has been called "The Restless Genius" by The Wall Street Journal, "The Ultimate Thinking Machine" by Forbes, and the "Rightful Heir to Thomas Edison" by Inc. magazine
- He is the author of multiple New York Times bestselling books, including How to Create a Mind and The Singularity Is Near

- His latest book, The Singularity Is Nearer: When We Merge with AI, brings a fresh perspective on advances in the singularity, exploring how technology will transform the human race in the decades to come

Ray Kurzweil is one of the world's leading inventors, thinkers, and futurists, with a thirty-year track record of accurate predictions. Called "the restless genius" by The Wall Street Journal and "the ultimate thinking machine" by Forbes magazine, he was selected as one of the top entrepreneurs by Inc. magazine, which described him as the "rightful heir to Thomas Edison." PBS selected him as one of the "sixteen revolutionaries who made America."

Ray was the principal inventor of the first CCD flat-bed scanner, the first omni-font optical character recognition, the first print-to-speech reading machine for the blind, the first text-to-speech synthesizer, the first music synthesizer capable of recreating the grand piano and other orchestral instruments, and the first commercially marketed large-vocabulary speech recognition software.

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Ray has written five national best-selling books including The Singularity Is Near and How To Create A Mind, both New York Times bestsellers, and Danielle: Chronicles of a Superheroine, winner of multiple young adult fiction awards. His forthcoming book, The Singularity Is Nearer, will be released in the summer of 2024. He is a Principal Researcher and AI Visionary at Google, looking at the long-term implications of technology and society.

TEMAS

Ray tailors each presentation to the needs of his audience and is not limited to the topics listed below. Please ask us about any subject that interests you:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Innovation
- Future Trends
- Technology
- Health and Well-Being
- Science, Technology and Invention
- Tech in the 21st Century: The Impact on Business, the Economy, and Society

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PROGRAMAS

The Power of Ideas is Accelerating

Renowned author, inventor, and futurist, Ray Kurzweil, has a public track record of more than a quarter of a century of predictions with a stunning 86% accuracy rate, all based on his Law of Accelerating Returns which states that information technology is advancing exponentially -- doubling in price-performance, capacity, and bandwidth every year. Since 1990, Kurzweil has laid out these predictions in a series of books: The Age of Intelligent Machines (1990), The Age of Spiritual Machines (1999), The Singularity is Near (2005), and How to Create a Mind (2012). And now, in his forthcoming book, The Singularity is Nearer (2020), he presents new data and a fresh look to the future as we approach the steep part of the exponential. By questioning old assumptions and applying exponential thinking Ray Kurzweil explains how we will rewrite the software of life, rebuild the world atom by atom, and reinvent our intelligence, to solve the world's grandest challenges.

The Acceleration of Tech in the 21st Century: The Impact on Business, the Economy, and Society

At the onset of the 21st century, it will be an era in which the very nature of what it means to be human will be both enriched and challenged, as our species breaks the shackles of its genetic legacy, and achieves inconceivable heights of intelligence, material progress, and longevity. The paradigm shift rate is now doubling every decade, so the twenty-first century will see 20,000 years of progress at today's rate. Computation, communication, biological technologies (for example, DNA sequencing), brain scanning, knowledge of the human brain, and human knowledge in general are all accelerating at an even faster pace,

generally doubling price-performance, capacity, and bandwidth every year. Three-dimensional molecular computing will provide the hardware for human-level "strong" AI well before 2030. The more important software insights will be gained in part from the reverse-engineering of the human brain, a process well under way. While the social and philosophical ramifications of these changes will be profound, and the threats they pose considerable, celebrated futurist Ray Kurzweil presents an inspiring vision of our ultimate destiny in which we will merge with our machines, can live forever, and are a billion times more intelligent...all within the next three to four decades.

Science, Technology, and Invention: Strategies to Create the Future

The democratization of innovation is a turbulent process with rapid creation, violent destruction, many winners and many losers. Despite the apparent chaos, we can discern predictable patterns. The pace of innovation itself is doubling every decade. The overall price-performance and capacity of every form of information technology grows exponentially, generally doubling in a year or less. As information technology achieves each new level of price-performance and capacity, new applications become feasible and existing business models lose their viability. Another implication is that the tools of disruptive change have been democratized. A couple of students created Google on their thousand dollar laptops. A few years later, a couple of undergraduates created Facebook with tools that everyone has. The rate of change is now so rapid that even three to five year business plans need to consider that every level of an industry will undergo major changes during that period. It's not just the devices we carry around that are influenced by these exponential changes. Health and medicine is now an information technology with the collection of the human genome, the means of changing genes in a mature individual, and the ability to design interventions on computers and to test them on biological simulators. Even energy will be transformed as we apply nanotechnology to the design of solar panels and energy storage devices. The means to change the world are in everyone's hands.

The World's First Superhumans

Imagine being able to type, create digital art, and operate a robotic arm – with just your thoughts. Long considered the stuff of sci-fi lore, superhuman abilities are now a reality

thanks to the real-world magic of implantable brain-computer interfaces (BCIs), which enable direct communication between the human brain and digital devices. In this session, Taryn shares the remarkable stories of some of the world's first real-world superhumans - Nancy, James, and Nathan. Afflicted with paralysis, these early research participants have defied human limitations, restored lost function, and even gained new senses through their mind-bending research. While only a few dozen people globally have been implanted with a BCI, with a surge of investment in neurotechnology and AI, that number is about to multiply. What is the future of vision, hearing, learning, and memory? How will BCIs enable new forms of communication, embodiment, and creativity? Should this technology be available to everyone, and perhaps, most importantly, is society ready?

The Acceleration of Tech in the 21st Century: The Impact on Healthcare & Medicine

We are now at a pivotal time in health technologies. With the collection of the genome in 2003 and the advent of techniques such as RNA interference that can actually turn off the genes that promote disease and aging, medicine has transformed itself into an information technology. As such, medicine is now subject to the "law of accelerating returns," meaning that these technologies will be a thousand times more powerful than today in ten years, and a million times more powerful in 20 years. Up until recently, health interventions were hit or miss. We'd find something that seemed to work with only crude models of how they worked. Drug development was called "drug discovery," basically finding things that worked rather than designing them. Today it is within our grasp to slow the aging process and take full advantage of advances in bio- and nanotechnology that have already begun and will be occurring at an accelerating pace in the years ahead. Ultimately, we will merge with our machines, vastly extending human health and longevity, and greatly increasing our intelligence.
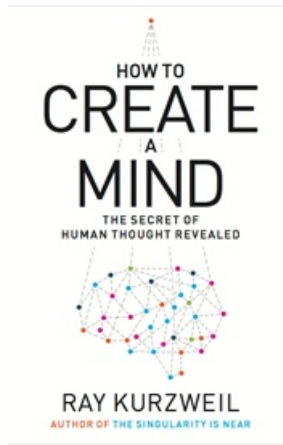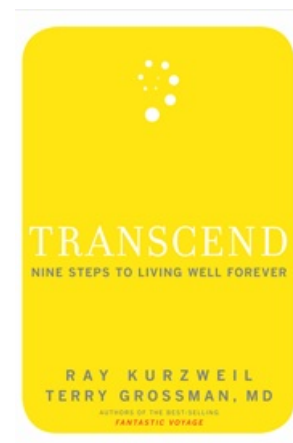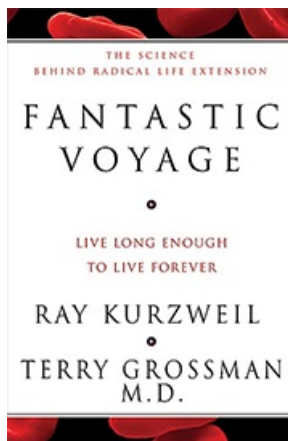
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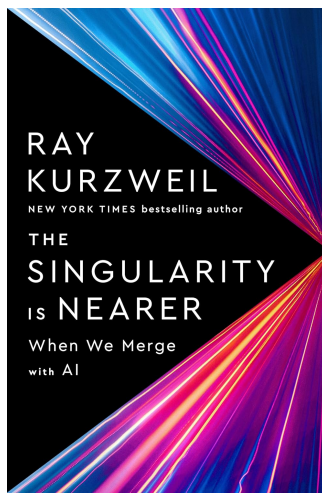
THE SINGULARITY IS NEARER

HOW TO CREATE A MIND

TRANSCEND

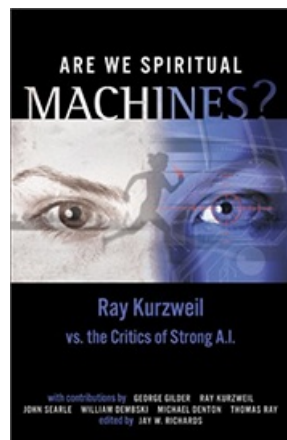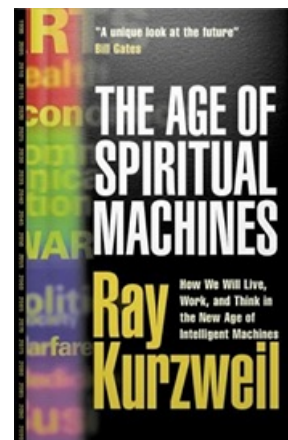**FANTASTIC VOYAGE**

ARE WE SPIRITUAL MACHINES?

THE AGE OF SPIRITUAL MACHINES