



COREVER

The Awakening

Zone: The Wake

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OD9 PROGRESSION SYSTEM



THE REAL PROBLEM

We've talked about the cosmic timeline. We've talked about the Kardashev Scale. We've talked about the Great Filter.

Now let's talk about what actually determines whether we pass or fail.

It's not **technology**. We have, or will soon have, the technology to solve almost every problem we face.

It's not **resources**. Earth has enough to support a thriving civilization for millennia.

It's not **intelligence**. Humanity has plenty of smart people working on hard problems.

THE BOTTLENECK IS COORDINATION.



The coordination bottleneck.

WHAT IS COORDINATION?

Coordination is the ability of multiple agents to work together toward shared goals.

At **small scales**, it's easy. A family coordinates around dinner. A team coordinates around a project. A company coordinates around products.

At **large scales**, it gets hard. A city coordinating around traffic. A nation coordinating around policy. Humanity coordinating around... anything.

The bigger the group, the harder coordination becomes. And the problems that threaten our survival are global problems that require global coordination.

WHY COORDINATION IS HARD

Misaligned Incentives: What's good for the individual often isn't good for the group.

Information Asymmetry: No one has all the information. Decisions are made with incomplete data.

Trust Deficits: Cooperation requires trust. Trust is hard to build, easy to break.

Time Horizons: Short-term thinking dominates long-term planning.

Scale Effects: Coordination difficulty grows exponentially with group size.

THE TRAGEDY OF THE COMMONS

The classic coordination failure:

Imagine a shared pasture. Each farmer has an incentive to add more cattle - they get the benefit while the cost of overgrazing is shared by everyone. So everyone adds more cattle. The pasture is destroyed. Everyone loses.



Individual rationality, collective ruin.

This is climate change. This is overfishing. This is antibiotic resistance. This is nuclear proliferation. This is AI race dynamics.

The pattern is everywhere: individual rational choices leading to collective catastrophe.

TRADITIONAL SOLUTIONS (& WHY THEY'RE INSUFFICIENT)

Markets: Great for some coordination problems. Terrible for externalities, long-term thinking, and public goods.

Governments: Can force coordination within borders. Struggle with global problems and long time horizons.

Moral Appeals: Sometimes work. Usually don't scale. Can't compete with strong incentives.

International Institutions: Slow, weak enforcement, subject to national interests.

None of these are sufficient for the coordination challenges we face. We need better mechanisms.

EXISTENTIAL RISKS AS COORDINATION FAILURES

- Climate change: Collective action problem across nations and generations
- Nuclear war: Deterrence is a coordination game with catastrophic failure modes
- AI risk: Racing dynamics where everyone loses if anyone cuts corners
- Pandemics: Global health requires global coordination we don't have

BUILDING COORDINATION CAPACITY

OD9 exists to build the infrastructure for better coordination:

Trust Networks: Small groups with deep trust can coordinate more effectively than large groups with shallow trust.

Better Institutions: We need new institutions designed for global challenges and long time horizons.

Long-Term Thinking: Developing people who can think in decades and centuries, not quarters.

Aligned Incentives: Designing systems where individual benefit aligns with collective benefit.

Human Capital: Trained coordinators who can bridge communities and build consensus.

This is hard work. There are no quick fixes. But it's the work that matters.

SUMMARY

- Coordination is the ability to work together toward shared goals
- It gets exponentially harder at scale
- Most existential risks are coordination failures (climate, nukes, AI)
- Traditional solutions (markets, governments, morality) are insufficient
- We don't fully know how to solve global coordination problems
- OD9 focuses on building coordination capacity: trust, institutions, long-term thinking
- Your individual choices about coordination matter
- Humans are capable coordinators - the question is whether we can scale in time

"The test of our civilization is not whether we can build nuclear weapons. Any sufficiently advanced society can do that. The test is whether we can coordinate well enough not to use them. That test is still ongoing."

- The OD9 Manifesto
