

AI Trends and Trials

Hands-On Workshop

**Oakland East Bay-Life Member Affinity Group
(OEB-LMAG)**

January 22, 2025



Welcome from your Board Officers

- **Maureen Vavra – Chair**
- **Mickey Mantle – Vice Chair**
- **Larry Moon – Secretary**
- **Karl Yang – Finance**

We continue to build our IEEE Life Member community and plan to continue to hold live (and live/virtual when appropriate) meetings like this hands-on workshop. Mark your calendars, and plan on a meeting the 3rd Wednesday of the 1st month of every quarter.

We Need Your Help and Participation

- **IEEE has rules regarding how a Life Member Affinity Group should operate**
- **Officers are limited to 2-year terms**
- **Some of our officers should be retiring**
- **We need volunteers to get involved and become part of the Board**

Life Members with a few hours each quarter to spare should consider becoming a Board Member. This is an opportunity to learn more about your fellow IEEE Life Members, make new friends, and help others!

If you are interested, please let one of the Board members know or send an email to: MWVavra@outlook.com



Before We Start – A Quick Survey

(a show of hands for each question please!)

- 1. How many here are IEEE Life Members?**

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2. How many know the history of AI developments?
3. **How many have concerns about the rapid rise of AI capabilities?**

Before We Start – A Quick Survey

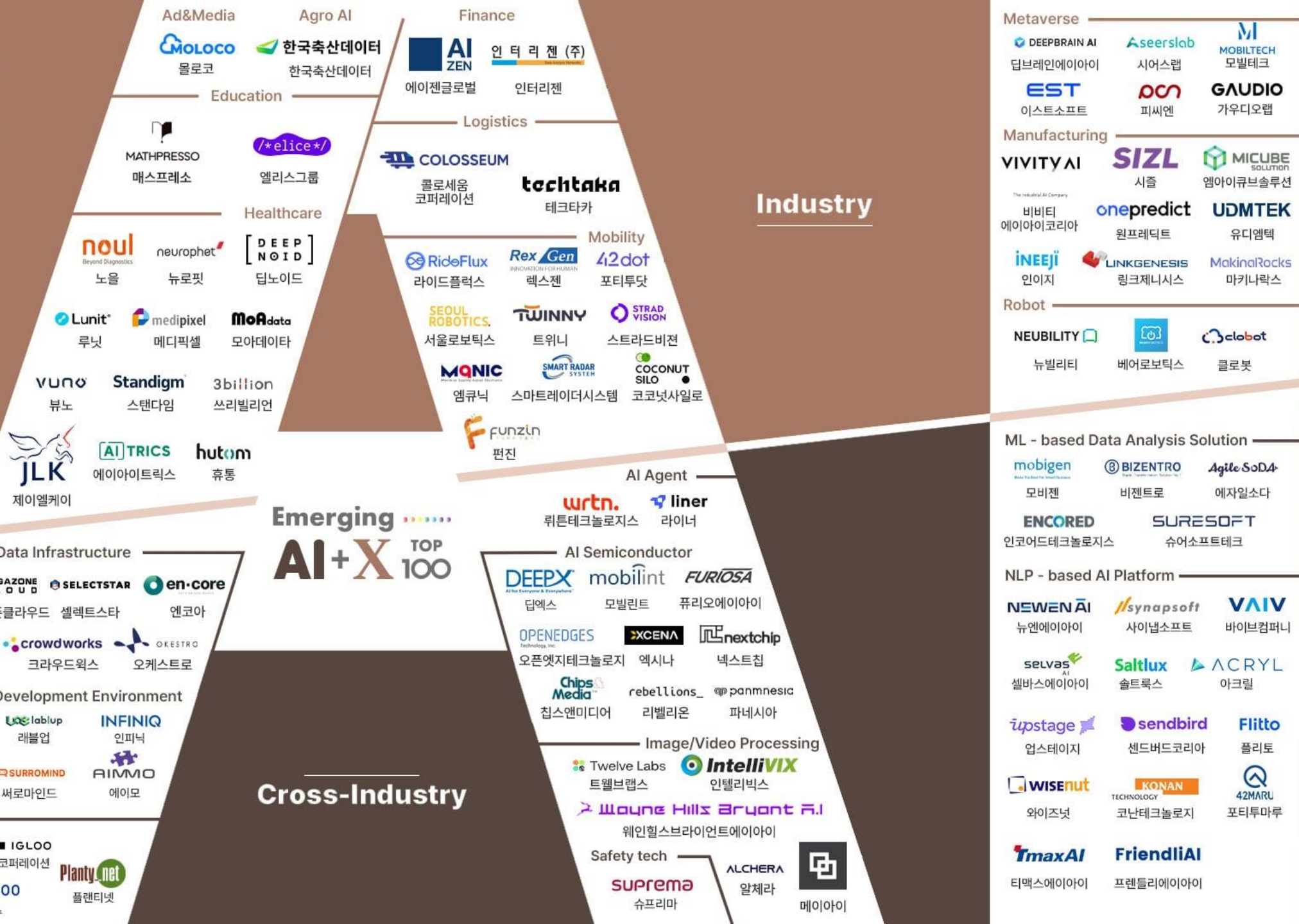
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1. How many here are IEEE Life Members?
2. How many know the history of AI developments?
3. How many have concerns about the rapid rise of AI capabilities?
4. **How many are excited about the rapid rise of AI applications?**

Before We Start – A Quick Survey

(a show of hands for each question please!)

1. How many here are IEEE Life Members?
2. How many know the history of AI developments?
3. How many have concerns about the rapid rise of AI capabilities?
4. How many are excited about the rapid rise of AI applications?
5. **How many have tried using any of the popular AI applications?**



A Brief History of AI

Marvin Minsky, who joined MIT in 1958, was a pioneering figure in AI. Along with John McCarthy, he co-founded MIT's AI Laboratory in 1959. Minsky's early work focused on computational theories of intelligence and learning. His 1969 book "Perceptrons" with Seymour Papert analyzed artificial neural networks, though its critique temporarily slowed neural network research.

Key developments followed:

1960s: Early natural language processing programs like ELIZA emerged. McCarthy developed the LISP programming language, crucial for early AI.

1970s: Expert systems gained prominence, with DENDRAL and MYCIN showing AI could match human expertise in specific domains.

1980s: Neural networks resurged with backpropagation algorithms. Companies began commercializing AI through expert systems, though limitations led to an "AI winter."

1990s-2000s: Machine learning gained momentum. IBM's Deep Blue defeated chess champion Garry Kasparov in 1997. The rise of big data and improved computing power enabled practical applications.

2010s: Deep learning breakthroughs transformed AI. Key milestones included:

- ImageNet competition victories using deep neural networks
- Google DeepMind's AlphaGo defeating Go champion Lee Sedol
- Significant advances in natural language processing with models like BERT

2020s: Large language models like GPT series marked major advances in natural language understanding and generation. AI applications expanded across industries, from healthcare to autonomous vehicles.



Key AI Acronyms

AI - Artificial Intelligence: Systems designed to mimic human intelligence

ML - Machine Learning: Systems that learn from data

DL - Deep Learning: Complex neural networks with multiple layers

NLP - Natural Language Processing: AI systems working with human language

CNN - Convolutional Neural Network: Neural networks specialized for visual data

RNN - Recurrent Neural Network: Neural networks that handle sequential data

LLM - Large Language Model: AI systems trained on vast text datasets

AGI - Artificial General Intelligence: Hypothetical AI matching human-level cognition across all domains

Key AI Definitions

- **Neural Network:** Computing system inspired by biological brains
- **Dataset:** Collection of information used to train AI systems
- **Model:** The trained system that makes predictions or decisions
- **Parameters:** Variables the model adjusts during training
- **Features:** Individual measurable properties used as input
- **Bias:** Systematic errors or unfairness in model outputs
- **Inference:** Process of making predictions using a trained model
- **Transformer:** Architecture type used in modern language models
- **Attention:** Mechanism allowing models to focus on relevant information
- **Hallucination:** When an artificial intelligence system generates or outputs information that is false, inaccurate, or entirely fabricated, despite appearing confident and coherent

AI – a unique type of technological revolution due to its:

- 1. Unprecedented speed of development and adoption**
- 2. Breadth of impact across all sectors**
- 3. Potential to augment and possibly rival human cognitive abilities**
- 4. Capacity for self-improvement**

Economic Challenges and Adaptations

1. Job Market Changes

- Some routine cognitive tasks will be automated
- New roles will emerge combining human expertise with AI capabilities
- Emphasis on skills AI can't easily replicate: creativity, emotional intelligence, complex problem-solving
- complex problem-solving
- Growing importance of continuous learning and adaptation

2. Income Potential

- Higher wages for AI-literate professionals
- New revenue streams from AI-enhanced services
- Potential for smaller teams to compete with larger organizations
- Opportunities in AI training and implementation

3. Skill Development Strategy

- Focus on complementary skills rather than competing with AI
- Develop expertise in human-AI collaboration
- Build strong interpersonal and leadership abilities
- Maintain adaptability and learning capacity

Immediate Opportunities of AI are Significant for Individuals

1. AI-Adjacent Skills

- Learning to prompt and work with AI tools effectively
- Data analysis and interpretation
- AI project management
- AI ethics and governance roles
- AI training and education positions

2. Industry-Specific AI Integration

- Healthcare: AI diagnostic tools, patient care optimization
- Finance: AI-driven analysis, algorithmic trading
- Education: Personalized learning systems
- Marketing: AI-powered customer analytics
- Legal: AI document analysis, research automation

3. Entrepreneurial Opportunities

- Building AI-powered products and services
- Creating industry-specific AI solutions
- Developing AI training programs
- Consulting on AI implementation
- Creating AI-human workflow optimizations

Most Popular AI Applications

Top Chatbots:

- **ChatGPT:** The undisputed leader with 200 million users as of October 2024
- **Copilot (formerly Bing Chat):** Microsoft's versatile AI assistant
- **Claude:** A strong competitor to **ChatGPT**
- **Gemini:** Google's AI chatbot for Android and iOS

Emerging Popular Apps:

- **Perplexity:** Ranked #3 on the web with high user engagement
- **Character.ai:** Popular in unique monthly visits
- **Microsoft Edge:** Top in active monthly users
- **Suno:** A rising music generation app

Most Popular AI Applications

- **The best AI productivity tools by category**
- Chatbots ([ChatGPT](#), [Claude](#), [Meta AI](#), [Zapier Agents](#))
- Search engines ([Perplexity](#), [Google AI Overviews](#), [Arc Search](#))
- Content creation ([Jasper](#), [Anyword](#), [Writer](#))
- Grammar checkers and rewording tools ([Grammarly](#), [Wordtune](#), [ProWritingAid](#))
- Video creation and editing ([Runway](#), [Descript](#), [Wondershare Filmora](#))
- Image generation ([DALL·E 3](#), [Midjourney](#), [Ideogram](#))
- Social media management ([FeedHive](#), [Vista Social](#), [Buffer](#))
- Voice and music generation ([ElevenLabs](#), [Suno](#), [AIWA](#))
- Knowledge management and AI grounding ([Mem](#), [Notion AI Q&A](#), [Personal AI](#))
- Task and project management ([Asana](#), [Any.do](#), [BeeDone](#))
- Transcription and meeting assistants ([Fireflies](#), [Avoma](#), [tl;dv](#))
- Scheduling ([Reclaim](#), [Clockwise](#), [Motion](#))
- Email ([Shortwave](#), [Microsoft Copilot Pro for Outlook](#), [Gemini for Gmail](#))
- Slide decks and presentations ([Tome](#), [Beautiful.ai](#), [Slidesgo](#))
- Resume builders ([Teal](#), [Enhancv](#), [Kickresume](#))
- Automation ([Zapier](#))
- [Other AI productivity tools](#)

AI Applications to Try TODAY!

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AI Resources for You

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**Thank you for being taking
the time to be part of our
IEEE OEB-LMAG
AI Hands-on Workshop!**