

Risks of automation and AI in the near future.

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I believe that in a not too distant future all work can be automated and human labor will not only be unnecessary it will be inefficient and dangerous compared to a perfected machine. The steps leading to this world has many issues but I would like to focus on the issues appearing in a world where all work is automated and not just some of the work. The first obvious issue is what humans should do. Humans need to find meaning with their life, working and contributing fills this need therefor wide spread depression amongst the population is a risk if work is taken away. There are of course other ways to fill this need, people take up hobbies and socialize but many people meet the people they socialize with at their work and cities are notoriously lonely despite millions of people living in them so this is not a problem which will solve itself. There needs to be meeting places for people with similar interests to form groups in which individuals can find belonging and meaning, this can be achieved quite easily when you do not have the same constraints of money as we have today.

This brings up the next issue, who gets what? We do not have the constraints of money we have today but there are still a limited amount of resources so everyone can't get everything. Looking at history sharing everything equally has ended poorly, probably because there are people who want more than others and if the government shares everything equally the only way to get more is to corrupt the government and that way get more. Creating a strong incentive to corrupt the government is not a good system, there need to be another system. One alternative is to keep jobs as a way to divide resources but this brings up yet another problem, how do you choose salaries? You cannot base the salary on production since machines outclass any human in all aspects of production, even AI designs of products will probably be superior to human design. One possible solution is to base salary on some carefully weight constant to the power of the total time spent working. You need this exponential growth in order to motivate people to keep working and if you don't allow money to be passed down to children you will not have class and inequality issues. One last problem I would like to discuss is education and government. If salary is simply based on time spent working many will choose not to get an education. This will result in the majority of the population being uneducated and assuming this society has a democracy, the opinion of the majority will be an uneducated and easily manipulated opinion. This can be solved be either accounting for education when deciding the salary or by not having a democracy but instead have an AI dictator. Personally I would prefer if power stayed amongst humans, humans would probably corrupt the AI dictator.

Word count 500