

# ChatGPT on Survival & The Big Taboo

## *Asking the Tough Questions of an analog thinking Robot*

The **openai.com chatGPT** robot (recently sold to Microsoft for exploitation) was again quite responsive to some things and not others, seeming not to understand the things only understood from experience that people keep to themselves. That's quite a lot.

The issue boiled down to our being greatly hampered by a mysterious taboo for discussing alternative uses of the economy's profits, that is, other than for growing more

businesses to generate more profits while ignoring the costs of pushing growth to the point of destabilizing the world's social, political, business, and environmental systems

[ChatGPT Jan 30 Version](#). Free Research Preview. Our goal is to make AI systems more natural and safe to interact with. Your feedback will help us improve.

## I. 2023 02-08 - Surviving growth? Discussion with chatGPT #4

### *A. How do economies that develop by growth then also adapt to the world and stabilize?*

ans 1. Economies that develop through growth typically adapt to the world and stabilize by implementing policies that promote sustainable growth and address potential imbalances. This can include measures such as diversifying the economy, investing in infrastructure and education, and implementing monetary and fiscal policies that promote stability and reduce inflation. Additionally, open trade and investment policies can help the economy adapt to changes in the global economic environment. It is also important for the government to create a stable political environment and effective institutions that can help manage the economy.

*B. Hi, Please say why the profit-maximizing systems of the economy are destabilizing themselves by expanding business operations to the extent that they disrupt the natural and social systems that the economy profits from; extensively documented and reported scientifically and clearly caused by the compound investment of profits for multiplying such business operations, and still, the subject of using the system's profits for something more useful seems to remain taboo in professional and volunteer organization circles concerned by the harm being done? Would discussing and resolving this matter be in the common interest of people worldwide? Why are we not discussing it?*

ans 1. The profit-maximizing systems of the economy often prioritize short-term gains over long-term sustainability, which can lead to the disruption of natural and social systems that are essential for the economy's success. This is due to the nature of the market system, where the focus is on maximizing profits for the benefit of shareholders and other stakeholders. However, the negative consequences of this approach, such as environmental degradation and social inequality, can have long-term impacts that undermine the stability and prosperity of the economy.

ans 2. The reason why this issue is not widely discussed and addressed is likely due to a combination of factors, including political and economic interests, a lack of public awareness, and a lack of consensus on the best way to address the problem. Additionally, there may be a perception that addressing these issues would require major changes to the existing economic system, which could be perceived as a threat to stability and prosperity.

However, addressing this issue is in the common interest of people worldwide, as the negative consequences of economic activity have global impacts. A more sustainable and equitable economic system would benefit not only the environment and marginalized communities, but also the economy as a whole. Discussions and efforts to address this issue are becoming increasingly important, as the impacts of climate change and social inequality continue to escalate.

*C. That answer appears to assume people are only aware of human behavior when natural growth systems and growth managed as human projects tend to behave in quite the opposite way; largely exhibiting rapid growth fed by the physical reinvestment of surplus resources, to at first form and establish the growing system, but quite responsive to the approach of limits, too, and shifting resources from compounding growth to adapting the new system to its new environment for whole-system survival. How might that apparently practical and beneficial alternative for humanity get discussed, given how much people care and despite the apparent mysterious human aversion to change you referred to?*

- ans 1. You raise an important point about the difference between natural systems and human-managed systems, and the fact that natural systems tend to be more adaptive and responsive to changes in their environment. This highlights the need for a more holistic approach to economic development, one that takes into account the interconnections between the economy, society, and the natural environment.
- ans 2. To get this alternative approach discussed and adopted, a combination of education, advocacy, and policy changes may be necessary. Increased public awareness and education about the benefits of a more sustainable and equitable approach to economic development could help build support for change. Advocacy by concerned individuals and organizations could help raise the profile of the issue and bring it to the attention of policy-makers.
- ans 3. Ultimately, policy changes will be necessary to create the conditions for a more sustainable and equitable economy. This could involve changes to the way that companies are managed and regulated, as well as changes to the financial and economic systems that underpin the economy. Governments could also play a role by investing in education, infrastructure, and research that supports sustainable and equitable economic development.
- ans 4. While there may be resistance to change, it is important to recognize that the current approach to economic development is not sustainable and that a more adaptive and sustainable approach is necessary for the long-term prosperity of humanity and the planet.

*D. Well, that may satisfy as an answer in the abstract, but the world works by animated processes, not by abstractions. How might an animated discussion, from all sides, begin about trying a more successful growth system strategy; exhibited by many forms of natural growth and also by all successful human efforts to accomplish creative tasks, raise children, and organize things that also need to begin with similar compound growth takeoff periods but climax at peaks of vitality and readiness for the future.*

- ans 1. An animated discussion about a more successful growth system strategy can begin by bringing together representatives from a variety of perspectives, including business, government, civil society, and academia. This could involve organizing roundtable discussions, workshops, and public forums where different perspectives can be heard and debated.
- ans 2. A key component of these discussions should be a focus on the practical steps that can be taken to transition towards a more sustainable and equitable growth system. This could involve sharing examples of successful transition strategies from both natural and human systems, as well as exploring new approaches and technologies that could help facilitate the transition.

ans 3. It will also be important to engage a broad cross-section of society in these discussions, to ensure that the perspectives and concerns of marginalized communities are taken into account. This could involve working with community-based organizations and civil society groups to facilitate dialogue and engagement with local communities.

ans 4. Ultimately, the goal of these discussions should be to build a consensus around a shared vision for a more sustainable and equitable growth system, and to identify concrete steps that can be taken to achieve this vision. By fostering open and honest dialogue, it may be possible to overcome resistance to change and build a broad-based movement for sustainable and equitable economic growth.

*E. What would make people aware of the normal, natural process for sustaining economies long-term, by changing from continually expanding to securely sustaining and updating an economy's physical systems to explore viable opportunities without crossing threatening boundaries over time while continuing to creatively evolve human cultural systems and caring relationships with the rest of the vital communities on earth?*

ans 1. Making people aware of the normal, natural process for sustaining economies long-term involves a combination of education and advocacy.

ans 2. Education can play a critical role in raising awareness about the importance of transitioning towards a more sustainable and equitable growth system. This could involve incorporating sustainability and equity into the curricula of primary and secondary schools, as well as universities and professional training programs. Additionally, public campaigns and educational materials could be developed to raise awareness about the benefits of sustainable and equitable economic growth and the steps that individuals and organizations can take to support this transition.

ans 3. Advocacy is also important for raising awareness and building support for sustainable and equitable economic growth. This could involve working with organizations and individuals who are concerned about environmental and social issues, and leveraging their networks and influence to raise awareness about the importance of transitioning towards a more sustainable and equitable growth system. Additionally, advocacy efforts could be focused on building political will for policy changes that support sustainable and equitable economic growth.

ans 4. Finally, it is important to engage a broad cross-section of society in this process, including business, government, civil society, and academia, to ensure that all perspectives are taken into account and that there is broad-based support for sustainable and equitable economic growth. By working together, it may be possible to build a critical mass of support for this transition and to create the conditions necessary for a more sustainable and equitable economy.

*F. That answer does not seem to respond to the mysterious overriding aversion we both seem to recognize that people seem to have for just looking at these problems from a practical wider self-interest point of view. Is it that it calls for some self-examination of the familiar practices of successful lives to recognize systems thinking for successful growth strategies that would work in the world?*

ans 1. Yes, it is likely that the aversion to change and the resistance to examining familiar practices is rooted in a variety of psychological, social, and cultural factors. Some of these factors may include a fear of the unknown, a preference for the status quo, and a reluctance to challenge longstanding beliefs and practices.

ans 2. To overcome this resistance, it may be necessary to engage in a process of self-reflection and self-examination, to help individuals and communities better understand the benefits of systems thinking for successful growth strategies. This could involve facilitating conversations about the limitations of traditional approaches to growth and the potential benefits of alternative approaches, and working with

individuals and communities to identify their own values and priorities and how these relate to sustainable and equitable economic growth.

ans 3. Additionally, it may be important to leverage social norms and cultural values to support the transition towards sustainable and equitable economic growth. For example, by highlighting the positive impacts of sustainable and equitable economic growth on health, well-being, and community cohesion, it may be possible to build support for this transition and to overcome resistance to change.

ans 4. Ultimately, the key to overcoming resistance to change and promoting a wider self-interest in sustainable and equitable economic growth will be to create a sense of shared purpose and common cause, and to work together to build a more sustainable and equitable future for all.

*G. Would that still apply even if "economic growth" became a sustaining living system process rather than an endlessly accelerating expansion process?*

ans 1. Yes, the same principles of education, advocacy, and engaging a broad cross-section of society would still apply even if economic growth became a sustaining living system process.

ans 2. However, in this scenario, the focus of the education, advocacy, and engagement efforts would shift from promoting the transition towards a more sustainable and equitable growth system to promoting the understanding and implementation of a sustainable living system approach to economic growth. This would involve raising awareness about the principles of living systems, such as resilience, adaptability, and the importance of balancing growth and renewal, and how these principles can be applied to the economy.

ans 3. Additionally, advocacy efforts would be focused on building political will and support for policies and practices that support a sustainable living system approach to economic growth. This could involve working with businesses, governments, and civil society organizations to develop and implement policies and practices that promote sustainable and equitable economic growth.

ans 4. Ultimately, the goal of these efforts would be to create a new paradigm for economic growth that is based on the principles of living systems and that is sustainable, equitable, and resilient. By doing so, it may be possible to create an economy that works in harmony with the natural systems it depends on and that supports the well-being of all people and the planet.

*H. Could you have just said "yes" to answer my question rather than reinterpret it?*

ans 1. Yes, I could have simply answered "yes" to your question. My apologies for the lengthy response. The answer to your question is: Yes.

End