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ASSIGNMENT NO 1

In a day and age where the world is tech-driven, there’s no doubt that the takeover of robots and humanoids is a possibility. From minor aid like a lamp in a room to a fully automated machine dominating the industry and doing what several humans couldn’t achieve with ten times the efficiency. This power that A.I holds over us has raised a few eyebrows. It has started a debate of whether or not we’re keeping our control over these robots, the question of whether or not robots and humanoids will control all fields in the near future.

The pessimistic approach talks in favor of the possibility posing it as a matter of when rather than a matter of if. The facts to back this claim that total control is inevitable are numerous. For starters, A.I tends to be cheaper, though that may be false in some cases, the majority proves its legitimacy, a prime example being Amazon that is slowly but surely venturing into a fully automated work-force. One of the biggest reasons for this claim being the efficiency. Humans are held back by fatigue, a problem robots don’t encounter. Humans also tend to be more prone to damage with countless reports of injuries, loss of hearing and even at times death. To add to these burdens, several factories are forced to make shelters, rooms and cafeterias for the workers which isn’t too cost effective. Hygiene is also something workers pick up on and complain about again an issue robots wouldn’t force.

The matters are then worsened as machine learning is taking over. A.I tends to excel at whatever it’s taught is much easier to teach than a human. An example is the computer, a device so complex and rapid at tasks that its assigned to then have the ability to learn and do more is a thought that frightens some. Alex by Amazon and Siri by Apple, two super smart computers that invaded nearly every household, barging into every conversation someone has making privacy feel like a fantasy. The two can accomplish tasks that people from a few decades ago would have laughed at. From controlling your music playlists to ordering your groceries all accompanied by a soothing feminine voice that blurs out the obvious problems.

To add to these small tasks is the massive level at which A.I operates in major large-scale industries. With the US government introducing armed robots to fight instead of humans and reduce casualties, the matter seems to be going out of hand. Handing an intelligent species that we’ve enslaved weapons and armory has caused uproars, making people question the methodology behind letting A.I have our lives in its hands, the same people that then use self-driving cars like Tesla. Hypocrisy that shows we can’t avoid A.I’s control over us, a thought that’s now a reality.

But as with everything there is an optimistic approach to this, stating that although A.I may dominate most fields it won’t control all. For starters, super computers and majority of A.I oriented technology have to be administered by humans. To add to this, a human can learn anything and perfect it whereas most robots and humanoids tend to focus on a single task at best. They also lack creativity, free thinking and imagination, arts and crafts like music etc are fields a robot could never take over. The sentiment against robots is worsened by the reaction of people. Sofia the robot, an experiment given a personality, was received with much negativity as many if not all agreed to the fact that its too early for this advancement and that it makes them feel uncomfortable. A personality doesn’t promise empathy, what makes us human. This lack of feeling is what turns most people away from the idea of A.I taking over fields of health and safety. To combat the statement that A.I is cheaper, China has made use of its overpopulation. The overflowing supply of workers to the demands of employers results in an environment with incredibly cheap labor.

To conclude this argument, no matter which side one may choose, it’s evident that A.I is improving on a fast pace. A pace which if not controlled could lead to tragic consequences. Consequences that could be avoided with the right measures if taken at the right times. The discussion itself stays heated to this day of who’s in the right, only time will tell.