

4511W Writing 1

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1 Do you believe there are reasons to be concerned about advances of AI?

One of the main reasons to be concerned about advances of AI, and rightfully so, is the likely probability of jobs being taken away from many people. Per *Washington Post*, roughly 13.9 percent of workers are employed in blue-collar professions. [1] These are only some of the people that rely on selling not only their physical energy, but their time as well in order to have enough income to sustain themselves and their families. Not everyone has the opportunity to receive higher education, so they look to occupations that require physical work and time to ensure financial stability, which is one of the bigger reasons most are weary of AI, which is one of the ethical issues in AI. [2]

Continuing from the idea of jobs being taken away, an argument is made that with AI comes less employees in the workforce, which can then be assumed that there is less money to be distributed and more money can be made for those that own the company, making them far richer and therefor increasing the wealth gap. This will make it far more difficult for startup companies to compete in a world of technology if they don't have accessibility to AI and machinery as soon as possible, as they have human workers that require wages and don't always provide consistent effort in their work. [2]

2 What specific advances are you concerned about and why?

The more terrifying advances of AI are those pertaining to the emulation and understanding of human behavior and emotions. [2] Humans are known to be complex creatures with intelligence that by-far surpasses that other living beings. As of right now, AI are just a bunch of ones and zeros strung together; they're machines that use formulas, probability, and statistics for problem solving which is different than that of humans whose decisions are affected by a variety of different factors, one of the bigger ones being emotion.

Since machines use mathematics to approach problem solving, they don't always know what a human would do in the case of a trade off like with utility based agents. Usually, a

system does as it is told in the most efficient means possible, however this does not always imply it is the most ethical or even rational means simply because it isn't the way a human would approach the problem at hand. [3] Humans' priorities can change based off of different circumstances, and tend to have a different rationality in vast varieties of situations, unlike the 'one-way' system a computer might have.

A system may become very good at emulating the behavior and underlying meanings humans may imply, and at that point it may become difficult to differentiate whether we're interacting with another human or simply a system. This can make it difficult to then sort out what is real and what is not, which can affect decision making. [4]

3 What steps you believe governments, industries, and academics should take to address these issues?

As AI becomes more prominent in society, there leaves room for very little doubt that companies will implement them more within their workforce, perhaps casting out the need for many human employees which will cost the jobs of many. This will help provide more of a profit as there are less people to pay, however something would need to be done about the unemployed from such advancements.

I believe governments, industries, and academics should collectively work together to aid in providing either affordable higher education to the unemployed so as to give them a chance in the professional world, train them on working alongside AI an example bring for monitoring or repair purposes, or perhaps to limit the usage of AI altogether. There needs to be some sort of control over what companies can and cannot do in order to give people the chance of living by earning some sort of income.

References

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- [3] Jolene Creighton. How can ai systems understand human values? <https://futureoflife.org/2019/08/14/how-can-ai-systems-understand-human-values/?cn-reloaded=1>.
- [4] Ana Santos Rutschman. Artificial intelligence can now emulate human behaviors – soon it

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