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CS 30600: Computers in Society

Professor Chansavang

Intellectual Property and Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence has been making waves since it’s first conception. Currently it is so simple to create some basic A.I. and neural networks that people do it for fun. A.I. are also capable of doing things ranging from identifying people, to replacing faces in movies, and even playing video games. However, what if an A.I. could invent things? Can it even claim these inventions? who has the right to them? The inventor or the inventor’s creator?

When Ryan Abbott submitted two patents with the European Patent Office and the United Kingdom Property Office on behalf of the DABUS AI, not the AI’s progenitor. However, both organizations claimed that the patents were for valid inventions, they denied both applications since the inventor wasn’t a human. The EPO claimed that the title of “inventor” is a serious claim with legal repercussions, also claiming that an inventor must have a “legal personality” which machines and AI systems cannot produce.

The rest of that article investigates the implications of AI as an inventor. Although, I am interested in how we know that the AI was invented by a previous programmer. How can someone claim an AI’s inventions if this AI is not itself, patented? Another interesting concept explored in the article is the idea that AI’s could gain autonomy. Then do they become a proper legal personality?

Works Cited

Narwat, Allie. “Modernising pharma patents: can AI be an inventor?”. *Pharmaceutical Technology*. SEPT 24, 2020. <https://www.pharmaceutical-technology.com/features/modernising-pharma-patents-ai-as-an-inventor/>. Accessed SEPT 28, 2020.