**Could an AI be Conscious?**

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Artificial intelligence has advanced massively since the term was first coined in 1956 **CITATION**. Particularly in the last decade or so, huge strides forward in machine learning have led to increasingly complex systems, capable of outperforming humans in a wide range of tasks, and even (arguably) showing creativity **CITATION**. Simultaneously, our ever-expanding knowledge of the human brain has reduced much of the human experience to a series of inputs, processes and outputs, leading many to regard the brain as nothing more than a complex computer system.

But there is one key element that continues to distinguish the human brain and even the most complex artificial neural network: the mind. The phenomenological element. Why is it that there is *something it is like to be a human*? When a computer vision program is presented with an image of something red, it takes a matrix of numbers an input, processes it, and decides on the content of the image. Similarly, when a person views a red object, light passes through their corneas and hits the retinas in the back of their eyes. From there, electrochemical impulses are generated, and processed, neurons fire, and the person knows that they’ve seen something red. But there’s something else that happens to. The person experiences the image in front of them and the ‘quale’, or phenomenological characteristic, that is ‘redness’.

Could an artificial intelligence experience such qualia? Do they already?

What makes it so hard to produce an answer to this question, is the fact that we don’t even know what gives rise to these experiences in ourselves. The relationship between the mind (as the part of us that allows for experience and awareness) and the brain has so far eluded us. Philosophers and neuroscientists alike have yet to conclusively distinguish it from the physical processes that seem to give rise to it, and they have also been unable to reduce it to mere matter.

Human creativity-just interpolation

-all human ideas just interpolation