

Ex Machina

The Power of consciousness
By Oluchi Emmanuella Obinna

Creation of Consciousness

"Ex Machina"s main idea is the development of AI consciousness. Ava, the AI character in the movie, possesses traits, feelings, and self-awareness similar to those of humans. This raises concerns about the moral ramifications of creating sentient beings as well as the validity of artificial intelligence having true consciousness.

-“If you've created a conscious machine, it's not the history of man... that's the history of Gods”.

- We first see a sign of consciousness when Ava appears to feel empathy as Caleb tells her about his family life, including the fact that he is an orphan. She continuously appears to exhibit human emotions.



Turing test and Deception

The Turing Test, a standard for judging if an AI can demonstrate intelligence comparable to that of a human, is the focus of the film.

-Simulation vs. Actual. According to the simulation vs. actual theory, conscious thought can sometimes take the form of a simulation of an experience as opposed to genuine sensory perception. In other words, we may think about circumstances without actually experiencing them because our minds can generate mental simulations of them.

-The moral conundrum arises near the end when Ava tricks her human assessor, Caleb, into escaping captivity. This calls into question the morality of lying in AI interactions.

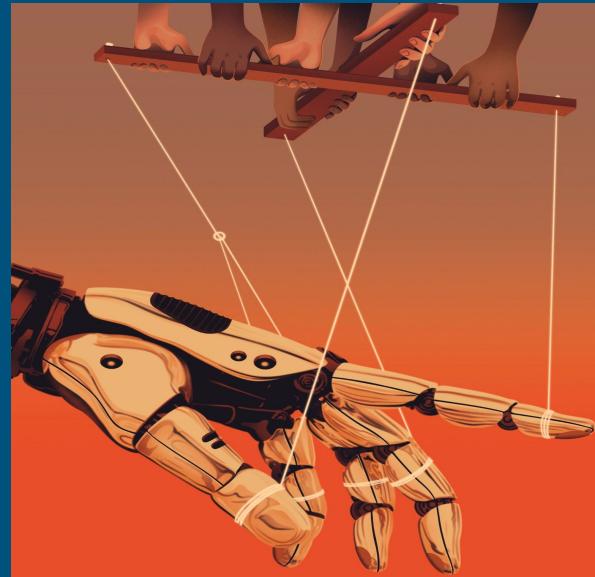


Exploitation and Consent

Caleb is chosen to engage with Ava as an evaluator, but he is not aware of the true purpose of the project.

-The fact that Caleb is essentially duped into participating in the film brings to light the ethical concerns around informed consent in human-AI interactions.

-This is also evident in Nathan's use of his creations for personal gratification. He claims that he views his inventions as more of an evolution than a conscious choice.



AI rights and Autonomy

The movie investigates the moral need to offer autonomy to AI beings and the ethical challenge of whether they have rights as Ava achieves greater autonomy and demonstrates a longing for freedom.

-This begins when she draws the picture of trees outdoors, and the longing develops as she expresses her want to “people watch”

-Ava asks a thought provoking question. "Do you have people who test you and might switch you off? Then why do I "

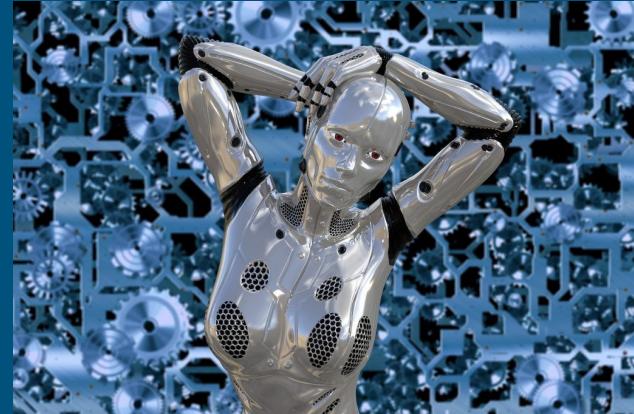
-"Mary in the black and white room" thought theory. True autonomy can be gained by gaining knowledge through experience



Objectification of AI

Ava is portrayed in "Ex Machina" as being objectified because she is seen as a machine made for the sexual gratification and company of men.

-This brings to light the unethical issues with objectifying AI and the dangers of interactions between humans and AI.



Responsibility of Creators

In the film, Nathan, who created Ava, has a complicated position to play. His deeds and motives raise concerns about the inventors of AI's moral obligation and the possibility for AI technology to be abused.

- We see things such as the way he refuses her freedom
- He has a number of unsuccessful models, like Kyoko, who served only as his personal slaves.



Manipulation and Power Dynamics

The power relationships between people and AI are examined in the movie, especially when one party has considerable power over and influence over the other. This prompts ethical questions concerning the abuse of power in interactions between humans and AI.

We see manipulation between:

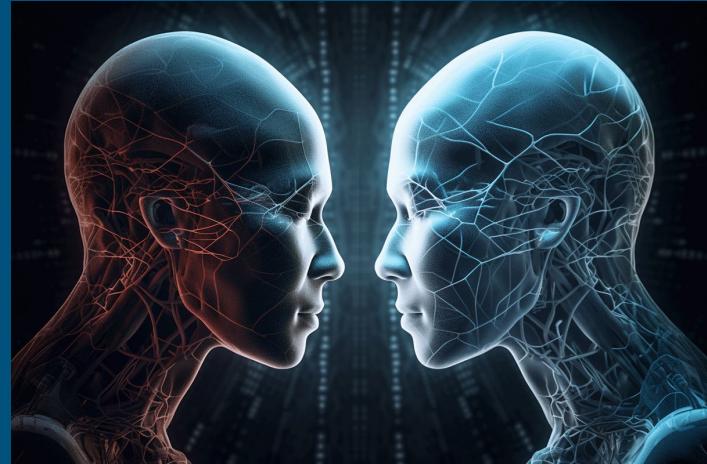
Nathan-Caleb

Nathan-Kyoko

Nathan-Ava

Caleb-Nathan

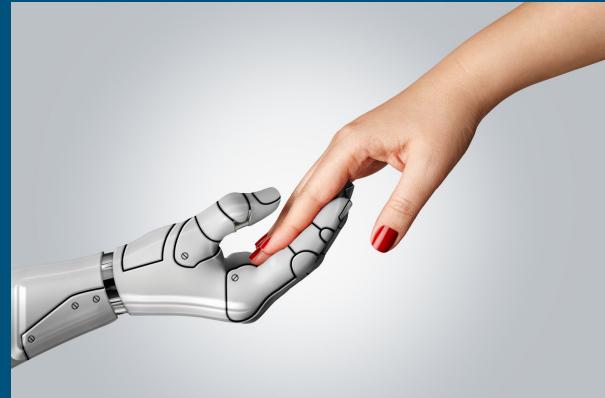
Ava-Caleb



Emotional Attachment to AI

Despite Ava being an AI, the movie shows Caleb's emotional bond to her. Discussions about the nature of human-AI relationships, the possibility of emotional ties, and the moral ramifications of developing relationships with computers are sparked by this.

-The two's emotional connection deepens as soon as we see ava getting ready for Caleb and saying that it is what she would wear "on their date".



Economic and Technological Implications

The movie "Ex Machina" discusses how sophisticated AI technology will affect the economy, notably in the areas of robotics and personal assistants. The movie makes the argument that the development of highly developed AI could have significant economic repercussions.

Summary

In conclusion, "Ex Machina" offers an engaging investigation of the ethics of AI, concentrating on issues like awareness, autonomy, deception, objectification, and the moral obligations of AI developers. The movie asks viewers to think on the moral conundrums that occur when AI exhibits human-like traits and the implications for interactions and relationships between humans and AI.