*Artificial Intelligence*

*If we look into retrospect, the very spark of computing was due to the fact that they were designed to help and aid humans. But over the years, as the flow of data has seen its most manifold boom, with 90% of the current data flow having been generated in the last 2 years, these machines have become more intelligent and less artificial, often being intelligent enough to understand humane interactions like weather changes and human organ sensing. "Meeting your makers” has been a phrase that has been used in English literature to mean death and internal salvation. However, what happens when us humans suddenly decide to play God? We have attempted, and been successful at creating a new ‘species’ of intelligent being, called Artificial Intelligence. No one in the 23nd century will be unfamiliar with this concept. Even though popular representations of AI always show them as humanoid robots, artificial intelligence can be anything from the google search bar to a voice assistant in your phone.*

*Today, researchers classify AI as either 1) Narrow AI or 2) General AI.*

*Narrow AI is that branch, which we have currently developed well, and are using daily without even realizing it. Narrow AI is so called because it was designed to perform a narrow range of specific tasks, for example facial recognition, internet search or driving a car. Even a simple line follower bot that scans the heat signature from the black colored line by emitting and detecting IR waves, is an AI since it makes intelligent decisions.*

*General AI, on the other hand is a long term goal of researchers, and it refers to an intelligence that can completely interact with its surroundings and process inputs and make decisions on its own, in multiple aspects. Though currently Narrow AI like the Deep Blue supercomputer is able to beat veterans like Gary Kasparov as chess, which is just one certain task, General AIs will be able to outperform humans in every cognitive field.*

*Just like how we say that fire is a good servant but a bad master, the same proverb fits exactly for AI systems. The fear of and AI outthinking humans and not doing what it is told has prompted Elon Musk, among others to declare that AI safety is crucial and that he is afraid of what AI might do.*

*Although humans are the creators of artificial intelligence, meaning that we should be totally able to control what AI does, we have to remember that an intelligence, such as an automated weapons system, which is designed to kill, might easily be misused when it comes into the wrong hands. Also, if an AI designed to do something good decides to use a destructive method to perform its task that might also be the beginning of a dystopian society.*

*Currently, the condition of development of AI is quite promising. Considering the robot PackBot, which was employed by the USA military to search through the rubble of the World Trade Center, or Big Dog, which is the decade’s most successful rough terrain dog-like robot that can be used to transport goods to hard to access locations, humans have also developed robots like Honda’s Asimo which runs up to 6kmph, plays football and performs tasks like getting you water, artificial intelligence has really been emerging as a field that we should all look forward to in the recent future. Are humans trying to play God? Definitely yes. But will they be successful? It looks hopeful, but truly, time will tell.*